



MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

September 19, 2018

Worship with Us this Sunday, September 23

The sermon title is *Limping to Redemption, Together* and the Scripture is I Corinthians 1:1-3; 3:10-17. Pastor Tim Schrag provides a quote to consider: *"The local congregation is the basic unit of Christian community....The body of Christ ---ancient, global, catholic --- is only known, loved, and served through the gritty reality of our local context...this means things get both more difficult and more interesting."*

Hymns This Sunday

God is Here Among Us - HWB 16

Praise With Joy the World's Creator - STJ 16

The Church's One Foundation - HWB 311

How Can I Say - STS 117

Prayers

Please pray for

*A welcoming spirit for a family that just immigrated to Bloomington from Mexico and have five children starting school

*Safety and grace as we continue the welcoming process for our LGBTQIA+ members and Sunday school class

*Rick Yoder as he begins retirement and plans his hike of the Appalachian Trail

*Flooding and Typhoon victims worldwide

Condolences

*We offer condolences to Wilma Dyck, her sister Paula passed away Friday night in her sleep just like she had hoped she might go at age 105.

This Week At 805 S Cottage

- Thur Sept 20 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
Piano Tuning 10:00 am
- Sun Sept 23 Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am
Worship 9:30 am
Christian Education for Children 10:45 am
Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am
MYF & JMYF Youth Groups 5:00 pm
- Mon Sept 24 Global South Voices Project Speaking Tour 7:00 pm
- Thur Sept 27 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am



Serving This Sunday

Greeters	Barry & Marge Weaver
	West: Marianne Israel
Welcome Table	Caeli Haab
Ushers	John & Kay Reimer, Andreas Unzicker, & Caleb Augspurger
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Worship Leader	Melika Hershberger
Song Leader	Wayne Hochstetler
Scripture	Wilma Dyck
Children's Time	Shelly King
Accompanist	Denise Hedberg
Technology	Wesley Hershberger
Toddler Nursery	Mary Ann Watkins
Preschool Nursery	Lexi Neely



Birthdays and Anniversaries



Joanna Oyer 9/23
Brandon Reed 9/23
Beth Reeser 9/25
Lydia Wilson 9/25

Happy 55th Anniversary to Robert and Evelyn Reeser on September 27



Apartment Needed

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



Menno Haven Benefit Concert

Sunday, September 23rd, at 4pm is a benefit concert for Second Story Teen Center and Glenhagen Farm Retreat, both of Princeton, IL. You can also benefit Menno Haven Camp & Retreat Center by attending this event.

The concert is **pops music with a professional 4 piece vocal group and 6 piece band from the Chicago area.** Suggested donation is \$25 per ticket. Andy Tecson and Nancy Hagen are willing to match the ticket donations with a gift to Menno Haven. Tickets should be purchased through Pam or Phil Kaufmann at 815-646-4889 or ppkman@comcast.net.

The concert will take place at Evangelical Covenant Church 24 N Main St, Princeton, IL.
We hope to see you there at this fun way to raise money for Menno Haven!



Have you thought about who is under your carbon footprint?

Join The Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions (CSCS) and Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) as they bring partners from El Salvador, Zimbabwe, and Nepal to share firsthand accounts of the shifting climate and its effects on individual communities. On **Monday, September 24, from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** Zacarías Arecio Bernabé Martínez, Dr. Sibonokuhle Ncube, and Durga Sunchiuri will share personal testimonies and accounts of their work in their home countries at **Mennonite Church of Normal** (805 S. Cottage Ave). For more information, please contact Bekah York (BekahYork@mcc.org) or Phil Dick (Philip.Dick@mcleancountyil.gov). This event is sponsored by the Homebuilders and the Outreach and Peace & Justice Committees. Hope to see you there!

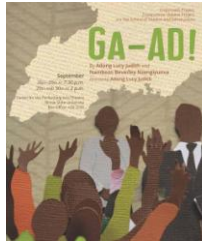
[Event Flyer](#)

[MCC Article](#)



Apple Pies for Relief Sale

Thank you to Eric and Chellie Miller for apples for Relief Sale. Volunteers are needed to help make apple pie filling on Tuesday, September 25 from 9-11 at church. Let Gerry Schrock know if you can help.



The Illinois State University School of Theatre and Dance

Their fall production season launches with *Ga-AD!* by Adong Lucy Judith and Nambozo Beverley Nzengiyunva. *Ga-AD!* runs September 26 through 29 at 7:30 p.m. and September 29 and 30 at 2 p.m. in the Center for the Performing Arts Theatre on the campus of Illinois State University.

This Friday, September 14 from noon-1 p.m., there will be a free Colloquium with director and playwright Adong Lucy Judith in the Center for the Performing Arts Theatre. On Wednesday, September 26, there will be a pre-show reception at 6 p.m. in the Center for the Performing Arts Lobby and a post-performance talkback with playwright and director Adong Lucy Judith.

Ga-AD! is part of an exciting community and cultural exchange with playwright Adong Lucy Judith, who has a six-week residency at Illinois State while directing her play. Adong comes to campus from Uganda, where she is the founder and artistic director of Silent Voices Uganda, a nonprofit performing arts company that 'gives voice' to social issues affecting underprivileged groups. As both a Fulbright Scholar and TED Fellow, Adong Judith creates art that provokes meaningful conversations about taboo issues.

Ga-AD!, inspired by the poem *The Loneliest Journey is the Journey of a Faithful Woman*, is a play-poetry hybrid that explores the role of women in a Pentecostal church in modern-day Uganda. Faith, a loyal servant of God, has suffered a car accident and entered into the afterlife. Looking back, Faith questions her actions and her relationship with the charismatic and greedy Apostle Jeremiah.

