

ANNOUNCEMENTS *and* BIRTHDAYS

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Rachel Rasmussen (FRI)

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TODAY at 12:30 pm – Advent choir rehearsal after lunch (each person provides his/her own lunch). A second rehearsal will be at 10 am this Saturday, December 15. The choir will sing during worship on December 16.

The Knit and Nurture group is taking a break for the winter quarter. Child care will continue to be provided in the nursery during Sunday school.

Next Sunday, December 16, immediately following worship – vote on 2019 FMC Leadership. The Discernment Committee is presenting a slate to Council at this week's meeting (Dec 12). If approved, Council will present the slate for congregational affirmation next Sunday, Dec 16. Paper ballots will be distributed immediately following worship. An electronic ballot will be distributed Sunday afternoon for those not present.

Do you know of an adult outside of FMC who could provide skilled child care in the nursery during worship on Sundays? FMC leadership made a decision to add a paid person to help lighten the burden of those on the nursery rotation and to have a consistent presence each week. The paid person would work in the nursery with 1-2 FMC volunteers. Please have potential candidates email Pastor Michael (michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org) to set up an interview.

Deb and Tom Sutter will be hosting a potluck Christmas meal for anyone who would like to celebrate together at 1 pm on Christmas Day. Please RSVP to Pastor Deb if you want to join us.

Friday, December 21, 6 pm – Young adult get-together at Pastor Deb's house (306 E. Sherwin Circle, U). All young adults are invited to come for a simple supper and white elephant gift exchange.

Monday, December 24, 6:30 pm – FMC Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. All ages are welcome!

FMC Committee members – Please submit your 2018 receipts to the treasurer as soon as possible. The treasurer's mailbox slot (bottom slot) is located in the office on the wall near the copier.

2018 FMC budget update - Due to your great generosity this year we are nearing our goal! General offerings to date have totaled \$233,594. To support committee work, church expenses, and our planned missions giving approximately \$24,815 is still needed in offerings by the end of December.

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

December 9, 2018

SIGNS OF HOPE



Centering chimes

Prelude

*Hymnal #189 "To us a Child of hope is born"

Welcome & prayer

*Call to hope:

One: Now is the time of waiting and watching.
We wait expectantly for the Messiah, for God's promises to be fulfilled.

**Many: We turn to you, O God, in the midst of this chaotic world,
longing for that day of salvation to arrive. How long must we wait?**

One: Pay attention, be still and know that God is with us.
The *signs of hope* are all around us.

**Many: Fill us with the faith and the hope of what is to be
as we come before you with open hearts.**

ALL: Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

Lighting of the Advent candles

Purple songbook #3 "Come, light of the world" (verses below)

1) Come, Light of the world... 2) Come, Prince of Peace... 3) Come, Hope for this world...

*Hymnal #176 "Comfort, comfort, O my people"

*Passing the peace

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

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

Scripture: Malachi 3:1-4 (*page 874*) and **Scripture drama** (*Luke 1:57-80*)

Witness to hope: Marcia Nelson

Sermon

*Hymnal #174

Offering (prayer cards collected)

Offertory

Sharing and prayer

Introduction of guests

Work of the church

*Purple songbook #16

*Benediction

Incubating hope: Lessons from nine months of silence

“Bless’d be the God of Israel”

Lo, how a rose e’er blooming

arr. by Tyler Merideth

“Peace before us”

*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.

Thanks to our worship and
welcome teams

Worship leader – Bob King
Song leader – Steve Rayburn
Piano – Bev Birkey Potts
Advent lighter – David Black
Men’s quartet – Clark Breeze, Michael Crosby, Emerson Nafziger, Matt Yoder
Children’s story – Courtney Malcolm
Scripture & drama – Tom Anderson & Abby Crosby
Witness to hope – Marcia Nelson
Sermon, sharing & prayer – Pastor Michael
Greeters – Laurence Koehn & Judy Nafziger
Sound system – Phil Martens
Visuals – Rachel Horst Lehman
Stewards – Sheryl Dyck & Scott Bidner
Worship nursery – Megan Cox & Anja Schrag
Refreshments – Ken & Rebecca Moyer

Sunday, December 16
Advent 3: Hope is not afraid

Worship leader – Keith Springer
Song leader – Rafael Luquis
Piano – Pam Peña Martin
Advent lighter – Soren Shrag
Choir director – Andrea Welty Peachey
Children’s story – Phil Martens
Scripture – Sue Biddle
Sermon, sharing & prayer – Pastor Deb
Greeters – Laurence Koehn & Judy Nafziger
Sound system – Phil Martens
Visuals – Rachel Horst Lehman
Stewards – Sheryl Dyck & Scott Bidner
Worship nursery – Joyce Wyse & Beth Rempe
Refreshments – Kaye Massanari & Kristy Rice

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 (Dec - Feb)

Library - The Road Back to You
Sanctuary - Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery

Ongoing Adult Discussion Groups (year-round)

Coffee and Conversation – Room 5 (downstairs)
Knit and Nurture – on break for winter quarter
Young Adults – Room 13 (downstairs)

Children & Youth Classes (downstairs)

2-3 yrs – Room 6
4 yrs - Grade 5 – Room 3
Grades 6-8 – Room 10/11
Grades 9-12 - Room 7
(Nursery care provided for children birth to age 2)

Our current children’s offering benefits the Casa Mariposa Detention Visitation Program in Tucson, AZ which offers support, friendship, and encouragement to immigrants living in detention through weekly visits and letters. Outside of detention, the program supports immigrants as they return to life on the outside and help reunite folks with their loved ones.



THIS WEEK at FMC

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

SUN	9:15 AM	Worship (Advent 2)
	10:45 AM	Fellowship & refreshments
	11:15 AM	Sunday school for all ages
	12:00 PM	JYF/MYF lunch & Christmas party
	12:30 PM	Choir rehearsal after lunch (each person provides own lunch)
	5:30 PM	FMC reserved until 8:30 pm
TUE	8:00 AM	FMC reserved until Noon
WED	10:30 AM	Library Committee meeting
	6:00 PM	FMC Council
THU	7:00 AM	Early morning Bible study
		Pastor peer meeting in Normal, IL (all morning)
SAT	10:00 AM	Choir rehearsal

UPCOMING

SUN 16	9:15 AM	Worship (Advent 3); Choir sings vote on 2019 FMC Leadership after service
	10:45 AM	Fellowship & refreshments
	11:15 AM	Sunday school for all ages
	12:30 PM	Advent writer’s workshop
WED 19	6:00 PM	Rhonda out of office Spiritual Leadership Team
THU 20	7:00 AM	Early morning Bible study
	6:30 PM	Ten Thousand Villages Board
FRI 21	6:00 PM	Young adult gathering at Pastor Deb’s home
SUN 23	9:15 AM	Worship (Advent 4); followed by fellowship & Sunday school
MON 24	6:30 PM	FMC Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (for all ages)
TUE 25		Merry Christmas! FMC office closed