

Family Fun Night tonight from 5:15-7:30!

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MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

April 5, 2016

Worship with us this Sunday, April 9

The sermon title is *The Plot is Always Thick* and the scripture is Matthew 21:1-11. Pastor Tim Schrag comments, "The message will consider the complexities that led to various understandings of Jesus, complexities not unlike the world in which we live."

The hymns are *All Glory, Laud and Honor* (HWB 237), *My Hope is Built* (HWB 343) and *Go to Dark Gethsemane* (HWB 240).

Worship Visuals Many thanks to Lynette Miller, Sam Warfel, Joe Warfel, and Julie Musselman for the display on the worship table and for the visual of restoration as displayed in colored cloths.

Scripture Drama participants this week are Joe Culpepper, Bess Desch, Claire Dyck, Wilma Dyck, Deborah Spacek, Abby Warfel and Joe Warfel.

Prayers and Condolences

We pray for Israel Scott, as she transitions from the home of Joe and Mary Jantze to live with her father.

We send condolences to the family and friends of Michael Sharp, a United Nations worker and graduate of Eastern Mennonite University, who was kidnapped and killed in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Note from Pastor Jane I am on an annual prayer retreat at St. Mary's Benedictine Monastery in Rock Island this week, Monday-Wednesday. Included in this time is prayer for each one in our congregation. May God's goodness and grace pour out on YOU!

We pray for neighbors/good friends of Carrie and Travis Stalter whose 3 month old daughter unexpectedly died Monday.

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Wed Apr 5	Family Fun Night 5:15 pm
Sat April 8	Worship Committee Planning Retreat 1:00 pm Camp Menno Haven Work Day
Sun April 9	Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Christian Education for Children 10:45 am Christian Education 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 Apr 10	Mennonite Women 9:30 am
Tue Apr 11	Staff Meeting 10:30 am Wellness Committee 5:30 pm Church Board 6:30 pm Lenten Drama Group Rehearsal 6:30 pm
Wed Apr 12	Peace & Justice Committee 5:00 pm Pastoral Council 6:30 pm
Thurs Apr 13	Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am IMC Pastor-Peer IMC Meeting Outreach Committee 5:00 pm Youth Ministry Committee 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship (Communion) 7:00 pm
Fri Apr 14	Good Friday Prayer Walk



Serving This Sunday



Greeters	South: Adam & Caleb Augspurger West: Nathan Miller
Welcome Table	Gail Fisher
Ushers	Mike & Stephanie Company Shannon Neely & Terry Wiebenga
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Worship Leader	David Warfel
Song Leader	Wayne Hochstetler
Scripture	Scripture Drama Team
Children's Time	Pastor Jane Roeschley
Accompanist	Chris Culbertson & Youth Musicians
Technology	Adam Augspurger
Toddler Nursery	Nancy Fisher

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Nathan Valverde April 10
Lauren Satchwell April 11
William Sila April 11
Elfriede Massier April 12
Lydia Hedberg April 13
Doris Shoemaker April 13
Mary Engel April 14
Caeli Haab April 14
Caroline Roeschley April 15

Family Fun Night



Everyone is invited to join us for Family Fun Night on Wednesday, April 5 from 5:15-7:30! We'll eat as people arrive from about 5:15-6. This evening will be a chance for your family to connect and be together. Think food, family, faith and FUN! ALL ages are welcome! Rumor has it there will be a bounce house! We also need help to make this night possible. Volunteer sign up is linked here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094faaa87-mcnfamily>

Good Friday Prayer Walk

Good Friday Prayer Walk 5 pm, White Oak Park. New this year is a Good Friday Prayer Walk, in partnership with one of our church "neighbors", Crosswinds Community Church (<http://crosswinds.cc/home>). We will begin at White Oak Park (park in the Cottage Ave lot) and walk together in prayerful silence, with a number of stops along the way for reflection on the life of Christ and for prayer for the community. The Walk will take about an hour and be 1 mile to Crosswind Community Church (at Union and Roosevelt).

Crosswinds Community Church is also hosting an Interactive Stations of the Cross from 6-8pm at

their building. Anyone (from MCN or on the Prayer Walk) wishing to attend their Stations of the Cross is welcome to that as well.

The Prayer Walk is being co-led by Sarah Tunall, Crosswinds Community Center Director, and Pastor Jane. Participants should plan to call/text someone to pick them up for a ride back to church or home. Or let Pastor Jane know (ahead of time) if you need help with transportation.

Menno Haven's Spring Work Day



Menno Haven's yearly Spring Work Day is coming up fast! Please set aside Saturday, April 8 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm and make your way to Menno Haven to help us prepare for guest groups and the summer camp season! Come work hard, meet others, and enjoy a free meal. For more information contact Eric Miller, or call Menno Haven at 815-646-4344. If you can't make it on April 8, call Menno Haven about other opportunities to help and schedule your own personal work day. Thanks for your continued support of Menno Haven!

