

THE MIDWEEK



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 AM

This Sunday, Sam Ingersoll, Executive Director of [Hungry World Farm](#), will preach a sermon using Psalm 104:10-23.



After Worship

Adult CE
All Adults
Room 5/7/8

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](#).



Q&A September 1st

Sunday, September 1st during the CE hour

On September 1st during the CE hour, join us for a Q&A with author, pastor, and Central District Conference communications coordinator Sarah Renee Werner. Her book, *Rooted Faith: Practices for Loving Well on a Fragile Planet*, challenges Christians to rethink our relationship with our creation and consumer culture. Even if you haven't engaged with the book, please share your questions about topics like creation care, simplicity, wild church, connecting with your bioregion, land stewardship, and cultivating hope amid climate crisis. We will likely have time for live questions as well, but to make sure your questions gets asked, you can send them to Pastor Kevin (kevin@normalmennonite.org) by August 29th.

Installation



Sunday, September 15th

On Sunday, September 15th Lauren Satchwell will be installed as a pastor at the Mennonite Church of Normal. Doug Luginbill, Central District Conference's Conference Minister, will be preaching and will lead the installation along with a representative from Illinois Mennonite Conference. Lunch will be provided after Sunday School.

From the Pastoral Team Search Committee and Vision Team



Picture Directory

September 16th & 17th from 2 - 8:30 pm each day

It's time for our new Pictorial Directory! Our dates of photography are September 16 and 17. Just for participating you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a church directory. You will be able to view your images right away and have a chance to purchase family portraits for your memories or gifts.

You can make an appointment after church next Sunday, August 25 at a table in the back or by contacting the church office. We look forward to seeing you there!

From the Administration Commission

Sharing Our Gifts Photos



Deadline Extended!

We have extended the deadline for the following evaluations to **Sunday evening, August 25. Please take a moment to add your *very valuable affirmations and feedback!***

What it is: Evaluation of members of the Pastoral Team (open to anyone), Evaluation of Vision Team (open to anyone), and Self-evaluation of Commissions and Teams (intended for all members of commissions or teams).

How to complete: There are two Google Forms that can be completed:

There are also paper versions of the evaluations available to complete in the church office.

Thanks for your participation in helping our church function better. If you have a question regarding the evaluation process, please reach out to Ben Roeschley or another member of the Vision Team.

From the Vision Team



CDC Connector

The newest edition of Central District Conference's monthly Connector publication is now available to read [here](#). The theme this month is partnerships with other Anabaptist organizations. It has reflections from the recent Mennonite Action March from Harrisonburg to DC, the church history behind the Bluffton University and University of Findlay merger, and an update on summer programs from Camp Friedenswald. If you would like a paper copy, they will be available on the Library Table soon.



The **Vision Team** asked. *You* answered.

Here is what *you* had to say about what you hope for in our **future**:

GROWTH

- Our members continue to grow.
- Can continue and we can grow and all become more involved in the life of the church.
- Our youth program thrives.
- Growing involvement of all generations and diversity in all types of people; growing service and outreach.
- We will sustain or grow slightly our numbers; that we will remain the place of peace and hope for many.
- Young families continue to come; we prioritize our children and youth with programming.
- We will continue to grow and evolve with our welcoming and inclusiveness.

TRANSFORMING OUR COMMUNITIES & OUR WORLD

- The unique Anabaptist witness to peace and MCN's openness become more widely known.
- We grow deeper relationships with community organizations that are already doing the work we want to see done in our community.
- We had an outreach project of support for black people in area or homeless people, perhaps financial reparations for blacks or indigenous people.
- MCN works to transform our communities and world by working with CPT, using lawn as a garden to feed local hungry, working with the Anabaptist Climate Collaborative to stop climate change, standing with Mennonite Action to stop occupation of Gaza, reimagining and building a society not built on imperialism, fascism, racism, hatred, war, exploitation of workers, but on Christ's love, and building spiritual health of each congregant.
- MCN to have a greater visibility and impact in Bloomington-Normal area. Kevin is leading this with the ecumenical services and LGBTQ communities: keep this going and expand. greater involvement in the world's politics as a faith group.

