



**Mennonite
Church
of Normal**

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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

March 2, 2016

MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

Today's Chuckle

I don't understand fast food. I've been eating it for years but I seem to be getting slower and slower.

My friend fell and broke his left arm and left leg. He said he was all right.

I'm wearing 2 watches, so I have a lot of time on my hands.

Happy Birthday!

Matt Hickman 3/5
Connie Satchwell 3/6
Olivia Petri 3/7
Laura Dick 3/8
Andy Reeser 3/9
Judy Brown 3/10

Happy Anniversary!

None this week

Prayer Requests

Prayer is requested for:

*Health concerns for:

*Cal Hubbard
*Russ Oyer
*Holly Nester
Detweiler

*Matt & Deb Hickman as adoption process moves forward slowly.

*Pam Dick following the death of her stepmother

*Lois Hochstetler on MDS assignment in Detroit

*People of Hesston, Kansas following shooting tragedy

If you have a prayer concern for which you would appreciate the prayers of your church family, please call the

Worship with us this Sunday, March 6

The title of the sermon is *The King Trap* and it is based on I Samuel 8:1-22.

True Story of the Whole World *A Time of Crisis* (Lesson 9) is this week's Adult and Teen Christian Education lesson. The link to *A Time of Crisis* (Lesson 9) is available on the Mennonite Church of Normal website at <http://www.normalmennonite.org/true-story-of-the-whole-world/>. Also available there (under the Education and Nurture tab) are links to all the lessons, lectures and sermons that have been given so far.

Scripture Focus We begin our worship service with a Scripture Focus each week that comes from the congregational study of the Bible in which we are currently engaged. Each worship service is based on the lesson from the previous week's Sunday School study.

A Word about our Worship Visuals Quilters have named blocks after Bible stories for generations. The Bible was the primary literary resource in many early American homes, providing inspiration for nineteenth century quilters, who mostly used scraps and outgrown clothing beyond repair to sew covers to keep their loved ones warm. Throughout our True Story study series, a variety of quilt blocks representing Bible stories or themes will be presented. Here is a description of this Sunday's visual:

King David's Crown (2 Samuel 5:4)

Many of the patterns named after Bible stories are structurally quite simple: basic squares or rectangles, and triangles. These shapes were widely used to make "everyday" bed coverings. One of the prettiest and most popular was King David's Crown!

Serving this Sunday

Greeters

South—Eric & Chellie Miller

West—Connie Reeser-Hall

Welcome Table

Aldine Combs

Ushers

Adam Augspurger; Caleb Augspurger

Nancy Fisher; Ardys Serpette

Worship Leader

Mike Company

Accompanist

Dorothy Loepp

Song Leader

Cindy Ropp

Children's Time

Shelly King

Scripture

Wilma Dyck

Sermon

Pastor Matt Hickman

Technology

Caleb Augspurger

Toddler Nursery

Alena Culbertson

Preschool Nursery

Jonah King

MCN Events This Week at 805 S Cottage

Wed March 2

True Story Leaders 7:00 pm

Thur Mar 3

Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am

Sun Mar 6

Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am

Worship 9:30 am

Christian Education for Children 10:45 am

church office at 452-6622
or email [Lynn](#).

Conference Newsletters
[Click the link](#) to read the
current *IMC Weekly*: IMC
Conference Ministers
Michael Danner & Kim
Litwiller's weekly message
to IMC churches. Also, the
latest copy of [Missional
Crossroads](#) is available.
The CDC Focus is available
[here](#) and the CDC
Reporter [here](#).

Partners in Healing
Mennonite Church of
Normal join with other
churches in the area to
pray for various sections
of Advocate Bro Menn
Medical Center and
Advocate Eureka Hospital.
This month MCN is asked
to pray for the Progressive
Care Unit at Advocate
BroMenn.

Please call the church
office if you or someone in
your family is
hospitalized. Due to HIPAA
regulations, persons may
be hospitalized for several
days before your pastors
are aware of a need for
pastoral care.

Voice of the Day
Be still, and the world is
bound to turn herself
inside out to entertain
you. Everywhere you look,
joyful noise is clanging to
drown out quiet
desperation. *Barbara
Kingsolver*

Building Use
Hands All Around Quilt
Guild will be using

- Sanctuary, Thursday
March 3 5:30-9:00 pm
- Atrium & Fellowship
Area, Friday March 4
8:00 am-4:00 pm
- Atrium & Fellowship
Area, Saturday March
5 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Christian Education for Adults 10:55 am
Senior High Youth Group 5:00 pm
Junior High Youth Group 5:00 pm
Junior Choir 6:00 pm
Youth Choir 6:45 pm
Adult Choir 7:30 pm
Staff Meeting 9:30 am
Worship Committee 5:00 pm
Wellness Committee 5:00 pm
Church Board 7:00 pm
True Story Leaders 7:00 pm
Outreach Committee 5:00 pm
Youth Ministry 6:00 pm

Tues Mar 8

Wed Mar 9

Thur Mar 10

Upcoming Events

Blood pressures will be taken on Sunday, March 6.

