



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

November 24, 2024



Centering chimes

Prelude

Call to Worship (unison)

Holy God, you call us together to reflect on your Word and our life in your world.

Be with us now as we sing and pray together that we may hear your voice and understand your way.

This we pray through Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

***Gathering hymn #116**

"How Great is Our God"

Welcome and prayer

***Praising Hymn #114**

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Children's story and offering for SIM Bangladesh Arsenic Poisoning Prevention Program (www.simbd.org/app)

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

Scripture

Matthew 6:25-33

Sermon

***Response hymn #289**

"See the Birds that Fly"

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

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

Introduction of visitors

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

***Sending hymn #417**

"Seek Ye First"

***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).

ADULT CLASSES (SEP – NOV) (upstairs/downstairs)

Painting Through the Scriptures (11a-12p): Library (*Guests welcome in this class as space allows*)

Engaging with Our Neighbors in Divisive Times: Sanctuary

Coffee & Conversation: Room 13, Downstairs

Mennonites 101: Room 5, Downstairs

CHILDREN – YOUTH CLASSES (downstairs)

Ages 2-5 years: Room 6

Grades K-2: Room 10/11

Grades 3-5: Room 3

Grades 6-8: Room 7



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

TODAY:

- **Service of Thanksgiving** during worship. In addition to our regular offering, we'll have a Thanksgiving offering to benefit Daily Bread Soup Kitchen.
- **Thanksgiving potluck** after Sunday school. You are invited to bring a nut-free dish to share at the potluck.
- **Interfaith Grateful Gathering**, Spurlock Museum at 3 pm, hosted by the Interfaith Alliance of Champaign County. Come for fellowship, interfaith reflection and music. Come at 2:30 pm for a meet and greet with the youth arts contest participants.
- Submission deadline for the December Vine. Email items to Cindi Schieber.

The Progressive Dinner for all ages will be held Saturday December 7, from 6-9 pm. A sign-up sheet is upstairs by the water fountain. Deadline for sign-up is December 1. Questions? Contact Marcia E. Nelson.

This Thursday & Friday, November 28 & 29 – The church office will be closed for Thanksgiving.

This Saturday, November 30 at FMC, 10 am – Celebration of Life service for Denny Seaman. A luncheon at Papa Del's will follow.

This Saturday, November 30, 3 pm at FMC – Help decorate the church for Advent.

Next Sunday, December 1 during worship – First Sunday in Advent; the theme is hope.

Next Sunday, December 1, 6:30 pm at FMC – Annual Chrismon Service. All ages are invited to join us in decorating the tree with symbols of Christ's life while singing hymns and listening to scripture. Our Chrismon offering will benefit the [Mennonite Disaster Service](#), which is helping with hurricane recovery efforts.

A reminder from Council – Notes from FMC's October 20th conversation with Illinois Mennonite Conference Minister, Bryan Miller, are available for you to read. Hard copies are on the table near the church office. Email the church office by December 3rd if you have any additional feedback about our dual conference affiliation. Council will make a decision about next steps at the December 11th Council meeting.

A 2024 Advent at Home worship guide for all ages is available from Mennonite Education Agency. The worship guide theme, "Together on the Journey", is designed for Advent through Epiphany. Scriptures, prayers, worship rituals, suggested activities and contextual information is provided. **Printed copies are on the table near the FMC office.**

FMC End of Year Budget Update - General offerings to date have totaled \$244,553, an average of \$ 5,316 per week, towards our annual spending plan of \$ 311,887. To meet our estimated expenses for the year, an additional \$64,227 or \$9,175 per week is needed by December 31, 2024.

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

902 W Springfield Ave | Urbana, IL 61801-3021 | 217.367.5353 | www.fmc-cu.org
Office Hours: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm Tuesday-Friday

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

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

(Details at: www.fmc-cu.org/events)

TODAY

- Thanksgiving potluck (12n)
- Interfaith Grateful Gathering at Spurlock (3p)
- Deadline for December Vine articles

WEDNESDAY

- Wednesday AM Zoom Bible Study (8a)

THURSDAY & FRIDAY

- Church office is closed

SATURDAY

- Celebration of Life for Denny Seaman (10a)
- FMC Advent decorating (3p)

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

- Worship (9:15a), followed by refreshments & Sunday school
- Chrismon Service for all ages (6:30p)

THANKS TODAY TO:

Greeters: Scott Bidner & Karla Woodson

Worship Leader: Bob King

Music: Worship Band

Children's Story: Baggins

Scripture Reader: Joyce Hurd

Sermon: Pastor Michael

Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Chuck Gibson

Audio: Emerson Nafziger

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Mary Hines

Stewards: Clark Breeze & Randy Nelson

Visuals: Bev Birkey Potts

Refreshments: Kate Falk & Peter Dyck

NEXT SUNDAY, Dec. 1 AT FMC:

Advent 1: HOPE

Scripture: Luke 3:1-6 & Romans 5:1-5

Greeters: Bev Hertle, Earl Kellogg & Timothy Herman (assistant)

Candle Lighters: The Malcolms

Worship Leader: Sheryl Dyck

Song Leader: Bev Birkey Potts

Piano: Jan Kellogg

Children's Story: Baggins & Lynne Sancken

Scripture Reader (Luke): Mark Evans

Embodied Scripture (Romans): Rebecca Bare

Sermon: Pastor Michael

Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Phil Martens

Audio: Randy Nelson

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Bob King

Stewards: Chuck Gibson & Cynthia Nafziger

Visuals: Lynne Sancken

Refreshments: Mary Krick, Christiana & Ariana Herman