
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/Church Administrator:

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

Elders:

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

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

Doug Yoder (Jan-March, filling in for Doug Miller),

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/>

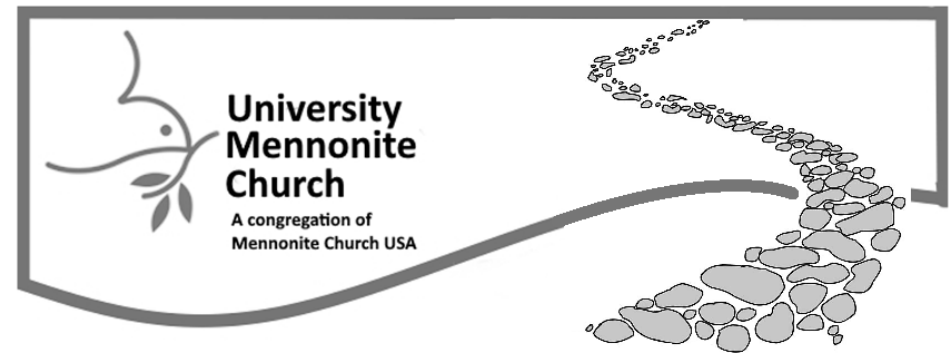
Our church has an online directory with photos and contact information. Find out more and request to join at: <https://universitymennonite.org/directory/>

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**



Lenten Worship – March 9, 2025, 10 am



***Loving Your Neighbor*, artwork by Dona Park from the Anabaptist Community Bible**

*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 and affirmed here.

Worship Leader: Doug Yoder

Accompanist: Becky Kephart Song Leader: Ken Litwiller

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – Becky Kephart

Welcome and prayer – Doug Yoder

Call to worship, from VT 1011

One: A wilderness beckons us; a desert, a barren place, yet a place of blessing and discovery.

Cong: Jesus, steady companion, accompany us as we enter the hurtful places, the frightening places, the dangerous places deep within us.

One: Jesus, our wild and well-traveled guide, lead us into this emptiness, where all will fall away, and we will have nothing but you.

All: Walk with us through the valley of the shadow of death, where we shall be raised and drink of deep springs. Amen.

Singing

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song – VT 581

Love the Lord Your God – VT 288

Scripture - Luke 10:25-37 (page 844 in the pew Bible)

Calling the children forward for children's time, *Guide My Feet* – VT 816

Children's time – Bethany Spicher Schonberg

Singing

How Can We Be Silent? – VT 790

Sermon – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Peace Lamp & Confession (from VT 696)

One: God of love and justice, we long for peace within and peace without. We long for harmony in our families, for serenity in the midst of struggle, and for commitment to each other's growth. We long for the day when our homes will be a dwelling place for your love.

Cong: Yet we confess that we are often anxious; we do not trust each other, and we harbor violence. We are not willing to take the risks and make the sacrifices that love requires.

All: Look upon us with kindness and grace. Rule in our homes and in all the world; show us how to walk in your paths, through the mercy of our Savior. AMEN

Singing, while bringing rocks forward

Praise, I Will Praise You Lord – VT 131

Sharing time – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Glimpses of the Divine – *The Greatest Commandment*

by The Porter's Gate

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

Announcements/birthdays/anniversaries/introduction of visitors

Benediction

Announcements

Coming up – Check out the church calendar for more details

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

Mar 9, after worship – Christian Education for all ages

Mar 10, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace at Allen St. Gates

Mar 10, 7 pm – Sacred Harp Singing

Mar 11, 12 pm – Lectio Divina, Zoom

Mar 13, 7 am – Men's Breakfast

Mar 16, after worship – Assembling hygiene kits (details below)

Mar 22, 7 pm – Iftar Meal at UMC

Mar 23, after worship – Congregational Meeting

Ready to help build community at UMC? Enjoy conversations on applying your faith to circumstances that affect your daily life? We are in search of volunteers to facilitate the post-service adult discussion group. Why not sign up for a Sunday or two and help the group continue to happen? You would lead by having an opening question or two and then letting the conversation go organically. Kate can help steer the conversation back on track if needed. We need volunteers for March 30; April 13 & 27; and May 11 & 25. Please contact Leah Witzig by text or email to help with this opportunity.

Announcements (cont.)

Intergenerational Sunday school on March 16 will involve putting together hygiene kits for Harrisburg area refugee families (see below), learning more about the needs in and how you might fit in and making cards.

On March 22, UMC will be hosting an Iftar meal in the Fellowship Hall with our Turkish brothers and sisters. All are welcome. Bring a vegetarian dish to share.

The State College Interfaith Group (made up of 3 congregations – University Baptist and Brethren Church, Congregation Brit Shalom, and University Mennonite Church) who worked together with Church World Service (CWS) a on refugee resettlement are stepping into the role of developing and coordinating remote ESL work with the refugees CWS has recently welcomed to the Harrisburg area. We are seeking volunteers from our three congregations to be remote conversation partners. Volunteers don't need formal training—just patience, consistency, and a willingness to engage! If any of you are interested in volunteering to be a remote conversation partner or to teach very basic English skills, please email **both co-chairs** Kathleen Stehouwer and Bonnie Kline Smeltzer (kathleenstehouwer@gmail.com and bksmeltzer22@gmail.com).

In addition to language learning, The State College Interfaith Group is assisting 200 refugee families in the Harrisburg area during their 90-day entry period. During March,* UMC is collecting hygiene items, Giant grocery, Visa, and Uber gift cards. **Items for hygiene kits:** shampoo/conditioner, soap, hairbrush/combs, toilet paper, laundry detergent, toothpaste/toothbrushes, deodorant, razors/shaving cream, feminine pads.

**This collection is instead of the State College Food Bank donation for March.* Please contact me if you have any questions. Thanks, Mary Derstein

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.

2025 Sunday school at UMC will include a mix of intergenerational gatherings and traditional age-divided class. On first Sundays, communion is extended into the foyer after the service with snacks and discussion questions for all - an opportunity for conversation with a variety of ages. On second, fourth and fifth Sundays, adults meet in the sanctuary, and there are classes for children in grades K-2, 3-5 and 6-8. On third Sundays, all are invited to the basement for an intergenerational activity. Sunday school will continue through the end of May and begin again in September.

Announcements (cont.)

University Mennonite Church Energy Savings Fund is a no-interest loan to support University Mennonite Church members and regular attenders who wish to improve the energy efficiency of their homes. See 2/22/25 email from Jean Landis for more details or reach out to any member of the Creation Care committee--Jean Landis, Jim Rosenberger, Marvin Hall, Ruth Kitchin-Tillman, Tim Groff and Matt Rooke for more information.

Mennonite Church USA News –

There's still time to enjoy early bird pricing for MC USA's Follow Jesus '25 convention in Greensboro, North Carolina, July 8-12, 2025. Register before March 31 and save \$145 per person. The first 300 registrants will receive a free copy of the Anabaptism Community Bible, courtesy of MennoMedia, a \$69.99 value. Register here: mennoniteusa.org/registration/

Mennonite Church USA has joined with 26 other faith traditions to take legal action that seeks to restore the rights of people of faith to gather, worship, and serve without government interference. MCUSA news release can be found here - <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/mc-usa-joins-more-than-two-dozen-christian-and-jewish-denominations-and-associations-sue-to-protect-religious-freedoms/>

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/>