
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, faithk33@gmail.com 814-571-5666

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

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

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:

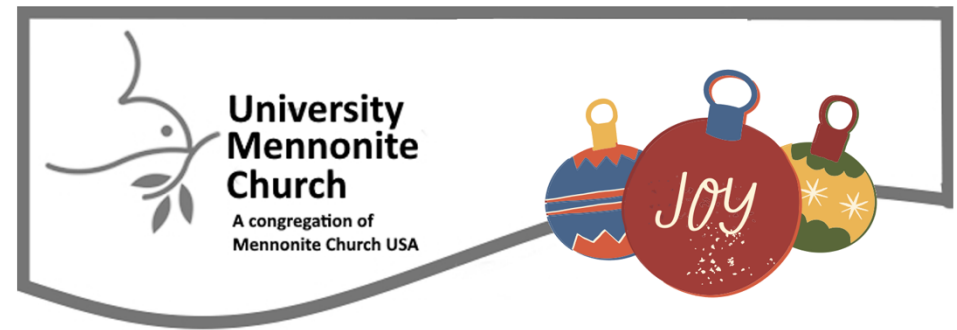
<http://eepurl.com/gtOJur>

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 – Advent Week 3 December 15, 2024, 10 am



Advent is a season of waiting, watching, and wonder. A time of anticipation, expectation, and excitement. A time for renewing our hope, peace, joy and love, getting ready for the marvel on the way.

Worship Leader: Ruth Kitchin Tillman
Accompanist: Hal Kunkel Song Leader: Faith King

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Advent prelude – Including star-themed requests from UMC

Tssik Tssik Tsa, Tony Bird – Joel Weidner

Hallelujah, Canadian Brass – Paul McCormick

Beautiful Star, Odetta – Esther Prins

Jesus, the Light of the World, Joël Cohen – Hal Kunkel

Zechariah's Song, Ordinary Time - Micah and Bethany

Welcome and prayer – Ruth Kitchin Tillman

Call to worship

In our own lives

We are seeking light

In our neighborhoods

We are seeking light

In our families

We are seeking light

In our work

We are seeking light

In our nation

We are seeking light

In our world

We are seeking light

Jesus Christ you are the light of the world

May we have eyes to see you

And ears to hear you

Come into our world today

Amen

Scripture - Luke 1:5-25 – read by Rick & Kathleen Stehouwer

Singing, with lighting of the Advent wreath

Bless'd Be The God Of Israel – VT 223

Prepare the Way! the Prophet Called – VT 220

Calling the children forward for children's time, Come and See – VT 282

Children's time – Bethany Spicher Schonberg

Sermon – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Carol singing

Joy To The World – VT 240

Sharing time – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Announcements/birthdays/anniversaries/introduction of visitors

Glimpses of the Divine – *Come Darkness, Come Light*

By Mary Chapin Carpenter, requested by Esther Prins

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

Benediction

Announcements

Coming up – Check out the church calendar for more details

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

Dec 15, after worship – Christkindlmarket and Fellowship Meal

Dec 16, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace at Allen St. Gates

Dec 17, 12 pm – Lectio Divina, Zoom

Dec 18, 7 pm – Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service at St. Pauls UMC

Dec 21 – Longest Night Lament for Gaza (details below)

Dec 24, 5 pm – Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service

Our children invite you to their Christkindlmarket during the Sunday School time today. It is a giving market (no money needed), and our children will share their talents through baking, crafting, art, music, shepherding, woodworking, and more.

Following our Christkindlmarket we will share a meal. Bring your favorite family dish to share whether it be a main course, salad or dessert. All are welcome, regardless of if you can bring something to contribute!

Blue Christmas Worship Service - Need a place to acknowledge that all does not feel merry and bright? St. Paul's United Methodist Church, University Mennonite Church, and Faith United Church of Christ are joining together for a special service on December 18th at 7pm to acknowledge the sadder, harder, and blue-er feelings. We will be at the St. Paul's sanctuary. Please consider joining.

Longest Night Lament for Gaza - We invite you to gather, to grieve, to be honest about how we feel in this political and human moment. It's good to know that, as we grieve for the loss of life in Palestine, Israel, Lebanon and beyond, we are not alone. It's good to know that, as we grieve what has been and what is to come, we are not alone. December 21 at 7pm at Bonnie and Ken Kline Smeltzer's home - 1452 Willowbrook Drive, Boalsburg.

Announcements (cont.)

Join in our night of solidarity with those who grieve for the loss of life in Palestine, Israel, Lebanon and beyond by committing an hour to wakefulness and prayer. We hope to have someone awake at all times as a way of joining in with our siblings around the world who live in fear by holding a space of prayerful presence. To participate from your own home, sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E4DAEAE28A0FF2-53856738-longest#/>

Please consider supporting Park Forest Preschool families this holiday season – Send donations to the church by TODAY - Sunday, December 15th. Write checks to UMC and designate “Preschool Christmas Gift” in the memo. Last year we were able to donate thirty-one \$50.00 gift cards to each Park Forest Preschool family. Gift cards allow 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.

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Hygiene Kits - On the Sundays of December 15, 22, 29 we will be collecting items for hygiene kits for MCC. There are 5 items requested (new items only): 1 adult-size toothbrush (in manufacturer’s packaging), 1 large bar bath soap (in original wrapper), 1 nail clipper (good quality), 1 hand towel (medium weight, dark color, 16” X 26”), 1 wide toothed comb (6 to 8”). MCC states: *Thank you for limiting your generosity to the items listed. Due to strict regulations in some countries on the expiration date of toothpaste, MCC no longer asks for toothpaste to be donated with the kit. Instead, MCC will provide toothpaste with the kits when they ship from MCC’s warehouse.* MCC has sent 80,060 hygiene kits to Salvador, Guatemala, Malawi, Puerto Rico, Ukraine, U.S.A., Zambia.

Start your Christmas Day with a shared meal followed by a white elephant gift exchange. Pastor Kate invites you to a gathering at her home. Egg casserole, tea and coffee will be provided, bring a side dish to share. Bring a wrapped gift for the white elephant exchange. RSVP to Pastor Kate.

UMC offers 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.

Announcements (cont.)

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.

Out of the Cold is looking for volunteers to help with item donation, breakfast provider, evening host, and dinner provider. Please consider signing up to help! Thank you - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F45A9AD2BA5FA7-52602044-ootc/72733331#/>

Mennonite Church USA News –

To Them is Born: An advent reflection - Luis Tapia Rubio shares that Jesus comes for the lowly and oppressed in the Christmas story of Luke 2 and what that means for everyone else to celebrate Christmas and follow Jesus - <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/to-them-is-born-an-advent-reflection/>

The light in the darkness—and the darkness in the light - Mir Knego, leader of the Anchorage, Alaska, Service Adventure unit. Service Adventure is Mennonite Mission Network’s service program designed for young adults ages 17- 20. Read it here - <https://www.mennonitemission.net/blog/the-light-in-the-darkness-and-the-darkness-in-the-light/>

Anabaptist Advent Devotionals - “Journeying with Creation: Advent Prayers in a Time of Climate Change” Download here - <https://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/82/28145>

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/>