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Blessing of Our Vocations

At the close of worship this Sunday, September 2, we will have a Blessing of Our Vocations. **Please bring something this Sunday that is a symbol of how you labor and/or serve.**



MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

August 29, 2018

Worship with Us this Sunday, September 2

Meredith Schroer will give the message this Sunday. The sermon title is *"Our daily bread"? Or more than this? 'Sins', debts', 'trespasses'? Could it make a difference? Looking together at the Greek text of the Lord's Prayer."* and the Scripture is Matthew 18:23-35, 6:5-15. At the close of worship, we will have a Blessing of Our Vocations. **Please bring something this Sunday that is a symbol of how you labor and/or serve.**

Hymns this Sunday

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty - HWB 37

Breathe on Me, Breath of God - HWB 356

Take My Life - Back of the Bulletin

Prayers

Please pray for

*Ron and Leanne Schertz, Ron is scheduled for 5-bypass surgery on Thursday, September 6th in Elkhart.

*Care and challenge invitation from Pastoral Council

*Spring and Nick Neely's trip to Mayo Clinic provided updates and answers, we pray for future care and health

*Growth through strife, God bless MCN and the bonds among us

This Week At 805 S Cottage

- Thur Aug 30 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
- Sun Sept 2 Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am
Worship 9:30 am
Blood Pressures Taken 10:45 am
Christian Education for Children 10:45 am
Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am
- Thur Sept 6 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am



Serving This Sunday

Greeters	Emmanuel & Tanya Kasongo
	West: Mark Alsene
Welcome Table	Mary Ann King
Ushers	Jeremy, Chris, & Caeli Haab, & Steve Stenger
Sermon	Meredith Schroeer
Worship Leader	Pastor Jane Roeschley
Song Leader	Barry Weaver
Scripture	Louise Reeser
Children's Time	Melika Hershberger
Accompanist	Dorothy Loepf
Technology	Wesley Hershberger
Toddler Nursery	Amy Reiman
Preschool Nursery	Jeremy Haab



Birthdays and Anniversaries



Aldine Combs 9/2
Leah Roeschley 9/2
Caitlin Haab 9/3
Janelle Friesen 9/5
Travis Stalter 9/5
Rick Reha 9/6
Duane Nester 9/7
Curt Oyer 9/7
Ian Unzicker 9/8

Happy 70th Anniversary to Dick and Marjie Baum on September 4
Happy 19th Anniversary to Jeff and Amy Reiman on September 4

Happy 10th Anniversary to Travis and Carrie Stalter on September 6

Offering My Gifts for 2019
Name _____

Thank you for taking the time to complete this annual opportunity to offer your time and talents to the life of our congregation. This information will be kept on file for the next year or two. Committees, Cluster Leaders and staff can review this data when volunteers are needed.

You may or may not be asked to serve in a particular area which you marked (Exceptions are noted on the survey.). And when asked, it is always all right to say, "Thanks for asking, but not now."

Please sign and return your form to the church office by **September 2, 2018**

Last Week for Offering My Gifts and Affirming the Gifts of Others!

These forms were handed out Sunday, August 19, as bulletin inserts. **Please turn them in by Sunday, September 2nd!**

If you were absent, there are copies on the entryway table and they are also [linked](#) on the website. You can also download them here:

[Offering My Gifts for 2019](#)

[Affirming the Gifts of Others for 2019](#)



SOLAR PROJECT INFORMATION SESSION: #2

When: Sunday, September 2nd at 11:00 & again at 12:00 for those who wish to attend Sunday School classes.

Where: MCN Sanctuary

Three topics: 1. Update on StraightUp Solar proposal.

2. Roof replacement, perhaps with metal. The roof has significant hail damage.

3. Possible financing options/plans for the solar panels as well as the roof replacement. One option, for part of the project, is the formation of an LLC whose partners would be investors from MCN.

Come, join in to hear an update, ask questions, and provide input to the Solar Working Group before recommendations are finalized.



Electronic Sign Update

The comments and opinions received are greatly appreciated. Because of comments and questions received, we did an in-depth review of invoices and learned the following: the initial cost of the sign was \$28,519, not \$42,000. Maintenance since 2013 has been \$8,684, not \$26,000. We also located some original discussion and rationale documents. These are under careful review. Additional comments are certainly welcome. Please send to Lynn at officemanager@normalmennonite.org or Lotus at ldhersh@ilstu.edu.



Family Literacy Child Care -- School Year Volunteer Needed

Our summer volunteers for the Family Literacy Child Care, 12:30-2:00 pm each Wednesday are heading back to school. We need 2 (or 3) volunteers who could serve 1-2 times per month. Please talk to Pastor Jane.



