



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH  
of Champaign-Urbana

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

## Celebration of Worship

August 27, 2023

*Season of Creation*



Centering chimes

Prelude

\*Gathering hymn #550

“God Who Touches Earth with Beauty”

Welcome and prayer

Call to Worship

Nehemiah 9:5b-6

\*Praising hymn #637

“Blessed Be Your Name”

**Children’s story and Final Offering for Randolph St. Community Gardens**

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

Choral Reading

Genesis 1-2:4a

\*Hymn #179

“At the Dawn of Creation”

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 19

\*Hymn #180

“This is God’s Wondrous World”

Words of Hope

Isaiah 35

\*Hymn #205

“Hope Dawns on a Weary World”

Words of Faith

Matthew 6:25-34

\*Hymn #618

“Sometimes a Light Surprises”

**Report from Visit to Dayspring Native American United Methodist Church**

Offering prayer

*Offertory (Offerings can be placed in the plates as the ushers come by)*

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

**Dedication of MCC Comforters**

**Introduction of visitors**

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

Words of Sending

“Isaiah 55:8-13”

\*Benediction hymn #847

“You Shall Go Out with Joy”

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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.

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.

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

### TODAY

- Fellowship time after worship (10:45a).
- Training for FMC children's storytellers (11:15 am).
- No Sunday school
- Deadline for Sept. Vine article submissions
- Interfaith Picnic at Crystal Lake Park (4p)

### WEDNESDAY

- Zoom Bible Study (8a)

### THURSDAY

- Beloved Community Bible Study at FMC (6:30p)

### FRIDAY - SUNDAY

- All church-retreat at Menno Haven (prior registration required). No worship service at FMC on Sunday, September 3. See highlighted box below for more information.

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

### Today:

- **Final Children's Offering to benefit Randolph St. Community Gardens.** On September 10, we will begin a new Fall/Winter children's offering to benefit Hungry World Farm in Tiskilwa, IL. Learn more about their mission at: <https://www.hungryworldfarm.com/>.
- **Join us downstairs for refreshments and fellowship after the worship service. There will not be Sunday school.**
- **At 11:15 am, all FMC children's story tellers and people considering being a children's storyteller are invited to meet in the sanctuary for a training session.** A light lunch will be provided for the attendees afterward.
- **Deadline for September Vine articles.** Email submissions to Cindi Schieber.
- **Annual Summer Picnic hosted by the Interfaith Alliance of Champaign County at Crystal Lake Park (4-6 pm).** Come for relaxed fellowship and fun. Grilled items (meat and vegetarian) and beverages will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share if you can.

### Upcoming Sundays in September:

- **September 3** – No worship service at FMC due to the All-Church Retreat at Menno Haven.
- **September 10** – Fall Sunday school for all ages begins. After Sunday school, there will be a training for worship leaders at FMC and people who are considering being a worship leader. Training participants, please bring your own lunch. Ice cream sundaes will be provided.
- **September 17 at 5 pm** - Council will host a church-wide brainstorming dialogue about the future of our apartment building.

**This Thursday – Final collection of supplies for MCC School Kits.** If you have not purchased items but would still like to contribute - notebooks, pencils, colored pencils, rulers, and erasers are still needed. Place your donations in the labeled collection box near the church office.

**Please park in designated areas at FMC on Sunday mornings so that we do not block access to either set of stairs nor the sidewalk leading to the lift.**

**Thursday, September 14, 9:30-11 am - Thursday morning Bible study begins.** All are welcome to join this study on the book of Ephesians. Check with Pastor Deb if you have questions.

**2023 FMC budget update** - General offerings in 2023 to date have totaled \$163,700, an average of \$4,815 per week. To achieve our spending goals, we need \$5,663 per week in offerings throughout the year. Therefore, so far this year, we have received \$ 28,833 less than needed to meet our spending goals.

## THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY:

**Greeters:** Kate Falk & Bev Hertle

**Worship Leader & Benediction:** Pastor Michael

**Song Leader:** Rudy Moyer-Litwiller

**Piano:** Kathy Springer

**Children's Story:** Tammie Bouseman

**Embodied Scripture:** Rebecca Bare, Mary Biddle, Cindy Breeze, Chuck Gibson, and Pastor Deb

**Report from Visit to Dayspring Native American United Methodist Church:**

Eliza and Michael Crosby, Lesley Deem, Janet Elaine Guthrie, Mark Jaeger & Marcia E. Nelson

**Congregational Sharing:** Pastor Deb

**Zoom:** John MacLean; **AV:** Randy Nelson

**Worship Nursery:** Taniya Boone & Tom Sutter

**Stewards:** Keith Springer & Mary Krick

**Refreshments:** Marcia & Randy Nelson

**Visuals:** Lynne Sancken

## NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 AT FMC

There is no service at the building, due to the All-Church Retreat at Menno Haven. The worship theme on Sunday morning at the retreat will be "This is the Day to Worship", based on Psalm 118.

For those did not register to attend the retreat, you are invited to consider visiting another church. We will not livestream the retreat worship services.

An offering will not be collected at the retreat. If you wish to give an offering, consider giving it at one of our later September worship services or giving online at our website using the "donate" button on the upper right hand corner of our homepage: [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