



## Worship with us this Sunday, Oct. 20

Scripture: Genesis 28:10-17

Sermon: Pay Attention to Your Life

How God illumines our journey up close - "in every place."

A reminder about announcements on Sundays: **Send or Bring Your Announcements to Pastors Jim or Jane.** Please give or send all Announcements you want publicly shared during Community Life to Pastors Jim or Jane.

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### 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](mailto:jimbortell@gmail.com) or 309-830-5897.

### Pastor of Visitation Ron Ropp

Pastor Ron Ropp is assisting the Mennonite Church of Normal as Pastor of Visitation for the next few months. Welcome Ron to your new roll. He is available for hospital visits, as needed.

### Interim Minister Office Hours

Pastor Jim Bortell will usually be in the church office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 11 am for anyone who would like to stop by to talk with him.

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### Informational Meeting Tonight

We have an exciting opportunity before us as a congregation. Our north wing, originally fashioned for Head Start use during the week, has stood idle this fall. Through a congregation member, we have a potential tenant for that space.

Many thanks to Jon Gundy for bringing The Autism Project to our attention. The Autism Project, known as TAP, offers services to children with autism in our community. The program offers services at no direct cost to families. Services include:

A supplemental early intensive intervention program for preschool age (ages 3-5) children with autism (approx. 9 children 5 days/week, 2.5 hours/day).

In-clinic direct services  
Individual family services  
Social Skills groups  
Parent support groups

They also provide:

In-home direct treatment services  
In-school direct treatment services  
In-school consultation services

This program is run under the close supervision of Karla Doepke professor of Psychology at Illinois State University. Dr. Doepke will be here this Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm to share with us about the TAP program - how it runs and who it serves. This is an opportunity for you to listen to her and ask questions about the program. This is not designed to be a time for the congregation to discern whether or not this is something we want to do - it is simply an opportunity to hear from the program's director.

Following Dr. Doepke's presentation, the Board wants to facilitate a discussion regarding the Adult Sunday School program. Supervision for the Adult SS program has been moved between various entities and individuals in the congregation in the last 10 years or so. We need to come together to determine a direction and leadership for this program.

What do we envision for Adult SS?  
Is it time for a dynamic change?  
How will we manage this ministry moving forward?

Your contribution to this discussion is vital. This portion of the program will begin at 7:00 pm on Wednesday and finish at 7:30.

The Board is hoping for a huge turnout for both portions of this program, and you are warmly invited to put this meeting on your calendar right away. This Wednesday evening, Oct. 16 at 6:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!



### **Serving this week**

Greeters	Roger & Linda Clemmons West: Shannon Neely
Welcome Table	Mary Jantze
Ushers	Juergen Schroeer, David Voegtlin, & John & Kay Reimer
Sermon	Jim Bortell
Worship Leader	Tanya Kimbembe
Song Leader	Cindy Ropp
Accompanist	Dorothy Loepp
Scripture Reader	Tshitshi Tshiseleka
Children's Time	Holly Zehr
Children's Song Leader	Shelly King
Technology	Rick Harnish
Toddler Nursery	Janet Wilson
Preschool Nursery	Holly Zehr

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## This Week at MCN

### Thursday, Oct 17

6:15 am Next Man Bible Study

### Sunday, Oct 20

9 am Pre-service Prayer

9:30 am Worship

10:45 Christian Education for Children

11 am Christian Education for Adults

6 pm Junior Choir

6:45 pm Youth Choir

### Tuesday, Oct. 22

9:30 am Staff Meeting

5 pm Peace & Justice

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## Prayer Requests

### From Oct 13

--Lynette Miller: our son Lane and his wife SaJin moved to Korea. She got a job teaching art and literature in an English-speaking school and is working as a translator in assisted care until November. It is an answer to prayer and reflects God's perfect timing.

--Craig Ohmart: seeing the children sing the offering hymn is just so wonderful - it's a blessing to see all the young people participating in the church.

--Andy Hedberg Friday Oct. 11 was National Coming Out Day. More and more ISU students are seeking help when they are disowned by their families after coming out. I pray that our belief in Jesus calls us to create a culture of care and generosity.

--Barry Weaver needs prayers for his knee injury.

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## 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.)

Roy Jiles - Evergreen

**MCN would also like to develop a list of those who are "shut-ins" in their home. Please contact the church office to add them to this list so we can pray for them and uplift them in other ways.**



## Retirement Celebration for Jane Roeschley

Please join the Church Board as we celebrate the retirement of Pastor Jane Roeschley and thank her for her many years of service to Mennonite Church of Normal. Her retirement celebration will be different than the one that was planned for Pastor Tim Schrag. Her retirement events have been planned in consultation with her and to reflect her wishes.

### Sunday, Nov. 24

Pastor Jane will preach and this will be her last Sunday of attendance at MCN (until she returns one day in the future after a year or two away). Included in the service will be an anointing service. Doug Luginbill,

CDC Conference Minister, will be here and will lead the Litany of Blessing and Release. Jane's preference for her retirement celebration is for a single Sunday of focus that includes a reception and short program following the morning worship service. It is the last Sunday of the quarter and there will be no Sunday School so that there will be time for the reception and program.

