

THE MIDWEEK



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 AM

This Sunday, Kevin Chupp will preach a sermon titled *Autopnuemy & Autonomy* using Acts 2:1-4 & 1 Corinthians 12:1-13.

Paul talks at length about the things the Spirit enables people to do—what we often call “spiritual gifts.” What he wants the Corinthian Christians to know is that these gifts exist as a part of the intrinsic interdependence of the body of Christ. How do we who are very different from each other not just get along, but learn to honor and trust each other?

After Worship

Adult CE

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

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

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



MCN Call for Submissions

- **Theme:** "Behold! I am making all things new." (Revelation 21:5)
- **Deadline:** Pastor Kevin is now accepting submissions through September 1st!
- **Format/medium:** visual art (painting, sculpture, photography, video, design, etc.), poetry, musical performance, composition, or others!
- **Description:** This Summer (May 26th – September 1st) we at MCN we will be reflecting on how, with Jesus, we can work toward making all things new, focusing on the renewal of all our basic relationships:

Renewing our relationship with God (May 26 – June 9)

- How do we meet God in the Bible and in tradition? What experiences bring new life to our relationship with God?

Renewing our relationship with others (June 16 – July 7)

- When have your relationships with family, friends, neighbors, and enemies been re-imagined?

Renewing our relationship with self (July 14 – Aug 4)

- What experiences of grace, courage, or hope have restored your sense of confidence in your own identity?

Renewing our relationships with all of creation (Aug 11 – Sep 5)

- What deepens your sense of interconnection with creation? How do you grow in your sense of place and rootedness?

- You can see more detail about this series [here](#). To aid us in worship and reflection, we are hoping for artistic works by you on that theme. Submissions might focus on the renewal of one specific aspect/relationship or simply the idea of renewal more generally. Artists will be encouraged to share briefly about their submission in Sunday worship (or during CE, for more lengthy presentations).

- **Prompts:** *What does renewal look like? What grows from things that have died? What kinds of old things do you enjoy restoring or seeing restored? What does renewal sound like? What words or notes together put you in the mindset of hopeful expectation?*

From the Pastoral Team



Red Cross Blood Drive

Saturday, June 15th

On Saturday, June 15th we will be partnering with the people of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, just a few doors down (1628 W Hovey Ave), who are hosting a blood drive from 8am-12pm. You can [sign up here](#). They will also partner with us when we host a blood drive at MCN on **October 26th**. Mark your calendars and roll up your sleeves!

From the Outreach Commission



B/N Area LGBTQIA+ Business & Resource Directory

The 2024-2025 edition of the B/N Area LGBTQIA+ Business & Resource Directory has been uploaded to our website! More than 140 businesses, organizations, social services agencies, and houses of worship **[including the Mennonite Church of Normal!]** are included...making it the largest edition ever! The directory can be accessed on the Prairie Pride Coalition website [here](#).

MCN Outreach Commission Supports ISU Students

The Outreach Commission decided at its May 6th meeting that it wanted to support ISU students demonstrating for a ceasefire in Gaza. Then all members visited the ISU Quad on May 6, 7 or 8, 2024 to let them know that the Mennonite Church of Normal supports them. We asked them to let us know if they needed anything. Member Pam Hodel indicated that in spite of the criticism they told us about, they were still so positive, enthusiastic, warm, and delighted by the offer of Mennonite support!

Member Phil Dick is with ISU Students on the ISU Quad demonstrating against the war in Gaza on May 8th. Phil indicated that he had not demonstrated on the Quad with ISU students since 1970, and that it brought back great memories. (Image above right: ISU students are camped on the Quad on May 6, 2024.)

From the Outreach Commission



Spending Plan Update

Carl Keepert Newswanger Obituary



Read an obituary for Carl Keepert Newswanger [here](#).



CDC Connector

The newest edition of Central District Conference's monthly Connector publication is now available to read [here](#). It is packed with information about the upcoming annual meeting (June 20-22), including stories from two congregations seeking to join the conference - Peace Mennonite Fellowship and Knoxville Mennonite Church. We also feature this year's AMBS graduates who are affiliated with CDC! If you would like a paper copy, they will be available on the Library Table in the coming weeks.



MCN Work Day

In order to focus on the Great Hymnal Rack Project, the MCN Work Day will wait until the summer.

From the Administration Commission



MCC School Kit Sewers Needed

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) school kit sewers are needed. If you would like to help sew school kit bags please notify Deanna. In July supplies to fill the bags will be requested from the congregation. Directions on how to sew the bags can be found on the MCC website [here](#). For those who have made the bags in the past, MCC has changed the size of the bags when first cutting out to 13 1/2 by 38 inches. Thanks to all who are willing to help.

