

# STEEPLETALK

September 2017

www.mentoruc.org



Core values help shape an organization and a movement. Mentor United Methodist Church has established **8 core values**. Over the past few months we have focused on our core values of **Christ-Centered, Biblically-Rooted, Prayer-Driven, and Doctrine-Based**. This month we'll focus on the 5th core value.

**Fellowship-Focused:** We hold the importance of authentic Christian community that is marked by a welcoming, warm-hearted, loving group of disciples that are committed to mutual faith support and encouragement.

Fellowship is a word that is used loosely. Thinking of the root word, it is the condition of **being a fellow; friendly, a companion, and part of a community**. Basically we think of interaction with those who share similar tastes and interests. Often fellowship means shallow conversation over a cup of coffee and discussing the most recent sporting event of importance. Churches are known for calling spaces reserved for meals and activities as "fellowship halls." These are all important and can be very valuable, but when we look at being "Fellowship-Focused" there is also a deeper meaning.

The Greek word that we translate into fellowship is the word "**koinonia**." When applied to things, it means common or mutual. When applied to people it means related or partnership. By action it means to share in and unite. It has the meaning of **an evident and unbroken relationship between persons**. Perhaps "koinonia" fellowship is best summed up in the words of Jesus in John 13:35, "*By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.*"

This "koinonia" fellowship was displayed by the early church in Acts 2:44-45, "*All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.*" Paul, writing to the Church in Corinth about being the body of Christ puts it like this, "*If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.*" (I Corinthians 12:26) Writing to the Christians in Galatia, Paul wrote, "*Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently.*" (Galatians 6:1)

When we understand that the Christian life is a call to the path of Christ-centered discipleship, we understand our need for each other along the way. This "koinonia" fellowship allows us to

- Share material gifts
- Offer support in hard times
- Celebrate together in good times
- Provide accountability along the journey

Perhaps it is best understood with the **analogy of journey on a road**, if we have a break down, experience difficulty along the road, or end up in the ditch; fellowship means someone will be there to **encourage** and if necessary, **challenge** us. This is authentic Christian community committed to support and encourage one another.

Our fellowship should be such that while we deeply care for one another, we are always ready and excited to open the circle for others to be welcomed with warm-hearted love.

As we live into the call to this fellowship, others will see our love for one another.

-Pastor Kurt

# United Methodist Women

## Gingerbread House Craft Fair Workshops

The 2017 workshops are underway! **Join us any Wednesday from 10 AM to 1 PM 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**.

## New Day Circle

The New Day Circle will explore **Christianity's Family Tree: What Other Christians Believe and Why** using the book by Adam Hamilton as a guide. Comparing the Christian family to our own extended families, Hamilton contends that each denomination has a **unique, valuable perspective** to offer on the Christian faith. In the coming months we will look at Orthodoxy, Catholicism, Lutheranism, Presbyterianism, Anglicanism, Baptists, Pentecostalism, and Methodism. For each group, Hamilton gives a brief history, outlines major beliefs, and describes some things we can learn from that tradition to strengthen our own Christian faith.

Join us **Monday, September 11, from 10:00 - 11:30 AM** in the Asbury Room to look at Orthodoxy. If you choose to read Adam Hamilton's book, you are encouraged to read the Introduction and Chapter 1 before this meeting. If you would like a copy of the book (cost \$9) or have questions, please contact **Carole Ring (440-255-7213 or [umw@mentorumc.org](mailto:umw@mentorumc.org))**. All women are welcome to join us!

## Living Faith-Fully:

**GINGERBREAD HOUSE CRAFT FAIR NEEDS YOUR HELP:** We're moving into the season when people start making applesauce, jams and jellies, and canning some of their harvest items. Please consider setting aside some of the "fruits" of your labor for our Country Cupboard at the Craft Fair in November. Thank you!

