

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 717-513-6849

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, ruthillman@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

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

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

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



All generations serving God and the world together

February 1, 2026, 10 am

THE BEATITUDES

BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT,
FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN,
FOR THEY WILL BE COMFORTED.

BLESSED ARE THE MEEK,
FOR THEY WILL INHERIT THE EARTH.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER AND THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS,
FOR THEY WILL BE FILLED.

BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL,
FOR THEY WILL BE SHOWN MERCY.

BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART,
FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD.

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS,
FOR THEY WILL BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED BECAUSE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,
FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

BLESSED ARE YOU WHEN PEOPLE INSULT YOU, PERSECUTE YOU AND
FALSELY SAY ALL KINDS OF EVIL AGAINST YOU BECAUSE OF ME.
REJOICE AND BE GLAD, BECAUSE GREAT IS YOUR REWARD IN HEAVEN,
FOR IN THE SAME WAY THEY PERSECUTED THE PROPHETS WHO WERE
BEFORE YOU.

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: Carmen Groff
Accompanist: Becky Kephart Song Leader: Ken Litwiller

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – Becky Kephart

Welcome & prayer – Carmen Groff

Call to worship – from VT 1045

Love is patient;

love is kind;

love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

It does not insist on its own way;

it is not irritable or resentful;

it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends.

But as for prophecies, they will come to an end;

as for tongues, they will cease;

as for knowledge, it will come to an end.

And now these three remain:

faith, hope, and love;

and the greatest of these is love.

Peace Lamp

Singing –

Lift Every Voice and Sing – VT 611

The Kingdom of God – VT 799

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

Children's Time – Bethany Spicher Schonberg

Scripture – Matthew 5:1-12, read by Laura Litwiller and Jasiel Lira

Sermon – Ben Wideman

Confession – VT 937

Communion

Singing –

Onyame wo mu o (In Your Sickness) – VT 607

Sharing time

Glimpses of the Divine –

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

Announcements/birthdays/anniversaries/visitors

Benediction

Announcements

Coming up – Check out the church calendar for more details

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

Feb 1, after worship – Extended Communion

Feb 2, noon – UMC Women's Lunch at Foxdale

Feb 2, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace

Feb 3, noon – Lectio Divina, Scripture & Study online

Feb 8, 10 am – Joint worship and potluck with Albright-Bethune United Methodist Church, Pastor Renee Ford speaking

February is MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) Comforter Month referred to as: THE GREAT WINTER WARM-UP. On Sunday, February 15 during the second hour all ages are invited to knot comforters and cut fabric for patches for comforter tops. Please bring your scissors. MCC aims to collect 10,000 comforters by the end of March to support international relief efforts, particularly in Ukraine, Palestine, Malawi, and Zambia.

Out of the Cold is looking for volunteers to help with dinner or be an evening host from February 2nd to February 8th. Please consider signing up to bring breakfast, dinner, supplies or to be an evening host. More details can be found here - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F45A9AD2BA5FA7-61689642-february/23021322#/>

Centre Volunteers in Medicine (CVIM) is one of the organizations regularly supported by University Mennonite Church. The mission of CVIM is to serve and advocate for the medically underserved living or working in Centre County, PA. One of CVIM's fundraising events is coming up next month. The Centre County Cornhole Classic is scheduled for February 7th. For more information or to register, go to <https://www.cvim.net/cornholeclassic>

Announcements (cont.)

2026 Meat Canning Project

2026 is the 51st year for the Meat Canning Project locally. Did you know that 10% of all the meat canned, remains local? This year we will be canning 40,000 pounds of chicken!

Dates: February 9 – 12 for canning and February 13 for cleanup

Times: Monday – Thursday 6:30 am – 8:00 pm

- Friday 7:00 am – 2:00 pm

Where: Chief Logan Firehouse
1800 Glenwood Ave Lewistown, PA 17044

How you can help: We are looking for volunteers (groups preferred but not required) to help with all steps of the process:

Grinding Meat → Filling Cans → Cleaning Cans → Labeling/Boxing Cans

Volunteers can be scheduled for a little or as much time as you would like.
(1 hour, 2 hours, 4 hours, all day)

Who to Contact:

Sylvanus Peachey – Canning Coordinator – Call: 717-935-2511
Jessie Diem – Assistant Coordinator – Call or Text: 717-348-9577

Food Donations:

Call Laura Litwiller 717-543-3419, Sylvia Diem 717-543-8784 or
Elizabeth Peachey 717-935-7433 If you would like to donate food for the
canning volunteers.

