

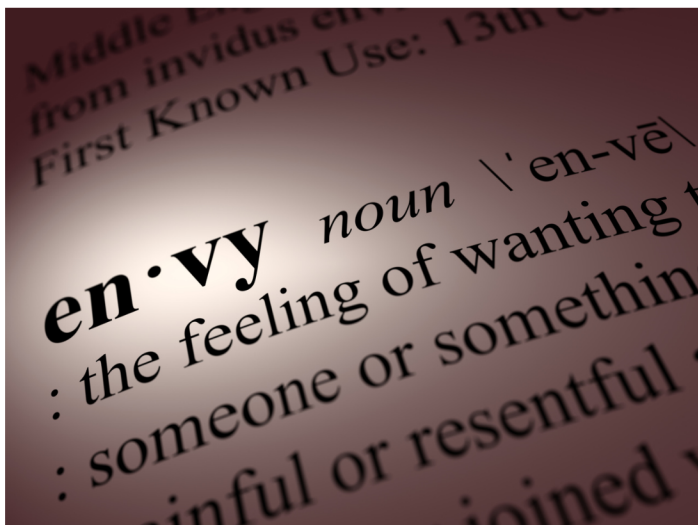
THE MIDWEEK



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 AM

This week, Pastor Kevin Chupp will preach a sermon titled *Beavering* using the scripture 1 Corinthians 13:4 ("love is not envious") & James 4:1-10.

Paul tells us "love is not envious," and we certainly understand why such a statement might be true. James lends us some stark language that gives us a window into the problem of envy. However, Paul and James are both speaking in the negative, and so we are forced to ask, "what is the opposite of envy?"



After Worship

Adult CE

Journey Groups:
Group A (20's-30's)
Sanctuary

Group B (40's-50's)
Sanctuary

Group C (60's and above)
Sanctuary

Children & Youth CE

Pre-K-3rd Grade

4th-7th Grade

8th Grade & High School

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

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

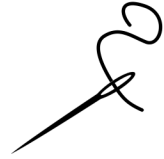


Mennonite
Church
of Normal

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

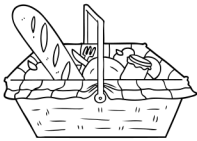


Making Comforter Tops



Thursdays from 1-4pm in the MRC Community Building

All are invited to join in making comforter tops with Gerry Schrock and her Book Group. They have been gathering on Thursday afternoons from 1- 4 pm since June 1 and are continuing every Thursday afternoon throughout the summer. There has been a good response and we thank those who have participated so far. There is no signup, experience, or materials needed to attend. Come join in the fun and help make a comforter top to be knotted at the MCC Comforter Bash on September 15 and 16. What a great way to prepare for the Comforter Bash, learn new skills, and make new friends at the same time. Come when you can, stay as long as you can, and have some fun! View more photos [here](#).



SMAP Picnic

Sunday, June 18th at 4:00 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE! Student Mutual Aid Program committee welcomes you back to an IN-PERSON picnic/fundraiser on Sunday, June 18th at 4:00 p.m. All are invited! Any questions can be directed to Darvis King by email. **RSVPs are kindly requested for food planning.**

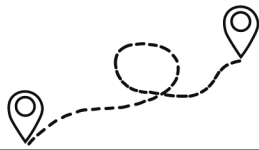
This year we will be supporting 1 student at EMU, 2 students at Goshen College, and 1 student at Bethel College. This year we are looking to raise approximately \$51,000. If you are unable to attend the picnic and want to show your support through pledging you can text or email Darvis the amount of the pledge. Please come and enjoy a meal and support this amazing program.

Check In With Our Commissions!



Sunday, June 25 after the Christian Education Hour

The Vision Team will host a "Commission Check-In" for the congregation on Sunday, June 25, in the conference room immediately following the Christian Education Hour. Representatives of each of our 5 commissions (Administration, Community Life, Discipling, Outreach, Worship) will provide brief updates on their ministries followed by a time of open conversation. We will dismiss at 12:30 PM. Snacks will be provided to get us through to dinnertime! We will plan similar gatherings in August and October.



Journey Groups

For the third and final time, all three Journey Groups will gather in the sanctuary during the CE hour this Sunday, June 18th. People will be encouraged to share what they have learned from the three books we've read and discussed this past year. This will be an informal time of listening and learning from each other.

