

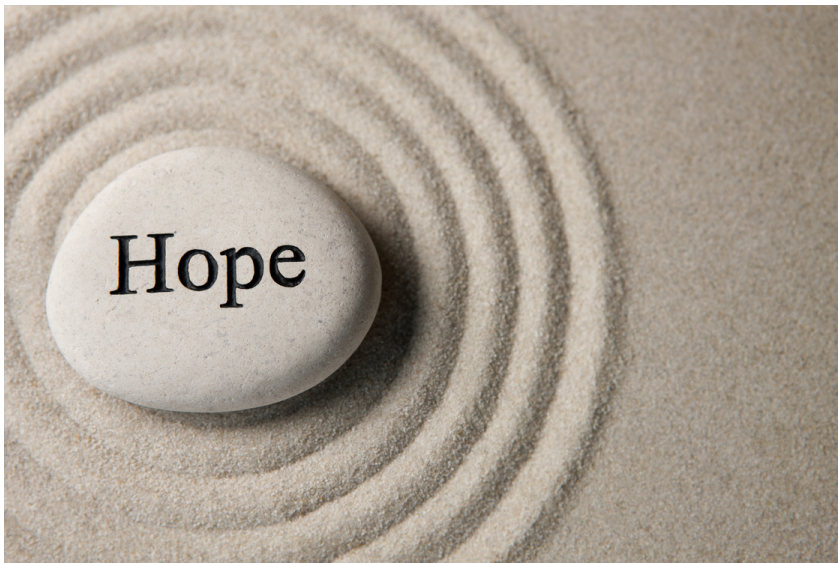
THE MIDWEEK



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

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

Shannon Neely will provide a sermon focusing on Hope and using the scripture verses Exodus 17:1-7 & 1 Peter 2:13-15 this week.



After Worship

Adult CE

Journey Groups:

Group A (20's-30's)
Head Start Wing

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

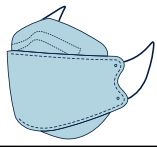
The service will be live streamed on YouTube at this [link](#).

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



**Mennonite
Church
of Normal**

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA



McLean County Covid-19 Update



The McLean County rolling positivity rate was at **20.5%** on September 15, 2022 and **increasing**. Community level spread is **low**. **Administration Commission encourages attenders at in-person church events to continue to be masked.**

Fellowship Committee Survey



The Fellowship Committee is committed to providing you with opportunities for developing and or enhancing relationships among us. Therefore, we welcome your comments. Please fill out this questionnaire by **this Sunday, September 25, 2022** either [online](#) or with one of the paper copies available at the kitchen serving counter during Fellowship Time. Thank you!



Sermon Recaps



Here are the 7 ways to increase your peace quotient that Lois Hochstetler presented in her sermon on 9/18.

Ways to Increase Your Peace Quotient

1. Grow in your friendship with God till you experience yourself as forgiven, as cherished, as a loved child of God in spite of your faults.
2. Surround yourself with peaceful people.
3. Take care of your health and get enough sleep.
4. Fill your mind with worthwhile stuff, as directed in Philippians 4:8
5. Stay connected with your faith community order to absorb peace from "the Vine".
6. Choose a peaceful place in your memory or your imagination and go there when needed.
7. Identify and disempower the "peace thieves", that is things that destroy your peace.



Goshen College Parables

Goshen College's Worship Team "Parables" (of which Jonah King is a member!) is going on tour this Fall and is performing here at MCN on **Friday, October 14th at 7pm!** Through music, hymns, drama, and parables they will share a special presentation encouraging us to spread love in our world.

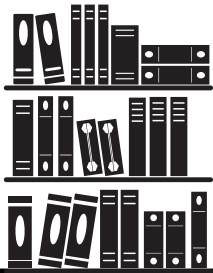
Pastoral Team Search Committee



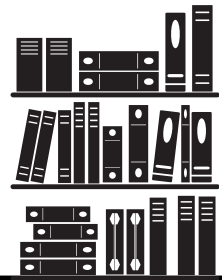
Mid-October, Kevin, Jess and Junia plan to arrive in Normal. Kevin's last Sunday at the First Mennonite Church of Aberdeen is at the beginning of October. Their trip will take them from their home in Aberdeen, in the southeast corner of the Idaho, over the Continental Divide and across the Great Plains, a trip of about 1,500 miles.

Junia is reported to be a good little traveler! She is also reported to be good at removing things from boxes before Jess gets them taped shut.

Kevin will be installed October 23. Lauren Satchwell heads the committee planning the installation and Marge Weaver, a member of the Pastoral Team Search Committee, is the worship planner.



