

# ***THE MIDWEEK***



## **WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY 9:30 AM**

This Sunday, Kevin Chupp will preach a sermon titled *Arc* using Isaiah 11:1-9.

When we know what end we're aiming for, we can chart our path more confidently. We anticipate the new creation will be painted as vividly as Isaiah's vision of the peaceable kingdom. How do we cultivate hope for that future? How do we form our hope?

## **After Worship**

**Adult CE**  
Room 8

**Children & Youth CE**  
Pre-K-4th Grades  
5th-12th Grades

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



## Last Call! Evaluation

---

**Due this Friday, August 29**

The Vision Team and Commissions undergo annual evaluations. The Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team invites and encourages you to fill out a *brief* evaluation form about the effectiveness of our Vision Team, which is open to all people within the congregation. Also, there is a Self-Evaluation section only for those serving on Commissions. Please know that your survey responses will be gathered by the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team and applicable feedback will be shared with the Vision Team and Commissions. This is the last call for you to fill out this evaluation form! **Click on [this link](#) to fill out the evaluation form. The evaluation process will close on Friday, August 29.**

*From the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team*

---

## Menno Movers



---

**Thursday/Friday/Saturday August 28-30**

Ashley and her family are ready to move! They are seeking help on Thursday night from 6pm-9pm, Friday anytime after 12pm, or Saturday anytime after 10am. They will be using her van and some pickup trucks if you want to drive in a spacious vehicle as well. Thanks in advance for the help!



---

## Service of Anointing

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. You can come forward to pray for yourself, someone else, or for our hurting world.

*From the Congregational Care Committee*

---

## Next step in MCN's Congregational and Pastoral Review

---

**This Sunday, August 31 during the CE hour**

This Sunday, August 31, there will be no adult Christian Education so that we can gather during that time for guided listening and storytelling as part of our Congregational and Pastoral Review. During this time, you will be invited to join a small group to share or simply listen as you feel led. Please take part in this important effort in supporting our church functioning. This process is drawn from MC USA's process outlined in the document entitled: "[Pastoral/Congregational Review: The Appreciative Way](#)." As this will be Kevin Chupp's 3rd annual evaluation, this whole process will be followed by a recommendation and congregational vote on whether Kevin will be called to serve another term. If you have any questions, you can reach out to a member of the Vision Team: Shelly, chair; Helen, Shannon, Ben

*Shared by the Vision Team*

# Ecology and Sustainability in India:

## a presentation offered by Emily

---

**Sunday, September 14 at 5:00 PM at the MRC Community Building.**

Emily writes: I will be sharing about the Goshen College SST course that I took this past May, Ecology and Sustainability in India. During our three weeks away, we traveled from Delhi up the Ganges River towards the Himalayan Mountains where we were hosted at Hanifl Center, an environmental center in the popular mountain town of Mussoorie. Our classwork was mostly about sustainability issues such as changing land use and population growth, water availability, and human and animal conflicts, but we also got the chance to visit several different houses of worship.

*Sponsored by the Community Life Commission*

---

## Vision Team Chair



Ben has been called by The Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team to serve as Chair of the Vision Team. SGDT asks for your feedback on this call. Please email any feedback you have to Janet **by September 15**. Thank you!

*From the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team*



## Fall Worship: Sacred Pathways

---

In our worship together this Fall, we will give special attention to the ways in which we relate to God and find ourselves spiritually energized and fulfilled. Gary Thomas' book [Sacred Pathways](#) offers a sort of spiritual typology that imagines nine "pathways" we might find ourselves drawn to in our lives of faith. You can see a video introduction to the topic [here](#). We also hope you will take [the inventory](#) and share the results with the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team (you can share results with Pastor Kevin in person or email to [kevin@normalmennonite.org](mailto:kevin@normalmennonite.org))

- **August 31** – Inventory provided to the congregation
- **September 7** – Naturalists – Genesis 1:1-2:4a (same as NL text). Initial results of congregation shared.
- **September 14** – Sensates – 2 Corinthians 2:12-17
- **September 21** – Traditionalists – Leviticus 23:1-8
- **September 28** – Ascetics – 1 Corinthians 9:19-27
- **October 5** – Activists – James 1:19-27
- **October 12** – Caregivers – Galatians 6:1-10
- **October 19** – Contemplatives – Psalm 63
- **October 26** – Enthusiasts – Ephesians 5:15-21
- **November 2** – Intellectuals – Proverbs 1:1-7, 20-33
- **November 9** – Return to Narrative Lectionary, SGDT call for further feedback on series and last call for inventories.
- **November 10** – Pastor Kevin will work at compiling/collating information not yet accounted for

