

THE MIDWEEK



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

"The parable of the laborers in the vineyard is my favorite parable," said no one ever. We are sympathetic to the laborers who worked all day and were not paid more than those who worked only one hour and suspicious of the owner who seems to pay all the workers the same amount for no reason! So how does this parable illustrate what the kingdom of heaven is like?

Lynette Miller will be preaching the sermon, *A Kingdom Scandal* referencing scriptures Matthew 20:1-15.

This Sunday, February 6, we will be celebrating communion during our Zoom worship service. Please gather elements beforehand so that you can partake with us during the service.

We are continuing to Worship on Zoom this week. There will be no services in the building. Please join us on Zoom Sunday at 9:30am with this [link](#). The bulletin is posted under the Worship tab of our [website](#).

Those who are Serving February 6

Worship Leader: Holly Zehr

Scripture Reader: Randy Zehr

Children's Story: Jaron Zehr

Important Dates:

This Sunday:
Please Join us for
worship via Zoom

After Worship:
Stay on the
Zoom link to join
Adult Christian
Education Class, Salt
and Light



This Week at MCN

A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:
THE FULL CHURCH CALENDAR IS AVAILABLE AT
NORMALMENNONITE.ORG

Wednesday, February 2

- 7:00 pm** Pastoral Team Search Committee (Zoom)
- 7:00 pm** Congregational Care Committee
- 7:30 pm** Vision Team (Zoom)

Thursday, February 3

- 6:30 am** Next Man Bible Study (Zoom)
- 2:00 pm** Women's Book Group (Zoom)
- 6:00 pm** Quilt Guild (Zoom)
- 6:00 pm** Administration Commission (Zoom)

Tuesday, February 8

- 7:00 pm** Interim Pastoral Team (Zoom)

Wednesday, February 9

- 9:30am** Wednesday Morning Book Group (Zoom)

Worship Zoom Link

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85960872125?pwd=Sk1icENWNVhETjJFdDU1ZzVVMis2UT09>

Meeting ID: 859 6087 2125

Passcode: 546265

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,85960872125#,,,,*546265# US
(Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Logrolling and Log Jams

The opening that Lynette Miller shared at the Congregation Meeting on Sunday, January 23rd was requested to be shared and can be read [here](#).

Salt and Light Bible Study Copies Available

There are three copies of the Winter Bible Study on the bench at the entrance of the church in a plastic container for those who still need one.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN

Prayer Requests and Announcements

Sharing of Joys and Concerns will return to open mic sharing during the services. Please continue to send announcements to Lynette Miller at lynette.miller.k@gmail.com so that these can be shared by the worship leader during the Community Life portion of the service. When sharing, it's helpful if your requests are succinct. This is true whether we are on Zoom or livestreaming on YouTube.

Sharing Joys & Concerns

MCN IS ASKED TO BE IN CONTINUED PRAYER FOR FOR THE CARDIOVASCULAR CARE UNIT
OF CARLE BROMENN MEDICAL CENTER—OUR PARTNER IN HEALING FOR 2022

Membership Class Coming Soon!

As we move through the process of calling a new pastor, a congregational vote will eventually be taken on the selected candidate. As a reminder, the constitution of MCN states that voting is a duty reserved for members of the congregation only. For those who have interest in becoming a member of MCN, either by baptism or transfer, please contact a member of the Interim Pastoral Team. We anticipate planning a series of membership classes to be offered in the coming months.

Meals for Melika and Ross

Administration Commission Update

Maggie Burton, Office Administrator, resigned on Friday afternoon, January 28, effective immediately. If you need access to the building this week, it will be open from 3-5 pm week days (except today) or you may text/email Lauren Satchwell for a code. Administration Commission will check voice mail and email plus will ensure that the Midweek and the bulletin are completed in a timely manner. A posting for the position has been made. If you have recommendations for the position, encourage individuals to apply with cover letter and resume to the church email.

Administration Commission continues to monitor COVID rates and metrics. We're anxious to return to the building.



Did You Know?

That the CDC, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Surgeon General have all indicated that there is currently NO significant scientific evidence that Covid -19 and the current variant circulating out there is being spread through the mail! The good news is that for the price of a stamp or sending an email you could brighten someone's day by sending a heartfelt message. You do not need to be a Shakespeare, Hemingway, or Picasso to brighten up someone's day and let us be honest we all could use a little lift these days! So, find that church directory link in this Midweek and send an uplifting note, card, email, or text to someone you have missed. Let us reach out. Please remember those church members in the Nursing Home or Homebound as well.

