
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, rsc15@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/>

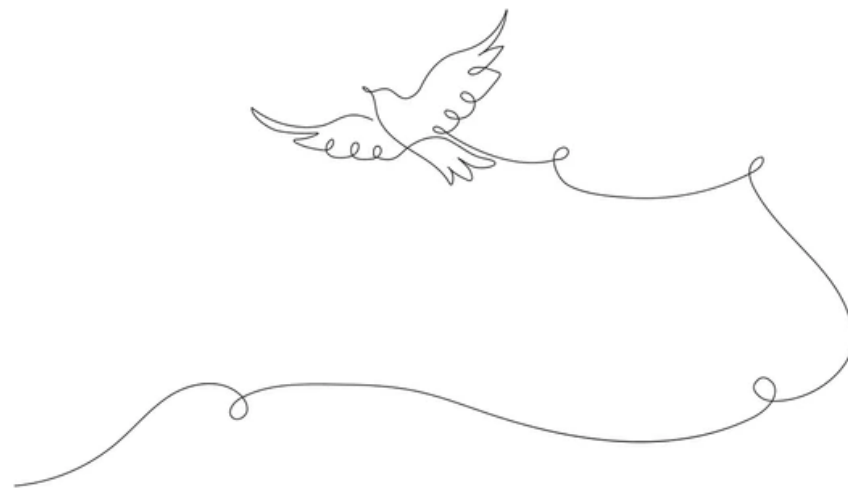
Church calendar <https://universitymennonite.org/calendar/>

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



*All generations serving God
and the world together*

April 26, 2026, 10 am



Sent out to be present

*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: Esther Prins

Accompanist: Hal Kunkel Song Leader: Ken Litwiller

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – Hal Kunkel

Welcome & prayer – Esther Prins

Call to worship –

One: Gather us in, Lord, and hear our prayers.

All: We have come to this place in need for healing and hope.

One: Gather us in, Lord, and heal our spirits.

All: We come here seeking guidance and strength.

One: Gather us in, Lord, and open our hearts to receive your word.

**All: Open our hearts, our spirits, our souls to comprehend your word
and follow you faithfully. AMEN.**

Peace lamp – with words from Pope Leo's homily during a prayer vigil
for peace on April 11, 2026

Singing –

Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing - VT 78

I Love to Tell the Story - VT 761

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon - *A Harvest of Joy, Healing,
and Peace: Service Prayers for the 7th Sunday after Pentecost* was
written by Rev. Heather A. Moody. Posted on the United Church of
Christ's Worship Ways website.

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

Children's Time – Bethany Spicher Schonberg

Scripture – Luke 10:1-11, read by Lily Prins Glenna

Sermon – Ben Wideman

Singing –

Go in Grace and Make Disciples – VT 766

Sharing time – Gloria Horst Rosenberger

Glimpses of the Divine – *Heaven When We're Home* by Wailin' Jennys
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 26 - Pastoral Candidate Sunday (details below)

Apr 27, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace

Apr 27, 7 pm – Sacred Harp Singing

Apr 28, noon – Lectio Divina, Scripture & Study online

Apr 29, 10 am – Pastoral Candidate Conversation (details below)

Apr 30, 7:30 pm – Pastoral Candidate Conversation (details below)

May 1 & 2 – Ten Thousand Villages Sale (details below)

May 2, 6:30 pm - Pastoral Candidate Conversation (details below)

May 3, after worship – Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars to share a Shabbat meal with the new Jewish minion
who have been meeting in our building! We will meet together on Friday, May
8, at 6:30 pm. Please sign up for a vegan or vegetarian dish (or wine, Challah,
drinks, etc.) - [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bQ9u-
TrfKy7XzziZCBmuqB-LefxLAtH_7oTvoTz_dEU/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bQ9u-TrfKy7XzziZCBmuqB-LefxLAtH_7oTvoTz_dEU/edit?usp=sharing)

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

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.)

State College Friends Meeting invites you to the Allen St Gates on Saturdays, April 25 & May 16, 12-1:00 pm for Quaker public worship to bear witness and show resistance to the authoritarian actions of our country. Quakers worship in silence, where anyone who is deeply led may share a message out of it. Signs are welcome that, consistent with our values, highlight harms of authoritarianism or share love and support for communities who are suffering.

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 a future 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.**



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.

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!

Pastoral Candidate Announcement

The pastoral search committee is excited to unanimously present Ben Wideman as the candidate for the full-time pastoral position at our church.

A document that summarizes Ben's resume and experience and includes some insights from the search committee's interview with Ben was sent out via email. Additional copies are available in the foyer.

The schedule of events for congregational discernment is below.

Activities and Calendar

Sunday, April 26, Ben will deliver the morning sermon (topic of his choosing). During the second hour he will share his personal faith story and his vision for UMC as pastor.

Monday, April 27, 10:15 am - Leadership team meeting with Ben

Two small group meetings will be made available for folks to meet with Ben for dialogue. Sign up online at <https://forms.gle/Kkfzt9TcqagSDHz8A> or contact Joel Weidner (joelpsu82@outlook.com). A member of the search committee will attend each small group meeting.

Wednesday, April 29, 10 am - Small group meeting # 1 –at the church (front of sanctuary)

Thursday, April 30, 7:30 pm - Small group meeting # 2 –at the church (fellowship hall)

Saturday, May 2, 6:30 pm - Light refreshments will be offered in the fellowship hall, followed by a time for dialog and question-and-answer in sanctuary at 7 pm. Individuals are asked to submit questions ahead of time to Rick Stehouwer (rcs15@psu.edu) by Friday, May 1. Rick will moderate the session, and questions will be provided to Ben prior to the meeting.

Sunday, May 3, after worship – Part of the congregational meeting already scheduled for this time will be used for open discussion without Ben and Meredith present. The meeting will allow time for discussion around Ben's candidacy and the process for voting. We will postpone the filling of positions to a new meeting in June (date TBD).

Voting will begin at the conclusion of the meeting and conclude on Saturday, May 9 (7 days) and the results will be shared on Sunday May 10.

We hope that you can engage with us in this important process. Although our by-laws require membership for voting, it is important for all voices to be heard as part of the discernment process.

Joel Weidner & Rick Stehouwer, for the leadership team and Search Committee

Join the Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests (BMC) for a gathering rooted in sacred story and joyful revelry, as we mark our 50th Anniversary on May 29-31 in Minneapolis! This festive weekend will include storytelling, singing, ritual/worship, workshops, artmaking, games, connecting over shared meals, and honoring this incredible 50-year legacy of LGBTQIA+ Anabaptist resistance and resilience. Find event details, safety/accessibility info, and registration on our 50th webpage - www.bmclgbt.org/50th

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

In "Making peace in your town," Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, (visiting UMC on June 14!) Mennonite Church USA's denominational minister of Peace & Justice, shares how two congregations model Anabaptist peacemaking through disaster response, immigrant solidarity and hands-on community ministry rooted in Jesus' call to justice-centered peace. This article first appeared in the spring 2026 issue of MennoMedia's Leader magazine. Read it here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/making-peace-in-your-town/>

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/>

**PINE HALL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PRESENTS**

**GOSPEL
NIGHT 2026**

**SUNDAY, MAY 3
7:00 PM**

**1760 WEST COLLEGE AVE, STATE COLLEGE
www.pinehall.org**

FEATURING

- The Penns Valley Men's Chorus
- Tuesday Night Bluegrass Jammers
- Pine Hall Church Choir
- Some old hymns & favorite sing-alongs
- A free-will offering will be taken to benefit Interfaith Human Services
- Refreshments to Follow