Church Library



In order to resupply MCN's library with some books that have gone wandering and update a few titles we are asking congregation members to consider donating the books listed on these registries. This first registry at Bookshop.org supports our local bookstore, Bobzbay. This [second registry](#) contains only books that were unavailable through Bookshop.org and supports Amazon.com. If you would like to order the book from a different website, such as MennoMedia or Herald Press, please contact Amy Reiman immediately and she will remove the title from the registries above to avoid duplicates. Books ordered from these registries will be delivered to the church at 805 S Cottage Ave. Your librarians and church family thank you for your generosity and support! --Amy Reiman and Barry Weaver



Junior and Youth Choirs

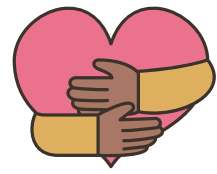
I am thrilled to invite all children grades 2-12 to return to choirs on **Sunday, September 25** here at the church.

Junior Choir – is for children in grades 2-5; rehearses every Sunday evening 6:00-6:45.

Youth Choir – is for youth in grades 6-12; rehearses every Sunday evening 6:45-7:30.

Come and join us and be part of something wonderful! --Cindy Ropp

Prayer Focus for September



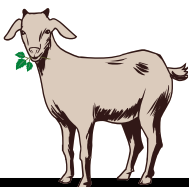
You are invited to continue your prayers this month for the COMMUNITY LIFE COMMISSION, and particularly for the members of the commission : Connie Satchwell, Joanna Oyer, Lynette Miller (IPT representative), and co-chairs Deb Stenger and Mary Ann Watkins, as they focus on relationships within the congregation. **Prayers are particularly needed for the Fellowship Committee** (maybe with a new creative name in the future!) within this commission that plans “gathering” events for the congregation. Pam Hodel, Mary Ann Israel, and Leroy Loepp presently make up this committee but are hoping to have others join the group. Thank you for your prayers for these committed folks!



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](#)



Alternative Gifts Fair

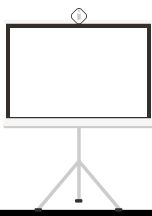


We are quickly approaching the holiday season. If you would like to help MCN participate in an Alternative Gifts Fair this year by taking leadership please [contact Lauren](#) for more information.



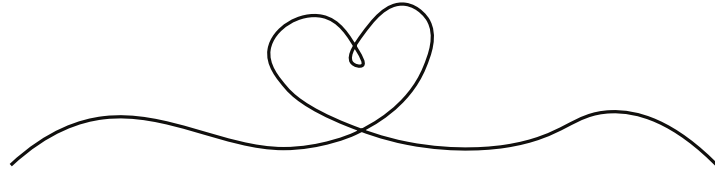
Save the Date!

The 2023 Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale will be on **Saturday, March 18, 2023!** It will be an in-person event, but there will be no Friday evening activities.



From the Office

Lydia in the church office is now making the PowerPoint slides. If you have anything, such as slides for the sermon, children's time, ministry moment, etc., please send them to the church office! (church@normalmennonite.org) Thank you everyone!



Birthdays & Anniversaries

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN



This Week at MCN

A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Thursday, Septembers 22

7:00 am Next Man Bible Study

Tuesday, September 27

7:00 pm Interim Pastoral Team (Zoom)

Monday, September 26

7:00 pm Fellowship Committee (Zoom)

Wednesday, September 21

9:30 am Wed Morn Book Group (Zoom)

6:30 pm Congregational Care Committee (Zoom)

Prayer Requests and Announcements

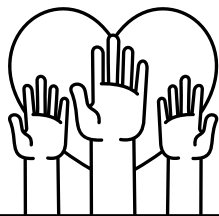
Sharing of Joys and Concerns have returned to open mic sharing during the services. Please continue to send announcements to Lynette Miller so that these can be shared by the worship leader during the Community Life portion of the service. When sharing, it's helpful if your requests are succinct. This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



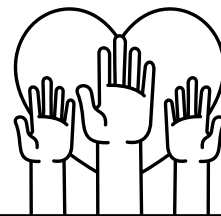
Sharing of Joys and Concerns



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: Kay & John Reimer

West Greeter: Mark Roeschley

Welcome Table: Gail Fisher

Ushers: Linda & Roger Clemmons

Worship Planner & Leader: Steve Benner

Sharing Prayer Leader: Ron Ropp

Children's Story: Jaron Zehr

Scripture Reader: Marcia Rossi

Technology: Adam Augspurger & Ryan Miller

Song Leader: Cindy Ropp

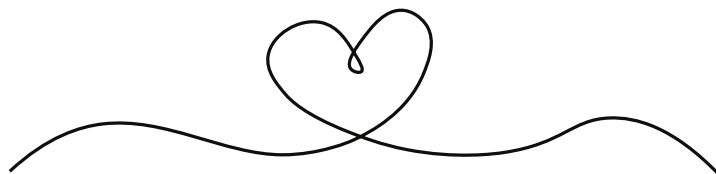
Accompaniment, Prelude, & Postlude: Elsa Raab

Infant Nursery - during worship: Nancy Fisher

Infant Nursery - during CE: David Harnish

Preschool Nursery: Connie Yoder

Gather Round: Jessica Hall





Harvest Festival



This Saturday, September 24 from 2 to 5 p.m

Hungry World Farm, Tiskilwa, IL 61368

Come celebrate local food and agriculture at Hungry World Farm's Harvest Festival at their Farm Learning Center in Tiskilwa, Illinois. There will be fun for all ages, including hayrack rides, farm tours, a pumpkin painting contest, wreath making, samples of seasonal foods, local farm wares for sale, door prizes and more! Check out their website for a schedule of events [here](#). View a flyer [here](#).