## Upcoming Youth Fundraisers



Funds for youth who attended convention were provided by a reserve fund that has grown over the years from various fundraisers by youth. Now it's our turn to build the reserve back up for future youth. There will be a couple fundraising opportunities this year. The first will be a mum sale which will begin either the first or second Sunday of September and will continue until all the mums (48!) are sold. Keep an eye on the Midweek for further information about pricing.

*Shared by the Discipling Commission*

## Photos from Asheville

View **more** photos from our MCN group who volunteered with Mennonite Disaster Service in Asheville, NC last week [here](#)!

## MCC School Kits



We continue to collect school supplies for Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) this Sunday. There is a table for drop off. Please pay attention to the type of supplies required, MCC wants special items.

The list is as follows:

- 4 Spiral notebooks. 8.5 X10.5. 70 sheets in each notebook
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 12 colored pencils in a box
- 1 large eraser
- 4 new black or blue ballpoint pens, not with separate lids
- 1 ruler, flexible, with 30cm.

If you have a problem finding rulers or pencil sharpeners we can order online. We need people to sew bags. We are glad to provide the fabric. Contact Louise. If you do not want to shop and prefer to donate money, we can order for you. Lets get this project going, but we need your help!!!! Contact Louise with any questions.

*From Louise*

The newest edition of Central District Conference's monthly Connector publication is now available to read [here](#). This edition highlights some milestones of our member congregations, including the 50th anniversary of Paoli Mennonite Fellowship and Emmaus Road Mennonite Fellowship dedicating a new church building. Also inside is a story about a children's book that started as a liturgical banner along with the latest edition of Doug's Mug. **If you would like a paper copy, are now available to take from the library table.**

## Summer Sermon Series



In light of the celebration of 500 years of Anabaptism, we will spend this Summer together in worship reflecting on some of the central convictions that have guided Anabaptists through the centuries with an eye toward how we have changed and what might be next. Here is the outline of where we are going:

- August 31: Hope

If you would like more information, you can find a more detailed outline [here](#).



## Those Serving This Week



## 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 ([lauren@normalmennonite.org](mailto:lauren@normalmennonite.org)) 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.





## This Week at MCN



A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CHURCH CALENDAR:

### **Wednesday, August 27**

**1:00 pm** Quilt Project for Home Sweet Home Ministries

**6:30 pm** Congregational Care Committee (Zoom)

### **Thursday, August 28**

**7:00 am** Next Man Bible Study

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

### **Sunday, August 31**

**11:00 am** Next Step in MCN's Congregational and Pastoral Review

### **Monday, September 1**

**All Day** Office/Building Closed for Labor Day

### **Tuesday, September 2**

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

### **Wednesday, September 3**

**1:00 pm** Quilt Project for Home Sweet Home Ministries



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

CELEBRATING LIFE'S MOMENTS AT MCN





# CASA 101

## COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES

Every child has a chance – It's you.

Join volunteers and staff to learn more about volunteering as a Court Appointed Special Advocate for a child living in foster care.

**SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> AT 6PM**

Bloomington Public Library  
Community Room 3

**CASA**  
Court Appointed Special Advocates  
FOR CHILDREN  
MCLEAN AND LOGAN COUNTIES

## *The Land and Our Story*

"We both grew up with deep connections to the land. Both of us grew up on farms, where woods, fields, streams, and animals were a part of our daily lives. We watched our parents care for the land in the best ways that they knew how. We also both watched our parents struggle financially to be able to earn their livelihoods from the land. We also both grew up hearing hazy stories of Native Americans living on the lands before our times. Dan, growing up in northern New York state, heard stories of his grandfather going to Ontario to hire Native men to work on his farm. He passed through the land of the Onondaga Nation on his road trips while dating Jeanne. For Jeanne, growing up on this land in Ohio, it was finding ancient arrowheads in the fields and living near Little Chippewa Creek, which carried the name of one of the indigenous tribes of the land. The experience of working internationally from 1989-2017 in DR Congo, Nigeria, Indonesia, and across Southeast Asia opened our eyes to indigenous ways of viewing the land. Being outside our own context allowed us to reflect on our own family stories on the land that were part of each of our family's identities." **Read Dan Jantzi and Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi's blog post for Mennonite Men [here](#).**

