

# THE MIDWEEK



## WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 AM

This week, Pastor Kevin Chupp will preach a sermon titled *Who Could Ever Live that Way?* using the scripture Exodus 1:8-14, [1:15—2:10], and 3:1-15.



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In Exodus, we meet Moses and follow him to a burning bush where he speaks to God. The flames make it seem like God wants to be seen, but this meeting causes us to wonder whether God is obscuring or revealing Godself. What does such an introduction tell us about the coming liberation?

*We will celebrate Communion in worship this Sunday with Pastor Kevin Chupp 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.*

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-K Grade

2nd-4th Grade

5th-8th Grade

High School



**Mennonite  
Church  
of Normal**

A congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA



# Family Fun Night

**Friday, October 27**

Save the date for family fun night/pumpkin fun on Friday, October 27 - details to follow!

*Co-hosted by the Christian Education Subcommittee of the Discipling Commission and the Community Life Commission*

## Carle Mobile Health Clinic



The Mennonite Church of Normal is excited to partner with the Carle Mobile Health Clinic! You may have seen this rolling unit parked at MCN on a Tuesday. They are currently scheduled twice a month on Tuesday's to be at MCN. The Carle Mobile Health Clinic takes walk-in's as well as being a location for full-service affordable medical care for the entire family. Individuals of all ages are welcome to obtain services on the van. Patients will not have any out-of-pocket costs and can have private insurance, no insurance or Medicaid. The staff works with individuals to connect them to a medical home if they don't have one and will sign people up for Medicaid if needed. They offer lab testing, wellness care and physicals, treatment of acute illness, chronic condition management and education. There is also a social worker on the van that does a screening to refer people to community resources. Children can also receive school and sports physicals as well as immunizations on the van. Flu shots and booster shots will also be available.

Carle has partnered with the Tinerven Foundation and OSF St. Joseph Medical Center to have food boxes available for distribution and provide Smart Meals and nutrition information. The McLean County Health Department will also provide health and diabetes prevention information.

More information about Carle's Mobile Health Clinic can be found [here](#). You can call the mobile clinic at 217-365-7928.

*From the Administration and Outreach Commissions*

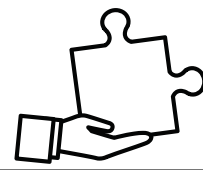


## Mutual Aid Fund

The Congregational Care Committee is suggesting that you regularly contribute to the Mutual Aid Fund. A quarterly donation will assist in meeting the emergency needs and requests brought to them.

*From the Community Care Committee of the Community Life Commission*

## Offering My Gifts



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The Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team requests that you fill out a newly updated Offering My Gifts form. These forms will be used to guide the Spiritual Gifts Discernment team in calling people to serve in a variety of capacities – in both long-term and short-term ways. Please note that even if you indicate an interest in something it does not commit you to that task, but it will give the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team ideas and a place to start. You can fill out an electronic version [here](#) or pick up a physical copy from the church office. **Please complete this form no later than THIS Sunday, October 1st.**

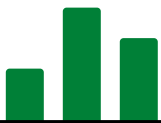
*From the Community Care Committee of the Community Life Commission*

## Lost and Found

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The Lost and Found alcove is getting full! Please take a look to identify and pick-up any of your items that may be there. Any unclaimed items will be donated on October 31st. Thank you!

*From the Church Office*



## Spending Plan Update

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**Spending Plan Status as of August 31, 2023**

*Shared by the Administration Commission*



The newest edition of Central District Conference's monthly *Connector* publication is now available to read [here](#). This issue highlights the creative work of folks throughout CDC, from hymn writing and story-gathering to two recently published books. If you are involved in a creative project, they encourage you to get in touch and they will feature your work in an upcoming issue. If you would like a paper copy, they will be available on the Library Table in two weeks.



# Visiting Scholar Housing

A visiting Chinese scholar in the History Department at ISU is looking for housing for the academic year. It could be a room with a family or an apartment. He was a grad student at ISU in the past, and his English is excellent. If you have any leads contact the History Department (309-438-5641) or Juergen Schroeer (309-452-8700). I met him at our neighborhood Ice Cream Social, and he is very cheerful and personable.

*From Juergen Schroeer*

## MDS Weekly Volunteers



Mennonite  
Disaster  
Service

Mennonite Disaster Service provided this information to serve. Please contact the Outreach Commission if you are interested.

### Weekly Volunteer Opportunities

Hurley, VA/2021 Flooding  
Contact Joyce at (717) 823-3877  
or hurley@mds.org for any weekly  
volunteer opportunities.

