

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, racs15@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 <https://universitymennonite.org/worship/>

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

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

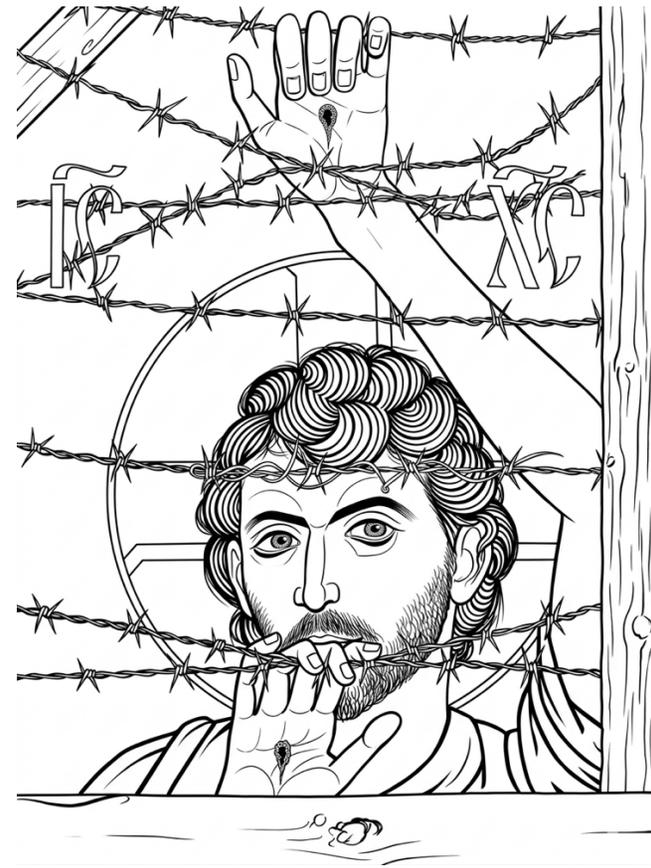


University
Mennonite
Church



All generations serving God
and the world together

March 15, 2026, 10 am



(contemporary icon titled *Christ of Maryknoll*, created by Brother Robert Lentz)

Submission and Power

*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: Leah Witzig

Accompanist: Meredith Wideman Song Leader: Faith King

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – Meredith Wideman, with Edna Troyer singing *Come My Soul,
Thou Must Be* - 477 in the old red hymnal

Welcome & prayer – Leah Witzig

Call to worship

One: We gather for worship,
seeking a kingdom that is not of this world.

All: “Your Kingdom come! Your will be done on earth!”

One: We pray. Then we look around . . . Where is it? What is truth?
We gather for worship, asking questions and staying the course.

We pray again and again,

All: “Your kingdom come!”

One: Looking and longing . . . Where is it? Where are you?

All: We gather for worship and find that God is here.

One: On earth as in heaven.

**All: God’s kingdom now and not yet;
here and in the world to come. Let us worship our God.**

Peace Lamp

Singing –

To God Be The Glory – VT 84

God of the Bible – VT 420

Confession

Voices of our Congregation – Reflections with Carl Keener

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

Children’s Time – Meredith Wideman

Scripture – John 18:28-40

Sermon – Lomas

Singing –

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song – VT 581

Sharing time – Gloria Horst Rosenberger

Glimpses of the Divine – *Power to the People* by John Lennon
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/>

Mar 15, after worship – extended conversation!

Mar 16, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace

Mar 17, noon – Lectio Divina, Scripture & Study online

Mar 22, after worship – Sunday school for all ages

Grace Lutheran Church (205 S. Garner Street, State College) invites you to the **13th annual ecumenical Lenten Musical Meditation** on Wednesday, March 25 at 7 PM. The free program, “I Believe: Songs of Faith, Hope, and Joy,” focuses on the 1700th year of the Nicene Creed. It features Vivaldi’s Credo with string orchestra; a jazz mass; Afro-Caribbean creed; and handbell choir. Dinner is available at 5; prelude at 6:40 (Nittany Brass). Free-will offerings defray costs. Call 814-238-2478 for info.

On Sundays, March 22 and 29, during the UMC Adult Education time following worship, **Prof. Lior Sternfeld, one of the leaders of the "New Minyan" that has been meeting in our building, will speak** about the history of his group and some of his experiences, both of being an Israeli Jew in State College and of his time in Israel during the Gaza war. Please plan to come, welcome Prof. Sternfeld, and hear a very interesting perspective. -- Ken Litwiller for the UMC Adult Education Committee.

Our friends at **Albright-Bethune United Methodist** are hosting a **“Blue Monday” service** on March 30th at 6pm. This is a time for grief, loss, loneliness, sadness, distress, patience, and presence. Join Albright-Bethune as they hold space for one another to acknowledge and give voice to that which troubles our heart through candles, quiet music, scripture, and song. All are welcome.

The Mifflin County Amish Mennonite Historical Society's **23rd Annual Hymn Sing** is coming soon! Pleasant View AM Church, 494 Green Lane, Belleville PA will host this event on Sunday evening, March 29, 2026 at 7:00 pm. Join us for an evening of beautiful acapella four-part singing! We hope to see you there!