## 5 Minute a Day Bible Reading Plans

On-line and phone apps: [www.Biblegateway.com](http://www.Biblegateway.com), [www.Navigators.org](http://www.Navigators.org), [www.youversion.com](http://www.youversion.com) (smart phone app), Search online for "5 minute Bible reading plan."

Other personal reading ideas:

- ◇ Read one Psalm and one chapter of the New Testament beginning with Mathew
- ◇ Read above and one chapter daily in the Old Testament (use the books of Genesis, Exodus, 1 Samuel, II Samuel, Psalms, Proverbs)
- ◇ In order, read through the following New Testament books: gospel of John, Galatians, gospel of Mark, Romans, gospel of Matthew, 1 Corinthians, gospel of Luke, James

## Transforming Everyday Moments into God Moments

Sunday, September 24, 3:00 - 4:30 PM Fellowship Hall

**For parents, kids, grandparents, aunts and uncles, and anyone interested!**

All are invited to come investigate some practical ideas about connecting our faith to everyday life with our families. If you would like to add "faith moments" into your daily routine with little or no prep, discover and develop new spiritual practices as a family, and/or respond to life's everyday challenges and opportunities with meaningful practices, this opportunity will provide some easy, do-it-yourself ideas for **transforming your family's everyday moments into God moments!**

Free and open to all! Sponsored by Mentor United Methodist Women. Please contact **Carole Ring at [umw@mentorumc.org](mailto:umw@mentorumc.org) or 255-7213** if you have any questions.

**Ruth Esther and Naomi Circles** are combining and will meet Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM. If the schools are closed for weather, the group will cancel the meeting. Meetings will be the second Thursday of every month.

# United Methodist Women

Turn your mission passion into action by seeking funding to help bring a project to fruition! Mentor United Methodist Women is **seeking applicants** that would like **funding for mission projects** that benefit women, children and/or youth. Applications may be submitted by women of any age that regularly attend or are members of Mentor UMC or female or male youth/children that are members or regular attendees, preschool through 12th grade. Applications may be made by an individual or a team working as partners. Applications are available soon in the Sign Up Area or on the church website. See additional details and criteria on the application. Deadline for submitting an application is **October 10 at 4 PM**.

A select number of applicants will appear in "the tank" on Sunday, November 12, to present their mission project to our panel of "sharks" who will decide the amount of funding for each project presented – from \$0 up to \$500. The "Shark Tank: Passion into Action" event is free and open to all to attend.

Whether your passion is clean water, combatting human trafficking, helping those affected by disaster, supporting solar cooking, or something completely different, Mentor United Methodist Women would like to help turn that passion into action. **Apply today!**

## SHARK TANK: Passion into Action

### Choir News

**THE CHOIR SEASON BEGINS SOON!**

**New members are always welcome!**

**Canticle Bells** rehearsals begin Tuesday, September 5th at 7 PM in Wesley.

**Charter Members** rehearsals begin Thursday, September 7th at 6:45 PM in the choir room.

**Chancel Choir** rehearsals begin Thursday, September 7th at 7:45 PM in the choir room.

Questions? **Contact Amy Bender, 255-3496, ext. 116 or [abender@mentorumc.org](mailto:abender@mentorumc.org).**

### Finance News

Receipts \$583,572

Disbursements \$548,125

Surplus \$35,447

**Shop Amazon &  
Donate to MUMC**

We are now registered with **AmazonSmile Foundation** as a charitable organization. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) 0.05% of the price of the eligible purchases are donated to MUMC. There is no cost to the church and no cost to you.

**It is easy to get started visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select Mentor United Methodist Church.**

### Cookies for Kairos

Once again you have an opportunity to get involved in the **Kairos Prison Ministry** (see Matthew 25). Dale Maynard will be collecting your home baked cookies and/or monetary donations for this worthy cause. He **needs 100 dozen** cookies (1200 cookies!) and welcomes your desire to be part of this very effective mission field. Cookies must be returned no later than Sunday, **September 3rd**.

