



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

August 3, 2025



Centering chimes

Prelude

Call to Worship *(Used in the interdenominational worship service in conjunction with the Anabaptism at 500 commemoration)*

Leader: I will sing of the Lord's great love forever;

People: with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

Leader: I will declare that your love stands firm forever;

People: that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself...

Leader: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;

People: steadfast love and faithfulness go before you...

Leader: Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,

People: your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones...

Leader: Praise be the Lord forever!

ALL: Amen and amen.

*Gathering hymn #10

"Here in This Place"

Welcome & Prayer

*Praising Hymn #716

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

Children's story and offering for Immigrant Services of CU

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

Scripture

Romans 8:31-39

Words of Witness from the May Anabaptism at 500 celebration in Zurich

*Response hymn #118

"In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"

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 #810

"Go, My Friends, in Grace"

*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.

No Sunday school is held during the month of August.

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

Thanks to Randy, Marcia, Emerson, Cynthia, David and Tina for sharing with us about their reflections from their time in Europe during the Anabaptism at 500 celebration in May.

Now through Aug. 17 – We continue to collect school supplies for our MCC school kit supply drive. We hope to collect supplies to complete 40 kits. A list of the number of specific supplies still needed is on the table by the collection box.

Pastor Michael will be out of the office this Tuesday, Aug. 5 – Monday, Aug. 11.

Contact Pastor Deb with any pastoral care needs.

This Tuesday, Aug. 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.

Next Sunday, Aug. 10 during worship – There will be a child dedication for Benjamin Needham.

Next Sunday, Aug. 10 – Final date to register for our FMC All-Church Retreat at Camp Menno Haven, Aug. 29-31. Forms are on the retreat table display or you can also register online.

Tuesday, Aug. 19, 5:30 pm at FMC – Taco Tuesday meal. Come and eat, no signup needed. Bring a topping or side to share if you wish. Help with the main items for the meal is appreciated. Signup to help with the meal.

Sunday, Sept. 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. Join us for some relaxed fellowship and fun. Grilled items (meat and vegetarian) and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share if you are able.

Friday, Sept. 19 - Sunday Sept. 21 at Camp Friedenswald (Cassapolis, MI) - Annual Women's Retreat. Join us for spirit-filled worship, relaxation among old and new friends, trails to wander, and water to rest by. This annual retreat, planned by women from across Central District Conference of MC USA, seeks to provide a place of connection and gathering for women. It is open to ALL women, not only those affiliated with Central District Conference. This year's theme is: Rooted in Love: When trees talk. The speaker is Dr. Rev Rosalind Young, MCC Great Lakes Program Coordinator and ordained minister. FMC scholarships are available to help with the cost; talk to Pastor Michael for more information. For more details about the retreat and to register, visit: <https://friedenswald.org/retreats/>.

The Anabaptist Community Bible app is here, thanks to the Anabaptism at 500 project from MennoMedia, with support by Everence. Explore Scripture (Common English Bible translation) through an Anabaptist lens, right from your own phone! Some Anabaptist historical events and essays are also included. Download for free on the App Store or Google Play. Search: Anabaptist Community Bible.

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

TODAY (Sunday, August 3)

- Worship (9:15a), followed by fellowship. Sunday school is not held in August.
- Sun. Spiritual Direction Group (3:15p)

TUESDAY

- Pastor Michael away Aug 5-11
- Racial Justice Working Group-Hybrid (1p)

WEDNESDAY

- No Wed. Zoom Bible Study

FRIDAY

- Hospitality & Fellowship Cmte. (4:30p)

NEXT SUNDAY, August 10

- Worship (9:15a), followed by fellowship
- During worship – Child dedication for Benjamin Needham

THANKS TODAY TO:

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

Words of Witness: Tina Huang & David Schrag,
Randy & Marcia E. Nelson, Cynthia & Emerson Nafziger

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

NEXT SUNDAY, August 10 AT FMC:

Greeters: Tammie Bouseman & Rebecca Bare

Worship Leader: Tim Clink

Song Leader: Cindy Breeze

Piano: Cheryl Koranda

Children's Story: Lindsey Preston

Scripture Reader: Laurence Koehn

Scripture: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14 & John 16:7-15

Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Deb

Zoom: Chuck Gibson

Audio: Laurence Koehn

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Marcia E. Nelson

Stewards: Kate Falk & Cynthia Nafziger

Visuals: Lynne Sancken

Refreshments: Randy & Marcia E. Nelson

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

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

Contact Us:

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