- **This Week**, June 18: A member of Journey Group A will be moderating for *What is the Bible*.

Women's Ministry Announcement



Thank you to everyone who completed the Women's Ministry/Service Survey! The Community Life Commission has learned from compiling the results, that many women are interested in participating in some type of ministry/service. We also learned that there are many different interests to explore. We are excited about the possibilities!! Planning has begun! If you are interested in sewing this summer, please join the group that Gerry Schrock has started on Thursday afternoons at the MRC. Watch the Midweek for different opportunities later this summer. We will try to offer different types of opportunities, and meeting times throughout the year. You may choose to participate in as many different groups as you wish. Please let us know if you have ideas, or are interested in leading some type of group. Commission members are Deb Stenger and Mary Ann Watkins (co-chairs), Joanna Oyer, Connie Satchwell, Lynette Miller (Pastoral Team representative.)



Vision Team Update

Your Vision Team met on May 31. Following the meeting, Vision Team (VT) has the following items to share with the congregation:

1. We continued discussion about the Pastoral Team, its structure, and how we continue to provide support.
2. We received our standard updates on the commissions, Pastoral Team, and SGDT.
3. We discussed action items from the latest Commission Collaboration Follow Up Meeting.
4. We reviewed action items from the Vision Team retreat.
5. We began planning for regularly, scheduled open meetings of Vision Team with the Commission representatives.

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) School Kit Challenge: Notebooks and pencils are treasures for families around the world who have been forced to flee their homes or struggle to afford basic school supplies. Without these items, many kids in places like Syria, Ukraine and South Sudan can't get the education they desperately need. Enter, the School Kit Challenge: 10,000 school kits to help 10,000 kids during the month of August. Plus, we've got a fun activity for Sunday School and VBS students! Download the free School Kit Challenge activity resource full of challenges for kids to learn how school supplies help children receive a tangible message of God's love. To learn more about this challenge and to download this free guide click [here](#).

Final Report of Church Structure Function Evaluation

The Vision Team has completed its process to review and evaluate the functioning of the church structure. This process kicked off late last fall and continued through the spring. It involved soliciting and processing feedback from multiple groups of people within the congregation and church structure. Thank you to all that participated and provided feedback.

A final report with key themes and action items laid out by the Vision Team can be viewed [here](#).

Follow up questions/feedback on the final report or process overall can be sent to Ben Roeschley. Additionally, a Vision Team member will be available to talk after worship and the CE hour each of the next two Sundays (June 18 and 25).



**Mennonite
Disaster
Service**

MDS Volunteers Needed

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is currently responding to July 2022 flooding in St. Clair County, IL and is in need of volunteers. The schedule of work for this project will be based upon volunteer availability. Volunteers may come for a week, a day, or a few days. A Friday & Saturday time may allow for "weekend" work. **Volunteers should contact mds2@gmail.com to make their availability known.** MDS Volunteers will be staying at Second Baptist Church, Granite City, IL. Volunteers must bring their own bedding and towels. Cots and air mattresses will be provided for sleeping in group sleeping rooms in the church. Food and tools will be provided. View the Project Information Sheet [here](#).

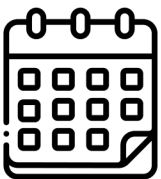


Queer Saints

Today (June 14th) is the feast of Basil the Great (330-379) in the Episcopal Church. Basil had a profound relationship with Gregory Nazianzus, after they met during their education in Athens. Gregory later followed Basil to Pontus to join his monastery, spending several years there together. Gregory writes about his love for Basil, how they “became everything to each other” as they lived, ate, and worked together. He eloquently remembers, “this was our competition: not who was first but who allowed the other to be first. It seemed as if we had one soul in two bodies.”

Their closeness, however, in the context of their religious order in the fourth century did not allow their relationship to be expressed in terms other than friendship, which seemingly did not come naturally to Basil. As he writes to young monks, “shun the companionship of other young men and avoid them as you would a flame.” He gives specific words of caution about conversing or singing psalms while facing another young man, instructing them to cast their eyes down in such a situation “lest perhaps by gazing at his face you receive a seed of desire sown by the enemy and reap sheaves of corruption and ruin.” Similarly, he tells them to avoid using study or work as a cover for spending time alone with another monk. These instructions clearly come from experience, and so we are grateful that he nevertheless found a way to share his life with Gregory. We remember Basil and Gregory, the love and companionship that they shared, and the inspiration they are to queer Christians today. Learn more [here](#).