### Spiritual Parenting Class

Is your parenting style making a difference? Sign up for Spiritual Parenting, a **6 week class** that will make all the difference. Cost is \$10 for the book. **October 10th** 6:00 to 8:00 PM at MUMC. Sign up at [www.mentorumc.org/positive-parenting](http://www.mentorumc.org/positive-parenting).

# Children & Family Ministries

CURRENT INFO and CHILD REGISTRATION FORMS:

[www.mentorumc.org/children](http://www.mentorumc.org/children)

## KNOW

### • **Sunday Mornings**

- Nursery to 4 years old go to Early Childhood
- K - 6<sup>th</sup> grade Journey Groups go to Children & Youth Hallway with K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade sign in Room 107; 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> grade sign in Room 104; 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade sign in Room 103
- FIRST Sunday of the month, K- 6<sup>th</sup> grade children join their parent/guardians in worship
- Promotion Sunday is September 10—children will “move up” to their next class if eligible; please note that 3 and 5 year olds MUST be that age by September 30 to move up
- [www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school](http://www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school)

## GROW

### • **MOPS & MOMSnext Monthly Meetings**

- Friday, September 8 from 9:30 am to noon
- Friday, September 22 from 9:30 - 11:30 am
- “Free Indeed”

### • **StuCo 56**, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade youth group

- Sunday, September 10 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at MUMC
- Sunday, September 24 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at MUMC
- [www.mentorumc.org/stuco-56](http://www.mentorumc.org/stuco-56)

### • **Positive Parenting Event**

- **Family Altar Game Plan "You got to get in the game to WIN the game!"**
  - Sunday, September 10 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm
  - Childcare will be provided while students in grades 5 -12 will be in StuCo 56 & Occupy
  - RSVP at [www.mentorumc.org/positive-parenting](http://www.mentorumc.org/positive-parenting)

### • **GENERATIONS**, family fellowship group

- Annual Hayride at Patterson's Fruit Farm on Sunday, October 1 from 4:00 - 7:00 PM
- [www.mentorumc.org/generations](http://www.mentorumc.org/generations)

## SHOW

- **Sunday School Leadership** sign up: [www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school](http://www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school)
- **Children's Choir** (K-6 Gr) rehearses 10:15 - 10:45 AM in Room 112 beginning September 10
- **Cherub Choir** (3, 4, 5 YO) rehearses 10:15 - 10:35 AM in Room 104 beginning September 10

## AUDITIONS OCTOBER 1 IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

The 2017 Christmas show will be "**It's a Wonderful Life**". This is open to **ANYONE** who wants to audition~**NOT just kids!!!** See the website [mentorumc.org/children](http://mentorumc.org/children).

# Journey Groups

**Studying Scripture, prayer, and personal accountability.** These are things we all strive for in our Christian walk, but how much better if we have support?

Journey Groups are small groups that meet for this purpose, to help lead all onto a path of Christ-centered discipleship. In this environment, members experience a **deepening of relationships** with each other and a chance to **explore topics more thoroughly**.

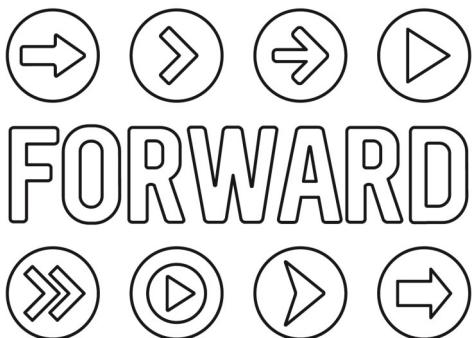
Small groups strengthen the church and your spiritual life. Mentor UMC has a goal of more than 300 small group members this fall to further **build our church community** and provide you with this vital tool. Groups choose different topics based on things like the current worship series or a published study.

