

THE MIDWEEK



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 AM

This Sunday, Kevin Chupp will preach a sermon titled *Natsukashii* using Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8.

In the story of Passover, God directs Moses and Aaron to mark Israelite's exodus with food, and then to continue to fuel that memory with a yearly festival centered around food. For God's people, eating is a way of remembering, especially as they move far beyond Egypt. How do we stoke the memories of our own journey? What does deliverance taste like?

After Worship

Adult CE

Journey Groups A & B
Conference Room

Journey Group C
Room 14

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

Schedule for Visiting/ Sitting with Alice Swift

Alice Swift is nearing her final days and visitors are appreciated. Sign-up [here](#). We offer this as a way to coordinate our efforts to ensure Alice has people with her as she is in her last days. If there is already someone listed for a time you are able to come, that doesn't mean you cannot visit then as well, though you might try be in touch with that person to make them aware. This schedule is here so we can effectively be aware of when our presence might be most helpful. If there are any changes in Alice's health or anything else of note, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Kevin (kevin@normalmennonite.org) or any other members of the pastoral team.



Women's Bible Study

Thursday, September 26 at 9:30 am

The women's Bible Study will begin meeting again this fall on September 26 at 9:30 a.m. We will be using a book by Liz Ditty, *God's Many Voices: Learning to Listen, Expectant to Hear*. Any woman is welcome to join this study. If you are interested, let the church office know as soon as possible so that a book may be ordered for you.

From the Discipling Commission

Parents of Youth Meeting this Sunday



Service of Healing

This Sunday, September 29 during the Worship Service

There will be a service of anointing for healing in worship this Sunday, following the sermon. This is an ancient prayer practice of the church. Anointing is a means of giving an outward sign of the prayers of the Body of Christ for God's loving care to be present to a need – physical, emotional or spiritual.

When you come for anointing, you may receive the sign of the cross with oil on your forehead or back of their hand. If you wish, you may share with the person doing the anointing something for which you are praying for healing – for yourself, for someone else or for the world.

From the Congregational Care Committee

Save the date!



Friday, October 18

Fall Family Fun Night will be on Friday, October 18. The theme is The Apple of God's Eye. More information and sign-up coming soon.

From the Discipling Commission

Reiman Family Laura Ingalls Wilder presentation

Sunday, Sept 29 at 5:00 PM at the MRC Community Building

Reiman Family Laura Ingalls Wilder presentation: People of all ages welcome. Between 1870 and 1894, Laura Ingalls traversed the midwestern states of Wisconsin, Kansas, Minnesota, South Dakota, Iowa, and Missouri in a covered wagon. The Reimans covered most of that territory in eight days this past summer, pulling their cozy camper behind. Leading up to this journey, 9-year-old Adah had read all of the books (except Farmer Boy) and seen most of the television series. Along the journey, Amy listened to the audiobook of the Pulitzer winning biography, *Prairie Fires: The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder*, by Caroline Fraser. Jeff, not having read the books and only having seen a few of the episodes, created one of his finest vacation spreadsheets of all times, and in so doing, helped craft an immersive vacation for the two Laura Fan Girls. In this presentation, we will share some of our favorite stories from our trip, and what we learned about how the history of prairie settlement and the shame of poverty continues to shape American

Sponsored by the Community Life Commission

MFB Volunteering 2025



Tuesday, November 5 at 6:00 pm

The dates MCN is volunteering at the Midwest Food Bank next year have been set. You can sign-up [here](#).

- Friday, January 10, 2025 from 6:00-8:00 pm
- Tuesday, May 6, 2025 from 6:00-8:00 pm
- Monday, August 4, 2025 from 6:00-8:00 pm
- Thursday, November 6, 2025 from 6:00-8:00 pm

As well, there is one more volunteer opportunity at MFB this year on **November 5, 2024 at 6:00 pm**. As a reminder, MFB requests people sign up at least two weeks before the event. You can sign-up to volunteer this November at the same link [here](#).

From the Administration Commission



Blood Drive

Saturday, October 26th from 8:00am-12:00pm

We will once again be hosting an American Red Cross blood drive here at MCN on Saturday, October 26th from 8:00am-12:00pm. The Red Cross has been experiencing blood inventory shortages since this Summer. There are 3 ways you can help:

1. Schedule your appointment to donate blood [here](#)
 2. Bake cookies for donors or volunteer to help Outreach Commission host the drive by signing up here.
 3. Spread the word by sharing this flyer.
- Thanks for your help!

From the Outreach Commission



Save the date!

November 17

Our annual Spending Plan hearing will happen on November 17. Details will be coming soon. Each Commission is working on their individual Spending Plan which are due on October 7 by 8 am.

From the Administration Commission



A Note from Mary Jantze

Thank you to everyone for your support during Joe's illness and death. I have appreciated the cards, memorials, food, phone calls, and words of encouragement. Blessings to everyone. Thanks, Mary.

From Mary Jantze

Safety, Access, and Accommodation Committee

Apologies to Denise Hedberg. When this announcement was run last week, her name was accidentally left off the list of subcommittee members.

