

# THE MIDWEEK



## WORSHIP

**THIS SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.**

Who is in charge? The writer to the Hebrews answers this question in the New Testament reading this Sunday: Heb. 1:1-4; 2:5-12. (The answer is in this summary!) It is World Wide Communion Sunday, so we will come to the Lord's Table, along with Jesus' sisters and brothers, around the world. Joe Culpepper is planning and leading the service which includes Gary Martin's final sermon. The service will be live streamed on Youtube at this [link](#).

### Those who are serving October 3rd:

**South Greeters:** Reeser Family

**West Greeter:** Ardys Serpette

**Livestream Greeter:** Andy Hedberg

**Welcome Table:** Marcia Rossi

**Ushers:** King Family

Please Click [here](#) for meeting, zoom, and other recordings

Please click [here](#) for upcoming worship materials  
as they become available.

## Important Dates:

### This Sunday

After Worship:  
Christian Education  
for Children and  
Youth

Farewell for  
Gary Martin



**Mennonite  
Church  
of Normal**

A congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA

## This Week at MCN

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A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:  
THE FULL CHURCH CALENDAR IS AVAILABLE AT  
[NORMALMENNONITE.ORG](http://NORMALMENNONITE.ORG)

### Wednesday, Sep 29

**5:30 pm** Interim Pastoral Team

**7:30 pm** Vision Team

### Thursday, Sep 30

**6:30 am** Next Man Bible Study

**10:00 am** Community Life Commission

**2:00 pm** Women's Book Group

**6:00 pm** Administration Commission

**7:30 pm** Vision Team

### Wednesday, Oct 6

**9:30 am** Wednesday Morn Book Group

**7:00 pm** Interim Pastoral Team

*Kitty*



Would you like a cat? Since Melika Hershberger is in seminary, Ross is traveling back and forth, and their children are now gone out of the home, Melika and Ross are wondering if there is anyone in the church that would like to permanently adopt their cat Flip Flop. Please contact Ross at 309-660-0710.

## After Worship Reception

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October 3 will be Pastor Gary's last Sunday with our congregation. Following the worship service, we will have opportunities to thank him personally during a short program and an outdoor reception. His wife, Pat, will join us also. We invite you to bring a card or note to share your well wishes.

## Livestream Greeters & Liason Worshipping Afar

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Andy Hedberg is serving in both roles this Sunday, Oct 3rd. As remote liason, he will have his phone handy to answer calls and texts about your remote worship questions.

*Piano*

Wilma Dyck has a piano that she has used for many years. All of her 3 daughters have a piano. She would like to offer the piano to someone in the church. If you would like the piano, please email Mary. Please know that you will need to find a way to move it to your home.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN

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# Milepost 178

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Mennonite Church of Normal took a risk in entering into a time of transition to pray, reflect, converse, discern and decide—together. It was a congregational effort, complicated extensively, by a pandemic. Many diverse congregants contributed leadership to various processes. Many more participated faithfully, contributing to the congregational effort. The result: a clear mission, a challenging vision, and a new structure designed to adapt to unknown opportunities ahead.

The Spirit has generously gifted MCN with all the resources which are needed. Many such resources were known, more came to light during the transition, and still more remain to be discovered. While the yet to be called long term Pastoral Team will enrich the congregation, the future well-being of MCN depends more on the extent to which everyone is equipped for, and experiences a clear call to their unique ministry in or through MCN. That will be a priority role for the long-term Pastoral Team, but it is already happening through the ministries of Vision Team, Spiritual Gift Discernment Team, Interim Pastoral Team, and Five Commissions.

I encourage you to focus on being who you are: a nurturing, Christ-centered Anabaptist congregation that welcomes all people. As followers of Jesus, we aspire to transform our communities and world into places of peace, healing, and hope.

This means:

- growing deeper in authentic understanding of Jesus, and his ministry;
- going beyond popular notions of Anabaptism, to authentic understanding of the dynamics (Word and Spirit) which fueled the 16th Century movement;
- deepening and integrating your loving relationships with Jesus, your MCN brothers and sisters, and those beyond with whom the Spirit is calling you to serve and be served by;
- intentional cultivation of a spirituality on earth, as it is in heaven;
- a growing recognition that in all of this, you are a sign to others of God's Reign on earth, as it is in heaven.

The Spirit has guided you through transition, will guide you in this next chapter.

*Now to him who **by the power at work within us** is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Eph. 3:20-21).*

-Gary Martin

## Discipling Commission

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Discipling Commission held its first meeting Tuesday night:  
(Spring Neely, David Voegtlin, Shannon Unzicker, Lynette Miller)

- Reviewed the first Vision goal which they will oversee.
- Reviewed their ministry tasks; youth ministry is first priority
- Affirmed the Standard Lesson class taught by Darrel Miller, to begin Oct. 17
- Affirmed the thorough plan for Children's Christian Education which can be viewed [here](#)

From the Christian Education Committee:

We have a Facebook site "Christian Education at MCN" that we use to communicate and anyone that wants to be included is encouraged to let Christian Education Committee know. We currently have 49 followers. Also, we still need [allergy forms](#) to be completed and turned in to any member of Christian Education Committee: Spring Neely, Holly Zehr, Carrie Stalter, and Courtney Yoder.

