

THE MIDWEEK



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 AM

This Sunday, Kevin Chupp will preach a sermon titled *Be on the Watch* using Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10 & 4:1-11.

The classic telling of the story of Jonah is one of redirection. God has to reel Jonah back in when he goes off script. But when Jonah is found out by his shipmates, his response tells us about a deeper sense of reluctance around his identity.

Can we relate? What empowers us toward boldness and authenticity?

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



Office/Building Closed

Thursday, November 7 All Day

The church office/building will be closed all day on Thursday, November 7th. Thank you for your understanding!

Alternative Gifts Fair



November 10 and 17 after Worship at the Mennonite Church of Normal

Sunday November 10th will be the opening day of our Alternative Gifts Fair. Our thanks to the 7 families who will be sponsoring projects run by either Mennonite Central Committee or Alternative Gifts International. Shopping lists for both MCC and AGI will be in church mailboxes on Sunday, and also a Children's Shopping List which will feature items from both catalogues. More information on all the projects can be found in the MCC and AGI catalogues on the table in the library, and also on their websites, mcc.org/christmas and alternativegifts.org.

An Alternative Gifts Fair is an opportunity to honor our loved ones at Christmas with a gift of hope and joy for others, reflecting Christ's love for us. Shoppers receive cards and inserts describing the gift given in the recipient's name. Checks can be made out to Mennonite Church of Normal. One check will cover gifts from both organizations, and gifts are tax deductible.

Our Alternative Gifts Fair enables us to lift up the light of God's love in a hurting world.

From the Outreach Committee, Mark and Pam Hodel, and Meredith Schroeer



Spending Plan Hearing

Sunday, November 17 at 1:00 pm

The Administration Commission has developed the 2025 Spending Plan together with all of the other Commissions and Vision Team. We encourage you to review the document prior to the Spending Plan Hearing on November 17 following a potluck hosted by the Fellowship Committee. During the Spending Plan hearing, we anticipate that each commission will share and discuss their own document. In addition, we have several issues on which we'd value your opinion. **View the 2025 Spending Plan [here](#).**

From the Administration Commission



Doll Clothes Sale

Sunday, December 1 after Worship

Mark your calendars for December 1st! Once again this year you can shop Lois Jett's vast selection of handmade doll clothes that fit American Girl! Simply stick around after worship to take a look at all of the truly unique options. Lois is generously donating all of the proceeds to our Mennonite Youth Fellowship (MYF).

Nomad Theatre Presents
a staged reading of



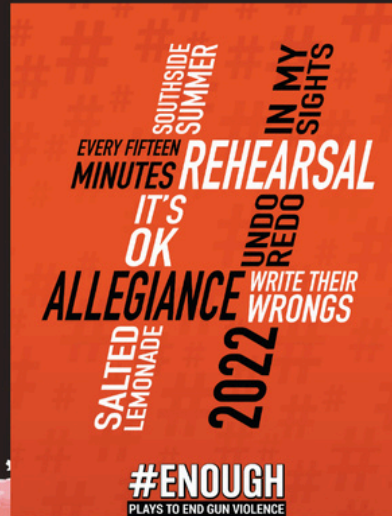
#ENOUGH: EVERY FIFTEEN MINUTES

BY MCKENZIE BOYD, ARIANNA BRUMFIELD, WILLA COLLEARY, ANYA JIMÉNEZ, TAYLOR LAFAYETTE, TAIN LEONARD-PECK, CAMERON THIESING, WYN ALYSE THOMAS, MAGGIE MUNDAY ODOM

Friday, November 15th
7:30 pm
805 S Cottage Ave, Normal

Saturday, November 16th
2:00 PM
1613 E Emerson St, Blomington

Admission is Pay What You Can.
50% of proceeds will be donated
to the Illinois chapter of the
Everytown for Gun Safety
Support Fund



Welcome to America, where every fifteen minutes, a person is killed with a gun. In eight short plays written by teens for teens, the winners of the 2022 #ENOUGH: Plays to End Gun Violence competition contend with the way this statistic shapes young people's lives. Taken together, #ENOUGH: Every Fifteen Minutes is a poignant portrait of a uniquely American crisis by the generation it impacts the most.

*Some plays contain adult language and depictions of gun violence.

Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.
(www.playscripts.com)



For more information, scan or
visit www.nomadtheatre.org



In Case You Missed It

If you missed Ashley's presentation about her experience on a recent trip to the southern border last Sunday or want to see it again, **you can view her slides [here!](#)**



Sharing Our Gifts

The "Sharing Our Gifts" slide show will be playing again this Sunday before and after the service and will be available to view in the following Midweek. If you've not sent in a photo yet, please do so! You can email them to the church office at church@normalmennonite.org. We're all eager to see how you are serving in your community!