Administration Commission has a new subcommittee on Safety, Access, and Accommodation. This group is working on policies and procedures related to safety issues, background checks, and access issues. Cindy Ropp is chairing and Marcia Rossi, David Voegtlin, Mark Hodel, Darvis King, Denise Hedberg have agreed to serve. They hope to complete their work within a year.

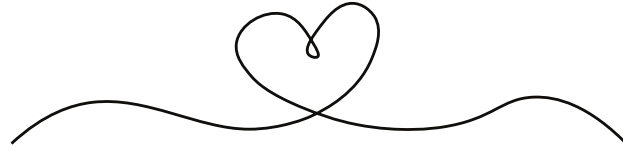
From the Administration Commission

We're recruiting!



We have a number of outside groups that rent our facilities. Invariably they want microphones and live streaming in the evening. Administration Commission does pay for this opportunity. Training will be provided. If you're interested, contact Mary Dyck.

From the Administration Commission



Those Serving This Week



South Greeters: Stephanie and Duane Nester

West Greeter: Mark Roeschley

Welcome Table: Marcia Rossi

Ushers: King family

Offering Counter: Mark Roeschley

Worship Planner & Leader: Joe Culpepper

Sharing Prayer Leader: Lynette Miller

Children's Time: Steve Benner

Scripture Reader: Darvis King

Technology: Caleb Augspurger

Song Leader: Cindy Ropp

Accompaniment, Prelude, & Response in Music: Bill West

Infant Nursery – during CE:

Preschool Nursery:

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 Satchwell 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



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

This Week at MCN



A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Wednesday, September 25

9:30 am Wednesday Morning Book Group
6:30 pm Congregational Care Committee (Zoom)

Thursday, September 26

7:00 am Next Man Bible Study
6:30 pm Administration Commission (Zoom)

Sunday, September 29

11:00 am Visitation Team
5:00pm Reiman Family Laura Ingalls Wilder presentation

Tuesday, October 1

3:00 pm Pastoral Team (Zoom)

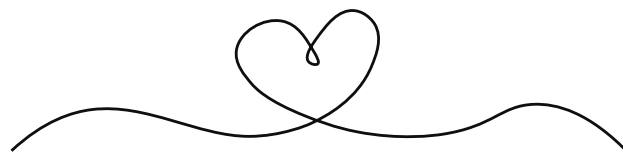
Wednesday, October 2

9:30 am Wednesday Morning Book Group



Birthdays & Anniversaries

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN



Finding my tribe: A journey from Pentecostalism to Anabaptism

Part of Mennonite Church USA's ["Menno by Choice" series](#), Steve Griffin chronicles his journey from leaving the Pentecostal church where he was raised, experiencing Calvinism and finally finding his home in Anabaptism. **Read Griffin's blog post for MC USA [here](#).**

Hold Fast to Dreams: Stories and Music of Florence Price

Saturday, September 28, 2024 at 7:00

Moses Montefiore Temple (102 Robinhood Lane, Bloomington)

The Illinois Symphony Orchestra and Moses Montefiore Temple present an Around the Town Concert titled *Hold Fast to Dreams: Stories and Music of Florence Price*. The concert will feature music by the well-known African American woman composer, Florence Price. Interspersed among the performances, the ISO's Associate Conductor, Jacobsen Woollen, will discuss Florence Price's life and her contributions to music. The concert is open to the public and there is no charge to attend.


Guest performers include: Dr. Carren Moham, Professor of Voice (IWU), Justin Johnson, Meghan Goldfarb, Jacobsen Woollen, the ISO String Quartet, and the Moses Montefiore Choir.

The concert is being performed in conjunction with Selichot, the first worship service to officially begin the Jewish High Holy Days. The service will be held shortly after the concert.

September 29th is Anabaptist Community Bible Day

September 29th

Anabaptism at 500 has declared September 29, 2024 as Anabaptist Community Bible Day to celebrate and reaffirm shared values of community, discipleship and peacemaking. This special day provides an opportunity for congregations to come together in unity, explore the rich history and teachings of Anabaptism and engage with the unique insights offered by the Anabaptist Community Bible. **Learn more [here](#).**



The poster for Menno Haven's Fall Work Day features a circular logo at the top left with the text "MENNO HAVEN" and "FELLOWSHIP • WORSHIP • RECREATION • RETREAT CENTER". The main image shows several people working outdoors, including one using a chainsaw to split wood. Below the main image are two circular inset photos: one showing people working at a table and another showing a person working on a ladder. The text on the poster includes the title "Menno Haven's FALL WORK DAY", a list of possible projects, dates (Tuesday, Oct 1 and Wednesday, Oct 2), lodging information, and contact details for RSVP and info.

