

THE MIDWEEK



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

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

Ron Ropp will preach the sermon this Sunday on the scripture verses Matthew 8:1-15 & John 14:12 titled "Called to a Ministry of Healing."

About the sermon he says, "the Vision Statement of our Church says: 'As followers of Jesus, we aspire to transform our communities and world into places of peace, healing and hope' This Sunday we will look at Jesus' mandate to make healing a core mission of His followers."

We will celebrate Communion in worship this Sunday with Ron Ropp leading. In preparation, we are all encouraged to engage in self-examination of both our relationships with God, and with others. We also receive specially designated gifts for our Mutual Aid Fund on Communion Sundays as a means of assisting others in need through being the Body of Christ. There will be a special basket in the back of the sanctuary for those funds. To request communion in your home, please contact the church office (309-452-6622 or church@normalmennonite.org).

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)
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

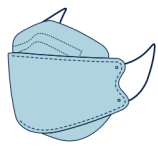
Junior High
Room 8

High School
Room 7 & 5



**Mennonite
Church
of Normal**

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA



McLean County Covid-19 Update



The McLean County rolling positivity rate was at **13.3%** on September 15, 2022 and **decreasing**. Community level spread is **low**. **Administration Commission encourages attenders at in-person church events to continue to be masked.**

Song from the Sermon



Find a recording of the song Shannon Neely shared in his Sermon last Sunday [here](#). (Or click the red play button to the left!)

Update from the Vision Team

Your Vision Team met on September 21, 2022. Following the meeting, Vision Team has the following items to share with the congregation:

1. Vision Team received 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 identified ways we can support them. Members of Vision Team checked in with the leaders of the Teams and Commissions. Valuable input was shared from these conversations.
2. We continued preparations for Pastor Kevin Chupp to become part of our Pastoral Team starting October 23. Lauren Satchwell will lead the planning of our welcoming activities for the Chupp family.
3. We continued to develop the Vision Team portion of the 2023 Congregational Spending Plan (pastors' wages and benefits).
4. We began plans for conducting a church-wide evaluation of the church structure approximately one year after its implementation. Additional details will be shared as they become available.
5. Find Vision Team meeting minutes and resource documents in the Vision Team folder on Google Drive.

Update from the Fellowship Committee



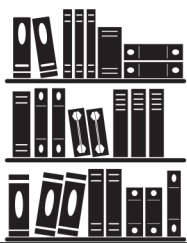
Survey deadline extend two weeks! Thanks to all who have participated in the Fellowship Survey. We value your input and will be making plans for the 2023 calendar of events with the survey results in mind. Please take the time to complete a survey form following [this link](#) or the paper survey found at the coffee counter on Sunday Mornings.



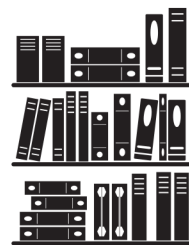
Notes from the Worship Commission

At our recent meeting, the Worship Commission discussed our search for a paid accompanist for our choirs. We have pursued several avenues without success so far. If you know of someone to ask, please contact Joe Culpepper. We also submitted our budget request for next year, discussed several items from Spiritual Gifts Discernment Committee and Community Life Commission, began planning for Advent, & planned a training session for Worship Planners & Leaders. If you have questions, comments, or suggestions for vital worship at MCN, please let us know.

-Your Worship Commission



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

Save the Date!



All junior high and high school youth are invited to the Unzicker farm at 5:30 on **Saturday, October 15th** for a hotdog roast and s'mores. Carpooling can be arranged or parents may transport their children if they prefer. More details to follow soon!

Hayride & Wiener Roast Recap



We had a great group for the wiener roast & hayride. Lots of good food, fellowship and fun. It was a beautiful night weather wise. Thanks to all who came.

-Louise & Larry

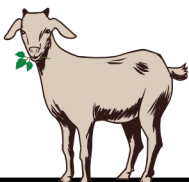


This September, MCN is joining Home Sweet Home Ministries, Midwest Food Bank, and Thrivent Financial as we come together to collect items for Thanksgiving meal boxes.