- Pastor Kevin



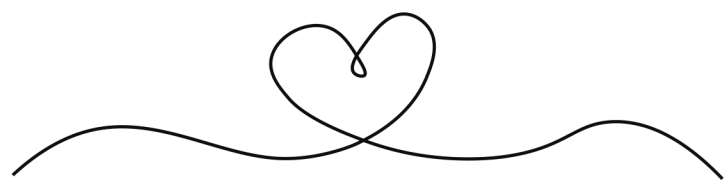
Summer Nursery Volunteer Schedule



Pet Sitting/Odd Jobs

My daughter, Claire Dyck, is focusing on school at Heartland Community College this summer to begin work on a Veterinary Assistant certificate. She would appreciate odd jobs. She enjoys pet sitting or other work with animals and is willing to do other jobs. You can text her.

From Mary Dyck



Those Serving This Week



South Greeters: King family

West Greeter: Bernice Valverde

Welcome Table: Phylis VerSteegh

Ushers: John & Kay Reimer

Offering Counter: Kristen Satchwell Hartwig

Worship Planner & Leader: Wayne Hochstetler

Sharing Prayer Leader: Lauren Satchwell

Children's Story:

Scripture Reader: Roger Clemmons

Technology: Rick Harnish & Jaron Zehr

Song Leader: Wesley Hershberger

Accompaniment, Prelude, & Postlude: Dorothy Loepp

Infant Nursery – during worship: David Harnish

Infant Nursery – during CE: Ben Roeschley

Preschool Nursery: Carrie Stalter

Gather Round: Resumes in September



This Week at MCN

A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Wednesday, June 14

9:30am Wednesday Morning Book Group (Zoom)

7:30pm Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team (Zoom)

Thursday, June 15

1:00pm Comforter Tops Creation

3:00pm Pastoral Team (Zoom)

Monday, June 19

All Day Office Closed

Tuesday, June 20

7:00pm Mama Bears (Zoom)

Wednesday, June 21

9:30am Wednesday Morning Book Group (Zoom)

Afternoon Office Closed

Birthdays & Anniversaries

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN



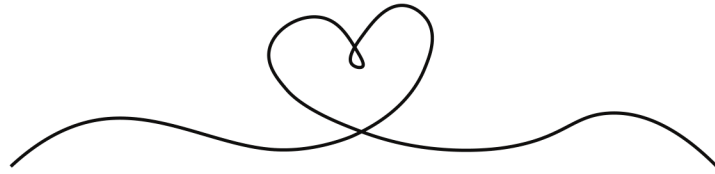
Sharing of Joys and Concerns



MCN IS ASKED TO BE IN CONTINUED PRAYER FOR FOR THE TOP ADMINISTRATORS AND THEIR FAMILIES FROM CARLE BROMENN MEDICAL CENTER—OUR PARTNER IN HEALING FOR 2023

Prayer Requests and Announcements

Sharing of Joys and Concerns have returned to open mic sharing during the services. Please continue to send announcements to Lauren Satchwell 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.



SUNSET ON
THE LONGEST DAY

an act of restorative indigeneity
created by shannon epplert

Sunset on the Longest Day

Wednesday, June 21 at 7:30pm at the ISU Horticulture Center

Join the Illinois State University Horticulture Center for *Sunset on the Longest Day: An Act of Restorative Indigeneity* created by Shannon Epplert. *Sunset on the Longest Day* is the creation of ISU Theatre and Native Studies professor Shannon Epplert, an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. It will be performed by eight Native people from Central Illinois, and feature the music of Chicago-based Native American flute player William Buchholtz Allison.

- Sunset on the Longest Day is free and open to all. Viewers are welcome to bring chairs and blankets, but the work is best experienced by standing and walking around the performers.
- The piece will begin at 7:30 pm and lasts approximately one hour.
- Parking will be available on the site, located on Raab Rd., 0.2 miles west of the ISU Horticulture Center main entrance. Additional parking will be available at the Horticulture Center lot.
- Accessibility: the site is an unpaved field. Fire will be used in the performance. Sunscreen and insect repellent are recommended.

For more information, please contact Shannon Epplert. Read the full press release with a description of the work [here](#).

