



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH  
of Champaign-Urbana

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

## Celebration of Worship

April 21, 2024

### Centering chimes

#### Prelude

#### Call to Worship

Hymnal #866

#### \*Gathering hymn #129

"O Worship Our God"

#### Welcome and prayer

#### \*Praising Hymn #703

"Rain Down"

#### Children's story and offering for Champaign County Habitat for Humanity ([cuhabitat.com](http://cuhabitat.com))

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

#### Scripture

Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Mark 13:9-11

#### Sermon

#### \*Response Hymn #376

"O Holy Spirit, Root of Life"

#### 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 #841

"As You Go Out from Here"

#### \*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.

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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 MAY (upstairs/downstairs)

**Between the Dark & the Daylight:** Library  
**Eating with Jesus: Practices of Communion:** Sanctuary  
**Coffee & Conversation:** Room 13, Downstairs

### CHILDREN – COLLEGE AGE CLASSES (downstairs)

**Kindergarten – Grade 2:** Room 10/11  
**Grade 3 - 6:** Room 3  
**High school & College:** Room 5, Downstairs



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

### TODAY

- Final day to sign undergrad encouragement cards
- Sun. Spiritual Direction (3p)

### WEDNESDAY

- Interfaith Alliance at Urbana 1<sup>st</sup>. U. Methodist (12p)
- Deadline for Dual Conference Survey

### THURSDAY

- Thursday Morning Bible Study (9:30a)
- Spiritual Leadership Team (11:30a)
- Service & Outreach Cmte-Zoom (3:30p)
- Beloved Community Bible Study at FMC (6:30p)

### FRIDAY

- Repair Network Prayer & Action Hour-Zoom (3p)

### SUNDAY (April 28)

- Hosting CMEP reps. During worship
- HVAC meeting & vote after worship
- Deadline to submit articles for May Vine

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

### TODAY:

- Final day to sign encouragement cards for our FMC undergraduates as they enter Spring finals.** A card for each student is on tables in the back of the FMC library. These notes of encouragement mean a lot to students!
- FMC Summer Sunday school 2024 - Share Your Passion!** The Christian Education (CE) Committee invites people to share a passion, talent, meditation, interest or skill that they are grateful for. All ages are welcome to propose an activity to share. A CE member will be available during fellowship time today and next Sunday to hear your ideas, answer your questions and help with scheduling. A detailed sheet containing guidelines for contributions is available on the table near the office and also downstairs in the fellowship hall.

**This Wednesday, April 24 – Deadline to complete the online FMC dual affiliation survey.** Paper copies are also available on the table by the church office and completed forms can be returned to labeled box in the office.

### Next Sunday, April 28:

- We will host representatives from [Churches for Middle East Peace](#), (CMEP) a coalition of national church denominations and organizations working to encourage U.S. policies that promote just, lasting and comprehensive resolutions to conflicts in the Middle East.** They will focus on the violence in Israel and Gaza.
- Immediately after the worship service - A short congregational meeting and vote on the HVAC proposal to replace our aging A/C units.** The FMC Council received a recommendation for a new replacement from the Facilities Committee and has scheduled a short congregational meeting and vote after the service. The proposal is available on the table near the church office and in last Friday's email. Contact Phil Martens or Mary Biddle if you have questions.
- Deadline to submit articles for the May Vine.** Email submissions to Cindi Schieber.

**Only 10 more days to register for our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary weekend (June 29-30)!** Our celebration will include a Saturday afternoon gathering in a local park, a concert at FMC on Saturday evening, and a special music-filled Sunday worship service followed by a catered lunch. *If you plan to attend any of the events or even just the Sunday morning worship service and lunch, please register by May 1.*

**Saturday, May 11 from 8:30 am – Noon – FMC Spring Work Day.** Come help spruce up the FMC grounds and building. Donuts, bagels, coffee and juice will be provided.

### THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY:

**Scripture Reader:** Eliza Crosby  
**Greeters:** Bev Hertle & Randy Nelson  
**Worship Leader:** Marcia E. Nelson  
**Song Leader:** Cindy Breeze; **Piano:** Janet MacLean  
**Children's Story:** Pete Shungu  
**Sermon & Congregational Sharing:** Pastor Michael  
**Zoom:** Mary Krick; **Audio:** Laurence Koehn  
**Worship Nursery:** Taniya Boone & Courtney Malcolm  
**SS Nursery:** Doug Malcolm & Pete Shungu  
**Stewards:** Laurence Koehn & Tom Sutter  
**Refreshments:** Karla Woodson & Mary Hines

### NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 28 AT FMC:

**Scripture:** TBD; **Scripture Reader:** Jonathan Kuttab  
**Greeters:** Bev Hertle & Keith Springer  
**Worship Leader:** Randy Nelson  
**Song Leader:** Rudy Moyer-Litwiller; **Piano:** Ruth Stoltzfus  
**Children's Story:** Rebecca Bare  
**Sermon:** CMEP Executive Director Rev. Dr. Mae Elise Cannon  
**Congregational Sharing:** Pastor Michael  
**Zoom:** Joyce Hurd; **Audio:** Phil Martens  
**Worship Nursery:** Taniya Boone & Donna N. Evans; **SS Nursery:** Mary Hines & Doug Malcolm  
**Stewards:** Laurence Koehn & Tom Sutter  
**Refreshments:** Randy & Marcia E. Nelson

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

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### Contact Us:

Pastor Michael Crosby: [michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org](mailto:michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org) | Associate Pastor Debra Sutter: [debra.sutter@fmc-cu.org](mailto:debra.sutter@fmc-cu.org)

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