Thank you

Happy Valentine's Day

Deb Stenger (co-chair Community Life Commission)

Community Life Commission Update

January has been a busy month for the Community Life Commission (CLC) with two lengthy meetings held this month. CLC members reviewed Community Life Commission goals stated under the Vision Statement Goal #2. The CLC will continue to discuss and seek to define steps to achieve these goals. Achievement of present goals as stated proves to be a challenge due to MCN in transition and continuation of Covid. CLC defined how Congregational Care Committee and Fellowship Committee will communicate with the Commission. Ron Ropp and Lynette Miller reported that they will initiate a zoom meeting with the Visitation team members this coming month of February. Due to Covid all visits have been on hold. Congregational Care Committee met for the first time on Jan. 24. CLC continues to seek members for the Fellowship committee. Connie Yoder has agreed to function as Kitchen Coordinator. Research related to small group formation will be conducted by CLC members and discussion to follow in the coming months. Policies written by the Administration Commission were reviewed and approved by CLC. CLC co-chair will email CLC members with weekly Monday updates and only One CLC meeting is scheduled in February via Zoom.

Pastoral Team Search Committee Update

This past Sunday afternoon members of the search committee had a productive meeting with Central District Conference Minister, Doug Luginbill. The good news, he brought us a few resumes to review! We are in the process of selecting candidate(s) for the first-round interview(s) to be conducted on Zoom.

To those of you who suggested names of candidates, thank you. Doug has contacted each one. Please keep sending names to me (marcirossi@aol.com) and I will get them to Doug.

There is progress, not at the rate most of us had hoped for, but it's great to be this close to first round interviews.

IL Mennonite Relief Sale News

The 64th Annual Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale will be held as an online auction March 12-19, 2022. The 2022 sale theme is "People helping people worldwide in the name of Christ." The Sale Board is seeking individual donations for the online auction, valued at \$50 and up to be collected at MCN by mid February. We are also asking for quilts for the online auction. Thank you for your past assistance and your continued support! Questions contact Louise Reeser or Ben Roeschley.

Mini Bazaar at the Mennonite Church of Normal

A mini bazaar will be held at MCN from February 8-28. Stop by the church from during regular hours or call the church to ensure it is open. Many items have been donated for the sale at the IL Mennonite Relief Sale. Items of \$50 value or higher will be part of the online auction held from March 12-18. Smaller items will be displayed and sold at a small bazaar at the church. Some items will be priced and some will be donation only. Donations will be accepted and proceeds will go to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). Questions can be directed to Gerry Schrock or Louise Reeser.

Central District Conference Mid Year Gatherings

This year we will again be hosting two Mid-Year Gatherings via Zoom. Our focus will be on our theme of Tending Transformation as we hear stories from several congregations about how they are paying attention to how God is calling them to be transformed in their communities. We will also talk together about exciting things happening in the conference. Congregations are invited to choose to join a Zoom Video call on either February 5 or March 5, 9:30-11:45a Eastern Time. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3378130650> For a copy of the schedule for the day, click [here](#).

Camp Friedenswald Winter Getaway

Unfortunately due to COVID, the Mennonite Church of Normal annual winter retreat has been cancelled. However, if you are looking for a weekend away from home and in the company of a warm fire, sledding hill, and good friends you can still spend time in the peaceful woods during one of their upcoming winter programs:

Winter Getaway - Feb 4-6

Family Winter Camp - Feb 18-20

Want to know more? Looking for other COVID protocols? Check out their [website](#).

Black History Month

Mennonite Women shared that this Black History month they are celebrating women writers. Dr. Maya Angelou is one of the greatest voices of our times. Maya's words are full of the spirit of God. She could change the very atmosphere of a room simply by speaking. This month try reading some of her poetry including, "Phenomenal Woman," linked [here](#).

Mennonite Central Committee Event

MCC is hosting an upcoming live event, "The journey of a comforter: Live from Kansas and Jordan" on February 17 at 12:00 pm EST. In this behind-the-scenes event, you'll follow the journey of how MCC comforters are sewn, shipped and shared with people in need around the world. We'll hear from Kate Mast, Workroom supervisor for the MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton, Kansas and from Alex Azar, MCC Program officer in Jordan. Sign up [here](#) and we'll send you a video recording.

Mennonite Health Services (MHS) Webinar

Join the Pandemic Stress and the Power of Resilience Webinar on Feb. 8 at 2 p.m. ET. The current pandemic is undermining the mental and emotional wellbeing of many individuals, families, organizations, and churches. Combined with the rising tide of anger and division in society, debilitating levels of stress and anxiety are being reported. We need proven strategies and effective tools to successfully manage life and serve others. Join us as we bring the best of scientific research and biblical concepts together to develop a lifestyle of resilience and peace. Register [here](#).

Our Members in Care Facilities

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

Staff Contact and Building Open Hours

Building Open: Monday – Friday, 9:00AM-Noon and 1:00PM-4:00PM.

Church Office; church@normalmennonite.org or 309.452.6622

Lynette Miller: Interim Pastor for Discipling and Community Life Commissions;

lynette.miller.k@gmail.com or 309-261-7485 or 309-963-4495

Lauren Satchwell: Interim Pastor for Vision Team, Administration & Outreach Commissions;

satchwell.lauren@gmail.com 309-830-6827

Holly Zehr: Interim Pastor for Worship & Spiritual Gift Discernment Team;

hmzehr@hotmail.com 309-846-0860

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

Bryan Oyer: Custodian; 309-826-0199

Structure Documents

Updated 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](#).

Please click [here](#) for past meeting and other recordings.

Directory
