



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

September 24, 2023

Season of Creation: Wilderness



Centering chimes

Prelude

*Gathering hymn #100

"Praise Him, Praise Him"

Welcome and prayer

Call to Worship (*based on Psalm 19 & 24*)

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of the Lord; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

People: All around us are signs and wonders, fingerprints of the creator. Praise be to God!

Leader: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it; the world, and all who live in it.

People: All around us we find life; all the created world is related to us. Praise be to God!

Leader: Come, let us dwell in God's work of art! Here in this wondrous world, we are not alone.

We share this life with the heavens and the earth...

**People: With the waters and the land, with trees and grasses, With fish, birds, and animals,
with minerals and creatures of every form, And with all our brothers and sisters. Praise be to God!**

Leader: God is good and everything God makes is good.

ALL: Praise to the creator of all that is, seen and unseen!

*Praising hymn #806

"Called by Earth and Sky"

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

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

Scripture

Exodus 17:1-7 and Mark 1:9-13

Sermon

*Hymn #441

"Crashing Waters at Creation"

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 #812

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

*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 2: 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

- Oct. Vine Submissions due to Cindi Schieber

WEDNESDAY

- Wednesday Zoom Bible Study (8a)
- Interfaith Alliance at St. Matthews-Urbana (12p)

THURSDAY

- Thursday Morning Bible Study (9:30a)
- Service & Outreach Cmte-Zoom (4p)
- Beloved Community Bible Study at FMC (6:30p)

FRIDAY

- Spiritual Leadership Team (2:30p)

SATURDAY

- CU Pride Parade, downtown Urbana (2:30p)

SUNDAY

- Worship with Communion 9:15a; Special offering for FMC Mutual Aid Fund
- Sunday Spiritual Direction Group (4p)

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

Pastor Deb is out of the office until this Thursday, September 28. Please contact Pastor Michael with pastoral care needs.

This Saturday, September 30, 2:30pm, in downtown Urbana - CU Pride Fest Parade. If you plan to participate:

- Please wear your FMC Pride T-Shirt, a pride-themed shirt, or a rainbow-colored shirt.
- Meet in the Blue coded zone at entry 40 near the corner of S. Gregory & W. Oregon in Urbana between 12:45-1:15pm.
- To save a 10-block walk back from the parade, it's recommended that you and another marcher meet in the Schnuck's parking lot (near the parade's end), leave one of your cars there and then drive together in the other car to the FMC parking lot to park the car, and walk from there to the staging area.

Next Sunday, October 1 during worship – Communion will be served and we will take a special offering to help replenish our FMC Mutual Aid Fund.

This above budget reserve helps FMCers with specific needs such as: medical care, emergency housing, etc. The Spiritual Leadership Team prayerfully distributes the funds as they learn of needs, and anyone is welcome to contact SLT members with needs of their own or of which they have become aware.

Sunday, October 8 - Discernment Circles after Sunday school. Small group discussions lasting 20-30 minutes will be held immediately following Sunday school to discern FMC Council leadership for 2024. Active participants who have attended at least six months and are high school age or older are invited to participate in person or over Zoom. There will be child care to allow parents to participate in the circles.

Saturday, October 14 at 10 am in the FMC fellowship hall - Join us for a baby shower brunch for David and Kory Moyer. Please RSVP to Michelle Moyer-Litwiller at 217-778-4138.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY:

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: Donna & Mark Evans

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1 AT FMC

Scripture: Ezekiel 47:1-12

Greeters: Donna Evans & Earl Kellogg

Worship Leader: Marcia E Nelson

Music: Worship Band

Children's Story: Lesley Deem; **Scripture Reader:** Bruce Miller

Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Rachel Miller-Haughton; **AV:** Randy Nelson

Worship Nursery: Taniya Boone & Chuck Gibson; **SS Nursery:** Taniya & Pete Shungu

Stewards: Tammie Bouseman & Tom Sutter

Refreshments: Megan & Sam Cox

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

902 W Springfield Ave | Urbana, IL 61801-3021 | 217.367.5353 | www.fmc-cu.org

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