



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

August 24, 2025

Centering chimes

Prelude

Call to Worship

Leader: The time is surely coming when our love for one another and all of God's creation will overflow.

People: We live into that time with hope and joy.

Leader: The day is surely coming when God will strengthen our hearts with courage and compassion.

People: We anticipate this day as we serve one another.

Leader: The days are surely coming when we will tread the paths of faithfulness and steadfast love.

People: We continue this journey, trusting that all of God's promises will be fulfilled.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

***Gathering hymn #31**

"Come, We That Love"

Welcome & Prayer

***Praising Hymn #88**

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Children's story and final offering for Immigrant Services of CU

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

Scripture

Jeremiah 33:14-18; 31:31-34 & John 17:1-8

Sermon

***Response hymn #377**

"New Earth, Heavens New"

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 #812**

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

***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.

There is no Sunday school during the month of August.

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

TODAY:

- **Final Sunday for our children's offering to benefit the Immigrant Services of CU.** Donations for Immigrant Services of CU will still be accepted online or delivered to the church through the end of August.
- **At the end of fellowship time – Help in moving items out of the nursery and fellowship hall in preparation for carpet cleaning on Tuesday.**
- **Deadline to submit articles for the Sept. Vine.** Email submissions to: Cindi Schieber.

Next Sunday, August 31 – No Sunday morning worship or Sunday school at FMC, due to the all-church retreat.

Sunday, September 7 - FMC Fall Sunday school classes for preschool - adult begin. There will be classes for ages birth – 2 years, preschoolers (ages 3-5), grades K-3, 4-6, and 7-12. The adult classes will include our ongoing Coffee and Conversation class, along with two book studies: "Strange Worship: Six Steps for Challenging Christian Nationalism" (\$20 suggested donation), facilitated by Randy Nelson and Karen McKenzie, and "Footsteps of Faith: A Global Anabaptist Devotional" (\$15 suggested donation), facilitated by Chuck Gibson.

Sunday, September 7, 4-6pm, Crystal Lake Park, Urbana – Annual Summer Picnic hosted by the Interfaith Alliance of Champaign County. We will be in the large pavilion, accessible from Park Street. Grilled items (meat and vegetarian) and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share if you are able.

September 13, 4 pm at the Urbana Free Library – FMC Service & Outreach Committee invites us to a discussion of the book "Detained: A Boy's Journal of Survival and Resilience" by D. Esperanza and Gerardo Ivan Morales. Morales will join the book discussion by. A copy of the book has been donated to FMC library and can be checked out from the library table in the foyer.

September 13 - The Illinois Mennonite Disaster Service Unit (MDS) begins repair on a tarped roof and broken windows (temporarily held in place) on a home in southern Illinois. The family's home was damaged by a tornado this past spring and are in need of roof, siding and window repair. Volunteers are still needed to help with the project. Contact Lamar Miller, MDS IL Unit chair, at 217-369-8237 for more information or to volunteer.

Tuesday, September 16 at 6:15 pm after Taco Tuesday - Our annual FMC Safe Church Training. The focus will be on accessibility.

September 29-30 – Annual Environment & Spirituality Summit, sponsored by Faith in Place. FMC will host a watch party on September 30 at 5:45 pm. This year's theme is "Strong and Supported," with keynote speaker Robin Wall Kimmerer. Flyers are on the table near the office or visit aes-summit.org for details and to register.

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

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

MORE ABOUT FMC



New to FMC?

Scan the QR code to learn more about us or to let us know how you want to become more connected.

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

TODAY (Sunday, August 24)

- Worship (9:15a), followed by fellowship only; no Sunday school
- Submission deadline for September Vine

MONDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

- Wed. Zoom Bible Study (8a)
- Green Team - hybrid (4p)

FRIDAY - SUNDAY

- FMC retreat at Menno Haven

NEXT SUNDAY, August 31

- No worship at FMC building, due to retreat

THANKS TODAY TO:

Greeters: Karen McKenzie & Keith Springer
Worship Leader: Sam Cox
Christ Candle Lighter: Hannah Needham
Song Leader: Bev Birkey Potts
Piano: Janet MacLean
Children's Story: John MacLean
Scripture Reader: Nancy Seaman
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom: Chuck Gibson
Audio: Randy Nelson
Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Cindi Schieber
Stewards: Cynthia Nafziger & Jan Sabey
Visuals: Lynne Sancken
Refreshments: Janet Liechty & Rhonda Gibson

IN 2 WEEKS (SEP. 7) AT FMC:

*Theme is Season of Creation – Sky
3rd Grade Bible Presentation*

Greeters: Greg Sancken, Cindi Schieber & Daniel (youth assistant)
Worship Leader: Martha Moore
Song Leader: Cindy Breeze
Piano: Pam Peña-Martin
Children's Story: Tammie Bouseman (organizer)
Scripture Reader: Michelle Moyer-Litwiller
Scripture: Jeremiah 4:19-28 & Mark 15:33-39
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom: Megan Cox
Audio: Laurence Koehn
Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Rebecca Bare
Stewards: Kate Falk & Bruce Miller
Visuals: Mary Krick
Refreshments: Sam Cox & Clark Breeze