MDS Illinois Unit Annual Meeting

This Saturday, September 24th at East Bend Mennonite Church in Fisher, Illinois

You are invited to the Mennonite Disaster Service Annual IL Unit Meeting. The meeting will be held from 10am to noon with a meal provided by East Bend following the meeting. Matt Kreeb will be sharing about his family's experience with MDS at Amigo Centre. This meeting is open to anyone who is interested in attending. If you are interested in attending, please contact Gerry Schrock or church@normalmennonite.org.

Women of Faith Conference

September 29th through October 2nd in Elkhart, Indiana

Mennonite Disaster Service invites women of all faiths to join them in prophetic witness and holistic healing. Utilizing Mennonite Women USA's Sisterhood Masterclass and Sister Care Seminar, they will address issues of diversity, equity and inclusion as they experience Christ together in fellowship and worship. Find more information [here](#).

Camp Menno Haven Fall Events

Camp Menno Haven has several Fall programs & getaways coming up! Check out their [Fall Work Day](#) on October 1, [Fall Family Getaway](#) on October 7-9, [Youth Leader Retreat](#) on November 11-13, and their [Christmas Family Getaway](#) on December 16-18.



I Go On Singing: Paul Robeson's Life in Word and Song

Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022, 7pm

Faith United Methodist Church, 1719 South Prospect, Champaign, IL 61820

Saturday 10/8, the gifted American baritone and international ambassador of peace Anthony Brown will perform "I Go on Singing: Paul Robeson's Life in Word and Song". "I Go On Singing" tells the story of Paul Robeson, an All-American athlete, scholar, international recording artist and star of the stage and screen. In his day, Robeson was the most famous African American entertainer of the world. His life was a courageous example of integrity and discipline in the service of human rights.

Accompanied by a pianist, narrator and archival video, Anthony Brown reveals Robeson as a towering figure in American history and a champion for peace and human rights for much of the 20th century. The story of this American hero who struggled and triumphed comes alive in a rousing 75 minute song filled multimedia presentation. This performance brings music and history alive with equal parts documentary and live concert experience. Musical numbers range from Spirituals to Broadway and includes Robeson's original arrangements of favorites like "Wade the Water", "O'! Man River", "It Ain't Necessarily So", "Water Boy" and many others.

Featuring Anthony Brown, Professional American baritone

Accompanied by Phillip Martin

Narrated by Violet J. Harris, Professor Emerita, College of Education, University of Illinois

Tickets (\$10) can be purchased at: <https://igoonsinging.eventbrite.com>. Find a flyer [here](#).

Proceeds from this event will be donated to local youth-focused charities.



Call to Action

Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Peace & Justice Ministries calls us all to action to [ask Congress to increase U.S. foreign assistance](#).

News from the Anabaptist World



David and Leann Augsburgers authored an article titled "[Five Things Friday Roundup: Can you look at a forest of burnt trunks and stumps without praying?](#)" found in the *Anabaptist World*.

Worship, Technology, and the Shape of the Church

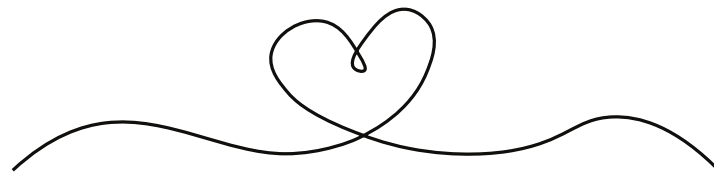
Online Seminar – Thursday, October 6 from 7:30-9:00pm Eastern Time

CDC board president, James Rissler, and conference minister, Doug Luginbill, are facilitating a conversation for church leaders focusing on the changes in church life brought about by the pandemic, the use of hybrid worship, and other technologies. There is no fee but please register for the event so that we can adequately prepare to host the conversation.

Here's a sampling of the questions to be discussed:

- 1) How do you engage with folks living at a distance but regularly participating in worship online?
- 2) Who operates your technology; volunteers or staff?
- 3) How has hybrid worship changed the way you preach or plan the service?

[Register in advance for this meeting.](#)



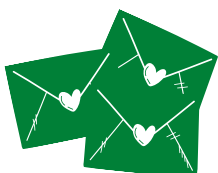
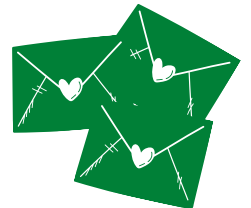
Items for the Midweek



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

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

<u>Building Open:</u>	Monday – Friday, 9AM-11AM and Monday – 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

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.