



MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

June 5, 2019

Worship with us this Sunday, June 9

Pentecost Sunday

Sermon: For our times...

How might the Holy Spirit be stirring among us 'in these days', with the outcome Peter quotes from Joel, "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"?

Scripture: Genesis 11:1-9 ; Acts 2:1-21

Hymns this Sunday

Alleluia- STJ 41
O Holy Spirit, By Whose Breath- HWB 291
Holy Spirit, Come with Power- HWB 26
O Breathe on Me, O Breath of God- STJ 46
Gentle Shepherd, Come and Lead Us- HWB 352
Move in Our Midst- HWB 418

Prayers & Congratulations

Please pray for...

Thank you for prayers for Dustin Wyse-Fisher, as he heals and experiences restoration after surgery for a brain tumor. Lab reports will be forthcoming in the next few weeks that will give direction for further treatment. The

family covets continued prayers.

Alex Schiffman as he moves to Arizona.

Pastor Jane Roeschley and Lynette Miller who are on a Pilgrimage in Scotland and Ireland.

Congratulations to...

High School graduates:

Lena Driscoll

Wesley Hershberger

Jonah King

Henry Lovellette

Alex Schiffman

Sam Warfel

Serving this Sunday

Greeters

Cindy Ropp & Gerry Schrock

Welcome Table

West: Shannon Neely

Ushers

Mary Jantze

Sermon

Caleb & Adam Augspurger, Kristen Satchwell, &

Worship Leader

Marianne Israel

Prelude

Pastor Tim Schrag

Song Leader

Lynn Reha

Children's Song Leader(s)

Youth Musicians

Accompanist

Jenell Ulrich

Scripture Reader

Randy & Holly Zehr

Children's Time

Denise Hedberg

Technology

Wayne Hochstetler

Toddler Nursery

Chris Culbertson

Preschool Nursery

Randy Zehr

Caeli Haab

Lucy Unzicker



This Week at MCN

Wed June 5 Prayer Walk 6:30 pm

Thur June 6 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
Wellness Committee 5:30 pm

Sat June 8 Prayer Walk 10:00 am

Sun June 9 Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am
Worship 9:30 am
Christian Education for Children 10:45 am
Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am
Birthday Party for Everyone! 12:00 pm

Mon June 10 Mennonite Women 9:30 am
Financial Stewardship 4:30 pm

Tues June 11 Church Board 5:30 pm
Youth Ministry Committee 6:00 pm



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Evan Weaver, 6/5
Nicholas Neely, 6/9
John Reimer, 6/9
Diane Wiman, 6/10

Jan & John Gundy, 6/9
Mike & Stephanie Company, 6/10

Special Music for Worship

We are looking for singers and those who play instruments to enhance our worship this summer with special music. All levels welcome--from beginners to long-timers. Contact Pastor Jane and she'll work out a date with you.



Church Office

Church Office hours are going to be irregular until we have a permanent replacement as Administrative Assistant.

Please call ahead before coming to the church for office services. 309-452-6622

Season of Prayer

Over the past year, we have been trying to hear what God is calling the Mennonite Church of Normal to be as a community that includes LGBTQIA+ people. For the month of June, the Church Board and the Pastors invite us all to a season of prayerful listening and spiritual reflection.

You should have received a copy of [A Season of Listening Prayer and Reflection Together](#) in your mailbox. This includes an overview of the Season of Prayer, and questions that we are being asked to respond to.

This week, we invite you to come to the church and walk the Prayer Walk either on your own OR with a group. Group guided walks are Wednesday, June 5, at 6:30pm or Saturday, June 8, at 10:00am. Alternatively, use the [Prayer Walk Guide](#) on your own at home and take the Prayer Walk in your imagination.

Also, sign up for our [Prayer Vigil](#) on June 15 and spend a half-hour in prayer for our congregation, seeking the Spirit's guidance to us in time of many transitions. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094FAAA87-aseason>

The link below will take you to an electronic copy of *A Season of Listening Prayer and Reflection Together* and a *Prayer Walk Guide*.

<https://normalmennonite.org/season-of-listening-prayer-and-reflection-together/>



Happy Birthday to Everyone!

You are all cordially invited to a Birthday Party!

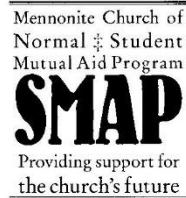
What: Potluck with cake and ice cream provided

Where: MCN Fellowship Area

When: June 9th right after Sunday School

Why: Hosted by Fellowship Committee, we are throwing all church goers a party to celebrate our birthdays and provide a time for fellowship.

No RSVP needed. Please bring a dish to share!



The Student Mutual Aid Program (SMAP) Annual Fundraiser

The Student Mutual Aid Program Committee would like to welcome all people from the congregation to support our young people who are going to Mennonite institutions.

