



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH  
of Champaign-Urbana

*Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.*

## Celebration of Worship

May 14, 2023

*Celebration of Our Graduates*

### Centering chimes

#### Prelude

\*Gathering hymn #401 "Open the Eyes of My Heart"

#### Welcome & prayer

#### Call to Worship

One: When our burdens are heavy,

**Many: help us to see what we can lay down.**

One: When we separate ourselves from others,

**Many: help us find ways to connect.**

One: When other powers control our lives,

**Many: help us to live freely and lightly.**

**ALL: With trust, we enter into the presence of God.**

#### Children's story and offering for Randolph St. Community Gardens

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

\*Praising hymn #622 "Jesus, Rock Ages"

#### Scripture

Romans 5:1-11; Matthew 11:28-30

#### Sermon

\*Response hymn #499 "In the Morning When I Rise"

#### Offering prayer

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

#### Blessing of our graduates (*handout*)

**Congregational sharing and prayer** (*use a mic or text/email prayers and announcements to Pastor Michael*)

#### Introduction of visitors

**Work of the church** (*please come forward to the podium mic to make your announcement*)

\*Sending hymn #306 "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

#### \*Benediction

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\*Stand in body or in spirit. Children are invited to wave the ribbons during the hymns.

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.

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Hearing devices (T-coil and over-ear) and large print hymnals are available from the greeters.  
Childcare (birth – preschool) is provided in the nursery downstairs.

## TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Fellowship and refreshments in the basement before Sunday school. Please keep drinks in the basement. Snacks for children PreK-Grade School are also available. Parents, please assist your children during snack time. Education opportunities for all ages are held from 11:15a-12p. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided in the nursery.



## ADULT CLASSES THROUGH MAY (upstairs/downstairs)

Sing and Explore the Hymnal: Sanctuary | Conflict Transformation for Ordinary Christians: Library | Coffee & Conversation: Rm 13 Downstairs

## CHILDREN & YOUTH CLASSES (downstairs)

Pre-K – Grade 2: Room 10/11 | Grades 3 – 5: Room 3 | Youth (Grades 6-12): Room 5

## FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK (Visit [www.fmc-cu.org/events](http://www.fmc-cu.org/events) for event details)

### TODAY

- Special refreshments during fellowship time (after worship)
- FMC Martyrs Co-ed Softball game, Dodds Park in C., Field 7 (7p)

### MONDAY

- Retreat Committee (9a)

### TUESDAY

- FMC 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee (9a)

### WEDNESDAY

- Wednesday Zoom Bible Study at FMC (8a)
- Pastor Congregation Relations Committee (10:15a)
- Facilities Committee (5:30p)

### THURSDAY

- Thurs. AM Anabaptist 500 Bible Study Group (9:30a)
- Spiritual Leadership Team (3:30p)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Taco Night (5:30p) – rsvp requested (see announcement)

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

**Thursday, May 18, 5:30 pm at FMC - 3rd Thursday Tacos.** The Spiritual Leadership Team (SLT) is piloting a new fellowship opportunity, *3rd Thursday Tacos*. Come for fellowship and a taco dinner, provided by SLT. All are welcome to attend, but an RSVP is requested in order to plan for the meal. **Please RSVP by TODAY**, Sunday, May 14 at: <https://tinyurl.com/TacoThurs3rd>.

**Friday, May 19 – Pastor Deb will be out of the office.**

**Next Sunday, May 21 at 10:30 am - Joint worship service with Church of the Brethren at the Randolph St. Community Garden (1001 N Randolph St, Champaign - just north of Stratton School).** See details in yellow box below.

**Saturday, June 17 from 10 am - 3 pm at FMC - Meditative Retreat led by Nicole Anderson-Cobb.** By way of gathering, prayer, silence, movement, reflection and creative exercises, this guided retreat will offer an opportunity to pray and reflect on the year so far and set intentions for spiritual renewal during Spring 2023. There will be time for reflection, creativity, sharing, input, worship and silence. Lunch will be provided. There is no cost, but donations will be accepted to provide a generous honorarium and to pay for lunch. Space is limited and initially open only to FMCers. For more information and to register, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/23SummerRetreat>.

**Monday, May 29 - Menno Haven Rally Day.** All are invited to this free annual open house at Menno Haven. The camp will provide a delicious meal (rsvp requested)! For more information and to rsvp, visit: [www.mennohaven.com/rallyday.html](http://www.mennohaven.com/rallyday.html).

**More refreshment servers needed!** We thank those who are already on the list and have served refreshments this year. We are looking to expand our list of refreshment servers and invite you to add your name to the list downstairs or at: <https://tinyurl.com/FMCrefreshments>.

## THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY:

Greeters: Bob King & Rhonda Gibson  
Worship Leader: Martha Moore  
Song Leader: Pastor Deb; Piano: Phyllis Croisant  
Children's Story: Marcia E Nelson  
Scripture Reader: Dave Jackson  
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael  
Zoom: Mary Krick; Audio: Randy Nelson  
Worship Nursery: Taniya B. & Chuck Gibson  
SS Nursery - Taniya B. & Marcia E Nelson  
Stewards: Rebecca Bare & Greg Sancken  
Visuals: Sheryl Dyck  
Refreshments: Sam & Megan Cox

## NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 21, 10:30 AM AT RANDOLPH ST. GARDENS

(The service will not be livestreamed)

Joint service with Church of the Brethren. No Sunday School.

Dawn Blackman will lead our worship, which will be planned around conversations about "Gardens in the Bible", with shared music and prayer. Bring a lawn chair and picnic lunch if you wish to stay after the service to eat and fellowship with others.

There won't be a printed bulletin; send announcements to the FMC office by 9 am on Tuesday, May 23 for inclusion in the May 23 Tuesday email.

An offering for FMC won't be collected at the service, but offerings can be given by mail, another Sunday or online at: [www.fmc-cu.org](http://www.fmc-cu.org).

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

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### Contact Us:

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Rhonda Gibson, Office Administrator: [office@fmc-cu.org](mailto:office@fmc-cu.org) | Office Hours: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm Tuesday-Friday