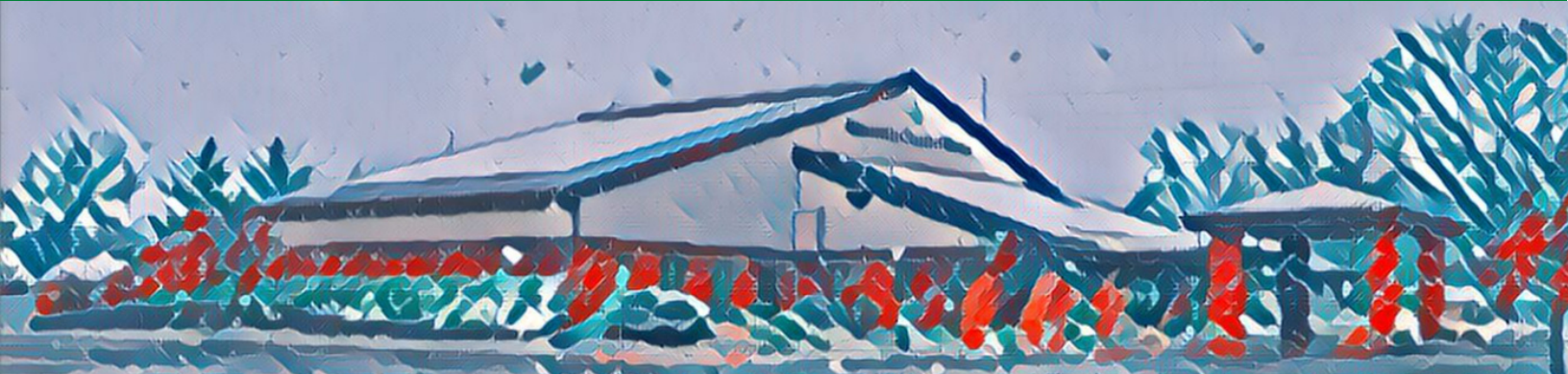


THE MIDWEEK



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

This is the sixth and final week in our sermon series on
1 Peter.

This week, Wayne Hochstetler will preach on the scripture
2 Peter 3:1-13 in a sermon titled *Connecting Some Dots*.

As Peter's letters end, we find a strong note of judgment
against those who disregard God's command to love.
Peter deals with judgment as he recalls his own history,
and he calls us to live ethically until the New Heaven and
New Earth are realized.



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)

First Office

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

Family Fun Night



THIS FRIDAY, November 18th

The Christian Education sub-committee, Discipling Commission and Fellowship Commission invite you to join us for "Lord of the Harvest" Family Fun Night on Friday, November 18th. We will enjoy a pizza party, including salads, fresh fruit and dessert. Then we'll have a bible story, sing-a-long, and a variety of activities/games. All are welcome - sign up [here](#)! Please bring a non-perishable item for the food pantry as your "noisy offering"!



Motorcycle Tour Presentation

THIS SUNDAY, November 20th at 6pm

You are invited to hear from Keith Unzicker about his experience with MCC's Learning Tour to Bolivia. He will be sharing in fellowship on Sunday, November 20th at 6pm at the MRC Community Building. We hope you can join!

Update from Vision Team

Your Vision Team met on November 1 and 14. Following those meetings, 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 Pastoral Team (PT), and the Commissions and identified ways we can support them.
2. Pastor Kevin's onboarding and transition onto the Pastoral Team is continuing. With Pastor Holly's planned release from the Pastoral Team at the end of 2022, Vision Team is working in conjunction with the Pastoral Team to ensure a smooth transition and reallocation of assignments among the Pastoral Team.
3. We continued discussion of plans for conducting a church-wide evaluation of the church structure beginning December 4. See separate Midweek announcement on this.
4. We discussed feedback received from the congregation during the 2023 Spending Plan Hearing and considered discretionary items within the Vision Team portion of the Spending Plan.
5. Vision Team will be hosting a joint meeting with the leaders of the Commissions on November 16. This is a periodic touch point to allow the Commissions to share what is occurring within their spheres and to foster cross-commission communication and collaboration.
6. We began planning the Annual Congregational Meeting to be held on January 22. More details will be shared as they become available.