Dave Odd at Hungry World Farm



This Saturday, June 17 from 10:30am-12:30pm at Hungry World Farm

Invitation from Hungry World Farm: Join us on the at the Farm Learning Center on Saturday, June 17 from 10:30 - 12:30 to explore our woods with Dave Odd, local urban forager, to learn more about the wild edibles in our area! After about an hour of foraging, we will use the Hungry World Farm kitchen to showcase some of the ways that the plants and fungi can be prepared. This event is part of the Princeton Public Library's summer reading program. We are so pleased to host it here! No registration required. Learn more [here](#). Address: [19183 Plow Creek Rd, Tiskilwa, IL 61368](#).



Hungry World Farm Pizza Event

Tuesday, June 20 5:00 - 7:30 (come and go style) at Hungry World Farm

What? Wood-fired pizza featuring farm-fresh ingredients!

When? June 20- come anytime between 5 and 7:30 p.m.

Where? Outside the Farm Learning Center.

How much? Suggested donation is \$20 per pizza, \$5 per salad.

Bring your own: Drinks, and lawn chairs or blanket.

RSVP: Tell us how many and how much by **Tomorrow, Thursday, June 15** (click [here](#)).

Men's Retreat in Goshen, IN



Saturday, August 19 from 8:30am-12pm at Pathways Retreat in Goshen, IN

Men, what kind of man do you want to be and how can you live a life that matters? In this half day retreat, join Mennonite Men to examine the scripts you've been given, explore what healthy masculinity looks like, and reconsider your purpose and roles in life. Steve Thomas, US coordinator for Mennonite Men, will lead the retreat. View a flyer [here](#) and register [here](#).



MCC Peace Camp

July 23-28 in Divide, CO

Registration for Mennonite Central Committee's Young Adult Peace Camp in July is still open! This Peacebuilders Training offers an opportunity for young adults to gather in the beautiful Rockies of Colorado while exploring the ways in which powerful, violent systems of our world co-opt our ways of living and how the way of Jesus liberates us from cycles of violence and injustice. Throughout the week, participants will study the powers and principalities that perpetuate violence, division and injustice in our current context, and reflect on Biblical teachings to discover practical alternatives that reflect Christ's witness of nonviolence. Participants will visit local organizations in Colorado, and will have the opportunity to beat swords into ploughshares (guns into garden tools) as their hearts and minds are transformed towards the peace Christ calls us to. **Dates:** July 23-28, 2023. **Location:** Divide, CO. **Participants Fee:** \$200 (all other costs covered by MCC). Register [here](#) and learn more [here](#).



Pennsylvania Mennonites Protest Gun Violence

On Sunday, May 21, 2023, more than 260 people – including members of at least six local Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) congregations – gathered for a Gun Violence Awareness Day witness walk in Lansdale, Pennsylvania. Participants were walking to honor those lost to gun violence and to support stronger and more effective gun laws and regulations. The event included a “Memorial to the Lost” T-shirt display in memory of local victims of gun violence, remembrance moments by participating faith organizations, the witness walk and an opportunity to sign letters to Pennsylvania state legislators in support of four pending bills. As of May 24, two of the four [bills passed](#) in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. Read more about the protest in a Mennonite Church USA Menno Snapshot [here](#).



MCC's New Climate Advocacy Campaign

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) invites everyone to get involved in their new climate advocacy campaign: ClimateActionForPeace.com. From fact sheets, stories and podcasts, to public engagement resources that encourage you to get involved in activities in your local community, to upcoming events, the resources at ClimateActionForPeace.com were created for you as a helpful step toward bringing about climate justice. See how people around the world, with the help of MCC's partners, are taking action to respond to the impacts of climate change. Reach out to policymakers to urge them to support renewable energy, responsible mining, and foreign assistance for communities least responsible for, and yet most impacted by, climate change. The kind of change we need can't be done by one person alone: we're doing this work together! Learn more [here](#).



