

THE MIDWEEK



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

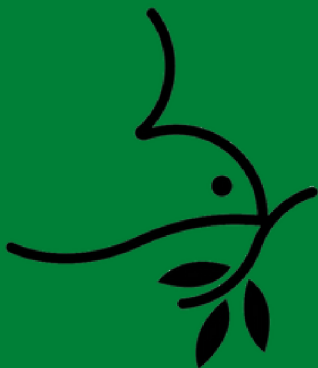
This Sunday, pastoral candidate Kevin Chupp will preach a sermon on Matthew 9:14-26 titled *History, Hope, and Interruption*. In his own words, "Matthew 9 records a very busy day, including healing, calling, confrontation, and what might seem like distraction. In the midst of all of that, Jesus remained focused and confident. What can we learn from Jesus' intentional actions on this day?"

The service will be live streamed on YouTube at this [link](#).
The bulletins get posted under the Worship tab of our [website](#).

"Those Serving this Week" has moved. It can now be found later in the Midweek!

This Sunday:

Please Join us for
worship in-person
or live stream on
YouTube!



**Mennonite
Church
of Normal**

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

After Worship:

Adult CE
Salt & Light Bible Study
Children & Youth CE

Pastoral Candidate Weekend Schedule

Please Note: **Lawn games** at 6:30pm on Saturday will now **be held at the church** *not* at the Weaver's.

Saturday, August 6

10:30am–11:45am Informal time for the “Founders and Those Who Found Us” to welcome and meet the candidate at the church. We hope many of the original founders and those who have joined us through the years come to meet the candidate. All are invited, but intended for those ages 50 and above. There will be coffee and a selection of muffins and zucchini bread.

2:30pm–4:15pm The candidate meets at the church with all members of the following teams and commissions: Spiritual Gift Discernment, Interim Pastoral, Administration, Community Life, Discipling, Outreach and Worship.

6:30pm–8:30pm Lawn games **on the Church Lawn**. Guests are encouraged to bring games and snacks. No meal will be served. All are invited, but intended for those under age 50, including families with children.

Sunday, August 7

9:30am The candidate will preach the sermon.

10:45am–11:15am Extended Fellowship Time immediately after the service. *There will be no Christian Education.* For all children through 5th grade – If you or your child does not want to stay in the larger Q&A session, you/they are invited to the classroom at the northwest corner of the building, formally the Head Start area. **Two adults from Channele's Childcare will be available with activities and snacks** in that room at any time starting immediately after the service until the Q&A is over.

Junior High and High School Students - after the service, please go directly to the JMYF/MYF room to meet Kevin. Don't worry - there are snacks just for you in the room! Time is limited, so please be sure to head to the room right away.

11:30am–12:30pm Formal Question & Answer. (This event will be streamed through Zoom to allow more than those in person to participate.) To make sure all voices are heard, and all questions are asked, submit your questions in writing and sign your name. Send your questions via one of these ways:

- email church@normalmennonite.org
- call 309-452-6622 and speak with Lydia
- drop your questions off at the office during the hours the office is open

A moderator will read the questions and the name of the person(s) asking the question. As time allows, there will be open ended question and answer at the end.

Questions must be received by the church before Thursday, August 4th.

About Kevin Chupp



About the Candidate & Summary of the Interviews with Pastoral Team Search Committee and Vision Team:

Kevin Chupp is currently the pastor of First Mennonite Church of Aberdeen, Idaho, in the southeast corner of Idaho. Kevin is the solo pastor and the position is full-time. He has served in that role since August 2016. Kevin is involved in Mennonite Church USA, serving as the Moderator for the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference.

He and his wife, Jess, have one daughter, Junia, who is almost two. Kevin grew up in Indiana, in a fellow Anabaptist denomination, the Missionary Church.

Kevin's formal education is as follows; his undergraduate work was completed at Bethel University, in Mishawaka, IN. He completed one year of seminary at the Quaker Seminary, Portland Seminary in Portland, OR. Then he transferred to Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, IN and graduated with a Masters of Divinity in 2020. He is currently working on a certificate in LGBTQ Leadership from the University of Redlands, in Redlands, CA. As one his references summarized, "Kevin gained a broad theological background... out of that background he has very knowledgeably chosen to be a part of an Anabaptist peace tradition and very purposefully chosen to serve God within the Mennonite Church."

