



Midweek Connection at MCN

Sept. 4, 2019

Worship with us this Sunday, Sept. 8

Scriptures: Matthew 13:31-33; Luke 5:36-37

Sermon: On Thy People Pour Thy Power by Pastor Jim Bortell, Interim Minister

Welcome Interim (part-time) Pastor Jim Bortell

We welcome church neighbor and retired United Methodist pastor Jim Bortell to his part-time ministry with us for September-December. Jim will work approximately 10 hours a week, focusing on preaching, pastoral care and some office coverage. Jim may be contacted at jimbortell@gmail.com or 309-830-5897.

Serving this Sunday

Greeters

Jordan & Emma King

West: Mark Alsene

Welcome Table

Kay Reimer

Ushers

Andy Reeser, David Voegtlin, Shannon Neely
(need one more usher)

Sermon

Jim Bortell

Worship Leader

Janet Wilson

Song Leader

Jenell Ulrich

Accompanist

Denise Hedberg

Scripture Reader

Melika Hershberger

Children's Time

Chris Culbertson

Children's Song Leader

Randy & Holly Zehr

Technology

Adam Augspurger

Toddler Nursery

Caeli Haab

Preschool Nursery

Carrie Stalter





This Week at MCN

Wednesday, Sept. 4

5:30 pm Wellness Committee

Thursday, Sept. 5

6:15 am Next Man Bible Study

5 pm Outreach Committee

Sunday, Sept. 8

9 am Pre-service Prayer

9:30 am Worship

10:45 Christian Education for Children

11 am Christian Education for Adults

2:30 pm Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale Board

Monday, Sept. 9

9:30 am Mennonite Women

4:30 pm Financial Stewardship Committee

Tuesday, Sept. 10

9:30 am Staff Meeting

1:30 pm Worship Committee

5:30 pm Church Board

John Stutzman's Eulogy

Several have requested a copy of John's eulogy. They are available from the church office. Email Laurie to request a copy and she will email you a copy. Erma's address is 407-530 Columbia St. West, Waterloo, Ontario, N2T0B1, Canada.

Prayer Requests

From Sept. 1

--Helen Brandon works in a school where many students can't afford a team t-shirt for \$10. She would welcome MCN members who would sponsor the cost of a t-shirt. She also asked for prayers for students facing hardships and seeking inclusion.

--Katie Driscoll shared that it was Lena's birthday and the family misses her as she is a college freshman but said it is a joy that she is attending a Mennonite college with diversity and social justice and where she is hearing God's message in a nurturing environment.

--John Bertsche announced the men's book study is resuming on Wednesdays at 9:30 and all are welcome.

--Leo Desch announced he and Bess are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary.

--Jim Bortell said on behalf of the congregation they wish Tim and Sue the very best as they move to the next chapter in their lives.

Visits to Our Members in Nursing Homes

Please remember in your prayers, or with cards or a visit, the following members in nursing homes:

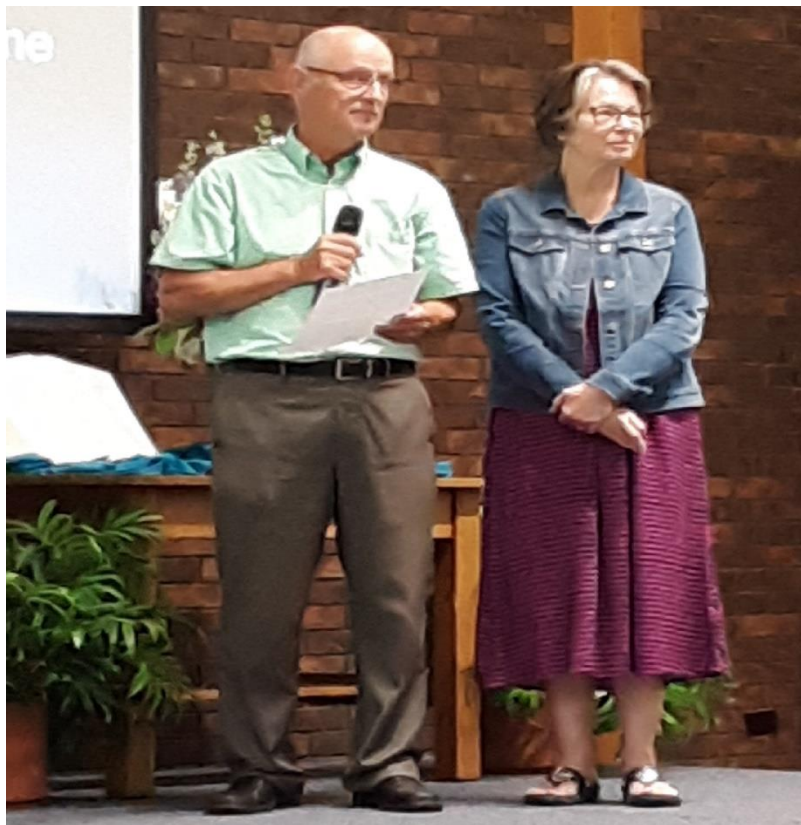
Ruth Marquis - Heritage Health

Lloyd Combs - Martin Health Care

Deborah Spacek - Evergreen

Jo Ropp - McLean County Nursing Home (Ron would appreciate mentioning visits to him.)