## *United to sing*

Emma Nord spent July traveling Europe with the Eastern Mennonite University Chamber Singers. They concluded their trip by performing with four other ensembles at Mennonite World Conference's Anabaptism at 500 celebration in Zurich, Switzerland. **Read Emma Nord's Menno Snapshot for Mennonite Church USA [here](#).**

# Dismukes Project Learning Tour

---

**September 23-26**

Join Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes for the Dismukes Project Learning Tour on September 23-26: 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 and learn about MCC's work to preserve Black history in the area. Learn more and register [here](#).

## From the Mennonite perspective, faith is not an individual thing

---

"When God called Abram, our forefather in faith, he said, 'I will bless you, and in you all peoples of the earth shall be blessed.' I take that to be my personal mission — called to be a blessing to others. Working with a Mennonite Disaster Service project is a natural way of doing that. I'm a retired pastor and carpenter. My work with MDS brings together my two worlds. I was still involved as a pastor when I took the month and worked in Williams Lake. The fires happened in 2017. I didn't get there until 2018. I arrived in the latter days of August and left at the end of September. I flew from Toronto to Vancouver, then from Vancouver to Williams Lake. Flying over the mountains in a smaller plane, that's when I began to see signs of a forest that's been burned." **Read the rest of David Brubacher, Sophie Kunka, and Caroline Tucker's article for the *Anabaptist World* [here](#).**

## Accompanying in fear: A reflection on love and action in a time of uncertainty

---

In a blog post for Mennonite Church USA, Sandra Montes-Martinez shares the importance of accompanying immigrants and sharing God's love through action. **Read Sandra Montes-Martinez's Menno Snapshot published by Mennonite Church USA [here](#). Lee en [español](#).**

## College Mennonite Church identifies community needs through "Spreading Kindness"

---

Eighty families from [College Mennonite Church](#), in Goshen, Indiana, helped bless people who may have been otherwise overlooked, by distributing a total of \$20,000 to their community during the month of December 2024, as part of a unique giving initiative through the [Crossroads United Way](#). Eighty families from College Mennonite Church, In Goshen, Indiana, were involved in "Spreading Kindness" to the Elkhart County, Indiana, community throughout the month of December 2024. Through the generous gift of an anonymous donor, each family or individual received \$250 to perform acts of kindness, with the goal of blessing people who may have been otherwise overlooked. **Read the rest Jessica Griggs's Menno Snapshot for Mennonite Church USA [here](#).**



# A prayer for those experiencing crisis in this time

---

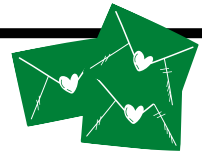
Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz cries out to God for those who are harmed by changes in U.S. immigration policy and enforcement, as well as those who seek justice through peaceful demonstration, and those with the power to effect change. **Read her prayer published by Mennonite Church USA [here](#).**



## Our Members in Care Facilities

---

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



## Staff Contact and Building Open Hours

---

<u>Building Open:</u>	<b>Standard Hours:</b> Monday-Friday 9AM-11AM & 1:30PM-3PM
<u>Lydia Hedberg:</u>	Office Administrator; <a href="mailto:church@normalmennonite.org">church@normalmennonite.org</a> ; 309-452-6622
<u>Rita Munkakusi:</u>	Custodian
<u>Kevin Chupp:</u>	Pastor for Community Life Commission, Outreach Commission, Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team, & Worship Commission; <a href="mailto:kevin@normalmennonite.org">kevin@normalmennonite.org</a>
<u>Lauren Satchwell:</u>	Pastoral Team Lead & Pastor for Administration Commission, Discipling Commission, & Vision Team; <a href="mailto:lauren@normalmennonite.org">lauren@normalmennonite.org</a>

## Past Midweeks

---

# Work Order & Purchase Request Forms

---

## Facility Use Agreement

---

## 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!

## Commission, Team, & Committee Members

---

## Commission Meeting Minutes

---

## Item Check-Out Request Form

---

## Commissions and Teams Contact List

---

## Structure Documents

---