



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH  
of Champaign-Urbana

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

## Celebration of Worship

February 16, 2025



### Centering chimes

**Prelude** *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

**Call to Worship** (handout on chairs)

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

**Welcome and prayer**

**\*Praising Hymn #277** "As with Gladness"

**Children's story and offering for SIM Bangladesh Arsenic Poisoning Prevention Program** ([www.simbd.org/appp](http://www.simbd.org/appp))

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

**Scripture** Matthew 18:23-34

**Words of Witness**

**\*Response hymn #745** "God, Whose Giving"

**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 #773** "Ubi caritas et amor"

**\*Benediction**

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\*Stand in body or in spirit. Children are invited to wave the ribbons during the hymns.

\*\*Offertory is "Un Bello Mundo (A Beautiful World)"; music by Pete Shungu and lyrics by Melissa Shungu, edited by Paula Girón Rivera. English and Spanish translations of the lyrics are on the back side of the Call to Worship handout.

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.**

**ADULT CLASSES (DEC – FEB)** (upstairs/downstairs)

The Great Rewiring: Sanctuary  
Turning to the Mystics: Library  
Coffee & Conversation: Room 13 (downstairs)

**CHILDREN – YOUTH CLASSES** (downstairs)

Ages 2-5 years: Room 6  
Kindergarten – Grade 2: Room 3  
Grades 3 – 5: Room 10/11  
Grades 6-8: Room 7



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

**TODAY – Deadline to help with Taco Tuesday.**

**Tomorrow, Feb. 17 – Thurs., Feb 20 – Pastor Michael will be at AMBS Pastors' Week in Elkhart, IN.** Pastor Deb will be available if you have pastoral care needs.

**This Fri – Sat, Feb. 21 - 22, U of I campus - Annual Illinois Interfaith Conference, featuring Dr. Allison Briscoe-Smith, Psychologist and Senior Fellow at University of California, Berkeley's Greater Good Science Center.** The Illinois Interfaith Conference is a FREE opportunity for students and others in the community to participate in questions about interfaith engagement. All people of religious and non-religious philosophical traditions are welcome! Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/2025InterfaithConference>.

**Continuing through March 16 – East Central IL Medical Debt Relief Campaign.** Information is on the campaign table in the foyer and at [www.fmc-cu.org](http://www.fmc-cu.org).

**Next Sunday, February 23:**

- **Potluck at Noon, followed by our medical debt relief auction at 12:45pm as people finish their meal.** We welcome more donations to the auction; signup online by February 20 or contact coordinator Michelle Moyer-Litwiller with your donation information.
- **Deadline for March Vine submissions.** Email items to Cindi Schieber.

**Saturday, March 1, 10a-3p at Camp Menno Haven – Illinois Mennonite Conference annual meeting.**

The meeting will feature Drew Strait, Associate Professor of New Testament at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, speaking on "Mennonite Public Faith and the Rise of Religious Nationalism". The meeting is open to all; FMC is allotted up to 5 delegates. Please let Pastor Michael or Randy Nelson know if you are attending.

**March 1, 10am – 4 pm** - FMC hosts *The Sacred Circle: Native American Spirituality & Christian Friendship* workshop with lunch provided. Designed for ages 16 and older. Registration is almost full. If registration becomes full, contact Janet Elaine Guthrie to be put on a waitlist. Pick up a flyer from the table near the FMC office.

**March 2 at FMC - Sunday morning worship with Dayspring Native American Church friends.**

**Friday, March 14 from 5-8:30 pm and Saturday, March 15 from 6 am – 1 pm – 67th Annual Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale at the Interstate Center in Bloomington, IL.** Free and open to the public. Food, markets, auction and more. Proceeds benefit the work of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and local hunger initiatives. For details, visit: <https://www.ilreliefsale.org/>.

## FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

### MONDAY

- Pastor Michael - out of the office through Thurs.

### TUESDAY

- FMC is reserved for private event (9a-12n)
- Hospitality & Fellowship Committee (4:15p)
- Taco Tuesday (5:30p)

### WEDNESDAY

- NO Wednesday AM Zoom Bible Study (8a)

### THURSDAY

- Thursday Morning Bible Study (9:30a)
- Facilities Committee-Zoom (3:30p)

### NEXT SUNDAY, February 23

- Worship (9:15a), followed by refreshments & Sunday school
- FMC potluck (12n), followed immediately by our FMC medical debt relief auction

## THANKS TODAY TO:

**Greeters:** Marcia E. Nelson, Karla Woodson, and Naima Shungu (assist)

**Worship Leader:** Chuck Gibson

**Song Leader:** Danielle Beard

**Piano:** Pam Peña Martin; **Trumpet:** Pete Shungu

**Vocals:** Melissa Shungu

**Children's Story:** Cathy Schneider

**Scripture Reader:** Geoffrey Herman

**Scripture:** Matthew 18:23-34

**Words of Witness:** Donna Evans, Earl Kellogg, and Pastor Michael

**Congregational Sharing:** Pastor Michael

**Zoom:** Mary Krick

**Audio:** Laurence Koehn

**Worship Nursery:** Skylar U'Ren & Bob King

**Stewards:** Clark Breeze & Jan Sabey

**Refreshments:** Mary Hines, Melissa & Malia Shungu

## NEXT SUNDAY, FEB 23 AT FMC:

**Greeters:** Marcia E. Nelson & Karla Woodson

**Worship Leader:** Phil Martens

**Song Leader:** Rudy Moyer-Litwiller

**Piano:** Pastor Deb

**Children's Story:** Lindsey Preston

**Scripture Reader:** Stephanie Thurston

**Scripture:** Matthew 14:13-21

**Sermon & Congregational Sharing:** Pastor Michael

**Zoom:** Megan Cox

**Audio:** Randy Nelson

**Worship Nursery:** Skylar U'Ren & Mary Hines

**Stewards:** Clark Breeze & Jan Sabey

**Visuals:** Donna Evans

**Refreshments:** John & Janet MacLean

### First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

902 W Springfield Ave | Urbana, IL 61801-3021 | 217.367.5353 | [www.fmc-cu.org](http://www.fmc-cu.org)

Office Hours: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm Tuesday-Friday

### Contact Us:

Pastor Michael Crosby: [michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org](mailto:michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org)

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