

STEEPLETALK

News from Mentor United Methodist Church

January/February

2018

Ministries - Find your fit! Look for the different ways to get involved.



Upward - Worship & Music



Deeper - Discipleship Ministries



Together - Congregational Care



Support - Support Ministries



Outward - Outreach, Missions & Special Events



Special Interest

IN THIS ISSUE

Journey Groups

From the Pastor

Prayer Focus

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Calendar



Journey Groups You may have heard about Mentor UMC's Journey Groups. These fellowships are made up of people who are a part of the church and love Jesus. They meet at different days, times and locations throughout the year. We would LOVE to have you join one!

All you need to do is contact Pastor Quincy at qwheeler@mentorumc.org to let him know you are interested! Or stop by the Welcome Center in the Gallery on Sundays, January 21st, 28th or February 4th to speak with a Journey Group representative. We will find a group that works with your schedule!

Ruth Naomi Circle The February meeting will be a service project. All ladies are welcome!

February 8th, 9:30 AM Fellowship Hall

If the Mentor Schools have canceled school, the meeting will be canceled.

Contact Georgeanna Allen for more information at (440) 255-5515.



Food Pantry Many thanks to everyone who donated food and time to the 2017 MUMC December Food Distribution Drive. Your kindness helped 106 local families and touched 443 lives in positive and loving ways. This could not be accomplished without everyone's generosity of time, talents, and supplies. This collaborative effort added special meaning to the advent season. The families we served were very grateful and appreciative of the food, gifts, and warm coats. Please add these families to your prayers. Many families are struggling with financial concerns due to major health issues. Others have been affected by the opioid crises. The next food distribution will be held a few weeks before Easter! Stay tuned for more details! Once again, thank you to all who donated and volunteered.

From the Pastor

"Expanding our borders"

In the year 1818, James Monroe served as the 5th U.S. President. The first steam vessel to traverse the Great Lakes was launched. The 49th parallel formed the border between the United States and Canada. The Mentor United Methodist Church was formed. A 9 year-old Felix Mendelssohn performed his first public concert. "Silent Night, Holy Night" was written. Handel's Messiah premiered for the first time in America.

Did you catch that Mentor UMC was formed in the midst of national and world history? We don't even know the exact day, but sometime in the year 1818 the church was chartered. The exact date was not important; the event was hardly noticed as eight charter members just agreed to be a church.

I was reading a piece of Mentor history and another event happened in 1818. It read like this, "Mentor Township loses its southern boundary to newly established Kirtland Township." I thought there was a bit of irony in that statement. Here's what I see, in the year Mentor Township lost its boundary, another boundary expanded. Let me explain...

For the 200 years since 1818, the Mentor UMC has pushed its boundaries. This congregation is marked by faith-based risk taking and disciple-challenging surrender to the work of God. Just think, what started as four couples/eight individuals grew to over 1,700 members. Eight individuals and one pastor grew to a 600 weekly worshipers. This congregation has brought people in, brought them up in faith, and sent them out into the world. This congregation has sent several into a vocation of ministry, and many more to short-term volunteers in missions. Mentor UMC has expanded its borders from Mentor Township to the entire region. And the borders have pushed out from the region to touch and serve lives from Maine to New Mexico to Florida; and beyond to Puerto Rico, West Africa, and elsewhere. The borders of the church have moved out and impacted the world for Jesus Christ.

A few years ago there was quite a stir over the book entitled, The Prayer of Jabez. It was based on the following verse: "Jabez cried out to the God of Israel. He said, 'I wish you would bless me. I wish you would give me more territory. Let your power protect me. Keep me from harm. Then I won't have any pain.' God gave him what he asked for." (1 Chronicles 4:10) Many felt that the message of the book could lead to some false assumptions and perhaps dangerous expectations based on self-centered ambition. I look at this congregation as having lived into the heart of that verse with a desire to be used of God in selfless and serving ways. It has resulted in expanding borders.

Throughout 2018, we will take moments to celebrate and share our history. But when I go back 200 years to a house church of four couples, I have to wonder, what was their vision for the next 200 years? Did they see their borders expand? That we don't know, but we do know that they stepped out in faith. That's our calling as we stand on their shoulders. As we walk in faithfulness, God can use us in ways we would never imagine.

