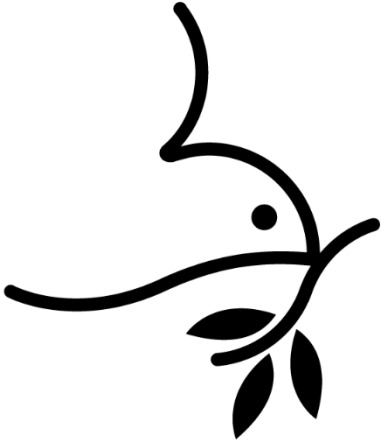




Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

July 12, 2026

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

Order of Worship

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome and Congregational Life

Prelude

Call to Worship

Singing Praise to God

Hymns of Praise

What Is This Place

VT* 22

Jesus Calls Us

VT 30

Gathering Prayer

Hearing God's Word

Children's Time

Come On, Children, to the Gospel Feast

VT 511

Scripture

James 5:13-20

Sermon

Not What Ought

Responding to God's Word

Song of Response

We Walk by Faith

VT 588

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Stewardship Affirmation

Sending in the Spirit's Power

Sending Song

Christ Is Alive, and Goes Before Us

VT 565

Benediction

Final Response

Amen (Threefold)

VT 690

**Voices Together Hymnal*

Assisting in Worship:

Worship Planner & Leader: Wayne Hochstetler

Accompaniment & Prelude: Bill West

Song Leader: Cindy Ropp

Children's Time: Joe Culpepper

Scripture Reader: Rita Munkakusi

Sermon: Kevin Chupp

Pastoral Prayer: Kevin Chupp

Tech: Caleb Augspurger & Glenn Wilson

In Memoriam:

Esther Brown, member of MCN: October 22, 1939 – May 9, 2026

Ardys Serpette, member of MCN: July 5, 1939 – July 7, 2026

Announcements from the Midweek:

- **Connection Sunday Picnic at Sugar Grove Nature Center:** Today, July 12, pack a picnic lunch and head out to Sugar Grove Nature Center (4532 N 725 East Rd, McLean, IL 61754) for an afternoon of fun. Sugar Grove has a picnic shelter, a small creek, walking trails, trees to climb, and outdoor toys. Plan to leave immediately following the service and stay as long as you like. For those unable to join, coffee and fellowship will also be available.
- **Leaning Into Summer A Poetry and Pizza Fest:** Please join us for another enjoyable chance to hear poetry and enjoy fellowship and pizza together next Sunday, July 19 at 11 am. Judith Valente, whom many of you know, will read poems from her latest collection, "How To Be A Contemplative" and talk about writing poetry as a contemplative practice. She will be joined by award-winning Chicago poet Albert DeGenova, editor of the literary magazine *After Hours* who will read some of his delightful poems. Longtime WJBC broadcaster Steve Vogel has agreed to come and read a passage from his new memoir, "Broadcast News" about growing up and working in radio in McLean County. There will also be a few musical selections by flutist Mary Beth Godfrey of Bloomington.
- **Midwest Food Bank Volunteering:** Our next volunteer night at Midwest Food Bank (MFB) is Monday, July 27 from 6-8pm. MFB wants us to sign up at least two weeks ahead of time to facilitate their project planning. Please sign up as early as possible with the link in the Midweek.
- **A Quest for Purpose:** Our July 28th Worship and Adult Christian Education will feature Ruth Keidel Clemens. She will also be at Flannagan Library on Saturday, July 25, giving a talk about her new book, *A Quest for Purpose*. Learn more in the Midweek.
- **CDC Delegate Report:** Central District Conference (CDC) Annual Meeting was held at Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) in Harrisonburg, Virginia, from June 25 through 27. Read Mary's delegate report and view photos and highlights shared by CDC at the links in the Midweek.
- **Project SACRED:** Outreach Commission has heard the call to respond to the troubling history of Mennonite participation with Indian residential schools for indigenous children. It feels complex to seek repair in such situations, but Project SACRED (Mennonite Church USA) is working toward tangible acts of solidarity with indigenous people such as the repatriation of children who were buried at these schools. Outreach Commission has given \$500, and we invite you all to join us in contributing. Learn more in the Midweek.

This Week:

Sunday 7/12	11:00 am	Connection Sunday: Picnic at Sugar Grove Nature Center
Monday 7/13	9:30 am	Community Life Commission
Tuesday 7/14	3:00 pm	Pastoral Team (Zoom)
Wednesday 7/15	1:00 pm	Quilting
Thursday 7/16	7:00 am	Next Man Bible Study
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study
Sunday 7/19	11:00 am	Leaning Into Summer: A Poetry and Pizza Fest

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:

Adults

Rooms 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