#### **Memory Book**

We are asking the congregation to bring retirement cards or notes to be given to Pastor Jane. Bring your cards or notes and leave them in the basket on the table in the office no later than Friday, Nov. 15. The cards and notes will be placed in a book to be given as a gift during the program on Nov. 24. Please do not write on the back of the notes or cards.

#### **Monetary Gift**

If you are interested in making a monetary gift in honor of Jane's retirement you may do so through the normal giving methods to the church office no later than Sunday, Nov. 17. Please designate "Pastor Jane's retirement gift."

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

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### **Church Membership**

Pastor Jane will hold an exploring membership session in November. If anyone is interested in becoming an MCN member yet this fall, please let her know.

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### **Congregational Meeting Nov. 3**

The fall Congregational Meeting will be held Nov. 3 and include a meal. A major item for that meeting will be a discussion of the proposed 2020 spending plan. Hard copies will be available on Sunday, Oct 20 and online copies beginning Oct 21. Come and join in the discussion.

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### **The Great Winter Warm-Up**

MCC is celebrating a 100th Anniversary by collecting 6,500 comforters to deliver worldwide to people affected by disaster and conflict. There are two ways to participate: make and donate a comforter to be sent to MCC (instructions here [https://mcc.org/sites/mcc.org/files/media/common/documents/2017-10-04\\_comforter\\_making\\_guideline\\_us.pdf](https://mcc.org/sites/mcc.org/files/media/common/documents/2017-10-04_comforter_making_guideline_us.pdf)) OR sponsor a comforter through an online donation ([www.greatwinterwarmup.org](http://www.greatwinterwarmup.org)). Some churches are hosting comforter-making parties, too. If interested in that happening here at MCN, talk to Pastor Jane.



## **American Red Cross**

**Blood Drive**

**Saturday, Oct. 26**

**8 am to noon**

**Mennonite Church of Normal**

**For appointments visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call the church office.**

**Walk-ins Welcome!**

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## **Moms of LGBTQIA+ Children - Support Group**

If there are any moms of LGBTQIA+ persons who would like to be part of a monthly support group here at MCN, please be in touch with Pastor Jane.

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## **LGBTQIA+ Safe Space & Ally Group.**

If you are interested in forming a group to explore ways to help make MCN be an LGBTQIA+ safe and inclusive space, contact Andy Hedberg.

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## **Where do you turn when your family is no longer there for you?**

This is a follow up to the prayer request that Andy Hedberg made on Sunday, Oct. 13. If you would like to help students who have lost the financial support of their family after coming out, consider giving to the ISU LGBTQ+ Student Support Fund. The Fund provides emergency financial assistance for students who lose the financial support of their family due to their sexual orientation and/or gender identity. Funds may also support programs which serve to educate students about the issues uniquely facing LGBTQ+ students.

If you want to make a donation on-line, go to this ISU site: <https://giving.illinoisstate.edu/fund/lgbtq-student-support-fund/>

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## **Creation Care Confab**

Periodic info and musings to help open conversations about God's amazing Creation

What word do you hear from the Foxglove and the Milkweed,  
the Blue Wild Indigo,  
the Pale Purple Coneflower, the Coreopsis, the Clover?  
Have you heard tell of the fragrant Spicebush and its friend the Swallowtail?  
If you get close enough to the Spotted St. John's Wort to see its dotted petals,  
can you hear it whispering sweet sustenance to the bumblebees  
and the Gray Half-Spot moths?

source: Michael Crosby, pastor, First Mennonite Church Champaign-Urbana, an excerpt from his Reflections from a summer camp pastor: Hearing God's love at Camp Friedenswald as seen in The Friedensword, vol. 27, Issue 2: October 2019

Check with Andy Hedberg if you're interested in learning about, teaching about and/or volunteering for ways to care for God's Creation.

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## **Volunteer with SWAP**

Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP) is a program of MCC Great Lakes, addressing multiple challenges of low-income families in Appalachia, including home repair and personal need. Groups of all ages are an essential component of SWAP's ministry and can now sign up for 2020. Please consider forming a group, large or small, to come and experience a week at one of the locations in West Virginia or Kentucky. For more information go to <https://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/volunteer/swap> or call Angela Maggard at 606-633-5065.

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## **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 Nov. 11 at [mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/appalachia-program-coordinator](http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/appalachia-program-coordinator). For more information contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or [AmberFalcon@mcc.org](mailto:AmberFalcon@mcc.org).

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### **Archivist/Historian needed**

MCN is in need of an archivist/historian. If you are a good fit for filling this important role in the church please let a Church Board member know.

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#### **Anniversaries**

Diane & George Wiman 39 years Oct. 18

#### **Birthdays**

Mary Ann Watkins Oct. 16

Matt Culbertson Oct. 17

Weley Hershberger Oct. 18

Stephanie Company Oct. 19

Garrett Reeser Oct. 20

Elsa Raab Oct. 21

Esther Brown Oct. 22

Lisa Jablonski Oct. 22

Larry Schrader Oct. 22

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### **Mennonite Disaster Service Trip to Pine Ridge, SD**

If interested in a week of work and fellowship as MDS volunteers where Wayne and Lois Hochstetler are unit leaders, Nov 3-9 or Nov 10-16, contact Pastor Jane by Oct.20.

