



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

November 5, 2023



Centering chimes

Prelude

Call to Worship *(based on Revelation 7)*

Leader: From every nation, in every language, we cry out:

People: "Salvation belongs to our God, and to the Lamb!"

Leader: Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving!

People: Honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever!

Leader: Amen!

People: Amen!

*Gathering hymn #419

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Welcome and prayer

*Hymn #652

"Before the Waters Nourished Earth"

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

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

Scripture

1 John 3:1-3 and Revelation 7:9-17

Sermon

*Hymn #588

"We Walk by Faith"

Offering prayer

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

Remembering Our Loved Ones

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

Introduction of visitors

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

*Sending hymn #671

"The Hand of God Shall Hold You"

*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 a large print hymnal & Bible 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 & High School Youth: Rm 5 Downstairs

CHILDREN'S CLASSES (downstairs)

Kindergarten – Grade 2 Grade 6: Room 10/11

Grade 3 - 6: Room 3

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

TODAY

- Sunday Spiritual Direction Group (4p)

MONDAY

- Memorial Service for Evelyn Good (10:30a)

TUESDAY

- FMC Library Committee (afternoon)

WEDNESDAY

- Wednesday Zoom Bible Study (8a)
- FMC Council (6:30p)

THURSDAY

- Thursday Morning Bible Study (9:30a)
- Christian Ed Committee at FMC (6:30p)

SATURDAY

- FMC reserved (12-8p)

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

TODAY – Deadline for signing up to participate in Advent Choir Chimes. You can still sign up for other types of Advent/Christmas music after today. Signup sheets are near Pastor Deb's office.

Tomorrow, Monday, November 6, 10:30 am at FMC - Memorial service for Evelyn Good. A luncheon in the FMC fellowship hall will follow the service. If you can help, please sign-up here: <https://tinyurl.com/EvelynMemorial>. Contact Marcia E. Nelson with questions. Park in the CIMIC lot if you are able.

Now through next Sunday, November 12 – Small monetary donations for our Undergraduate Care packages. Cash donation can be placed in the green "donation" bucket near the back of the sanctuary. You can also donate online or by check, just note "Student Care Package" in the memo line if using either of these methods. We hope to give each student some money for finals week treats to give with their signed encouragement card. **A card for each student is in the FMC library for you to sign.**

FMC partners with Empty Tomb to deliver food to hungry families in our community. Our stock of food pantry items needs replenishing. As you grocery shop in the coming weeks, consider adding an item for the food pantry to your cart. Lists of needed items can be picked up from the table near the church office. Please place donations in the cupboard located in Room 3 of the church basement.

Thursday, November 16, 7 pm at New Covenant Fellowship (124 W White St, C) - Reparations in Action: Uniting for Change. Special Guest Speaker Robin Rue Simmons, founder of [FirstRepair](http://FirstRepair.org), will discuss action steps toward reparations in the Champaign-Urbana community. Sponsored by the C-U Reparations Coalition.

Saturday, November 18, from 8:30 am – Noon: FMC Fall Work Day. Help spruce up the church building and grounds. Coffee and donuts are provided.

In November and December – The 3rd Thursday Taco Dinner will not be held.

Sunday, November 19:

- **FMC Service of Thanksgiving & Noon potluck.** Please bring a nut-free dish to share. Bring your own plates if you wish. Contact Marcia E Nelson to help with set-up or clean-up.
- **Annual Interfaith Grateful Gathering at Spurlock (3p).** Join us for prayers and reflections on gratitude. The gathering will feature local youth artists and Afro D and Global Soundwaves. Stay for some great fellowship over cookies, too!

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY:

Greeters: Karen McKenzie & Cynthia Nafziger

Worship Leader: Sheryl Dyck; **Scripture Reader:** Eliza Crosby

Song Leader: Cindy Breeze; **Piano:** Kathy Springer

Children's Story: Randy Nelson

Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Deb

Zoom: Rachel Miller-Haughton; **AV:** Emerson Nafziger

Worship Nursery: Taniya Boone & Karla Woodson

SS Nursery: Rhonda Gibson & Pete Shungu

Stewards: Keith Springer & Greg Sancken

Refreshments: Rebecca Bare & Laurence Koehn

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12 AT FMC:

Scripture: Matthew 25:1-13; **Scripture Reader:** Keith Springer

Greeters: Karen McKenzie & Cynthia Nafziger

Worship Leader: Mary Biddle

Song Leader: Pastor Deb; **Piano:** Cheryl Koranda

Children's Story: Lynne Sancken

Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Mary Krick; **AV:** Randy Nelson

Worship Nursery: Taniya Boone & Sheryl Dyck

SS Nursery: Rebecca Bare & Abby Crosby

Stewards: Keith Springer & Greg Sancken

Refreshments: Janet E. Guthrie & Mark Jaeger

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