



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

November 16, 2025



Centering chimes (*The white candle is the Christ candle; the red candle is lit in solidarity with Palestinians*)

Prelude

Call to Worship (*handout on chairs*)

***Gathering hymn #50** "Spirit, Working in Creation"

Welcome & Prayer

***Praising Hymn #81** "All Creatures, Worship God Most High"

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)

Scripture Psalm 104:24-30 and John 20:19-23

Sermon *Breath of Life*

***Response hymn #806** "Called by Earth and Sky"

Congregational Sharing & Prayer (*use the mic or text prayers to Pastor Michael*)

Environmental responsive Lord's Prayer (*handout on chairs, reverse side*)

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.

Introduction of visitors

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

***Sending hymn #828** "There's a Wild Hope in the Wind"

***Benediction**

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

Thanks to Doug Kaufman, Director of the Anabaptist Climate Collaborative, for bringing us today's message.

Note: Because worship is participatory and not a performance, instead of applauding please show appreciation for preludes, offertories and special music in other ways, such as ASL, silent applause, saying "Amen" or thanking musicians later.

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)

Today – Signup deadline to help with main items for the Taco meal this Tuesday at 5:30 pm.

Tomorrow, Monday, November 17, 4-5 pm, downstairs at FMC - A physical therapist from Carle will be giving a presentation on Balance Exercises for Active Seniors (or anyone). Wear comfortable shoes, as it will be interactive.

This Tuesday, November 18, 5:30 pm at FMC - Taco Tuesday meal. Come and eat, no signup needed. Bring a topping or side to share if you wish.

Next Sunday, November 23 at FMC – Service of Thanksgiving, with a Noon potluck and Advent decorating during fellowship time. You are invited to bring a nut-free dish to share for the potluck. In addition to our regular offering, we'll have a Thanksgiving offering to benefit the Friends of Champaign County Food Pantry.

Saturday, November 23, 3 pm at Spurlock Museum – Annual Interfaith Grateful Gathering.

Sunday, November 30:

- **Communion will be served during worship on this first Sunday of Advent. Theme: Be Amazed!**
- **December Vine submissions are due to Cindi Schieber.**
- **Annual Chrismson service at 6:30 pm.** All ages are invited to join us in decorating the tree with symbols of Christ's life while singing hymns and listening to scripture.

Wednesday, December 3, 5:30 pm at FMC - Our Racial Justice Working Group will screen the film, "Sugarcane" (flyers are on the information table). Pizza and salad served at 5:30pm, film starts at 6pm. RSVP for pizza by Sunday, November 30: <https://tinyurl.com/Dec-Sugarcane>.

Saturday, December 6, 9:30 am – Noon at FMC – All women are invited to attend “Christmas Quiet: A Morning of Silence. A Season of Peace.” Maisie Sparks will be our presenter. Registration is required and space is limited to 30. Flyers are on the table near the church office.

Saturday, December 13, 6-9pm – FMC Annual Progressive Dinner. Flyers about the event are on the table outside the church office. A sign-up sheet is downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Signup deadline: December 3. Questions? Contact Marcia E. Nelson.

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

TODAY (November 16)

- Worship (9:15a), then fellowship & Sun. school
- Sun. Spiritual Direction Group (3p)
- FMC reserved (5-9p)
- Signup deadline to provide main items Taco Tue

MONDAY

- Balance Exercise for Seniors (4)

TUESDAY

- Service & Outreach Committee-hybrid (3:45p)
- Hospitality & Fellowship Committee (4:30p)
- Taco Tuesday meal at FMC (5:30p)

WEDNESDAY

- Wed. Zoom Bible Study (8a)

THURSDAY

- Thursday Bible Study (9:30a)
- Weekly Vigil for Palestine (11:15a)
- Christian Ed. Committee (1:15p)

FRIDAY

- Facilities Cmte (4p)

NEXT SUNDAY (November 23)

- Thanksgiving Worship (9:15a)
- Advent decorating during fellowship time
- Thanksgiving potluck after Sun. School (12n)
- Interfaith Gathering at Spurlock (3p)

THANKS TODAY TO:

Greeters: Janet E. Guthrie, Mark Jaeger & Naima Shungu (youth assistant)

Worship Leader: Earl Kellogg

Music: Worship Band

Children's Story: Laura Lasater

Scripture Reader: Dianna Black

Sermon: Doug Kaufman, Anabaptist Climate Collaborative

Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Joyce Hurd; **Audio:** Chuck Gibson

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Mary Hines

Stewards: Kate Falk & Laurence Koehn

Visuals: Tammie Bouseman

Refreshments: Sarah Little, Tom Sutter, Malia Shungu (youth assistant)

NEXT WEEK (November 23) AT FMC:

Greeters: Janet E. Guthrie & Mark Jaeger

Worship Leader: Chuck Gibson

Song leader: Bev Birkey Potts

Piano: Kathy Springer

Children's Story: Megan Cox

Scripture Reader: Karen McKenzie

Scripture: Psalm 46; Luke 23:33-43

Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Phil Martens; **Audio:** Laurence Koehn

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Karla Woodson

Stewards: Clark Breeze & Perry Biddle

Visuals: Tammie Bouseman

Refreshments: John & Janet MacLean

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

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

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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.