

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

Pastor: Ben Wideman, ben@universitymennonite.org 215-859-0037

Church Administrator:

Karl Ahrendsen, karl.ahrendsen@gmail.com 515-999-5275

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 universitymennonite.org/email-sharing-list/

Our church has an online directory with photos and contact information. Find out more and request to join at: 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-service-recordings/>

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

Church Wi-Fi information

Network name: **umc**

Password: **mennosimons**



August 2, 2026, 10 am



*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: Rick Stehouwer

Accompanist: Becky Kephart

Song Leader: Faith King

Prelude Becky Kephart

Welcome & prayer Rick Stehouwer

Call to worship from VT 856

Leader: Christ is like a single body that has many parts.

All: It is still one body though every part is different.

Leader: Therefore the foot cannot say,

All: I am not part of the body;

Leader: nor can the ear say,

All: I am not part of the body.

Leader: The eye cannot say to the hand,

All: I do not need you;

Leader: nor can the head say to the feet,

All: I do not need you.

Leader: If one part suffers,

All: all parts share the pain;

Leader: if one part is praised,

All: all parts share the joy.

Leader: Together, we are Christ's body:

All: each one of us is a part of it.

Peace Lamp

Singing led by Faith King

VT 25 – *Brethren We Have Met To Worship?*

VT 722 – *Help Us To Help Each Other*

Children's Time Meredith Wideman

VT 282 – *Come and See*

Voices of our Congregation Doug Yoder

Scripture – Acts 2:42-47

Sermon Ben Wideman

Confession –

One: At the table of Christ,

**All: we eat this bread and drink this cup
to remember the life and death and resurrection of Jesus,
to be united with Christ and with one another as the church,
and to look toward a time when all will be one.**

One: As we eat and drink with thanksgiving,

**All: Jesus Christ is present with us
and we are empowered by the Spirit
to follow Jesus' way of love
as the body of Christ,
broken and blessed for the life of the world.**

Communion music by Becky Kephart

Servers: Sue & Doug Miller, Dale Kephart, Leah Witzig

Singing led by Faith King

VT 778 – *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

Sharing Time Ben Wideman

Glimpses of the Divine in our lives video

Common Folk by The Lone Bellow

Announcements/birthdays/anniversaries/visitors Ben Wideman

Benediction Ben Wideman

Announcements

Look at the church calendar for all events: universitymennonite.org/calendar/

Sun, Aug 2, 10 am – Sunday Worship

Mon, Aug 3, noon – UMC Women's Lunch at Foxdale

Mon, Aug 3, 5 pm – Lights and Prayers for Peace

Tue, Aug 4, noon – Lectio Divina, Scripture & Study online

Fri, Aug 7, 7:30 pm – Justice Singers of Center County at UU FCC

Sun, Aug 9, after worship – fellowship meal and baptism at Greenwood Furnace

Sun, Aug 16, 10 am – Church Around the Table at various homes

Sun, Aug 16, 6:30 pm – Congregational Meeting via Zoom

Announcements

We will be having a **congregation meeting on Aug 16**. Since this is a Church Around the Table Sunday, it will be held on **Zoom at 6:30pm**. Mark your calendars so you don't miss it!

Centre County Justice Singers! Join a group of singers on the first Friday evening of the month for a community singalong at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Centre County. We also lead songs at protests, rallies, community action events, meetings, and more in Central Pennsylvania.

Out of the Cold: Centre County is currently seeking volunteers to help support our guests during July 2026. Whether you can provide a meal, donate supplies, or spend an evening at the shelter, your support helps us create a safe and welcoming environment for individuals experiencing homelessness. Sign up here - signupgenius.com/go/30E0F45A9AD2BA5FA7-64568580-july/23021322#

Rooted: Soil+Seed Retreat is a weekend-long, intergenerational retreat and gathering for families and everyone to rest, worship, sing, play, connect, make memories, and be together. It will feature concerts, times of worship, sing-alongs, hiking, campfires, and opportunities to connect with others around nature, music, and faith in Jesus Christ. ALL ARE WELCOME! Registration is now open - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rooted-soilseed-retreat-2026-registration-1993357568146?aff=oddtcreator>

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 universitymennonite.org/donate
- Set up an automatic payment with your bank (bill pay service)
- Use a service like Zelle zellepay.com/

