



**Mennonite
Church
of Normal**

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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

May 6, 2015

MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

Today's Chuckle

How do astronomers organize a party? *They planet.*

Want to hear a Potassium joke? *K*

Happy Birthday!

Tessa Gataric—May 6
Paul Chang—May 7
Mary Jantze—May 7
Larry Reeser—May 7
George Wiman—May 9
Debbie Stenger—May 10

Happy Anniversary!

Blair and Connie Reeser-Hall—May 12 (20 years)

Prayer Requests

Prayer is requested for:

- *Earthquake victims in Nepal
- *Roelie Homan as she deals with back pain
- *Aldine Combs as she recovers from surgery
- *Hickman family in the adoption process
- *Jerry Musselman
If you have a prayer concern for which you would appreciate the prayers of your church family, please call the church office at 452-6622 or email Lynn.

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

Worship with us this Sunday, May 10

Pastor Tim Schrag asks us to consider this: Luke takes pains to include Jesus 'ascension' into heaven, yet also take pains to record the constraints against over-focus on the 'hereafter'. Read the text carefully to take note of both of these points. The scripture is Acts 1: 3-12 and the title of sermon is *Looking Up and Looking Around*.

Serving this Sunday

Greeters	South— Kay & John Reimer West— Gerlof Homan
Welcome Table	Wilma Dyck
Ushers	Ryan Miller; Chellie Miller Larry Schrader; Elfriede Massier
Worship Leader	Melika Hershberger
Accompanist	Chris Culbertson
Song Leader	Glenn Wilson
Children's Time	Shelly King
Scripture	Joe Jantze
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Technology	Rick Harnish
Toddler Nursery	Carrie Stalter
Preschool Nursery	Christian Engel

MCN Events This Week at 805 S Cottage, Normal

Wed May 6	Wellness Committee 5:00 pm Christian Education 6:30 pm Pastoral Council 6:00 pm Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Christian Education 11:00 am Bro Menn Singers 11:00 am
Thurs May 7	
Sun May 10	Mennonite Women 1:00 Financial Stewardship 6:00 pm
Mon May 11	Worship Committee 5:00 pm Church Board 7:00 pm
Tues May 12	

Upcoming Church Events at 805 S Cottage

Mennonite Women will meet Monday, May 11 at [1:00 pm](#).

Congregational Work Session The Church Board is planning a Congregational Work Session at 1 pm on Sunday, May 17. The agenda will include a report on the current work of the Church Board, resolutions for discussion at the Mennonite Church USA meeting in Kansas (July 1-5), Head Start and the playground, and proposed changes in the Leadership Selection process.

Beyond the MCN Building

Help People In Nepal Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) is requesting donations to support its response to the 7.8-magnitude earthquake that shook Nepal April 25. Focusing its initial emergency response on hard-hit rural communities, MCC is providing food, tarps, blankets and cooking pots

MCN is asked to pray for the Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation area at Advocate BroMenn.

Voice of the Day

The poor, the hungry, the mourners, and the oppressed truly are blessed. Not because of their miserable states, of course - Jesus spent much of his life trying to remedy those miseries. Rather, they are blessed because of an innate advantage they hold over those more comfortable and self-sufficient. People who are rich, successful, and beautiful may well go through life relying on their natural gifts. People who lack such natural advantages, hence underqualified for success in the kingdom of this world, just might turn to God in their time of need. Human beings do not readily admit desperation. When they do, the kingdom of heaven draws near.
Philip Yancy

Illinois Mennonite Conference

[Click the link](#) to read the current *Heart, Soul, Mind & Strength*, IMC Conference Minister Chuck Neufeld's weekly message to IMC churches. Also, the latest copy of [Missional Crossroads](#) is available.

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.

and utensils. A longer-term response will be determined as MCC and its partners assess the situation. Please pray for the people of Nepal and the work of MCC. Donations can be made at mcc.org/nepal-earthquake or by calling 888-563-4676. Checks may be sent to MCC U.S., PO Box 500, Akron, PA, 17501-0500.

Sister Care Seminar Lombard Mennonite Church will be hosting a Sister Care Seminar on May 15-16, beginning at 7 PM in the evening. Women of all ages are invited, and lodging is available in host homes or local hotels. Cost is \$45, which includes a noon meal on Saturday. Registration forms are on the table in the Entrance. Talk to Shannon Unzicker or Melika Hershberger for more information about Sister Care, a ministry of Mennonite Women USA.

MCN Cemetery Work Day May 16. The cement has been poured and main work will be finishing the redesign. Please see Ron Ropp with any questions.

Rally Day Monday, May 25 at Camp Menno Haven There will be a 5K Run/2KWalk and color fun run starting at 9am with the Summer Program Dedication at 11am. Menno Haven will provide their traditional barbeque chicken and drinks. Please bring a covered dish, salad or dessert to share and your own tableware. Everyone is invited to enjoy the campus and facilities as we celebrate the beginning of a new summer camp season! For more details, see the poster on the Entrance bulletin board or contact Lotus Hershberger.

Habitat Home Building Blitz for the Tshiseleka family, June 2-5. Volunteer to be part of a Habitat building blitz for a new home for Tshitshi, Ginette, Jeremie, Kenayah, Anna Rosa and Albert Jr. Tuesday - Friday June 2-5 at 907 W Jefferson, Bloomington. 8 am - noon or 1 - 4 pm. Go to the Volunteer section of the Habitat for Humanity McLean Co website. After you have registered as a Habitat Volunteer, you may go to the calendar of building sites and select options for the 907 W Jefferson address.

Central District Conference 2015 Annual Meeting will be held June 11-13, 2015 on the campus of the Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana. The theme is Transformed through Text and Table. If you are interested in attending as a delegate, please see Lotus Hershberger.

CDC Golf Central District opens its Annual Meeting this year with a Golf Outing for fellowship and fund raising. We tee off on June 11, at 11:00 at Black Squirrel Golf Club in Goshen. Two-person teams will play a modified Ryder Cup Format (6 holes best ball, 6 holes alternate shot, and 6 holes stroke play). For information or to register, check the church office; go to the CDC website (http://centraldistrict.mennonite.net/Annual_Mtng/Golf_Outng); or contact Don Blosser (donwb@goshen.edu). Get a golf partner, register, and join us for an interesting, enjoyable round of golf with friends. Women, men, youth, seniors of all golfing skill levels are invited to join the excitement of the day. But you must register before June 8.

MCC's Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP) program still has openings available for groups this summer and fall. Put your faith in action by volunteering for a week in Kentucky or West Virginia with SWAP's home repair ministry serving low-income families. Visit swap.mcc.org for more information, or call the SWAP office at 606-633-5065 or email AppalachiaPC@mcc.org.

Of Note

New MCN Website Launch A new version of the MCN website will launch on Friday, May 8. Featured will be new pictures, a Newsroom feature and a refreshed look. The Newsroom feature allows us to post immediate events. The Midweek Connection will be available there also. The website is at the same address, www.normalmennonite.org

Pictorial Directory "make up" If you were unable to have your pictures taken for the pictorial directory, we still want you to be a part of it. Send an electronic picture **by May 8** to church@normalmennonite.org. The best quality is 250 dpi or higher. Please call Lynn 309-452-6622 with ANY questions about this—we really want you to be in our directory.

Building Use

Recital The Sanctuary will be used for a Recital by the students of Laurel Beard on Saturday, May 9 from 11:30 am until 3:00 pm. Please observe the need for quiet during that time.

Illinois Prairie Wild Ones will meet in the Sanctuary on Monday, May 11 from 5:30-9:00 pm.

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
Administrative Assistant
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