
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:

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

Gloria Horst Rosenberger, ghr4870@gmail.com 814-571-4419

Ken Litwiller, kenlaura78@gmail.com 717-543-7246

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

Doug Miller, dam8@psu.edu 814-883-1127

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

Cong. co-chair: Rick Stehouwer, rsc15@psu.edu 814-883-3503

Asst. chair: Ruth Kitchin Tillman, ruthkitchin@gmail.com 302-379-8912

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>

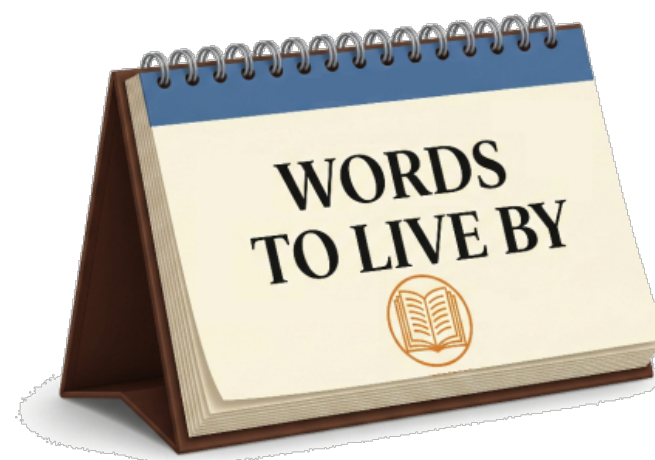
Missed worship? Our church services are being recorded and published at <http://www.universitymennonite.org/worship-service-recordings-current/>

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

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



September 7, 2025, 10 am



*What are the words we live by? What guides us
when we're lost, unsure, in despair?*

***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: Matt Rooke
Accompanist: Becky Kephart Song Leader: Faith King

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – Becky Kephart

Poem – *The Summer Day* by Mary Oliver read by Lara Rooke

Welcome & prayer – Matt Rooke

Call to worship

One: Our God, the One, Existence, we give You our attention...

All: We delight in You with our whole selves.

**One: We engage our emotions. We bring our conscious and
unconscious inner life, the fullness of our personality. We love You
with our beautiful, embodied self.**

All: May You be at the front of our minds as we worship and Your truth
often refreshed as we go about our lives.

Peace Lamp

Singing –

Open My Eyes – VT 738

Breathe On Me Breath of God – VT 737

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

Children's Time – Meredith Wideman

This I Believe - Emily Pakhtigian

"I believe in getting outside of my comfort zone"

Scripture – Mark 12:28-34, *Wilda Gafney translation*

One of the torah-teachers, (biblical scholars or scribes) came near and heard Yeshua, Jesus, some Pharisees and some Sadducees interpreting the scripture and debating with one another, and seeing that Yeshua/Jesus answered them beautifully, the torah-teacher asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Sovereign our God, the Sovereign is One. And, you shall love the Holy One your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

Announcements (cont.)

6th Annual Interfaith Human Services Community Care Auction

Thank you to our sponsors:



First National Bank

- Travel

Sue and Ron Smith

- Tickets

- Gift Certificates



Hugh & Janyce Mose



- Experiences

-Collectibles

- Outdoor Items

-Handmade Items

Bid Online September 15-21

- Apparel



<https://www.interfaithhumanservices.org/auction/>

All proceeds benefit residents of Centre County

Announcements (cont.)

Sunday school at UMC this fall 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 through middle school age. On third Sundays, all are invited to the basement for an intergenerational class led by Carmen Groff. Sunday school will continue through the end of May and begin again in September.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SERIES THIS FALL

Encountering the Qur'an led by Jon Brockopp

In this series of four discussions, we will explore one of the world's great religious texts, considering it from Muslim, historical, and Christian perspectives. The goal is understanding, but as with all inter-religious encounters, uncomfortable questions may arise. All are welcome to any session, but the four will build on one another.

Sept 14 Reading someone else's religious text and hearing the Qur'an

Oct 12 Historical context of the revelations to Muhammad

Oct 26 The Qur'an and Islamic law

Nov 9 Christianity in the Qur'an

Celebrate Pastor Kate! - All are invited for a time of fellowship to remember and celebrate Kate's service at UMC on Sunday, September 21 at 5 pm in the church fellowship hall. Join us for ice cream and popcorn and a time to share and thank Kate for being our pastor these last seven years and to wish her well for this next chapter in her life.

The State College Food Bank: For the month of September, bring snack items (crackers, cookies, chips/pretzels, granola bars, etc.) to help support those in need.

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.

Would you be interested in possibly volunteering for a week with Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) next January? Let Marvin Hall know. Currently looking at an MDS project in North Carolina but will need to wait until fall to see if the NC project is still an option for January.

The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the torah-teacher said to him, "Beautiful, Rabbi! You have truly said that 'God is One, and besides God there is no other'; and 'to love God with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Yeshua, Jesus, saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the reign of God." After that no one dared to ask him another question.

Sermon – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Confession

Communion

Singing -

Build a Longer Table – see insert

Sharing time – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Glimpses of the Divine – *Love Your Neighbor by Ladysmith Black Mombazo*

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/>

Sept 7, after worship – Congregational Meeting (details below)

Sept 8, noon – Women's Lunch at Foxdale Cafe

Sept 8, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace

Sept 8, 7 pm – Sacred Harp Singing

Sept 9, noon – Lectio Divina, Scripture & Study online

Sept 11, 7 am – Men's Breakfast

Sept 14, after worship – Fall Sunday school

A congregational meeting will take place today after this morning's worship service. Agenda items include an affirmation of Joel Weidner and Rick Stehouwer as co-congregational chairs and Ruth Kitchin Tillman as asst. chair, an update on our pastoral search, and a review and approval of final church budget for the 25-26 fiscal year.

Announcements (cont.)

The Centre County Interfaith Coalition for Gun Safety warmly invites UMC to a Prayer Vigil for the International Day of Peace on Sunday, September 21st at 3:00 p.m. at University Baptist and Brethren Church. We invite congregations and community members to gather in prayerful solidarity, affirming our shared commitment to peace, unity, and a world free from gun violence and all forms of violence. Please also join us in creating pinwheels with messages of peace as part of the International Pinwheels for Peace Project.

Out of the Cold is in need of volunteers to provide meals, serve as evening hosts, or donate cleaning supplies. Your support during this time would make a meaningful impact on the shelter and guests. Please consider helping—thank you! - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F45A9AD2BA5FA7-56017734-ootc#/>

Mennonite Church USA News

Nekeisha Alayna Alexis, speaker/consultant for Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, shares her hope and provides an opportunity for others to share that hope amid a world that seems to be full of despair. Read more in her Menno Snapshot's blog here: mennoniteusa.org/opportunity-from-panic

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/>

Communion Hymns *Build a Longer Table*

ACS 1062



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.