Pictures from farewell to Tim and Sue Schrag.



The Big Give for the Widow's Cruse in September

During the month of September, MCN will join 16 area churches in collecting food for The Big Give when Home Sweet Home Missions and the Midwest Food Bank partner to provide area families in need with a turkey and a box of fixings for Thanksgiving. Please bring items on the list ONLY and place them in the shopping cart in the entryway. The Big Give will provide 2,000 to 2,500 meals which will impact 10,000 people.

SHOPPING LIST

- Boxes of Stuffing Mix
- Cans of Green Beans
- Cans of Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Boxes of Mashed Potatoes
- Envelopes of Gravy (No jars, please.)
- Regular Cans of French Fried Onions

Cans of Cranberry Sauce
Boxes of Pie Crust Mix
Cans of Pumpkin Pie
Cans of Evaporated Milk



Anniversaries

Dick & Marjie Baum (71) Sept. 4
Jeff & Amy Reiman (20) Sept. 4
Travis & Carrie Stalter (11) Sept. 6

Birthdays

Janelle Friesen Sept. 5
Travis Stalter Sept. 5
Rick Reha Sept. 6
Duane Nester Sept. 7
Curt Oyer Sept. 7
Ian Unzicker Sept. 8



Tim and Sue's email and snail mail:

Please remove Tim from all your church email distribution lists. Also note that his email (tim@normalmennonite.org) is being discontinued. Please start using Tim's personal email address below. Also, Tim and Sue wanted to share their new address:

timschrag1953@gmail.com

sue.s1954@gmail.com

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 414
Goessel, KS 67053

Street address

510 Sunflower
Goessel, KS 67053 Thank you!



Books - first come/first serve

The books remaining in Tim's office are free for the taking first come/first serve. Help yourselves! See Laurie in the church office if the office is locked. Deadline Sept. 11.

Volunteer Opportunity at Midwest Food Bank

Come join in an evening of fun, fellowship and service!

Where: Midwest Food Bank, 2031 Warehouse Rd., Normal

When: Thursday, Sept. 19 from 6-8 pm

Who: anyone 5 years and older

Signup: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094aa4a723a5fa7-midwest> or contact the church office

Questions: contact J'ne Augspurger

Sneak Peek Bible Party announced

Sneak Peek Bible Party for second and third graders and their families. Come Sunday, Sept. 8 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm to eat supper and let your children get an advance preview of the Bible they will be receiving next week. For questions, contact Chris.

Welcoming Immigrants, Refugees and Others on the Margins

Hopedale Mennonite Church

Sept. 21

10 am - 3 pm

Speaker: John Garland, Pastor at San Antonio Mennonite Church

You're invited to a time of learning and sharing with John Garland, pastor of San Antonio Mennonite Church. John will speak about his congregation's response to migrants in their community, with focus on what they have learned about Good News for people with experience of trauma and living outside the law. John also will explore with us our response to people on the margins of our own communities. Join us in a time of learning together from John and each other. The program will include a time of lunch and fellowship. Please reply to office@hopedalemennonitechurch.com or call 309-449-6600 if you plan to attend.

Illinois MDS Annual Meeting

Sept. 7, 10 am-1 pm with lunch, at Arthur Mennonite. RSVP to Gerry Schrock.



Update on laundry detergent bottles

MCN was asked to collect empty, clean liquid laundry detergent bottles by Midwest Food Bank for a 600 gallon bulk delivery of laundry detergent. Bottles will be collected until Midwest Food Bank asks us to stop. Empty water or milk jugs etc. are NOT acceptable. Please watch for further announcements in Midweek, on our Facebook page and announcements during worship.

Lost and Found

A ring that may be a wedding band was turned into the office months ago. If you are missing a ring please call or come to the office and describe it. We really want to find the owner of this ring. Thanks.

Spending Plan Review Information Sessions Announced

Where does your donation go? What programs and outreach are being supported by our Spending Plan? The Board has asked the Financial Stewardship (FS) Committee to review our Spending Plan, and make recommendations for any changes, especially in outreach. The FS Committee would like to give you information about our current Spending Plan, and some research into the spending plans for similar churches. The FS committee will be taking questions and suggestions, also. That information session is planned for 11 a.m. and at noon on Sept. 8.

Hymnal Orders

There are three options for ordering hymnals: 1) Personal copies for yourself or others (not tax deductible), 2) Copies in Honor/Memory of Someone for the church (tax deductible) and 3) Copies as gifts for the Church (tax deductible). All hymnals are \$22. Large print are \$44 a piece. If you have any questions about placing your order, see Pastor Jane or Laurie.