MENNO HAVEN
FELLOWSHIP • WORSHIP • RECREATION • RETREAT CENTER

Menno Haven's
FALL WORK DAY

POSSIBLE PROJECTS

- Painting Projects
- Splitting Wood
- Reconditioning a Trailer
- Spreading Mulch
- Deep Cleaning
- Outside & Inside Tasks

 Tuesday, Oct 1
Wednesday, Oct 2

 Lodging is available upon request

RSVP & INFO www.mennohaven.com/work-day
sheena@mennohaven.com
815-255-4649

Menno Haven depends on, and greatly appreciates, the hard work of volunteers like you to keep our 231 acres of sanctuary looking great!

ADVANCING LGBTQ+ JUSTICE IN ILLINOIS: POLICY AND ADVOCACY

10 OCTOBER
11:30 A.M.
- 1:00 P.M.

Join Queer Coalition and the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program for a Lunch 'n' Learn with Equality Illinois. Attendees have the option to register for an in-person or zoom webinar format. Mike Ziri is Director of Public Policy at Equality Illinois, the state's LGBTQ+ civil rights organization. Ziri will present about the challenges LGBTQ+ people experience in Illinois; how our state can keep moving forward to support and affirm LGBTQ+ people; and ways that LGBTQ+ people and allies can engage in advocacy to build a better Illinois.



Register for more information and location.



**Mennonite
Disaster
Service**

View Weekly Volunteering Opportunities from Mennonite Disaster Service [here](#).

Juan Montes named executive director of Iglesia Menonita Hispana

The board of directors of Iglesia Menonita Hispana (IMH, translated Hispanic Mennonite Church), a constituency group of Mennonite Church USA, appointed Rev. Dr. Juan Montes as executive director during the IMH annual meeting on April 6, 2024, in Chicago, Illinois. Montes is the pastor of [Primera Iglesia Menonita](#) in Reedley, California, a position he has held for 31 years. "Pastor Juan Montes is the ideal candidate to serve as 'director ejecutivo' of IMH and to lead the growth of the Hispanic church in the United States," said IMH Moderator Josué González, citing Montes' pastoral and leadership experience, as well as his previous service to IMH. **Read more from Mennonite Church USA [here \(en español\)](#).**

Master's program in conflict transformation ignites vision for justice/peace in Benin

Fernand Kpossilande has been intrigued by the concept of conflict transformation for as long as he can remember. So, when he heard about the master's degree offered by [Le Centre Formation Justice & Paix](#) (CFJP, Justice and Peace Training Center), he said that he felt like God had answered his prayers. Mennonite Mission Network, through many partners in Africa, Europe and North America, helped conceive the CFJP program and has deeply invested in nurturing this partnership of 15 theological schools and institutions that make up the program and offer online courses informed by Anabaptist theology for the French-speaking world. **Read more from Mennonite Mission Network [here](#).**

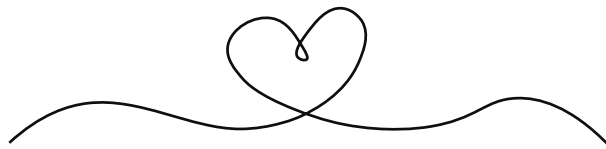
Civilian casualties by Turkish and Iranian military operations 1991-2024

"Since the 1980s, Turkey and Iran have conducted military operations in northern Iraq, purportedly targeting various armed non-state opposition Kurdish groups, such as the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) and its affiliated armed groups, as well as the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan (KDP-I). This report focuses on civilian impacts since Iraqi Kurdistan's semi-autonomous territory was established in 1991." **Read the report from Community Peacemaker Teams - Iraqi Kurdistan [here](#).**

Climate Justice Corner

Summer is a great time to enjoy local, seasonal produce. While eating well, you're also taking care of our planet! Eating more plants and cutting food waste are two of the biggest steps people can take to cut their personal and household greenhouse gas emissions. According to [Project Drawdown](#), out of the 100 top solutions for drawing down carbon and reversing global warming, [reduced food waste](#) ranks #3 and [plant-rich diets](#) ranks #4. (Hawken, Paul, ed., Drawdown: The most comprehensive plan ever proposed to reverse global warming. New York: Penguin Books, 2017.) You can learn more about connections between faith and food by viewing MC USA's webinar [Faith, Food, Soil and Climate](#).

Shared by Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler, Mennonite Church USA Climate Justice Coordinator



Commissions and Teams Contact List

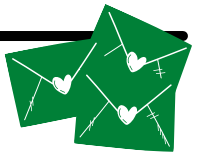
Commission Meeting Minutes

Staff Contact and Building Open Hours

- Building Open: **Standard Hours:**
Monday, Wednesday-Friday 9AM-11AM
and Monday-Friday 1:30PM-3PM.
- Lydia Hedberg: Office Administrator; church@normalmennonite.org; 309-452-6622
- Rita Munkakusi: Custodian
- Kevin Chupp: Pastor for Outreach Commission, Worship Commission,
Congregational Care Committee, Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team,
and Visitation Team; kevin@normalmennonite.org
- Lynette Miller: Pastor for Discipling and Community Life Commissions
- Lauren Satchwell: 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!



Item Check-Out Request Form

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!

Work Order & Purchase Request Forms

Commission, Team, & Committee Members

Structure Documents
