

## 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
	Relief Sale Lunch	12:00 pm
	Junior Choir	6:00 pm
	Youth Choir	6:45 pm
	Adult Choir	7:30 pm
Tue Mar 19	Youth Ministry Comm.	6:00 pm
Wed Mar 20	Church Board Retreat	5:00 pm
Thur Mar 21	Next Man Bible Study	6:15 am
Sat Mar 23	Blood Drive	8:00 am

## Today

**All Sharing and Prayer Requests to Pastor Tim During Lent,** 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 Lent.

**Lent** Lenten scriptures feature our human need and how God satisfies as nothing else can. When we find ourselves lost, afraid, or alone, God hears our cries, and, as the bulletin artwork suggests, God provides for us. Confession is a key spiritual practice during Lent - both confession *of our sin* to God, as well as our confession *of our faith in* God. In confessing, we discover we are always held in God's abundant forgiveness and love. The rocky, wilderness landscape evokes our deepest spiritual longings as Lent prepares us for celebrating Easter.

**Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale** Thank you to all who have helped to make the 61st Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale a success by volunteering, baking, knitting, & crocheting, making things and donating money.

**Meal Today:** Everyone is invited to the celebration meal and fellowship following the busy Relief Sale season provided by the Fellowship Committee after the Sunday School hour!

**Today's Focus: MCN and MCC**  
We are well connected with MCC!

◆2019 Spending Plan: \$4,032

◆2019 MCC Relief Sale: Hundreds of hours in organizing, preparation, working at the sale. Hundreds of items given for the sale. Thousands of dollars spent in support of MCC.

Attendance on March 10 was 174.

## Upcoming Events

**MCN Red Cross Blood Drive** Saturday March 23rd from 8:00 am until noon. Walk-in's welcome. For appointments, please call the church office or use the link in the Midweek. There is also a sign up sheet in the library. Bring a photo ID or your blood donor card.

**Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA) Gathering** Thursday, March 28, 7:00 pm— You're invited to the home of Eric and Chellie Miller to network with others, learn more about MEDA, and explore the opportunities that await through participation in the local network hub. Members of MEDA staff will be on hand to provide an update on MEDA's work throughout the world, while local advocates will lead a discussion on the creation of a group of MEDA supporters in Central IL. Desserts and refreshments provided. RSVP to Eric Miller or Ben Roeschley.

**The 2019 IL Mennonite Women's Retreat:** April 5-6 at Menno Haven. Register through the Midweek or a brochure on the entry table. The presenters will be Hyacinth Stevens, a pastor and Program Director for MCC East Coast, from West Haven, CT, and Alicia Manning, a pastor and educator from Williamsburg, VA. Together they will be leading a two-day Sister Care Seminar. Talk with Shannon Unzicker if you have any questions.

**Family Fun Nights are on the way!** Fridays April 5, 12, and 26th. Come for food, fellowship, and fun as we explore the miracles of our mighty God. We'll begin at 5:30 pm with a meal and finish by 7:30 pm each night. Friends are welcome! Contact Chris at [chrisculbertson22@gmail.com](mailto:chrisculbertson22@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**Small Group Discussion and Listening Session** Sunday, April 7th, everyone is invited to gather for both small and large group discussions regarding our process in welcoming the LGBTQIA+ community. We will reflect on policies and statements as we discern the next steps together. We will gather immediately after Sunday School and lunch will be provided. If you would prefer an opportunity to share your thoughts more privately, you are invited to contact a design team member for a one on one listening time.

**Returning Citizens Care Kits** For the months of March and April we will be collecting kits for persons returning to our community from prison. Kit lists are available in the atrium or you can make a donation to Outreach Committee to purchase the items on your behalf. Thank you!



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

**March 17, 2019**

# Mennonite Church of Normal

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 church@normalmennonite.org  
 www.normalmennonite.org

## 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 3-1st grade) Room 11  
 Nursery (newborn — age 3) Room 3

#### **SHINE: Living in God's Light Curriculum**

PreK (3 & 4 year olds) Rooms 13 & 14  
 Kindergarten & Grade 1 Room 11  
 Grades 2 Room 12  
 Grades 3 — 5 Room 9

#### Youth 10:45 am

Grades 6 — 8 Room 8  
 High School Rooms 5 & 7

#### Adults 11:00 am

**Adult Bible Study—Discipleship & Mission**, Jenny Roberts & Class Led, Conference Room (Room 2)

**Celtic Wisdom for Seeking the Sacred**, Pastor Jane Roeschley, Room 4 (by Kitchen)

### Staff

Tim Schrag, Senior Pastor  
 tim@normalmennonite.org

Jane Roeschley, Associate Pastor  
 Worship & Lay Ministries  
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Lynn Reha, Office Manager  
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Lauren Satchwell, Administrative Assistant  
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Chris Culbertson, Children's Ministry Leader  
 chrisculbertson22@gmail.com

Wireless Access MCN\_Guest/mcnguest

# Order of Worship

March 17, 2019 Lent 2

God Gathers Us Together in a Safe Shelter

*When dark fear overwhelms us, God gathers us in.*

*We can seek and find the Light of God in the midst of any darkness.*

Community Life		Pastor Tim Schrag
Prelude		Glenn Wilson
Call to Worship		Janet Wilson
*Hymns	<i>Praise to the Lord, the Almighty          O God, How We Have Wandered</i>	Dorothy Loepf HWB 37 STS 58
*Prayer		
Children's Time	God Shelters Us When We Are Afraid	Pastor Jane Roeschley
Worship Music	<i>Let the Children Come to Me</i>	Junior Choir
Offering		
Congregational Prayer		
Hymn	<i>Jesus, Rock of Ages</i>	HWB 515
Scripture Reading	Matthew 5:43-48, Luke 19:1-10	JB Ponnou-Delaffon
Worship Music	<i>Christ We Do All Adore Thee</i>	Youth Choir
Sermon	<i>Giving Thanks for the Glory of God</i>	Meredith Schroeer
Faith Story	Who Will Seek The Lord Today?	Ron Ropp
Confession		
*Hymn	<i>The King of Love My Shepherd Is</i>	HWB 170
*Benediction		
*Postlude and Dismissal		

*\*Please stand as you are able.  
 Parents/Caregivers, please note that Children's CE dismisses at 11:45.  
 Please remember to silence your cell phone.*