



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

MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

January 23, 2019

Worship with Us this Sunday, January 27

The sermon title is *Philippians: Messianic Citizenship* and the Scripture is Philippians 1:27-2:16. Pastor Tim Schrag comments, "This begins a series on Philippians. It is a short book and strongly recommended you read it front to back, each week, in preparation for worship."

Prayers

Please pray for

*Wilma Dyck, for healing and a diagnosis as she recovers from an episode where she was unresponsive.

*Mary and Claire Dyck as they support Wilma and deal with their own anxieties.

*Lucas Elijah Culpepper, great grandson of Ellen and Joe Culpepper, and his mother Kiara, as 2-week-old Lucas recovers from RSV.

*Ron Ropp, as he deals with heart damage from chemo treatments.

*Jo Ropp, as she continues to recover at McLean County Nursing Home from a hip fracture.

*Evelyn Bertsche who is currently in the Advocate Bro Menn hospital and will be transferred to Heritage Manor in Normal this week.

*The hearts of our young people who may have been damaged by racism as displayed by adults.

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thur Jan 24	Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
Fri Jan 25	Camp Friedenswald Winter Retreat
Sun Jan 27	Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Christian Education for Children 10:45am Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am
Tue Jan 29	Peace & Justice Committee 5:00 pm
Thur Jan 31	Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am

Serving This Sunday

Greeters	Cindy Ropp & Gerry Schrock
	West: Mary Jantze
Welcome Table	Darvis King
Ushers	Lotus, Ross, & Wesley Hershberger, Tshitshi Tshiseleka & Jeremie Dedetemo
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Worship Leader	Pastor Jane Roeschley
Song Leader	Glenn Wilson
Accompanist	Dorothy Loepp
Scripture Reader	Caleb Augspurger
Children's Time	Darrel Miller
Technology	Randy Zehr
Toddler Nursery	Nancy Fisher
Preschool Nursery	Lexi Neely

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Emily Petri 1/27
Ross Hershberger 1/29
Nevaeh Nester 1/31
Craig Ohmart 2/1

Ushers Needed

Can you offer your gifts in 2019 by volunteering to be a Sunday morning Usher? If you would like to be added to the schedule or have questions on what an Usher does, please contact Lauren in the church office. Email at church@normalmennonite.org or call 309-452-6622. Thanks!

Offering Envelopes

Please let Lauren know if you are running low on offering envelopes in 2019. The envelopes are no longer dated, so feel free to use all of the ones you have. We will not be doing a standard order this year. When you run out, please contact the church office at church@normalmennonite.org or 309-452-6622 and we will give you more.
Thanks!

Making Room For the Hurting Sunday School Class

For those who will be attending the adult class on "Making Room For...". This week will be "Making Room For the Hurting". Lois Hochstetler, facilitator, asks that you watch the movie The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society " or read the book by the same title. Please pay attention to who is hurting in the story, and how they found healing. Movie is available for rent, or on Netflix. Or call Lois at 309-533-8513 and arrange to watch it in the Hochstetler's basement.

Come, walk with us. . . to God knows where!

You are warmly invited to gather with your CDC brothers and sisters at the upcoming Regional Gathering on February 9, 2019. We'll sing and pray together as we get to know one another. There will be updates about what is happening in CDC and we will engage with our theme. The Chicago Community congregation will host and share a bit of their congregation's story. We will also hear a story from Asian Mennonite Community Church. Come share your perspectives and ideas and bring a friend. Please know that anyone is welcome to participate.

Regional Gatherings begin with coffee and tea at 9:45 am, and conclude at 3:00 pm.

The Chicago Community congregation has graciously agreed to provide lunch for us. We ask that those eating

lunch bring a donation to help cover the costs. To help them plan for the amount of food needed, please let Emma know if you are attending by Feb 1. Email: office@mcusacdc.org; Phone 800.662.2264.

House Blessing with Chalk

A Chalk House Blessing is a way to begin the new year by asking God to bless our homes. It reminds us to invite Jesus to be a daily guest in our homes, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows.

Help yourself to a piece of chalk available in the Atrium.

How to Bless Your Home

1. Using chalk, mark above or beside the home's entryway, or on the front porch steps,
1. 20 + C + M + B + 19 The 20 and 19 stand for this year, 2019. The + represents the Cross.
2. The C + M + B has two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the Magi, Caspar, Melchoir and Balthazar. They also are abbreviations for the Latin words that mean, May Christ bless this house (Christus mansionum benedicat).
3. Say, "May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout this year, 2019."
4. Pray,, "Visit, O lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with your love; and grant that we show your love to each other and all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you. Guide us, comfort us, strengthen us and give us your peace. In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen."

With time the chalk will fade. As it does we let the meaning of the written symbols sink into our hearts and become manifest in our words and actions.

Distress Supper

The 61st Annual Mennonite Relief Sale will be held on March 15-16 at the Interstate Center in Bloomington. The theme is "Courageous Compassion in Christ!" The Distress Supper will be held on February 12 at the North Danvers Mennonite Church. Anyone is welcome. The deadline is February 1. If you are planning to attend, please let Roelie Homan know, 662-6426 or grhoman@frontier.com

MCC Alumni Reunions

MCC welcomes alumni to host reunions at the Welcoming Place in Akron, Pennsylvania, in 2020 as we celebrate our 100th anniversary. To see if a reunion is already scheduled for the country where you served or to organize a reunion, contact alumni@mcc.org.

Partners in Healing

MCN has been asked to pray for the Administration at Advocate BroMenn and Advocate Eureka Hospital in 2019.

These executives make decisions each day of great importance to patient care.

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

"Preserving a gentle spirit in a heartless world takes extraordinary courage, determination, and resilience. Do not underestimate the power of gentleness because gentleness is strength wrapped in peace, and therein lies the power to change the world." **L.R. Knost**

Building Use

Crosswinds Church

January 23, 5:00 pm

Overeaters Anonymous

January 23, 5:00 pm

Overeaters Anonymous

January 26, 10:00 am

AI-Anon

January 28, 7:00 pm

Cantus Novus

January 29, 7:00 pm

Crosswinds Church

January 30, 5:00 pm

Overeaters Anonymous

January 30, 5:00 pm

Today's Chuckle

While working as a radiology technician in a hospital emergency room, I took x-rays of a trauma patient. I brought the films to our radiologist, who studied the multiple fractures of the femurs and pelvis.

"What happened to this patient?" he asked in astonishment.

"He fell out of a tree," I reported.

The radiologist wanted to know what the patient was doing up a tree.

"I'm not sure, but his paperwork states he works for Bob's Expert Tree Service."

Gazing intently at the x-rays, the radiologist blinked and said, "Cross out 'Expert.'"