



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

Midweek Connection at MCN

Nov. 13, 2019

## Worship with us this Sunday, Nov. 17

Scripture: Psalm 111

Sermon: Ponder These Things

**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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### Office and Transition Staff Hours and Contact Info

Church Office Hours: Weekdays (except Wednesdays) 9 am - 4 pm

Jim Bortell, Interim Minister (through December); [jimbortell@gmail.com](mailto:jimbortell@gmail.com) or 309.830.5897. Jim is available at the church office at 11 am - 12 pm most weekdays, except Wednesdays.

Jane Roeschley, Associate Pastor (through November); [jane@normalmennonite.org](mailto:jane@normalmennonite.org) or 309.452.6622 or 815.848.5978. Jane's office days are Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Ron Ropp, Minister of Visitation (ongoing); [rjroppbarn@gmail.com](mailto:rjroppbarn@gmail.com) or 309.212.2456. Ron is available for hospital visits, as needed.

Laurie Vial, Office Manager; [church@normalmennonite.org](mailto:church@normalmennonite.org) or 309.452.6622. Office Hours are 9 am-4 pm every week day, except Wednesdays when Laurie works remotely.

Lauren Satchwell, Youth Ministry Leader; [Satchwell.lauren@gmail.com](mailto:Satchwell.lauren@gmail.com) or 309.830.6827.

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### Proposed 2020 Spending Plan

Hard copies are available in the foyer and [online copies](#) are available by clicking on this link. It will be approved at the Annual Meeting which is tentatively set for Sunday, Jan. 19, 2020.



**This Week at MCN**

**Wednesday, Nov. 13**

5:30 pm Church Board

**Thursday, Nov. 14**

6:15 am Next Man Bible Study

6 pm Youth Ministry

6 pm Pastoral Council

**Friday, Nov. 15**

6 pm Midwest Food Bank

**Sunday, Nov. 17**

9 am Pre-service Prayer

9:30 am Worship

Alternative Gifts Fair

10:45 am Christian Education for Children

11 am Christian Education for Adults

2:30 Mennonite Relief Sale Board

6 pm Junior Choir

6:45 pm Youth Choir

**Tuesday, Nov. 12**

9:30 am Staff Meeting



From Nov. 17, 2019

--Prayers are requested for Glenn and Janet Wilson as they are both on the East Coast caring for aging parents.

--Prayers are still needed for Al, Pam and John Dick in the aftermath of the fire at their business, Diesel Dick's.

--Please pray for Amy Reiman and her family Jeff, Adam and Adah, on the death of her mother, Michelle Denowh.

--Prayers are requested for Wayne and Lois Hochstetler who are on assignment with Mennonite Disaster Services in North Dakota where they are wrapping up, dealing with winter and preparing to move back home.

--Beth Reeser is doing as well as can be expected after back surgery in Dallas, Texas and is home. Prayers are appreciated.

--Juergen Schroer is thankful for the "Fall of the Wall" (the wall dividing Germany) as the 30th anniversary was observed last week. He said it is important to remember that revolutions are sometimes peaceful.

--Andy Hedberg asked for prayers for safe travel and that God is present in conversations as Hungry World Farm does long range planning this Saturday.

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Services for Michelle Denowh, Amy Reiman's mother, will be Monday, Nov 25 at Carmody-Flynn funeral home. A gathering/visitation will take place from 10-noon. The funeral service will be at noon.