This is the last week to donate!

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.



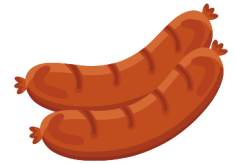
Goshen College Parables

Goshen College's Worship Team "Parables" (of which Jonah 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.



The 2023 Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale Board met on Saturday, September 17. They are pleased to announce that at this meeting it was decided that they will sponsor an in-person Relief Sale on **Saturday, March 18**, at Interstate in Bloomington. There will be no Friday night Sale activities this year. There will be a few new ideas incorporated. The prayers and support of everyone will be greatly appreciated!

Mennonite Relief Sale Sausage!



Have you been missing Mennonite Relief Sale Sausage? Lucky for you it is being offered right now and all you have to do is **pre-order by October 16th!** Sausage will be offered in 1lb bulk or whole link packages! Price is \$4.75/lb, and payment is due at time of pick up. (Cash, credit card, and checks will be accepted.)

Pick up will be November 5th, 2022 from 7am-12:30pm at First Mennonite Church, Morton!

To order, please fill out the sign up sheet posted in the back of the sanctuary or use [this link](#). See a flyer [here](#). Reach out to Louise Reeser with any questions.

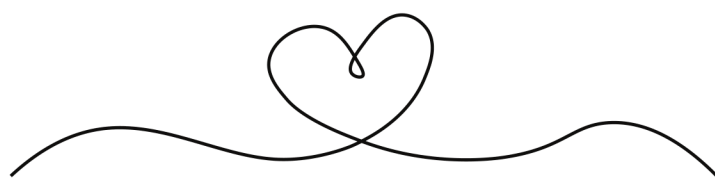
MCC Buckets of Thanks

This October and November, show your gratitude and provide hope to those in need by collecting relief supplies for Mennonite Central Committee. The supplies you donate will fill a Bucket of Thanks for people affected by conflict or disaster around the world. Find more information, including supply lists and a ready-to-use curriculum for children [here](#).

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 Week at MCN

A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Thursday, September 29

7:00 am Next Man Bible Study

6:30 pm Administration Commission (Zoom)

7:00 pm Community Life Commission (Zoom)

Tuesday, October 4

7:00 pm Interim Pastoral Team (Zoom)

Wednesday, October 5

9:30 am Wed Morn Book Group (Zoom)

6:30 pm Spiritual Gifts Discernment (Zoom)

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 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 in person or livestreaming on YouTube.



Sharing of Joys and Concerns



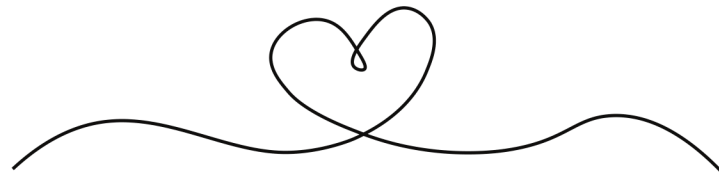
MCN IS ASKED TO BE IN CONTINUED PRAYER FOR FOR THE CARDIOVASCULAR CARE
UNIT OF CARLE BROMENN MEDICAL CENTER—OUR PARTNER IN HEALING FOR 2022



Those Serving This Week



South Greeters: Linda & Roger Clemmons
West Greeter: Bernice Valverde
Welcome Table: Darrel Miller
Ushers: The King Family
Worship Planner: Elsa Raab
Leader: Shannon Neely
Sharing Prayer Leader: Lauren Satchwell
Children's Story: Joe Culpepper
Scripture Reader: Phil Dick
Technology: Adam Augspurger and Glenn Wilson
Song Leader: Cindy Ropp
Accompaniment: Dorothy Loepp
Prelude, & Postlude: Caleb & Adam Augspurger
Infant Nursery – during worship: Gabriella Harnish
Infant Nursery – during CE: Beth Reeser
Preschool Nursery: David Harnish
Gather Round: Spring Neely



