

God's People Gather to Worship

³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said."
Luke 1:38

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.

Fellowship time immediately following Worship

- Coffee and other drinks are available from the kitchen in the east hallway.

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
Grades 9-12	Rooms 5 & 7
Adults 11:00 am	
<i>The Christian Community Comes Alive</i>	
Mixed Bible Study Led by Leanne Schertz	Room 2
<i>Boundaries</i>	
Led by Lois Hochstetler & Bess Desch	Room 4
<i>Caring and Sharing</i>	
	Fellowship Area

Mennonite Church of Normal	
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church@normalmennonite.org	
Tim Schrag, Senior Pastor tim@normalmennonite.org	
Jane Roeschley, Associate Pastor Worship and Lay Ministries jane@normalmennonite.org	
Matt Hickman, Associate Pastor Youth and Family Life matt@normalmennonite.org	
Lynn Reha Administrative Assistant lynn@normalmennonite.org	
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

www.normalmennonite.org

Order of Worship December 13, 2015 Third Sunday of Advent Mary

Community Life		Pastor Tim Schrag
Prelude		Christmas Orchestra
Call to Worship		Wayne Hochstetler
*Hymns		Cindy Ropp, Chris Culbertson
	<i>Silent Night</i>	HWB 193
	<i>My Soul Proclaims with Wonder</i>	HWB 181
*Prayer		
Children's Time		Abby Warfel and Clara Unzicker (Mary)
Worship Music	<i>Holy is His Name</i>	Youth Choir
Offering		
Worship Music	<i>Cradle Hymn</i>	Women's Ensemble
Preparation for and Congregational Prayer		
*Hymn	<i>The Angel Gabriel</i>	HWB 180
Scripture Reading	Luke 1:26-38; 46-55	
Sermon	<i>Me, or Thou?</i>	
*Hymn	<i>My Soul is Filled With Joy</i>	STJ 13
*Benediction		
*Postlude and Dismissal		

*Stand as you are able.
Parents/Caregivers, please note that children's classes begin immediately after worship, and are dismissed one hour later.*

Weekly Calendar

Today	Pre-Worship Prayer	9:00 am
	Worship	9:30 am
	Christian Education	10:45 am
	Jr. High Youth Group	5:00 pm
	Sr. High Youth Group	5:00 pm
	Junior Choir	6:00 pm
	Youth Choir	6:45 pm
	Adult Choir	7:30 pm
Tues	Undoing Racism	7:00 pm
Thurs	Next Man Bible Study	6:15 am
	Longest Night Service	6:30 pm

Today is Third Sunday of Advent

Reclaiming Christmas: Hear with New Ears.

See with New Eyes. For most of us The Christmas Story is very familiar. We've seen it in artwork and heard it told or sung for most of our lives. It might even seem ho-hum. But even though that sacred Story seems to remain much the same year after year, our lives do not. For some among us, and for our world, this year has been full of hardship. Our worship this Advent Season is an invitation to hear and see the Christmas Story anew! What might we see, or what will we hear this Christmas that is Good News in our needy lives and in our hurting world?

Sharing Time By Pastor During Advent. We look forward to celebrating Advent and Christmas as a church family. We especially enjoy all the carols and holiday music. In order to include these musical treasures in worship during Advent and Christmas, the Worship Committee is asking that all Sharing Time items be put in writing and given to Pastor Tim before the service. Blue slips of paper are in a basket on the Entryway table for this purpose. Or you may send him an email. Pastor Tim will share all items for prayer each week prior to the Congregational Prayer.

True Story of the Whole World Registration is still open for classes which start in January. See Chris Culbertson.

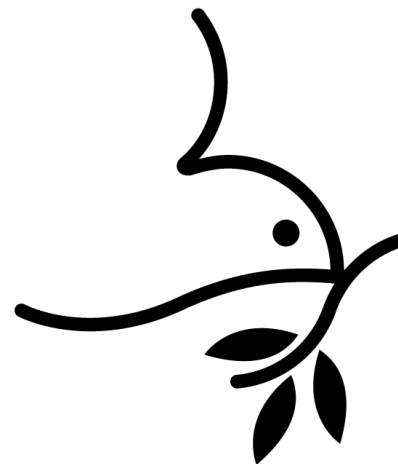
The Longest Night Thursday, December 17, at 6:30 pm. As we enter the winter season, the days shorten while the nights grow longer. Not everyone is "up" and full of Christmas cheer as the holidays approach. You may be dealing with issues which place some dis-ease over the future. Any number of human situations can make parties and joviality painful. Our Longest Night service has a more quiet, somber feel than a traditional Christmas worship service. Scripture, music, prayers and words of meditation focus on the comfort God offers.

Rejoice with Us Louise and Larry Reeser and their family are celebrating the last of 6 Chemo Sessions for Louise yesterday. Friends and family have brought treats at Fellowship time today to help celebrate.

Mennonite Women All women of the church are invited to Mennonite Women meeting Monday, December 14 at 1pm. We will be collecting food items for the Widow's Cruse cart, and have a bit of festive fun as planned by our officers. Refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there!

Undoing Racism Conversation This month's Undoing Racism Conversation is Tuesday, December 15, 7 pm. We will discuss the Black Solidarity Statement (available at <http://www.blackforpalestine.com/>) on Palestine, a resource Phil Dick brings to us from his recent travels to Israel/Palestine

Dec 6, 2015	
Attendance	195
Spending Plan Giving	\$19,448
Noisy Offering	\$7.62
YTD Average Weekly Giving	**\$9,082
**An average of \$21,534 is needed each week to meet our 2015 Spending Plan of \$513,174.	



Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of Mennonite Church USA

Reclaiming Christmas: Hear with New Ears. See with New Eyes.

December 13, 2015

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