

ANNOUNCEMENTS *and* BIRTHDAYS

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Anthony Schreiber (MON), Gordon Oyer & Brent Racobs (WED), Marlin Sieber (THU), Courtney Malcolm (FRI)

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TODAY at 5pm - FMC Works for Racial Justice listening circle. In response to ongoing discussions about racial disparities in our community, particularly following the recent report of the Champaign County Racial Justice Task Force, come to hear and share ideas about how God is leading FMC during this time.

December 24 & 31 – Join us for fellowship and refreshments at 9 am. Sunday morning worship will start at 10 a.m. No Sunday school will be held.

Next Sunday, December 24 at 6:30 pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service for all ages.

2017 FMC budget update - We are making good progress toward the amount of income needed to support committee work, church expenses, and our planned missions giving. Approximately \$11,600 is still needed in offerings by the end of December.

Sunday, January 7th, 5:30-7pm at New Covenant Fellowship (124 W. White St., Champaign) – Fellowship Dinner with our 5th Sunday friends from Salem Baptist, Bethel AME, New Covenant, and Champaign Church of the Brethren. Bring a side dish to share. New Covenant Fellowship will provide the main dish. Expect fun conversation and an opportunity to share ideas about deepening our collaboration as faith communities joined across racial and cultural divides.



January 7: Fellowship Dinner with 5th Sunday friends (location- New Covenant)

January 12-14: High school retreat at Menno Haven

January 19-21: Middle school retreat at Menno Haven

January 21: Annual Congregational meeting (1p)

January 28: “Resisting Marginalization” afternoon workshop by Joe Minarik, Education Specialist at UI who focuses on anti-oppression and social justice education. More details in the coming weeks.

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana • 902 West Springfield Avenue • Urbana, IL 61801-3021
Office Hours: 9:00AM-2:00PM (Tuesday – Friday) • **Phone:** (217) 367-5353 • **Website:** www.fmc-cu.org
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Rhonda Gibson, Administrative Assistant • office@fmc-cu.org
Ministers: Every member of the congregation

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN URBANA

A congregation of Mennonite Church USA



Celebration of Worship

ADVENT 3: *Let it Be*

December 17, 2017

Centering chimes

Prelude

The Father's Rose arr. Mark Hays

Lighting of solidarity lamp – *Symbolic of our Sister Church relationship with El Divino Redentor.*

Welcome & prayer

***Purple songbook #4**

“Rejoice, rejoice, the Savior comes”

Dramatic reading

***Congregational response**

Leader: We see Mary's place: her insignificance and her powerlessness.

All: But there is also an invitation to carry light from a mothering God.

Leader: Light not brought over her, casting her in shadow, but light brought to her and placed within her.

All: Light for the low, light for the marginalized, light for women, light for the young.

Leader: Mary brings hope and light to us through herself and her strength.

***Purple songbook #124**

“My soul cries out”

***Hymnal #172**

“O come, O come, Immanuel”

Lighting the Advent candles

Children's story and offering (*please pass the welcome pads*)

Congregation sings as children come forward (purple songbook #47)

Ensemble

Be it unto me by Davis & Stone

Scripture: Luke 1:26-45 (page 933)

Sermon

How have God's words of assurance and blessing made you bold, shrewd, courageous, strong, or joyful? Reflections by women at FMC

Scripture: Luke 1:46-55 (page 934)

***Green songbook #13**

“My soul is filled with joy”