COMMITMENT TO FOLLOWING JESUS

- We spread the love of Christ actively in our community!
- That we might be a congregation of people on a journey together to discover what it means to be followers of Jesus in our world today and how we live that out. I especially pray that we can be a place where families and youth are introduced to Jesus and sense an invitation to follow him, as well as see models of people who do that well in their lives. I hope we continue to welcome all who come through our doors and share our abundance wisely with others in need.
- There is a deep sense of engagement that leads to discipling that feels natural and not prescribed.
- We continue to be a vibrant group of people committed to Jesus' teachings. Despite the size of group we are.
- We continue to be an open, welcoming church, deeply grounded in the way of Jesus and Anabaptist teaching.

Shared by the Vision Team



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 self (July 14 – Aug 4)

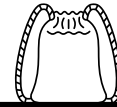
- What experiences of grace, courage, or hope have restored your sense of confidence in your own identity?

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

MCC School Kits



Last year Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) shipped 81,048 school kits to communities in Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia, Malawi, South Sudan, Ukraine, the U.S. and Zambia. Notebooks and pencils are treasures for families who struggle to access or afford school supplies. MCC school kits are often requested after disasters as they help bring a sense of normalcy to children whose families have been forced to flee their homes.

This year through the end of August our church is again requesting school supplies for this project. Following is a list of supplies that need to be purchased for each bag. **New items only**

- 4 spiral notebooks (70 sheets each. Can be wide lined or narrow). No more than 70 sheets each.
- 8 new UNSHARPENED pencils
- 1 ruler (good quality). Must indicate 30 cm in addition to inches
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 4 new black or blue ballpoint pens

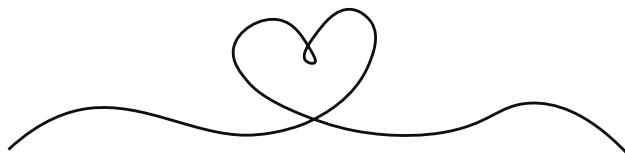
Kits also include 1 small all metal pencil sharpener (one or two holes). DO NOT PURCHASE THIS ITEM AS IT WILL BE PROVIDED. They have been purchased in bulk from Amazon as they are hard to find in stores.

There are bags provided in back of the sanctuary for you to take home and fill or you can also just bring the supplies in a store plastic bag and we will place them in a cloth bag for you. Thanks so much for your participation in this project. This project will run through the end of August at which time the supplies will be collected and distributed to a MCC drop off location.

Dorothy Loebb Music Scholarship Application Period is Now Open!

At the time of the celebration of fifty-three years of wonderful worship music provided by Dorothy Loebb, a generous amount of donations was collected to create a scholarship for piano and organ lessons. Applications are now being accepted for the coming academic year. The scholarship is open to children, youth, and adults of all ages. More information about the scholarship can be found. A brief application form.

Shared by the Worship Commission



Those Serving This Week



South Greeters: Andy and Beth Reeser

West Greeter: Phylis VerSteegh

Welcome Table: Marge Nester

Ushers: Steve and Deb Stenger

Offering Counter: Lotus Hershberger

Worship Planner: Kevin Chupp

Worship Leader: Gail Fisher

Sharing Prayer Leader: Lauren Satchwell

Children's Story: Jessica Hall

Scripture Reader: Ryan Miller

Technology: Adam Augspurger

Song Leader: Glenn Wilson

Accompaniment, Prelude, & Response in Music: Lydia Hedberg

Infant Nursery - during CE:

Preschool Nursery:



Birthdays & Anniversaries

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN



This Week at MCN



A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Thursday, August 15

7:00 am Next Man Bible Study

Tuesday, August 27

3:00 pm Pastoral Team (Zoom)

Wednesday, August 28

6:30 pm Congregational Care Committee (Zoom)



Sharing of Joys and Concerns



MCN IS ASKED TO BE IN CONTINUED PRAYER FOR FOR THE PROGRESSIVE CARE UNIT AT
CARLE BROMENN MEDICAL CENTER—OUR PARTNER IN HEALING FOR 2024