From the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team

Periodical Renewals



It's that time of year again -- periodical subscription renewals! Each year the church organizes group subscriptions to three Mennonite publications: [Rejoice!](#) (a quarterly devotional) by Menno Media for \$37.92, [The Upper Room Daily Devotional](#) (delivered quarterly) for \$9, and [Anabaptist World](#) (16 issues) for \$44. This gives everyone the opportunity to subscribe these publications with a discounted rate through the church office. If you would like to **renew, begin, or end** a subscription to **one or more** of these publications, please contact Lydia in the church office at 309-452-6622 or church@normalmennonite.org **before Monday, December 2nd.**

From the church office



SAAC Survey

The Safety, Access and Accommodation Committee is seeking your input as we organize our work going forward. Adults and youth (jr high and high school age), please complete the online survey to the best of your ability. We are looking to identify knowledge and needs in our church community. Be as detailed as possible as that will help us in planning. We will be reaching out to the younger children after a church service in the coming weeks to answer a few brief questions. Parents, if you want to include helpful information about your child(ren) in your own survey, please do. The survey will be live until midnight on Wednesday, November 27. Paper copies will be available at the church if you would prefer that format. We are excited for your responses to aid us as we look to providing for safety and accommodation in the workings of MCN! **Click here to take the survey.**

*From the Safety, Access and Accommodation Committee
Cindy Ropp, Mark Hodel, Darvis King, Marcia Rossi, and David Voegtlin*

Church Retreat



January 24-26, 2025

Please consider joining us for a weekend of fellowship and fun at Camp Friedenswald, January 24-26! Friedenswald is a beautiful retreat in southern Michigan with a large, comfortable, warm lodge for us to stay in. Whether you're looking for social time or solitude, there's something for everyone. Activities for the weekend can include sledding, tubing, hiking, relaxing, eating, cross country skiing, reading, games, worship, fellowship, and more! For more information contact Shelly and Darvis.



Meal Train for the Hubbards

Advent Ensemble



Do you play an instrument? Do you like playing with other people? If so, join the MCN Advent Ensemble! Whether you have been playing for a year, haven't played in years, or play all the time, you are welcome to join us! We welcome all instruments: band, orchestra, harp, recorder, any instrument! There's a part for everyone. **If you are interested, please sign-up.** I look forward to playing with you! If you have any questions, please contact Lydia at 309-452-6622 or church@normalmennonite.org.

From Lydia Hedberg



Log for Visiting/ Sitting with Alice Swift



Requests from the Fellowship Committee

1. Would you consider joining the Fellowship Committee? The Fellowship Committee is looking for 1-2 more people to join them in 2025.
 2. Would you consider serving as a Coffee Hour Host? We could use more volunteers in our Coffee Hour Host rotation. Orientation would be provided.
 3. Would you consider donating snacks for the after worship Coffee Hour? You could make baked goods that could be frozen or purchase premade items.
- Please contact Marianne Israel or Leah Roeschley Walker if you are interested in any of the above!

From the Community Life Commission



Birthdays & Anniversaries

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN



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



Those Serving This Week



South Greeters: Zehr family

West Greeter: Phylis VerSteegh

Welcome Table: Pam Hodel

Ushers: Andy and Beth Reeser

Offering Counter: Gail Fisher

Worship Planner & Leader: Lauren Satchwell

Sharing Prayer Leader: Lauren Satchwell

Children's Time: Louise Reeser

Scripture Reader:

Technology: Rick Harnish & Caleb Augspurger

Song Leader: Cindy Ropp

Accompaniment, Prelude, & Response in Music: Denise Hedberg



A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Wednesday, November 6

9:30 am Wednesday Morning Book Group

Thursday, November 7

All Day Office/Building Closed

7:00 am Next Man Bible Study

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

1:00 pm Women's Ministry - Comforters for Appalachia

6:30 pm Women's Ministry - Comforters for Appalachia

Sunday, November 3

After Worship Alternative Gift Fair

7:00 pm Adult Choir

Monday, November 11

5:00 pm Outreach Commission

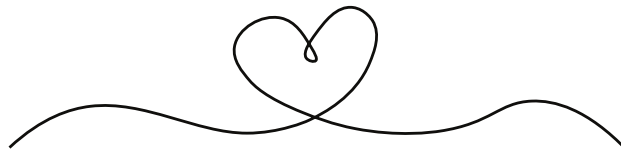
Tuesday, November 12

3:00 pm Pastoral Team (Zoom)

Wednesday, November 13

9:30 am Wednesday Morning Book Group

7:00 pm Community Life Commission (Zoom)



We've Delivered Relief Together, and the Work Continues

Below is a message shared by the Midwest Food Bank:

Your support has enabled us to bring essential aid to communities devastated by the recent hurricane. From hygiene kits to thousands of meals, every effort has helped bring relief and stability to those hit hardest. Here's what we've been able to accomplish together so far:

- 10,000 Emergency Buckets
- 11,000 Hygiene Kits
- 1,110,000 bottles of Water and Drinks
- 357,314 lbs of Food and Snacks
- 200,000 Meals

But the need is still pressing. Recovery is a long journey, and our work is far from over. Learn more [here](#).

