



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

May 17, 2026

Centering chimes (*Lighting of the Christ candle*)

Prelude

Call to Worship

Leader: When we are distracted by what is not important,

Congregation: may we find the will to do good.

Leader: When we are comfortable with actions and words that divide,

Congregation: may we understand that what separates us from each other, separates us from God.

Leader: When we are arrogant about our status,

Congregation: may we find humility in recognizing what we have been gifted.

Leader: When we are tempted by greed,

Congregation: may we remember those in need.

Leader: When it is difficult to worship,

Congregation: may we be open to the embrace of the Spirit.

***Gathering hymn #411** "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Welcome & Prayer

***Praising Hymn #564** "What Wondrous Love Is This"

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

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

Scripture Philippians 1:1-18a

Sermon

***Response hymn #6** "Let's Walk Together"

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

Prayer & Offertory *The Prayer by Krastyo Petroff*

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 #839** "Go, Ye Now in Peace"

***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 - Pastor Michael is away. Contact Pastor Deb with pastoral care needs.

Today:

- Pastor Deb's final sermon at FMC before retiring. Her final Sunday as FMC pastor will be May 24.
- RSVP Deadline to attend Pastor Deb's retirement celebration on Saturday, May 30, 3-5p at FMC. Please join us in appreciating Pastor Deb and her 11+ years as associate pastor at FMC.
- Signup deadline to bring a main item for the Taco Tuesday meal on May 19.

The Hospitality & Fellowship Committee invite you to provide a meal for Rudy and Michelle Moyer-Litwiller, who are in need of a few meals/week for the next couple of weeks. To help, please sign up online.

The Hospitality & Fellowship Committee has purchased a new coffee product to try to address the clogging problem in our machine. They welcome opinions as to how the coffee has been since purchasing the self-serve machine and if there is any difference now. None of the committee members are connoisseurs. Offer feedback to any of the committee members: Marcia E. Nelson (chair), Ahbleza Boltinghouse, Mark Evans, Cheryl Koranda and Rachel Miller-Haughton.

Summer worship call for Words of Witness - Our June/July worship theme is "Hospitality," with opportunities to reflect on rest, nourishment, and welcome. Consider sharing "Words of Witness" (reflections and/or stories) about your experiences with hospitality. When have you given or received hospitality? Who are the mentors or "heroes of hospitality" in your life? Words of Witness Sundays will be on June 21st and another in July TBD. Talk to Pastor Michael if you're interested.

Now through May 31 - Soap Full of Hope. Donate NEW, wrapped full-sized laundry or bath bar soap for MCC to distribute in countries where soap needed. The collection box is on the table in the foyer.

Monday, May 25, 2026 from 9a - 4p at Camp Menno Haven (9301 1575 East St, Tiskilwa, IL) - All are welcome to attend Open House/Rally Day. Visit mennohaven.com/rallyday for more information.

Sunday, May 31 – Deadline to submit items for the June Vine newsletter. We hope to have enough submissions to print a newsletter. Email submissions to Cindi Schieber.

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:

Pastor Michael Crosby: michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org
Associate Pastor Debra Sutter: debra.sutter@fmc-cu.org
Rhonda Gibson, Office Administrator: 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)

TODAY (May 17)

- Worship 9:15a, then fellowship & Sun. school
- Hospitality & Fellowship Committee 12n
- Sun. Spiritual Direction Group 6p
- Signup deadline to help with Taco Tue. meal

Tuesday

- Taco Tuesday meal at FMC 5:30p

Wednesday

- Zoom Bible Study 8a

Friday

- FMC basement reserved 8a-1p
- Spiritual Leadership Team 8:30a
- Fri. Spiritual Direction Group 10:30a
- Service & Outreach Committee-hybrid 3p

NEXT SUNDAY: PENTECOST (May 24)

- Worship 9:15a, then fellowship & Sun. school
- Guest preacher: Cal Zehr, IMC Executive Minister
- Pastor Deb's last official Sunday with us

THANKS TODAY TO:

Greeters: Cynthia Nafziger & Greg Sancken

Worship Leader: Randy Nelson

Song leader: Bev Birkey Potts

Piano: Kathy Springer

Children's Story: Joe Crawford

Scripture Reader: David Needham
(Philippians 2:1-13)

Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Deb

Zoom: Geoffrey & Timothy Herman

Audio: Chuck Gibson

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Karla Woodson

Stewards: Keith Springer & Kate Falk

Visuals: Lynne Sancken

Refreshments: Rebecca Bare & Laurence Koehn

NEXT WEEK (May 24) AT FMC:

Next Sunday: Pentecost

Greeters: Clark Breeze & Nancy Seaman

Worship Leader: Pastor Michael

Music: Worship Band

Children's Story: Courtney Malcolm

Scripture Reader: Karen McKenzie
(Acts 2 excerpts; John 20:19-23)

Sermon: Cal Zehr, IMC Executive Minister

Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Joyce Hurd

Audio: Laurence Koehn

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Marcia E. Nelson

Stewards: Keith Springer & Kate Falk

Visuals: Lynne Sancken

Refreshments: Chuck Gibson, Mark Evans & Malia Shungu (youth assistant)