- Pastor Kurt

Prayer Focus - Nancy Landerholm
Prayer Focus for January

Matthew 5:44, "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

As we begin 2018, determine that you will pray for someone who possibly rubs you the wrong way, who you are at odds with, or who you need to reconcile with and forgive. They fit into the category of "all people" as in 1 Timothy 2:1.

1 Timothy 2:1, "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercession, and thanksgivings be made for all people."

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Children and Family Ministries

www.mentorumc.org/children
www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school

MUM Preschool Registration 2018-19

MUM Preschool registration is currently open to all Mentor UMC families. Visit www.mentorumc.org/preschool-forms for all of the information. Turn in completed packet to Colleen Judson. Questions can be directed to Mrs. Judson at judson.preschool@mentorumc.org.

StuCo 56, 5th & 6th grade youth group

January 14, 6:00-8:00 PM - Meeting
 January 28, 12:00-6:00 PM - Snow Tubing with Occupy
 February 4 - Souper Bowl of Caring
 Wednesday, February 7, 4:30-6:30 PM - Make Meal for Project Hope
 February 11, 6:00-8:00 PM - Meeting
 February 25, 5:00-7:00 PM - MEET at Busy Bees Pottery
www.mentorumc.org/stuco-56

Parents Morning Out

Mondays 10 AM to noon, parents may have a morning to themselves!
 See the website at www.mentorumc.org/parents-morning-out for cost and registration details.
 Two spots remain.

Children's Choir & Cherub Choir

Children's Choir (1-6 Gr) rehearses 10:15-10:45 in Room 112
 Cherub Choir (3 YO-K) rehearses 10:15-10:35 in Room 104

Life Changers are needed IMMEDIATELY

Why not sign up to help with our Sunday children's programs? Be a "Life Changer" as an adult or youth who helps children change their lives through the transformative grace of Jesus!

***StuCo 56 (5th & 6th grade youth group) 1-2 Life Changers for the 2nd & 4th Sundays, 6-8 PM

SUMMER PROGRAM

Theatre Arts Camp, "Aladdin, Jr." June 4-8 and 11-15, 9:00 AM to noon

Vacation Bible School, "Rolling River Rampage" June 18-22, 9:00 AM to noon

Get Out Doors (G.O.D.) Camp, "Follow the Way" June 18-22, 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM

www.mentorumc.org/summer-programs



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Coat Ministry As 2017 comes to an end, the Coat Ministry would like to express our thanks to all who made the year such a success. Your donation of coats, hats, gloves, scarves, and money, allowed us the privilege of serving 260 people in need. May God bless you as you continue to share his love this Christmas season. -Maggie Goats

Griefshare The Winter session of Griefshare meets Wednesdays for 13 weeks at 1:00-3:00 PM starting January 31. Cost is \$20 which includes the book. To register, call the church office at 440-255-3496 or email Rev. Beverly Wrobel at blwrobel@mentorumc.org.

DivorceCare DivorceCare is a new support group. The 2018 winter session meets Mondays, February 5 to April 30 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$25 which includes the book. To register, call the church office at 440-255-3496 or email Rev. Beverly Wrobel at blwrobel@mentorumc.org.



News from Commission on Missions

The new year is upon us and Missions Commission has some new and exciting ideas for ways that we can serve and share the love of Christ in our community and to those in need. We also have some on-going commitments where we need your help.

