



MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

February 28, 2018

Worship with Us this Sunday, March 4

The sermon title is "Keeping Covenant Central" and the Scripture is Exodus 20:1-17 from the New Revised Standard Version. Reverend Joe Culpepper comments, "Have you revisited the Ten Commandments lately? How do they help us as we seek to keep the covenant of love between God, us, & other people central in our daily lives?"

Hymns this Sunday

How Firm a Foundation - HWB 567
O God, Who Gives Us Life - HWB 483
Obey My Voice - HWB 163
My Soul is Filled with Joy - STJ 13

Prayers

Please pray for

- *Joe Haney as he recovers from shoulder surgery.
- *Pastor Jane Roeschley's mother, Jan Thorley who is recovering after a fall and partial hip replacement.
- *Jo and Ron Ropp, as Jo is recovering from pneumonia with rehab at McLean County Nursing Home.
- *Deborah Spacek who is recovering from heart surgery at Kindred Hospital in Peoria.

Congratulations to

- *Al and Pam Dick who's daughter Amanda welcomed Calvin Patrick at 6 lbs 4 oz & Deacon James at 6 lbs 2 oz., born on February 23rd.
- *Reuben and Courtney Yoder welcomed Jozie Eliana Yoder at 6 lbs 4 oz., born on February 24th.

Condolences

- *Condolences to John and Kay Reimer and Roger and Linda Clemmons. John and Linda's brother-in-law Ed Kiper passed away February 22nd in LeRoy, IL.

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thur Mar 1 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am

Sun Mar 4 Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am
Worship 9:30 am
Christian Education for Children 10:45 am
Blood Pressures Taken 10:45 am
Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am
JMYF and MYF Youth Groups 5:00 pm
Junior Choir 6:00 pm
Youth Choir 6:45 pm
Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Tues Mar 6 Worship Committee 5:00 pm

Thur Mar 8 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am



Serving This Sunday

Greeters	South: Larry & Louise Reeser West: Mary Ann King
Welcome Table	Mary Kauffman
Ushers	Eric, Chellie, & Nathan Miller, & Andreas Unzicker
Sermon	Rev. Joe Culpepper
Worship Leader	Alena Culbertson
Song Leader	Barry Weaver
Scripture	Alena Culbertson
Children's Time	Shelly King
Accompanist	Elsa Raab
Technology	Caleb Augspurger
Toddler Nursery	Sarah Nichols
Preschool Nursery	Carrie Stalter



Birthdays and Anniversaries



Amy Reiman 3/4
Matt Hickman 3/5
Connie Satchwell 3/6
Olivia Petri 3/7
Laura Dick 3/8
Andy Reeser 3/9

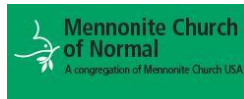


Join First Mennonite Church of Morton for a great night of music!

The Internationally known "[Ball Brothers](#)" Christian quartet will be in concert at First Mennonite Church 250 S Baltimore Ave. Morton, IL on Saturday, March 3rd 6:00 PM.

Tickets are \$10.

For more information or to purchase tickets call (309) 266-7591 or email gknee@mtco.com.



Website Updates

The church is in the process of updating our website. We plan to include pictures of our congregation engaged in worship and other activities. If you would prefer not to be in pictures that will appear on the web site, please contact the church office by Sunday, March 4th. If you have any other questions, or have photos that would enhance our web site, please let the office staff know. Thanks!



Opportunity to Serve on the LGBTQ Process Design Team

The Church Board has an opening for an additional person on the LGBTQ Process Design Team. This Team will develop a study process for our congregation, designed to allow everyone's voice to be heard. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please email Wayne Hochstetler at hochwayne@icloud.com stating your availability and interest, and the strengths and perspectives you will bring to this process. Please submit this by Tuesday, March 6. Thank you.



Cantus Novus Singing Ensemble

Spring Concert March 9th

MCN members Cindy Ropp, Bev Collins, Wayne Hochstetler, & Joe Culpepper are part of Cantus Novus community singing group. This is a four-part, 30 member chorus which presents a concert each Spring and Fall. Our Spring concert will be on Friday, March 9th at 7:00 here at MCN. The music will include classical (Haydn) and contemporary selections. Doors open at 6:30pm. There is no charge for the concert, although donations are welcomed. We hope to see you there.



60th Anniversary Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale

March 16-17 @ Interstate Center, Bloomington

Volunteers are still needed for the Friday night Chicken and Fish Dinner, the Pancake Breakfast on Saturday morning, assisting at the Meet the Mennonites table, and serving Carl's Ice Cream either Friday or Saturday. See signup sheets on the table in the atrium. Please bring all donated items - this includes crafts and auction items - starting this coming Sunday. Please check items in when bringing to the church with Gerry Schrock or Deb Stenger. If items are brought during the week, sign them in at the church office. Thanks!



