



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

April 7, 2024

Centering chimes

Prelude

Call to Worship

Leader: Today we celebrate Christ's return to God!

People: We look up in wonder as he is lifted from us into heaven!

Leader: But this is not a time to gaze upward. There is work to be done!

People: We have been entrusted with the ministry of God's love to us!

Leader: Let us go into our world prepared to share God's love!

ALL: We will make our hearts ready with prayer and praise!

*Gathering hymn #367 "Gracious Spirit"

Welcome and prayer

*Praising Hymn #91 "We Praise Thee, O God"

Children's story and offering for Champaign County Habitat for Humanity (cuhabitat.com)

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

Scripture Acts 1:1-14 and Mark 6:7-13

Sermon

*Response Hymn #395 "The Church of Christ, in Every Age"

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 #769 "Now I Know"

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



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

TODAY

- Sun. Spiritual Direction Group (3p)

WEDNESDAY

- FMC Council (6p)

SATURDAY

- Menno Night-prior registration required (6p)

TUESDAY

- Hospitality & Fellowship Cmte (6:30p)

THURSDAY

- Thursday Morning Bible Study (9:30a)
- Beloved Community Bible Study at Bethel AME(6:30p)

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

One of Council's goals for 2024 is to engage the congregation in considering our status as a dual conference congregation. Read about our dual-affiliation history and the considerations for discernment in the April Vine newsletter. Council also invites us to complete a short questionnaire to help facilitate a meaningful discernment. The online forms is available online and paper copies are also available on the table by the church office and completed forms can be returned to labeled box in the office. Please give input by Wednesday, April 24.

Next Sunday, April 14 – Refreshment servers are needed. Please let the office know if you can help.

Tuesday, April 16, 5:30 at FMC - Come to Taco Tuesday for food and fellowship. Bring a taco topping, side, or dessert to share if you wish, though it's not required. RSVP online to attend by Sunday, April 14. Tortillas, meat, rice, and beans are provided; if you would like to bring one of these items or help with cleanup, sign up in the Tuesday email.

Friday, April 26 - Sunday, April 28 at Camp Menno Haven - Women's Retreat, Uncomplicated: Simple Secrets for a Compelling Life. Speaker: Brenda L. Yoder. For more information and to register, visit Menno Haven's website.

Less than one more month to register for our 60th anniversary weekend celebration, to be held June 29-30! Our celebration will include a Saturday afternoon gathering in a local park to catch up with one another, a concert at FMC on Saturday evening, and a special music-filled Sunday worship service followed by a catered lunch. Over 130 current and former FMC households have already replied! Help us plan by registering by May 1 to let us know if you plan to attend.

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

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY:

Greeters: Tim Clink & Cynthia Nafziger
Worship Leader: Sheryl Dyck
Song Leader: Pastor Deb
Piano: Cheryl Koranda
Children's Story: Courtney Malcolm
Scripture Reader: Bruce Miller
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom & Audio: Chuck Gibson
Worship Nursery: Taniya Boone & Tom Sutter
SS Nursery: Rhonda Gibson & Melissa Shungu
Stewards: Clark Breeze & Denny Seaman
Refreshments: Rebecca Bare & Laurence Koehn

NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 14 AT FMC:

Scripture: Acts 3:1-10; Mark 6:53-56
Greeters: Cathy Schneider & Randy Nelson
Worship Leader: Keith Springer
Music: Worship Band
Children's Story: Phil Martens
Scripture Reader: TBD
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Deb
Zoom: Megan Cox; **Audio:** Emerson Nafziger
Worship Nursery: Taniya Boone & Rebecca Bare
SS Nursery: Mary Hines & Doug Malcolm
Stewards: Clark Breeze & Bob King
Refreshments: Volunteers needed

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