

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

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



TODAY

Worship 9:15am, followed by congregational meeting
Youth Game Day at FMC 2pm

TUESDAY

FMC sanctuary reserved 9am-Noon

WEDNESDAY

FMC Council in sanctuary 6pm

THURSDAY

Early Morning Bible Study (Zoom) 7am

SATURDAY

Choir chime rehearsal in sanctuary 9am
Holiday Fellowship Dinners in homes (by reservation)

SUNDAY, DEC 12

Worship 9:15am followed by FMC leadership vote
Holiday Fellowship Lunches in homes (by reservation)

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

TODAY following worship – Congregational meeting (in-person and on Zoom)

Council is recommending approval for funding of two significant projects: an HVAC upgrade to the offices, library and upstairs restrooms, and new carpeting and chairs for the sanctuary. Congregational voting is open to everyone high school and older who have been participants at FMC for at least 6 months. Parents with young children are welcome; if needed, the meeting can be heard from the nursery, and the library will be set up with a Zoom feed.

TODAY from 2-4 pm – Youth game day at FMC

Pastor Michael is out of the office this Thursday – Monday, December 13. Call Pastor Deb with any care needs.

Giving Opportunities for Two Special Offerings through next Sunday, December 12

You can still give to the Thanksgiving offering for Sola Gratia Farm and the Chrismon offering for the Developmental Services Center (DSC). Check the Tuesday email for details.

Next Sunday, December 12 – Congregational meeting to vote on FMC Leadership for 2022

FMC Council recommends confirmation of the following slate for FMC Council in 2022. We will meet briefly in person and on Zoom after worship to vote. An online voting option will also be available.

- Sam Cox - Chair elect
- Rudy Moyer-Litwiller - Elder
- Lesley Deem - Council
- Doug Malcolm - Council

2021 FMC budget update - General offerings in 2021 to date have totaled \$250,266, an average of \$5,214 per week. To meet our budget plan, we need \$5,199 per week throughout the year. Combining offerings with other sources of income, the total received this year is \$ 253,742. Therefore, to support committee work, church expenses, and our planned missions giving in our spending plan, approximately \$20,013 or \$ 5,003/week is still needed in offerings by the end of December.



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

December 5, 2021

Advent 2

Dare to imagine God's Embrace (Peace)

Focus Question:

Imagine the wideness of God's embrace of all creatures and creation!



Centering chimes

Prelude

*Call to worship

***Voices Together #217** "Hark! The Glad Sound!"

Welcome & prayer

Lighting Advent candles

Leader: We light a candle of peace. And we imagine:

People: God's tender mercy, God's compassion.

Leader: We light the candle of peace to feel God's embrace, God's nearness, God's breath.

People: Imagine that . . . we are God's wonders, blessed wonders.

***Voices Together #202** "Peace Be Still"

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

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

Confession and Assurance

Leader: In humility, we silence our thoughts and bring ourselves into the forgiving embrace of God's presence.

People: Held in your strength, we give you the noise, the conflict, and the irritations that occupy and zap us of the energy we need for other thoughts and tasks.

Leader: We ask, God, that you hold us in peace.

People: Because you hold us close, we dare to imagine freedom from sin. We dare to imagine that we can step into the crooked and uneven world we live in and make a difference.

(silence)

**ALL: By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace. (Luke 1:78-79)**

Scripture Luke 1:68-79; Luke 3:1-6

Sermon

Meditation music

Offering prayer *(please place your offering in the baskets at the doors as you leave the sanctuary)*

Congregational sharing and prayer

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

Introduction of visitors

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

***Voices Together #248** "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

***Benediction**

**Stand if you are able*

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.

TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Congregational meeting to decide two capital expense recommendations.

There are currently no in-person Sunday school classes.

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



THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY: NEXT SUNDAY (DEC. 12) AT FMC:

Visuals: Bev Birkey Potts

Greeters: Judy Nafziger & Nancy Seaman

Worship Leader/Scripture Reader: Cindy Breeze

Candle Lighter: Eliza & Silas Crosby

Song Leader: Matt Yoder

Piano: Kathy Springer

Meditation Music: Kathy Springer & Bev Birkey Potts

Children's Story: Courtney Malcolm

Sermon: Pastor Michael

Sharing & Work of the Church: Pastors

Sound System & Tech: Randy Nelson & Phil Martens

Stewards: Emerson Nafziger & Mary Krick

Advent 3: Dare to Imagine God's Song! (Joy)

Scripture: Isaiah 12:2-6; Luke 3:16-18;

Philippians 4:4-7

Visuals: Bev Birkey Potts

Greeters: Judy Nafziger & Nancy Seaman

Worship Leader/Scripture Reader: Pastor Deb

Candle Lighter: Hazel Malekin Rempe

Song Leader: Cindy Breeze

Piano: Ruth Stoltzfus

Prelude & Meditation: Jill Burlingame & Ruth Stoltzfus

Special Music: Choir Chime Ensemble & Kristy Rice

Children's Story: Courtney Malcolm

Sermon: Advent Arts

Sharing & Work of the Church: Pastor Deb

Sound System & Tech: Chuck Gibson & Phil Martens

Stewards: Emerson Nafziger & Mary Krick

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

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