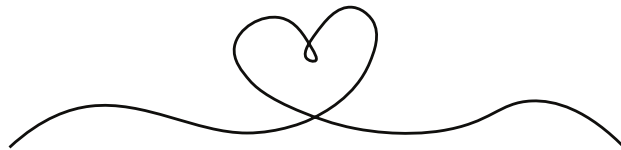
From Deanna

Updated Nursery Schedule



Discipling Commission (DC) is looking for volunteers to be in the infant nursery during adult Christian Education **this Sunday, May 19th**. Please note, you must have already completed a background check with MCN to volunteer in the infant/preschool nursery. If you are interested in being added to a future schedule of nursery volunteers but have not received a background check, please contact Holly Zehr.

From the Discipling Commission



Birthdays & Anniversaries

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN





Those Serving This Week



- South Greeters:** Eric and Chellie Miller
- West Greeter:** Bernice Valverde
- Welcome Table:** Marge Nester
- Ushers:** Roger and Linda Clemmons
- Offering Counter:** Gail Fisher
- Worship Planner & Leader:** Holly Zehr
- Sharing Prayer Leader:** Lauren Satchwell
- Children's Story:** Janet Wilson
- Scripture Reader:** Gerson Cobarrubia & Amy Reiman
- Technology:** Caleb Augspurger
- Song Leader:** Wayne Hochstetler
- Accompaniment:** Denise Hedberg & Lydia Hedberg
- Prelude:** Denise Hedberg
- Response in Music:** Lydia Hedberg
- Infant Nursery – during worship:** Open for parents
- Infant Nursery – during CE:**
- Preschool Nursery:** Marcia Rossi

This Week at MGN



A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Wednesday, May 15

9:30am Wednesday Morning Book Group

Thursday, May 16

7:00am Next Man Bible Study

9:30am Brave and Beloved Women's Bible Study

Saturday, May 18

9:00am Worship Commission (Zoom)

Monday, May 20

9:00am Commission Chair Check-In (Zoom)

Tuesday, May 21

1:00pm Central District Conference Pastor Peer Meeting

Wednesday, May 22

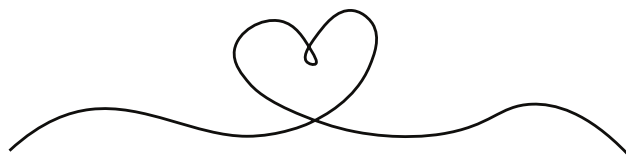
9:30am Wednesday Morning Book Group

Prayer Requests and Announcements

Prayer requests can be shared during the Sharing Joys and Concerns portion of our Worship Service. For other announcements, please send them to Lauren Satchwel ahead of time 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.



Sharing of Joys and Concerns



Mental Health Awareness

Saturday, May 18 from 3 - 4:30 pm Central Time

Mennonite Women invites you into a meaningful conversation about showing up for friends with mental health challenges. Open and understanding dialogues about mental health in our circles of ministry and friendship are an important way to make sure we're including everyone. On Saturday, May 18 from 3 - 4:30 pm Central Time, gather for a Coffee and Conversation on mental health awareness. **Learn more and register [here](#).**

Listen! Wisdom is Calling

Listen! Wisdom is Calling, the theme guiding Central District Conference (CDC) work, offers many possibilities for personal and corporate reflection. You are invited to take some time with the theme through a series of quarterly Zoom retreats led by Central District Conference members who are gifted spiritual directors. The first of those retreats is outlined below. Watch for information about coming retreats in August, November and early 2025.

Join CDC **Saturday, May 18th at 8-11 am Central Time**, for an online retreat, "Wisdom: Who/What is Calling?" Amidst community, spiritual practices and individual time, you will consider who or what comes to mind when "Wisdom" is named and explore how that image shapes our experience of "Wisdom" when encountered in biblical texts, worship, study or conversation. Karla Minter, spiritual director and pastor/doula at Open Table Mennonite Fellowship will be your guide for the morning.

Open House RALLY DAY
COME CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING OF A NEW SUMMER CAMP SEASON WITH US!

