

STEEPLETALK

News from Mentor United Methodist Church

December

2017

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

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Christmas Eve Services



Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday. Because Sunday is a day for worship and Christmas Eve is a special day to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we are keeping our regular Sunday morning worship schedule and Christmas Eve schedule.

Sunday morning

9:00 AM Sanctuary and iConnect worship

11:00 AM Sanctuary and iConnect worship

Christmas Eve*

3 PM Traditional Service, Communion Served

5 PM Traditional Children's Service Led by Children Featuring Children's Choirs and a Special Reading of "It's a Wonderful Life"

7 PM Traditional Service Featuring the Charter Members Choir

7 PM Modern Service iConnect Worship Team

9 PM Traditional Service Featuring Chancel Choir and Canticle Bells

11 PM Traditional Service Featuring Chancel Choir

*All Christmas Eve services will have candle light with the option of candles or glow sticks.

Christmas Eve Ushers

Volunteers are needed for ushering during the 5 Christmas Eve Sanctuary services.

Please consider serving your congregation, and meeting new people, by ushering! A sign-up sheet is at the Sign Up table the next four Sundays.

If you are interested, but have further questions, please contact Chris Meldrum at (440) 220-0824. Training sessions are available in the Narthex at 7PM on Thursday, December 14th and Tuesday, December 19th.

From the Pastor

December 3 marks the first Sunday in Advent. The last day, Sunday, will be December 24. Advent comes from a Latin word meaning "coming" or "visit." During Advent, we prepare for, and anticipate, the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of Jews for a Messiah and our own longing for, and need of, forgiveness, salvation and a new beginning. Even as we look back and celebrate the birth of Jesus in a humble stable in Bethlehem, we also look forward, anticipating the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment of all that was promised by his first coming.

During this 22 day season I encourage you to read the scriptures related to the birth of Jesus. I have put together a reading schedule for each day of the season. Take some time to read the daily passage asking these 3 questions:

1. What does it tell us about God?
2. What does this say about us human beings?
3. What has God done about this and what does he expect of us?

Perhaps you can do this as a family using an easy to read translation, e.g. the "New Living Translation." Whether alone or with others, seek to make this a practice during this special season.

01-Dec Jeremiah 33:14-16	13-Dec Luke 1:46-56
02-Dec Isaiah 2:1-5	14-Dec Luke 1:57-66
03-Dec Zephaniah 3:14-20	15-Dec Luke 1:67-80
04-Dec Isaiah 35:1-10	16-Dec John 1:6-9
05-Dec Luke 1:5-25	17-Dec Matthew 1:18-25
06-Dec Malachi 3:1-4	18-Dec Isaiah 11:1-10
07-Dec Luke 1:26-38	19-Dec Luke 2:1-7
08-Dec Isaiah 7:10-16	20-Dec Micah 5:2-5
09-Dec Genesis 1:1-2	21-Dec Luke 2:8-14
10-Dec John 1:1-5	22-Dec Luke 2:15-20
11-Dec Isaiah 9:2-7	23-Dec John 1:10-13
12-Dec Luke 1:39-45	24-Dec John 1:14

- Pastor Kurt

PRAYER FOCUS - Nancy Landerholm

Prayer Focus for December

Each day of Advent, sing a Christmas Carol such as Hark the Herald Angels Sing, O Little Town of Bethlehem, Joy to the World, etc.

Think about the truths the words convey; ask Jesus to show you the truths in the carols about Himself. Allow your hearts to be filled with joy and thankfulness for "God's inexpressible gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

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Gingerbread House thanks! -- Many, many thanks to all who worked so faithfully to create, set up, organize, donate, price, sell, make purchases, clean up and more for the Gingerbread House Craft Show.

It takes many hours, many hands and many gifts shared to have this event run so successfully for 111 years!

All of the proceeds from the Gingerbread House support local, national and international mission programs of the United Methodist Women -- programs that benefit women, children and youth, thereby impacting entire communities. Mentor United Methodist Women is grateful for your generous support of this annual event!

