



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

November 9, 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 #49** "All Who Are Thirsty"

Welcome & Prayer

***Praising Hymn #705** "For the Healing of the Nations"

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 Isaiah 58:6-12 and Romans 12:1-2

Word of Witness

***Response hymn #682** "Lord, Listen to Your Children"

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

The practice of prayer ties was shared with us at the Sacred Circle Native American Spirituality Workshop earlier this year, and is a regular part of worship at Dayspring Native American United Methodist Church. Prayer ties are small tobacco pouches, usually created, collected, and then burned to represent our prayers held and received by God. Today's prayers will be shaped into prayer ties and burned outside following the service. If you wish, you are welcome to come forward to the table during or after sharing to create a prayer tie yourself.

Prayer & Offertory (*Ushers will pass the offering plates down the rows*)

Introduction of visitors

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

***Sending hymn #706** "O Healing River"

***Benediction**

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

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)

Thanks to Joyce Mast for bringing us today's Word of Witness. Joyce attends New Covenant Fellowship in Champaign, and recently attended a Community Peacemaker Teams (CPT) Turtle Island Delegation in solidarity with Indigenous people in Winnipeg and Grassy Narrows. She shares with us today out of that experience.

Today immediately after the worship service – All are invited to join a simple ceremony on the FMC green space (the lawn west of the church) for burning the prayer ties created at the workshop and during worship today.

Today downstairs in the fellowship hall – You are invited to write a note of encouragement for each of our undergraduate students as they prepare for finals. The Christian Education Committee has funds to send each student a small monetary gift for finals week treats.

Pastor Deb will be out of the office through Tuesday, Nov. 11. Please contact Pastor Michael with any pastoral care needs.

Thanks to all who helped at our church work day yesterday!

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

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. Signup to help with main items for the meal.

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 at the potluck. In addition to our regular offering, we'll have a Thanksgiving offering for a local need (organization TBA).

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

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. Register by November 30.

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

TODAY (Sunday, November 9)

- Worship (9:15a), then fellowship & Sun. school

TUESDAY

- IMC Pastor Peer Mtg at FMC (10a-1p)

WEDNESDAY

- Wed. Zoom Bible Study (8a)
- FMC Council (6p)

THURSDAY

- Thursday Bible Study (9:30a)
- Weekly Vigil for Palestine (11:15a)

FRIDAY

- Spiritual Direction Group (10:30a)

SATURDAY

- FMC parking lot used as departure point for a non-FMC event.

NEXT SUNDAY (November 16)

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

THANKS TODAY TO:

Greeters: Clark Breeze & Randy Nelson

Worship Leader: Marcia E. Nelson

Song Leader: Geoffrey Herman

Piano: Ruth Stoltzfus

Children's Story: Rebecca Bare

Scripture Reader: David Needham

Word of Witness: Joyce Mast

Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Rachel Miller-Haughton

Audio: Emerson Nafziger

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Megan Cox

Stewards: Kate Falk & Laurence Koehn

Visuals: Tammie Bouseman

Refreshments: Thom & Martha Moore

NEXT WEEK (November 16) AT FMC:

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

Scripture: TBA

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)

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

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

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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.