Find Vision Team meeting minutes and resource documents in the Vision Team folder on Google Drive.

Church Structure Evaluation and Feedback

Congregation

early- to mid-December

Commissions and
Teams

mid-Dec to early-Jan

Vision Team

January

Sunday, December 4th during the CE hour

Isn't it hard to believe that our congregation has been operating under its "new" structure for over a year now? Many of people currently serving on the Commissions and Teams were called to their roles in late summer or early fall 2021. One thing Pastor Gary Martin encouraged us to do was to evaluate how the new church structure functions approximately one year in. So with that in mind, Vision Team will be launching a church-wide evaluation beginning December 4. This evaluation will allow the congregation to consider areas working well or identify areas of needed improvement. For more details on the plan for this process, [review this document](#).

A congregational feedback session will be held during the CE hour on December 4. There will be no adult CE that Sunday, and all are invited to attend. This will be a hybrid event and a Zoom link will be sent out at a later time. Knowing congregants have had differing levels of interaction with the church structure, this session will start with brief review of the structure design and how we got here. We'll also hear how communication and decision-making occur in the current structure. Finally, time will be left open for question and answer time. Vision Team will lead this session and will capture notes from the verbal feedback received. A survey will be sent out following the informational session to solicit written feedback from the congregation.

If at any point in the last 18 months you've had questions about the church structure, or if you've had positive or negative experiences from it, we encourage you to attend this session and provide your feedback to Vision Team through this process.

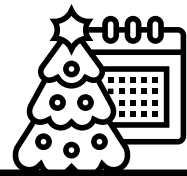
Christmas Caroling



Friday, December 9 from 6-8pm

Fellowship committee invites all ages to join in as we go a caroling. More details coming soon. So, start practicing now and join us on the evening of December 9.

Advent Daily Family Devotions



Your Worship Commission is providing a daily Advent devotion/activity resource for individuals or families. There are seven sheets with four days to each which can be cut into individual days, then optionally you can place them into envelopes to be opened each day, color the graphic each day, & light a candle. We hope this might be a meaningful adult & children activity as we prepare spiritually for Christmas. **Copies will be available this Sunday**, or if you wish you can print your own [here](#).



Journey Groups

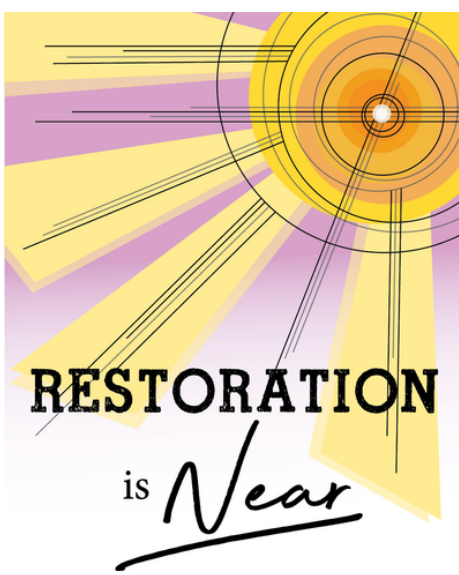
The last Sunday in November (11/27) each group will be starting to read a new book for the winter quarter. We are asking all participants with books purchased by MCN to return them to the conference room. (There is a small table by the door where books can be stacked.) When you are finished with your copy, please place it there so we can swap books for the next quarter. Thank you!

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service



This Sunday, November 20th at 3:00pm - YMCA (202 St. Joseph Dr., Bloomington)

Gratitude is one thing all faith traditions have in common. Join us for a celebration of gratitude, faith, unity, and pie!) as we look forward together to a season of Giving Thanks. All are welcome! For more information email Rev. Sara Isbell at sisbell@wesley-umc.com.



Advent at Home

"Restoration is Near!" is the theme of the Advent at Home 2022 worship guide, now available from Mennonite Church USA (MC USA). Using the theme developed for Leader magazine, the guide offers weekly and daily Scriptures from the lectionary texts, worship rituals, prayers, activities, and background information to help individuals and households of all ages prepare for Advent through Epiphany. Download it [here](#). Read the whole press release [here](#).