Jennings, LA/2020 Hurricanes  
Oct 15-21; up to 10 volunteers  
Oct 22-28; up to 7 volunteers  
Nov 5-11; up to 1 volunteer

Arcadia, FL/2022 Hurricane Ian  
Oct 8-14; up to 12 volunteers  
Oct 15-21; up to 14 volunteers  
Oct 22-28; up to 13 volunteers

Crisfield, MD/2021 Flooding  
Oct 15-21; up to 10 volunteers  
Oct 29-Nov 4; up to 2 volunteers  
Nov 5-Nov 11; up to 6 volunteers  
Dec 10-Dec 16; up to 11 volunteers

Sign up online [here](#) or for more information or to serve, please contact Kaelan Miller at 800-241-8111 or email [kmiller@mds.org](mailto:kmiller@mds.org).

*From the Outreach Commission*



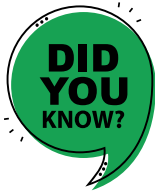
## Nursery Schedule

# Apple Pie Coordinator



Outreach Commission is in search of a volunteer to coordinate and volunteers to make the apple pie filling from Eric and Chellie Miller's apples for the MCC Relief Sale Pies. If you are interested, please contact Phil Dick or Eric Miller. Gerry Schrock has coordinated this in past years but cannot do it this time. This will need to be done pretty soon!

*From the Outreach Commission*



## Did You Know?

- You can view minutes from the commission and team meetings with a link found at the end of each Midweek.

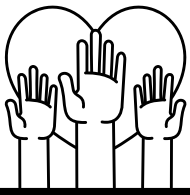
*From the Administration Commission*



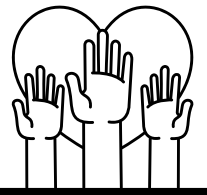
## Sharing of Joys and Concerns



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



# Those Serving This Week



**South Greeters:** Caleb & Jessica Hall

**West Greeter:** Gail Fisher

**Welcome Table:** Bernice Valverde

**Ushers:** Cal & Vivian Hubbard

**Offering Counter:** Kristen Hartwig

**Worship Planner & Leader:** Marge Weaver

**Sharing Prayer Leader:** Ron Ropp

**Children's Story:** Annette Harnish

**Scripture Reader:** David Voegtlin

**Technology:** Glenn Wilson & Rick Harnish

**Song Leader:** Wayne Hochstetler

**Accompaniment, Prelude, & Postlude:** Elsa Raab

**Infant Nursery – during worship:** Open for parents

**Infant Nursery – during CE:** Janet Wilson

**Preschool Nursery:** Jessica Hall

**Gather Round:** Holly & Randy Zehr

*Birthdays & Anniversaries*

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN

# Prayer Requests and Announcements

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Sharing of Joys and Concerns have returned to open mic sharing during the services. Please 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.

## This Week at MCN



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A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

### Thursday, September 28

**9:00am** Brave and Beloved: Women's Bible Study

**6:30pm** Administration Commission (Zoom)

**7:00pm** Discipling Commission (Zoom)

### Friday, September 29

**Morning** Office Closed

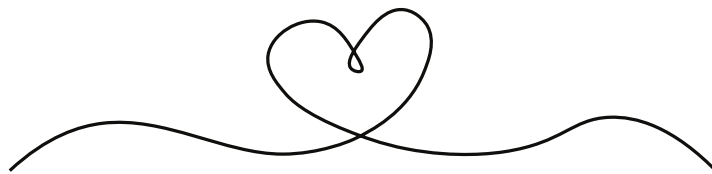
### Monday, October 2

**6:00pm** Outreach Commission

### Tuesday, October 3

**3:00pm** Pastoral Team (Zoom)

**7:00pm** Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team (Zoom)



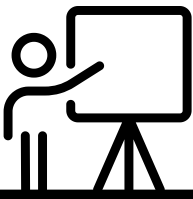
*MH Musings*



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Read Menno Haven Camp & Retreat's *MH Musings - 2023 Memories and Anticipations* [here](#). It shares photos and stories from their events so far in 2023, as well as dates for 2024.





