

STEEPLETALK

JULY 2016



"Something Different"

I have a headache, so it's a good time for me to write this article for the July newsletter. The thought of July gives me a headache. I'll explain in a bit, so read on....

In II Corinthians 4:7 Paul writes, *"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us."* This is one of my favorite passages. The treasure refers to the gospel. During that period it was not uncommon for persons to hide a treasure in clay jars, which had little value or beauty, and did not draw attention to the container or potential content. Today we might think of a worn out, beat up old purse as a better place to hide a large sum of money than a high end designer purse. Paul is declaring that the treasure of the gospel is found in worn out, beat up old purses. Guess who the purse is? Well, Paul said it was himself. But I'm in that same camp — pretty frail and unworthy. My guess is that most of you would have that same self-assessment.

But the amazing message of Paul is that the treasure of the gospel is found in people like me and you. We are the living expressions of the work of God in us and through us.

July is a month for travel and vacations. As you hit the road I want to encourage you to not neglect worship. Find a church in your travels and worship wherever you're at. And share your experience with one of the members of the pastoral team; we love to hear what's happening in other worship sites.

July at Mentor UMC is being tagged, "Something Different." During our July worship we'll experience some treasures. On July 3rd we'll get a report from the Youth Service Project (YSP) from their week-long trip to Michigan. And on July 17th we'll hear from the Middle School Mission Week on their week-long engagement in local missions. These are two great treasures in the life of the congregation.

Now about my "headache", or perhaps better said, my "headaches." On July 10th and July 24th we're going to have "Treasure Hunt" Sundays where you will be asked to bring some mementos of summer activities to be placed in box. 1-3 items will be removed and on the spot, right there, a sermon will be improvised. Do you understand my headache? Well, if the gospel can be found in jars of clay, I guess we can find the gospel in your treasures stuck in a box!

We'll wrap up the month on July 31st with Skit Sunday. The message will be found in the treasures of short dramas.

July will be "Something Different" for sure. If you're away, come back with stories of treasures found in worship at other places. And when you're around, discover the treasures in our worship together.

I think I'll head to the store and stock up on Aleve.

— Pastor Kurt

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UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



GINGERBREAD HOUSE CRAFT FAIR WORKSHOPS

The 2016 workshops are underway! Join us any Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall (you can come for the whole time or part—bring your lunch if you like). We're open to new craft ideas—bring your own or we will have something for you to do. No experience necessary. If you have questions, call Kathy Fellows at 255-5899.



Mentor United Methodist Women New Day Circle will be collecting basic school supplies for needy Lake County children, and also, men's socks, t-shirts, and travel-size deodorants to be distributed through the Salvation Army in Painesville during their Back to School Bash. Items will be collected throughout the month of July.

Please consider helping to make a difference in the life of a child or person in need. Stop by the Christmas tree in Fellowship Hall or near the chapel to pick up a reminder ornament. Your new, unwrapped donation may be left under one of the trees. Thank you for sharing the spirit of Christ with those in need!

Items needed: pencils, glue sticks, medium pink erasers, wide-ruled spiral notebooks, colored pencils, 24 pack crayons, washable markers, scissors, rulers, plastic supply boxes, wide or college rule notebook paper, bottle glue, pocket folders with prongs, blue or black pens, red pens, highlighters, pencil pouches, 3 ring binders, dry erase markers, ruled index cards, backpacks, children's socks. Men's t-shirts (colors or white), men's socks, travel-size deodorants.

Save the date to join us as we visit the Salvation Army to pack school supply bags on Monday, August 1, from 9 a.m. until noon. Meet at the church at 8:30 a.m. to carpool to the Salvation Army. We will return by 12:30 p.m. Questions? Contact Carole Ring at 255-7213 or umw@mentorumc.org.

TUESDAY MORNING SUMMER BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Tuesday, July 19th

The Underground Girls of Kabul: In Search of a Hidden Resistance in Afghanistan

by Jenny Nordberg

In Afghanistan, a culture ruled almost entirely by men, the birth of a son is cause for celebration and the arrival of a daughter is often mourned as misfortune. A *bacha posh* (literally translated from Dari as "dressed up like a boy") is a third kind of child — a girl temporarily raised as a boy and presented as such to the outside world. Jenny Nordberg, the reporter who broke the story of this phenomenon for the *New York Times*, constructs a powerful and moving account of those secretly living on the other side of a deeply segregated society where women have almost no rights and little freedom.

