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## CHURCH INFORMATION

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1606 Norma St., State College, PA 16801; (814) 234-2039

[www.universitymennonite.org](http://www.universitymennonite.org)

Pastor: Kate Heinzl

**Submissions for bulletin:** [bulletin@universitymennonite.org](mailto:bulletin@universitymennonite.org)

Deadline for bulletin inclusion: Thursdays end of day

### Staff and Volunteer Leadership

Pastor: Kate Heinzl, [kate@universitymennonite.org](mailto:kate@universitymennonite.org) 717-606-2909

Worship Coordinator:

Ben Wideman, [benwideman@gmail.com](mailto:benwideman@gmail.com) 215-859-0037

Elders:

Meredith Wideman, [meredith.wideman@gmail.com](mailto:meredith.wideman@gmail.com) 626-808-2306

Laura Litwiller, [1978lauraashley@gmail.com](mailto:1978lauraashley@gmail.com) 717-543-3419

Doug Yoder, [dv83yoder@gmail.com](mailto:dv83yoder@gmail.com) 814-933-6896

Cong. Chair: Cathy Bresee, [cb4@psu.edu](mailto:cb4@psu.edu) 814-933-8005

Asst. Chair: Terry Yoder, [tkyoder93@gmail.com](mailto:tkyoder93@gmail.com) 814-321-4964

Treasurer: Jim Rosenberger, [jrosenberger@gmail.com](mailto:jrosenberger@gmail.com) 814-234-2167

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**Masking protocol** – To protect those who are vulnerable, masks should be worn in the building for worship.

**University Mennonite Church's safe-child policy** demonstrates our commitment to the physical safety and the spiritual growth of all our children and youth, ages birth to 18, as well as to our volunteers who care for them. The complete policy is posted in the lobby entrances and in the nursery room.

**Our church maintains a Google Group email list to keep members informed about prayer requests and happenings in the community.**

Join the email list by sending an email to:

[university-mennonite-sharing-list+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:university-mennonite-sharing-list+subscribe@googlegroups.com)

**Missed worship?** Our church services are being recorded and published on our web site at:

<http://www.universitymennonite.org/worship-service-recordings-current/>

**Church Wi-Fi information** – Connect to **umc**, password **mennosimons**



**Sunday Worship**  
**November 28, 2021, 10 am**  
First Sunday of Advent



Show Love by Serving Others is a painting by Ivan Guaderrama

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Welcome** – Cathy Bresee

**Prelude** – HWB 176, *Comfort, comfort, O my people*

**Call to worship** – Cath Bresee

**Lighting the Advent candle** – Eviella, David, Ndunge Sefu

**Prayer of confession**

*Gracious God,  
We find ourselves with two options every day— to stay homesick for  
the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism to win.  
Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel?  
Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it's impossible?  
Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins.  
Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt instead of using it to fuel  
a better world.  
Kindle in us a hope that won't let go.  
Gratefully we pray, amen.*

**Special music** – *Come See the Beauty of the Lord* by Jason Harrod  
rendition by Mike Bratt

**Prayer for illumination**

*God of the stars and God of our hearts-  
Our days will pass, but your words will last  
The grass will wither, but your words will last  
Our memories might blur, but your words will last  
The sky could go dark and your words would last.  
As we listen today, help us to hold onto what will last.  
Help us hold onto you.  
Amen.*

**Voices of the congregation** - Jim Pierce

Tell about a time when you experienced home in an unexpected way

**Children's time** – Bethany Spicher Schonberg

**Scripture reading** - Mark 5:21-29 and Colossians 3:12-14  
read by Ken Litwiller

**Sermon** – *Who Touched My Clothes?, Kwadwo Osseo-Asare*

**Special music** – *Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming*, rendition by Mike Bratt

**Sharing time** – Pastor Kate

**Announcements/birthdays/introduction of visitors**

**Benediction** – Cathy Bresee

*As you leave this service, your service begins:  
Comfort the homesick.  
Open your doors to others.  
Seek sanctuary.  
Be brave enough to go home by another way.  
And remember that here in God's house, all are welcomed—so come  
back soon.  
In the name of our Foundation—God, Spirit, and Son—  
go in peace.*

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### Announcements

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**Tuesday sharing and prayer** - Join us on Tuesdays for a time of scripture, prayer, and an opportunity to share more fully with one another. The Zoom meeting link will be distributed via our email list.

