

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *and* BIRTHDAYS

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:** Hannah Wright (WED), Ellis Hoag & Jan Sabey (THU)

•••••

**TODAY during worship** – We will take a special offering for our mutual aid fund. The special and regular offerings will be collected at the front of the sanctuary during communion.

**TODAY at 3 pm** – The Mo' Betta Performers in concert at FMC, followed by a community meal in the fellowship hall. Come support the youth and fellowship with their families and church friends, as part of our ongoing commitment to embrace the diversity of our C-U community.

**This Friday, March 4 at 9:30 AM, First Presbyterian Church in Urbana – World day of Prayer 2016, sponsored by the Church Women United.** Theme: Receive Children, Receive Me. See bulletin board for more information.

**This Saturday, March 5 at 6 pm, Yoder's Kitchen in Arthur - Arthur Mennonite Relief Sale Kick-Off Dinner.** Contact Cynthia Nafziger by TODAY for dinner reservations. To support this effort by sponsoring a table at the dinner (\$100 for full or \$50 for ½ table), let Cynthia know. Make checks payable to Arthur Mennonite Relief Sale and give to Cynthia or Emerson.

**Easter Choir** - Anyone interested in singing in the Easter Choir should plan to stay after church for rehearsal on Sunday, March 6, 13, and 20, and Saturday morning March 26 at 9 am. Bring a lunch and we will start promptly at 12:30. See you then!

**May 25 – 29 in Arizona: MCC Borderlands Learning Tour to bring awareness to the issues caused by the border wall along the Mexico/U.S. border.** Tour includes crossing the border into Mexico. For more information, a tentative schedule, and registration, visit [mcc.org/borderlands-tour](http://mcc.org/borderlands-tour).

## Next Sunday *at* First Mennonite: Lent 4

**Worship leader** – Tammie Bouseman

**Music** – Worship Band

**Children's story** – Andrea Welty Peachey

**Scripture** – 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**Scripture readers** – Tom Anderson & Rex Martens

**Sermon, sharing & prayer** – Pastor Michael

**Sound system** – Laurence Koehn

**Visuals & bulletin art** – Jeri Lake & Donna Nelson Evans

**Greeters** – Clark Breeze, Tina Huang, Karla Woodson

**Worship nursery** – Mary Biddle & Tom Sutter

**Refreshments** – Randy Nelson & Marlin Sieber

**Stewards** – Chuck Gibson & George Ordal

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana • 902 West Springfield Avenue • Urbana, IL 61801-3021

Office Hours: 9:00AM-2:00PM (Tuesday – Friday) • Phone: (217) 367-5353 • Website: [www.fmc-cu.org](http://www.fmc-cu.org)

Pastor Janet Elaine Guthrie • [janet.guthrie@fmc-cu.org](mailto:janet.guthrie@fmc-cu.org)

Associate Pastors Michael Crosby • [michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org](mailto:michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org) and Debra Sutter • [debra.sutter@fmc-cu.org](mailto:debra.sutter@fmc-cu.org)

Rhonda Gibson, Administrative Assistant • [office@fmc-cu.org](mailto:office@fmc-cu.org)

Ministers: Every member of the congregation



## Celebration of Worship

February 28, 2016

Lent 3

### GATHERING

#### Prelude

**Lighting of solidarity lamp** - *The lamp symbolizes our Sister Church relationship with El Divino Redentor.*

**\*Call to worship** (*based on Psalm 63*)

Leader: Because your steadfast love is better than life,

**All: We gather to praise you.**

Leader: Because your steadfast love is better than life,

**All: We will bless you as long as we live.**

Leader: Because your steadfast love is better than life,

**All: We will lift up our hands and call on your name.**

**\*Green songbook #2**

"Hamba nathi (Come, walk with us)"

**Welcome & prayer**

**Confessing and reconciling** (*unison*)

**Almighty and gracious God, we confess that we don't give all of ourselves to you. We lack the vulnerability to fully invite you into our midst and we look for strength in places other than you. Like Adam and Eve, we try to hide our nakedness from you. Accept our confession, and break us free from the idols of strength we use to hide our vulnerabilities. Help us to live as vulnerable people who know ourselves to be embraced by your loving arms. Amen.**

**Assurance** (*unison, adapted from Psalm 63:5a*)

**When we commit ourselves to God, our souls are satisfied as with a rich feast.**

**\*Passing the peace**

## PROCLAIMING

- \*Hymnal #121 "Holy God, we praise thy name"  
 Old Testament reading Isaiah 55:1-9 (page 671)  
 Children's story and offering (please pass the welcome pads)  
 \*Hymnal #398 "I love to tell the story"  
 New Testament reading Luke 13:1-9 (page 952)  
 Sermon Apply compost