## Pastoral Team Search Committee

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Are you ready to start the search for a pastoral team? First, you have homework! Before Central District Conference will even post our pastoral vacancies, we must submit information about the church including what YOU want in a pastor. Please fill out the checklist (it won't take long) that will be coming to you in a separate email very soon. Thank you.

Your Pastoral Team Search Committee

## Outreach Commission

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### Beyond Mennonite Church of Normal

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#### Peace and Justice Committee

The Peace and Justice Committee is concerned about the vast sums of money being proposed for war and weapons in the United States. We would urge you to write or call your representative in Congress to vote against the round of new nuclear weapons. A new Intercontinental Ballistic Missile to replace the Minuteman III missiles is proposed, as well as a new nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile. Costs for these and other nuclear plans would cost \$634 billion over the next ten years. Working toward reducing nuclear weapons would free money that could be used for human welfare causes and climate change.

--Phil Dyck, Joe Jantze,  
Meredith Schrooer, and Elsa Raab

#### The Immigration Project

You're cordially invited! The Immigration Project is hosting its Annual Fundraising Luncheon at Illinois State University's Boone Student Center on October 21, 2021. They will honor both staff and volunteer achievements, share immigrant stories, and describe the ongoing needs of their organization. Local COVID-19 guidelines will be taken. Thanks to donors, the luncheon will be free. The Outreach Commission has approved a \$250 donation to The Immigration Project. We encourage you to consider giving individually as well. Please RSVP by filling out this [form](#) or contacting them at [info@immigrationproject.org](mailto:info@immigrationproject.org) by October 7, 2021.



# Worship Commission

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Worship Commission held its first meeting Monday afternoon and have communicated frequently by email.

(Annette Harnish, Joe Culpepper, Denise Hedberg, Holly Zehr, and Gary Martin)

- Discussed how the Vision Statement and Statement of Inclusion can be reflected in worship services and what it means to have services that are Christ-centered, inclusive, and enabling of Spiritual growth
- Reviewed the logistics and minutiae of planning services and the desire for an increase in participants serving
- Committed to serving Communion the first Sunday of every other month
- Illuminated the need for a conversation to be had between the Commissions and Vision Team for creating hybrid, two-way worship services for those who are near and afar to be an expression of our Vision Statement, Inclusion Statement, and Goals
- Are in the process of clarifying communications between those serving in worship
- Affirmed that in respect to the timing of other Commission's after-worship classes and events and to create a welcoming place, the *Sharing Joys and Concerns time of the worship service* will be announced by the Prayer Leader. Submissions can be made before Sunday to the office or given to the Worship Leader on the morning before the service. MCN services have been this way during Advent and Lent and will begin again on October 10th.

## Administration Commission

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The Administration Commission has met 4 times over the last few weeks. We're sorting out our areas of responsibility, learning more about them, and determining how to approach them. In addition, we have worked on hiring an Office Administrator.

- Information gathered so far includes:
  - A financial update,
  - Current office administration organization, including the high quality of work completed by both Charlotte and Denise Hedberg,
  - Technology issues,
  - Some building information,
  - Some job descriptions for employees,
  - Copies of Memos of Understanding for employees, and
  - A cemetery review.
- Since building activities are part of our purview, we have included the functions of the Welcome Home Committee in our discussions. Thank you to the previous Welcome Home Committee members. Our fourth meeting was short as we discussed several new issues related to Covid and our approaches within the Governor's mandate. All of those issues have been addressed to date.
- Our hopes include:
  - Completing a philosophy of ministry.
  - Having a policy manual. This would allow us to be consistent in our approaches to numerous issues.
  - Revising the Personnel Policies Manual to be consistent with the new structure.
  - Having an Office Administrator on site by October 18.

Mary Dyck, Cindy, Ropp, Rick Harnish, and Lauren Satchwell

## *Correct Email Address for Holly Zehr*

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## *Structure Documents*

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New structure documents, including ministry descriptions, vision statement with commission assignments for the goals, structure changes, and a list of individuals called to serve in the new structure, are available at this [link](#).

## *Sharing Joys & Concerns*

MCN IS ASKED TO BE IN CONTINUED PRAYER FOR FOR THE CRITICAL CARE UNIT OF  
CARLEBROMENN MEDICAL CENTER—OUR PARTNER IN HEALING FOR 2021

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# *Our Members in Care Facilities*

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE MEMBERS IN YOUR PRAYERS. SEND A CARD IF  
THE SPIRIT LEADS YOU!

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## *Staff Contact and Building Open Hours*

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Building Open: Monday – Friday, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Lynette Miller: Interim Pastor for Discipling and Community Life Commissions;  
[lynette.miller.k@gmail.com](mailto:lynette.miller.k@gmail.com) or 309-261-7485 or 309-963-4495

Lauren Satchwell: Youth Ministry and Interim Pastor for Administration & Outreach  
Commissions; [satchwell.lauren@gmail.com](mailto:satchwell.lauren@gmail.com) 309-830-6827

Holly Zehr: Interim Pastor for Worship & Spiritual Gift Discernment Team;  
[hmzehr@hotmail.com](mailto:hmzehr@hotmail.com) 309-846-860

Ron Ropp: Pastor for Pastoral Care; 309- 452- 8534

Denise Hedberg: Interim Admin Assistant; [church@normalmennonite.org](mailto:church@normalmennonite.org) or 309.452.6622

Bryan Oyer: custodian

## *Directory*