58th Mennonite Relief Sale, Interstate Center, Bloomington, March 18 & 19. Only 2 1/2 weeks left until the Sale. Please check where you can help.

- *Dutch Market: Friday, stocking, 4:00-6:30 p.m. Need 3 people
6:30-9:00 p.m. Need 6 people
checkout, 4:00-6:30 p.m. Need 4 people
6:30-9:00 p.m. Need 8 people
- *Dutch Market: Saturday stocking, 11:30-2:00 p.m. Need 3 people
- *Serving chicken/fish dinners: Friday, 4:00-6:00 p.m. Need 7 people
- *We still need 20 unbaked pie crusts for the shoofly pies
- *Meet the Mennonites: Friday 5:00-7:00 p.m. Need 1 person
Saturday 7:00-9:00 a.m. Need 1 person
11:00-1:00 p.m. Need 1 person

*Recycling still needs people

*Need 10 people to help set up at the Interstate Center on Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - noon

*Need yard signs? There are only a few left.

*Distribute posters and booklets.

*Change: Meat processing at Bittner in Eureka will be on Thursday, at 7:30 a.m.

*March 13: Display table of arts & craft items. They will be put in boxes that day.
Questions? Ask Roelie Homan or Marcia Rossi

Annual meetings of Central District Conference (CDC) and Illinois Mennonite Conference (IMC) Mennonite Church of Normal is a member of both CDC and IMC and sends delegates to their annual conferences.

- The CDC will hold its Annual Meeting at Columbus, Ohio, June 23-25, 2016, with the theme "Abounding in Love...Abiding in Grace." We have the privilege and responsibility of sending 6 delegates, plus a high school youth delegate. There is always excellent programming, great singing, and a "family" feel to the event.
- The IMC Annual Meeting is April 8-9, 2016 at First Mennonite Church of Morton, Morton, IL.

Please consider representing MCN at one of these Annual Meetings. Contact Wayne Hochstetler, 309-533-5486, regarding questions and interest. Thank you.

Noteworthy Items

Pastor Tim is on out of the office on vacation March 2-9.

Sharing Fund Grant Everence Financial recently released its annual report for 2015 for the Mennonite Church of Normal. The report states in 2015 there were 78 Everence members in our congregation who either owned or participated in products from Everence Financial or Everence Federal Credit Union. This membership represented 28% of the 275 members of our congregation. Our congregation is therefore eligible in 2016 to receive a Sharing Fund Grant in the amount of \$1500. The Pastoral Council will determine if/when our congregation should request the grant as a matching fund to support special needs in our congregation. If the Sharing Fund Grant is not requested this year, it can be requested for use by our congregation in 2017 in addition to any grant that our congregation is eligible to

**2016 Directories
Corrections**

Email for Darrel & Lynette Miller is dlmiller@frontiernet.net

Cell number for Ruth Haney (309)-531-0218 is inactive—please cross out.

Add Larry & Louise Reeser as Camp Friedenswald Representatives.

Special thanks to Mary Ann King and Matt Hickman for help in preparing the 2016 Directory.

receive for 2016.

From Mennonite Church USA

Register now for *Sent 2016: A gathering of Mennonites planting Jesus-centered communities*, March 31-April 2 in New Orleans. This church planting summit is open to people who are testing a call to church planting as well as church planters, pastors, missiologists and conference leaders. Participants will explore concrete ways to work together more strategically across the church and will launch a national church planting network for ongoing learning and collaboration. Spanish translation will be provided. Hosts: Pastor Karl Bernhard and Iglesia Amor Viviente. Sponsors: Mennonite Mission Network and Mennonite Church USA. The registration fee is \$60 (includes meals); a shared hotel room costs \$80/person per night (must book by March 10). Lodging and travel scholarships are available. Learn more and register at mennoniteusa.org/sent.

From Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)

Time to make your summer plans! Summer will be here before we know it, and Mennonite Central Committee's Sharing with Appalachian People (SWAP) program is seeking summer staff for three month assignments in Kentucky and West Virginia. Job site coordinators utilize volunteer labor to accomplish quality home remodels/repairs, while meals coordinators plan balanced, nutritional meals for volunteers. Summer staff are a critical component of SWAP's successful ministry, as they help facilitate the weekly SWAP service groups working on housing repair for low-income persons. Summer staff vary in age from 19 to 70+, and they receive meals, lodging and a weekly stipend for their service. For more information, go to swap.mcc.org or call Angela at 606-633-5065.

Pastor Tim Schrag
Senior Pastor
tim@normalmennonite.org

Pastor Matt Hickman
Youth and Family Life
matt@normalmennonite.org

Pastor Jane Roeschley
Worship and Lay Ministries
jane@normalmennonite.org

Lynn Reha
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