Groups will start up the week of **September 10<sup>th</sup>**. There are a few ways to sign up:

1. Fill out the form in this newsletter and place it in the offering basket
2. Email your answers to the form questions to Pastor Quincy at [qwheeler@mentorumc.org](mailto:qwheeler@mentorumc.org)
3. Sign up on the website **www.mentorumc.org**. (Home page, Ministries, Discipleship, scroll down to the second article. Fill out the form right on this page! Just click on the form and scroll through. Then click "Submit".)
4. Visit the Sign up and Information Center by the Office
5. Visit the Welcome Center in the Gallery – Journey Group representatives will be there August 20<sup>th</sup>, August 27<sup>th</sup>, September 3<sup>rd</sup> and September 10<sup>th</sup>

We will match you with a group that best meets your needs. We understand needs like childcare and your busy schedule and will do all we can to get you connected.

## Upcoming Sermon Series:



Let's become the people we were meant to be – this is a series about moving in ONE direction toward Jesus! Join us not only on Sunday mornings, but also in one of our small groups as we go FORWARD together at Mentor UMC.

September 10 - October 22

# Griefshare

Griefshare Recovery Support Group will meet on **Wednesdays** for the fall session beginning **September 13 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** The Fall Session is 13 weeks and the cost of \$20 includes the book. Please register by calling or e-mailing **Pastor Bev Wrobel at 440-255-3496 ext. 106 or [blwrobel@mentorumc.org](mailto:blwrobel@mentorumc.org)**. For more information visit the GRIEFSHARE website at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org).

## Missions Commission

### 1 Day Adult Mission Work Day

Would you like to come and work on a great project alongside your MUMC friends? Join us **Saturday September 16<sup>th</sup> 9 AM - 4 PM.** We will join with **Habitat for Humanity** to help with the home being built in Eastlake. As we get closer to the date we will have a better idea of exactly what we will be working on. There will be folks to help train on new skills so if you want to help join us and make a difference. **Contact Bruce Becker** with questions [bbecker@mentorumc.org](mailto:bbecker@mentorumc.org).

### Have you ever seen a disaster in the news and said "I wish there was a way I could help?"

The **Western Reserve Early Response Team** is a branch of **UMCOR** (United Methodist Committee on Relief) that is ready to respond to disasters in our area and this part of the country when we are needed and invited. If you would like to learn more about this team talk to Bruce Becker.

This team also has joined with the Red Cross to offer to **install smoke detectors** in the homes of Lake County families. We are looking for individuals willing to be trained to install these detectors for people in our area. These are great ways to be ready to serve and to take a small amount of time to help others in a real and significant way. All homes should have at least 3 working smoke detectors. Do you have them? Are they working?

### Date to keep in mind

We will be hosting the **Red Bird Mission Craft fair September 29, 30 and Oct 1.** It is never too early to pick up a few gifts for the holidays and support a great cause at the same time.

**Servants Needed:** Occupy experienced a good bit of growth last year. Our desire is to **split the junior high and senior high students** to allow them to grow in a group their own age. **We will need help to do this!** Please pray if youth ministry is an area where you are being called to serve. Contact Toby Mattern at [tmattern@mentorumc.org](mailto:tmattern@mentorumc.org) or **440-255-3496 ext. 114.**

## Occupy Student Ministry

We are so excited for **Occupy Sunday Night** to start back up on **September 10<sup>th</sup>!** We have moved the time from last year. This year we will be meeting from **6-8 PM at MUMC!** Hopefully this gives families enough time to enjoy a dinner together before the start of youth. Like last year, we will have a concession stand and small snacks available but no meals (unless otherwise specified).

One new item you will see this year on the Calendar is "**After Glow**". At the end of youth group last year, we saw a rise in attendance of **older students**. After Glow will be for them. Once a month we will invite students who are able to drive (or in the driving age range) to go to a local restaurant for a half hour after youth group to grab a snack, invite a friend, and have fellowship with one another before they head home.

