



MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

March 13, 2019

Worship with Us this Sunday, March 17

Meredith Schroeer will be preaching this Sunday. The sermon title is *Giving Thanks for the Glory of God* and the Scripture is Matthew 5:43-48 and Luke 19:1-10.

Lenten Season Worship

Throughout scriptures for Lent, there is a theme of our human need and how God longs to fulfill and satisfy us as nothing else can. We can find ourselves lost, thirsty 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 and brokenness *to* God, as well as our confession of faith *in* God. In our confessing, we discover that we are always held in God's love, and God provides abundant forgiveness. The worship visuals - rocky, barren, and dry wilderness landscape - symbolically set a scene that evokes our deepest spiritual longings as we prepare during Lent for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection at Easter.

Hymns this Sunday

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty - HWB 37

O God, How We Have Wandered - STS 58

Jesus, Rock of Ages - HWB 515

The King of Love My Shepherd Is - HWB 170

Prayers

Please pray for

*Juergen Schroeer who had a successful knee replacement on March 4 but is still in the hospital due to dizziness and feeling lightheaded

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thur Mar 14	Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am Apple Pie Baking 8:00 am Pastor Peer Meeting 9:00 am
Fri Mar 15	Shoofly Pie Baking 5:30 am IL Mennonite Relief Sale
Sat Mar 16	IL Mennonite Relief Sale
Sun Mar 17	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
Tue Mar 19	Youth Ministry Committee 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



Serving This Sunday

Greeters	Barry and Marge Weaver
Welcome Table	West: Wilma Dyck
Ushers	Mary Dyck Andy & Beth Reeser, Lotus Hershberger, Shelly King
Sermon	Meredith Schroeer
Worship Leader	Janet Wilson
Song Leader	Glenn Wilson
Organist	Dorothy Loepp
Scripture Reader	JB Ponnou-Delafon
Children's Time	Pastor Jane Roeschley
Technology	Adam Augspurger
Toddler Nursery	Carrie Stalter
Preschool Nursery	Holly Zehr



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Gerry Schrock 3/19
Anna Driscoll 3/20
Alexa Hoffman 3/22



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.



Children May Bring a Comfort Blankie or Stuffed Animal to Children's Time this Sunday

We will be talking about how God comforts us when we are afraid during Children's Time this week. Sometimes children find a special blankie or stuffed animal to be a comfort. Special comfort blankies and stuffed animals are welcome to come with your child to Children's Time this week!



Community Concert Band

Join us for our Spring Concert!
Wesley United Methodist Church, 502 E. Front St., Bloomington
March 14, 7:00 pm
www.bn-communityband.org



61st Annual Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale

March 15-16 at the Interstate Center in Bloomington.
All food and other items have to be brought to the church by FRIDAY, MARCH 15 at 9:00 a.m.
We still need some VOLUNTEERS to serve the Chicken/Fish dinners on Friday from 4:00-5:30 p.m.
and to serve Pancakes & Sausages on Saturday morning from 5:30-8:30 a.m. and 8:30-10:30 a.m.
Instead of going to church to sign up, call Roelie Homan, 309-662-6426 if you can help.

Everyone is invited to the celebration meal and fellowship following the busy Relief Sale season! This will be served this Sunday, March 17, after the Sunday School hour.



Mennonite Church Blood Drive

Saturday, March 23

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Walk-In's Welcome

For appointments, please call the church office or sign up [here](#), after entering sponsor code 0402803. Bring photo ID or your blood donor card, or two other forms of ID.



Homebuilders

March 24, 2019 7:00 PM MRC Community Building

What did Abe Lincoln do in school? Did you do ciphering in school? Come and see samples of ciphering books and other items from former years. Ken Clements and Nerida Ellerton, who have been attending the MCN for the past months, will show and talk about ciphering books and other interesting artifacts.



Facing Israel/Palestine: A New Model for Interfaith Relations

The Presbytery of Great Rivers will host Rabbi Brant Rosen on Tuesday, March 26 at 7:00 pm in Peoria at the First Federated Church Life Together Center (corner of War Memorial and Sheridan). The program features a talk and discussion led by Rabbi Rosen, author of *Wrestling in the Daylight* (2nd edition, 2017, Just World Books).

For the past several decades, Jewish-Christian relations have generally tiptoed around the very difficult issue of the Israel/Palestine conflict. Rabbi Rosen will explore the history of this relationship and offer a new model for interfaith dialogue based on common values and prophetic action that might promote a future of justice and peace for all who live in this troubled land. Rabbi Rosen is the Midwest Regional Director of the American Friends Service Committee and rabbi of congregation Tzedek Shalom in Chicago. The program is free and all are welcome. For more information contact John Nixon (309) 472-6392, jbnixonjb@aol.com. View the flyer [here](#).



Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA) Gathering

Thursday, March 28, 7:00pm -- 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 a local network hub (formerly known as a MEDA chapter).

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 Illinois. Dessert and

refreshments will be provided.

Please RSVP, text or call, to Eric (309.831.6585) or Ben Roeschley (815.848.5738) by Mon, March 25.