- MUMC has committed with Lake Geauga Habitat for Humanity to be one of 12 local churches participating in an Apostle Build project. We will be providing funds and volunteer manpower to build a home in Painesville during 2018. The land has been purchased and the deserving family, a single mom with a six-year-old child, selected. We will be bringing you updates once the ground is broken.
- We have committed to assist the Painesville Hispanic Alliance Church provide classes in English as a Second Language. Classes started this past fall at the YMCA and are averaging twenty people a week. The plan is to expand the program, meeting twice a week in a larger space, which will allow the group to incorporate Bible study and children's programs.
- Project Hope is a very busy shelter for the homeless, the only one in Lake County. MUMC provides a dinner only once a month on the first Wednesday of every month for 50 individuals at the shelter. It is one small way that we can be Christ's hands, providing a meal to those less fortunate than we are. Please do not be overwhelmed by the number 50. You do not need to provide the whole meal. Perhaps you would like to donate a salad, or a casserole or a meatloaf, or a dessert. Maybe you just want to help cook a meal with food that others have purchased. If you are not a cook, you could pay for a catered meal, or deliver the meal. We do not serve the meal, but we deliver it to the shelter in Painesville by 6:45 PM ready to be served. There are many small ways to assist with this ministry. Please contact Nancy Leyden who coordinates this service. Leave her a message at 440-255-1567 or nancyleyden@att.net
- More Than A Meal is another on-going opportunity to put your faith into action. Journey groups, committees, and families can sponsor a meal on the last Saturday of every month. Individuals can volunteer to be a part of planning, preparing or serving the dinner; we prepare food for 100. Maybe you prefer to set up tables or clean up after folks have eaten. If your gift is hospitality, come and visit with our guests; a very important part of this ministry is MORE than the food. Call or text Jim Post at 440-477-6130 to volunteer or get more information.

CALENDAR

Regularly Scheduled Weekly February Meetings:

These meetings are listed here instead of the calendar. Contact your group leader for any time changes.

Please see other events on the calendar page.

Sunday:

09:00 AM Confirmation Class
 10:00 AM Journey Group - Petrowski
 10:15 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
 10:15 AM Cherub Choir Rehearsal
 07:00 PM Journey Group - Nagle

Monday:

10:00 AM Parents' Morning Out (except the 19th)
 10:00 AM Centenary Bible Study - Carr
 06:30 PM DivorceCare
 07:00 PM Men's Group Meeting

Tuesday:

09:30 AM Journey Group - Palermo
 07:00 PM Emmaus/Journey Group
 07:00 PM Canticle Bells
 07:00 PM Journey Group - Imbler
 07:00 PM Boy Scout #280

Wednesday:

09:00 AM Journey Group - Nancy Landerholm
 10:00 AM Journey Group - Wednesday Morning Way
 01:00 PM Knitting Group
 01:00 PM GriefShare
 07:00 PM Journey Group

Thursday:

10:00 AM Overeaters Anonymous
 06:45 PM Charter Members
 07:00 PM Journey Group - S.A.L.T.
 07:00 PM Disciple II
 07:45 PM Chancel Choir

Friday:

01:00 Journey Group - Fournier / Korenko

Saturday:

08:00 AM iConnect Rehearsal



United Methodist Women

Valentine Boxes for College Students

Mentor United Methodist Women are collecting monetary donations to purchase items for Valentine boxes (we will purchase the items so all the boxes are identical). Place your donation in the offering plate on Sunday mornings or give to the Church Office. Please be sure to note "Valentine Boxes". The last Sunday for donations will be February 4th.

PARENTS: Please email your college student's full name and address to Carolyn Nagy at cnagy@mentorumc.org, drop in the offering plate or leave in the Church Office by February 4. We regret that because of the prohibitive cost, we cannot ship packages to locations outside the U.S.

All women are welcome to help pack boxes on Wednesday, February 7th at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

The Path - Registration is Open!

JOIN US ON THE PATH

Radical Compassion:

Jesus, Self, Others

Saturday, March 3 – Sunday, March 4

At the Hilton Garden Inn, Twinsburg

Registration deadline is February 11.



Relax, reflect and connect. Join us as Rev. Liz Nau guides us in delving into the radical nature of God's overflowing and unending love and compassion for each of us. Through a variety of activities and reflections we will explore ways to recognize and embrace compassion for ourselves, an area often neglected in our busy lives. Dignity, self-acceptance, and significance are all a part of God's plan for us to experience joy as we share the love of Christ with others.

Registration forms will be available beginning January 7 at the Sign Up Center or online at www.mentorumc.org/current/the-path Overnight cost with meals ranges from \$115-\$180 (financial assistance may be available). This retreat is open to all women of the church, friends, and family.

Mentor UMC Scholarship for Post Secondary Education

Deadline: April 6, 2018 4PM

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to offer Mentor UMC scholarships for both vocational and academic post secondary pursuits.

THIS YEAR: Scholarships will be awarded not only to high school graduating seniors in 2018, current undergraduate college students, and seminary students, but also to current vocational school students.