Offering Counters Needed



Administration Commission is recruiting volunteers to assist the Assistant Treasurer in counting the offering on Sunday mornings. We would like five to ten volunteers so we can rotate these volunteers just like we rotate greeters and ushers. The role of an offering counter includes counting cash and coins, counting checks, recording cash and checks on offering worksheets, signing offering worksheets, and placing money in a locking bank bag. The Offering Counter does NOT handle cash/coins/checks alone nor enter data into computer system. If you have questions, please email [Mary Dyck](#).

Give supplies so we can fill buckets full of hope.

This Thanksgiving, show your gratitude and provide hope to those in need by collecting relief supplies. The supplies you donate will fill a *Bucket of Thanks* for people affected by conflict or disaster around the world.



MCC partner Uman Help Center, distributes relief buckets, hygiene kits and blankets in Uman.* (Photo courtesy of Uman Help Center)

Learn more at: mccbuckets.org

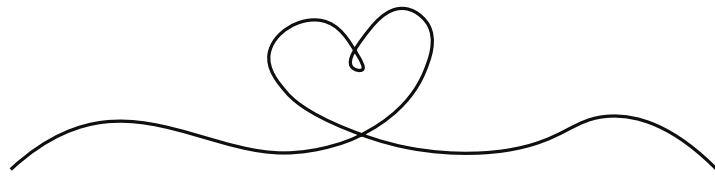


Through the month of November, show your gratitude and provide hope to those in need by collecting relief supplies for Mennonite Central Committee. The supplies you donate will fill a Bucket of Thanks for people affected by conflict or disaster around the world. **Place supplies in the bucket at the back of the sanctuary.** [Supply List](#). [More Information](#).

Now Hiring - Assistant Custodian



Administration Commission is looking to hire an Assistant Custodian to clean the Head Start wing Monday through Thursday evenings. The position reports to the custodian. Typically, this person would work 2 hours per day for no more than 32 hours per month. The Assistant Custodian will provide additional coverage as needed. Apply using an application form in the church office or [linked here](#). For questions, email [Mary Dyck](#).



This Week at MCN

A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Thursday, November 17

7:00am Next Man Bible Study

6:30pm Administration Commission (Zoom)

Friday, November 18

5:30pm Family Fun Night ([Sign-up here!](#))

Saturday, November 19

9:00am Worship Commission (Zoom)

Sunday, November 20

6:00pm MCC Motorcycle Tour Presentation

6:00pm Junior Choir

6:45pm Youth Choir

7:30pm Adult Advent Choir

Monday, November 21

6:30pm Congregational Care Committee (Zoom)

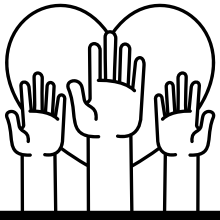
7:00pm Fellowship Committee (Zoom)

Tuesday, November 22

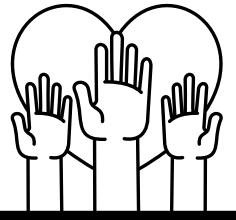
1:00pm Interim Pastoral Team (Zoom)

Wednesday, November 23

7:00am Wednesday Morning Book Group



Those Serving This Week



South Greeters: Paul & Mary Ann Watkins
West Greeter: Kristen Satchwell
Welcome Table: Darrel Miller
Ushers: Cal & Vivian Hubbard
Worship Planner & Leader: Steve Benner
Sharing Prayer Leader: Ron Ropp
Children's Story:
Scripture Reader: Marge Weaver
Technology: Jaron Zehr & Rick Harnish
Song Leader: Barry Weaver
Accompaniment, Prelude, & Postlude: Elsa Raab
Infant Nursery – during worship: Annette Harnish
Infant Nursery – during CE: Holly Zehr
Preschool Nursery: Jordan King
Gather Round: Spring Neely

Prayer Requests and Announcements

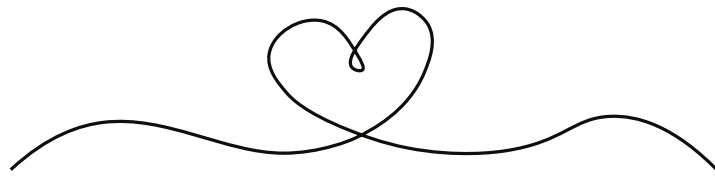
Sharing of Joys and Concerns have returned to open mic sharing during the services. Please continue to send announcements to Lynette Miller so that these can be shared by the worship leader during the Community Life portion of the service. When sharing, it's helpful if your requests are succinct. This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



Camp Friedenswald Winter Camps

Registration for Camp Friedenswald's Winter Camps is now open! Find more information about their High School Winter Camp, Junior High Winter Camp (featuring the Goshen College Parables), and Winter Family Camp [here](#).

