



**Mennonite  
Church  
of Normal**

A congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA

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

# The Midweek

The Midweek Update

Mennonite Church of Normal

April 2, 2021

**Worship this Sunday via Zoom at 9:30 a.m.**

**Worship this Sunday**

## **Lent 2021: Deep calls to Deep**

Christ is risen! We celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection in Holy Communion on Easter Sunday. Jesus' resurrection calls us beyond mere belief, to transformed living. Mary was more than a messenger of the Good News (John 20:1-18). Her transformed living, enabled the Disciples to move beyond their fear, to become bold messengers of Jesus' resurrection. In Pastor Gary's sermon, "Christ is Alive! Live the Feast Prepared for All," the feast metaphor in Isaiah 25:6-9, encourages us to abundant living today. This Easter, we go "Deep in the feast, and are called to deep living." Elsa Raab is planning, and Ben Roeschley will lead the service.

**Response Ritual:** The vessel which held stones during Lent, should now be empty! Use it to hold a feast!

**Questions for reflection:** How is God calling you to deep living? Can you see your life as feast, in some way?

## **Opportunity for Virtual Fellowship after Easter Service:**

We are offering a time to connect with other MCN households after the Easter service! We did this at Christmas and enjoyed visiting with folks! If you'd like to participate, just stay on the Zoom link after the service and you'll be put into a group of 5-6 households for 20 minutes of chatting, then regrouped for another 20 minutes. Include the kids!

**Transition Process Update:** The next Congregational Conversation is April 11, during which we will discuss the Proposed Vision Statement, and if ready, take action. Please note further information about the vision statement, in today's Milepost.

**Reminder: The church building remains closed**, despite it being used last week for Relief Sale activity. If you see a vehicle or two in the parking lot, that only means staff are working. To facilitate a smooth transition in office staff over the next several weeks, we ask that you continue to contact Cindy Ropp for permission to enter the building. We hope it won't be too much longer!

## **Ecumenical Advocacy Days, April 18-21:**

This a virtual space where people of all denominations gather to worship, engage in fellowship, and advocate to their members of Congress. Theme: "Imagine! God's Earth and People Restored." The conference focuses on climate justice and our role as Christians in advocating for equitable access to a safe and healthy planet, and is sponsored by Mennonite Central Committee, Washington DC office. For more information and registration [click here](#)

## Staff Contact Info

# New Virtual Office Hours M-F 9:30 to 2:30

Deadline for Midweek items is noon Wednesday

Gary Martin, Transitional Pastor gmartin5@comcast.net cell 574.238.5475.

**Ron Ropp**, Pastor of Visitation is providing pastoral care for those who are ill or hospitalized. Barry and Marge Weaver and Wayne and Lois Hochstetler are assisting with visitation with those in care facilities or homebound. This care will be done by phone calls.

**Devon Tracy**, Office Manager; church@normalmennonite.org or 309.452.6622 will forward to the new church cell phone 217.255.2119.

**Bryan Oyer**, custodian

**Lauren Satchwell**, Youth Ministry Leader; satchwell.lauren@gmail.com or 309.830.6827.



### Midwest Food Bank Volunteer Opportunity

Please join us for a fun evening of service with your church family at Midwest Food Bank 5-7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 6. Anyone 5 years and older is welcome! Due to COVID-19 restrictions, temperatures will be taken on arrival and masks are required. Please sign up [here](#).

## This week at MCN (All via Zoom)

### Sunday

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Easter Fellowship Opportunity

### Monday

5:30 p.m. Structure Evaluation Task Group

### Thursday:

6:30 a.m. Next Man Bible Study (Zoom)

5:00 p.m. Outreach Committee

