

God's People Gather to Worship

You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." John 3:7-8

For our guests

- The guestbook and name tags are at the Welcome Table, as well as a small gift for our first-time visitors.
- There is opportunity for introduction of guests during the pre-service time.
- Large print hymnals and hearing devices are available. Ask a greeter or any one of the ushers.

Caring for our children – Professionally-staffed child care is offered beginning at 9:20 am.

- **Toddler Nursery** for newborns through age 2, including a nursing nook, and crib room.
- **Preschool Nursery** for ages 3-5 (Pre-K), in Room 11.
- **Children's Time** during worship. Children are invited to come to the platform.

Following Worship

- **Christian Education** for adults begins at 11:00 am. See the classes listed below.
- **Caring and Sharing** time is available in the center Fellowship Area.

Christian Education	
Children	
10:45 am	
Gather 'Round (ages 3-1st)	Room 11
<i>SHINE Curriculum</i>	
Nursery	Nursery
3 & 4 year olds	Rooms 13 & 14
Grades K-1	Room 11
Grades 2 & 3	Room 12
Grades 4 & 5	Room 9
Grades 6-8	Room 8
Adults & Teens	
The New Jim Crow David Harnish & Amy Reiman, Leaders, Sanctuary	
Adult Bible Study Judy Hershberger, Leader Conference Room	
High School Study David Warfel Leader, Rooms 5 & 7	

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Tim Schrag, Senior Pastor tim@normalmennonite.org	
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Get connected! For more information on any of the following ministries, contact the office.	
* Junior & Youth Choirs	* Area Clusters
* Junior High Fellowship	* Mennonite Women
* Senior High Fellowship	* Book Studies
* Young Families	* Homebuilders
* Women's Bible Studies	* Seniors Events
* Next Man's Bible Study	* Parish Nurse

Order of Worship March 12, 2017 Lent 2 We Wonder

In our humanness, we want to know, to define and to have concrete answers. However, life is filled with uncertainty. We trust that God, the Rock of our Salvation, is always present in our wondering.

You are invited to hold a stone during worship today as a symbol of God's unflinching presence in your life, even in the midst of uncertainty.

Community Life	Pastor Tim Schrag
Prelude	Youth Musicians
Call to Worship	David Warfel
*Hymn	Glenn Wilson
	<i>Immortal, Invincible God Only Wise</i> HWB 70
	<i>I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Love</i> HWB 338
*Prayer	
Children's Time	Pastor Jane Roeschley
Offering	Chris Culbertson, Alexa Hoffman
Confession and Words of Assurance	Screen and Back of Bulletin
Worship Music	<i>How Beautiful</i> Youth Choir Arr. Harlan
Congregational Prayer	
*Hymn	<i>Who Is So Great a God</i> HWB 62
Scripture	John 3:1-17 Lenten Drama Group, Puppets
Sermon	<i>Beyond 'Improvement'</i>
*Hymn	<i>We are Often Tossed and Driv'n</i> STS 72
*Benediction	
*Postlude and Dismissal	

**Please stand as you are able.*

Parents/Caregivers, please note that Children's CE dismisses at 11:45.

Please remember to silence your cell phone.

Weekly Calendar

Today	Pre-Service Prayer	9:00 am
	Worship	9:30 am
	CE for Children	10:45 am
	CE for Adults	11:00 am
	Junior High Youth	5:00 pm
	Senior High Youth	5:00 pm
	Junior Choir	6:00 pm
	Youth Choir	6:45 pm
	Adult Choir	7:30 pm
Mon Mar 13	Mennonite Women	9:30 pm
Tue Mar 14	Staff Meeting	10:30 am
	Wellness Committee	5:30 pm
	Lenten Drama Group	6:30 pm
Wed Mar 15	Bridge of Hope Training	6:00 pm
Thu Mar 16	Next Man Bible Study	6:15 am
	Outreach Committee	5:00 pm

Sharing and Requests for Prayer during Lent We will again have all Sharing and Requests for Prayer being given to the Community Life Pastor ahead of worship during Lent: March 5, 12, 19, 26 and April 2 and 9.

Lenten Drama Group Participants today are Deborah Spacek, Lois Hochstetler, Abby and Joe Warfel, Wilma Dyck, Wayne Hochstetler and Joe Culpepper.

Worship Visuals *Restore Us, O God* is our Lenten worship theme. Visuals on the table (scattered Legos that become orderly) and on the wall (wrinkled, knotted panels that become smooth) offer us visual ways to reflect on God's mission to bring complete restoration wherever needed in our lives and in our world.

MCN Spending Plan Status

Thank you for your offerings.
 Year-to-date Income \$66,085.07
 Year-to-date Expenses \$84,289.92
 February Income \$31,894.46
 February Expenses \$44,431.85
 Attendance on March 5 was 192.

59th Annual Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale, March 17-18, Interstate Center, Bloomington begins Friday, March 17 at 4:30 p.m. at the Interstate Center in Bloomington. Take a look today at the nice arts & craft items on the display table. If you ordered pie crusts, you can pick them up today. They are in the freezer. Make your check out to Gerry Schrock. The unbacked pie crusts for the shoofly pies should be at the church by Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Baked goods, pies and an all other items should be at the church no later than 9:00 a.m. on Friday.

Bethel Choir The Bethel College Concert Choirs invites you to join them at the Mennonite Church of Normal on 7:00 pm Friday, March 24, for a benefit concert. All proceeds from a free -will offering will go to MCC Relief. An informal cookie reception will immediately follow the concert.

Confession and Words of Assurance

Leader: God of mystery, life leads us into unknown experiences and new realities. We live with *many* unanswered questions. We do not want to leave behind what is familiar to us.

People: God, we confess we do not always seek you. We do not always follow your Spirit.

Leader: We want to stay in control. We like to think and believe in the same ways we always have. We do not want to give up the comfort of our own self-sufficiency.

ALL: We let our fear orient us. We fail to move with your Spirit. We forget to deeply trust you. Forgive us, O Lord.

(Pause for silent Confession).

Leader: God, the Rock of our Salvation, renew us with a sense of holy wonder that we might trust in you.

ALL: God of mystery, restore us.



Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

March 12, 2017

**Restore Us, O God
Lent 2
We Wonder**

Offering Christ's peace to hearts, homes, community and world