Cindy Ropp is directing the choir within the play!



Solar Installation Project, Sept 2018

The Board of the MCN at its meeting on Sept 11, 2018, approved the Solar Installation Project, Sept 2018, as brought by the Financial Stewardship Committee. There will be a congregational vote following worship on Sept 30 on the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: The Board of the MCN recommends that the Congregation approve the Solar Installation Project, September 2018, which includes the replacement of the current roof with a standing seam metal roof and the installation of solar panels on the south and west facing areas of the roof.

Information about this project is available on the congregational website at [Solar Installation Project, September 2018](#). There are paper copies on the table in the entryway. There will be additional information sessions on Sept 23 at both 11 AM and at 12 Noon in Room 4 by the kitchen.



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



Is There a Lesson? 45 Years on the Anabaptist Trail

The Mennonite Church of Normal is hosting a showing of the 90-minute documentary film by John L. and Jay Ruth *Is There a Lesson? 45 Years on the Anabaptist Trail with John Ruth and TourMagination* on October 7th at 7:00 pm. 805 Cottage Avenue, Normal, IL 61761. Admission is free.

Is There a Lesson? 45 Years on the Anabaptist Trail with John Ruth and TourMagination draws on more than four decades of photography by John L. Ruth on tours on four continents. Supplementary imagery comes from the more than 1,500 participants in tours led by Ruth beginning in 1973. Thematic continuity is woven by onsite commentary videotaped by Ruth's son Jay on a final tour in 2017.

John Ruth is Julie Musselman's cousin! More information can be found here: <https://themennonite.org/daily-news/anabaptist-trail-documentary-showings-scheduled/>



Special Delegate Assembly for MC USA

The Church Board is soliciting delegates for a special delegate meeting of MC USA, to take place electronically on November 26, 2018, 7:00pm Central time. This meeting is for the purpose of providing counsel to the Executive Board regarding a proposal to discontinue The Mennonite as an agency of MC USA; The Mennonite and Mennonite World Review are proposing a merger. Our congregation is allowed 3 delegates. Please contact Wayne Hochstetler via email (hochwayne@icloud.com) or phone (309-533-5486) by October 8 if you have

interest in serving in this way.



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>.



How Would You Respond to Someone Experiencing a Mental Health Crisis?

The Mental Health First Aid class teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to people with the signs and symptoms of a mental illness or in a crisis, and connect them with the appropriate care. Mental Health First Aid is for anyone— parents, neighbors, students, first responders, teachers, leaders of faith communities, and caring citizens.

Are you interested in learning to be part of the solution?

Join us for a Mental Health First Aid Class.

Date: Monday, October 22, 2018 8am to 5pm

Location: Heartland Head Start, 1407 W Washington St, Bloomington, IL

Fee: \$10.00 (includes course materials, lunch, and snacks)

To register: Call or email Teri at t.meismer@heartlandheadstart.org or (309) 662-4880



MC USA's Women in Leadership

Register now for **Women Doing Theology**, Nov. 8-10, 2018, to join MC USA's Women in Leadership in building upon a history of Anabaptist theologians, ministers, teachers, activists, creatives and many others gathering to do theological work born out of women's experiences. Find out more and register at

<http://mennoniteusa.org/wdt18>.



Mennonite Church Blood Drive

Saturday, November 10

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Walk-In's Welcome

For appointments, please call the church office or sign up [here](#), after entering sponsor code 0402803.
Bring photo ID or your blood donor card, or two other forms of ID.



MCC's Response to Flooding in India

The worst monsoon flooding in a century has damaged roads, homes and sources of income for hundreds of thousands of people in the Kerala state of India. As displaced people are returning to their homes, Mennonite Central Committee is working with Gilgal Mission Trust in India to provide tarps, food baskets, cooking utensils, and cleaning and hygiene items. Donations to support the response can be given online at mcc.org/india-flooding; by phone at 888-563-4676; or by mail to MCC U.S., 21 S. 12th St., PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501.



Crossroads Handcrafts

Crossroads Handcrafts of the World is a non-profit Fair Trade store located at 428 N. Main Street in downtown Bloomington. Our mission is to provide low income artisans and farmers a market for the work of their hands assuring them a fair return for their labor. Our shop is run by volunteers and is open Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. We ask our volunteers to commit to 2 shifts per month from either 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. or 2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. If you are interested in being part of a team whose vision is a world affirming all persons and the preservation of the health of our planet, then please come to our store to pick up a volunteer application or go to our website <https://www.crossroadshandcrafts.com/volunteer-application> to send an application electronically.



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.



Conference Newsletter

[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

“Often it is hard. So hard, in fact, that Jesus’ decree to love and pray for our opponents is regarded as one of the most breathtaking and gut-wrenching challenges of his entire Sermon on the mount, a speech renowned for its outrageous claims. There was no record of any other spiritual leader ever having articulated such a clear-cut, unambiguous command for people to express compassion to those who are actively working against their best interests.” **Lee Strobel**



Building Use

Crosswinds Church

September 19, 5:00 pm

HAAQG Sewing Mentoring

September 20, 6:00 pm

IMC Ministry Leadership Meeting

September 22, 9:00 am

Cantus Novus

September 25, 7:00 pm

Crosswinds Church

September 26, 5:00 pm

Today's Chuckle



After a worship service, a mother with a fidgety seven-year old boy told me how she finally got her son to sit still and be quiet.

About halfway through the sermon, she leaned over and whispered, "If you don't be quiet, Pastor is going to lose his place and will have to start his sermon all over again!"

It worked.