Illinois Mennonite Women's Retreat

Registration is now open for the 2019 Illinois Mennonite Women's Retreat, April 5-6, at Menno Haven. 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. Brochures are available [here](#) and in the narthex, or register on the [Menno Haven website](#) (under Quick Links, choose "Register for a Program")

Talk with Shannon Unzicker 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.



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 with a meal and finish by 7:30 each night. Friends are welcome! Contact Chris at chrisculbertson22@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Time to Check Under the Steps!

The Lost and Found is filling up, please check to make sure your items won't be donated. Items will be donated after March 17th.



Would you provide a Sunday night meal for our youth groups?

Eating together has been an important part of our fellowship together! We anticipate needing food for 25 people and will aim to eat at 6:15 PM.

Thank you for your help with this--it is very much appreciated!



Returning Citizens Care Kits, Sponsored by the Outreach Committee

For the months of March and April we will be collecting Returning Citizens Care Kits for persons returning to our community from prison. Kits for men and/or women are need to share with Jobs Partnership and Labyrinth Outreach services, two organizations in our community offering reintegration services to persons formerly incarcerated. Gently used backpacks or small duffel bags are also needed in which to pack the kits. Bring to the red tub in the atrium, or a donation may be made to MCN, for use by the Outreach Committee to purchase the items on your behalf. Contributing partial kits, or just some of the items is more than okay.

Returning Citizen Care Kit - Men (New Items Only)

- 1 bottle of lotion (maximum 13-24 oz.)
- 1 bottle of shampoo (minimum 12 oz.)
- 1 large bar of soap (minimum 4 oz.)
- 1 tube of toothpaste (minimum 6 oz.)
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 disposable razor
- 1 small package of Q-tips
- 1 deodorant (minimum 2.25 oz.)
- 1 pair of underwear (briefs)*
- 1 pair of crew socks*
- 1 crewneck t-shirt*

*Note: Clothing items must be new and are accepted in two sizes: men's large and extra large. Please choose one of these sizes and purchase underwear, socks and t-shirts in the same size.

Returning Citizen Care Kit - Women (New items only)

- 1 bottle of lotion (maximum 13-24 oz.)
- 1 bottle of shampoo (minimum 12 oz.)
- 1 large bar of soap (minimum 4 oz.)
- 1 tube of toothpaste (minimum 6 oz.)
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 package of sanitary pads (18-24 count thin maxi)
- 1 package of hair ties
- 1 disposable razor
- 1 small package of Q-tips
- 1 deodorant (minimum 2.25 oz.)
- 1 pair of crew socks*
- 1 pair of underwear (briefs)*
- 1 crewneck t-shirt*

*Note: Clothing items must be new and are accepted in two sizes: women's large and extra large. Please choose one of these sizes and purchase underwear, socks and t-shirts in the same size.



MCC's Peace Camp

Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes is offering a week-long Peace Camp for young adults ages 18-22 who are interested in learning about a Biblical approach to peace and justice. During Peace Camp, young adults will explore the theme of "Responding to Violence" through hands-on learning. The week includes a trip to Chicago with MCC partners working with gun violence prevention. Other focus topics include conflict transformation, anti-racism, bystander training and restorative justice. The base participant fee is \$300, and scholarships are available on a case-by-case basis. For more information and registration, see mcc.org/gl_peace_camp or contact either Jes Stoltzfus Buller (MCC Peace Education Coordinator) at jessicabuller@mcc.org or Juan Pacheco (MCC Great Lakes Peace and Justice Coordinator) at juanpacheco@mcc.org. View the flyer [here](#).



Join MCC Great Lakes for a Pipeline to Prison learning tour on August 4-9

Based in Goshen, Ind., the tour will focus on the challenges and complexities of the U.S. criminal justice system and include day trips to South Bend, Elkhart, and Bunker Hill, Ind. Participants will journey from the local community level through the criminal justice system, learning about law enforcement, sentencing, incarceration and re-entry. All who are interested in learning about disparities in the justice system, including those working in or seeking to develop a prison/re-entry ministry, are welcome. For more information and registration visit mcc.org/gl-pipeline-to-prison or contact Juan Sebastian Pacheco Lozano at JuanPacheco@mcc.org or 574-534-4133. View the flyer [here](#).



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

"I want to be outside with the misfits, with the rebels, the dreamers, second-chance givers, the radical grace lavishers, the ones with arms wide open, the courageously vulnerable, and among even—or maybe especially—the ones rejected by the Table as not worthy enough or right enough." **Sara Bessey**



Building Use

Overeaters Anonymous

March 16, 10:00 am

AI-Anon

March 18, 7:00 pm

Cantus Novus

March 19, 7:00 pm

Crosswinds Church

March 20, 5:00 pm

Overeaters Anonymous

March 20, 5:00 pm

HAAQG Sewing Mentoring

March 21, 6:00 pm

Today's Chuckle



Two friends drove by a gas station.

The first one says, "These prices are awful. They just keep going higher!"

The second replies, "It doesn't affect me at all. I always put in just \$20 worth."