We will be having our annual fundraiser meal on Sunday June 23rd. There will be more details on the location and time coming soon.

If you are unfamiliar with what this program does please find someone on the committee:
Annette Harnish, Mark Roeschley, Chellie Miller, Katie Driscoll, or Darvis King.

Thanks for your continued support!



MCN Church Work Day

Saturday, June 15 at MCN

Main task: Spreading mulch around the building. Some weeding also needed.

Time: 8 - 10am or when done.

Snack included!

Church Board Update

This is an update on various items before the Church Board.

1) the search process for the Administrative Assistant position is well underway. We hope to conclude this process with a good hire in the next 4-6 weeks.

2) the search process for an appropriate intentional interim continues to progress well. As interim pastors are not plentiful, it would be surprising if our timetable aligns exactly with the interim. It is highly likely that we will be without a pastor for a period of time, and we will need to manage church affairs on our own. This congregation has been through this circumstance before, and we are confident in the skills and resourcefulness found in our church family to adapt and skillfully move through this process. We covet your support and prayers as we continue our work.

3) 19 years ago this congregation embarked on a wonderful mission to partner with Heartland Head Start. We have partnered with them in the nurture of hundreds of children and their families over the years. Many people in our congregation have assisted in this program by investing hours upon hours of volunteer work. Recently, the Board was informed that Head Start would be leaving MCN to move into a new space that could better accommodate their needs. School has finished for the year and the move out is expected to be complete by the end of this week, May 24. It is important to note that this separation was not the result of any discord or discontent. Changing federal regulations could not be adequately addressed at our facility so a new site was found. We are grateful for the opportunity we have had in partnering with Head Start in this very important service venture.

Cindy Ropp, Church Chairperson



Retirement Celebration for Tim and Sue Schrag

Please join the Church Board as we celebrate the retirement of Pastor Tim Schrag and thank him for his many years of service to Mennonite Church of Normal.

Sunday, August 25, 2019 will be Pastor Tim's final sermon with our congregation.

A cake and punch reception will be served during the fellowship time between the Church Service and the Sunday School hour. This time together will give the congregation opportunity to bid farewell to the Schrags.

Sunday, September 1, 2019 Doug Luginbill, Central District Conference Minister, will be preaching. Pastor Schrag will be officially retired but he and Sue will be in attendance that day. A fellowship meal will be served on this day and there will be special gifts and words of appreciation presented to Tim and Sue. This will be our final farewell to the Schrags.

Memory Book

In preparation for these events we are asking for you to participate in putting together a Memory Book to be presented to the Schrags. We ask you to use your creativity in submitting fond memories/photos/cards/letters of appreciation/or other, covering Tim's 23 year ministry with our congregation. Adults and youth are asked to submit pages for this book. We are anticipating that a separate book will be compiled with pages completed by the children.

On Sunday, **June 9, 2019**, there will be a table set up in the fellowship area where you can pick up a blank sheet for your use in putting together your page for the Memory Book. The completed pages for the Memory Book need to be submitted no later than **August 1, 2019**. There will be a box in the office of the Administrative Assistant where completed pages may be placed.

Other personal expressions of gratitude are welcome. We encourage you to reach out to Tim and Sue personally.

If you have questions contact: Stephanie Company or Mary Ann Watkins



Note to the Congregation from Tim & Sue

Pastor Tim's retirement at the end of August was announced last year. As that date fast approaches, many of you have asked about our plans for the future.

Our beloved house in the Oak Hill subdivision has been sold, and we are moving to Goessel, Kansas. Whyever rural Kansas, you might ask?! Our eldest son Ben and his family live on and work a family farm just four miles out of town. We are excited to be close enough to attend school and church events for our grandsons, who will be in the eighth and sixth grades in the fall. And Sue's parents Lee and Mary Alice Hertzler moved to Goessel in the spring, a brief two-block stroll from our new home.

Since we are closing on the Bloomington house in July, our big move will happen in July. We have a furnished house here where we will live until the end of August.

The fall months will be devoted to getting settled in, attending ballgames, meeting new friends, reconnecting with old friends, and of course, finding a new church family. We plan to spend several months in the Phoenix area next winter, where daughter Sara and her family live. We are very much looking forward to spending extended time with them, especially young Simon, who barely knows his grandpa and grandma Schrag. Of course, we are moving farther away from son Andy and his family in Chicago, but retirement does come with the benefit of more discretionary time for travel.

Long term, we intend to spend four to six months annually volunteering with things like SOOP (Service Opportunities for Older Persons) and MDS (Mennonite Disaster Service). In fact, we have already applied for and been accepted as leaders for MDS sites in the future. Our travel trailer should see some good use over the next years! Tim may also take on some church work eventually, as an interim, for pulpit supply, mentoring new pastors, as opportunities present and schedules permit.