We are invited to submit artwork for an exhibition titled "Rainbow Creation," sponsored by Centre LGBT+ and a group of local faith communities. LGBT+ people have experienced harm in many faith-based spaces, and 2026 is proving to be a particularly difficult and challenging time for the LGBT+ community, particularly for trans and non-binary folks. The exhibition is meant to elevate the voices of that community as well as the voices of its allies, especially those in faith-based spaces. We want to celebrate the beauty and dignity of people who identify as LGBT+ as well as to underscore their humanity. Submit artwork by March 15 to rainbowcreationsubmission@gmail.com

"The Dead Sea Scrolls: Past, Present, and Future"

Tuesday March 17
5:00 P.M. EST
Foster Auditorium
(102 Paterno Library)



Scan QR code
to attend via
Zoom:

The Dead Sea Scrolls have transformed our understanding of the Bible and ancient Judaism. Join us for a fascinating conversation about these manuscripts in their historical context and how new methods and approaches can provide new answers to old questions! We will be joined by three world-renowned experts on the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The conversation will be moderated by Daniel Falk (Penn State). This event will be aimed at a public audience and will be accessible for undergraduate students and interested members of the State College community and beyond!



Maxine Grossman,
Associate Professor of
Jewish Studies and
Religious Studies
University of Maryland



Alex Jassen,
Professor of Hebrew
and Judaic Studies,
New York University



Matthew Goff,
Professor of Religion,
Florida State
University



Moderated by
Daniel Falk,
Professor of Classics &
Ancient Mediterranean
Studies, Penn State
University

This event is generously sponsored by the Jewish Studies Program, Department of Classics & Ancient Mediterranean Studies, and Religious Studies Initiative.

We have some beautiful Lent resources that coordinate with our theme for the season - "Dwelling in Dissonance" (available in the church foyer and by email) - but for those who would like something a bit simpler, here are two other ideas:

- Breath Prayers:** "A Simple Lent for Everyone Who Doesn't Really Have Much Left in the Tank Right Now" - a breath prayer and scripture for each day of Lent from Sarah Bessey (available in the church foyer)
- Candles:** Choose a place in your home to display 6 tea lights or votives. Light six candles the first Sunday, five the second, and so on, until there is just one light remaining - and then relight all six on Easter. On each Sunday (or Saturday evening), read the scripture for that day.

Feb. 22 - Love and grief, glory and belief - John 11:1–44

Mar. 1 - Obvious and hidden - John 13:1–17

Mar. 8 - Standing up and standing back - John 18:12–27

Mar. 15 - Submission and power - John 18:28–40

Mar. 22 - Complicity and innocence - John 19:1–16a

Mar. 29 - Palm Sunday - John 19:16b–22; 12:12–27

Easter - Death and Resurrection - John 20:1–18

MC USA's 2026 Lent at Home Worship Guide invites households to journey through Lent with simple rituals, Scripture from John's Gospel and opportunities for reflection. This guide, titled "Dwelling in Dissonance," helps all ages hold grief and hope together, as we walk with Jesus toward resurrection. Available in English and Spanish. Download it here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/lent-at-home-2026>

And please be sure to mark your calendars for **Maundy Thursday, April 2** - everyone is invited to the Spicher-Schonberg farm for a simple meal, foot washing, and a campfire.

Blessings this Lent -

Bethany (and our Worship Committee)

Announcements (cont.)

The State College Food Bank is looking for condiments, especially mayonnaise and salad dressings. Please consider donating these or any non-perishable food items during March. Cash is welcome as well.

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/>

Mennonite Church USA News

Mennonite Church USA hosted a special, smaller-scale **Hope for the Future 2026 gathering in San Antonio, Texas**, which brought together BIPOC leaders for deep discernment, spiritual renewal and strategic visioning. Read about their call for greater interdependence and collective liberation, as well as where they are finding hope in challenging times, here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/hope-for-the-future-2026/>

Spiritual director Marlene Kropf invites congregations to plan a **Lenten Quiet Morning** as a contemplative practice rooted in Jesus' desert retreat, encouraging prayer, reflection and spiritual renewal amid life's chaos. Read her Menno Snapshots blog and download her free planning resource here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/lenten-quiet-morning/>



Demonstrations At Allen Street Gates

Black Lives Matter – Mondays from 4:30 to 5 p.m.
Prayers for Peace – Mondays from 5 to 5:30 p.m.
Supporting Ukraine – Saturdays at 2 p.m.

Announcements (cont.)

BENEFIT CONCERT FOR UKRAINE

Saturday, March 28, 2026, 7:00 pm
University Mennonite Church
1606 Norma St., State College, PA

Live performance by YiYi,
Ukrainian folk trio featuring
Caroline Kuhn, Katie Pawluk, and Zoya Shepko

Donations accepted at the door.
All proceeds go to the Humanitarian Fund for Ukraine via Sister's Sister, Inc.

Concert sponsors: Woskob Family Endowment in Ukrainian Studies & PSU Ukrainian Society