Listen! Wisdom is Calling

Saturday, August 24 at 8:30 - 11:30 am Central Time

Join Central District Conference on Saturday, August 24 at 8:30 - 11:30 am Central Time for an online retreat, "Listen, Wisdom is Calling: Manifold Wisdom." Building on the previous retreats in this series, they will spend the morning pondering how we must both appreciate, and intentionally engage, varied sources of wisdom so that we more justly, authentically and fully display God's wisdom by being the church. Participants are asked to bring to the retreat a book, reading, image of artwork, poem, website or other source of inspiration that enriches their spiritual understanding. Especially welcome would be resources that offer a culturally non-dominant perspective. **Jane Roeschley**, MACF, spiritual director and leader of retreats and pilgrimages will be your guide for the morning.

Trees of Life for Human Health

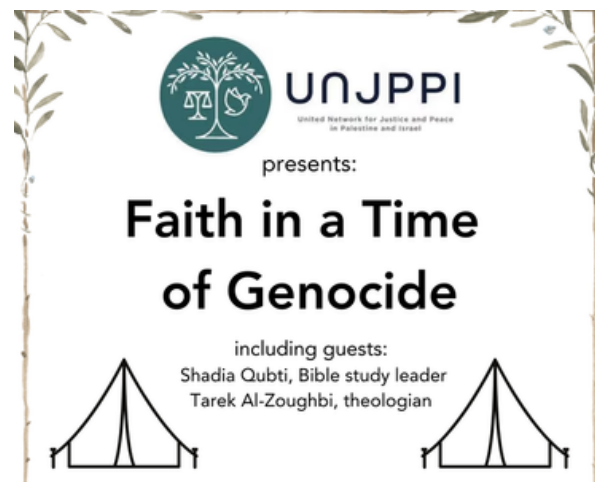
Tuesday, August 27 at 1:30 PM Central Time

Trees offer much more than beauty and shade. Trees provide essential ecosystems services and valuable community benefits. In a webinar, MHS Association will examine the place of trees in creation care from a faith perspective and their practical importance in landscapes that MHS Association members manage. We will see that the benefits of trees far exceed their costs. We will consider trees as one of the best natural climate solutions for MHS Association partners and see how trees increase the attractiveness and livability of their communities. Dive into compelling research findings on trees for human health with expert Steve Thomas, and discover what trees can be for your community. Steve Thomas, MDiv, is the US director of Mennonite Men and coordinates the Mennonite JoinTrees campaign to plant one million trees for climate action. He also does contract urban forestry work for the City of Goshen. He is an ISA certified arborist with a graduate certificate in urban forestry from Oregon State University. **Learn more and register [here](#).**

Dismukes Project Learning Tour

October 9-13

Join MCC Great Lakes for the Dismukes Project Learning Tour on October 9-13: This learning tour provides a unique experience to learn more about Black history and experiences in the coalfields of Appalachia, while also learning the incredible story of Dr. Henry Dodford Dismukes, an African American physician in the early 1900's. Participants will visit various sites connected with Dr. Dismukes, hear from local speakers, learn about MCC's work to preserve Black history in the area and attend the Dismukes Gala featuring John Ellison. Learn more and register [here](#). Tickets are also available separately for the Dismukes Gala on October 12 [here](#).



1-2 November 2024

The United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine and Israel presents "Faith in a Time of Genocide," both an important conference to reflect on our faith and a call to faithfulness in solidarity with Palestinians. Hilton Garden Inn Toronto Airport. Student scholarships available. **Learn more and register [here](#).**