The thoughtful responses we read in his Ministerial Leadership Information form were consistent with who we found Kevin to be during the four hours (over two separate sessions) of interviewing over Zoom. All references provided written statements. We spoke with each reference at length. All comments were highly favorable. As one reference said, "He's a wonderful pastor and a great human being."

With this, the Pastoral Team Search Committee unanimously agreed to recommend Kevin Chupp to the Vision Team as a pastoral candidate for Mennonite Church of Normal. Kevin flew to Normal at the end of June, for a two-day fast-paced in-person visit with members of the PTSC and VT. *continued on p. 3*

In the words of members of the PTSC, this is what we have to say about Kevin:

"I've found him to be a well-rounded individual who would make an excellent pastor. His commitment to Anabaptism and the Mennonite Church is clear. He has a good understanding of his own strengths as well as when he needs to seek help from others or simply give space to let God do His work. His theological beliefs and leadership style appear to be well-aligned with the Mennonite Church of Normal. I've found Kevin to be easy to relate to and someone who will walk along with us as we continue on our faith journey. I see a number of strengths in Kevin, and I am confident that these strengths would allow him to be successful as part of a team of pastors here at the Mennonite Church of Normal."

"Kevin appears to have a heart for pastoral care and would bring well-rounded experience to our congregation."

"I was so strongly encouraged when his reference said 'I want him to be my pastor.'"

"Words that kept coming up or appearing when speaking with Kevin or his references were: non-anxious, solid character, collaborator, nurturer, life-long learner. Additionally, it became clear to me that not only would Kevin be a great fit for Mennonite Church of Normal, but our church community could be a great place for Kevin, Jess, and Junia."

We are very excited to introduce Kevin and his family to you on August 6th and 7th. May we all continue to pray and discern.

Formal education:

Bethel University, Mishwaka, IN

2007 – 2011

Bachelor of Arts

International Studies: Ministry

Portland Seminary, Portland OR

2011-2012

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN

2012 - 2020

Masters of Divinity

Theological Studies: History, Theology, Ethics

University of Redlands, Redlands, CA

2022

Certificate LGBTQ Leadership

In the past ten years Kevin has participated in a variety of continuing education.

History of the Search Process

Find an overview of the Pastoral Team Search Committee's history and process [here](#).

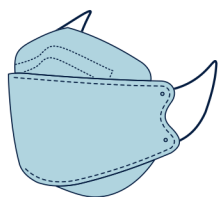
Pastoral Candidate Voting

Based on the Pastoral Team Search Committee and the Vision Team's recommendation of pastoral candidate Kevin Chupp, the Mennonite Church of Normal (MCN) is encouraged to vote regarding an invitation for Kevin Chupp to join MCN's Pastoral Team full time.

Voting will begin on August 7 at 12:30 PM, after the Q&A Session. **Use this link to vote:** <https://forms.gle/XnuTYTCDsQsikpoQ8>. The link will also be sent by email when voting opens.

Votes will be accepted until 12:00 noon on Friday, August 12. Paper ballots will be available at the church. If you need a paper ballot mailed to your home, please submit a request to the office no later than **Friday, August 5**. Completed ballots *mailed* to the church must be postmarked by **August 9**. All are eligible to vote. Members and associate members will be filed as a voting quorum. Non-members are invited to vote as both voting totals will be captured and reported in tandem. Any questions can be directed to the Vision Team.

--Barry Weaver (chair), Shelly King, Shannon Neely, Ben Roeschley, Lauren Satchwell (IPT)



McLean County Covid-19 Update



The McLean County rolling positivity rate was at **30.4%** on July 21, 2022 and increasing. Community level spread is **medium** with potential for strain on the health care system. **Administration Commission encourages attenders at in-person church events to continue to be masked.**





MENNO HAVEN SUNDAY

Escape to the Woods!



Menno Haven Sunday

Escape to Menno Haven Camp and Retreat Center Annual Church Retreat

Our Annual Church Retreat is scheduled for Sunday, August 14. We will be escaping to the relaxing surroundings of Camp Menno Haven and holding an outdoor worship service there. The service starts at 10:00 am and includes a meditation by Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler, Executive Director of Hungry World Farms, Tiskilwa, IL. Our youth under the leadership of Shelly and Darvis King will be involved in the worship service.

