

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

TODAY

Worship begins at 10am
No Kids' Corner after worship

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

Worship begins at 10 am
No Kids' Corner after worship

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS (more announcements in the email sent each Tuesday)

Pastor Michael will be out of the office December 30 – January 3.

TODAY, Sunday, December 26 – Deadline for submissions for the next issue of the Vine, our FMC newsletter. Please email submissions to Cindi Schieber at cindschieber@me.com.

Next Tuesday, January 4 – FMC 2021 Annual Committee reports due to the FMC office.

Next Sunday, January 2 – Worship begins at 10 am. Worship resumes at its regular time (9:15am) on January 9.

FMC Spending Plan Update: As of December 19, we have met and exceeded the amount needed to support committee work, church expenses, and our planned missions giving in our spending plan for 2021. Praise God! General offerings in 2021 to date have totaled \$281,685, an average of \$5,523 per week. To meet our budget plan of \$273,755, we need \$5,199 in offerings per week throughout the year. Combining offerings with other sources of income, the total received this year is \$285,161. In celebration of this generosity, church Council is proposing that all remaining offerings for 2021 are designated to our Local Mission Initiative Fund in preparation for a future community service project.

Mark your calendar – Annual congregational meeting after worship on January 23.

Scan or visit www.fmc-cu.org/events for event details.



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

December 26, 2021

Christmas Sunday

Dare to imagine God's Blessing! (Christ)

Focus: Jesus grew in wisdom and stature. He instructed us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, love, peace.



...He is the light
who reveals
Your message...
Luke 2:32 (The Voice)

Centering chimes

Prelude

Welcome & prayer

***Voices Together #261** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

***Call to worship** (adapted from Psalm 148)

Leader: Alleluia! Praise Yahweh from the heavens!
Praise God in the heights. Praise God, sun and moon.

People: Praise God, all you shining stars!

Leader: Praise God from the earth, sea creatures and ocean depths, lightning and hail,

People: snow and mist.

Leader: Sing praise to God, mountains and hills. fruit trees and cedars.

People: small animals and flying birds.

Leader: Let them praise God's name. Let all creation praise the name of Yahweh,
whose name alone is exalted.

People: Praise God's name!

All: Alleluia!

***Voices Together #265** "Angels From the Realms of Glory"

Children's story and offering for the United Front Against River Blindness

Congregation sings as children come forward (Voices Together #512)

Lighting Advent candles

Leader: We light the Christ candle and we welcome new life.

People: Hurry, hurry, sing the glory! Imagine that . . . we are God's wonders, blessed wonders.

Confession and Assurance *(Voices Together 909)*

ALL: God, we bring our brokenness to you—our bodies, minds, relationships.

We trust you, the source of wholeness and miracles, to take our fragments, jagged edges, and pain. Bring healing and forgiveness in ways we cannot imagine.

Restore the joy of our salvation as only you can do.

(silence)

Leader: God forgives you. Forgive others. Forgive yourself. *(silence)* Be at peace.

Scripture: Psalm 148; Luke 2:21-39

Sermon

Offering prayer *(offerings can be placed in the offering plates as the ushers come by to collect offerings)*

Meditation music

Congregational sharing and prayer

(use a mic or text email prayers and announcements to Pastor Michael)

Introduction of visitors

Work of the church *(Please text or email announcements to Pastor Deb)*

***Voices Together #252** "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

*Benediction

**Stand if you are able*

TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Fellowship is welcome; please remain masked.
There is no Kids' Corner after worship today.

In-person Sunday school classes aren't currently being held.

We anticipate resuming in-person classes for all ages in February 2022.



THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY: NEXT SUNDAY (JAN 2) AT FMC: Service begins at 10 am

Visuals: Bev Birkey Potts

Greeters: Lesley Deem & Nancy Seaman

Worship Leader/Scripture Reader: Earl Kellogg

Candle Lighters: Horst Lehman Family

Song Leader: Rafael Luquis

Piano: Pastor Deb

Meditation Music: Rafael Luquis

Children's Story: Perry Biddle

Sermon: Pastor Michael

Sharing & Work of the Church: Pastors Deb & Michael

Sound System & Tech: Phil Martens/Bharat Patel &

Randy Nelson

Stewards: Randy Nelson & TBD

Epiphany: Dare to Imagine God's Dance! (Light)

Scripture: John 1:1-18; Jeremiah 31:7-14

Visuals: Bev Birkey Potts

Greeters: Karen McKenzie & Jon Welty Peachey

Worship Leader/Scripture Reader: Chuck Gibson

Candle Lighters: The Horst Lehman family

Song Leader: Danielle Beard

Piano: Jan Kellogg

Special Music: Mary Krick & Rachel Horst Lehman

Children's Story: Mary Biddle

Sermon: Pastor Deb

Sharing & Work of the Church: Pastor Deb

Sound System & Tech: Bharat Patel/Phil Martens &

Laurence Koehn

Stewards: Rebecca Bare & Chuck Gibson

We welcome, without exclusion all who seek God's love and grace . . .

You are welcome here, inclusive of gender, race, country of origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, sexual identity, socioeconomic status, family status, past imprisonment, education, citizenship status and physical or mental abilities.

We encourage you to share in the rituals, fellowship and ministry of this congregation.

Hearing devices (T-coil and over-ear) and large print hymnals are available from the greeters.

Childcare (birth – preschool) is not currently being provided.

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