



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

August 16, 2026

Ten Commandments
LOVE GOD • LOVE OTHERS

Centering chimes (*Lighting of the Christ candle*)

Prelude

Call to Worship (*from the Christian Reformed Church responsive readings*)

Leader: Hear the word of the Lord and let your hearts be ready to follow God's ways.

People: Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord!

Leader: God calls us to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind.

People: And the second greatest command is like it: love your neighbor as yourself.

Leader: If you love Jesus, you will keep His teachings.

People: His commands are not heavy; they are a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

Leader: Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I will keep it to the end.

People: Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.

Leader: Direct me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

People: We will walk in freedom because we seek your precepts.

Leader: Let our lives show our love for God through our daily obedience.

People: All that the Lord has spoken, we will strive to do, and we will listen to God's voice. Amen.

*Gathering hymn #419

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Welcome & Prayer

*Praising Hymn #116

"How Great Is Our God/Cuán grande es Dios"

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

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

Scripture

Exodus 20:3-11 & Matthew 22:34-40

Sermon

*Response hymn #403

"Comme un souffle fragile/As a Sigh Great with Yearning"

Congregational Sharing & Prayer (*use the mic or text prayers to Sarah Zabel*)

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 #752

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!"

*Benediction

*Stand in body or in spirit. Children are invited to wave 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.

There is no Sunday school in August.
Fall Sunday school begins on September 6.



ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS (more announcements in the email sent each Tuesday)

Today – Signup deadline to help bring a main item for the Taco Tuesday meal this Tuesday, August 18 at 5:30 pm.

Today – Final Sunday to review books for two adult Sunday school classes for Fall: “Sacred Parenthood: Spiritual Practices for the Highs and Lows of Parenting” and “So We and Our Children May Live: Following Jesus in Confronting the Climate Crisis.” There is a copy of each book downstairs for you to review at FMC. Mark your interest in one of the books on the sheet by the books. The office has purchased 12 copies of each, but it would be helpful to know ahead of the start of the Fall Sunday school season whether additional copies need to be ordered.

The Associate Pastor Search Committee has completed a cover letter and Associate Pastor job description that will be shared on the Central District Conference (CDC) and Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) website for prospective applicants for the FMC Associate Pastor position. The Church Council has reviewed these and given unanimous approval to move forward. The documents will be sent by email this afternoon for those who wish to read them. A few folders containing printed copies of the documents will also be available to read in the church library.

This Wednesday and Thursday, August 19-20 – Hendrick House staff will park in our FMC parking lot to allow students to park near their building during move-in days. There will still be space in the parking lot for FMC people.

Next Sunday, August 23 – Safe Church training at 11:15a. Everyone is invited to stay for the training; attendance is required for all Sunday school teachers and nursery/childcare volunteers. All FMCers age 13+ are strongly encouraged to attend; child care will be provided. If you need Safe Church clearance and can't attend, please contact Pastor Michael for alternative options.

Thanks to all who are providing meals for Cynthia Nafziger and Lesley Deem. All slots are full!

Sunday, August 30 – Interfaith Alliance Picnic at the large pavilion at Crystal Lake Park, 4-6p. This is a relaxed time of fellowship and games across local faith communities. Grilled food is provided; bring a side to share if you can, or just bring yourself. All ages are welcome.

August 30 – Deadline for September Vine submissions.

Friday & Saturday, August 28-29 at the Otto Center (1/2 miles south of Arthur) – 64th Annual Arthur Mennonite Relief Sale to benefit the work of MCC and also local nonprofits. Visit www.arthurreliefale.org for details about the sale.

September 18-20 at Camp Friedenswald (Cassapolis, MI) – Annual Women's Retreat, featuring speaker Amanda K Gross. Visit www.friedenswald.org/retreats/ for details or pick up a flyer from the table near the church office. Friedenswald and First Mennonite offer some financial assistance to attend the retreat. Talk with Pastor Michael for more information about FMC assistance.

Lynne Sancken is taking orders for our FMC “God's Love is for Everyone” T-shirts (image to the right) through the end of September. There is flexibility for sleeve length, color and neck shape. Cost depends on the number of shirts ordered.



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.

FMC EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

Today

- Fellowship after worship, but no Sunday school
- Signup deadline to help with main items for Taco Tuesday meal
- Hospitality & Fellowship Committee 11:15a

Tuesday

- Taco Tuesday 5:30p
- Library Committee 6:30p

Wednesday

- Zoom Bible Study 8a
- FMC parking lot used by Hendrick House staff during move-in days (Wed & Thurs)

Thursday

- Pastor Congregation Relations Cmte 9a
- FMC parking lot used by Hendrick House staff during move-in days (Wed & Thurs)

Friday

- Service & Outreach Cmte-hybrid 3p
- Facilities Cmte-hybrid 4:30p

NEXT SUNDAY (Aug 23)

- Worship 9:15a, then fellowship; No Sun. school
- Safe Church training 11:15a

THANKS TODAY TO:

Greeters: Tim Clink & Cindi Schieber

Worship Leader: Earl Kellogg

Music: Worship Band

Children's Story: Annie Crawford

Scripture Reader: Sam Cox (Scripture:

Exodus 20:3-11 & Matthew 22:34-40)

Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Sarah Zabel

Zoom: Megan Cox

Audio: Laurence Koehn

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Joe Crawford

Stewards: Kate Falk & Tammie Bouseman

Visuals: Lynne Sancken

NEXT WEEK (August 23) AT FMC:

Greeters: Tim Clink & Cindi Schieber

Worship Leader: Tim Clink

Song Leader: Melissa Shungu

Pianist: Ruth Stoltzfus

Children's Story: Bruce Miller

Scripture Reader: Rebecca Barte

(Scripture: Exodus 20:12-16 & Matthew 22:34-40)

Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael

Zoom: Timothy & Geoffrey Herman

Audio: Randy Nelson

Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Mary Hines

Stewards: Scott Bidner & Mark Evans

Visuals: Lynne Sancken