**Youth Explosion** will be **November 10-12** this year! Mark your calendars now! This is an amazing event at **Willoughby Hills Friends** with 1,000 plus Students each year! Reggie Dabbs will be the main speaker and Family Force 5 will be in attendance as a special musical guest! This is always a great weekend to challenge students as they draw closer to Jesus! Please consider having your student attend this amazing event!

September 10 – Occupy Sunday Night begins

September 24 – Confirmation Orientation  
Potluck

October 1 – First Confirmation Class

November 10-12 – Youth Explosion

December 31 – New Year's Lock In

# Missions Commission

## **Background of the Red Bird Mission Appalachian Craft Fair**

Red Bird Mission was founded in 1921 in the southeastern corner of Kentucky to provide education and Christian evangelism ministries to residents of the area. "The story of Red Bird is one of deep faith in God. Red Bird Mission was born in answer to prayer. It is a story of gracious outpouring of prayer and means by the church."

Red Bird Mission reaches locals that experience severe poverty. The unemployment rate in the area is 50%. Red Bird Mission provides real hope and real help, from education and health care to food and clothes. "The community outreach ministries to the elderly and families of our community have grown to be a significant part of the overall ministries since the 1990's. The DeWall Senior Citizens Center started operations in 1991 and the Red Bird Elderly Housing apartments were opened in 1996. Emphasis on encouraging family food production led to the establishment of a farmers market in 2010 and a commercial food kitchen in 2017. A permanent pavilion for the farmers market was constructed in 2015 as part of a project to provide a potable water-dispensing kiosk for area residents without a clean drinking water source. "

The craft fairs offer income to workers and support the mission. Locals make heirloom quality items that are brought to the fair for sale. These artisans are gifted in woodworking, weaving, basket-making, toy making and corn shuck flower making, to name a few. Christmas ornaments and an assortment of nativity sets will also be available to purchase. Please invite your family and friends to participate. We will be hosting the Red Bird Mission Craft Fair on **Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to 2 PM** and after services on **Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup>**.

**School Partnership Program** Catalyst Ministry has been working with administrators in the Painesville City Schools to craft an action plan to use the resources of local churches to help meet the needs of the schools. Funding cuts affect all aspects of the children's school experience.

Last spring the Missions Commission signed a Good Faith Agreement with Catalyst Ministries to participate in this endeavor. We send a \$100 donation each month of the school year to the PTA of Chestnut Elementary School with whom we are partnered to serve staff/faculty.

We also collect and send Box Tops for Education. We will purchase and donate playground equipment this fall and in November and March we will be asking the congregation for donations of school supplies to resupply what the kids started with in August.

Last May, Missions provided the staff and teachers at Chestnut Elementary with an appreciation lunch. **The biggest piece of this partnership is volunteers.** Last year, we worked with a group of kindergarten and first grade classes and 2 volunteers were in the classroom as aides to the teacher for 2 hours each week. In the spring, we had 7 folks from our congregation doing this.

It is an evolving program. We encourage you to **prayerfully consider joining** us as we partner with Painesville City Schools and explore how to be Jesus Christ to the students, faculty, staff and administration of Chestnut Elementary School. Please contact Bruce Becker or Johanna Martin if you are interested ([bbecker@mentoriumc.org](mailto:bbecker@mentoriumc.org), [johannamartin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:johannamartin@sbcglobal.net)). Watch the Sunday bulletin for the specific days and times we are being asked to volunteer.