College and Universities Fair announced

There will be a Mennonite Colleges and Universities Fair on Sunday, Sept. 15 at 5 pm at the Mennonite Church of Normal. Area youth groups and the MCN MYF are invited.

Mennonite Arts Weekend

Will be Feb. 7-9, 2020 - a celebration of Mennonite artists. The 2020 celebration is also a milestone in that it is the 15th, having met biennially since 1992.

They are interested in knowing if there might be a person from Mennonite Church of Normal who would

be a point person. If you are passionate about the arts please consider volunteering to be the "point person" and tell Pastor Jane.

Hungry World Farm Grand Opening

Also, mark your calendars for the Hungry World Farm Grand Opening on Saturday, Sept. 28. All are welcome! Admission is free. Here's the schedule:

3:00 Gathering

3:15 Welcome

3:30 The Origin of Corn and Other Tales of Agricultural History, story telling performance by Brian "Fox" Ellis

4:40 Farm Tours/Walk around, Children's Activities and Food.

Check with Andy Hedberg if you have any questions.

Hungry World Farm Shares Needs

Here are a few items that Hungry World Farm could really put to use? This is mainly geared to farmers that might have items sitting around in a shed or barn that they might consider donating to Hungry World Farm.

Wanted:

22+ - Wood posts, 8 feet or longer and 6 inches or more in diameter. These will go into hoopbarn walls.

200 - Steel fence posts - For sheep and goat pasture.

And, woven wire rolls are also needed for more fences.

If someone has these items that would like to donate and see them reused for years to come please contact Dave Bell, Lead Animal Farmer, 815-303-4295, bellsy1954@gmail.com or, Cal at 815-878-5487, cal@hungryworldfarm.com. One other project we could use some help with soon is burying water/electrical lines and replacing windows in the Farm Learning Center.

Hungry World Farm vision continues to grow. An MCC Internal Volunteer Exchange Program young adult arrived last week from Tanzania. Maiga will learn and work for the next 11 months. Please pray for the Lord's will to unfold as Hungry World Farm works on startup, planning and action. Pray for ample finances and excellent personnel. The fund raising, organizing, development and planning continues. Pray for Stephan - Lead produce farmer, Dave - Lead animal farmer, Resident Volunteers, and Maiga, Tom, the interns, as they work and learn at the farm.

Sam's Club Card

MCN has renewed its Sam's Club membership and the card is sales tax exempt. If you are making purchases for the church, you are welcome to check it out from the office.



Mental Health First Aid Training

You are more likely to encounter someone in an emotional mental crisis than someone having a heart attack. The Mental Health First Aid class teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to people with the signs and symptoms of a mental illness or in a crisis, and connect them with the appropriate care. Mental Health First Aid is for anyone - parents, neighbors, students, first responders, teachers, leaders of faith communities, human resources professionals, and caring citizens.

10/10/19

Youth Mental Health First Aid (Content Covers Ages 12-18)

Advocate BroMenn Medical Center

(800)323-8622

11/4/19

Adult Mental Health First Aid

OSF St. Joseph Medical Center

(800)661-5151

The Wellness Committee invites you to consider attending an upcoming Mental Health First Aid training!



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. Both the staff who serve, and the patients and families needing those services very much appreciate your prayers.



Conference Newsletter

The Central District Conference 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](#).



Office Hours, Deadline

To email Laurie (office manager) use church@normalmennonite.org.

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9-4

Deadline for Midweek Connection and Bulletin is noon on Wednesday.

Hope, Love. Courage

Prayer

Pray for the Cure

Thursday, Sept. 5

6:30-7:30 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church

1617 E. Emerson St., Bloomington

Guest speaker: Sonja Reece

"Having Breast Cancer Three Times is Enough"

Voice of the Day

But grace can be the experience of a second wind, when even though what you want is clarity and resolution, what you get is stamina and poignancy and the strength to hang on.

-Anne Lamott



Building Use

Wednesday, Sept. 4

5 pm Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, Sept. 5

5:30 pm HAAQG Board Meeting

6:30 pm HAAQG General Meeting

Friday, Sept. 6

8 am HAAQG Workshop

Saturday, Sept. 7

8 am HAAQG Workshop

10 am Overeaters Anonymous

Monday, Sept. 9

5:30 pm Al-Anon

5:30 pm Wild Ones Board Meeting

7 pm Wild Ones Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 10

8 am Naturalist Group

7 pm Cantus Novus

Today's Chuckle

Two antennas (antennae?) met on a roof.

They fell in love and got married.

The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.

A jumper cable walks into a cafe.

The waitress says, "Okay, I'll serve you, but don't try to start anything."

A man walks into a diner with a slab of asphalt under his arm.

He says: "A Coke please, and one for the road."
