



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

July 27, 2025

Centering chimes

Prelude

Call to Worship (by Joanna Harader, 2018)

Leader: Gathered in this place,

People: We are the body of Christ.

Leader: The hands and feet,

People: The eyes and ears,

Leader: The heart and lungs—

People: All parts of the whole,

Leader: Participating in the miraculous body.

People: Together we are a body that worships,

Leader: A body that sings,

People: A body that works,

Leader: A body that rests,

People: A body that rejoices in the wonder of serving and loving God together.

Leader: We are the body of Christ,

People: Gathered in this place.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

*Gathering hymn #28

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

Welcome & Prayer

*Praising Hymn #573

"Strong, Peaceful Man of Galilee"

Children's story and offering for Immigrant Services of CU

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

Scripture

Luke 8:1-3

Sermon

*Response hymn #208

"With Mary Sing Magnificat"

Prayer & Offertory

Ushers will pass the offering plates down the rows; "sharing" index cards may be placed in the plates. Blank index cards are available on the greeter stand and in holders on the back of chairs throughout the sanctuary.

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 #844

"May the Face of God Shine on You"

*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.

JUNE & JULY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AGES (11:15AM-12PM)

(No Sunday school during August)

Intergenerational Summer Class

Theme: Sharing how we use our passion, gifts, interests or skills to care for others.

Location: Downstairs in the Fellowship Hall

Coffee & Conversation (for adults)

A fellowship group open to all, with topics arising weekly from within the group. This is a "brave space" that invites thoughtful sharing about faith from a range of perspectives and experiences.

Location: Downstairs in Room 13



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

TODAY:

- **Articles for August Vine are due to Cindi Schieber.**
- **During intergenerational Sunday school – atmospheric science student Jonathan leads an interactive class on how to interpret radar information and prepare for severe weather in central IL.** This is the final intergenerational Sunday school class. No Sunday school will be held in August.

Now through August 17 – The Service & Outreach Committee invites you to participate in a MCC school kit supply drive. We hope to collect supplies to complete 40 kits. Pick up a copy of the supply list on the table near the church office and place supplies in the labeled bin.

Tomorrow, July 28, 6:30 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church (309 W. Green St., Urbana) – Come take a deep dive into local immigration issues. Learn how ICE operates, how current policies are affecting our immigrant neighbors in CU and what we can do to support a more just and humane immigrant system. Panelists:

Lucia Maldonado, immigrant advocate and family liaison

Brian Dolinar, independent journalist

Persephone Hernandez, immigrant advocate

Mariel Middlebrook, ESL and civics teacher

Art, a local educator

Pastor Deb returns from vacation tomorrow.

This Thursday, July 31 at 5:30 pm - FMC All-Church Read of *Christ in the Rubble: Faith, the Bible, and the Genocide in Gaza* by Munther Isaac, a Palestinian and Lutheran pastor in the West Bank. You are invited to read the book then come to the open discussion at FMC.

Tuesday, August 5, 5-8 pm at the Arthur Community Building (120 E Progress St, Arthur, IL) – Mennonite Relief Sale Ice Cream Social. Come for pulled pork BBQ sandwiches and homemade ice cream, cake and cobbler. Donations will be accepted in support of the Arthur Mennonite Relief Sale, which will be held August 22 & Saturday, August 23 at the Otto Center in Arthur, IL.

Sunday, August 10 – Registration deadline for our FMC All-Church Retreat at Camp Menno Haven, Aug. 29-31. Forms are on the retreat table display or you can register online.

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

TODAY (Sunday, July 27)

- Worship (9:15a), followed by fellowship and final intergenerational Sunday school
- Vine submission deadline

MONDAY

- Mon. Spiritual Direction Group (6:30p)

WEDNESDAY

- Wed. Zoom Bible Study (8a)

THURSDAY

- Service & Outreach Cmte-Hybrid (3:30p)
- Christ in the Rubble book discussion (5:30p)

NEXT SUNDAY, August 3

- Worship (9:15a), followed by fellowship
- No Sunday school in August

THANKS TODAY TO:

Greeters: Sam Cox & Kate Falk

Worship Leader: Geoffrey Herman

Song Leader: Cindy Breeze

Piano: Bev Birkey Potts

Children's Story: Bruce Miller

Scripture Reader: Katherine Pooh

Sermon: Interview with Helena von Freyburg
(Courtney & Doug Malcolm)

Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Phil Martens

Audio: Randy Nelson

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Sheryl Dyck

Stewards: Bob King & Laurence Koehn

Visuals: Lynne Sancken

Refreshments: Cynthia & Emerson Nafziger

NEXT SUNDAY, August 3 AT FMC:

Greeters: Sam Cox & Rhonda Gibson

Worship Leader: Randy Nelson

Song Leader: Rudy Moyer-Litwiller

Piano: Ruth Stoltzfus

Children's Story: Rebecca Bare

Scripture Reader: Martha Moore & Eliza Crosby

Scripture: Romans 8:31-39

Sharing from Anabaptist 500:

David Schrag & Tina Huang, Cynthia & Emerson Nafziger, Randy and Marcia E. Nelson

Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Megan Cox

Audio: Emerson Nafziger

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Karla Woodson

Stewards: Kate Falk & Cynthia Nafziger

Visuals: Lynne Sancken

Refreshments: Janet & John MacLean

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

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

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