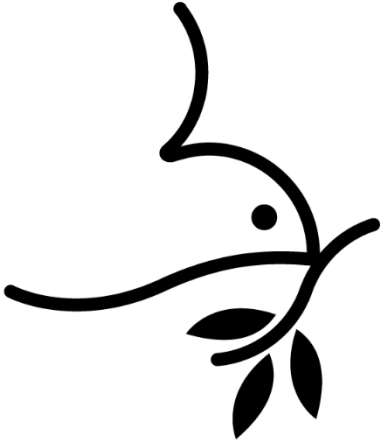




Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

November 23, 2025

Offering Christ's peace to hearts, homes, community and world

Order of Worship

Gather

Welcome and Congregational Life

Prelude

Call to Worship

Hymns

Sing to the God of Harvest

VT* 122

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

VT 747

Gathering Prayer

Listen

Children's Time

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom, vs. 1 & 2

VT 196

Scripture

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

Sermon

Wholehearted Impermanence

Respond

Response in Song

Light Dawns on a Weary World

VT 205

Stewardship Affirmation

Response in Music

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Honoring Illinois Mennonite Conference Relationship

Sent

Sending Song

Beyond a Dying Sun

VT 416

Benediction

Dismissal Song

Dona nobis pacem

VT 707

**Voices Together Hymnal*

Assisting in Worship:

Worship Leader & Planner: Marge Weaver

Accompaniment & Prelude: Bill West

Song Leader: Barry Weaver

Children's Time: Kevin Chupp

Scripture Reading: Caroline Roeschley

Sermon: Kevin Chupp

Pastoral Prayer: Kevin Chupp

Tech: Glenn Wilson & Rick Harnish

In Memoriam:

Joyce Thompson, long-time MRC resident: March 9, 1927 – October 13, 2025

Roberta Bortell, wife of Jim Bortell: April 26, 1947 – October 12, 2025

Doris Shoemaker, member of MCN: April 13, 1926 – September 13, 2025

Evelyn Benner, mom of Steve Benner: January 30, 1944 – July 24, 2025

Announcements from the Midweek:

- **Alternative Gifts Fair:** Sunday is the concluding day of our Alternative Gifts Fair. Our best thanks to the families which again put up very engaging and informative booths for a wide variety of projects. Holly's Pre-School to First Grade Sunday School class also chose a project! And hearty thanks to all who have already supported the Fair! Any amount can be used to support any project! "Prices" on the shopping lists are only suggestions from the MCC and AGI catalogues. Checks should be made out to Mennonite Church of Normal and are fully tax deductible. Thank you for considering this "alternative" way of also remembering our loved ones at Christmas and bringing the light of God's love into other hearts and homes around the world.
- **Vision Team:** Following a nomination from the congregation, SGDT has called Joe to serve on the Vision Team. Joe has accepted this call. SGDT is pleased to announce that the Vision Team for 2026 is all set: Ben steps into the Chair role, Helen continues her term, and Amy and Joe begin their terms.
- **IMC Withdrawal:** As part of Mennonite Church of Normal's withdrawal from Illinois Mennonite Conference, MCN leadership invited Cal Zehr, a member of IMC's Minister Team, to be present with us during today's worship service, where we can acknowledge and express gratitude for our shared history and exchange blessings as we move forward. Cal and his wife, Carol, have also accepted our invitation to share in the fellowship meal immediately following the Christian Education hour. All are welcome! Any questions can be directed to a member of the Vision Team.
- **Periodical Renewals:** Each year the church organizes group subscriptions to three Mennonite publications: *Rejoice!* (a quarterly devotional) by Menno Media for \$38, *The Upper Room Daily Devotional* (delivered quarterly) for \$9.29, and *Anabaptist World* (16 issues) for \$49. This gives everyone the opportunity to subscribe to 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 the church office at 309-452-6622 or church@normalmennonite.org before Monday, December 8th.
- **Spending Plan Status as of October 31, 2025:**

This Week:

Sunday 11/23	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
Tuesday 11/25	3:00 pm	Pastoral Team (Zoom)
	7:30 pm	Vision Team (Zoom)
	6:30 pm	Congregational Care Committee (Zoom)
Wednesday 11/26	9:30 am	Wednesday Morning Book Group
	1:00 pm	HSHM Quilt Project
Thursday 11/27	All Day	Church Office/Building Closed
Friday 11/28	All Day	Church Office/Building Closed
Sunday 11/30	7:00 pm	Adult Choir

Our Vision:

Mennonite Church of Normal is a nurturing, Christ-centered Anabaptist congregation that welcomes all people. As followers of Jesus, we aspire to transform our communities and world into places of peace, healing, and hope.

Our Welcome:

All people of any race, ethnicity, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, age, education, or ability who confess faith in Jesus Christ, are welcome to participate in the full life and ministry of the Mennonite Church of Normal. Furthermore, all people of any gender or sexual orientation who confess faith in Jesus Christ, may become members, be married, and are eligible for all volunteer, staff, and pastoral positions at MCN.

After Worship Christian Education:

Pre-K – 1 st Grades	Room 9/12
2 nd – 5 th Grades	Room 11
Junior High	Conference Room
High School	Room 8
Adults	Room 5/7

Building Open Hours: Monday – Friday 9am-11am & 1:30pm-3pm

Office Administrator: Lydia Hedberg | church@normalmennonite.org
309-452-6622

Custodian: Rita Munkakusi

Community Life Commission, Outreach Commission, Spiritual Gifts

Discernment Team, & Worship Commission Pastor:

Kevin Chupp | kevin@normalmennonite.org

Pastor Kevin designated office hours: Wednesdays, 8am-12pm (or call to plan a visit)

Pastoral Team Leader and Administration Commission, Discipling Commission, and Vision Team Pastor:

Lauren Satchwell | lauren@normalmennonite.org