

ANNOUNCEMENTS *and* BIRTHDAYS

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Sue Biddle, Daniel Nisly-Nagele, Keith Springer (TODAY), Cindy Breeze (MON), Natalie & Nathaniel Bidner (TUE), Henry Thomas (SAT)

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Tuesday, May 1 - Deadline to sign-up for and pay \$25 deposit for June 15-17 contemplative retreat at Chiara Center (in Springfield, IL). Make checks payable to: First Mennonite Church with "contemplative retreat" in memo line.

2018 GRADUATES - For all graduates 8th grade and beyond, please contact the church office by Sunday, May 6 with the following information: graduate's name, degree earned, school or college, and what is next. *High schools seniors, please submit a picture for publication.*

Friday, May 11, 6:30 pm at the Bidner Farm (731 County Road 2400 North, Champaign, IL) - Graduation Party & Bonfire for Nathaniel Bidner, who graduates from the U of I this May.

Ted & Company Visit on May 13 – Ted Swartz and Compnay will be our presenters during worship and will host a Q & A during Sunday school. In the afternoon, they will present the play "I'd Like to Buy an Enemy". Flyers for the afternoon event are available in the foyer for you to take to share with neighbors and friends. We welcome above offering donations to help cover the cost of Ted's visit. Checks should be made out to FMC with "Ted & Co visit" in the memo line. Contact Pastor Michael with questions.

Do you know anyone who could help with child care during the Ted & Co. performance the afternoon of May 13? If so, please contact Pastor Michael asap.

FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH AND SPONSORS - Dear congregation, a heartfelt "thank you" for your generous donations of more than \$1,100 toward our upcoming summer service trip with Mennonite Mission Network's DOOR in Chicago this summer.

SAVE THE DATE REMINDER - Our FMC All-Church Retreat will be at Camp Menno Haven (Tiskilwa, IL) over Labor Day Weekend (Friday, August 31 - Sunday, September 2, 2018). The retreat committee continues to plan and will publicize details in the coming weeks. There is a registration fee with financial assistance available.

The Christian Education Committee meets in May to plan for the next Sunday school year, which begins in the Fall. Sunday school topics, sponsors, and teachers for all ages are needed. The committee invites you to offer Sunday school suggestions and to prayerfully consider teaching/sponsor positions. Please take a little time to complete the Christian Education survey/volunteer form included in last Tuesday's email prayer list/announcement email (paper copies available in the church office). Input is needed by tomorrow.

Monday, May 28 - Menno Haven's Rally Day & 5K Run/2K Walk - Come celebrate the beginning of a new summer camp season! Details on the bulletin board.

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana • 902 West Springfield Avenue • Urbana, IL 61801-3021
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Pastor Michael Crosby • michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org and Associate Pastor Debra Sutter • debra.sutter@fmc-cu.org
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Ministers: Every member of the congregation



FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN URBANA
A congregation of Mennonite Church USA

Celebration *of* Worship

April 29, 2018

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Centering chimes

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

Prelude

Welcome & prayer

*Hymnal #75 "Holy, holy, holy"

*Call to worship (*from Psalm 22:25-31*)

East: O my God, I offer praise in the great congregation because of you.

West: I will fulfill my promises in the presence of those who honor God.

East: Let all those who are suffering eat and be full!

West: Let all who seek the LORD offer praise! May their hearts live forever!

East: Every part of the earth will remember and come back to the LORD.

West: Indeed, all the earth's powerful will worship God.

East: Future descendants will serve God.

West: They will proclaim God's righteousness to those not yet born,
telling them what God has done.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S LOVE

*Hymn story: "The love of God" (green songbook #44)

Hymn story: "Blessed Assurance" (hymnal #325)

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

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

PROCLAIMING OUR CALL TO LOVE

Scripture: 1 John 4:7-21 (*p.1114*)

Purple songbook #43 "Remember this"

*Green songbook #61 "How can we be silent"

PROCLAIMING GOD’S STRENGTH AND HOPE

Offering *(prayer cards collected)*

Offertory

Hymnal #119

“Praise God from whom” (words below)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; in heav’n above and earth below;
one God three persons we adore. To God be praise for evermore. Amen.

*Hymn story: “Precious Lord, Take My Hand” (Hymnal #575)

Hymn story: “In the bulb there is a flower” (Hymnal #614)

COMMUNITY LIFE

Sharing and prayers of the people

*Sung prayer

“Healer of our every ill” (Hymnal #377)

Introduction of guests

Work of the church

*Benediction hymn

“The Lord lift you up” (Green songbook #73)

**Stand if you are able*



It is a joy to welcome you today. Your presence enriches this gathering. 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 and standard over-ear devices are available.
Childcare for children birth - preschool is available downstairs during worship and the education hour.

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 *(March - May)*

Bystander Training – sanctuary

Praying with the Bible – 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 age 2)

Thanks to our worship and welcome teams

Worship leader – Pastor Deb
Song Leaders – Cindy Breeze, Andrea Welty Peachey
Piano – Ivette Herryman-Rodriguez, Pastor Deb
Offertory – Cindy Breeze, Andrea Welty Peachey, Kathy Springer (vocals), Anna Lubienski (cello)
Children’s story – Alex Bidner
Scripture reader – Peter Dyck
Sharing & prayer – Pastor Michael
Greeters – Kate Falk, Chuck Gibson, Karla Woodson
Sound system – Randy Nelson
Visuals – banners by Lynne Sancken
Stewards – Peter Dyck & Mary Krick
Worship nursery – Megan Cox, Melissa Shungu, Mary Hines (on call)
Refreshments – Chuck & Rhonda Gibson

Our current children’s offering benefits the Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice Project (IBARJ), which works to foster sustainable restorative practices. All are welcome to give to the children’s offering.



Next Sunday at FMC:
May 6

Worship leader – Rhonda Gibson
Song Leader – Bev Birkey Potts
Piano – TBD
Children’s story – Mary Biddle
Scripture reader – TBD
Sermon, sharing & prayer – Pastor Michael
Greeters – Tom Anderson, Lesley Deem, Cynthia Nafziger
Sound system – TBA
Visuals – banners by Lynne Sancken
Stewards – Kate Falk & Laurence Koehn
Worship nursery – Rebecca Bare, Chuck Gibson, Mary Biddle (on call)
Refreshments – Tina Huang & David Schrag