Shared by Community Peacemaker Teams

Women's Retreat

September 20-22 at Camp Friedenswald

Join Mennonite Women USA (MW USA) September 20-22 for spirit-filled worship, relaxation among women, trails to wander, and water to rest by. MW USA is delighted to be planning a time of connection and gathering for this year's Women's Retreat at Camp Friedenswald in Cassapolis, MI. It is a tradition of the Central District Conference, but it is open to ALL women. You are invited to retreat into the wilderness and immerse yourself in sisterhood. Choosing Sisterhood is about celebrating the women in your life. We hope you'll bring your mother, grandmother, sister, daughter, or friend. Choosing Sisterhood is also about making a conscious choice to engage with women you don't know. Challenge yourself to invite a new friend, someone you want to get to know better. We will be honoring the various Sistering with photos and hand crafted frames. **Learn more and register [here](#).**

Shared by Mennonite Women USA

Restoration Retreat

November 1-3 at Camp Friedenswald

Join. Camp Friedenswald for their Restoration Retreat November 1-3. Connect with the land and life through a weekend retreat centered on restoring healthy relationships with all of creation. Take time to slow down, walk the paths, paddle the water, and simply be in community with all that is around you. Sarah Augustine will be speaking throughout the weekend on the theme of climate, creation care, and decolonization. She is the Executive Director of the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, a national coalition with global reach. An optional tour of the [Dowagiac River Restoration Project](#) will be available for participants Saturday afternoon. You will leave feeling more connected, inspired, and empowered to work for positive change in your community and the world beyond. This retreat is open to all ages. **Learn more and register [here](#).**

Shared by Central District Conference

A call for peace from Service Adventure participants

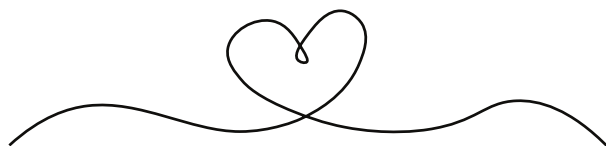
“As a young person trying to find my place in the church, I am grateful to be a part of a community that chooses not to sit on the sidelines as our neighbors suffer, but instead uses their voices, actions, and even their fabric, to call for peace as Jesus would have. Participating in the Mennonite Action protest was a structured and supported way for me to take my first steps joining in public demonstrations of that call to peace.” **Read the rest of Shawna Hurst’s blog post published by the Mennonite Mission Network [here](#).**

Sharing Spaces: Walnut Hill’s Legacy of Hospitality

“In 1956, Walnut Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana was a brand-new church plant born from North Goshen Mennonite Church. 33 years later, after a fire destroyed part of its building, North Goshen welcomed Walnut Hill back into their space, for free, for two years until reconstruction was complete. Area congregations with Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference also helped Walnut Hill rebuild after its crisis with their generous financial support. These were gifts that Walnut Hill never forgot, and ones which they determined to pass along when they could. Over the years, Walnut Hill has hosted various groups including crafting groups, Al Anon, Alcoholics Anonymous, and Music Together, and more recently Jail Ministry of Elkhart County and the Repair Network (Mennonite churches connected to the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery). Then in 2021, it opened its doors to another congregation. A small, Latinx church—the Goshen Seventh Day Adventist Church, was seeking a space to meet. With little hesitation, in large part due to how North Goshen had treated them, Walnut Hill became the home for the Goshen Seventh Day Adventist church.” **Read the rest of Lynn Diener’s blog post published by Mennonite Men [here](#).**

MC USA names 2024 Bring the Peace award winners

Mennonite Church USA presented Tina Schlabach and Abby Endashaw with the 2024 MC USA Bring the Peace award. Each year, the denomination names two peacemakers as the recipients of the award: a Legacy Peacemaker, who has demonstrated a life-long passion for peace and justice work, and a Young Peacemaker, who is a young adult or teenager who has already established their devotion to peacemaking. The award is sponsored by MC USA’s [Church Peace Tax Fund](#). Legacy Peacemaker: Tina Schlabach. Young Peacemaker: Abby Endashaw. **Read more in the article by Jessica Griggs for Mennonite Church USA [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>Lauren Satchwell:</u>	Pastor for Vision Team & Administration Commissions

Our Members in Care Facilities

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



Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissions and Teams Contact List

Commission, Team, & Committee Members

Work Order & Purchase Request Forms

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!

Item Check-Out Request Form

Structure Documents
