
CHURCH INFORMATION

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

www.universitymennonite.org

Submissions for bulletin: bulletin@universitymennonite.org

Deadline for bulletin inclusion: Thursday end of day

Staff and volunteer leadership

Pastoral search process is underway! Hold our search committee in prayer.

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 814-571-5608

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, rcs15@psu.edu 814-883-3503

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

Treasurer: Jim Rosenberger, jrosenberger@gmail.com 814-571-4419

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 **UMC's midweek email newsletter** at:

<https://mailchi.mp/universitymennonite/umc-midweek-newsletter>

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**



October 19, 2025, 10 am



UMC Heartstrings: Righteous Mercy

***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: Joel Weidner

Accompanist: Becky Kephart Song Leader: Faith King

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – The Circle Singers

Welcome & prayer – Joel Weidner

Call to worship

*God of our strength, on thee we call.
God of our hope, our light, our all,
thy name we praise, thy love adore,
our rock, our shield, for ever more.
God of our strength, we wait on thee,
our sure defense, forever be. Amen*

Peace Lamp

Singing –

Rain Down – VT 813

O Lord, Hear My Prayer – VT 685

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

Children's Time – Meredith Wideman

Scripture – Luke 18:1-8, read by Cathy Bresee

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Sermon – Ben Wideman

Singing –

God of Our Strength – VT 47

Sharing time – Ken Litwiller

Glimpses of the Divine – *God of Justice, Love, and Mercy*
from Urbana Worship Team

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

Announcements/birthdays/anniversaries/introduction of visitors

Benediction

Sending Song – The Circle Singers

Announcements

Coming up – Check out the church calendar for more details

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

Oct 19, after worship – Intergenerational Sunday school (details below)

Oct 20, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace

Oct 21, noon – Lectio Divina, Scripture & Study online

Oct 23, 7 am – Men's Breakfast

Oct 26, 10 am – Guest speaker, Carol Zook from MCC Resource Center

Intergenerational Sunday School today! We will be studying Psalm 23 through the eyes of a shepherd. Do you know who is a retired shepherd in our congregation? Come to learn who it is and what we should know about sheep to better understand this beloved psalm. All ages are invited to the basement following the worship service to learn together.

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 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#/>

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

Nov 9 The Qur'an and Islamic law

Dec 14 Christianity in the Qur'an

Mennonite Mission Network invites you on a pilgrimage that explores what God is doing to bring about justice and peace in the world and ways in which we can participate. Join us as we learn together how to walk in solidarity and appreciation of life. Learn more about Peace Pilgrimages - <https://www.mennonitemission.net/serve/just-peace-pilgrimage/#apply-peace>

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/>

Announcements (cont.)



**MULTICULTURAL
UNITY FAIR**

GET INVOLVED!
INFORMATION BOOTHS, PERFORMERS,
AND VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

Join Borough of State College and the Community Diversity Group on:

OCT. 25 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M. IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Mennonite Church USA News

Seventy-five percent of the worship music at MC USA 2025 Convention came from Voices Together. Band leader and guitarist, Randall Koehler, shares how this hymnal shaped Follow Jesus '25 — and offers 16 songs that invite us deeper into worship. Read his reflections and explore the music here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/songs/>

Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, MC USA's denominational minister for peace and justice, responded with a prayer of lament to the mass shooting at Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis. Read and pray along with the prayer here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/prayer-of-lament/>