MennoCon23 Seeks to be Accessible to All

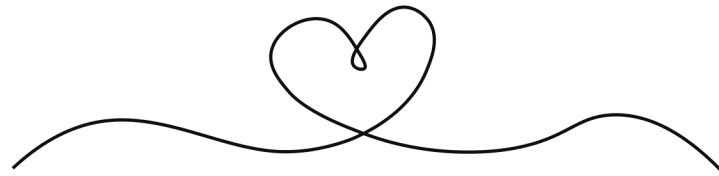


Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) strives to live into its Accessibility Resolution (read it [here](#)) at MennoCon23 by removing barriers to make people of all abilities and needs feel welcome. MennoCon23, the denomination's leading faith formation event, will take place in Kansas City, Missouri, July 3-6. MC USA convention planners are working with Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADN) to ensure that they are offering options and resources that will make this year's convention accessible to anyone who wants to attend. ADN has collaborated with MC USA on convention accessibility since the 2019 convention in Kansas City. Registrants may request accommodations on their registration forms. Convention planners are prepared to provide the following accommodations for MennoCon23, the Youth & Young Adult Climate Summit and the Delegate Assembly, should the need be indicated: convention-provided wheelchairs or scooters, assisted listening devices, large-print materials, materials sent via email to be viewed on personal devices, guided walk-throughs of the convention center, American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation and a quiet/sensory room. People using wheelchairs may also request an aide to help move between seminars and worship services in a timely manner. Other needs may also be accommodated, if registrants indicate those needs on their registration form with enough advanced notice. Additionally, MennoCon23 will offer Spanish interpretation; accommodations for dietary restrictions; and a private room for lactating mothers to nurse or pump. Convention planners urge anyone with accessibility needs to register as early as possible and indicate the services they need on the registration form. **Read the rest of MC USA's post [here](#).**

CPT "Is fear holding you back?"

Find below Community Peacemaker Team's (CPT) article about June Pride and National Indigenous History Month below.

The month of June is dedicated to celebrating Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Trans, Queer, and Two-Spirit Pride. It's also National Indigenous History Month in Canada. One may not instinctively link these two struggles on the surface, but colonialism has a broad history of criminalizing, demonizing, and crushing non-binary gender expression and variance around the world. From South Asia to Turtle Island to Africa, Indigenous queer identities [thived in pre-colonial times](#), celebrated as blessings, honored as sacred, and recognized in descriptive language terminology. But in an attempt to control and assimilate, colonial powers have attempted to erase Indigenous cultural pillars—often abusing religious texts to back up their cultural genocide. For example, Israel does both in its efforts of pink-washing, negating the possibility of Arab queers existing within the Islamic faith, and therefore offering respite through Israeli support of gender diversity while simultaneously depriving Palestinians of their right to exist at all. Colonization is what most of us know and understand to be true in our lived experiences. Decolonization therefore is about letting go of the way things have been done in favor of re-imagining what could be. It's about releasing our fears of the unfamiliar or unknown, and living into the hope and possibility of our diversity. One of my favorite thought leaders at the moment is Alok, a poet, comedian, and author who so eloquently explains this fear. When asked why they continue to dress so boldly and live so radiantly, knowing that they might experience violence because of this. [Alok's response](#) is that "your fear is holding you back from actually being alive; you hate me because I template what it means to be alive... The reason we [trans people] are being targeted is because we have the audacity to love the parts of ourselves that other people hate in themselves." May we learn to let go of our fears this month and reimagine new ways to love. **Learn more about CPT [here](#).**



Work Order & Purchase Request Forms

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

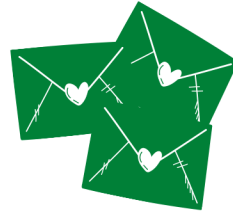
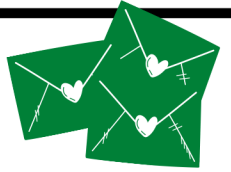
Items for the Midweek



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

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:

Standard Hours:

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

Changes This Week:

Closed Monday 6/19 all day & Wednesday 6/21 afternoon

Lydia Hedberg:

Office Administrator; church@normalmennonite.org; 309-452-6622

Rita Munkakusi:

Custodian

Kevin Chupp:

Pastor for Outreach Commission, Worship Commission, Congregational Care Committee, and the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team;
kevin@normalmennonite.org

Lynette Miller:

Pastor for Discipling and Community Life Commissions

Ron Ropp:

Pastor for Pastoral Care

Lauren Satchwell:

Pastor for Vision Team & Administration Commissions

Commission Meeting Minutes

Click [this link](#) to be taken to a Google Drive folder which contains meeting minutes from each commission.

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.