



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

MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

November 14, 2018

Worship with Us this Sunday, November 18

The sermon title is *Seeds in Our Lives: Holding On, and Letting Go* and the Scripture is James 3:3-12. Pastor Tim Schrag comments, "It is appropriate in a time in which 'raging fires' are in the news, that we consider how we can allow tiny sparks to corrupt us."

Hymns This Sunday

Holy Spirit, Come with Power - HWB 26

Create in Me a Clean Heart - STS 62

I Will Come to You in the Silence - STS 49

Prayers

Please pray for

*Janet and Glenn Wilson, Janet had a thyroidectomy last week and is recuperating well.

* Ron and Jo Ropp as he regains strength after the first round of chemotherapy. Ron will welcome visits, but please call first. Visits to Jo at the Mclean County Nursing Home are also very welcome. She is there for a one week stay while Ron deals with chemo.

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thur Nov 15 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
 Outreach Committee 5:00 pm

Sun Nov 18 Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am
 Worship with Communion 9:30 am
 Christian Education for Children 10:45 am



Alternative Gifts Fair 10:45 am
Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am
Congregational Fundraiser Meal 12:00 pm
Congregational Meeting 1:00 pm
Junior Choir 6:00 pm
Youth Choir 6:45 pm
Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thur Nov 22 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am

Serving This Sunday

Greeters	Lee & Mary Alice Hertzler
	West: John Bertsche
Welcome Table	Gerry Schrock
Ushers	David Voegtlin, Connie Reeser-Hall, Randy & Jaron Zehr
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Worship Leader	Holly Zehr
Song Leader	Barry Weaver
Scripture	Nancy Fisher
Children's Time	Chris Culbertson
Accompanist	Denise Hedberg
Technology	Wesley Hershberger
Toddler Nursery	Caeli Haab
Preschool Nursery	Lucy Unzicker

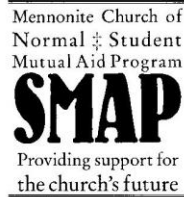


Birthdays and Anniversaries



David Warfel 11/19
Jo Ropp 11/21
Barry Weaver 11/22
Rick Yoder 11/22

Happy 45th Anniversary to Joe and Ruth Haney on November 24



Student Mutual Aid Program (SMAP)

The Spring semester payments for our Mennonite college students is quickly approaching. Our balance is \$17,500 dollars and our commitment is \$28,000 dollars. Payments can be placed in offering plate or at the front desk with checks and envelopes designated for SMAP fund. On behalf of the SMAP committee and the college students thank you for the continued support.



A Message from the Church Board

As has previously been communicated, both pastor Tim Schrag and Pastor Jane Roeschley have announced their retirements. Pastor Tim's retirement is effective August 31, 2019; Pastor Jane's retirement is effective November 30, 2019.

The Church Board has been working with Conference Minister Doug Luginbill from Central District Conference regarding our next steps. The Church Board recently took action to request from the Conference that a Transitional Pastor be appointed for at least one year, to assist the congregation during this transition period. The Board will address the topic of staffing at our December Board meeting and will communicate further with the congregation about staffing after that meeting.

Wayne Hochstetler, Congregational Chairperson



Children's Time Workshop

Wed. November 14th from 7:00 - 8:30

All current children's time volunteers are invited to attend. We'll share together how to make our children's time engaging, energizing and impactful. Brownies provided!



Communion

This Sunday, November 18, we will celebrate Communion in worship here at MCN. In preparation, we are all encouraged to engage in self-examination - of both our relationships with God, and with others.



Alternative Gifts Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended, prepared booths, and contributed generously at the first Sunday of the Alternative Gifts Fair. So far we have raised \$5,672 (MCC-\$2,925; AGI-\$2,747)!

This Sunday will be your last opportunity to participate in the fair. Shopping lists will be available on the cashier's table, together with cards to send to recipients. Checks should be made out to the Mennonite Church of Normal (memo: Alternative Gifts) and donations can be made in any amount.

If you can't be there but still want to participate, shopping lists and donations can be dropped off in the church office anytime before Monday, 11/26.

Our thanks to all for joining us in this fun project which sends gifts of caring and hope around the world!



Congregational Meal

A congregational meal, which is a fundraiser for MCN's Youth Groups to attend Mennonite Church USA's 2019 Convention in Kansas City, will precede the congregational meeting November 18. Come enjoy a homemade meal by the youth!



Order Coffee and Tea This Sunday!

The youth at MCN will be selling Menno's Best Coffee and Menno Tea bags. Keep warm this winter or gift a piece of the Mennonite world this holiday season. Thanks for helping MCN's youth groups attend Mennonite Church USA's 2019 Convention, as well as supporting Mennonite Church USA's peace and justice work. Your order will be ready on December 16th, just in time for Christmas!



Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, November 18 at 1:00 pm. During this meeting the proposed 2019 Spending Plan will be presented as well as Leadership Selection's 2019 volunteers to be affirmed. A copy of the proposed plan is available [here](#). Copies will also be available on the Entrance Table on Sunday. Please bring a copy to the Congregational Meeting on November 18.



Homebuilder's

Nov 18, 2018 7:00 PM at the MRC Community Building

Wayne and Lois Hochstetler will share from their recent trip to Russia. Pictures, song, dance, who knows? All are welcome.



Thanksgiving Day Meal

Sign up for the Thanksgiving Dinner at the church! You can sign up online through this link [Sign Up Genius](#) or sign up on the Community Events bulletin board in the atrium, or by calling Marge Nester. *It will be fun!* Meat is supplied. Just come at noon and bring a dish to share. Guests are welcome!



New Pictures for Our Website

Pictures for our updated website will be taken on Sunday, December 2nd. Tiffany Wyse Fisher will be here that Sunday morning and 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



Give a kit for Christmas!

From hurricanes and flooding to conflict and drought, MCC is responding to many disasters around the world. This Christmas, why not gather your family and pack a relief kit as a gift to other families whose lives have been disrupted by war or disaster? For more information about relief kit contents and how you can get involved, visit mcc.org/kits/relief.



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

"You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right." **Rosa Parks**



Building Use

HAAQG Sewing Mentoring

November 15, 6:00 pm

Crosswinds Church

November 21, 5:00 pm

Overeaters Anonymous

November 21, 5:00 pm

Today's Chuckle



A doctor said to his car mechanic, "You charge more per hour than we get paid for medical care."

"Yeah, Doc, but you have always the same model; it hasn't changed since Adam. We have to keep up to date with new models coming every year."