Newcomer Hospitality Network Virtual Meetup



November 29th at 9:30am CST & November 29th 6:30pm CST

The Newcomer Hospitality Network is a virtual meetup space for those welcoming newcomers to connect with one another in a small group setting. Participants can share their experiences and discuss topics relevant to welcoming refugees and asylum seekers in their communities. Join them for this month's hear about Charles Baraka's journey and his advice for those engaged in welcoming work. Find more information [here](#).

To accommodate welcomers with different work schedules, they offer the same meeting twice – once in the morning and once in the evening. Register for [Tuesday, November 29 from 9:30–10:45 AM CST](#) & [Register for Tuesday, November 29 from 6:30–7:45 PM CST](#).



LGBTQ group adds its voice to council

Mennonite Church USA implemented one of the first actions stipulated by an inclusive resolution when representatives of an LGBTQ group attended the Constituency Leaders Council meeting in October. The group, with the working title Queer Constituency Council, sent two representatives to the Oct. 21-22 virtual gathering: Randy Spaulding, pastor of Boulder Mennonite Church in Colorado, and Annabeth Roeschley, executive director of the Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests. Read the full article [here](#).

MMN 20-year Time Capsule



Opening the time capsule 20 years after start of Mennonite Mission Network. Twenty years ago, Mission Network staff created a time capsule. [Let's see what's inside!](#)

An Evening of Advent and Christmas Carols

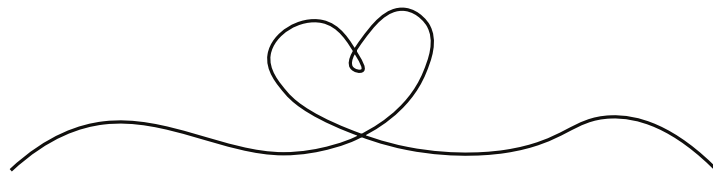
Sunday, December 4 at 7pm in Elkhart, IN

This evening of music will feature seasonal arrangements of carols and include congregational singing. With Don Kehrberg (oboe/English horn), Shirley King (organ) and Brian Wiebe (viola/piano), the program will be approximately 90 minutes long, with an intermission. All are invited and admission is free, with donations accepted for the [Worship Arts Scholarship](#) at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary.

50 Years of MCC Thrift - Virtual Celebration

Tuesday, November 22 at 7pm CST

You're invited to a special celebration of 50 years of MCC Thrift on November 22! This live, virtual event will celebrate the history, creativity and generosity of the MCC Thrift network, which has raised more than \$250 million over the last 50 years for the work of MCC at home and around the world. All while providing affordable secondhand goods and community connection. Let's celebrate that legacy! Register [here](#) to reserve your spot today. View a flyer [here](#).



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!

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>Kevin Chupp:</u>	Pastor for Outreach; kevin@normalmennonite.org
<u>Lynette Miller:</u>	Interim Pastor for Discipling and Community Life Commissions
<u>Ron Ropp:</u>	Pastor for Pastoral Care; 309- 452- 8534
<u>Lauren Satchwell:</u>	Interim Pastor for Vision Team & Administration Commissions
<u>Holly Zehr:</u>	Interim Pastor for Worship & Spiritual Gift Discernment Team

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.

Work Order & Purchase Request Forms

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

Commissions and Teams Contact List

[Commissions and Teams Contact List](#)

Directory

THIS [LINK](#) WILL TAKE YOU TO OUR CURRENT DIRECTORY. IT TAKES A BIT TO DOWNLOAD. IT LISTS EVERYONE WHO IS A MEMBER, ACTIVE NON-MEMBER.