Midwest Food Bank Volunteer Opportunities

March 22 or May 11 or August 20

6pm - 8pm each day

Come join us in a fun evening of service to others at Midwest Food Bank! Anyone 10 yrs or older is welcome. We are limited to 20 individuals for each date. Sign up at [Signup Genius](#) or contact the church office.



Mennonite Church Blood Drive

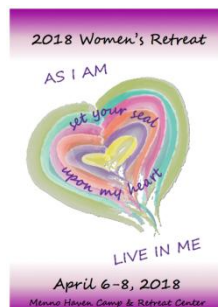
Saturday, March 31 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

For appointments please call the church office or click [here to schedule](#).

Walk-In's welcome!

Bring a photo ID or your blood donor card, or two other forms of ID.

You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass! Visit redcrossblood.org/RapidPass for more information.



Women's Retreat @ Menno Haven Camp and Retreat Center

April 6 - 8, 2018. Featuring speaker Pastor Jane Roeschley.

Re-walk a most ancient of spiritual pathways: that we are born blessed and beloved, that we are invited to conversion and transformation through encounters with Jesus, and that God works in the world through us as we are, and as we are becoming.

Come expecting to hear stories, learn about a powerful tool for spiritual transformation, engage in creative reflection activities, and prepare to live your calling with God in the world.

[Read more...](#)



Coming Soon!

A NEW church picture directory. This will be a great tool for helping us put names with faces and connecting our families to one another. We have invited Lifetouch Church Directories and Portraits to photograph you from April 10-14. Watch for more information on scheduling your appointment. We look forward to seeing all of you in our new directory!



URGENT NEED FOR HOUSEWARMER PROJECTS!

Mennonite Women USA partners with Mennonite Disaster Service to provide hand-crafted wall-hangings for each re-built home dedication. Because of extremely high demand, the supply of wall hangings is depleted.

Becky Koller, volunteer coordinator for this ministry, shares this story. "I recently presented a wall-hanging at a home dedication, and the home owner tearfully responded, "Oh my goodness, someone who doesn't even know me made something this beautiful for me?" The wall-hangings become a treasured, beautiful reminder of the way MDS and MW USA care for those who have struggled with disaster.

Becky reports that she is regularly sending several wall-hangings per month to the Mennonite Disaster Service home office in Lititz, PA for distribution by project managers to homeowners. Please find full instructions for sewing and sending a quilted wall-hanging [here](#).



Meals for Northwest Neighborhood Community Center

Northwest Neighborhood Community Center (NNCC) serves meals to approximately 40 families on Tuesdays and 65 families on Thursdays. They are in need of volunteers to prepare and serve the food. The prep time begins between 3:30 and 4 pm, depending on the meal. Midwest Food Bank provides the food; it just needs to be prepared in the NNCC kitchen. Please consider if you might be available for a one-time commitment to prepare and serve a meal on any of the open dates listed on [this link](#). Other options for providing food include donating money for the cost of a meal, or providing a meal from a local restaurant or caterer and delivering it on a selected date. Please continue to keep NNCC in your prayers as its work takes root in this community. Contact Sarah Tunall at Sarah.Tunall@nncc.org or Amy Reiman at a.reiman98@gmail.com for more information.



Jobs Partnership
Offering a helping hand



labyrinthoutreach
Services to Women

Returning Citizens Care Kits

Thanks to the generosity of Mennonite Church of Normal for supporting the donation drive co-sponsored by Peace & Justice and Outreach Committees. The Junior High Youth group organized the donations, did the needed extra shopping to complete a few kits and packed all 29 kits (10 women's and 19 mens') for us to share with Labyrinth Women's Outreach and the Jobs Partnership Programs here in Bloomington/Normal, two organizations working with returning citizens. This was a *wonderful response* to this invitation to care and share! And it is one small way that we are working to dismantle racial injustice within our industrial prison complex. There was also an overwhelming response of donated coats, boots, and winter items. Thank you!



Partners in Healing

MCN has been asked to pray for the Medical-Oncology Specialty Unit at Advocate BroMenn in 2018. Located on 5 West, Advocate BroMenn's 39-bed Medical-Oncology Specialty Unit serves patients with conditions such as congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, pneumonia, gastrointestinal problems, cancer, open wounds and sickle cell anemia.

The staff, patients and families who serve or need the services very much appreciate your prayers. In the coming weeks, more specific prayer requests will be shared.



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 Minister Michael Danner's weekly message to IMC churches.

Voice of the Day

"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst... 'Repent and believe' Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor -- He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you."

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta



Building Use

HAAQG Board Meeting

March 1, 5:30 pm

March 2 & 3, all day

Cantus Novus Choir Rehearsal

March 4, 2:00 pm

Organ Tuning

March 6

Today's Chuckle



I went to the doctor the other day.

She told me that I needed to get some exercise. So I went to McDonald's.

My wife wanted to know why I went there.

I told her the doctor told me to get some extra fries.

She made me an appointment with a hearing doctor.