# JOURNEY GROUP SIGN UP FORM

Names of those interested: First and Last

Best phone # to reach you:

Email address:

Days and Times you can meet (circle all that would work for you)

Sunday between worship

Sunday evening

Monday evening

Tuesday morning

Tuesday evening

Wednesday morning

Wednesday evening

Thursday evening

Friday afternoon

How often would you be able to meet? (circle all that would work for you)

Every week

Every other week

Monthly

Childcare needed  yes  no

If yes, age range and number of children

Specific Group Interests (circle all that interest you)

Empty nesters

Families with young  
children

Families with middle/high  
schooler

Young couples without  
children

Women-only

Men-only

Singles under 40

Singles over 40

Mixed group/no preference

Hiking group

Disciple II Bible Study

Disciple 5 Bible Study

Disciple II Study: 24 sessions, Tuesday nights at MUMC, Into the Word, Into the World

Disciple 5 Study: 30 sessions, Sunday nights at Hope Ridge, Jesus in the Gospels



# Through the Years

## **Our Conference Affiliation**

Mentor United Methodist Church is part of the East Ohio Conference. This has not always been so. As the United States' population migrated westward, following the Revolutionary War, the Methodist church added new conference units to its structure. Methodist pastors, known as "circuit riders" helped spread the word of Christ and the philosophy of John Wesley to what became the state of Ohio.

Rev. Ira Eddy was one of the circuit riders. One of the Methodist societies he set up was in Mentor, Ohio. This society grew into the Mentor Methodist Episcopal Church, as this church was known. Our church has belonged to several different conferences as the Methodist Episcopal Church addressed the growing need for more effective administration. The following is a chronological list of the conferences to which our church has belonged:

Ohio Methodist Episcopal 1818 - 1823

Pittsburgh Methodist Episcopal 1824 - 1835

Erie Methodist Episcopal 1836 - 1875

East Ohio Methodist Episcopal 1876 - 1911

North-East Methodist Episcopal 1912 - 1939

North-East Ohio Methodist 1940 - 1968

North-East Ohio United Methodist 1968 - 1969

East Ohio United Methodist 1970 - present

Some of the changes of Conferences were a result of a name change, i.e., Methodist Episcopal to Methodist in 1939 and Methodist to United Methodist in 1968. The conferences prior to East Ohio no longer exist as Conferences.

Through all eight Conferences, our church has grown and thrived over the nearly two centuries of its existence. Let us continue to keep Mentor UMC healthy and strong in the years ahead.

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

Don Humphry

7330 Holly Park Dr.

Concord, Ohio 44060-6704

dhumphrey@ameritech.net

# Prayer Focus

Starting this month, we will have a monthly prayer focus. For **September**, the focus will be the **Opioid/Heroin epidemic**. As a church, if each of us would devote time daily to pray for this overwhelming problem, we could see amazing answers to prayer. Prayer is work and it takes time, are you willing to take on this prayer challenge?

Some suggestions of how to pray:

1. Please protect our loved ones from addictions to any drug, including alcohol.
2. Please free those held captive to drugs. Jesus said he came to set the captives free and that means anything that we are in bondage to that is destructive!
3. Remove any enablers from our loved ones' lives. Remove any that perpetuate the use of these substances and influence our loved ones.
4. Put Godly people in our loved ones' path to be a positive influence.
5. Enable those, by Your great power, who want freedom to ask for Your help and to believe You have the power to help them.
6. Help every mother, father, sister, brother, grandparent who are praying for a loved one to be free, to never to give up. Give them the strength to persevere in prayer and find hope in You.
7. Pray for those who grieve because they have lost loved ones from drug use or who live in the fear of the danger of drug use in their family.

Jesus, thank you that you can take a life riddled by addiction, take away the desire for any addictive substance and give a heart that desires You and finds fulfillment in You. With God all things are possible. Amen

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come, the old has gone, the new is here." 2 Corinthians 5:17

- Nancy Landerholm

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

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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



MENTOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Minister of Outreach & Missions

Rev. Bruce Becker  
[bbecker@mentorumc.org](mailto:bbecker@mentorumc.org)

Children & Family Ministries

Tammy Palermo  
[tpalermo@mentorumc.org](mailto:tpalermo@mentorumc.org)



Traditional worship service in the Sanctuary  
Sundays 9 AM and 11 AM  
Modern worship, iConnect, in the Fellowship Hall  
Sundays 9 AM and 11 AM



Deadline for the October Newsletter is September 8th.