

August Bi-Centennial Moment Mentor United Methodist Church

After the 1988 expansion was completed, Mentor United Methodist Church facilities remained essentially unchanged for the rest of the twentieth century. However, as the new millennium began, discussion started about adding to the church's physical structure. A plan was developed and considered in 2007 but the congregation decided not to go forward at that time.

In 2012, a new plan was conceived that would address some of the needs of the church. These included a larger facility for the music ministry, better access to the church for those with physical limitations, improved facilities for early childcare, a new space for youth, additional meeting spaces, and a gathering place where people could meet after services. As a result, the congregation benefits from the new music area, improved education wing, a new conference room, improved Wesley and Asbury rooms, and the Gallery where people meet from both the traditional and modern worship services share fellowship.

The expansion project, called In This House, required the time and talents of many members of the church. Ground was broken in the summer of 2014. The project was consecrated on August 30, 2015. The architect for the project was AoDK of Lakewood, Ohio. The general contractor was Knoch Construction of North Canton, Ohio. Many church members worked on the plan to raise funds to pay for the \$3.5 million dollar project. We are now completing the second three year campaign to pay off this expansion project. A third campaign is scheduled to begin in November.

In these Bi-Centennial moments, we have concentrated on the buildings and changes to them of Mentor United Methodist Church. Beginning next month, we will explore some of the many ministries that make MUMC the great church we know.