



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

August 18, 2024

Season of Creation: Tree



Centering chimes

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Just ask the animals,

Many: and they will teach you...

One: birds in the sky,

Many: and they will tell you;

One: speak to the Earth,

Many: they will instruct you,

One: let the fish in the sea inform you. And look to all the trees, for:

All: Which of all of these does not know that to God belong wisdom and power.

*Gathering hymn #62 "God is Here among Us"

Welcome and prayer

*Praising Hymn #816 "Guide My Feet"

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

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

Scripture Psalm 96 and John 1:1-5

Sermon

*Response hymn #514 "I Saw a Tree by the Riverside"

Prayer & Offertory (*Ushers will pass the offering plates down the rows*)

Congregational Sharing & Prayer (*use the mic or text prayers to pastor Michael*)

Reception of new members: **Brian and Gab Sauder** (*congregational response on handout*)

Introduction of visitors

Work of the church (*come forward to the podium mic to make an 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 a large print hymnal & Bible are available from the greeters.

Childcare (birth – preschool) is provided in the nursery downstairs.

TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Downstairs in the Fellowship Hall - Fellowship, refreshments and children's snacks (for ages 1 year through Grade School). Parents, please assist your children during snack time. We do not have Sunday school during August.

Beginning in September, education opportunities for all ages will resume from 11:15am-12pm.

Childcare for infants - preschoolers will be provided in the nursery. We will also begin serving coffee and lemonade again.



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

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| TODAY <ul style="list-style-type: none">Advocacy letter writing during fellowship time (10:45a)Interfaith Alliance Picnic at Crystal Lake Park Pavilion (3p) | THURSDAY <ul style="list-style-type: none">Pastor Congregation Relations Cmte (10a)Service & Outreach Cmte (3:30p)FMC Sanctuary reserved (7-10p) | FRIDAY <ul style="list-style-type: none">Repair Network Prayer & Action-Zoom (3p)Arthur Menn. Relief Sale, Arthur, IL (Friday & Saturday) |
| TUESDAY <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hospitality & Fellowship Committee (4p)Taco Tuesday (5:30p) – signup online today | | |

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

- TODAY:**
- During fellowship time - Our Green Team will have letters available to sign and space for a personal note to explain why the passage of a food and climate just farm bill is important to you (read more information in the Vine).** The letters will be collected and delivered to our Congressional Representatives. There will be cookies and produce to share.
 - Deadline for our MCC's School Kit Challenge Collection.** Copies of the supply list are on the FYI table near the office.
 - Deadline to RSVP for our August 20th Taco Tuesday Dinner at 5:30 pm in the FMC fellowship hall.**
 - Interfaith End of Summer Picnic from 4-6 pm at the Crystal Lake Park Large Pavilion.** Grilled items (meat and vegetarian) and beverages will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share, or just bring yourself. Come for fellowship and fun (yard games, bubbles & more).

This Friday and Saturday, August 23 - 24 at the Otto Center (1/2 mile south of Arthur, IL) - 62nd Annual Arthur Mennonite Relief Sale in support of the Mennonite Central Committee. Flyers are also available on the FYI table near the church office.

Next Sunday, August 25:

- Final summer communion service, with a theme of interdependence and abundance.
- After worship – Our annual Safe Church Training, followed by a church potluck.

Thursdays, September 5 – November 7, from 12:15-12:45 pm, FMC sanctuary - Election Season Contemplative Prayer. As the tumult of this political season intensifies, FMC will host a mid-week prayer service to quiet ourselves, offer our fears, hopes, anxieties, sorrows, and longings to God, and listen for the Spirit's leading about what faithfulness to Jesus looks like for us in these moments. The service will be 20-30 minutes, and will likely include 1-2 sung prayers, a short scripture reading, "Prayers for the World" prompts, and time for silence. The service will be available in-person and on Zoom.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY:

Greeters: Karen McKenzie & Cynthia Nafziger
Worship Leader: Marcia E. Nelson
Song Leader: Danielle Beard
Piano: Kathy Springer
Children's Story: Megan Cox
Scripture Reader: Tammie Bouseman
Sermon: Rev. Brian Sauder, President & CEO of Faith in Place
Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom: Phil Martens
Audio: Emerson Nafziger
Visuals: Lynne Sancken
Worship Nursery: Sheryl Dyck & Janet E. Guthrie
Stewards: Chuck Gibson & Tom Sutter
Refreshment Servers: Tim Clink & Pastor Deb

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 25 AT FMC:

Communion: Interdependence and Abundance
Scripture: John 6:1-14
Greeters: Mark Evans & Cynthia Nafziger
Worship Leader: Rosalee Otto
Song Leader: Cindy Breeze
Piano: Cheryl Koranda
Children's Story: Pete Shungu
Scripture Reader: Tim Clink
Reflections: Earl Kellogg & Pastor Michael
Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom: Chuck Gibson
Audio: Randy Nelson
Visuals: Lynne Sancken
Worship Nursery: Karla Woodson & Doug Malcolm
Stewards: Chuck Gibson & Tom Sutter

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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