



MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

November 21, 2018

Worship with Us this Sunday, November 25

The sermon title is *However, At Times* and the Scripture is Luke 18:9-12 and 2 Corinthians 9:8-11. Pastor Tim Schrag comments, "A spiritual exercise: List everything for which you are thankful, and consider how you have shared (in these categories), with others."

Hymns This Sunday

Come, Ye Thankful People - HWB 94

Sing to the Lord of Harvest - HWB 98

Go, My Friends, In Grace - STS 57

Prayers

Please pray for

*Janet Wilson as she recuperates from a thyroidectomy.

*Carol Lou Eisenhardt's brother Bennie who is having surgery this week.

*Barry Weaver's sister Karen Hershberger who finished her first round of chemotherapy.

*John Stutzman who had a malignant melanoma removed and skin graft. We give thanks that it was free of disease. We pray for John and Erma as they prepare to depart to Ontario on December 14.

*Cal Hubbard, after a knee replacement. The thoughts and prayers have been appreciated.

*Hazel Yoder who plans to move to Goshen, IN on November 23rd. Thank you for all the help and rides received while she was recovering.

*11 Mattresses were delivered to immigrant families with quilts. The family expresses gratitude.

* Ron and Jo Ropp as he regains strength after the first round of chemotherapy.

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thur Nov 22 Church Office Closed

Fri Nov 23 Church Office Closed

Sun Nov 25 Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am
 Worship 9:30 am
 Christian Education for Children 10:45 am
 Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am
 Junior Choir 6:00 pm
 Youth Choir 6:45 pm
 Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Tues Nov 27 Peace and Justice Committee 5:00 pm

Thur Nov 29 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am



Serving This Sunday



Greeters Welcome Table Ushers Sermon Worship Leader Song Leader Scripture Children's Time Accompanist Technology Toddler Nursery Preschool Nursery	The Randy Zehr Family West: Helen Brandon Aldine Combs Darvis & Shelly King Jonah, Evan & Emma King Pastor Tim Schrag David Warfel Jenell Ulrich Jeremy Haab Louise Reeser Elsa Raab Wesley Hershberger Courtney Yoder Carrie Stalter
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Birthdays and Anniversaries



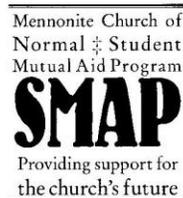
Evelyn Reeser 11/26
 Miles Doblosky 11/29
 Darvis King 12/1

Happy 59th Anniversary to Carroll and Roberta Miller on November 27th



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!



Student Mutual Aid Program (SMAP)

The Spring semester payments for our Mennonite college students is quickly approaching. Our balance is \$18,550 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.



Seeking Christmas Garland to Borrow

Pastor Jane is seeking several lengths of artificial Christmas greens garland to use for one evening (Dec 20). If you have something you could loan, please speak to her or send an email jane@normalmennonite.org.



Order Coffee and Tea This Sunday!

The youth at MCN will be selling Menno's Best Coffee and Menno Tea bags this Sunday and also December 2nd. 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!



Alternative Gifts Fair

Our 15th MCN Alternative Gifts Fair is in the books. Thanks to your generosity, we raised just over \$18,000 for MCC and AGI projects!

If you meant to give but didn't get around to it, you still have a chance. Shopping lists and payments can still be dropped off in the church office until the end of the day Monday, 11/26. Extra shopping lists are on the table in

the library. Thanks to all who participated!



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



You're invited to Advent Sunday School Classes!

We'll meet December 2nd and 9th to prepare and Dec. 16th to share with the community what created.

Class options are: Coloring, card making, clay creating, caroling, or Christmas treat making

Sign up in the library or on sign-up Genius. The link is here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B4BAFA72DA3FF2-advent>



Sing-Along Concert of Handel's Messiah

ISU Friends of the Arts invites you to participate in a sing-along concert of Handel's Messiah to celebrate the holiday season. Everyone is welcome, whether to sing or to just listen on Friday evening, December 7, 7:00 p.m.

in the ISU Center for the Performing Arts concert hall. Free parking is available in the School Street parking garage directly behind the CPA. Dr. Karyl Carlson, ISU Director of Choral Activities, will conduct and we have arranged for 4 soloists and a 24-piece orchestra. There is no rehearsal for the chorus. Singers need only show up

at the venue and bring your own score. If you want to sing but don't have a score, you can download the choruses: <https://finearts.illinoisstate.edu/foa/> . There is no fee to participate; however, we accept free-will

donations to support scholarships and study grants for ISU fine arts students. So that we may plan for any configuration of seating, click this link to notify us of how you intend to participate: [Participation Form](#)



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 playing woodwinds, brass, strings and percussion are welcome. Rehearsals: Sunday, Dec 16 after church, Saturday, Dec 22, 10:30-12:00. Performance in worship on Sunday, Dec 23. If you can participate

CONTACT Marianne Israel or Wesley Hershberger .



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.



Growing More Like Jesus From the Outside In: Transforming Heart and Mind

February 1-3, 2019, Hesston College Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series

How do we live in the way of Jesus - pursuing a life that is deeply soulful and connected to real needs and good news in our world? AVDS 2019 offers a time of spiritual formation that is grounded in community and full of healing and hope in our everyday lives. It seeks to answer the question: Where can we find support to take new risks to practice the way of Jesus together?

We will spend time dwelling deeply in the word, re-examining our values and tending to our own soul in order to live vital counter-cultural lives. Then we can explore together the practical Ninefold Path of the Beatitudes: EXPLORE the radical life-giving invitation they provide, ENGAGE the dynamic of shared experiments and practices, CREATE SPACE to rest, connect and refresh and COME AWAY with tools/skills to lead others on the journey.

AVDS is pleased to partner with Mark Scandrette, internationally recognized expert in Christian spirituality and founder of ReIMAGINE: A Center for Integral Christian Practice. His recent books include Practicing the Way of Jesus and The Ninefold Path. Scandrette teaches in the doctoral program at Fuller Theological Seminary (Pasadena, Calif.). See a variety of Mark's presentations at markscandrette.com.

Contact Pastor Jane for questions.



Volunteers Needed

Heartland Head Start is looking for people ages 15 and up to help with child care once a month for Policy Council meetings from 6-8pm. The meetings are on the first Wednesday's of the month. They need 4-5 people every month. Please call 309-662-4880 and ask for Erica if you can help.



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

"Caminante, no hay puentes, se hace puentes al andar." (Voyager, there are no bridges, one builds them as one walks.) - Gloria E. Anzaldúa



Building Use

Al-Anon

November 26, 7:00 pm

Organ Tuning

November 28

Crosswinds Church

November 28, 5:00 pm

Overeaters Anonymous

November 28, 5:00 pm

Today's Chuckle



Reaching the end of a job interview, the Human Resources Officer asked a young Engineer fresh out of MIT, "And what starting salary were you looking for?"

The Engineer replies, "In the region of \$325,000 a year, depending on the benefits package."

The interviewer enquires, "Well, what would you say to a package of 5-weeks vacation, 14 paid holidays, full medical and dental, company matching retirement fund to 50% of salary, and a company car leased every 2 years say, a red Corvette?"

The Engineer sits up straight and says, "Wow! Are you kidding?"

And the interviewer replies, "Yeah, but you started it."