Tuesday, August 16th

Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love by William H. Willimon

Tolerate one another. Wait. Isn't that supposed to be *love* one another? It's one thing to genuinely love people who are more or less the same as we are, but what about those who are not only strangers, but people who live completely different lives? Reliable spiritual guide Will Willimon invites you to look more closely at the gospel's command to love — because to genuinely love those considered to be "Other," or outside the mainstream Christian culture, may be the hardest thing for people of faith to do.

The Summer Book Discussions will be held in the Adams Parlor at 10:00 a.m. Please contact Carole Ring at 255-7213 or umw@mentorumc.org if you have questions regarding these book discussions. **All are welcome to join us!**

THROUGH THE YEARS

Susanna Wesley, the mother of John Wesley, plays a significant role in the history of Methodism. She was born Susanna Annesley, the last of 25 children born to Rev. Dr. Samuel and Mary Annesley. The family lived in rather poor conditions largely due to the fact that Susanna's father lost his preaching positions with the Church of England over his "dissenting" position on using the Book of Common Prayer.

When Susanna was 13, she stopped attending her father's church and joined the official Church of England. She met Rev. Samuel Wesley and they were married when she was 19. Samuel and Susanna had 19 children, nine of whom died as infants. Rev. Samuel Wesley's father had also been a dissenter, but like Susanna, he joined the official church. Due to his Church of England membership he was eligible to attend Oxford University. The Wesley's served several parishes before Samuel took a parish in Epworth. Samuel lacked business acumen and the family was often in financial difficulty. This caused the need for him to travel to find additional work to help pay the family's debts.

John Wesley was born in 1703, their fifteenth child. The family experienced many challenges because some parishioners opposed Samuel as pastor. While he was away in 1709, the church rectory, under questionable circumstances, caught fire. Susanna, pregnant with their last child, rushed the children out of the house. One child was left in the burning home, six year old John. One neighbor climbed on the back of another man and told John to jump, which he did to safety.

Susanna was a strong believer in education for all her children. The Wesley children studied for six hours a day and learned Latin and Greek. They were all considered bright and assertive. Susanna was disappointed in the pastor who filled in for her husband when he was away. She decided to conduct her own Sunday afternoon family services. Soon others attended her service and it's attendance exceeded the regular service. Susanna raised her children in a very strict way. She didn't spare the rod but did believe in no punishment if a child confessed to their wrong doing. Due to her great influence, John Wesley encouraged women to take many leadership roles in the Methodist Episcopal church, though they were not allowed to be ordained ministers. This was a far greater role for women than other church denominations.

I would like to thank Rev. Kurt Landerholm for providing the idea and much of the information regarding Susanna Wesley.

Do you have any MUM history you would like to share with the congregation? Please send it to:

Mr. Don Humphrey
7330 Holly Park Drive
Concord OH 44060-6704

Or you can email him at dhumphrey@ameritech.net

SERVANT OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday, July 9, 9:30 a.m.—3 p.m.

S.O.A.P. Human Trafficking event for the RNC in Cleveland

Help label more soap and saturate the hotels in Lake County with information.

Contact Donna Angelotti at (440) 708-0000, ext. 210 or donna@holyanngelschurch.com

Register <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/soap-up-rnc-tickets-25070326020?aff=es2>.

Saturday, July 25-29, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

Woodlawn Community Vacation Bible School, Painesville

Help needed to build relationships through playing, praying, feeding, laughing, and sharing with kids and families in Painesville. Contact Johanna Martin at johannamartin@sbcglobal.net.

1st Wednesday of every month, feeding 40 people at PROJECT HOPE

The church kitchen is available for preparing this meal.

Contact Nancy Leyden at nancyleyden@att.net.

On the third Tuesday of every month from 6-6:30 p.m., Pastor Quincy leads a group who sing hymns, camp songs, worship songs and popular songs with a group of residents and consumers at Deepwood. They share the good news and a smile. If you're interested in being involved, please contact Pastor Quincy for more details—qwheeler@mentoriumc.org.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

KNOW

- **Sunday School SUMMER Schedule**
 - Children 0-4 yrs.—Early Childhood area
 - **K-6th grade worship with their families**
 - www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school

GROW

- **SUMMER PROGRAMS**
 - Theatre Arts Camp
 - July 18-22 AND July 25-29, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
 - www.mentorumc.org/summer-programs

SHOW

- **EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THE SHOW!**

“God of This City” & “LifeSong” at 7:30 p.m.
Friday, July 29 AND at 1:00 p.m.
Saturday, July 30th in Fellowship Hall

NEWSLETTERS & CHILD REGISTRATION FORMS:

- www.mentorumc.org/children



FINANCE NEWS

YTD through APRIL 2016

Receipts	\$413,129.
Disbursements	414,068.
Deficit	\$ (939.)