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### **Seeking Planner for Longest Night Service**

Seeking Planner for Longest Night Service. Let Pastor Jane know if you would have interest in planning a Longest Night Service this year, usually held around Dec. 20, to honor that the holidays are not always

“happy” for everyone. This is a good opportunity for quiet prayers, scriptures and hymns to help us hold on to faith in hard times.

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### **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.

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### **Cultivating Hope in Anxious Times Oct. 31-Nov. 10**

Cultivating Hope in Anxious Times is the inaugural program of the Champaign Urbana (CU) Campus Community Interfaith Exploration, a collaborative effort that builds bridges across local faith communities, the University of Illinois, community groups, campus religious and student life associations, faculty, staff, and administrators. This series begins Tuesday, Oct. 31 and culminates with a weekend of events Nov. 7 - 10. Guests include Dr. Eboo Patel, author, speaker, educator, and interfaith leader, Ted & Company TheatreWorks, and a number of religious scholars, faith, and community leaders.

[Click this link](#) to register to attend Cultivating Hope in Anxious Times and for a full schedule.

Registration is not required, but allows organizers to provide attendees with up-to-date information on the programs. If you require accommodations to participate in these events, please note it in your registration.

On Sunday, Nov. 10 a comedy written by Ted Swartz entitled “I’d Like to Buy An Enemy: The Fear Version” will be presented at Lincoln Hall Theater on the University of Illinois campus at 3 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

Beyond Tolerance Panel Part 1: Dinner and Panel Presentation

Friday, Nov. 8 at 5:15pm (Central Illinois Mosque and Islamic Center, 106 S. Lincoln Ave., Urbana)

Panelists from Lutheran (Dr. Mark Swanson), Muslim (Dr. Marcia Hermansen), Jewish (Dr. Jennifer Grayson), and Mennonite (Dr. Safwat Marzouk) institutions.

This panel will focus on moving past tolerance of diversity towards mutual respect and affection for the people, practices, and convictions of faith traditions different from our own. Following the panel, Sinai Temple will conduct its Friday evening Shabbat worship at CIMIC, starting at approximately 7:30 PM. All who are interested are invited to join.

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### **New address**

Robert and Mary Kauffman have moved to 2025 E. Lincoln St. #1109, Bloomington, IL 61701. Their phone number remains the same 309-451-5760.

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YOU'RE CORDIALLY INVITED TO  
THE IMMIGRATION PROJECT'S ANNUAL

# Fundraiser Luncheon

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15 2019

ISU Bone Student Center: Ballroom  
200 N. University St. Normal, 61761

11:30AM - 1:00PM



Check-in and networking: 11:30AM

Luncheon: 12:00 - 1:00PM

Thanks to our sponsors, the luncheon will be *free*. Your generous gift at the luncheon is very important to the continued success of The Immigration Project.

To RSVP, please visit [www.immigrationproject.org](http://www.immigrationproject.org) or contact Nat Bauer at [nbauer@immigrationproject.org](mailto:nbauer@immigrationproject.org) by November 8, 2019

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**McLean County Behavioral Health Forum 2019**

The 3rd annual McLean County Behavioral Health Forum 2019 is on Thursday, Oct. 17, from 8 - 4 at



the Marriot Conference Center in Uptown Normal. We invite you to attend this free event and choose from 27 breakout sessions and attend a free lunch with a keynote speaker who will address how trauma impacts all individuals within a community. The forum is a great place to learn how to help others and gain additional resources. Find more information and register at [www.mcleancountyil.gov](http://www.mcleancountyil.gov).

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## 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.

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!

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## 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.

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## 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](#).

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## Office Hours, Deadline

To email Laurie (office manager) use [church@normalmennonite.org](mailto:church@normalmennonite.org).

### Office Hours

**The church office will be closed Friday, Oct. 18.**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9-4 and Friday 9-12, 1-4.**

Deadline for Midweek Connection and Bulletin is noon on Wednesday.

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## Voice of the Day

Until the great mass of the people shall be filled with the sense of responsibility for each other's welfare, social justice can never be attained.

- Helen Keller



## Building Use

**Thursday, Oct. 17**

6 pm HAAQG Workshop

**Saturday, Oct 19**

10 am Overeaters' Anonymous

**Monday, Oct 21**

5:30 pm Al-Anon

**Tuesday, Oct. 22**

7 pm Cantus Novus

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## Today's Chuckle

John and Nancy, married for 40 years, planned a second wedding to renew their vows.

Nancy described to her friend the dress she would wear.

Nancy's friend asked, "What color shoes?"

Nancy replied, "Silver."

John chimed in: "Yep, silver ... to match her hair."

With a pointed look at John's bald spot, Nancy's friend said: "So, John, I guess you'll go barefoot."