The camp staff will serve our lunch at noon. Following lunch, the afternoon activities begin including swimming in the pool, use of canoes and paddleboats, hiking trails, lawn games, use of the activity center, and an optional tour of nearby Hungry World Farms. We will carpool from the camp and the tour will start at approximately 1:30 pm.

The registration deadline is past but we can still accommodate a limited number of additional persons who might be interested. Contact the church office to learn about availability and then make payment for the meal.

There will be no service at the church building on August 14.

Questions: Contact Deb Stenger or Mary Ann Watkins



Flowerbed Weeding



If you would like to help get the flower beds lining the sidewalk to the church in good shape for the visit by our candidate and his family, please call Meredith Schroeer about the best times for you to help. As rain is expected Wednesday, weeds should be easy to pull Thursday and/or Friday. It will be coolest early in the morning!

Vision Team Update

Your Vision Team met on Monday, August 1.

Here are some items we would like to share with you:

1. We received regular reports on the activities of the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team (SGDT), Pastoral Team Search Committee (PTSC), the Interim Pastoral Team (IPT), and the Commissions and discussed where support is needed.
2. We reviewed in detail the plans for the visit of our pastoral candidate, Kevin Chupp, his wife, Jess, and his daughter, Junia, this weekend.
3. We discussed a draft of a plan for merging IPT with long-term pastoral staff who we might hire. We will meet with IPT soon to get their input about this transitional process.
4. We considered other logistics for onboarding a new pastor.
5. We continued our work on Vision Team's portions of the Employment Manual. We will meet with Administration Commission about this soon.
6. Find Vision Team meeting minutes and resource documents in the [Vision Team folder](#).



Journey Groups

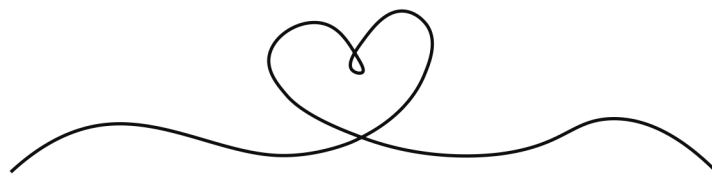


The Discipling Commission has been working prayerfully to discern a new focus and structure for adult Christian Education at MCN. Our desire is that relationships will be fostered and strengthened as we learn together what it means to follow Jesus from an Anabaptist perspective.

Starting this fall, we will be convening three age-based “Journey Groups” that will meet during the CE hour. Journey Group A will be for those in their 20s and 30s, Journey Group B, for 40s and 50s, and Journey Group C, for those 60 and above. Individuals whose age falls close to the cutoff between groups may choose to participate in the Journey Group above or below their age if they desire (for example, a 38-or 39-year old may choose to join Journey Group B, which begins at 40). Age groupings may be modified as we move through the year and determine what works best.

This coming year, Journey Groups will be discussing books that align with the following topics: Christian Living, Peace and Justice, Scripture/Biblical study, and Hospitality.

Watch for more information in the Midweek as it gets closer to September. We are looking forward to journeying together this fall!



This Week at MCN

A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Thursday, August 4

6:30 am Next Man Bible Study (Zoom)

2:00 pm Women's Bok Group

6:30 pm Administration Commission (Zoom)

Saturday, August 6 – Pastoral Candidate Weekend

10:30am–11:45am Founders and Those Who Found Us

2:30pm–4:15pm Meeting with the Commissions & Teams

6:30pm–8:30pm Meeting on the Church Lawn

Sunday, August 7 – Pastoral Candidate Weekend

11:30am–12:30pm Formal Q&A

Yay!



Tuesday, August 9

7:00 pm Interim Pastoral Team (Zoom)

7:00 pm Fellowship Committee (Zoom)

Wednesday, August 10

9:30 am Wed Morn Book Group (Zoom)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Prayer Requests and Announcements

Sharing of Joys and Concerns have returned to open mic sharing during the services. Please continue to send announcements to Lynette Miller 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 in person or livestreaming on YouTube.



