



MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

June 13, 2018

Worship with Us this Sunday, June 17

The sermon title is *Hard, Necessary, Possible, Fruitful*, and the Scripture is Acts 11:1-4, 18 and Acts 15:1-2, 6. Pastor Tim Schrag comments, "If at all possible, read Acts 10-15 in their entirety."

Hymns this Sunday

This is My Father's World - HWB 154
Spirit, Working in Creation - STJ 10
Bless'd be the Tie that Binds - HWB 421
Heart with Loving Heart United - HWB 420

Prayers

Please pray for

- *Rick Reha, who has been in the hospital this week
- *Hazel Yoder, who is having back issues
- *Wilma Dyck, recovering from wrist surgery
- *Erma Stutzman, who will have rotator cuff surgery in two weeks

Condolences

*Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Aileen Wilson, who passed away peacefully on Thursday, June 7.

Celebration of Life service will be held for John Zehr on Sunday, July 1 at 2:30 pm at First Mennonite Church (902 W. Springfield Ave), Urbana, IL. All who knew John are invited to attend.

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thur Jun 14 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
 Outreach Committee 5:00 pm

Sun Jun 17 Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am
 Worship 9:30 am
 Christian Education for Children 10:45 am
 Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am

Mon Jun 18 Personnel Policy Task Force 5:30 pm
 Financial Policy Task Force 6:45 pm

Tue Jun 19 Youth Ministry Committee 6:30 pm

Thur Jun 21 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
 Jobs Partnership Gathering 5:30 pm



Serving This Sunday

Greeters	Tshitshi Tshiseleka & Ginette Molino
	West: Terry Wiebenga
Welcome Table	Mary Jantze
Ushers	Eric, Chellie, & Nathan Miller, & Andreas Unzicker
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Worship Leader	Gail Fisher
Song Leader	Wayne Hochstetler
Scripture	Jaron Zehr
Children's Time	Shelly King
Accompanist	Elsa Raab
Technology	Caleb Augspurgen
Toddler Nursery	Emily Petri
Preschool Nursery	Jeremy Haab



Birthdays and Anniversaries



Odie Evans 6/18
 Lois Jett 6/18
 Melika Hershberger 6/19
 Ryan Miller 6/19
 Heath Brandon 6/20
 Spring Neely 6/20
 Helen Brandon 6/21
 Doug Ulrich 6/23
 Holly Zehr 6/23

Happy 20th Anniversary to Ross and Melika Hershberger on June 20
Happy 38th Anniversary to Al and Pam Dick on June 21
Happy 34th Anniversary to Phil and Shari Stalter on June 21



INVITATION TO HEAR FROM THE SOLAR WORKING GROUP SUNDAY, JUNE 17 AT 11 AM

A solar working group (comprised of Larry Schrader, Chair, Lotus Hershberger, Rick Satchwell, Cindy Ropp, and Marilea White) has been exploring options available to provide solar-powered electricity to our Church and the Mennonite Residential Community. We are excited about the possibilities and would like to share information with you. After a slide presentation, questions will be answered, and you are invited to comment. We want to know if you think a solar array installation is a good idea. Your feedback will be useful as the working group continues its evaluation of the options. Please join us Sunday, June 17, at 11 AM in the Sanctuary. For those who attend SS classes at 11 AM, but also want to learn about solar, a second session will be convened at 11:50 AM, if there is sufficient interest.



Talk to the Church Board Listening Session Recommendation

The Church Board recommends that MCN accept the request from Crosswinds to rent space at MCN from August 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019. The Financial Stewardship Committee and the Office Manager will work toward a fair and reasonable rental agreement.

A congregational vote on this recommendation will take place on June 24. Absentee ballots are available in the church office.



Spiritual Direction

Spiritual direction is holy listening to God's presence and movement in your life by way of a monthly conversation with a trained spiritual companion called a Spiritual Director. It is not counseling, which aims to solve problems. Spiritual direction is intentionally seeking and noticing how God is present and at work in you and through you (or perhaps how God seems absent). A purple brochure about spiritual direction and the 3 persons in our congregation who are offering it was in every mailbox on May 27. If you are interested in receiving spiritual direction, please contact one of the directors you would be interested in meeting with to arrange for a session or check with Pastor Jane if you have any questions. Since the 3 persons currently offering spiritual direction in our congregation right now are all women, if anyone would like to try it and prefers a male Director, we can give you recommendations.

