

Weekly Calendar

Today	Pre-Service Prayer	9:00 am
	Worship	9:30 am
	CE for Children	10:45 am
	Blood Pressures Taken	10:45 am
	CE for Adults	11:00 am
	MYF & JMYF	5:00 pm
	Junior Choir	6:00 pm
	Youth Choir	6:45 pm
	Adult Choir	7:30 pm
Tue Dec 6	Next Man Bible Study	6:15 am
Sat Dec 8	D. Paul Miller Memorial Service	4:30 pm

Upcoming Events

Sing-Along Concert of Handel's Messiah: December 7, 7:00 pm at the ISU Center for Performing Arts. Find more information in the Midweek Connection.

A Further Jazz Holiday: Glenn Wilson will present a Holiday Jazz show at the Normal Theater on Friday December 7th at 7:00 pm. In addition to Glenn's quartet, the IWU string quartet will perform and there will several surprise guests. All tickets are \$5.

Calling all Musicians: Christmas Orchestra
Whether you've been playing for a year or haven't played for years, we want you in our Christmas Orchestra! All ages and woodwinds, brass, strings and percussion are welcome. Rehearsals: Sunday, Dec 16 after church, Saturday, Dec 22, 10:30-noon. Performance in worship on Sunday, Dec 23. If you can participate CONTACT Marianne Israel or Wesley Hershberger .

MCN Spending Plan Status

Thank you for your offerings.

Year to date income: \$396,179
Year to date expenses: \$396,542
Can we finish the year in the black?
2018 Spending Plan total: \$495,356
2019 Proposed Plan total: \$495,276

Attendance on November 25 was 183.

Today

God, the Giver: We are reminded this Advent that as we seek God's righteousness, that God is the Giver of all that we need. Scripture reminds us that, "God will make a righteousness branch sprout from David's line" (Jer33:15). Taking a cue from that scripture, Lee Hertzler created for us a 'righteousness branch' that holds our Advent candles for worship. It is through the gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love that God gives us in Jesus that we are given what we need to follow God's way in righteousness.

Pictures for our updated website will be taken today. Tiffany Wyse Fisher is here this morning and coming back this evening, making us look good for a refreshed website that will be available in early 2019. If you have any questions, or do not want your picture on the website, please let me know. Lynn Reha

Advent Sunday School begins today! Didn't sign up? No problem! Feel free to join a class. Here are the locations:
Cards & Coloring - Room 4 (by Kitchen)
Caroling - High School Room (Rooms 5 & 7)
Christmas Treats - Kitchen
Clay - Junior High Room (Room 8)

Coffee and Tea Orders, today is the last day to place your order to raise funds for the youth to attend Mennonite Church USA's 2019 Convention. Thanks to those who have already ordered!

Of Note

All Sharing and Prayer Requests to Pastor Tim During Advent - Please write out or send by email to Pastor Tim all items for sharing and prayer for Sunday worship. There is no open microphone sharing during Advent.

Alternative Gifts Fair - After counting the final donations, we're happy to report that this year's fair raised \$20,388 (MCC-\$12,380 & AGI- \$8,008) for relief efforts around the world! If you requested project inserts, they will be in mailboxes, along with shopping lists within the next two Sundays. Thanks to all who participated!



Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

God, the Giver

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

Mennonite Church of Normal

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Ph (309) 452-6622

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For our guests

- The guestbook and name tags are at the Welcome Table, as well as a small gift for our first-time visitors.
- There is opportunity for introduction of guests during the pre-service time.
- Large print hymnals and hearing devices are available. Ask a greeter or any one of the ushers.

Caring for our children – Professionally-staffed child care is offered beginning at 9:20 am.

- **Toddler Nursery** for newborns through age 2, including a nursing nook, and crib room.
- **Preschool Nursery** for ages 3-5 (Pre-K), in Room 11.
- **Children's Time** during worship. Children are invited to come to the platform.

Following Worship – All Invited

- **Christian Education** for adults begins at 11:00 am. See the classes listed below, all are welcome.
- **Caring and Sharing** coffee time is available in the center rear Fellowship Area, all are welcome.

Mennonite Church of Normal

Vision and Mission

The Mennonite Church of Normal is a nurturing Anabaptist community that fosters the Christ-centered spiritual growth of all people. As followers of Jesus, we aspire to transform our communities and world into places of peace, healing, and hope.

Through our worship, Christian Education for all ages, fellowship, and service to others in love, the Mennonite Church of Normal lives out Anabaptist values of peace, reconciliation, discipleship, and community. Our belief in Jesus calls us to pray, share our faith, work toward peace and social justice, and create a culture of care and generosity.

Christian Education

Children 10:45 am

Gather 'Round (age 3-5th grade) Room 11, children will be dismissed for Intergenerational Advent Classes from Room 11 at 11:00 am.

Adults, Children, & Youth 11:00 am–11:45 am

Advent Intergenerational Classes

Cards & Coloring - Room 4 (by Kitchen)

Caroling - High School Room (Rooms 5 & 7)

Christmas Treats - Kitchen

Clay - Junior High Room (Room 8)

Adults 11:00 am

Adult Bible Study—Our Love for God, class lead, Conference Room (Room 2)

Caring and Sharing, Fellowship Area

Staff

Tim Schrag, Senior Pastor
tim@normalmennonite.org

Jane Roeschley, Associate Pastor
Worship & Lay Ministries
jane@normalmennonite.org

Lynn Reha, Office Manager
officemanager@normalmennonite.org

Lauren Satchwell, Interim Administrative Assistant
Youth Ministry Leader
church@normalmennonite.org

Chris Culbertson, Children's Ministry Leader
chrisculbertson22@gmail.com

Order of Worship December 2, 2018

Watching and Waiting...the Gift of Hope

The first Sunday of Advent we wait and watch with anticipation for the One who comes proclaiming righteousness in the name of the Lord.

As we wait, we hold on to hope—hope in the coming of the Messiah.

It is God's righteousness we seek and it is God who gives us this hope.

Community Life		Pastor Tim Schrag
Prelude	<i>quand Jesus naquit a Noel</i> by Claude Balbastre	Dorothy Loepp
Call to Worship		Amy Reiman
*Hymns		Cindy Ropp
	<i>Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus</i>	HWB 178
	<i>Hope Is A Candle</i>	STS 15
*Prayer		
Children's Time	God, the Giver of Hope	Shannon Unzicker
Scriptural Gifts of Hope		Evan King, Evelyn Bertsche, Jeremie Dedetemo, Joe Jantze, and Caroline Roeschley
Offering	<i>Oh Come, O Come, Immanuel</i> arr. James E. Clemens	
Worship Music	<i>Coventry Carol</i> <i>Silent Night</i>	Youth Choir
Congregational Prayer		
Worship Music	<i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i>	Adult Choir
Scripture Reading	Luke 21:25-36	
Sermon	<i>Voices from the Future</i>	
*Hymn	<i>Christ Is Coming! Let Creation</i>	HWB 295
*Benediction		
*Postlude and Dismissal		

**Please stand as you are able.
Parents/Caregivers, please note that Children's CE dismisses at 11:45.
Please remember to silence your cell phone.*

Wireless Access MCN_Guest/mcnguest