Offering *(prayer cards collected)*

Offertory

Sharing and prayers of the people


Introduction of guests

Work of the church *(please come to the front if you have an announcement)*

*Hymnal #189

*Benediction

Christmas carol medley



**Stand if you are able*

Thanks to our worship and welcome teams

Worship leader – Donna Nelson Evans
Song leaders – Matt Yoder
Piano – Phyllis Croisant
Choir chimes – Rebecca Bare, Cindy Breeze, Sheryl Dyck, Phyllis Croisant, Kajsa Herrstrom, David & Rachel Horst Lehman, Tina Huang, Mary Krick, Marcia Nelson, Berit Rasmussen, Kathy Springer
Pastor Deb - Director
Cello – Berit Rasmussen, **Violin** – Rebecca Bare
Ensemble - Alex Bidner, Cindy Breeze, Clark Breeze, David and Rachel Horst Lehman, Pete Shungu, Kathy Springer, and Matt Yoder
Accompanist - Phyllis Croisant
Dramatic reading – Tammie Bouseman, David Black, & Sophie Green
Advent candle lighters – David Black & Sophie Green
Children’s story – Keith Springer
Scripture readers – Matt Yoder & Ruth Stoltzfus
Congregational response by Amanda Heinsman
Sermon, sharing & prayer – Pastor Michael
Greeters – Denny & Nancy Seaman, Sam Cox
Sound system – Laurence Koehn
Stewards – Scott Bidner & Tammie Bouseman
Visuals – Rachel Horst Lehman
Worship nursery – Rhonda Gibson & Reba King
Refreshments – Emily King & Karla Woodson

Next Sunday at FMC: December 24
Advent 4 – Let it Be

Worship leader – Sue Biddle
Song leader – Andrea Welty Peachey
Piano – Ruth Stoltzfus
Dramatic reading – Tammie Bouseman & TBD
Advent candle lighter – TBD
Children’s story – Kathy Springer
Scripture readers – Tammie Bouseman & George Ordal
Congregational response by Amanda Heinsman
Sermon, sharing & prayer – Pastor Michael
Greeters – Denny & Nancy Seaman, Sam Cox
Sound system – Laurence Koehn
Visuals – Rachel Horst Lehman
Worship nursery – Marcia Nelson & Beth Remppe
Refreshments – Dan & Jill Schreiber

Welcome, Guests

It is a joy to welcome you into our midst! We pray that God meets you as we worship together this morning and that our church family helps you feel at home. Join us down-stairs for refreshments after the service so that we can get to know you.

Hearing assisted devices are available from the greeters. T-coil enabled and standard over-ear devices are available.

Childcare for children birth through preschool is available downstairs during worship and the education hour.

Our current children’s offering benefits Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) to help with hurricane relief efforts. All are welcome to give to the offering during next few months.

Join us after the service for...

FELLOWSHIP HOUR – 10:45
You are welcome to stay for refreshments and conversation downstairs after the service. A snack is available for children.

CLASSES FOR ALL AGES – 11:15 AM
All are welcome to attend any Sunday.

Quarterly Adult Classes *(December - February)*
Soul music & spiritual reflection – sanctuary
Biblical survey of faith in action (Bible study) – library

Ongoing Adult Discussion Groups *(year-round)*
Coffee and Conversation – Room 5 (downstairs)
Knit and Nurture – Nursery (downstairs)
Young Adults – Room 13 (downstairs)

Children & Youth Classes *(downstairs)*
Pre-K/K – Room 6 **Grades 5-8** – Room 3
Grades 1-6 – Room 10/11 **Grades 9-12** - Room 7
(Nursery care provided for children birth through preschool)

THIS WEEK at FMC		
For a full listing of events, visit our website at www.fmc-cu.org .		
SUN	9:15 AM	Worship at FMC (Advent 3)
	10:45 AM	Fellowship & refreshments
	11:15 AM	Sunday school for all ages
	12:00 PM	Junior Youth Fellowship (JYF) Christmas party
WED	11:00 AM	FMC library reserved until 2 pm
	6:00 PM	Spiritual Leadership Team
THU	6:45 AM	Early morning Bible study

UPCOMING

SUN	9:00 AM	Fellowship & refreshments
24	10:00 AM	Worship (Advent 4) (No Sunday school)
	6:30 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (for all ages)

MON 25 & TUE 26:
FMC office closed

Pastor Deb on vacation December 25 – January 8