Students who are in the present senior high school class, vocational school students, college students, and seminary students are eligible to apply. As in past years, the student applying must be a member of Mentor United Methodist Church (as of April 1, 2017) and meet all other eligibility requirements. If you were confirmed, you are a member. If you took the BASICS classes and joined the church as an older student, you are a member. For questions about your membership, please contact the church office at (440) 255-3496.

This application is designed to be completed online and then printed. You are to mail or deliver this along with your essay and other required documents to the scholarship committee.

All information is saved to an account and password that you set up and does not need to be completed in one session. Questions? Please contact Laurie Babcock, MUMC Scholarship Chairperson at Scholarship@mentorumc.org.

Cornerstone Annual Valentine Dinner

Saturday, February 10, 5:30 pm

Prime rib or salmon, salad, dessert \$20

Prepared by Master Chef Jim Post

After dinner speaker: Bill Rudman (Founder and Artistic Director of the Musical Theatre Project) "Everything I Ever Needed to Know I Learned from Musical Theatre"

Register at the sign up table January 14, 21, 28 and February 4. Please make checks to MUMC with "Valentine Dinner" noted.

Proceeds go to supporting local missions as well as MUMC's YSP trip to South Carolina this summer.

Through The Years - Introduction to the Bicentennial

The year 2018 marks the 200th anniversary of Mentor United Methodist Church. From its beginning in 1818 with four couples meeting in their homes with the Rev. Ira Eddy, Mentor Methodist has grown into the church we know today. We are one of the largest congregations in the East Ohio Conference.

Originally called the Mentor Methodist Episcopal Church, the church has also been known as the Mentor Methodist Church and, since 1968, the Mentor United Methodist Church. These name changes reflect the changes the church structure has had. The church has belonged to many difference conferences within the Methodist structure. It has seen the population movement west throughout the state of Ohio. The church has also had difference buildings and additions to those structures. The church has gone from covered barns for horses to large parking lots for cars. It has seen women become pastors and contemporary worship services started. It once even had a former US President (Theodore Roosevelt) attend one of its services. It has been blessed to be served by outstanding ministers, musicians, staff and by many wonderful members in its congregation.

To put the year 1818 into a historical time-frame, consider these events which occurred that year. Paul Revere died, Mary Todd Lincoln was born, Illinois became the 21st state admitted to the US, and the White House reopened after being burned by the British in the War of 1812. The Rush-Bagot Treaty limited naval vessels on the Great Lakes and establish the 49th parallel as the border between the US and Canada from western Minnesota to the Pacific Ocean.

This year, the church plans to observe this important milestone in many ways. From a reunion dinner to a special music service, many people will contribute their talents to celebrate MUMC's 200 years. One time capsule will be opened and another will be created. There will be more information on commemorations as the year continues. We also want to look toward the future and envision the MUMC to come.

Through The Years - 1818

We will be recalling some Mentor United Methodist history in this column during the year 2018, the church's bicentennial. The year 1818 saw the establishment of a congregation in the community of Mentor, Ohio. A circuit rider of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as our denomination was called then, the Reverend Ira Eddy was appointed by the Ohio Conference to the Grand River Circuit. One of the locations where he stopped to organize a Methodist Society was Mentor, Ohio. Here he formed a congregation consisting of four couples. They were: Mr. and Mrs. Nowland, Mr. and Mrs. Brass, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. Jewet. They met in the homes of the couples. Rev. Eddy would instruct them on how to conduct worship while he was traveling to other locations in his circuit.

Rev. Ira Eddy was born on March 31, 1796, in Sherborne Center, Vermont. He made a personal conversion to God in 1813 in New York State. He began his Methodist preaching career on trial status. He was ordained a Deacon in 1819 and an Elder in 1821. Rev. Eddy finished his circuit rider duties in Mentor in 1819, he returned to Mentor Methodist Episcopal Church as a pastor in 1846 and served for one year. He married Nancy Brigden in 1819 and they had nine children. Nancy died in 1862. Rev. Eddy married his second wife, Sarah Sanderson, in 1863. They had no children. Sarah died in 1866. Rev. Eddy died on November 1, 1874, in Cortland, Ohio. He is buried in Edinburg Cemetery in Edinburg (Portage County), Ohio.