Easter Breakfast



Easter Breakfast, April 16. Everyone is invited to come early to church on Easter Sunday for our traditional Easter Breakfast. This is always a joyous time of greeting church friends and visiting family. Serving is scheduled from 8:00 to 8:45 a.m. Sign up to bring a breakfast casserole or breakfast bread (coffee cake, muffins, cinnamon rolls, etc.) Everything else will be provided. Also sign up if you can help with set up or clean up. Go to www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E094FAAA87-mcneaster to sign up to attend and bring food. Or contact Leanne Schertz or Gerry Schrock to volunteer food and help.



Persons interested in exploring church membership at MCN should contact Pastor Schrag. Orientation classes will be scheduled in May or June, depending on interest and schedules.

The New Jim Crow Sunday School Class Website

Additional readings and good resources are available at the New Jim Crow Sunday School Class website, located at <https://mcnsundayschool.wordpress.com/> The link is also available on the MCN website <http://www.normalmennonite.org/link-to-the-new-jim-crow-sunday-school-class-website/>

Women's Retreat



Join us for a weekend retreat May 5th-7th at Menno Haven Camp & Retreat Center where we will seek to understand God and ourselves better. Our speaker, Asia Frye, will help us explore how we as women are made in God's own image, and how we can model ourselves after God. We will embrace what it means for us to be women, and encourage each other on our journeys. Our program and input will conclude on Saturday afternoon. However, participants who desire additional time to rest and recharge are welcome to stay through Sunday morning.

Asia Frye is a retreat speaker and former youth pastor from Hillsboro, Kansas, where she teaches at Tabor College. She will graduate with a MDiv from AMBS this spring, and is the coordinator for Junior Youth Convention in Orlando next summer. She is fascinated by how the Bible empowers women, and how, as women, knowing ourselves helps us to better know God. Asia is a mother and wife who likes gardening, rock climbing, and nerdy board games

Kim Litwiller from East Peoria will be the worship leader, and Janice Yoder from First Mennonite in Morton will be leading music. Information and a registration flyer are available on the Entrance bulletin board and table. Any questions? Contact Shannon Unzicker.

Electronic Giving

Many MCN'ers giving electronically. Did you know that we have a business-card size token that you can place into the offering plate to indicate that? They are located on the Welcome Table and the Entrance Table. Please help yourself each week.

Also, if you are currently NOT giving electronically and would like to, you will find a form in the last column of mailboxes. Or talk to Lynn Reha about switching over to electronic giving.

Looking for a Place to Get Involved?

If you have time and interest and want to find a way to volunteer locally, the Outreach Committee has identified these websites as places to find options.

Parks & Recreation

<http://www.mcleancountyil.gov/index.aspx?NID=509>

Various Community Organizations

<https://www.normal.org/464/Volunteer-Opportunities>

<https://www.volunteermatch.org/search/orgs.jsp?aff=&r=20.0&l=Bloomington%2C+IL+61799%2C+USA&o=update&ts=1>

<http://deanofstudents.illinoisstate.edu/involvement/leadership/service/local/#tabs-vert1>

From Mennonite Mission Network

Do you enjoy mentoring young adults and living in community? Service Adventure is looking for unit leaders for our Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Jackson, Mississippi, units. The two-year term begins late July. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Susan Nisly at SusanN@MennoniteMission.net or visit us at www.MennoniteMission.net.

Maple Lawn Home

Maple Lawn Homes is looking for volunteers from our congregation to help with their 2:00 pm Sunday worship services. Volunteer opportunities include pianist, song leader, worship leader, special music, transporting residents to worship, and preaching. If there is enough interest, we would agree to take a Sunday slot in the future. Please contact Rick Harnish, 815-822-4373, if interested.

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 Ministers Michael Danner & Kim Litwiller's weekly message to IMC churches. Also, the latest copy of [Missional Crossroads](#) is available.

Voice of the Day



So even as we see the horror of death, may we be reminded that in the end, love wins. Mercy triumphs. Life is more powerful than death. And even those who have committed great violence can have the image of God come to life again within them as they hear the whisper of love. May the whisper of love grow louder than the thunder of violence. May we love loudly. *Shane Claiborne*



Building Use

Hands All Around Quilt Guild

Quilt Appraisal 2:00 pm, Thursday, April 6

Board Meeting 5:30 pm, Thursday, April 6

General Meeting in Sanctuary 6:30 pm Thursday, April 6

Workshop in Fellowship Area and Atrium Friday-Saturday April 7-8, 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Illinois Prairie Chapter Wild Ones

Board Meeting 5:30 pm

General Meeting in Sanctuary 7:00 pm

Today's Chuckle



Thanks to Rich Willmarth for More “Church Ladies with Typewriters” Laughs

They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for the church ladies with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

- * Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
 - * Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
 - *A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
 - *Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
 - *The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.
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