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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: Thursday end of day

### Staff and volunteer leadership

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

Worship coordinator:

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

Elders:

Faith King, [faithy33@gmail.com](mailto:faithy33@gmail.com) 814-571-5666

Doug Miller, [douglasalanmiller@gmail.com](mailto:douglasalanmiller@gmail.com) 814-883-1127

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

Cong. chair: Joel Weidner, [joelpsu82@outlook.com](mailto:joelpsu82@outlook.com) 814-777-4494

Asst. chair: Tim Groff, [tgroff@centreconcrete.com](mailto:tgroff@centreconcrete.com) 814-360-1086

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

Leadership Team: [umc-lt@googlegroups.com](mailto:umc-lt@googlegroups.com)

Elders: [umc-elders@googlegroups.com](mailto:umc-elders@googlegroups.com)

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**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.** Find out more and request to join at <https://universitymennonite.org/email-sharing-list/>

**Our church has an online directory with photos and contact information.**

Find out more and request to join at:

<https://universitymennonite.org/directory/>

Sign up to receive **Pastor Kate's midweek email newsletter** at:

<http://eepurl.com/gtOJur>

**Missed worship?** Our church services are being recorded and published on our website at: <http://www.universitymennonite.org/worship-service-recordings-current/>

**Church calendar** <https://universitymennonite.org/calendar/>

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



**Sunday Worship**  
**February 18, 2024, 10 am**

THE  
POETRY  
of LENT



*Broadening our hearts and preparing the way, making room for careful attention to what matters most.*

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Worship Leader: Leland Glenna

Accompanist: Krista Weidner

Song Leader: Ken Litwiller

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### ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Welcome and prayer** – Leland Glenna

**Prelude** – *I Trust In You, O Lord* by The Soil and the Seed Project

**Call to worship** – Responsive reading from Psalm 25:1-10

#### Singing

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, VT 323

*Take My Life and Let It Be*, VT 759

**Lighting the peace lamp**

#### Confession and assurance

*Merciful God, we confess to you and to one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.*

*(Moment of silence.)*

**Scripture** – Mark 1:9-15

*In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'*

*And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.*

*Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'*

**Singing to call children forward** - *Come and See*, VT 282

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

**Poetry of Lent** – *Wild Geese* by Mary Oliver, read by Jenn Bies

*You do not have to be good.*

*You do not have to walk on your knees*

*for a hundred miles through the desert repenting.*

*You only have to let the soft animal of your body*

*love what it loves.*

*Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.*

*Meanwhile the world goes on.*

*Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain  
are moving across the landscapes,  
over the prairies and the deep trees,  
the mountains and the rivers.*

*Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,  
are heading home again.*

*Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,  
the world offers itself to your imagination,  
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting -  
over and over announcing your place  
in the family of things.*

**Sermon** – Pastor Kate

**Sermon Response** - *Create in Me a Clean Heart*, VT 141

**Sharing time** – Pastor Kate

**Announcements/birthdays/anniversaries/introduction of visitors**

#### Benediction

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#### Announcements

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**MASKING SPACE** - Out of consideration for and support of those who have special health concerns, the leadership team has designated the back three benches on the left side of the sanctuary (as you enter) for those who wish to mask in an area where others are also masking. ***This does not mean that everyone who masks must sit in one of those benches;*** rather, it allows for those who want to mask and to maintain some distance from those who are unmasked to sit in one place.

**All are invited to stay today for a potluck fellowship meal** after the Christian education hour.

**Coming up at UMC** - Check out the church calendar for more details

<https://universitymenonite.org/calendar/>

Feb 18, noon – Potluck fellowship meal

Feb 20, 12 pm – Lectio Divina on Zoom

Feb 22, 7 am – Men's fellowship breakfast, Waffle Shop, 364 E College Ave

Feb 25, 11:15 – Congregational meeting, sanctuary and Zoom

Feb 25, 2 pm - Centre County Interfaith Coalition for Gun Safety Discussion  
Schlow Library community room

Feb 26, 7 pm – Sacred Harp singing, foyer

Feb 27, 12 pm – Lectio Divina on Zoom

Mar 3, 15 am – Multi-generational Sunday school hour, fellowship hall

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## Announcements (cont.)

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**Next Sunday we'll hold a congregational meeting** after worship in the sanctuary (and on Zoom). All are encouraged to stay to learn and engage in discussion. We'll hear a new proposal from the Creation Care committee, consider starting a peace and justice group, hear updates from other committees, and more. Committees should forward their reports to Joel Weidner by Friday, February 23.

**Join others for a candlelight peace vigil at the Allen Street Gates** each Monday from 5 to 5:30 pm. Join us as we pray for peace and an end to violence in the Middle East.

**Mt Nittany Middle School's spring production of the Wizard of Oz** includes two UMC students. Shows are February 23-25. Get tickets at <https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/80459>

**Centre County Interfaith Coalition for Gun Safety – What Can I Do About Gun Violence?** – Join us for a panel discussion on February 25 at 2 pm in the Schlow Library community room. Many of us know how we feel about gun violence, are appalled by the tragedy of it all, and want to know what to do about it. We have assembled a panel of speakers to address just that issue. Our event will feature a guided discussion with a moderator, followed by an open Q&A period with the audience. Panelists will be prepared to help us:

- learn how to keep kids safe from gun violence
- work with those struggling with mental health and the threat of gun violence
- take legislative action on gun violence
- think about the intersections between spirituality and gun safety

**Haydn's Creation** will be performed by the State College Choral Society on April 7 at the State College High School auditorium. Go to: <https://www.scchoralsociety.org/> for more information and to buy tickets.

**National Day of Racial Healing Part 2 - Strategies to Help Break Down Racial Barriers** will be held Friday, April 12, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the State College Municipal Building. Register at <http://tinyurl.com/ydj8jjtf>

**MENNONITE CHURCH USA NEWS** - Join MC USA in celebrating Black History Month during February. Visit the Black History in the Mennonite Church timeline (<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/resource-portal/resource/african-american-mennonite-history-timeline/>) and discover the people and events that have shaped – and continue to shape – our denomination.

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## Announcements (cont.)

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In the recent San Francisco vs. Kansas City Super Bowl, viewers were treated to an advertisement that featured the act of **foot washing**, a gesture that left many puzzled. Learn more about how this practice has been central to Mennonites throughout our history.

<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/convention-news/following-jesus-reclaiming-the-act-of-foot-washing-as-a-path-to-true-service-and-unity/>

**Children in UMC worship** – Children through sixth grade are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary for children's time. After children's time, the nursery is available for children ages three and under. (Parents, please check to see if the nursery is staffed; if not, please stay with your child.) Children of all ages are also welcome to remain in the sanctuary for the service or to gather at the table in the back for quiet activities using the materials provided.

**Missed worship?** Our church services are being recorded and published on our website at <http://www.universitymennonite.org/worship-service-recordings-current/>

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

**Your offerings support UMC** – Remember 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 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 <https://www.zellepay.com/>