
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, 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**

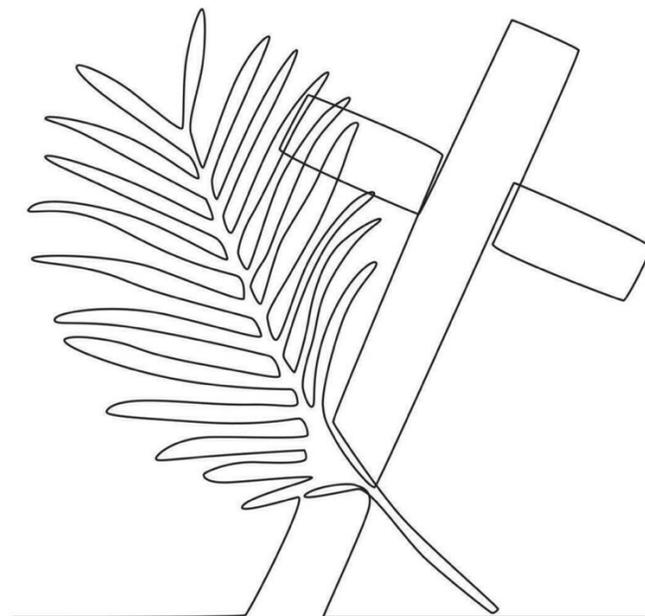


University
Mennonite
Church



All generations serving God
and the world together

March 29, 2026, 10 am



Palm Sunday

*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: Ross Hardison

Accompanist: Joyce Hall Song Leader: Ken Litwiller

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – Joyce Hall

Welcome & prayer – Ross Hardison

Call to worship

**All: We gather to worship God
and to look back on where we've been;**

One: we see old hopes, plans, and dreams,
remembered "Hosannas!"
and all these weeks of Lent.

**All: We gather to worship God
and to look at where we are now,**

One: at Jesus re-defining triumph;
and the king on the cross instead of a throne.

**All: We gather to worship God
and to wonder at this mystery,**

One: of salvation that comes so strangely;
of life that comes through death;
of brokenness meeting grace.

Peace lamp

Singing –

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna – VT 313

My Love Song is Unknown – VT 320

Confession poem

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

Children's Time and Palm Sunday procession – Marvin Hall

Scripture – John 12:12–25; 19:16b-19

Sermon – Ben Wideman

Singing – *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* – VT 323

Sharing time – Leah Witzig

Glimpses of the Divine – *How Can We Worship Caesar's Cross* – VT 308

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

Mar 30, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace

Mar 31, noon – Lectio Divina, Scripture & Study online

Apr 2, 5:30 pm - Maundy Thursday at Plowshare Produce farm (details below)

Apr 5, 8:45 am – Easter Breakfast (details below)

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.

Trans Day of Visibility is coming up on Tuesday, March 31. There will be a vigil at the Allen Street Gates at 5:30 pm.

UMC Holy Week Highlights: Join us for **Maundy Thursday on April 2 at 5:30 pm**. Everyone is invited to the Spicher-Schonberg farm for a simple meal, foot washing, and a campfire. We are having our **annual Easter breakfast Sunday, April 5**. There will be pancakes and sausage. You may bring a breakfast item to complement the above, the committee is suggesting fruits. We will start eating at 8:45. Hope to see you there! This is the fellowship meal for April.

Mennonite Church USA News

Amy Yoder McGloughlin, MC USA denominational minister for education (and our regional Allegheny Conference Minister!), reflects on her call to ministry and **how congregations can nurture the next generation of pastors** through spiritual practices, mentoring, intergenerational worship and intentional encouragement of God's call. Read her Menno Snapshots blog here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/nurture-a-call-to-ministry/>

Stay informed about MC USA-affiliated schools and higher eds by subscribing to "Prayers for Education." MC USA's quarterly e-newsletter features prayer requests submitted by our Mennonite educational institutions and organized by week. Subscribe here: <https://bit.ly/467dSR7> Read the current issue here: <https://bit.ly/4kFXFbi>



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/>

Announcements (cont.)

University Mennonite Church is a highly participatory community that requires a lot of volunteers with a variety of gifts to carry out the work of the church. It's time to consider how your gifts might be used in our new church year that begins on September 1 and runs through the following August. We'll affirm volunteers at the May 3 congregational meeting.

During our pastoral search, when we are operating without a pastor, sharing your gifts as a volunteer is more important than ever.

Volunteer by any of the methods below:

1. Complete the online form at <https://forms.gle/NMovXH6Bc35zj44h9>
2. Send an email to Joel (joelpsu82@outlook.com) just listing the positions you are volunteering for.
3. Fill out a paper form (available in the foyer) and place in the Weidner's church mailbox.

Descriptions of all the volunteer positions at UMC on the forms in the foyer and the online form at <https://forms.gle/NMovXH6Bc35zj44h9>.

Some positions are standing positions (operate throughout the year) while others create a pool of volunteers that may be called on from time-to-time to help with scheduled duties like leading worship, leading singing, helping with children's time etc. **Responses should be submitted by Sunday, April 26.**

Centre LGBT+ is inviting volunteers to participate in the "Wall of Love," a peaceful yet assertive response to any anti-GBT+ protestors during the Pride Parade and Festival.

If you are interested in helping, please sign up here:
<https://forms.gle/mXrHepRsKFxTBKWUZ>

To help volunteers feel prepared, Silent Peacekeepers from Harrisburg will be offering a Zoom training on May 16 at 10:00 am. The training will also be recorded for those who cannot attend live.

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!

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.

Announcements (cont.)

St. Paul's United Methodist Church is offering Life After Loss (LAL), an educational support group designed for persons grieving the loss of a loved one through death. The six-week LAL group is being held on Sundays, beginning on April 12, at St. Paul's. The participants will meet from 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM in the Asbury Room/Library on the third floor of the church building (enter via Calder Way - elevator available). Free parking is available. Each session will begin with a light lunch.

The program is based on Hospice materials developed to assist those experiencing the grieving process due to a significant loss. Participants are encouraged to attend all six sessions to receive the greatest benefit. Lunch and all materials are provided at no cost.

Please RSVP by April 6. To register for LAL and/or to ask questions, please contact Renae Schunk: (814) 237-2163 ext. or 152rschunk@stpaulsc.org

IN FULL VOICE
A Concert for
HOPE & HEALING

April 4 | 7 pm FREEMAN AUDITORIUM
Celebrating Centre Safe's 50th Anniversary &
R-VOICE's 40th Anniversary

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