



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

MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

December 26, 2018

Worship with Us this Sunday, December 30

The Scripture is Psalm 148. Pastor Tim Schrag comments, "The service this Sunday will be an extended expression of praise and worship, with elements of the visual, sung, and spoken word. The common point of departure will be the Psalm for the morning, Psalm 148."

Hymns This Sunday

I Sing the Mighty Power of God - HWB 46
All Creatures of Our God and King - HWB 48
All Things Bright and Beautiful - HWB 156
Let the Whole Creation Cry - HWB 51
For the Beauty of the Earth - HWB 89
Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah - HWB 50

Prayers

Please pray for

*Elsa Raab's grandson who was hospitalized last week after a high fever and seizure

*Erin and JB Ponnou-Delaffon's nephew who was born prematurely

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thur Dec 27 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am

Sun Dec 30 Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am
Worship 9:30 am



Tues Jan 1 Church Office Closed
Thur Jan 3 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am

Serving This Sunday

Greeters	Erin or JB Ponnou-Delaffon with Clara West: Mark Roeschley
Welcome Table	Mary Ann King
Ushers	Eric & Chellie Miller, Lotus Hershberger, & Andreas Unzicker
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Worship Leader	Ben Roeschley
Song Leader	Barry Weaver
Accompanist	Elsa Raab
Scripture Reader	Ben Roeschley
Children's Time	Shannon Unzicker
Technology	Rick Harnish
Toddler Nursery	Holly Zehr
Preschool Nursery	Lexi Neely



Birthdays and Anniversaries



Paul Watkins 12/30
John Gundy 12/31
Eric Miller 1/1
Albert Tshiseleka 1/1
Rebecca Josefson 1/3
Grant Zehr 1/3

Happy 51st Anniversary to Jim and Roberta Bortell on December 30



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" (Jeremiah 33:15). The branch that holds our Advent candles for worship is a reminder of that promise. 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.

"Out of the stump of David's family will grow a shoot – yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root."
(Isaiah 11:1) NLT



New Adult Classes Starting January 6

Three Adult Christian Education classes will be available January through February.

1. The uniform series class continuing with "Our Love for God."

2. A class entitled "Creating Space for....." with multiple presenters.

January 6: Nancy Fisher - Creating Space for God

January 13: David and Abby Warfel/Melika Hershberger - Creating Space for the Neighborhood

January 20: Lotus/Judy Hershberger - Creating Space for the Stranger

January 27: Lois Hochstetler - Creating Space for the Hurting

February 3: Elfriede Massier - Adult Child and Aging Parent Relationship

February 10: Jon/Janelle Friesen - Creating Space for Youth

February 17: Laura Dick - Creating Space for Those with Needs

February 24: Lynn Reha - Creating Space for Creative Response

3. A class entitled "Stories of Struggle"

Parenting is hard! Each week in this class a seasoned parent will talk about a struggle they experienced raising children. The second part of the class gives time for class members to share one of their children's current challenges and pray about these together. Shannon Neely and Pastor Jane will facilitate this class, which is planned to start January 20th.



Q&A Discussion

Please plan to attend a Q&A and discussion time immediately after church on January 13, 2019. A panel of people from the LGBTQ community, all people of faith, will be here to share their stories and answer questions. We, the Process Design Team, see this as an integral step in our church's discernment process and hope many in the congregation will attend. Plans for lunch are in the works. Any questions can be directed to Shelly King (snking2002@yahoo.com) or Joe Culpepper (pepperjetn@aol.com).



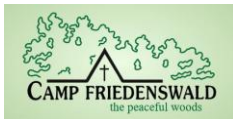
High School Essay Contest!

The annual MCC U.S. Washington Office essay contest highlights the perspectives of youth on significant public policy issues and promotes the involvement of young people in faithful witness to government authorities. The contest is open to Mennonite, Brethren in Christ and other Anabaptist youth of high school age and to all youth who attend Mennonite high schools within the United States and Puerto Rico. The winner of the grand prize will receive \$750, 2nd place \$500 and 3rd place \$250.

Topics this year include:

- Gun violence
- Immigration
- North Korea

The deadline for submitting essays is January 25, 2019. For more information, visit: mcc.org/itk-essay-contest.



All Church Winter Retreat

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! More details and sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094faaa87-allchurch>



Save the Date

Sister Care Seminar: Equipping Women for Healing Ministry

April 5-7, 2019 at Camp Menno Haven

Presenters are Alicia Manning and Hyacinth Stevens

For more information, contact Shannon Unzicker

Sister Care seminars, a ministry of Mennonite USA, provide women with tools for ongoing personal healing and for responding more effectively to the needs of others.



MRC Treadmill

The MRC is replacing their Star Trac TR 4500 Series Treadmill and is ready to donate it. It is still serviceable, and would possibly need some repair in the future. If you are interested in seeing it or have questions please

contact Lotus Hershberger.



MDS Openings

Mennonite Disaster Service is building our team and searching for qualified, motivated individuals who have a knowledge of and passion for the MDS mission, vision and values and a commitment to the Anabaptist church.

Current position openings include: (1) Communications Manager in Lititz, PA, (2) a Volunteer Training Specialist, home based (U.S. resident) and (3) a Leadership Volunteer Interviewer, home based (U.S. resident).

For more information, visit our webpage at www.mds.mennonite.net/who-we-are/employment



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

"Seasons of loss, like the colder seasons, are the hardest ones to endure, even if you logically understand they won't last forever." **Mari Andrew**



Building Use

Overeaters Anonymous

December 29, 10:00 am

Al-Anon

December 31, 7:00 pm

Overeaters Anonymous

January 2, 5:00 pm

Crosswinds Church

January 2, 5:00 pm

HAAQG Meeting

January 3, 5:30 pm

HAAQG Retreat

January 4-5, 7:00 am

Today's Chuckle



An urgent call was put in for a plumber at noon but he didn't arrive until 5 hours later.

"How is it?" he asked entering the house.

"Not so bad," replied the home owner. "While we were waiting for you to arrive, I taught my wife how to swim."