**Volunteers are still needed for the Ten Thousand Villages Rug Event this week (Nov 30, Dec 1-5).** Sign up to help online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4AA4AC2AA6FC1-fair> or talk with Joel Weidner, [joelpsu82@outlook.com](mailto:joelpsu82@outlook.com) Stop by the Rug Event, December 1-5, from 11 am to 6 pm daily to see the beautiful creations from Pakistan.

**You are invited to receive a daily advent devotional. *Close to Home* by Sanctified Art**, as offered by University Mennonite Church. Sign up to have the devotional delivered to your inbox. <http://eepurl.com/hN-PUD>

**Park Forest Preschool Christmas gift cards** – Please send donations to the church by Friday, December 10. Write checks to UMC and designate “Preschool Christmas Gift” in the memo. Last year we were able to donate thirty \$50.00 gift cards to Park Forest Preschool families. This allowed families to make choices for their holiday celebrations. Park Forest Preschool is a nonprofit, tuition-free school for two-, three-, and four-year-old children from income-qualifying families.

**Youth of AMC – Save the dates! Laurelville Retreat offers SnoKamp** - February 11-13 (grades 9-12); Junior Youth Retreat - March 18-20 (grades 5-8). Let Kate know if you'd like to learn more.

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## Announcements (cont.)

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Don't forget to sign up for our **abolition study beginning January 5**. Find out more and sign up at: <http://www.universitymennonite.org/defund-the-police-an-abolition-study/>

### MCUSA and MCC Updates



**MCC Webinar: Racism and the Church with Rev. Dr. Velda Love** - Join Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) for the fourth and final MCC Color of Compromise webinar on December 2, 2021 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST. Rev. Dr. Velda Love, United Church of Christ Minister for Racial Justice, will share on

the complicity of the Church in racism and how all can journey as a witness and transformative presence with God's beloved inclusive global community. Register and learn more at <https://mcc.org/color-compromise-honest-look-racism-church>

**Mennonite Church USA Women in Leadership** has relaunched its *Holding It(,) Together* podcast. The podcast, made by women for women, emphasizes intersectionality and community, creating a space for women to hear other people's stories. This season's theme is "Bodies Holding It(,) Together." Learn more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/hit>.

**Hybrid worship update** - Leadership team decided to continue with hybrid worship, meeting in our sanctuary with the windows *closed*, heat on, exhaust fan running. We ask everyone in the building to continue to wear a mask to promote safety for all.

**Volunteering at UMC** - Ready to give worship leading a try? Have a good message to share with our children? We welcome any regular attender to help provide leadership on Sunday mornings. Ben and Kate can help you learn how to navigate hybrid worship. Sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4daeae28a0ff2-worship>. We work as a body with many members, learn as a body, offer grace and love to one another as the body of Christ. Join us!

If you're interested in attending the **mindful meditation sessions** on Monday evenings and Thursday or Friday mornings, contact Pastor Kate ([kate@universitymennonite.org](mailto:kate@universitymennonite.org)) as times and dates vary.

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## Announcements (cont.)

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**Need help?** We are a community with talents, tools, and a willingness to serve each other. If you need help - gathering groceries, raking leaves, etc., let Kate know. There are some here who might be able to lend a hand.

**Your offerings support UMC** – Don't forget to support UMC with your financial gifts. Offering baskets are by the doors to the sanctuary or you can make your offering the following ways:

- Mail a check to the church to the attention of our treasurer, 1606 Norma Street, State College PA, 16801
- Donate on the church website at <http://www.universitymennonite.org/donate>
- Set up an automatic payment with your bank (bill pay service)
- Use a service like [Zelle](#)

