



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

September 1, 2024

Work of the Church Sunday



Centering chimes

Prelude

Call to Worship (*Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.*)

Leader: We gather today to worship the One who created us,

Congregation: The One who calls us,

Leader: The One who equips us,

Congregation: The One who loves us without end.

ALL: With joyful hearts, let us worship God.

*Gathering hymn "Fruit of the Spirit" (sing along)

Welcome and prayer

*Praising Hymn #547 "How Clear Our Vocation"

Children's story and offering for SIM Bangladesh Arsenic Poisoning Prevention Program (APPP)

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

Scripture Numbers 3:14-17, 25-26, 30-31; 4:46-49; Galatians 5:22-26

Reflections

*Response hymn #387 "We Are One in the Spirit"

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

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

Introduction of visitors

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

*Sending hymn #70 "Praise God (Dedication Anthem)"

*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.

Education opportunities for all ages from 11:15am-12pm (unless noted otherwise). Infant/Toddler care will be in the nursery.

CLASSES THROUGH NOVEMBER (upstairs/downstairs)

Painting Through the Scriptures (11a-12p): Library
Engaging with Our Neighbors in Divisive Times: Sanctuary
Coffee & Conversation: Room 13, Downstairs
Young Adult (high schoolers welcome): Room 5, Downstairs

CHILDREN – COLLEGE AGE CLASSES (downstairs)

Ages 2-5 years: Room 6
Grades K-2: Room 10/11
Grades 3-5: Room 3
Grades 6-8: Room 7



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

| TODAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Information Fair during FellowshipFall Sunday school classes begin | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Worship Committee (11:30a)Wednesday AM Zoom Bible Study (8a) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Election Season Contemplative Prayer at FMC (12:15p)Racial Justice Working Group-Hybrid (3p) |

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

TODAY:

- Fall Sunday school classes begin (see handout on your chair for details)
- The new children's offering for the next 6 months will aid the [SIM Bangladesh Arsenic Poisoning Prevention Program \(APPP\)](#) in Bangladesh. Read more about this program in the Vine, available on the FYI table and in Friday's email.
- Work of the Church Sunday, featuring an "information fair" about committee roles and other volunteer opportunities. The fair will be held in the fellowship hall during fellowship time. Prayerfully consider the various ministries and opportunities alongside your own gifts, interests and availability. Pastors and committees may call on you to serve in some of your areas of interest. Work of the Church Volunteer Forms for adults and also for youth and children 8 years+ are available in the foyer and downstairs. Links to online form will be emailed today. **Forms are due by Sept. 15.**

Pastor Deb will be out of the office until this Wednesday, September 4. Contact Pastor Michael with pastoral care needs.

Upcoming Bible studies begin in September (all are welcome to attend one or both):

- Wednesday Morning Zoom Bible Study begins this week (September 4) at 8am. The group meets weekly to discuss the upcoming Sunday scriptures.
- Thursday Morning Bible Study begins September 12 from 9:30 - 11am. The group will study Ecclesiastes and Proverbs and has a time of sharing and prayer.

This September 5 – November 7, from 12:15 - 12:45 pm on Thursdays in the FMC sanctuary - Election Season Contemplative Prayer. Offer your fears, hopes, anxieties, sorrows, and longings to God, and listen for the Spirit's leading about what faithfulness to Jesus looks like in these moments. The service will be available in-person and on Zoom.

Update from the FMC Mennonite College Scholarship Committee – We have reached our \$1,000 contribution goal. Thank you to all who contributed!

Saturday, September 21 at 1 pm - The CU Pride Parade begins. The staging is in the parking lots on E. Illinois between Broadway and Vine. Specific instructions will be sent to Lynne Sancken about a week before the parade. We hope to borrow a truck so that people can ride if they so choose, although the route will be significantly shorter (up Race St., across to Broadway, up to Water St.). Questions? Contact Lynne Sancken.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY:

Greeters: Maiga Muga & Rosalee Otto
Worship Leader: Sheryl Dyck
Song Leader: Rudy Moyer-Litwiller; **Piano:** Janet MacLean
Children's Story: Courtney Malcolm
Scripture Reader: Cathy Schneider
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom: John MacLean; **Audio:** Emerson Nafziger
Visuals: Sheryl Dyck
Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Abby Crosby;
Sunday school Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & TBD
Stewards: Mark Evans & Lynne Sancken
Refreshments: Keith & Kathy Springer

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT FMC:

Theme: Wisdom & Creation; **Scripture:** Proverbs 8:1-4; Sirach 24:1-12
Greeters: Maiga Muga & Rosalee Otto
Worship Leader: Randy Nelson
Song Leader: Pastor Deb; **Piano:** Cheryl Koranda
Children's Story: Tammie Bouseman & Cindy Breeze
Scripture Reader: Amber Anderson
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom: Chuck Gibson; **Audio:** Laurence Koehn
Visuals: Donna Evans
Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Tom Sutter
Sunday school Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & TBD
Stewards: Mark Evans & Lynne Sancken
Refreshments: Janet Elaine Guthrie & Mark Jaeger

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