Camp Menno Haven Fall Events

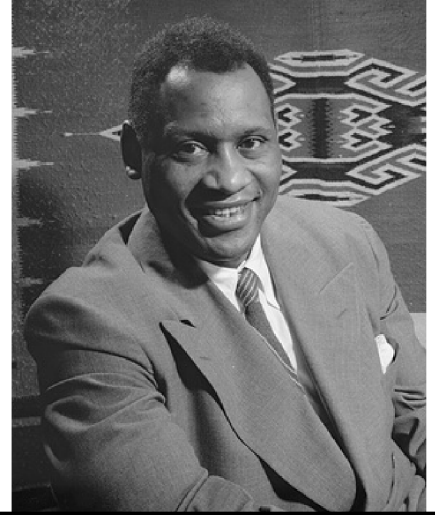
Camp Menno Haven has several Fall programs & getaways coming up! Check out their [Fall Work Day](#) on October 1, [Fall Family Getaway](#) on October 7-9, [Youth Leader Retreat](#) on November 11-13, and their [Christmas Family Getaway](#) on December 16-18.



Two Articles from Mennonite Mission Network

Find two articles from Mennonite Mission Network here: [Conflict transformation training in South Africa receives national attention](#) and [New book chronicles history of peacebuilding in Northeast Asia](#)

Paul Robeson 1942, Library of Congress



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.

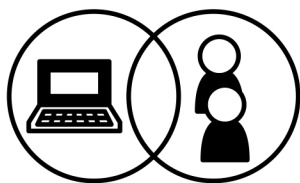
MCC: Young Adult Peace Camps

Mennonite Central Committee has two upcoming Peace Camps for young adults.

Nov 6-11: Puerto Rico Peace Camp: Young adults are invited to join MCC on November 6-11 on the beautiful island of Puerto Rico as we discover new ways to live and proclaim the gospel of peace. This week-long experience will be filled with practical learning about deconstructing oppressive systems, building community, participating in spaces of healing and commitment to hospitality. This experience will be facilitated in Spanish; *a minimum of conversational Spanish is expected from all participants*. Registration fee is \$200; [Sign up now](#). [More information about peace camps](#). [Flyer](#).



Jan 2-7, 2023: Peace for the Weary at Camp Deerpark: Calling young adults living in metropolitan areas to take a break from daily life and join MCC for a transformational week of connection and learning. During this experience, you will gain tools for understanding trauma and develop strategies for self-care and healing through the lens of restorative justice to bring back to your city. Registration fee is \$200; [Sign up now](#). [More information about peace camps](#). [Flyer](#).



Worship, Technology, and the Shape of the Church

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

Central District Conference 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](#).

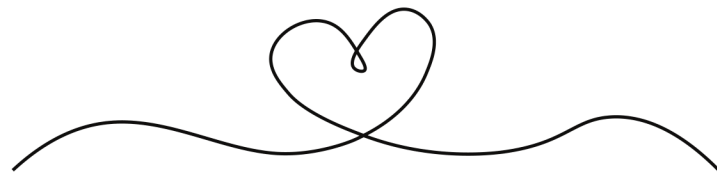
MWC: "We felt the connection"

News from Mennonite World Conference: "We want our regional representatives to develop deep relationships with each member church in their region," says Arli Klassen, regional representatives coordinator. MWC's regional representatives are part-time volunteers who develop and support relationships with MWC member, associate-member and... [Read more here](#)

Listen to a new episode of Menno Health Cast!



[Five Life Standards for Healthcare Providers](#): Dr. Malinda Berry and Dr. Donna Minter chat with Joann about the Five Life Standards and their work on Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship's Nurture Council as they prepare to bring this anabaptist peace theology, based on Doris Janzen Longacre's Book "Living More with Less," to the Annual Gathering. By Anabaptist World



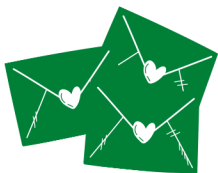
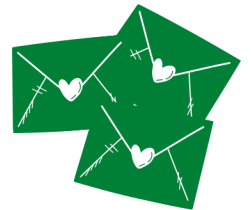
Items for the Midweek



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.