

Weekly Calendar

Today	Pre-Service Prayer	9:00 am
	Worship	9:30 am
	CE for Children	10:45 am
	CE for Adults	11:00 am
	Orchestra Rehearsal	12:00 pm
	MYF & JMYF	5:00 pm
	Junior Choir	6:00 pm
	Youth Choir	6:45 pm
	Adult Choir	7:30 pm
Tues Dec 18	Peace & Justice Mtg	5:00 pm
Thurs Dec 20	Next Man Bible Study	6:15 am
	The Longest Night	6:30 pm

Upcoming Events

The Longest Night is Thursday evening, December 20 at 6:30 pm.

The Christmas Eve Service is Monday evening, December 24 at 6:30 pm. The Fellowship Committee invites you to bring a plate of Christmas cookies to share after the service. Please bring your own plate and take any leftovers home at the end of the evening. We can enjoy cookies during the time of visiting that follows the service.

EVERYONE is invited to a weekend of fellowship and fun at Camp Friedenswald, January 25-27! Friedenswald is a beautiful retreat in southern Michigan with comfortable, warm lodges to accommodate us. Whether you're looking for social time or solitude, there's something for everyone! Check out the link in the Midweek to sign up and for more details!

At the end of November, income was about \$6,600 above expenses. FSC is very appreciative for the strong support received!

There are some additional year-end expenses in December such as the MCN portion of fuel & maintenance costs of the jointly owned mower (with MRC) of \$730 this year. Ending in the black will allow us to add to the unrestricted reserve funds and perhaps accomplish other MCN mission goals.

Attendance on December 9 was 163.

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, in Jesus that we are given what we need to follow God's way in righteousness.

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.

MCN Sunday School goes on the road! Join us during the Sunday School hour as we bless others in our community. We will be heading to two locations: One group will be passing out hot cocoa and treats at Jewel across the street; a second group will be caroling and passing out ornaments at the McLean County Nursing Home (on Main Street by Fairview Pool.) This is where Jo Ropp is currently staying. You are welcome to join us at either location!

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.

Candlelight Vigil: You are invited to gather with people of all backgrounds to shine a light on gun violence through a Candlelight Vigil for the community today from 3:00-4:00 pm at St. John's Lutheran Church, 1617 East Emerson Street, Bloomington. At this vigil, there will be remembering those we mourn, while commemorating that it has been six years since the Sandy Hook shootings.



Menonite Church of Normal

A congregation of
Menonite Church USA

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

God, the Giver

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

Mennonite Church of Normal

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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
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Lauren Satchwell, Interim Administrative Assistant
Youth Ministry Leader
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Chris Culbertson, Children's Ministry Leader
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Order of Worship December 16, 2018

God the Giver...the Gift of Joy

Today is the Joy Sunday of Advent. In our rejoicing, we turn and make changes in the way we live so that God's righteousness is shared with all.

It is God's righteousness we seek and it is God who gives us the gift of Joy.

Community Life Pastor Tim Schrag

Prelude *Carols Sing, Praises Bring* Youth Choir & Junior Choir

Call to Worship Amy Reiman

*Hymns Barry Weaver, Denise Hedberg
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee HWB 71
Angels We Have Heard on High HWB 197

*Prayer

Children's Time God, the Giver of Joy Shannon Unzicker

Scriptural Gifts of Joy Andy Reeser, Melika Hershberger,
Nancy Fisher, Shannon Neely, Ron Ropp

Offering Chris Culbertson,
Sally Hoffman, flute

Worship Music *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* Youth Choir

Congregational Prayer

*Hymn *Oh, Beautiful Star of Bethlehem* STS 32

Scripture Reading Luke 3: 7-18; Philipians 4:2-9

Worship Music *A Winter's Song* Adult Choir

Sermon *Advent: Always Needed*

*Hymn *Joy to the World* HWB 318

*Benediction

*Postlude and Dismissal

**Please stand as you are able.
Please remember to silence your cell phone.*