### Visits to Our Members in Nursing Homes

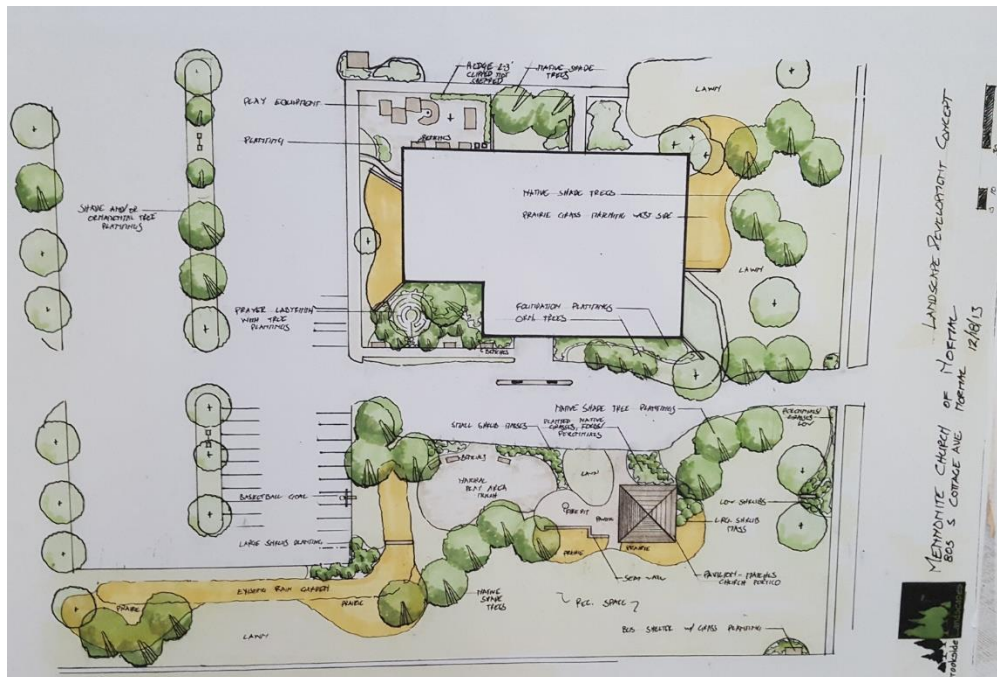
Please remember in your prayers, or with cards or a visit, the following members in nursing homes:

- 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.



The Lost and Found area is overflowing. Please stop by and look at all the items and take home anything that belongs to your family. Thank you.



The MCN Campus Use Plan drawing will be on display for the next several weeks so everyone can study it.



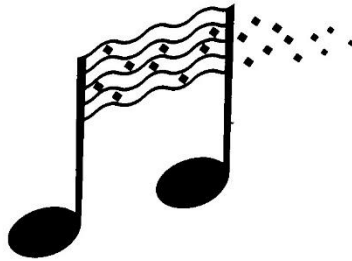
**Thank you to everyone who joined the youth Nov. 3 for lunch and made it a successful fundraiser.**

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I'd like to thank the congregation for their prayers, meals provided, and other expressions of care during my recent illness and hospitalization. Our family is grateful to be a part of a church community that demonstrates God's love through it's kind words and actions. Shannon Unzicker

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**Cantus Novus Concert**  
**Cantus Novus Chorale will present their fall concert Sunday, Nov. 17 at 3 pm at MCN. Free, donations appreciated.**

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**Midwest Food Bank Volunteer Opportunity**

Please join us for a fun evening of service with your church family at Midwest Food Bank 6-8 pm on Friday, Nov. 15. Anyone 5 years and older is welcome!

**[\(Sign Up Genius Link\)](#)**

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The Midwest Food Bank is still accepting empty, rinsed laundry detergent bottles. Water and milk jugs will not be accepted. These bottles are used to give away laundry detergent that comes in a 600-gallon drum. Please leave them on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

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### **Retirement Celebration for Jane Roeschley - please note deadlines!**

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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**ALTERNATIVE  
GIFT FAIR**

### **Alternative Gifts Fair: Last Day Sunday**

Sunday, Nov. 17, is the final day of our 16th annual Alternative Gifts Fair. Please check out the youth projects and our table at the back of the sanctuary, if you have not already! We have raised \$2,700 thus far and would like to thank all who have already supported the Fair with their time, talent, and treasure. If you have any questions, please see Erin Ponnou-Delaffon.

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## Comforters for MCC: 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.