*Electronic giving is available online
at www.mentorumc.org*

NOW YOU'RE COOKING WITH CHRIST



- When?** Monday-Friday, August 8-12
Time? 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Where? Leach's family kitchen
7509 Cadle Avenue, Mentor
Who? Age 9—13

Come be part of an exciting new small group offering for young people. Kids will not only get some Biblical information, but some cooking and life skills to boot! Parents are welcome to stay for all or part of this fun group! There is no cost to attend. This small group is limited to six so don't hesitate — sign up TODAY! For more information or to sign up call Linda Leach at 255-4497.

CHURCH FAMILY



CHURCH & COMMUNITY PICNIC

Sunday, August 7, 3-6 p.m.

Garfield Park, Mentor Avenue, Mentor

PICNIC

The fun begins at 3 p.m. with games that all ages can enjoy. Food will be served at 4 p.m. with the Church providing the hotdogs, beverages, and paper products. You are invited to bring your favorite picnic food to share as well. Live music will follow.

All are welcome! Invite your friends and neighbors, and enjoy connecting with others in our church family.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION WEEK INVITES YOU TO



On Sunday, July 10th, we want to invite everyone attending our worship services to come barefoot! MSMW invites everyone comfortable with it to leave their shoes at home and each family to bring anew pair of shoes to donate to people who are in need in our community.

We are in need of new shoes boy's size 11 to men's 13 and girl's size 12 to women's 10. We will also be accepting Payless gift cards in any amount. **Middle School Mission Week participants** will be sorting and taking these shoes to local organizations that help those in our community in need.

WE ALSO INVITE YOU, YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS to support the Middle School Mission Week (MSMW) ministry at these upcoming events.

Wednesday, July 13th, 4 p.m.-7 p.m. at Dairy Queen, 8787 Mentor Avenue. Order anything on the menu. No need to mention anything. Proceeds to MSMW general fund.

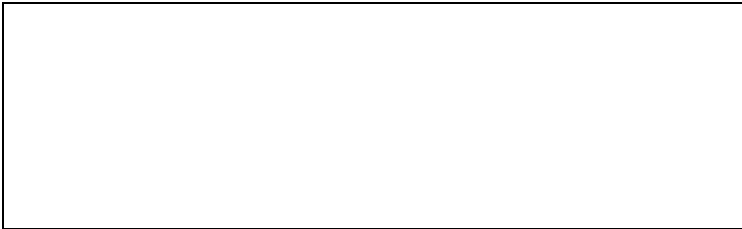
Thursday, July 14th ALL DAY! 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Chick-Fil-A, 9611 Mentor Avenue. You must mention "Mentor UMC Middle School Mission Week" to count! If you attend Thursday Summer worship at MUMC stop before or after! Proceeds to MSMW general fund.

Thursday, July 14th, 4:30-6 p.m. CAR WASH in the MUMC parking lot. Donations accepted. Proceeds to the annual education scholarships for our four students in Liberia.

**Mentor United Methodist Church
8600 Mentor Avenue
Mentor OH 44060**

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



SUMMER WORSHIP OPTIONS . . .

During the summer months, we offer an additional worship opportunity with an 8:00 p.m. Thursday evening service. Perhaps travel or some summer activity will keep you from church on Sunday morning, you can join us for our Thursday evening service in the Chapel. It's informal. Come straight from work, the

ball field, or mowing the lawn. Come as you are and join us for fellowship and worship.

**HOPE RIDGE UMC
Wednesday, July 20th at 6 p.m.
You are invited to a special finance event —
Financial Strategies for Women**

Get important financial strategies from a membership organization of Christians that's been helping members be wise with money and live generously. Hosted by Thrivent Financial representative Mary Jo Boswell, FIC.

SHOP AMAZON & DONATE TO MUMC

We are now registered with AmazonSmile Foundation as a charitable organization. When you shop at smile.amazon.com 0.5% of the price of the eligible purchases are donated to MUMC.

There is no cost to the church and no additional cost to you.

It is easy to get started. Visit smile.amazon.com and select Mentor United Methodist Church.



**STEEPLETALK
Deadline
For AUGUST Issue
July 5th**

Lake County Council on Aging

We have an urgent need for drivers for the Meals on Wheels program in Concord Township & Leroy. For more information, please call 440-205-8111.