
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>

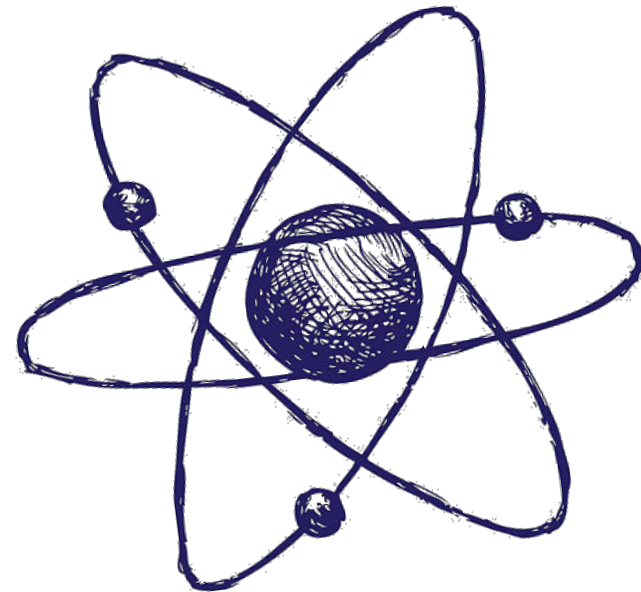
Missed worship? Our church services are being recorded and published at
<https://universitymennonite.org/worship/>

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

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



April 12, 2026, 10 am



Science and Faith

*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: Ben Wideman

Accompanist: Meredith Wideman Song Leader: Ken Litwiller

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – Meredith Wideman

Welcome & prayer – Ben Wideman

Call to worship – from VT 853

Leader: If you are delighted to be here,
and if you are tired or troubled,

People: you are welcome.

Leader: If your faith is strong,
and if your faith is battered or frail,

People: you are welcome.

Leader: If you are eager to praise God,
and if you need to be quiet,

People: you are welcome.

All: God welcomes us all

to worship today

and promises to meet us here.

Peace lamp

Singing –

Planets Humming as They Wonder – VT 175

God Who Touches Earth with Beauty – VT 550

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

Children's Time – Karl Ahrendsen

Scripture – Mark 8:1-10, read by Paul McCormick

Sermon – Karl Ahrendsen

Singing –

All Things Bright and Beautiful – VT 177

Sharing time – Tim Groff

Glimpses of the Divine – *God of Grace and Mystery* by The Porter's Gate
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/>

Apr 12, after worship – Christian education for all ages

Apr 13, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace

Apr 13, 7 pm – Sacred Harp Singing

Apr 14, noon – Lectio Divina, Scripture & Study online

Apr 19, after worship – Intergenerational Sunday school

Foxdale's popular spring garage sale will be held on Saturday, April 18, from 8:30 am until noon. Use the University Dr entrance next to the Friends' School. Cash or checks only.

Ten Thousand Villages will be holding a spring sale on Friday and Saturday, May 1 & 2 at in our church foyer. Hours are: Friday, May 1, 4-7 pm & Saturday, May 2, 10 am to 5 pm

Looking for a simple way to make a difference? **Volunteer at Out of the Cold as a dinner provider, breakfast provider, or evening host.** Provide a meal for our guests, help serve and clean up, or spend time creating a warm and welcoming environment. Your support helps us offer not just shelter, but community and care - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F45A9AD2BA5FA7-62589519-april/23021322#/>

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.

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 152 rschunk@stpaulsc.org

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.**

Announcements (cont.)

Mennonite Church USA News

Registration is open for summer camp at Laurelville! Sign up now for a week of fun, friends, and exploring faith in community with others. Camp will give you memories that last a lifetime and won't leave you the same. Weeklong camps are offered for youth ages 8 through 17. A shorter two-night option is available for youth ages 6 to 10 and is a great way to give overnight camp a try. Reserve your spot today! www.laurelville.org

Laurelville Retreat Center is looking to hire a Recreation Director for the summer. This is a leadership role that plans, organizes, and facilitates games/activities for all our campers. Additionally, male camp counselors are needed to make the summer successful. Junior counselors can start at age 16. Know someone who might be a good fit? Contact leah@laurelville.org or call 724-423-2429

Join Mennonite Action at their upcoming Mass Call on Thursday, April 23 at 8 pm, as we reaffirm our commitments to showing up in community to confront authoritarianism at home and abroad. We'll hear updates from chapters about their work as of late, and report back from No Kings Day demonstrations. We hope to see you there - <https://www.mennoniteaction.org/call>

In 2025, MC USA awarded four **Justice Fund grants** to congregations addressing urgent needs related to immigration justice and the ecological impacts of climate injustice. Read about the recipients and learn how to apply for a 2026 grant here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/justice-fund-recipients-respond/>

Michael Danner, MC USA's associate executive director of Church Vitality, explains that MC USA is not a membership association but a **community of co-laborers** in Christ, where congregations, conferences and the national church work together to support pastoral leadership, safe church practices and congregational vitality. Read his Menno Snapshots blog here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/were-not-an-association/>

Pray with Mennonite Church USA for the upcoming **Constituency Leaders Council** gathering in Chicago, April 16–18, as leaders from across our conferences come together to discern, guide and strengthen our shared ministry. We ask for prayers for safe journeys, wisdom in conversation and the Spirit's steady presence among all who gather.

Announcements (cont.)

The State College Food Bank is looking for Tomato Products: diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, tomato paste, stewed tomatoes, pasta sauce. Thanks for contributing 110 lbs. of mayo, condiments, and cash last month!

Two upcoming ways to support the Food Bank:

- 2nd Anniversary Open House, April 21, 2026, 11 am to 1 pm.
- Empty Bowls, State High cafeteria, Thursday, April 23, 2026, 5-7 pm. Tickets \$20 and \$40. (details on community bulletin board)



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.)

 PennState
College of the Liberal Arts

Humanities Institute

The HI Collaborative Colloquia Series Presents: Reading New Books

Date: Wednesday, April 15
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Location: 102 Ihlseng Cottage

*Peace by Peace:
Risking Public Action,
Creating Social Change*

When you want to effect positive change against structural and systemic problems, where do you begin? In *Peace by Peace* Lisa Silvestri uses interview-based storytelling to explore the catalytic moments that led ordinary people to address social, political, and economic issues in their communities ranging from the West Bank to West Baltimore. The source of their audacity is practical wisdom, an Ancient Greek virtue that Silvestri revives for twenty-first century application.



Lisa Silvestri
Associate Teaching Professor
of Communication Arts & Sciences

[Click here](#) or scan the QR Code to register.



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