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## American Red Cross

Thanks to all who helped or donated at our October blood drive. The Red Cross states that donated blood is at a critical low in our community. If you were unable to donate at our drive in October, please consider donating at the Red Cross Center here in Bloomington or at Our Saviour Lutheran Church in the morning on Saturday, Nov 23. Many thanks- The Wellness Committee.

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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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## Creation Care Confab

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

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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Mennonite Church of Normal  
For congregational expenses, missions  
and the general work of my church

Weekly Offering: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2020 were put in mailboxes last week. If you forgot to order envelopes and need some please contact the church office and let Laurie know how many.

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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**

None this week.

### **Birthdays**

Jane Roeschley Nov. 13  
Alexandra Neely Nov. 14  
Lloyd Combs Nov. 15  
Jack Brandon Nov. 16  
David Warfel Nov. 19

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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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## Hungry World Farm Fall Work Day Nov. 24

Dear Friends of Hungry World Farm,

As harvest season winds down, and the colder weather arrives, we give thanks for the fruits of another growing season! We invite you to assist us with this seasonal transition during a Fall work day on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 8 am until noon. We would greatly appreciate help with a few projects:

1. Removing brush, restoring overgrown fence lines, and cutting and collecting firewood.
2. Working at a wood splitting / stacking station.
3. Dismantling the small high tunnel, and moving the hay elevator into the barn.

We will begin in the Farm Learning Center at 8am with a brief welcome and prayer. Coffee and light refreshments will be available there throughout the morning. RSVPs can be directed to [andrew.krabill@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.krabill@gmail.com)

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## Messiah Sing-A-Long

Illinois State University invites you to the Messiah Sing-A-Long, a fundraiser for Friends of the Arts in conjunction with the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts. Contact [mmosier46@gmail.com](mailto:mmosier46@gmail.com) with questions. Location is the Center for the Performing Arts, Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 pm.

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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

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

The ends you serve that are selfish will take you no further than yourself, but the ends you serve that are for all, in common, will take you into eternity.

- Marcus Garvey

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### Building Use

#### Wednesday, Nov. 13

5 pm Overeaters' Anonymous

#### Thursday, Nov. 14

7 pm Cantus Novus Recorder Rehearsal

#### Saturday, Nov. 16

10 am Cantus Novus Rehearsal

10 am Overeaters' Anonymous

#### Sunday, Nov. 17

3 pm Cantus Novus Concert

#### Monday, Nov. 18

5:30 pm Al-Anon

6 pm Wild Ones

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### Today's Chuckle

#### IMPORTANT I.T. MEMO

Since our Information Technology expenditures have risen dramatically, the corporate office has defined a low-cost alternative to computers. The goal is to remove all computers from the desktop by June 2017. Instead everyone will be provided with an Etch-A-Sketch.

There are many sound reasons for doing this:

1. No boot-up problems
2. No technical glitches keeping work from being done.
3. No more wasted time reading and writing emails.

Frequently Asked Questions from the Etch-A-Sketch Help Desk:

Q: My Etch-A-Sketch has all of these funny little lines all over the screen.

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I turn my Etch-A-Sketch off?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: What's the shortcut for Undo?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I create a New Document window?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I set the background and foreground to the same color?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: What is the proper procedure for rebooting my Etch-A-Sketch?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I delete a document on my Etch-A-Sketch?

A: Pick it up and shake it.

Q: How do I save my Etch-A-Sketch document?

A: Don't shake it.



## Serving this week

Greeters: Roger & Linda Clemmons

West Greeter: Wilma Dyck

Welcome Table: Kay Reimer

Ushers: Shelly, Jordon & Emma King, Terry Wiebenga

Sermon: Jim Bortell

Worship Leader: Janet Wilson

Song Leader: Barry Weaver

Accompanist: Denise Hedberg

Scripture Reader: Emmanuel Kasongo

Children's Time: Louise Reeser

Children's Song Leader: Shelly King

Technology: Randy Zehr

Toddler Nursery: Erin/JB Ponnou-Delaffon

Preschool Nursery: Jordon King