
CHURCH INFORMATION

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

www.universitymennonite.org

Pastor: Kate Heinzl

Submissions for bulletin: bulletin@universitymennonite.org

Deadline for bulletin inclusion: Thursday end of day

Staff and volunteer leadership

Pastor: Kate Heinzl, kate@universitymennonite.org 717-606-2909

Worship coordinator:

Ben Wideman, ben.wideman@gmail.com 215-859-0037

Elders:

Faith King, faithyk33@gmail.com 814-571-5666

Doug Miller, douglasalanmiller@gmail.com 814-883-1127

Leah Witzig, witzig1@gmail.com 814-933-2503

Doug Yoder, dv83yoder@gmail.com 814-933-6896

Cong. chair: Joel Weidner, joelpsu82@outlook.com 814-777-4494

Asst. chair: Tim Groff, tgroff@centreconcrete.com 814-360-1086

Treasurer: Jim Rosenberger, jrosenberger@gmail.com 814-234-2167

Leadership team: umc-lt@googlegroups.com

Elders: umc-elders@googlegroups.com

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 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
September 1, 2024, 10 am



JOURNEYING THROUGH
GENESIS

Rooted in the love of Christ, we welcome each one here today— we welcome your mind, body, and spirit; we welcome your faith and your doubts; your joys and your sorrows. Wherever you come from, whatever your age, and whomever you love...

Whoever you are, you are welcome here.

Worship Leader: Bethany Spicher Schonberg

Accompanist: Joyce Hall

Song Leader: Evelyn Bartsch

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – Joyce Hall

Welcome and prayer – Bethany Spicher Schonberg

Call to worship

Singing

Morning Has Broken, VT 495

As We Rise, O God, to Meet You, VT 39

Lighting the peace lamp

Scripture reading and singing

Listen to the Word, VT 405

Psalm 104, read by Marvin Hall

Calling the children forward for children's time, *Come and See*

Children's time – Meredith Wideman

Sermon – Rabbi David Ostrich, Congregation Brit Shalom

Glimpses of joy - *Let There Be Light* from The Soil and the Seed Project

Moments where we have seen glimpses of the divine in our lives

Sharing time – Doug Yoder

Visioning moment - Laura Litwiller from UMC Visioning Team

Announcements/birthdays/anniversaries/introduction of visitors

Benediction

Announcements

Coming up – Check out the church calendar for more details

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

Sep 1, after worship – Intergenerational Christian education, fellowship hall

Sep 2, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace at Allen St. Gates

Sep 3, 12 pm – Lectio Divina, Zoom

Sep 8, after worship – Congregational meeting, sanctuary

After meeting – Potluck fellowship meal

Sep 9, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace at Allen St. Gates

Sep 9, 7 pm – Sacred harp singing, foyer

Announcements

Pastor Kate is on sabbatical through September 30 – During this time, please contact an elder for pastoral care needs.

Beginning today, UMC will offer Christian education classes for all ages following the worship service. All are welcome to intergenerational gatherings in the basement on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. On the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays, junior youth, older elementary, and younger elementary classes will meet in the basement and adults will meet in the sanctuary.

Join us each week on Tuesday at noon on Zoom for a curious, open-hearted look at the scripture for the coming Sunday. We ask questions of the text and ourselves, wondering what invitation it has for our lives today. There is also a time of sharing the joys, sorrows, and challenges in our lives and praying with one another. Contact Leah Witzig, Witzig1@gmail.com, for a Zoom link.

There will be a congregational business meeting next Sunday following worship – The primary agenda item will be approval of the church budget.

Journeying through Genesis - We will be spending September through November exploring the rich and complicated stories from that ancient Hebrew text. Genesis is divisible into two parts: primeval history (chapters 1–11) and ancestral history (chapters 12–50).

The primeval history sets out the author's concepts of the nature of the deity and of humankind's relationship with its maker. The ancestral history tells of the prehistory of Israel, God's chosen people. We will be using the Peace Table Storybook Bible (<https://shinecurriculum.com/product/the-peace-table-a-storybook-bible/>) to structure our Sunday scripture and themes, and guide our children's times. We also recommend Genesis for Normal People: A Guide to the Most Controversial, Misunderstood, and Abused Book of the Bible by Peter Enns and Jared Byas (<https://bookshop.org/p/books/reading-genesis-marilynne-robinson/19994788?ean=9780374299408>).

UMC library news – There is a display of UMC library books in the elevator lobby featuring writings by or about theologians referenced in our Summer Sermon Series. Please check out a book: sign the card at the back, place it in the cardholder, and return the book when you are finished with it. Also, please stop by the library, basement room #1, to browse the adult and children's library shelves. – Library Committee

Announcements (cont.)

Financial pledges requested – Each year UMC solicits anonymous pledges for giving over the new fiscal year (September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025). Your pledges help the finance committee develop a realistic budget. Pledge forms are in the foyer and can be put in Jim Rosenberger’s mailbox. You can also mail or email your giving pledge to our treasurer at jrosenberger@gmail.com. The committee is requesting pledges by today (September 1).

Today marks the beginning of our new church year. Committees are requested to meet to welcome new members. See a list of volunteers at <https://universitymennonite.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/UMC-Volunteer-Positions-Affirmed-for-2024-25-Church-Year.pdf>

MC USA News

Climate Justice Corner - In this recent article, “God so loved the cosmos...,” (<https://mwc-cmm.org/en/stories/god-so-loved-cosmos>) the Creation Care Task Force of Mennonite World Conference articulates connections between MWC’s seven Shared Convictions (<https://mwc-cmm.org/en/shared-convictions>) and our Christian mandate to care for creation. “...Creation care is at the very heart of the church’s mission to ‘witness to God’s grace,’” the Task Force writes, quoting Shared Conviction #7. Their solid theological work is a gift to MWC congregations and might inspire a creation-care themed sermon or Christian Education discussion for your congregation!

- Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler, Climate Justice Coordinator

Children in UMC worship – Children through fifth 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 four 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.

New to UMC? Considering joining our email sharing list and online directory
Directory - <https://universitymennonite.org/directory/>
Sharing List - <https://universitymennonite.org/email-sharing-list/>

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/>