



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH  
of Champaign-Urbana

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

## Celebration of Worship

February 8, 2026

**Centering chimes** (*Lighting of the Christ candle*)

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship** (*adapted from Voices Together #891*)

One: When we have lied and when we have been told lies,

**Many: Help us work for change.**

One: When we have laughed at others' pain and when others have laughed at us

**Many: Help us show compassion.**

One: When we have betrayed our principles and when we have been betrayed,

**Many: Help us be faithful.**

One: When we should have spoken and remained silent and when we should have remained silent and have spoken,

**Many: Help us set our priorities.**

**ALL: Together, with God, we can do better.**

**\*Gathering hymn #9** "Come Away from Rush and Hurry"

**Welcome & Prayer**

**\*Praising Hymn #182** "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

**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 5:1-18

**Sermon**

**\*Response hymn #644** "Healer of Our Every Ill"

**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 #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 (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 8, from 11:15a-1:45p – The Christian Education Committee is hosting a visioning conversation for all FMC parents of children and youth.** Lunch and childcare are provided.

**Today, February 8 – Deadline to sign up for February 14 & 15 FMC Fellowship meals.** This is an opportunity to gather in homes to share a potluck meal and deepen friendships. Sign up to be a host or a guest. Hosts will contact guests with details about the meal. Signup forms are on the table near the office or signup online. Questions? Contact Marcia E Nelson.

**Anabaptist World is a monthly magazine that offers articles and news from an Anabaptist perspective.** FMC has a reduced-rate group subscription (\$54 for 12 issues), which is up for renewal. To join, contact the church office by **this Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**Pastor Deb will be out of the office this Friday, Feb 12 – Tuesday, February 17.** Contact Pastor Michael with any pastoral care needs.

**Tuesday, February 17, 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 main items for the meal is appreciated.

**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/](http://www.mennoniteusa.org/resource-portal/resource/lent-at-home-2026/).

**Wednesday, February 18, 6:30 pm – FMC Ash Wednesday Service and imposition of ashes.**

**March 7 at the Holiday Inn (101 Trade Center, Champaign) - 52nd Annual FMC Menno Nite Dinner and Talent Show.** Now is the time to hone or dig deep for your talent, which is the highlight of this event. Jeremiah Thurston will emcee. Contact him with your to offer your talent. Further details and a sign-up are coming soon.

**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>.

### 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 (Feb 8)

- Worship 9:15a, then fellowship & Sun. school
- CE Comte. & Parents meeting 11:15a-1:45p
- Hospitality & Fellowship Committee 12n
- Sun. Spiritual Direction Group 3p

### Tuesday

- FMC Library Committee (in library) 6-8pm

### Wednesday

- Zoom Bible Study 8a
- FMC Council meets (in library) 6p

### Thursday

- Thursday AM Bible study 9:30a

### Friday

- Pastor Deb is out of the office until Feb 17

### Saturday

- Fellowship meals in homes (Feb 8 signup deadline)

### NEXT SUNDAY (February 15)

- Worship 9:15a, then fellowship & Sun. school
- Fellowship meal in homes (Feb 8 signup deadline)
- Signup deadline to help with main items for Taco Tuesday (Feb 17 at 5:30p)

## THANKS TODAY TO:

**Greeters:** Mary Krick & Perry Biddle

**Worship Leader:** Randy Nelson

**Song leader:** Cindy Breeze

**Piano:** Cheryl Koranda

**Children's Story:** Marcia E. Nelson

**Scripture Reader:** Tim Clink (John 5:1-18)

**Sermon & Congregational Sharing:** Pastor Michael

**Zoom:** Phil Martens

**Audio:** Laurence Koehn

**Worship Nursery:** Skylar U'Ren & Bob King

**Stewards:** Mark Evans & Mary Krick

**Visuals:** Worship Committee

**Refreshments:** Sarah Little & Christine & Arianna Herman (youth assistant)

## NEXT WEEK (February 15) AT FMC:

**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