

THE MIDWEEK



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

This week is the third Sunday that we are exploring MCN's Vision Statement.

Lynette Miller will provide a sermon based on Mark 8:34-38, Matthew 8:16-22, & John 15:1-10 titled *Wholehearted*.

Being Christ-centered and being a follower of Jesus are so inextricably linked that there is kind of a chicken-and-egg situation with these words. We will examine how these two phrases are linked and interwoven as foundational for our vision statement.



The service will be live streamed on YouTube at this [link](#).

The bulletins get posted under the Worship tab of our [website](#).

After Worship

Adult CE

Journey Groups:

Group A (20's-30's)
under mezzanine

Group B (40's-50's)
Conference Room

Group C (60's and above)
Room 4

Children & Youth CE

Pre-K-1st Grade
Room 11

2nd-5th Grade
Room 12 & 9

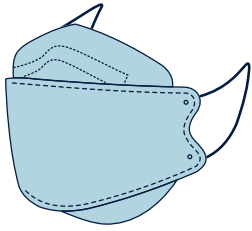
Junior High
Room 8

High School
Room 7 & 5



**Mennonite
Church
of Normal**

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA



McLean County Covid-19 Update



The McLean County rolling positivity rate was at **24.3%** on August 25, 2022 and **decreasing**. Community level spread is **low** with potential for strain on the health care system. **Administration Commission encourages attenders at in-person church events to continue to be masked.**

Vision Team Update

The Vision Team met on Wednesday, August 24. Following the meeting, Vision Team has the following items to share with the congregation:

1. Vision Team met with Kevin Chupp to get updates and discuss upcoming items for his transition to MCN later this fall. More details regarding the pastoral team transition will be shared as they become available.
2. Vision Team received regular reports on the current 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.
3. Find Vision Team meeting minutes and resource documents in the Vision Team folder on Google Drive.



How?

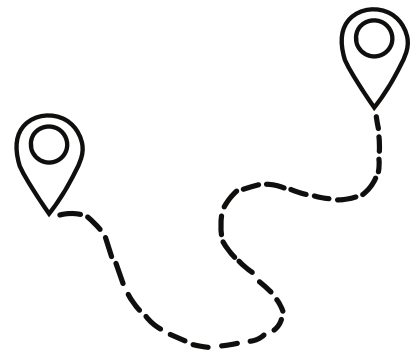


How will the Chupp family move to town?

You know the legendary story about Tim and Sue moving to town. Two women were driving Tim's tightly packed truck down the highway towing his boat that was filled with tackle and fishing rods bouncing up and down like there was a big one on the end of the line. They were in Peoria, almost home, when a carload of young guys comes up alongside honking and grinning and surprise! They were greeted not by guys going fishing, but two laughing women who, by the way, are still laughing about that trip!

When the Chupp family moves to town, it will probably be with a U-Haul. We don't know yet if they will need help. And aren't we glad Kevin's hobby is birding? No towing required for binoculars!

Journey Groups



The Discipling Commission would like to thank all the adults who shared their life stories with the children this summer as part of the class entitled "The Way We Were and Who We Became." We all learned so much! For example, did you know that growing up, Jon Friesen used to collect empty pop bottles and use the deposit money to buy baseball cards? Or that Bess Desch met her husband Leo when they was a trapeze artist in the ISU circus? It was so enriching to learn about people's childhood experiences, jobs, education, and how they experienced God throughout their life's journey.

Our storytellers were: David Voetglin, Elsa Raab, Jon Friesen, Joe Jantze, Keith Unzicker, Barry Weaver, Shannon Neely, Bess Desch, Gabriella Harnish, Leah Roeschley, and Meredith Schroeer. And thanks also to our class moderators: Nancy Fisher, Shannon Unzicker, Marcia Rossi, and David Voetglin.

New SS classes start this week for all children and youth.

This year's **Pre-K through 1st Grade** class will be taught by Annette & Rick Harnish and Carrie Stalter, and will be meeting in the *room right off of the sanctuary (room 11)*. (All other class locations remain the same.)

The **2nd through 5th Grade** class will be taught by Spring Neely, and the **Junior High** class (Grades 6-8) will be taught by Darrel Miller. Shannon Neely will be teaching the **High School** class. Thank you to all our new and returning teachers. We are so grateful for you!

Journey Group Classes also begin meeting after worship this week for adults.

Group A (20's-30's) facilitated by Leah Roeschley and Jessica Hall, will be meeting in the room under the mezzanine.

Group B (40's-50's) facilitated by Shannon Unzicker, will be meeting in the Conference Room.

Group C (60's and above) facilitated by Lynette Miller, will be meeting in the room next to the kitchen (room 4).

We hope to begin at 11:00 and finish by 11:45 each week.

We are **still in need of sponsors for the MYF (high school youth group)**. Please talk to any of the DC members (Shannon Unzicker, Spring Neely, David Voetglin, Lynette Miller) if you have any interest or might have a person or couple to suggest. Thank you to Shelly and Darvis King, who are continuing as JMYF sponsors.

Come celebrate Fall at the Larry Reeser Farm

September 18 starting at 4pm

Campfire, Potluck, Weiner Roast, and Hayride. Everyone invited!

Please bring your own hotdogs and buns, a dish to share, and lawn chairs.

Reeser's will provide roasting sticks, condiments, table service, drinks, baked beans and chips.

Hope to see you there.



