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## CHURCH INFORMATION

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1606 Norma St., State College, PA 16801; (814) 234-2039  
[www.universitymennonite.org](http://www.universitymennonite.org)

**Submissions for bulletin:** [bulletin@universitymennonite.org](mailto: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](mailto:ben.wideman@gmail.com) 215-859-0037

Elders:

Tim Groff, [tgroff@centreconcrete.com](mailto:tgroff@centreconcrete.com) 814-360-1086

Gloria Horst Rosenberger, [ghr4870@gmail.com](mailto:ghr4870@gmail.com) 814-571-5608

Ken Litwiller, [kenlaura78@gmail.com](mailto:kenlaura78@gmail.com) 717-513-6849

Leah Witzig, [witzig1@gmail.com](mailto:witzig1@gmail.com) 814-933-2503

Doug Miller, [dam8@psu.edu](mailto:dam8@psu.edu) 814-883-1127

Cong. co-chair: Joel Weidner, [joelpsu82@outlook.com](mailto:joelpsu82@outlook.com) 814-777-4494

Cong. co-chair: Rick Stehouwer, [rsc15@psu.edu](mailto:rsc15@psu.edu) 814-883-3503

Asst. chair: Ruth Kitchin Tillman, [ruthkitchin@gmail.com](mailto:ruthkitchin@gmail.com) 302-379-8912

Treasurer: Jim Rosenberger, [jrosenberger@gmail.com](mailto:jrosenberger@gmail.com) 814-571-4419

Leadership team: [umc-lt@googlegroups.com](mailto:umc-lt@googlegroups.com)

Elders: [umc-elders@googlegroups.com](mailto:umc-elders@googlegroups.com)

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**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 22, 2026, 10 am**



***Complicity and Innocence***

*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.***

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Worship Leader: Ruth Kitchin Tillman

Accompanist: Joyce Hall Song Leader: Micah Schonberg

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Prelude** – Joyce Hall

**Welcome & prayer** – Ruth Kitchin Tillman

**Call to worship**

**Call to Worship**

One: Here we are.

**All: It is still Lent.**

One: We may want to skip this part.

**All: We don't really want to remember the mob, or hear the horrible  
cries: "Crucify, crucify"**

One: We get enough of that from the news.

And we really don't want to think

**All: That we might be among those voices**

One: Or consider our complicity in such things.

But it is Lent.

**All: So we are here.**

One: We tell the story again.

**All: Trusting that God will meet us in it**

**Peace Lamp**

**Singing** –

*God of Grace and God of Glory* – VT 716

*Let There Be Light* – VT 714

**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** – Marvin Hall

**Scripture** – John 19:1-16a

**Sermon** – Ben Wideman

**Singing** – *For the Healing of the Nations* – VT 705

**Sharing time** – Ken Litwiller

**Glimpses of the Divine** – *Peace like a River* by Paul Simon

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

**Announcements/birthdays/anniversaries/visitors**

**Benediction**

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### Announcements

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**Coming up** – Check out the church calendar for more details

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

Mar 22, after worship – Professor Lior Sternfeld (details below)

Mar 23, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace

Mar 23, 7 pm – Sacred Harp Singing

Mar 24, noon – Lectio Divina, Scripture & Study online

Mar 26, 7 am – UMC Men's Breakfast at Waffle Shop

Mar 28, 7 pm – Benefit concert for Ukraine (details below)

Mar 29, Palm Sunday after worship – Professor Lior Sternfeld (details below)

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 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Mennonite Church USA News**

Nathan Luitjens reflects on MC USA's annual **Conference Ministers' Retreat** and how MC USA leaders are re-centering their work around God's dream of shalom, reconciliation and faithful presence in local contexts. Read his Menno Snapshots blog here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/focusing-on-what-matters/>

Webinar recording available: In **"Engaging Our Grief and Finding Resilience,"** hosts Ann Blackwood and Ruth Johnston explore how grief shows up in our lives and in the world, providing tools and practices to move through it with honesty, care and spiritual resilience. This webinar was sponsored by The Corinthian Plan, MC USA's health care and wellbeing plan for pastors and church workers. Watch the recording here: <https://bit.ly/4aQ9to8>

**IN FULL VOICE**  
A Concert for  
**HOPE & HEALING**

April 4 | 7 pm FREEMAN AUDITORIUM

Celebrating Centre Safe's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary &  
R-VOICE's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Featuring:  
Hannah Bingman  
The Groove Society  
Natascha & The Spy Boys  
One Acre West  
Penn State WORDS  
Penn State Savoir Faire

    

**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:

- 1. 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)
- 2. 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 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](mailto:rainbowcreationsubmission@gmail.com)

**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.



## 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.

**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/>

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## 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