The religious zeal of the early circuit riders was matched by their physical strength and courage. They had to endure many hardships while riding from congregation to congregation. They did not always know where their lodging would be or where their food would come from. The circuits were mainly wilderness and the forests were populated with wolves and bears. They had to maintain their horses, as well. Indeed the First Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church instructs traveling ministers to "be merciful to your beast. Not only ride moderately, but see with your own eyes that your horse is rubbed and fed". You had to take good care of your transportation!

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

Don Humphrey

7330 Holly Park Dr.

Concord, Ohio 44060-6704 or e-mail to: dhumphrey@ameritech.net

EASTER FLOWER ORDER

This year we are offering tulips, daffodils, lilies, and hyacinth.
The prices are as follows:

Tulip, Daffodil, Lily, Hyacinth \$8

Please make your check to MUMC or Mentor United Methodist Church.

Checks and forms can be mailed to:

The Altar Guild c/o Mentor United Methodist Church

8600 Mentor Avenue, Mentor OH 44060.

The Altar Guild will also have a table set up at the Sign-Up Center (Atrium outside Fellowship Hall) on Sunday, February 18th, 25th, March 4th and 11th with forms to order plants.

The last day to order will be March 12th, so we can place our order and they can be delivered for Easter.

Your plants may be picked up after the 11 a.m. service on Easter morning.

Please indicate how many you want:

___ Tulip (\$8) ___ Daffodil (\$8) ___ Lily (\$8) ___ Hyacinth (\$8)

Total \$ _____

(PLEASE PRINT NAMES)

From _____

In memory of _____

In appreciation of _____

To the Glory of God ___ ___ Sanctuary ___ iConnect

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>FEBRUARY</h1>						
04 10:00 AM - Souper Bowl of Caring	05 10:00 AM - Worship at Brookdale Heasley 11:00 AM - Worship at Atria Newell Creek 06:30 PM - Journey Group 07:00 PM - GEM Meeting	06 09:30 AM - Journey Group - Ring	07 10:00 AM - Packing College Valentine Boxes 10:30 AM - GS Group Meeting 04:30 PM - StuCo56 Make a Meal for Project Hope 07:00 PM - Trustee Meeting 07:00 PM - Communications Team 07:00 PM - Missions Commission	08 09:30 AM - Ruth Naomi Circle	09 09:30 AM - MOPS & MOMSnext Meeting	10 05:30 PM - Cornerstone - Valentines Day Dinner
11 06:00 PM - Occupy Youth Ministry 06:00 PM - \$tUCo 56 06:00 PM - Journey Group - Woolegge	12 10:00 AM - New Day Circle -- Christianity's Family Tree 11:30 AM - Mentor UMW Board Meeting 07:00 PM - iConnect Planning	13 08:00 AM - Preschool Staff 09:30 AM - Journey Group - Ring	14 07:00 PM - Finance Committee 07:30 PM - ASH WEDNESDAY Service of Ashes & Meditation	15 07:00 PM - Finance Committee	16 06:00 PM - MOPS & POPS Date Night	17 06:00 PM - MOPS & POPS Date Night
18 03:25 PM - YSP Meeting - Adults 04:30 PM - YSP Meeting 06:00 PM - Occupy Youth Ministry 08:00 PM - After Glow	19 10:00 AM - Worship at Brookdale Heasley 11:00 AM - Worship at Atria Newell Creek 01:30 PM - Alzheimer Support Group 06:30 PM - Journey Group	20 08:00 AM - Preschool Staff 09:30 AM - Journey Group - Ring	21 11:00 AM - GS Group 01:15 PM - Mentor Miscellany Club 07:00 PM - Membership Committee	22 09:30 AM - MOPS & MOMSnext Groups 05:00 PM - Smith/Hanson Rehearsal	23 09:30 AM - MOPS & MOMSnext Groups 05:00 PM - Smith/Hanson Rehearsal	24 09:00 AM - McAdams Vow Renewal 03:00 PM - Smith/Hanson Wedding 04:30 PM - More than a Meal Prep 05:30 PM - More than a Meal
25 05:00 PM - StuCo56 Painting Pottery 05:00 PM - Landerholm Journey Group 06:00 PM - Journey Group - Woolegge	26 07:00 PM - iConnect Planning	27 08:00 PM - Staff-Parish	28 08:00 PM - Staff-Parish			