
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/>

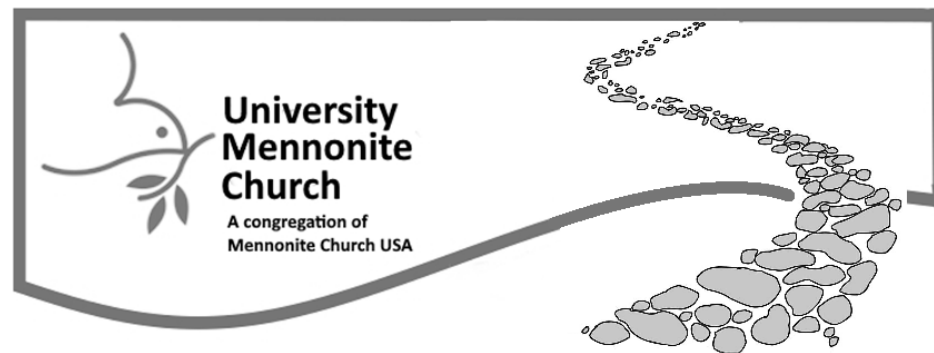
Our church has an online directory with photos and contact information. Find out more and request to join at:
<https://universitymennonite.org/directory/>

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 16, 2025, 10 am
The Journey to Jerusalem



"How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings"

*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: Rick Stehouwer
Accompanist: Meredith Wideman Song Leader: Micah Schonberg

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – Meredith Wideman

Welcome and prayer – Rick Stehouwer

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.

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

Singing

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name – VT 126

Somlandela (We Will Follow) – VT 566

Scripture - Luke 13:1-9, 31-35 (page 848-849 in the pew Bible)

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

Children's time – Carmen Groff

Singing

In Lonely Mountain Ways – VT 589

Sermon – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Peace Lamp & Confession

One: Save us, O God, from the blindness,

Cong: which is not even aware that it is sinning;

One: From the pride,

Cong: which cannot admit that it is wrong;

One: From the self-will,

Cong: which can see nothing but its own way;

One: From the self-righteousness,

Cong: which can see no flaw within itself;

One: From the defiance,

Cong: which is not even sorry for its sins;

One: From the evasion,

Cong: which always puts the blame on someone or something else;

One: From the heart so hardened,

Cong: that it cannot repent.

Time of silence

One: Lord grant that being truly penitent we may be truly forgiven,
may we find that your love is great enough
to cover all our sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Special Music – Micah Schonberg

Sharing time – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Glimpses of the Divine – *From The Dust*, by Paul Zach

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

Announcements/birthdays/anniversaries/introduction of visitors

Benediction – *We, Your People, Sing Your Praises* – VT 849

Announcements

Coming up – Check out the church calendar for more details

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

Mar 16, after worship – Assembling hygiene kits

Mar 17, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace at Allen St. Gates

Mar 18, 12 pm – Lectio Divina, Zoom

Mar 21, 11 am – PennEnvironment solar/energy tour at UMC

Mar 22, 7 pm – Iftar Meal at UMC (details below)

Mar 23, after worship – Congregational Meeting

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.

There will be a congregational meeting after worship on Sunday, March 23. The meeting will be in-person in our sanctuary and also on Zoom (using the Sunday worship link). Committees are welcome to provide reports for the web site and to make brief presentations at the meeting.

Announcements (cont.)

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 –

Allegheny Mennonite Conference job opportunity: 0.5 FTE conference administrator needed. Deadline to apply is April 1. Contact our conference minister, Amy Yoder McGloughlin for more details at amy@alleghenymennoniteconference.org

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/>