



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

February 15, 2026

Centering chimes (*Lighting of the Christ candle*)

Prelude

Call to Worship (*based on Psalm 100*)

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come before God with joyful songs.

Leader: Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us and we are God's children;

People: we are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.

Leader: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and the courts of the Lord with praise;

People: Give thanks to God and praise God's name.

ALL: For the Lord is good and God's love endures forever; God's faithfulness continues through all generations.

***Gathering hymn #443** "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

Welcome & Prayer

***Praising Hymn** (*song sheet*) "For Everyone Born, a Place at the Table" (verses 1-3, 5)

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 John 9:39-10:18 and Psalm 23

Sermon

***Response hymn #162** "The Love of God"

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

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 #718** "Gentle Shepherd, Come and Lead Us"

***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 (December - February) (upstairs/downstairs)

Practicing Lament: How Do We Pray When Everything Goes Wrong? - Library
Make a Joyful Noise: Hymn Singing - 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, February 15 – Deadline to sign up to help bring main items for the FMC Taco meal.

This Wednesday, February 18, 6:30-7p at FMC – Ash Wednesday Service and imposition of ashes. Child care will be provided.

Next Sunday, February 22:

- Lent 1: Holding It Together in Our Loving and Our Grieving. Communion will be served during worship.
- Submission deadline for the March Vine. Email submissions to Cindy Schieber.

MC USA's 2026 Lent at Home Worship Guide, *Dwelling in Dissonance*, helps all ages hold grief and hope together, as we walk with Jesus toward resurrection. Copies are available on the table near the church office or read online at: www.mennoniteusa.org/resource-portal/resource/lent-at-home-2026/.

March 7, at 6 pm, Savoy Room at the Holiday Inn (101 Trade Center, Champaign) - 52nd Annual FMC Menno Nite Dinner and Talent Show. There is free parking across State Street to the west. See menu options (including an option for children) and sign-up online. Payment will be taken at the door, \$32 for adult menu, \$15 for children's menu, pay as you are able - more if you can, less if you can't. **We don't want cost to be a factor in your attendance, so please join us if you can.** Questions about the meal? Contact Marcia Nelson. Jeremiah Thurston will emcee. Now is the time to hone or dig deep for your talent, which is the highlight of this event. Contact him with your offerings.

March 6-7 at Lombard Mennonite Church (528 E Madison St., Lombard, IL) – IL Mennonite Conference Annual Assembly. Theme: "Christ Our Center, Connected as One." Keynote Speaker: Brian Zahnd; Featured Workshop: Tim Soerens. Join us as we celebrate the many ways we are connected as one body. Register <https://tinyurl.com/IMC-Annual-Meeting-2026>. Flyers are available on the table near the office; contact Pastor Michael if you wish to attend.

February, 28 at the University Y (1001 S. Wright St., Champaign) - Illinois Interfaith Conference. Theme - Politics of Love: Interfaith Organizing for Democracy. Keynote speakers Dr. Rami Nashashibi and Ciera Bates-Chamberlain. For more info. and to register: go.illinois.edu/InterfaithConference. Flyers are available on the table near the office.

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:

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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.

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

TODAY (Feb 15)

- Worship 9:15a, then fellowship & Sun. school
- Fellowship lunches in homes (prior signup)
- Signup deadline to help with Taco Tue main food items for Taco Tuesday

Tuesday

- FMC reserved 9a-12n
- FMC Taco Tuesday meal 5:30p

Wednesday

- Zoom Bible Study 8a
- Ash Wednesday Service 6:30p

Thursday

- Thursday AM Bible study 9:30a

Friday

- Fri. Spiritual Direction Group 10:30a
- Facilities Committee-hybrid 4p

NEXT SUNDAY (February 22) – LENT 1

- Worship 9:15a, then fellowship & Sun. school
- Council retreat at FMC 12n-3:30p
- Sun. Spiritual Direction Group 3:30p

THANKS TODAY TO:

Greeters: Janet E. Guthrie & Mark Jaeger
Worship Leader: Tim Clink
Song leader: Melissa Shungu
Piano: Janet MacLean
Children's Story: Pete Shungu
Scripture Reader: Rosalee Otto (Psalm 23 & John 9:39-10:18)
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom: Chuck Gibson & Eliza Crosby
Audio: Randy Nelson
Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Rebecca Bare
Stewards: Laurence Koehn & Bob King
Visuals: Worship Committee
Refreshments: Scott & Maggie Bidner

NEXT WEEK (February 22) AT FMC:

LENT 1: Holding It Together - Love and Grief
Communion will be served.

Greeters: Rhonda Gibson & Maggie Bidner
Worship Leader: Chuck Gibson
Song leader: Cindy Breeze
Piano: Kathy Springer
Children's Story: Cindy Breeze
Scripture Reader: Bob King (John 11:1-44)
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Deb
Zoom: David & Hannah Needham
Audio: Phil Martens
Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Laura Lasater
Stewards: Laurence Koehn & Bob King
Visuals: Worship Committee
Refreshments: John & Janet MacLean