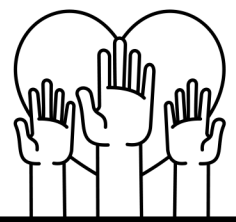
Sharing of Joys and Concerns



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



Those Serving This Week



South Greeters: Deb & Steve Stenger

West Greeter: Nancy Fisher

Welcome Table:

Ushers: Roger & Linda Clemmons

Worship Planner: Ben Roeschley & Shannon Neely

Worship Leader: Ben Roeschley & Shannon Neely

Sharing Prayer Leader: Kevin Chupp

Children's Story: Shelly King

Scripture Reader: Jaron Zehr

Song Leader: Cindy Ropp

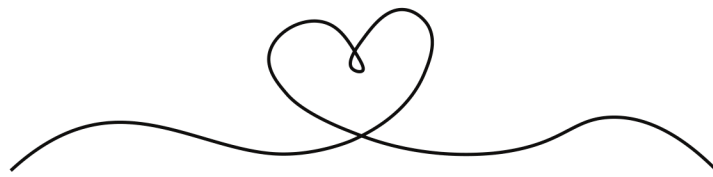
Accompaniment: Dorothy Loepp

Prelude & Postlude: Jonah, Evan, & Emma King, Lydia & Charlotte Hedberg, and Wesley Hershberger

Tech: Ryan Miller & Caleb Augspurger

Preschool Nursery: Janet Wilson

Gather Round: No Gather Round until September



Anabaptist
Disabilities
Network



Mennonite
Church
USA

*Anabaptist Disabilities
Network Study Guide*

[Anabaptist Disabilities Network \(ADN\)](#), a ministry partner of Mennonite Church USA, has created a study guide to help congregations understand and implement ideas from the recently passed "Mennonite Church USA Accessibility Resolution." The four-week study guide was written for ADN by Joanne Gallardo, a conference minister of Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference of MC USA in Goshen, Indiana. [Learn more / Download it here](#)



*For MVS placement,
everyday is 'World Nature Conservation Day'*

Travis Duerksen, writer and multimedia producer for Mennonite Mission Network, writes about Mennonite Voluntary Service in Colorado and its connection with the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project. [Read the article here.](#)

Camp Friedenswald Women's Retreat

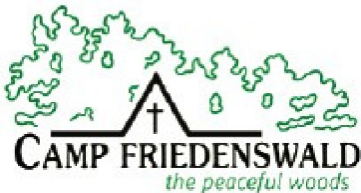
Join us for spirit-filled worship, relaxation among friends, trails to wander, and the renewing water of Shavehead Lake.

Embodying courage: healing connections

Guest speaker: Samantha Lioi

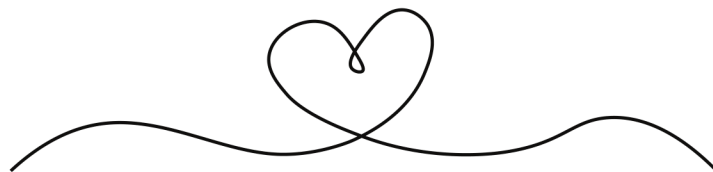
September 16-18, 2022

Samantha's call to ministry led her to Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, where she completed her MDiv with an emphasis in Peace Studies. Samantha has always been drawn to contemplative spirituality, encountering the tender silence of God in nature and in recent years, through centering prayer, alone and with others. She currently makes her home on the lands of the Haudenosaunee and Wenrohronon people (known now as Buffalo, NY).



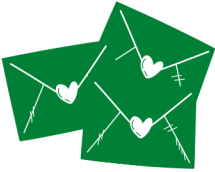
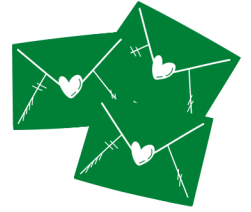
Register online at friedenswald.org/retreat

This annual retreat, planned by women from across Central District Conference of MCUSA, provides a place of connection and gathering for women.



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, 9AM-11AM
and Monday – Wednesday & Friday 1:30PM-3PM.

Lydia Hedberg: Office Administrator; church@normalmennonite.org; 309.452.6622

Rita Munkakusi: Custodian

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

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

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

Ron Ropp: Pastor for Pastoral Care

Work Order & Purchase Request Forms

[Work Order](#) & [Purchase Request](#)

Items for the Midweek



Please send items to be included in the Midweek to the [Church Office](#) no later than 8am on Wednesday. Thank you!

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.