<http://www.sdiworld.org/find-a-spiritual-director/what-is-spiritual-direction/christian-spiritual-direction>



Books to Benefit Used Book Sale

Friday, June 15 10-7pm

Saturday, June 16 10-4pm 360 Wylie Drive, Suite 700 in Normal
For more information, see the entry table or go to <http://www.books2benefit.com/sale/>



Joy Care Jobs Partnership Gathering

John Baldwin, Director of the Illinois Department of Corrections, will speak at the quarterly Joy Care Jobs Partnership gathering on Thursday, June 21 at the Mennonite Church of Normal. The meeting will be from 5:30 - 6:30 pm and Michelle Cook, the Jobs Partnership Coordinator, will provide an update on our prison ministry. We hope this relationship between local church representatives and ex-offenders continues to help us integrate ex-offenders back into our community. This gathering will include representatives of area churches and ex-offenders.



MCC Borderlands Learning Tour with Neighborhood Church

MCC and our Borderlands partners will be leading a four day Borderlands Learning Tour for Neighborhood Church of Visalia on Sunday, June 24 to Wednesday, June 27. This learning tour is designed to bring awareness about the increasing migrant deaths, militarization, environment degradation, effects on habitat and effects on sister communities by the border wall along the Mexico/U.S. Borderlands. Participants will increase their understanding and knowledge of the social, economic, political and theological significance of migration in border communities, including advocacy tools and capacity building to engage others on borderlands and migration issues.

[Online Registration](#), once you have registered you will receive a confirmation email with details about how to pay the registration fee and other next steps. For any clarifying questions please email thomasadlard@mcc.org or call Thomas at 559-638-6911.



Quilts for the 2019 Mennonite Relief Sale

Our church has been purchasing quilts at an Amish Auction in Wisconsin and selling them at our Mennonite Relief Sale.

We have been able to double or sometimes triple what was paid for the quilt in Wisconsin. This means your donation at least doubles or triples. This is a win/win for everyone. We are asking for your donation if you would like to participate in this project. We are giving you advance notice, and the quilts will be purchased on the last weekend of July. Checks can be made to the church, and whatever funds are available at the time of the sale, determines how many quilts are purchased. Last year we were able to buy 14 quilts. Some of the quilts will then be displayed in January and February, before the Mennonite Relief Sale in March. Thanks in advance for your help. Larry and Louise Reeser



Empowering Women: Claiming Healthy Personal Boundaries Workshop

[Mennonite Women USA](#) and [Dove's Nest](#) are partnering this July for a 2-day workshop in Omaha, NE entitled, "Empowering Women: Claiming Healthy Personal Boundaries". This is a workshop for teen girls ages 13-up and women of all ages. Speakers include Brenda Yoder, Jenny Castro, and Carol Hurst. Scholarships are available if cost is a hindrance to attend. Click the link below for more information:

<https://dovesnest.net/Claiming-Healthy-Personal-Boundaries>



Pipeline to Prison Learning Tour

Join MCC Great Lakes and Center for Community Justice for a week-long Pipeline to Prison learning tour August 5-10. Based in Goshen, Ind., the tour will focus on the challenges and complexities of the U.S. criminal justice system and include day trips to Elkhart, Peru and Kokomo. Participants will journey from the local community level through the criminal justice system, learning about law enforcement, sentencing, incarceration and re-entry. All who are interested in learning about disparities in the justice system, including those working in or seeking to develop a prison/re-entry ministry, are welcome. For more information and registration visit mcc.org/gl-pipeline-to-prison or contact Cyneatha Millsaps at CyneathaMillsaps@mcc.org or 574-534-4133.



The Art of Pausing: Reclaiming a Sense of Balance in our Lives

Overnight Meditation Quiet Retreat

August 17-18, 2018

Chiara Center, Springfield, IL

Come away for a 24-hour time apart of pausing for spiritual rejuvenation. Judy Valente, author of the book, *The Art of Pausing*, will be our presenter. Time for quiet walks and reflection, too. Cost is \$85 per person for double occupancy, \$130 per person for single occupancy. Registrations due by July 30 to church office. Questions: talk to Pastor Jane.

