WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

October 25, 2026



Centering chimes *(Lighting of the Christ candle)*
Prelude
Call to Worship *(by Jan Lugibihl, a member of Chicago Community Mennonite Church)*
One: We come today believing healing and hope have arrived
Many: Christ has conquered the world!
One: Jesus has broken the rules of death!
Many: Let us worship the One who calls us to radical love and courage
***Gathering Hymn #359** "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"
Welcome & Prayer
***Praising Hymn #159** "Kwake Yesu nasimama (Here on Christ the Rock I Will Stand)"
Children's story and children's offering *(for the FMC Tanzania College Scholarship Fund)*
Congregation sings as children come forward. (Voices Together #512)
Scripture Luke 6:1-11 and John 16:25-33
Sermon
***Response Hymn #287** "Jesus Christ Is Waiting"
Congregational Sharing & Prayer *(use the mic or text prayers to Pastor Michael)*
Offering & Offertory (Ushers will pass the offering plates down rows)
Introduction of visitors
Work of the church *(come forward to the podium mic to make an announcement)*
***Sending Hymn #771** "Enviados somos de Dios (We Have Been Sent by God)"
***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: 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 one year through Grade School. Parents, please assist your children during snack time.

Education opportunities for all ages from 11:15am-12pm.

ADULT CLASSES-upstairs/downstairs (Sep - Nov)

So We and Our Children May Live - Sanctuary
Sacred Parenthood – FMC Library
Coffee & Conversation: Room 13 (downstairs)

CHILDREN – YOUTH CLASSES (downstairs)
Nursery (birth – 2 years): Nursery
Preschool & Kindergarten (ages 3-5 years): Room 3
Grades 1 - 5: Room 10/11
Middle & High school (grades 6-12): Room 7



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

Today immediately after Sunday school - FMC Discernment Circles; small group discussions lasting 20-30 minutes to discern FMC Council leadership for 2027. Active participants high school age or older who have attended for at least six months are invited to participate in person. Meet in the sanctuary for instructions and group assignments. Childcare will be provided.

Today is the deadline to submit items for the November Vine.

This Saturday, October 31 from 8a-4p - Menno Haven Fall Workday. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. For more information and to rsvp, visit: www.mennohaven.com/work-day. Questions? Talk to Keith Springer, our FMC Menno Haven Representative.

This Saturday, October 31 – Set your clocks back one hour in the evening. Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 am on Sunday, November 1.

Next Sunday, November 1 during worship – Our Annual Service of Remembrance.

From Council - As we approach the start of 2027, we as a congregation will be making a final decision about our current dual conference status within Mennonite Church USA: whether to maintain membership in two area conferences or to shift our membership to just one. (Either way, we remain full and committed members of our denomination, Mennonite Church USA). This final step will conclude a decision-making process begun several years ago. To prepare for this, Council created a summary informational document, which includes important next steps and reflections. We are also asking for your input and your response; your response will help us decide if more conversation is needed prior to the final vote at our Annual Congregational Meeting in January 2027. An email will be sent this afternoon (October 25) with information and a link to the survey; input is due by the evening of Monday, November 2.

Saturday, November 14 from 8a-12n at FMC – Fall Workday.
Children, youth and adults are invited to help spruce up the church building and grounds. Coffee, donuts and bagels are provided. View and sign-up online to do a task or use the paper sign-up downstairs in the fellowship hall. Note: you can sign-up to do a task at your convenience if the workday date doesn't fit your schedule. Workday Rain Date: Saturday, November 21.

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
Sarah Zabel, Interim Ministerial Associate: sarah.zabel@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
- Worship 9:15a, then fellowship & Sun. school
- Discernment Circles (12n)
- Vine articles due to Cindi Schieber

Wednesday
- Zoom Bible Study (8a)
- Interfaith Alliance at CU Public Health (12n)

Thursday
- Thurs. AM Bible Study (9:30a)

Friday
- Spiritual Leadership Team (1p)

Saturday
- Set clocks back 1 hour in the evening (DST ends)

NEXT SUNDAY (November 1)
- Worship 9:15a-Service of Remembrance, followed by fellowship & Sunday school
- Library Committee, in library (12:15p)
- FMC sanctuary reserved (1-3:30p)

THANKS TODAY TO:

Greeters: Norma Nelson & Keith Springer
Worship Leader: Sam Cox
Song Leader: Cindy Breeze
Piano: Kathy Springer
Children's Story: Tammie Bouseman
Scripture Reader: Mark Jaeger
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom: Hannah Needham
Audio: Phil Martens
Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Megan Cox
Stewards: Mark Evans & Thom Moore
Visuals: Lynne Sancken/Donna Nelson Evans
Refreshments: Dianna Black & Christine, Ariana & Caleb Herman

NEXT WEEK (November 1) AT FMC:

Service of Remembrance

Greeters: Mark Jaeger & Janet Elaine Guthrie
Worship Leader: Marcia E. Nelson
Song Leader: Cindy Breeze
Piano: Jan Kellogg
Children's Story: Cindi Schieber
Scripture Reader: Rosalee Otto (Revelation 7:9-17; Matthew 5:1-12)
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Sarah Zabel
Zoom: Timothy Herman
Audio: Chuck Gibson
Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Dianna Black
Stewards: Bruce Miller & Randy Nelson
Visuals: Lynne Sancken/Donna Nelson Evans
Refreshments: Thom & Martha Moore