



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

April 26, 2026

Centering chimes (*Lighting of the Christ candle*)

Prelude

Call to Worship Hymnal #854

***Gathering hymn #807** "Hope of Abraham and Sarah"

Welcome & Prayer

***Praising Hymn #535** "Today We Sing with Thankfulness"

Children's story and children's offering (*for Sola Gratia Farm in Urbana*)

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

Scripture Acts 16:16-34

Sermon

***Response hymn #102** "Santo, santo, santo"

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

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 #849** "We, Your People, Sing Your Praises"

***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 (March - May) (upstairs/downstairs)

Artistic Reflections on Scripture, in the library
Radicals & Reformers book study, in the 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 downstairs in the fellowship hall – Final Sunday to write a note of encouragement for each of our undergraduate students as they prepare for finals.

Today - Deadline to submit May Vine articles to Cindi Schieber.

Rhonda is out of the office this week; there will be reduced office hours (9:30a - 12n Tues - Fri). Please contact Pastor Michael with office needs or administrative questions.

Now through May 31 - Help MCC to Give Soap Full of Hope. Your donations of NEW, wrapped full-sized laundry or bath bar soap will be distributed to hospitals, orphanages, and refugee camps in countries where soap is expensive or difficult to resource. Specific directions about the soap collection are listed on the flyers on the collection table near the upstairs water fountain.

The Hospitality and Fellowship Committee seeks your input regarding FMC events. Please complete a survey, available from Marcia E. Nelson, during the next few Sundays. **Deadline for giving feedback: Monday, May 11.**

The Christian Education Committee is looking for people to volunteer for 1 or more Sundays in June and July to teach or help with the Preschool/PreK Sunday School class. The Path to Peace with Creation materials from Menno Media will be used; all teaching materials are provided. Sign up on the signup sheet in the church foyer near the water fountain. Intergenerational Summer Sunday school for grade school - adults will be offered; details coming soon.

This Saturday, May 2 from 8 am - 12 Noon - FMC Spring Work Day. People of all ages are invited to help spruce up the grounds and building. Coffee, juice, donuts and bagels will be provided. Sign up downstairs to do a task/bring equipment.

Saturday, May 30 from 3-5 pm at FMC – Retirement celebration for Pastor Deb. Please join us in appreciating Pastor Deb and her 11+ years as associate pastor at FMC. RSVP by Sunday, May 17.

Sunday, May 31 during worship – We will offer a blessing for all graduates (middle school and older). We will also have special refreshments during fellowship time in honor of our graduates. If you are graduating from middle school, high school, college, or grad school, contact the church office (office@fmc-cu.org) by May 15 so that we can include you in our celebration booklet.

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

TODAY (April 26)

- Worship 9:15a, then fellowship & Sun. school
- Sun. Spiritual Direction Group 3p
- Deadline submission for May Vine

Wednesday

- Zoom Bible Study 8a

Thursday

- Final Spring Thursday AM Bible study 9:30a

Saturday

- FMC Work Day 8a-12n

NEXT SUNDAY (May 3)

- Worship 9:15a, then fellowship & Sun. school
- FMC reserved for private recital (5-10p)

THANKS TODAY TO:

Greeters: Bev Hertle & Laurence Koehn

Worship Leader: Laura Lasater

Song leader: Rudy Moyer Litwiller

Piano: Jan Kellogg

Children's Story: Mary Biddle

Scripture Reader: Emerson Nafziger (Acts 16:16-34)

Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Deb

Zoom: Phil Martens

Audio: Emerson Nafziger

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Mary Krick

Stewards: Tammie Bouseman & Rebecca Bare

Visuals: Lynne Sancken

Refreshments: Sam Cox & Tom Sutter

NEXT WEEK (May 3) AT FMC:

Greeters: Cynthia Nafziger & Greg Sancken

Worship Leader: Cindy Breeze

Song leader: Pastor Deb

Piano: Cheryl Koranda

Children's Story: Pete Shungu

Scripture Reader: Bev Hertle (Acts 17:16-31)

Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Megan Cox

Audio: Randy Nelson

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Sheryl Dyck

Stewards: Lynne Sancken & Jan Sabey

Visuals: Lynne Sancken

Refreshments: Clark Breeze & Courtney Malcolm

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.