## Stuckey Amish Presentation

**Saturday, October 14, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mennonite Heritage Center**

About a century ago, Bishop Joseph Stuckey was the leader of a group of congregations in Central IL known as the Stuckey Amish. These congregations included Danvers, East White Oak, Meadows, Flanagan, Bloomington, Boynton, Washington, Congerville (now Rock Creek) and possibly others. After Rev. Stuckey's death, they eventually joined the General Conference Mennonites, now part of the Mennonite Church-USA. Some of these congregations no longer exist or no longer identify as Mennonite, but your congregation may include persons and their descendants who were once part of the "Stuckey churches" of Central IL. A direct lineal descendent of Bishop Stuckey, Dr. John Stuckey of the Washington DC area, has researched Bishop Stuckey and this movement in detailed fashion. He will be the main speaker at the Fall Meeting of the Illinois Mennonite Historical and Genealogical Society (IMHGS) on Saturday, October 14, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mennonite Heritage Center between Metamora and Germantown Hills on the south side of Illinois Route 116 east of Peoria (look for the big red barn). A discussion period and fellowship lunch will follow. Admission is free. Please announce, promote and publicize this event which is part of a series as the 500th anniversary of the Anabaptist movement approaches. It is our intent to record the meeting and make it available for streaming AFTER the meeting at the Facebook page of the Illinois Mennonite Heritage Center. Contact me or Dr. John Stuckey for more details and please spread the word to others. Thank you very much.

*From Mike Yoder, Eureka, current Board Chair of IMHGS*

## 2023 Bring The Peace award



Mennonite Church USA Executive Board has named two peacemakers, Jonathan Kuttab and Sydney Leah Bontrager, as the 2023 Bring The Peace award winners. The denomination gives the award to a Legacy Peacemaker and a Young Peacemaker each year. A Legacy Peacemaker is someone who has devoted their life to peace and justice work, whereas a Young Peacemaker is a young adult or teenager who has just begun their peacemaking journey, but who has already made a large impact. The award is sponsored by MC USA's Church Peace Tax Fund. **Read about Jonathan Kuttab and Sydney Leah Bontrager's work [here](#).**



# Volunteers Needed

If you are bilingual in Spanish/English or French/English and willing to volunteer to interpret/translate for Western Avenue Community Center, please email Ana at [awilson@westernavenuecc.org](mailto:awilson@westernavenuecc.org). If you have any questions please feel free to contact Helen Dick Brandon.

## The State of Hate

**Tuesday October 10  
7:00 pm CT**

The Anti-Defamation League was founded in 1913 by Bloomington's own Sigmund Livingston. The goal of the ADL is to "stop the defamation of the Jewish people and secure fair justice and treatment for all."

Join us in the fight against hate!



Join us as Midwest Associate Regional Director Trent Spoolstra discusses the latest wave of hate and antisemitism impacting our country. The presentation will cover FBI hate crime statistics, ADL reports on antisemitism, and how the community can respond.

The presentation will be preceded by a dedication plaque in honor of ADL founder Sigmund Livingston.

Q&A will follow the presentation.

[For more information, please contact the MMT Office at 309.662.3182](#)

**Moses Montifiore Temple  
102 Robinhood Lane**



# MEA launches scholarship for BIPOC students

Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) is launching a new scholarship for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) students within Mennonite Church USA (MC USA). The purpose of the scholarship is to help BIPOC students, who are active in MC USA congregations, attend a Mennonite college, university, or seminary. This is a \$4,000 scholarship. Each MEA-approved Mennonite institution may receive one scholarship in the 2023-24 academic year. As funds increase, so will the number of scholarships available. Details about the scholarship and the application can be found online [here](#). If you would like to contribute to this scholarship, make checks payable to Mennonite Education Agency and designate "BIPOC scholarship." Send contributions to MEA at 3145 Benham Avenue, Suite 2, Elkhart, IN 46517-1970. Online contributions can be made [here](#) (click on the Donate tab). **Read about MEA's new scholarship [here](#).**