## RESPONDING

- \*Green songbook #44 "Listen, God is calling"  
 The Lord's Supper (Bring your regular/special offerings and prayer cards forward.)  
 Green songbook #86 "Taste and see"  
*All are welcome at the Lord's table. The bread is gluten-free and water is available for those with grape juice allergies. Those not yet baptized are encouraged to participate by eating the bread and passing the juice. Come and partake as the Spirit leads.*  
 Sharing and prayers of the people (congregational response: Lord, hear our prayer)

## SENDING

- Introductions and work of the church (please come to the front if you have an announcement)  
 \*Green songbook #30 "Jesus Christ is waiting"  
 \*Benediction

\*Stand if you are able

Thanks to our worship and welcome teams...

Worship leader – Chuck Gibson  
 Song leader – Andrea Welty Peachey  
 Piano – Tina Huang  
 Children's story – Sam Cox  
 Scripture readers – Kajsa Herrstrom & Laurence Koehn  
 Sermon, sharing & prayer – Pastor Michael  
 Sound system – Randy Nelson  
 Visuals & bulletin art – Jeri Lake & Donna Nelson Evans

Greeters – Rebecca Bare, Sheree Flannigan, Phil Martens  
 Worship nursery – Barb Shenk & Anthony Schreiber  
 Refreshments – Bharat Philip & Joyce Wyse  
 Stewards – Tom Anderson & Kate Falk

## Welcome, Guests

It is a joy to welcome you into our midst! We pray that God meets you as we worship together this morning and that our church family helps you feel at home. Join us down-stairs for refreshments after the service so that we can get to know you better.

**Hearing assisted devices are available from the greeters.** T-coil enabled and standard over-ear devices are available.

**Childcare for children birth through preschool is available downstairs during worship and the education hour.**

**Today is our final children's offering to benefit the Developmental Services Center,** which provides services and support to individuals with disabilities. Over \$500 has been collected to date. Adults can contribute, too.

## Join us after the service for...

### FELLOWSHIP HOUR – 10:45

You are welcome to stay for refreshments and conversation downstairs after the service. A snack is available for children.

### CLASSES FOR ALL AGES – 11:15 AM

All are welcome to attend any Sunday.

#### Quarterly Adult Classes (December-February)

The New Jim Crow – sanctuary

The Art of Spiritual Grandparenting – library

#### Ongoing Adult Discussion Groups (year-round)

Coffee and Conversation – Room 5 (downstairs)

Knit and Nurture – Nursery (downstairs)

Young Adults – Room 13 (downstairs)

#### Children & Youth Classes (downstairs)

Pre-K (ages 2-6 yrs) – Room 6 Junior High – Room 3

Grade K-5 – Room 10/11 High School - Room 7

(Nursery care is available for children birth through preschool)

## THIS WEEK at FMC

For a full listing of events, visit our website at [www.fmc-cu.org](http://www.fmc-cu.org)

- SUN** 9:15 AM Worship, followed by fellowship & Sunday school  
 12:00 PM Council meets in library, SLT follows  
 3:00 PM Mo' Betta performers at FMC, followed by a meal
- MON** 12:00 PM Young adult lunch @ Beckman
- THU** 6:45 AM Men's Bible study  
 9:30 AM Thursday morning Bible study  
 5:45 PM Property & Finance committee  
 6:00 PM Service & Outreach committee  
 6:00 PM Racial Taboo film at Parkland
- SAT** 6:00 PM Arthur MCC Relief Sale Kick-off Dinner at Yoder's Kitchen (Arthur, IL)

## UPCOMING

- SUN 6** Articles for Vine due to Amber Anderson  
 9:15 AM Worship, followed by fellowship & Sunday school  
 12:00 PM Hospitality & Fellowship committee  
 12:00 PM JYF lunch & bowling  
 4:00 PM Racial Taboo circle  
 4:00 PM MYF @ Coxes
- MON 7** Pastors Janet & Debra at AMBS through Tue. 8<sup>th</sup>
- TUE 8** 6:30 PM Lenten Taizé service
- WED 9** 6:00 PM FMC Council
- THU 10** 6:45 AM Men's Bible study  
 9:30 AM Thursday morning Bible study  
 Pastor Debra out of the office through Sunday
- SAT 12** Daylight savings time begins at 2 AM on Sunday, set your clocks ahead one hour before bed.