Mennonite Church USA News

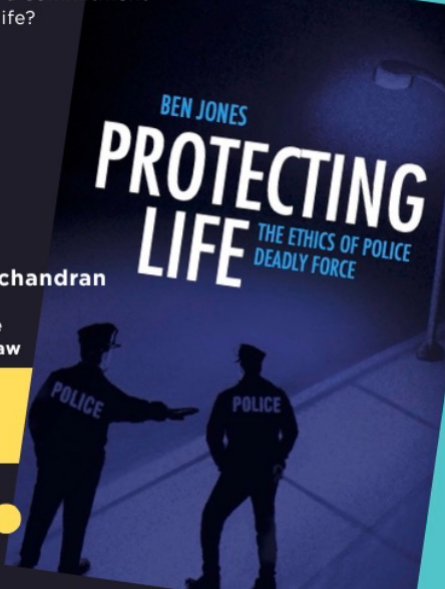
Allegheny Mennonite Conference is holding its annual Summer Celebration gathering at Camp Laurelville this weekend. Please hold our conference and its leadership in your prayers as we continue to discern how to live out our calling to follow Jesus in our local context.

MC USA's Iris de León-Hartshorn shares three **faith-based practices for leading change** — letting go, embracing experimentation and modeling the way of Jesus — to help church leaders navigate transformation with hope and grace. Read her Menno Snapshots blog here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/blog/>

Subscribe to *Equipping*, Mennonite Church USA's free quarterly **digital resource digest**. Each issue shares timely resources, practical tools, learning opportunities, grants and upcoming events from across the denomination to help pastors, leaders and churches thrive. The next issue will be published Aug. 13. Sign up today at: <https://bit.ly/3Tajczp>

The **Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online (GAMEO)** recently celebrated its 30th anniversary as an open-access repository focused on Mennonite and Anabaptist communities, history and theology. Devon Miller, MC USA archives coordinator, was also welcomed to the board. Read more and learn how you can contribute updates to GAMEO here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/gameo-marks-30-years/>

Registration is now open for **MC USA's Militarism Summit**: Nov. 6-7, 2026, at Forest Hills Mennonite Church in Leola, Pennsylvania. The summit will explore the impact of militarism and will include time to reflect, learn and engage in thoughtful dialogue on waging peace in meaningful ways. The first 50 registrants will get a copy of "Rethinking Life" by Shane Claiborne. The link to register is: mcusa.formstack.com/forms/waging_peace_registration



JOIN US FOR A
COMMUNITY BOOK DISCUSSION
with local author
Ben Jones
Assistant Professor of Ethics and Public Policy at Penn State
for his newly released title:
Protecting Life: The Ethics of Police Deadly Force

Killings by police have rocked communities across the US in recent years, including here in State College. How can we reduce these killings and ensure that policing reflects a commitment to prioritizing the protection of life?




with special host **Gopal Balachandran**
State College Borough Council Member and Penn State Associate Clinical Professor of Law

Sunday, August 2 at 2:30 pm
Refreshments provided
Books available for sale

Webster's Bookstore Cafe
133 E. Beaver Avenue
Downtown State College, PA
814-272-1410
webstersbooksandcafe.com

Greetings UMC,

Why do we believe what we believe? Is it our upbringing or our lived experience? What role does our personality play, or how we choose to spend our time? While our current summer series has been centered on our beliefs here at University Mennonite Church, I hope you've also been asking yourself how you arrived at some of your foundational personal beliefs and convictions. As we continue to explore this theme, may we also share with each other and continue to learn what we believe together.

This summer includes reflections on allegiance, scripture, community, baptism, peace and non-violence, and non-conformity. Join us as we continue the journey.

Here is a reminder of some upcoming fun summer opportunities for us to connect beyond Sunday morning...

- Friday, August 14 at 8pm - **Backyard movie night at Vonda and Doug Yoder's home**, and perhaps a swim if you feel so inclined! They will be showing the Academy Award nominee hit from 2000, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" Can you believe this movie is 26 years old??

- Sunday, August 16 at 1pm - **Hike at Musser Gap**. Pack a lunch or grab a bite to eat after worship. We will meet in the at the Musser Gap trail parking lot at 1pm for a short hike together. Join us for conversation and a chance to share in some of our local natural beauty.

- Friday, August 28 at 8pm - **Backyard movie night at the Wideman home**. We'll gather for a family-friendly film in our backyard! Bring along a chair or blanket (and perhaps some bug spray) to enjoy a movie outside under the stars.

I hope these times offer some meaningful ways to connect. Feel free to invite friends to join us in these endeavors. Please let me know if you have other ideas for community connections as we move beyond outdoor summer fun to indoor ideas in the colder months!

Ben