

ANNOUNCEMENTS *and* BIRTHDAYS

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Kate Falk (TUE), Soren Schrag (WED), Dannie Otto & Beth Rempe (FRI)

• • • • •

2017 FMC budget update - Thank you for your continued contributions and generosity. We have surpassed the amount of income needed to support committee work, church expenses, and our planned missions giving in 2017! Contributions made today continue to count towards 2017 income.

Next 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 11 – “Un-decorating” party at 5:15 pm. Anyone who is available is welcome to stop by FMC for pizza and to help “un-decorate” the church.

January 21 – Noon potluck followed by our Annual Congregational meeting (1 pm)

January 28, 3-5 pm at FMC - “*Resisting Marginalization*” afternoon workshop by Joe Minarik, Education Specialist at UI who focuses on anti-oppression and social justice education. Details coming soon.

Dear FMC family – We are sincerely grateful for the gifts we received this Christmas. We are very appreciative of your love and support during the past year. It is a privilege to serve you.

-- *Pastor Michael, Pastor Deb, and Rhonda Gibson*

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
Pastor Michael Crosby • michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org and **Associate Pastor Debra Sutter** • debra.sutter@fmc-cu.org
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

Christmas Sunday

December 31, 2017

Centering chimes

Prelude

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

Welcome & prayer

***Hymnal #210**

“Good Christian friends, rejoice”

Dramatic reading

***Congregational response**

Leader: Our whole being leaps to action with joy

All: We will not be silent

Leader: We will not rest until redemption shines like the dawn

All: We will work with vulnerability, honesty, and courage

Leader: Bringing our dreams, hopes, and visions.

All: Let all things be new!

***Hymnal #196**

“While shepherds watched”

Reading

The irrational season

***Hymnal #209**

“Oh, how joyfully”

Lighting the Advent candles

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

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

Special music

Scripture: Isaiah 61:10-62:3 (*page 678*) and **Luke 2:22-40** (*page 935*)

Sermon

Endings and beginnings

***Green songbook #25**

“When long before time”

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*)

***Purple songbook #28**

“Holy Child within the manger”

***Benediction**

**Stand if you are able*



Thanks to our worship and
welcome teams

Worship leader – Beth Rempe
Song leader – Rafael Luquis
Piano – Liz Mallott
Dramatic reading – Rebecca Bare & Andrea Koehn
Advent candle lighter – Andrea Koehn
Children’s story – Keith Springer
Special music – Mary Krick, David & Rachel Horst Lehman
Offertory – Lesley Deem
Scripture readers – Tom Anderson & Grace Sancken
Congregational response by Amanda Heinsman
Sermon, sharing & prayer – Pastor Michael
Greeters – Marlin Sieber, Martha Moore, Sam Cox
Visuals – Rachel Horst Lehman
Sound system – Laurence Koehn
Stewards – Scott Bidner & Tammie Bouseman
Worship nursery – Amber Anderson & Pam Peña-Martin
Refreshments – Randy & Marcia Nelson

Next Sunday at FMC:
January 7

Worship leader – Matt Yoder
Music – Worship Band
Dramatic reading – Tammie Bouseman & Liesl Schrag
Advent candle lighter – Liesl Schrag
Children’s story – Keith Springer
Scripture readers – Laura Brenneman & David Horst-Lehman
Congregational response by Amanda Heinsman
Sermon, sharing & prayer – Pastor Michael
Greeters – Randy Nelson, Kaye Massanari, Kristy Rice
Sound system – Phil Martens
Visuals – Rachel Horst Lehman
Stewards - TBD
Worship nursery – Rachel Horst-Lehman & Tina Huang
Refreshments – Alexandra Bidner & Ken Nisly-Nagele

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.

A New Year’s Prayer (author unknown)

May God make your year a happy one!

Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;

Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;

Not by taking hardships from you,
But by taking fear from your heart;

Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright,
even in the shadows;

Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you when people and their
causes need you most, and by making
you anxious to be there to help.

God’s love, peace, hope and joy to you
for the year ahead.

THIS WEEK at FMC

For a full listing of events, visit our website at www.fmc-cu.org.

SUN	9:00 AM	Fellowship & refreshments
	10:00 AM	Worship
		No Sunday school

TUE: FMC office closed;
Pastor Deb is on vacation through January 8

WED	5:45 PM	Service & Outreach Committee
THU	6:45 AM	Early morning Bible study
	5:00 PM	Property & Finance Committee

UPCOMING

SUN	9:15 AM	Worship (Epiphany)
7	10:45 AM	Fellowship & refreshments
	11:15 AM	Sunday school for all ages
	12:00 PM	Hospitality & Fellowship Cmte.
	5:30 PM	5 Th Sunday potluck at New Covenant Fellowship
WED	6:00 PM	FMC Joint 2017/2018 Council meeting
10		
THU	6:45 AM	Early morning Bible study
11		Pastor Peer mtg. (Normal, IL)
	5:15 PM	Worship Committee & undecorating party
	5:30 PM	Christian Education Committee