## *Le témoignage à Hong Kong et au-delà*

Les membres de l'église se réunissent dans l'auditorium d'une école et entonnent des chants de louange en mandarin et en cantonais (la langue maternelle de la plupart des habitants de Hong Kong). Bien que de nombreuses églises de la région aient abandonné les cultes en ligne à mesure que les restrictions liées à la pandémie s'atténuaient, l'église mennonite Agape de Sha Tin, à Hong Kong, continue d'enregistrer et de diffuser ses cultes sur Facebook. «Certains de nos membres ont déménagé à l'étranger ces dernières années. Parfois, ils se joignent à nos cultes du dimanche pour pouvoir prier dans leur propre langue, et ils se joignent également à notre étude biblique sur Zoom», explique Esther Choi, déléguée de Hong Kong au [Sommet Mondial de la Jeunesse \(GYS\)](#). Le vieillissement de la population de Hong Kong affecte aussi l'Église: certains membres ne sont plus en mesure de venir à l'église. «Rendre nos cultes accessibles à ces personnes est notre façon de leur faire savoir que nous nous souvenons d'eux et que nous prions pour eux», dit Jeremiah Choi, pasteur de l'assemblée et représentant régional de la CMM pour l'Asie du Nord-Est. «Sans faire la moindre différence entre elles et nous», dit le pasteur de la jeunesse Leung Tak Kwan, prédicateur du jour, en citant Actes 15/9. Si le passage conseille de ne pas faire de discrimination à l'égard des nations païennes (qui ont suivi le Christ, mais n'ont pas suivi les traditions juives), le même conseil s'applique à l'égard des personnes qui sont trop malades pour se rendre à l'église par les transports publics, qui sont à l'hôpital ou qui s'ennuient tout simplement de leurs amis après avoir quitté Hong Kong. Indépendamment du lieu ou des incapacités physiques, la Parole de Dieu et la communion fraternelle se poursuivent grâce aux cultes en mode virtuel. [Lire la suite.](#)

# Uniting people through technology

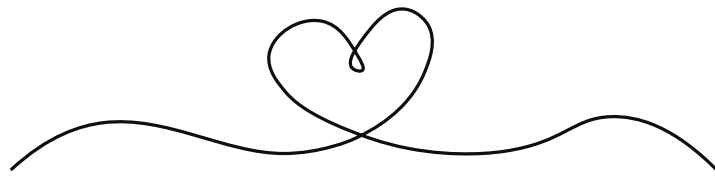


Church members gather in a school auditorium, singing worship songs in both Cantonese (the mother tongue for most people in Hong Kong) and Mandarin. While many churches in the region abandoned online services as pandemic restrictions eased, Agape Mennonite Church in Sha Tin, Hong Kong, continues to record and stream their services on Facebook. Some of our members have moved overseas in recent years. “Sometimes they join our Sunday services so they could worship in their own language, and they join our Zoom Bible study too,” says Esther Choi, [Global Youth Summit](#) delegate from Hong Kong. As the population of Hong Kong ages, the church is also affected: some church members are not physically able to come to church. “Making our worship services available to them is our way to let them know that we remember them and are praying for them,” says Jeremiah Choi, the congregation’s pastor and Mennonite World Conference regional representative for Northeast Asia. “He made no distinction between us and them,” says youth pastor Leung Tak Kwan, preacher of the day, quoting Acts 15:9. While the passage counsels not to discriminate against the Gentiles (who have received Christ but not followed the Jewish traditions), the same advice pertains to who are those too ill to take public transport to church, are in hospital or simply miss their friends after leaving Hong Kong. Regardless of location or physical challenges, with virtual services, the Word of God and the fellowship continue. **Read more [here](#).**



## Anabaptist Community Bible Advisory Group

Nearly 600 study groups sent in some 1,600 pages of Bible study notes for consideration in the forthcoming Anabaptist Community Bible. In addition, Bible scholars and pastors wrote study notes to accompany each book of the Bible, and historians added biblical reflections from early Anabaptists. These three types of notes—community reflections from study groups, Anabaptist history notes from historians, and biblical commentary from scholars and pastors—will appear in the margins of the forthcoming Anabaptist Community Bible. Over an intense three-day meeting this past weekend, the [Anabaptism at 500 advisory group](#) was able to work through notes from the entire Bible. “It was a genuine review together, as we each brought our best wisdom to the text,” said John D. Roth, Anabaptism at 500 project director. “The goal was not to eliminate the theological diversity in the notes but rather to ensure that many eyes reviewed the commentary, to eliminate redundancy, and to pare back to fit into the allotted space. It was a joy to work with such a gifted and committed group.” **Read more about their group review [here](#).**



## *Our Members in Care Facilities*

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PLEASE REMEMBER THESE MEMBERS IN YOUR PRAYERS.  
SEND A CARD IF THE SPIRIT LEADS YOU!

## *Staff Contact and Building Open Hours*

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### Building Open

#### **Standard Hours:**

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

#### **Upcoming Changes:**

**Closed:** Friday 9/27 in the morning and Thursday 10/5 all day

### Lydia Hedberg:

Office Administrator; [church@normalmennonite.org](mailto: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](mailto: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

# Items for the Midweek

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

## Item Check-Out Request Form

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[Google Form Version](#) & [Printable PDF Version](#)

## Work Order & Purchase Request Forms

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

## Commissions and Teams Contact List

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[Commissions and Teams Contact List](#)

## Structure Documents

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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.

## Commission Meeting Minutes

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