Unable to donate your time, but looking to help? We are also accepting
monetary donations. **Approximate cost for the project this year is \$100,000.**

Send checks to: Central PA World Hunger Association,

PO Box 76 Belleville, PA 17004



792,407 Total Cans
with the help of
28,000 Volunteers

TOGETHER
WE
CAN

Announcements (cont.)

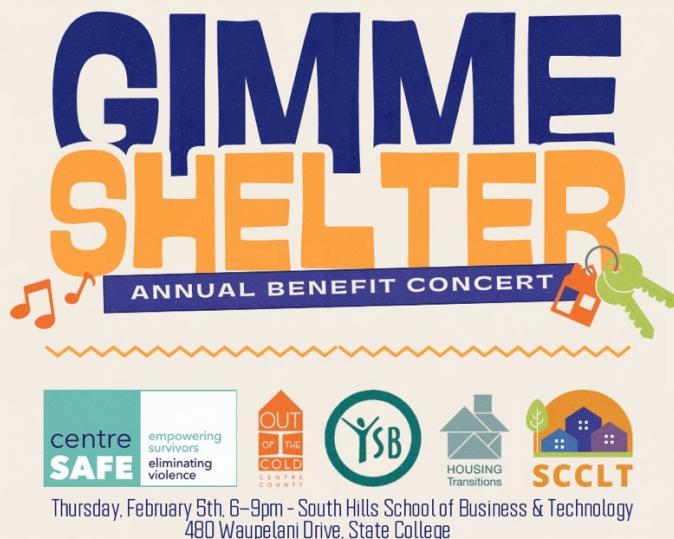
Children in UMC worship – Children through fifth grade are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary for children's time. After children's time, the nursery is available for children ages four and under. (Parents, please check to see if the nursery is staffed; if not, please stay with your child.) 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.

Sunday school at UMC this year 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.



Announcements (cont.)

Sponsors: Kish Bank, South Hills School of Business & Technology, State College Borough



Mennonite Church USA News

Mennonite Church USA is requesting prayer for the hearing for injunctive relief in the “sensitive locations” lawsuit, [Mennonite Church USA et al., v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, et al.](#) Oral arguments will be heard on Feb. 5, 2026, in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in Washington, D.C. Representatives from MC USA leadership will attend the hearing. Please note that no further action is requested at this time. Read the opening brief here: <https://bit.ly/3M0ltVN>

If you are a Mennonite working or teaching in a public-school setting, you are invited to join the upcoming Mennonite Public Educators Zoom meeting on Monday, Feb. 2 at 4 p.m. PT/7 p.m. ET. The topic will be student behavior, discipline and restorative justice within your classroom and your school as a whole. Register here: <https://forms.gle/CdbeMF1kKfroTfft8>

This Black History Month, explore “Black History in the Mennonite Church” — MC USA’s timeline of remarkable firsts, leaders and milestones in African American Mennonite history. Visit the timeline online and deepen your understanding of our shared story: <https://bit.ly/4r8ZLCP>

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/>

Announcements (cont.)

Climate Cafe to Share Eco-Anxiety

Change is challenging; talking with others helps.



Feeling climate distressed and wanting to share your concerns with like-minded people?

Please come to this free event co-sponsored by the State College Friends’ Climate Justice Working Group and Foxdale’s Climate Care committee. Co-Facilitators are: Jackie Bonomo, has led online Climate Cafes for Climate Witness Stewards and practiced peer counseling for 50 years; Andy McKinnon is a licensed social worker, therapist and climate activist and Stacey Budd is the Program Director for Team Development at Shaver’s Creek.

This Climate Cafe is organized to be a confidential space to share climate anxiety and grief over loss due to climate chaos. The world as we knew it is changing due to our previous inattention/denial of the consequences of our way of living on our planet. In clearly seeing this reality, many of us are fearful, angry and sad and the sharing of our losses and concerns helps. We want to:

- Reduce feeling overwhelmed
- Face the feelings and keep seeing climate reality
- Stay actively engaged with the climate problem
- Keep functioning well while accepting the reality of climate change, both in our everyday lives, as well as act for change to reduce the threat of climate rupture.

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM on Thursday, Feb. 12

State College Friends Meeting - 611 E. Prospect Avenue, State College

The event is free, please reserve your space:

<https://forms.gle/7HU8AjWD8wTLyVAf9>