Midwest
FOOD BANK®

Volunteer Opportunity

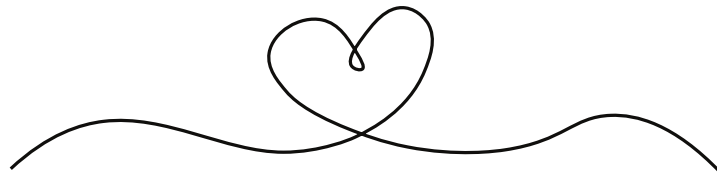
Join us **Thursday, September 15th from 5-7pm** to volunteer at the Midwest Food Bank! If interested, please register [here](#).



This September, MCN is joining Home Sweet Home Ministries, Midwest Food Bank, and Thrivent Financial as we come together to collect items for Thanksgiving meal boxes.

Place purchased items in the shopping cart in the library.

[Shopping list](#) and [Hy-Vee Special Pricing for Big Give](#)



This Week at MCN

A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Thursday, September 1

7:00 am Next Man Bible Study

2:00 pm Women's Book Group (Zoom)

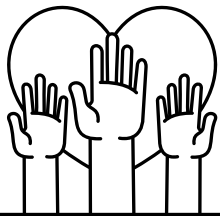
6:30pm Administration Commission (Zoom)

Monday, September 5

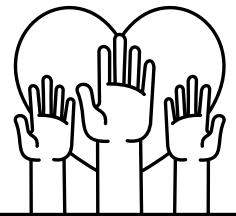
Labor day - *Office Closed*

Wednesday, September 7

9:30 am Wed Morn Book Group (Zoom)



Those Serving This Week



South Greeters: Larry & Louise Reeser

West Greeter: Mark Roeschley

Welcome Table: Marge Weaver

Ushers: Randy & Jaron Zehr

Worship Planner & Leader: Ben Roeschley

Sharing Prayer Leader: Lauren Satchwell

Children's Story: Nancy Fisher

Scripture Reader:

Technology: Rick Harnish & Jaron Zehr

Song Leader: Cindy Ropp

Accompaniment, Prelude, & Postlude: Dorothy Loepp

Preschool Nursery:



Birthdays & Anniversaries

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN

Prayer Requests and Announcements

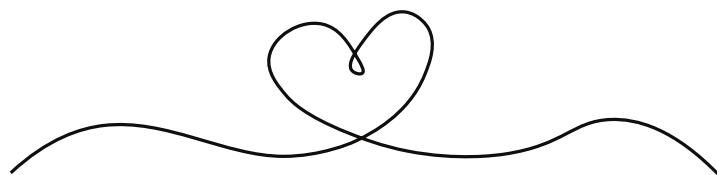
Sharing of Joys and Concerns have returned to open mic sharing during the services. Please continue to send announcements to Lynette Miller so that these can be shared by the worship leader during the Community Life portion of the service. When sharing, it's helpful if your requests are succinct. This 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





Shawnee Showdown: Keep the Forest Standing

TODAY! WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2022 AT 7PM AT THE [NORMAL THEATER](#)

Free Screening of Cade Bursell's 2021 documentary *Shawnee Showdown: Keep the Forest Standing*. Shawnee activists Sam Stearns and John Wallace will be present for a Q & A after the screening.

During the late 1980s and the 1990s, a small, dedicated group of activists fought on the ground and in the courts to stop clear-cutting, oil and gas drilling, and ATV use in the Shawnee National Forest located in Southern Illinois. They won the support of their community and the struggle in a landmark court case. Seventeen years later, the court lifted the injunction, and the Forest Service resumed logging. *Shawnee Showdown: Keep the Forest Standing* portrays the struggle to protect the forest through interviews, photographs, and archival news footage. The film examines how the past struggle can serve to inform the public and activists today in responding to current Forest Service management projects. Find more information [here](#).

MWC Peace Commission Statement

The Mennonite World Conference Peace Commission's Statement of solidarity with Indigenous Peoples begins, "We exhort the Church at all levels – ecumenically, denominationally, and globally - to reject erroneous interpretations of the Bible that justify the mistreatment of Indigenous Peoples. We renew our commitment to embody the spirit of Jesus as indicated in the Sermon on the Mount: 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God' (Matthew 5:9)."

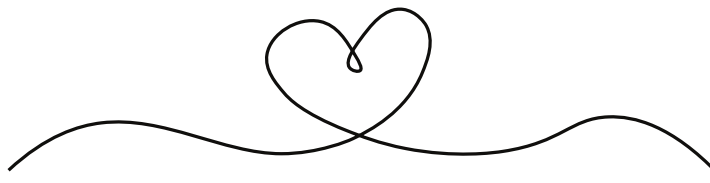
Read the whole statement [here](#).

Kentucky Flood Survivors Need Volunteer Help

Flood survivors in eastern Kentucky need volunteers, and Mennonite Disaster Service is trying to help. "The need is overwhelming," said Larry Stoner, MDS regional operations coordinator, describing the aftermath of the historic deluge in late July that killed 38 people in a rural corner of the state. Only 1% of properties in the hardest-hit counties of the state have federal flood insurance, government records show.

[More information](#) | [Sign up to help](#)





Staff Contact and Building Open Hours

<u>Building Open:</u>	<i>Closed Monday</i> Tuesday – Friday, 9AM-11AM and Tuesday – Wednesday & Friday 1:30PM-3PM.
<u>Lydia Hedberg:</u>	Office Administrator; church@normalmennonite.org ; 309.452.6622
<u>Rita Munkakusi:</u>	Custodian
<u>Lynette Miller:</u>	Interim Pastor for Discipling and Community Life Commissions
<u>Lauren Satchwell:</u>	Interim Pastor for Vision Team, Administration & Outreach Commissions
<u>Holly Zehr:</u>	Interim Pastor for Worship & Spiritual Gift Discernment Team
<u>Ron Ropp:</u>	Pastor for Pastoral Care

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!

Work Order & Purchase Request Forms

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

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.