Apartment Needed

If anyone has or knows of a 1 bedroom apartment that would be available in early September, please contact John Bertsche.



Adult offerings during Christian Education Hour, starting September 9

Welcoming the LGBTQ Community: Biblical Perspectives and Storytelling, taught by Joe Culpepper and Darrel Miller. Depending on size, this class will meet to the left of the kitchen (Room 4) or in the Sanctuary.

God's World and God's People, a study of the book of Genesis, with leading spread among class members. This class will meet in the conference room.

Lectio Divina/Lectio Visio class: contemplative reading of scripture or contemplative gazing of religious art with group interaction and response. Initially led by Lynette Miller. This class will meet under the mezzanine, north end.



Jesus Seminar



on the Road

The Political Jesus Seminar

New Covenant Community, 210 W. Mulberry St., Normal, IL is sponsoring The Political Jesus Seminar September 14th and 15th. The Jesus of history resisted the political and social realities of his day. Early Christians did the same. Neither one was necessarily successful in their aims, but what do we know about their attitudes toward the economy, immigrants, and war? How did Jesus and emerging Christ communities express

concerns for justice and peace? Looking at the world today, what would they say about American politics?

Scholarships are available from the Peace and Justice Committee.

[To register and for more information click here](#)



Women's Retreat: September 14-16

Hearing Your Voice, Finding Ours

We will lift up women's voices that go unheard or ignored by our world and our churches. Cyneatha Millsaps will lead worships where women from different backgrounds and experiences share their stories of faith - honestly and authentically. In addition to camp activities (pontoon boat rides and nature hikes), we will also have workshops focused on finding new ways to talk together about issues of our day - Migrant Rights, #MeToo, and more.

Worship Leader: Cyneatha Millsaps, MCUSA Women Executive Director

[More Information](#)



Global South Voices Presentation

Will be presenting at the Mennonite Church of Normal at 7:00 PM on Monday, September 24. These voices are coming from El Salvador, Zimbabwe, and Nepal and are working with the Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions, a collaborative initiative between Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), Goshen College, and Eastern Mennonite University. The three people from El Salvador, Zimbabwe, and Nepal will be sharing their stories about how climate change has affected them and their communities.

This event is sponsored by the Homebuilders and the Outreach and Peace & Justice Committees. I have attached a [flyer for the Global South Voices Speaking Tour](#).

In Peace, Phil Dick, Outreach Committee Chair



Home Sweet Home Thanksgiving Collection

Once again this year, we are invited to dedicate our September Widow's Cruse to the Thanksgiving Meals for Home Sweet Home Ministries. Please bring the following items during the Sundays in September.

Canned cream of mushroom soup

Canned cranberry sauce

Canned French Fried onions

Turkey gravy packets (no jars)

Stuffing mix

Boxed potatoes

Boxed meals

Boxed pie crust mix

Canned fruit
Laundry detergent
Toilet paper
Bath soap/body wash



Poverty Simulation

Saturday, October 20 at 9 AM - 12:30 PM

Join in a live role-playing simulation of families trapped in poverty. We hope this eye-opening look into the impossible decisions - between food and clothing, between healthcare and monthly rent - that millions of Americans are forced to make every day will foster empathy and awareness of the needs in our community.

YWCA McLean County

1201 N. Hershey Road, Bloomington, Illinois 61704

We are seeking volunteers and participants! RSVP required!

Volunteer Sign-up: tinyurl.com/mcleanpovsimvolunteer

Participant Sign-up: tinyurl.com/mcleanpovsim

Learn more at sponsoring organization websites:

www.ywcamclean.org or <https://bn-mclp.org>.



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](#).

Voice of the Day

"It's funny: I always imagined when I was a kid that adults had some kind of inner toolbox, full of shiny tools: the saw of discernment, the hammer of wisdom, the sandpaper of patience. But then when I grew up I found that life handed you these rusty, bent old tools - friendships, prayer, conscience, honesty - and said, Do the best you can with these, they will have to do. And mostly, against all odds they're enough."

Anne Lamott, *Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith*



Building Use

Crosswinds Church

August 29, 5:00 pm

Head Start Open House

August 30, 3:30 pm

Music Recording

September 1, 11:00 am

Cantus Novus

September 4, 7:00 pm

Crosswinds Church

September 5, 5:00 pm

Today's Chuckle



Luke comes home from his first day of school, and his mother asks, "What did you learn today?"
"Not enough," Luke replies. "They said I have to go back tomorrow."