WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.

Celebration of Worship

November 8, 2026



Centering chimes *(Lighting of the Christ candle)*
Prelude Wait for the Lord *by Jacques Berthier*
Call to Worship *(by Jan Lugibihl, a member of Chicago Community Mennonite Church)*

One: We come today believing that love never fails.
Many: Love is our solid, strong foundation.
One: We worship One who takes a stand, who stands firmly on love.
Many: We come held up by love and sure in love's embrace.
One: We come believing that God is love.
Many: We come believing love is brave and there is no limit to love's power to endure.

***Gathering Hymn #715** "Longing for Light"
Welcome & Prayer
***Praising Hymn #396** "May You Be Rooted and Grounded"
Children's story and children's offering *(for the FMC Tanzania College Scholarship Fund)*
Congregation sings as children come forward. (Voices Together #512)
Scripture Wisdom 8:5-7 and 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a; 16:13-14
Sermon
***Response Hymn #524** "When Love Is Found"
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 #803** "We Shall Overcome"
***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)

This Tuesday, November 10 – Deadline to rsvp to attend the Church at the Crossroads event this Thursday, November 12, 5:30pm in the FMC fellowship Hall. Two Powerful Speakers. Two Different Faiths. Both engaging with the difficult questions of how to respond to what is happening in Palestine Israel. Join us for a video presentations from the 2026 Church at the Crossroads Conference in Atlanta, GA. We will hear from Rev. Munther Isaac, Palestinian pastor, public theologian and author, and Peter Beinart, American columnist, political commentator and author. *A* complimentary pizza dinner with salad and dessert will be served; both vegetarian and meat pizzas will be available. RSVP by November 10. Questions? Email donnakaenelson@gmail.com.

This 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. A list of tasks and tools is on the paper sign-up downstairs in the fellowship hall. Tasks can be done on workday or at your convenience. Rain Date: Saturday, November 21.

SAVE THE DATE - Saturday and Sunday, December 5 and 6. Sarah Augustine will visit FMC and the CU community. Sarah's visit will include a workshop, worship and Sunday school, and a public talk. Sarah is the co-author of the book, *So We and Our Children May Live: Following Jesus in Confronting the Climate Crisis,* used this Fall in one of our Sunday school classes.

Next Sunday, November 15 – Deadline for signing up to help bring a main item for our Taco Tuesday meal at FMC on November 17th at 5:30 pm.

Sunday, November 22:

- Service of Thanksgiving during worship, with a special Thanksgiving offering (TBA).
- Advent decorating will happen during fellowship time (10:45-11:15a).
- Thanksgiving potluck at 12n. Please bring a nut-free dish to share.
- Annual Interfaith Grateful Gathering at Spurlock Museum, 3 pm

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
- Hospitality & Fellowship Comte, room 5 (12p)

Tuesday
- IMC Pastor Peer mtg at FMC (9:30a-2p)
- RSVP deadline for Thurs. event at FMC

Wednesday
- Zoom Bible Study (8a)
- Assoc. Pastor Search Committee (4:30p)
- FM Council (6p)

Thursday
- Thurs. AM Bible Study (9:30a)
- Church at Crossroads event at FMC (5:30p)

Friday
- Fri. small group, in library (10:30a)
- Facilities Committee-hybrid (4:30p)

Saturday
- FMC Fall Workday (8a-12n)

NEXT SUNDAY (November 15)
- Worship 9:15a, then fellowship & Sunday school
- FMC reserved (5-8p)
- Signup deadline for Taco Tue. main item

THANKS TODAY TO:

Greeters: Mark Jaeger & Janet Elaine Guthrie
Worship Leader: Martha Moore
Song Leader: Melissa Shungu
Music: Worship Band
Children's Story: Randy Nelson
Scripture Reader: Geoffrey Herman
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom: Rachel Miller Haughton
Audio: Phil Martens
Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Mary Hines
Stewards: Bruce Miller & Randy Nelson
Visuals: Lynne Sancken/Donna Nelson Evans
Refreshments: Rebecca Bare & Laurence Koehn

NEXT WEEK (November 15) AT FMC:

Greeters: Tammie Bouseman & Keith Springer
Worship Leader: Sheryl Dyck
Song Leader: Danielle Beard
Piano: Ruth Stotlzfus
Children's Story: Courtney Malcolm
Scripture Reader: Nancy Seaman (1 Thess. 5:1-11)
Sermon & Congregational Sharing: Pastor Michael
Zoom: Rachel Miller Haughton
Audio: Emerson Nafziger
Worship Nursery: Skylar U'Ren & Bob King
Stewards: Tim Clink & Peter Dyck
Visuals: Lynne Sancken/Donna Nelson Evans
Refreshments: Joyce Hurd & Courtney Malcolm