



# Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA

**January 11, 2026**

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

# Order of Worship

## Gather

Welcome and Congregational Life

Prelude

Call to Worship

## Praise

Hymns *In the Beginning* VT\* 270

*Here I Am to Worship* VT 227

Gathering Prayer

## Listen

Children's Time *Come on, Children, to the Gospel Feast* VT 511

Scripture John 2:1-11

Sermon *Prosody*

## Respond

Response in Song *I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Grace* VT 590

Honoring God with Our Gifts

Response in Music

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

## Sent

Sending Song *Praise Him, Praise Him* VT 100

Sending Prayer

Dismissal Song *Amen* VT 689

*\*Voices Together Hymnal*

## Assisting in Worship:

**Worship Leader & Planner:** Joe Culpepper

**Accompaniment, Prelude, & Response in Music:** Lydia Hedberg

**Song Leader:** Barry Weaver

**Children's Time:** Darrel Miller

**Scripture Reader:** Rita Munkakusi

**Sermon:** Kevin Chupp

**Pastoral Prayer:** Kevin Chupp

**Tech:** Glenn Wilson & Ryan Miller

### In Memoriam:

**Mary Ann King**, member of MCN: October 11, 1939 – January 5, 2026

**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:

- **Annual Report:** You can read the 2025 Annual Report at the link in the Midweek. The Annual Meeting will be on January 18th at 1 pm.
- **Annual Meeting Meal:** There will be a Potluck Meal to precede the Annual Meeting on January 18th. Please bring a dish to share that would feed 6-8 people. As always, feel free to trade with someone if you want to bring something else. Last names A-H: dessert. Last names I-P: Main dish. Last Names Q-Z: salad or side dish.
- **Midwest Food Bank Volunteering:** Our next volunteer night at Midwest Food Bank is Thursday, January 22 from 6-8pm. MFB wants us to sign up at least a week ahead of time to facilitate their project planning, so if you think you might go, please sign up as early as possible with the link in the Midweek.
- **Winter Retreat:** EVERYONE is invited to a weekend of fellowship and fun at camp, January 23-25! Friedenswald is a beautiful retreat with large, comfortable, warm lodges for us to stay in. Whether you're looking for social time or solitude, there's something for everyone! For more details and to sign up, please use the link in the Midweek.
- **Hopedale Quilt Bash:** Our congregation has again been invited to take part in a Quilt Bash at Hopedale Mennonite Church on February 13 & 14. They have requested our help both on those dates and also asked us to make 10 comforter tops to be knotted. Beginning on January 14, we will be meeting every Wednesday from 1-4:00 sewing and constructing tops.
- **2026 Annual Theme:** Over the past several months, the Vision Team has been reflecting on MCN's Vision and Welcome Statements and listening for ways to help our congregation live more fully into them. One of the insights that emerged was this: while our Vision is strong and meaningful, it can be difficult to keep it at the forefront of our shared life – especially across commissions, ministries, and seasons of change. Rather than revising goals or creating new expectations, the Vision Team chose a simpler, more relational approach: a unifying annual theme that can guide our worship, planning, and life together in a natural and flexible way. For 2026, that theme is *Connections*. The guiding phrase for the year will be: "Deepening Connections with God, with Others, with Our Past, and with Our Future."
- **Contribution Statements:** The 2025 Contribution Statements were emailed to everyone on Tuesday, January 6th. If you did not receive yours, have questions about it, or would like a printed copy placed in your church mailbox, please contact the church office.

### **This Week:**

Monday 1/12	5:00 pm	Outreach Commission (Zoom)
Tuesday 1/13	3:00 pm	Pastoral Team (Zoom)
Wednesday 1/14	9:30 am	Wednesday Morning Book Group
	7:00 pm	Community Life Commission (Zoom)
	7:00 pm	Fellowship Committee (Zoom)
Thursday 1/15	7:00 am	Next Man Bible Study
Sunday 1/18	1:00 pm	Annual Meeting

### **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 <sup>st</sup> Grades	Room 9/12
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> 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