Cultivate Summer Camp 2024

DATE
MAY 27, 2024

LOCATION
9301 1575 EAST ST
TISKILWA, IL 61368

RSVP
815-255-4649
mennohaven.com/rallyday

ALL DAY ACTIVITIES
Hiking - Pickleball - Volleyball - Bag Toss
Kayaking - Canoeing - Pedalboats - Frisbee
Game Room - Basketball - Carpetball
9-Square-In-The-Air - GaGa Ball - Visiting

SCHEDULE

- **9am - Welcome Table at Lakeview Lodge**
- **11am - Summer Program Dedication**
- **12pm - Potluck Lunch**
BBQ Chicken & Drinks Provided.
Bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share and your own tableware.
- **1-4pm - Afternoon Activities**
Pool Open - 1-4pm
Hayrack Ride - 1-2pm
Association Meeting - 1:30pm
Climbing Wall - 1:30-3:30pm
SnoCones on Patio - 2:00pm

Two Notes from Menno Haven

We need your help looking for [summer staff](#). We are specifically in need of Female Head Cabin Counselors (we are looking for college aged women or women who are young at heart), an office assistant, a hosting assistant, one more program assistant, a lifeguard, maintenance assistants, and kitchen assistants. As a summer camp, we rely on your young people to help lead the campers and model Christ to them. Please consider how your church can help to encourage your young people to serve for a summer at camp. If you know of any adults in your congregation who love working with youth, we are open to adults serving in these roles as well for a week or more at a time.

Can you spread the word to the youth & families in your church about [Menno Haven's summer camps](#)? We have week long and half week camps for youth going into 3rd – 12th grades June 9 - July 12. We also have a Family Camp which is the perfect way to start off the summer with your family over Memorial Day weekend. Our summer theme is "Cultivate" centered on Matthew 13 - The Parable of the Sower. "Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand." We will figuratively (and at times literally 😊) dig into the soil of our hearts to see our soul's health - are we open to hearing the gospel? Are we bitter? Are we easily distracted? Have our times been rocky? Giving the attention the soil needs so that when we hear the good news of Jesus, we can hear it and understand it.

From Menno Haven Camp and Retreat Center

My journey from Zionism to seeking peace in Palestine and Israel

"In 2015, when a resolution called "Seeking Peace in Israel and Palestine" was proposed at the Mennonite Church USA convention, many of my Latino and Latina brothers and sisters went to the microphone to express their support for Israel. I was not surprised. I knew exactly where their convictions came from. I held the Zionist vision of Israel for most of my life. That is, until I studied history and theology at Goshen College in the Hispanic Ministries program. Professors such as Juan (John) Driver and Ron Collins helped me deconstruct these violent narratives and reconstruct a new Anabaptist peace theology with a different vision of God, Jesus and Israel. A new eschatological vision." **Read the rest of Saulo Padilla's article for *Anabaptist World* titled "My journey from Zionism to seeking peace in Palestine and Israel" [here](#).** *Image (below): Saulo Padilla walks by the Israel separation wall in 2017 at Aida (Ayda), a Palestinian refugee camp north of Bethlehem in the West Bank, Palestine, established in 1950 by refugees from Hebron and the Jerusalem areas. — Saulo Padilla/MCC*



Native Mennonite Ministries meeting honors faith, language and tradition

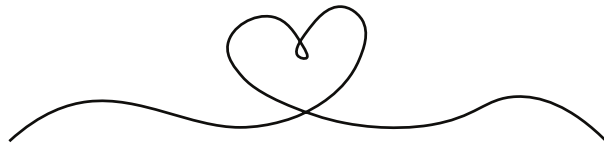
Representatives of Native Mennonite Ministries, an Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) Indigenous assembly composed of three congregations in Montana and Oklahoma, recently gathered for their biannual business meeting in Billings, Montana, on April 26-27, 2024. **Read more from MC USA [here](#).**

Zero Waste Challenge

Join in the [Zero Waste Challenge](#) sponsored by MCC Thrift! Sign up for the challenge to receive weekly tips and tricks for reducing your waste and minimizing your environmental impact. *From Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler, Mennonite Church USA Climate Justice Coordinator.*

Good intentions aren't enough

"Men can dismantle patriarchy with actions that support women in leadership" **Read Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi's list of actions men can take to help dismantle patriarchy in our church published by *Anabaptist World* [here](#).**



Staff Contact and Building Open Hours

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <u>Building Open:</u> | Standard Hours: Monday, Wednesday-Friday 9AM-11AM and Monday-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 Commission, Worship Commission, Congregational Care Committee, and the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team; kevin@normalmennonite.org ; |
| <u>Lynette Miller:</u> | Pastor for Discipling and Community Life Commissions |
| <u>Ron Ropp:</u> | Pastor for Pastoral Care |
| <u>Lauren Satchwell:</u> | Pastor for Vision Team & Administration Commissions |