Settler Solidarity in Light of the Trail of Death - A Panel Discussion

First Mennonite Church of Champaign-Urbana invites you to join them for an evening of fellowship and learning with those participating in the [Trail of Death Pilgrimage course](#) through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary.

You are welcome to come to FMC-CU on Thursday, June 6 for a potluck from 6-7 p.m. and panel discussion to follow from 7-8 p.m.

In September of 1838 during the Trail of Death forced removal, a Potawatomi elder died between Catlin and Sidney, not far from the current site of FMC-CU. As the story goes, white settlers from Sidney came together to build a coffin to bury the elder with dignity. What can we learn from this story about the power of lament and empathy? What might it look like to practice solidarity with Indigenous Peoples today as settlers and immigrants in Turtle Island? As people of faith who pursue God's *shalom*?

Panelists will include David Horst Lehman and George Godfrey (Citizen Potawatomi Nation) as historians and storytellers, and participants from the Trail of Death Pilgrimage group. Pastor Michael Crosby will serve as the moderator.

For more information on the Trail of Death Pilgrimage, see this [AMBS news story](#).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mara Weaver Boshart at meweaver@ambs.edu. We would love to see you there!

Office Manager Position

Most of you know that Lauren Satchwell, who served MCN expertly for 2 years as Administrative Assistant, has moved on to other work. A Search Committee has been formed. They are officially announcing the open position of full time Office Manager, which will incorporate the duties that Lynn Reha is currently performing and those of Administrative Assistant which Lauren has been ably completing for the past 2 years. Once this person is hired, Lynn will help with training and assisting as needed.

The job description is available at: <https://normalmennonite.org/job-posting-for-office-manager-position/>

Please direct any questions to Shannon Neely.

New Pavilion

The Church Board has approved construction of a pavilion on the South lawn which was a piece of the Campus Use Plan affirmed by the congregation in 2013. A 5-member planning group was assembled late last year to gather feedback, evaluate design characteristics, and produce detailed drawings, construction timelines and estimates at varying cost levels and features for a pavilion which maximizes potential uses and aesthetics while considering MCN's Mission Statement.

Joe Haney and Roger Clemmons have agreed to manage the construction process, which will begin in June. Volunteers will be needed for various tasks. Funds currently in the Campus Use escrow account will be utilized, but an anticipated \$10-12,000 will need to be raised to complete the project.

The Board is excited about the opportunities for community, fellowship and social interactions this new outdoor venue will provide! We look forward to this new addition to our campus.



MCC Appalachia Seeking Program Coordinator

MCC Great Lakes is looking for an Appalachia Program Coordinator to provide overall direction and supervision of MCC's work in the Appalachian region in eastern Kentucky and southern West Virginia.

Specifically, this Program Coordinator will help with the primary program Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP), a home repair ministry that provides service and learning opportunities at three locations. The Program Coordinator reports to the Executive Director for MCC Great Lakes in Goshen.

Apply online for this opening by July 1 at mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/appalachia-program-coordinator. For more information contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or AmberFalcon@mcc.org.



MCN Little Free Library

Our very own Little Free Library (LFL) is almost ready to be installed, but first we need your help. We'd like MCNers to write the title of your favorite book or author on the LFL. Stop by the church library this Sunday, June 9th, to add your favorites!



Summer Sunday School for Pre-K-Elementary

Summer is finally on its way, and we wanted to let you know what our Summer SS program will look like.

For Summer Sunday School, we have a schedule of the events in this google doc: [MCN Summer SS 2019](#)
If you would like to sign up for an open slot, either teaching or helping, that would be much appreciated! Just add your name in the document. The upper grades are going to do a Science with Jesus curriculum and the lower grades will do a 3 week mini-unit on Jesus as our shepherd and a 6 week unit on the days of creation.

There are three special events to take note of:

1. July 14th - Trip to Sugar Grove
2. August 11 - Menno Haven Sunday
3. August 18 - Share your Passion Fair

We'll supply more details on these events as summer progresses.



Summer Camp at Menno Haven & Friedenswald

If your son or daughter would like to go to camp, MCN would love to help with the cost. The church pays \$65 off the top (you can write your check for \$65 less and the church will automatically cover it.) AND your child can earn \$60 by filling out a Blessing Bingo Sheet. If your child won't be attending camp, they can still fill out a sheet and receive a prize. The sheets will be on the table with children's bulletins before or after church this summer. This is a revamped version of our service passports.

Here are the links to Menno Haven and Friedenswald camps:

<http://www.mennohaven.com/summer-camps1.html>

<https://friedenswald.org/summer-camps/>

If you have any questions about summer camps, contact Chris Culbertson