See the [Information Page](#) and [Registration Form](#)



How Then Shall We Live?

A week-long immersion in the wild to bring out the deep wisdom, fierce joy and sacred strength of men. Come wade into the wilds of New Mexico! Highlights include homemade meals in an adobe hacienda, visiting Taos Pueblo, plunging into the waters and canyons of the Rio Grande Gorge, wilderness solos, songs and campfires, morning meditations and biblical analysis in wild places—all designed to open radically new possibilities for men seeking a wilder way of fierce love for God, humanity and our precious earth. Guided by Todd Wynward for adventurous men 18+ in Taos, New Mexico, September 8-15, 2018. For registration information on this Mennonite Men experience, visit www.mennonitemen.org.



Joe & Roger's TransAmerica Bike Tour

Roger Kennell, a member of Roanoke Mennonite Church, & Joe Culpepper will be bicycling Adventure Cycling's TransAmerica Trail starting April 30 in Yorktown, VA. This will be Joe's second time on the TransAmerica Trail & Roger's first long bike tour to celebrate his retirement. Their trip will take three months, ending in Astoria, OR at the end of July. If you would like to follow their adventure, Joe will be posting a daily blog with photos at www.crazyguyonabike.com/doc/joe2018. Please keep them in your prayers for a safe & fulfilling journey!



How does your church confront racism?

Watch "Jesus Wasn't White" <https://www.mennonitemission.net/video/Jesus-wasn't-White> and use the discussion questions with your Sunday school class or Small Group.

Thinking about taking a GAP year after high school?

Serve, learn, and develop your leadership skills through Service Adventure. For more information visit www.MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure or contact SusanN@MennoniteMission.net.



Hygiene Kits

During the months of May and June, Mennonite Women will be collecting Hygiene Kits. The bags are in the back of the Sanctuary for you to take home to fill with the necessary supplies. The contents to include in each:

- 1 nail clipper (good quality)
- 1 hand towel (medium weight, dark or bright colors; approx. 16 in x 26 in)
 - 1 wide-tooth comb (6-8 in)
- 1 adult-size toothbrush (IN MANUFACTURER'S ORIGINAL PACKAGING)
 - 1 large bar bath soap (leave in wrapper)

Mennonite Women has sewn bags that are located in the back of the sanctuary. Completed bags are to be placed in the large red tub. Or, if you would prefer, you can just purchase the supplies and Mennonite Women will fill the bags.



Summer Programs and Assistance

[Path Summer Program Guide](#)

[Free Summer Meals](#)



Partners in Healing

MCN has been asked to pray for the Medical-Oncology Specialty Unit at Advocate BroMenn in 2018. Located on 5 West, Advocate BroMenn's 39-bed Medical-Oncology Specialty Unit serves patients with conditions such as

congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, pneumonia, gastrointestinal problems, cancer, open wounds and sickle cell anemia.

The staff, patients and families who serve or need the services very much appreciate your prayers. In the coming weeks, more specific prayer requests will be shared.



Conference Newsletters

[Central District Conference \(CDC\) Focus](#) The CDC Focus is now available in this online format. Just click the picture of the newsletter or the title. A copy is available on the Entrance Bulletin Board. Also available is the [CDC Reporter](#).

Click the link to read the [current IMC Weekly](#): Illinois Mennonite Conference (IMC) Conference Minister Michael Danner's weekly message to IMC churches.

Voice of the Day

"I suggest we try to think of those we used to call enemies as strangers and see what that does for our capacity to establish relationships." **Elise Boulding**



Building Use

Music Recording

Friday, June 15 4:00 pm

HAAQG Retreat

June 22 & 23

Today's Chuckle



"Give me a sentence about a public servant," said a teacher.

The small boy wrote: "The fireman came down the ladder pregnant."

The teacher took the lad aside to correct him: "Don't you know what pregnant means?" she asked.

"Sure," said the young boy confidently. "It means carrying a child."