



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH  
of Champaign-Urbana

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

## Celebration of Worship



Centering chimes

Prelude

Call to Worship

**\*Gathering hymn #179**

"At the Dawn of Your Creation"

Welcome & Prayer

**\*Praising Hymn #81**

"All Creatures, Worship God Most High" (verses 1, 3, 4, 5, 7)

**Children's story and children's offering** (*for Mennonite Central Committee's (MCC) crisis response in Gaza*)

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

**Embodied scripture**

Genesis 1:1-13

**Scripture**

Luke 16:1-13

**Sermon**

**\*Response hymn #794**

"If the War Goes On"

**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 Deb*)

**Introduction of visitors**

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

**\*Sending hymn #706**

"O Healing River"

**\*Benediction**

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\*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.

### ADULT CLASSES (September - November) (upstairs/downstairs)

Footsteps of Faith: A Global Anabaptist Devotional - Library  
Strange Worship: Six Steps for Challenging Christian Nationalism - Sanctuary  
Coffee & Conversation: Room 13 (downstairs)

### CHILDREN – YOUTH CLASSES (downstairs)

Nursery (birth – 2 years): Nursery  
Ages 3-5 years: Room 6  
Kindergarten – Grade 3: Room 3  
Grades 4 – 6: Room 10/11  
Grades 7-12: Room 7



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

**We thank our guest preacher, Josh Richardson, for bringing us today's message.** Josh is pastor of St. Louis (Missouri) Mennonite Fellowship and CEO of Brugmansia Ministries, which focuses on "combining scientific and religious knowledge to call forth a new vision for how religious communities can more justly serve in a world dominated by climate change and climate-induced migration."

### Next Sunday:

- **Pastor Michael will be away September 27 – 28.**
- **Deadline for Oct. Vine submissions.**
- **Deadline to order a 'God's Love is for Everyone' T-shirt.** The cost will range from \$25 to \$35, depending on the quantity ordered. Contact Lynne Sancken to order. Payment is due when you get your shirt from Lynne. The Pride Parade will be held on October 25 at 1 pm.

### 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. Flyers are on the table near the office or visit [aes-summit.org](http://aes-summit.org) for details and to register.

**Sunday, October 5 – Noon potluck and congregational gathering at 1 pm for a critical component of Pastor Michael's 5-year formal evaluation and our ongoing congregational self-reflection.** We'll meet in focus groups of 6-10 people each, using the process and materials from MC USA's "Appreciative Inquiry" ([tinyurl.com/FMC-Pastor-Cong-Inquiry](http://tinyurl.com/FMC-Pastor-Cong-Inquiry)). Paper copies of the "Appreciative Inquiry" process are on the table near the church office.

### Thursday, Oct 16 from 5:45-8:45pm - Mennonite Action (MA) National Training Tour visits

**FMC!** You are invited to join a potluck meal, worship, a presentation on authoritarianism in Gaza in the U.S., developing an Anabaptist response, and a training on non-cooperation and nonviolent action. We will invite participation from others in the CU community. It would be helpful to know if you plan to attend, if you can help coordinate logistics, and if you would like childcare options. Please let us know by completing this short form: (<https://tinyurl.com/MA-Tour-FMC>). Questions? Contact Karen McKenzie.

**Tuesday, October 24-25 at Penn Station (122 E. Progress St.) in Arthur, IL - Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) Region 2 Annual Meeting, hosted by the Illinois MDS Unit.** You are welcome to attend the meeting. For more information and to register, pick up a flyer from the table near the office or visit: <https://mds.org/event/region-2-annual-meeting-3/>.

## First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

Office Hours: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm Tuesday-Friday  
217.367.5353 | [www.fmc-cu.org](http://www.fmc-cu.org)

### Contact Us:

Pastor Michael Crosby: [michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org](mailto:michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org)  
Associate Pastor Debra Sutter: [debra.sutter@fmc-cu.org](mailto:debra.sutter@fmc-cu.org)  
Rhonda Gibson, Office Administrator: [office@fmc-cu.org](mailto: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](http://www.fmc-cu.org/events))

### TODAY (Sunday, September 21)

- Worship (9:15a), followed by fellowship & Sunday school
- Guest preacher, Josh Richardson

### TUESDAY

- FMC library reserved for Courage School (7p)

### WEDNESDAY

- Wed. Zoom Bible Study (8a)
- Interfaith Alliance meets at CIMIC (12p)

### THURSDAY

- Thursday Bible Study (9:30a)
- Service & Outreach Cmte-hybrid (3:30p)

### SAT & SUN

- Pastor Michael is away

### NEXT SUNDAY (September 28)

- Worship (9:15a), followed by fellowship & Sunday school
- Vine submissions due to Cindi Schieber

## THANKS TODAY TO:

**Greeters:** Cathy Schneider & Kate Falk  
**Worship Leader:** Peter Dyck  
**Song Leader:** Geoffrey Herman  
**Piano:** Kathy Springer  
**Children's Story:** Lynne Sancken  
**Scripture Reader:** Stephanie Thurston  
**Embodied Scripture:** Chuck Gibson  
**Sermon:** Josh Richardson  
**Congregational Sharing:** Pastor Deb  
**Zoom:** Chuck Gibson  
**Audio:** Emerson Nafziger  
**Worship Nursery:** Skylar U'Ren & Joe Crawford  
**Stewards:** Laurence Koehn & Tom Sutter  
**Visuals:** Mary Krick  
**Refreshments:** Janet Elaine Guthrie & Mark Jaeger

## NEXT WEEK (SEP. 28) AT FMC:

*Theme is Season of Creation – Mountain*

**Greeters:** Cathy Schneider & Karla Woodson  
**Worship Leader:** Chuck Gibson  
**Song Leader:** Rudy Moyer-Litwiller  
**Piano:** Bev Birkey Potts  
**Children's Story:** Sharon Monday  
**Scripture Reader:** Wilmer Otto  
**Scripture:** Psalm 48:1-11  
**Embodied Scripture:** Mary Biddle (Isaiah 65:17-25)  
**Sermon & Congregational Sharing:** Pastor Deb  
**Zoom:** Phil Martens  
**Audio:** Laurence Koehn  
**Worship Nursery:** Skylar U'Ren & Cindi Schieber  
**Stewards:** Randy Nelson & Tom Sutter  
**Visuals:** Mary Krick  
**Refreshments:** Cynthia & Emerson Nafziger