



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

September 17, 2023

Season of Creation: Land



Centering chimes

Prelude

*Gathering hymn #703 "Rain Down"

Welcome and prayer

Call to Worship

Leader: Together we praise the Lord...

People: for rich farmland and sandy beaches.

Leader: Together we praise the Lord...

People: for rugged mountains and colorful canyons.

Leader: Together we praise the Lord...

People: for frozen tundra and flower-covered meadows.

Leader: Together we praise the Lord...

People: for wetlands and deserts and woodlands.

Leader: Praise the Lord!

ALL: Praise the Lord!

*Praising hymn #86 "You Are Exalted"

Children's story and offering for Hungry World Farm (www.hungryworldfarm.com)

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

Scripture Genesis 4:1-16 and Hosea 4:1-3

Sermon

*Hymn #706 "O Healing River"

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 Michael*)

Introduction of visitors

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

*Sending hymn #36 "Let Us Build a House"

*Benediction

*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.

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 11:15am-12pm. Childcare for infants - preschoolers is provided in the nursery.



CLASSES THROUGH NOVEMBER (upstairs/downstairs)

Introduction to Islam: Sanctuary
Inspired: Library
Mennonites 101: Rm 7 Downstairs
Coffee & Conversation: Rm 13 Downstairs
Young Adults: Rm 5 Downstairs

CHILDREN & YOUTH CLASSES (downstairs)

Kindergarten – Grade 3: Room 10/11
Grades 3 – 6: Room 3
Middle School & High School youth are welcome to join any of the adult Sunday school classes

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK (Visit www.fmc-cu.org/events for event details)

TODAY

- Sun. Spiritual Direction Group (3:30p)
- FMC Apartment Building Discussion (5p)

MONDAY

- 60th Anniversary Cmte (9a)

TUESDAY

- Worship Cmte (11:30a)
- Christian Ed. Cmte (6:30p)

WEDNESDAY

- Wednesday Zoom Bible Study (8a)
- Facilities Committee (5:30p)

THURSDAY

- Thursday Morning Bible Study (9:30a)
- Int. Day of Prayer for Peace, FMC green space (5p)
- 3rd Thursday Tacos, fellowship hall (5:30p)
- Beloved Community Bible Study at FMC (6:30p)

SATURDAY

- Green Team mtg, Ujima Retreat Center, U. (9a). *All are welcome to attend.*

SUNDAY

- October Vine submissions due to Cindi Schieber

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

Today:

- Deadline to complete the Volunteer "Work of the Church" Opportunities. Please consider volunteering to support a ministry at First Mennonite. Prayerfully consider the various ministries and opportunities alongside your own gifts, interests and availability. Pastors and committees may call on you to serve in some of your areas of interest. FMC Ministry Volunteer Forms (Work of the Church) are available in the foyer; an online version has also been emailed.
- At 5 pm in the FMC sanctuary - Council will host a church-wide brainstorming dialogue about the future of our apartment building. Please eat before or after the meeting; snacks will not be provided. Copies of relevant information for the meeting can be found in the Sept. 15 email or on the table in the foyer. Copies will also be provided at the meeting.

Pastor Deb will be out of the office this Thursday, September 21 – Thursday, September 28. Please contact Pastor Michael with pastoral care needs.

This Thursday, September 21 at 5-5:30 pm - Prayers for Peace" in the FMC Peace Garden. We'll be joined by Imam Ousmane Sawadogo and others from the Central IL Mosque & Islamic Center (CIMIC) for a short prayer service on this International Day of Prayer for Peace.

This Thursday, September 21 at 5:30 pm - 3rd Thursday Tacos in the fellowship hall. Members of CIMIC are invited to stay after Prayers for Peace for our monthly taco meal. Please RSVP by Tuesday, Sep. 19. Tacos, meat, rice, and beans are provided; bring a taco topping, side, or dessert to share if you wish, though it's not required.

September 30, 2:30pm, in downtown Urbana - CU Pride Fest Parade. A group from FMC will participate in the parade. Details about where and when to meet will be made available soon.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY:

Greeters: Rhonda Gibson & Randy Nelson
Worship Leader: Cindy Breeze
Song Leader: Danielle Beard; **Piano:** Bev Birkey Potts
Children's Story: Earl Kellogg; **Scripture Reader:** Jonah Dominguez
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom & AV: Chuck Gibson
Worship Nursery: Taniya Boone & Megan Cox
SS Nursery: Taniya & Mary Hines
Stewards: Clark Breeze & Denny Seaman
Refreshments: Mary Krick & Sarah Little

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 AT FMC

Scripture: Exodus 17:1-7 and Mark 1:9-13
Greeters: Rebecca Bare & Randy Nelson
Worship Leader: Bob King
Song Leader: Bev Birkey Potts; **Piano:** Kathy Springer
Children's Story: Cindi Schieber; **Scripture Reader:** Claire Miller
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom: Mary Krick; **AV:** Emerson Nafziger
Worship Nursery: Taniya Boone & Courtney Malcolm
SS Nursery: Taniya & Abby Crosby **Stewards:** Clark Breeze & Denny Seaman
Refreshments: Mark & Donna Evans

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

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Contact Us:

Pastor Michael Crosby: michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org | Associate Pastor Debra Sutter: debra.sutter@fmc-cu.org
Rhonda Gibson, Office Administrator: office@fmc-cu.org | Office Hours: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm Tuesday-Friday