Advent at Home

The 2024 Advent at Home worship guide is now available from Mennonite Education Agency. Taken from Leader magazine's theme, "Together on the Journey," the worship guide accompanies individuals and families through the days and weeks of Advent through Epiphany, with Scriptures, prayers, worship rituals, suggested activities and contextual information. It is intended for all ages and life stages to deepen the experience of the season. **The guide is available to download for free in English and Spanish** for all congregations, individuals and families of Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada from the MEA website [here](#).



Talk Climate, Practice Peace

Talk Climate, Practice Peace: Check out Mennonite Central Committee's resources for practicing peacemaking by talking about climate!

Podcast: Peacebuilder and author Jes Stoltzfus Buller joins MCC's Relief, Development and Podcast to respond to listeners' climate conversation questions. Stoltzfus Buller is the author of MCC's Peaceful Practices curriculum. [Listen here.](#)

Virtual workshop: On November 13, practice how to talk with others about climate change using curiosity, compassion and dialogue. Spots are limited, so [register here today!](#)

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

Serve with MDS

Below is a message shared by the Mennonite Disaster Service:

There are still opportunities to serve with Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) this Fall! There are openings from October-December in Amory, Mississippi; Port Charlotte, Florida; Selma, Alabama; and Newton, Texas (RV). We expect to have several additional project locations for the winter season (January-March).

Weekly Volunteers: Contact Kaelan Swartley with any questions or to schedule a week of service! Weekly Volunteers can [join the waitlist](#) on the website if interested in serving after the fall season.

Leadership and RV Volunteers: Contact Josh Carson, Regions 1 & 4 (East Coast & West Coast) or Karla Friesen, Regions 2 & 3 (Midwest & Plains States) to serve for a month or more.

2025 Annual Celebration

Building Hope: A 75th Anniversary Celebration of Service

Date: February 14-15, 2025

Location: Ridgepoint Church in Wichita, Kansas

Additional Details: Save the date for the 2025 MDS Annual Celebration! Be inspired and encouraged as you hear stories of MDS service across the U.S. and Canada! Find the latest [here](#).

Opportunities from MCC

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Borderlands Peace Camp, Jan. 19-25, 2025:

Young adults, ages 18-30, are invited to join MCC in El Paso, TX and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico in January! This MCC Peace Camp will explore topics of peace and justice through the lens of migration, including the Biblical mandate of hospitality. Find out more and register by January 5 [here](#).

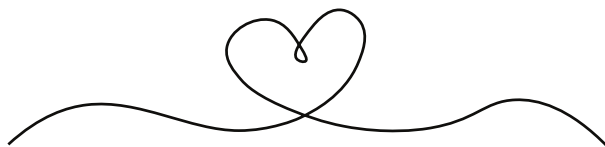
Serving And Learning Together (SALT) applications now open for 2025! Each year, MCC offers 80+ unique opportunities to serve with our local partners working for relief, development and peace around the world. Explore the numerous possibilities that match your passions, skills, and experience. If you're between the ages of 18-30, the SALT program might be the epic adventure you've been waiting for. Check it out [here](#)!

New Archives collection highlights CPT's work in Palestine

Olivia Krall writes about the MC USA Archives' CPT collection and a new donation of archival materials from a CPT alumnus that tells the story of the 1997 "Rebuilders Against Bulldozers" campaign. **Read the rest of the article from Mennonite Church USA [here](#).**

MC USA announces event schedule and new seminar plan for Follow Jesus '25

Mennonite Church USA convention planners have released the tentative [event schedule](#) and [learning track descriptions](#) for next year's convention, Follow Jesus '25, which will take place July 8-12, 2025, at Koury Convention Center, in Greensboro, North Carolina. The [Follow Jesus '25 website](#) is now live and contains these and other details. More information, such as rates and registration, is expected to be released in early November. **Read the rest of 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, Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team, and Visitation 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

Commission Meeting Minutes

Work Order & Purchase Request Forms