"It's a Wonderful Life"

Starring the Truth and Light Players

Friday, December 8 at 7:00 PM
Saturday, December 9 at 4:00 PM (sold out)

Potluck Meal to follow Saturday performance.
Cost is a free will offering but tickets must be reserved.

Reserve tickets for the Friday performance at our website:
www.mentorumc.org/current/tickets-for-its-a-wonderful-life



Congratulations to our new members! Welcome to our MUMC Family!

Gary & Donna Bly • Frank Galeoti & Robbin Sabo • Kathy Jojczyk
Lois Martley • Rich Poling • Jeff Shorter • Alan Vick

Baptisms last month: Nathan Judah Landerholm and Lily Grace Medvic
Congratulations and welcome to the family of Christ!

Women: Save The Date For The Path 2018!

Saturday-Sunday, March 3-4, 2018
Hilton Garden Inn Twinsburg
Mark your calendars now!
Registration begins in January.



Cornerstone December Family activity:

The TOY SOLDIER is coming to Lake County! He has been entertaining children for 20 years at Tower City. He will give 2 FREE shows at Painesville YMCA on December 22nd at 1:00 and 3:00 P.M. Maybe he will choose your baby to hold or kiss your toddlers hand! Don't miss this very special time!

See the website for information about our next event on December 10. We will attend the Lakeland Civic Chorus concert and visit the Historic Kirtland Nativity Exhibit. Contact Larry Hoon at larryhoon@yahoo.com or Jo Ann Greiner at jag5.1@sbcglobal.net for details.

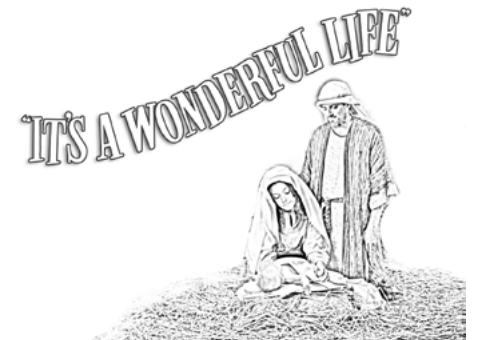
Young at Heart Luncheon

All those 62 years and older are invited to enjoy a Christmas lunch and program with your church staff and friends at the Young at Heart luncheon.

\$5 (paid in advance or at the door) covers your meal, beverage, dessert AND fun! This year's entertainment will feature retired pastors Peggy and Gary Streiff presenting a musical program.

Please call the church office (255-3496) by December 1, and ask to be added to the Young at Heart luncheon list! Let us know when you call if you need a ride. We will be happy to arrange one for you!

Wednesday, December 6th
Noon in Fellowship Hall
Hosted by Mentor United Methodist Women





Children & Family Ministries - Tammy Palermo

Sunday Mornings

Nursery to 4 years old go to Early Childhood.
K-6th grade Kids' Journey Groups go to Children & Youth Hallway with K-2nd Grade sign in Room 107; 3rd-4th Grade sign in Room 104; 5th-6th Grade sign in Room 103.

First Sunday of the month, K-6th grade children join their parent/guardians in worship

www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school

MOPS & MOMSnext

December 8, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM – Meeting “Free Indeed”
December 11, 9AM to 1:00 PM Food Sorting service project

www.mentorumc.org/mops

StuCo 56 5th & 6th grade youth group

Meeting Sunday, December 10 from 6:00-8:00 PM

www.mentorumc.org/stuco-56

Children's Choir & Cherub Choir – Sundays
Children's Choir (1-6 Gr) rehearses 10:15-10:45 in Room 112
Cherub Choir (3 year old-K) rehearses 10:15-10:35 in Room 104

Life Changers are needed for WINTER quarter

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!

9:00 AM 4 Life Changers needed
11:00 AM 7 Life Changers needed

Sign up at the link below

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4cabab29a2fa7-winter1>

MUMC Food Pantry Thank you to all who helped with the Thanksgiving food baskets. The final count is 96 families served, for a total of 419 people.

The Christmas basket schedule is below. Volunteers are needed to sort food donations, prepare food boxes and bags, and distribute food to identified families. This all takes place here at MUMC!

Food Pantry December dates

Sunday, December 3: Grocery bags for donations distributed after service
Sunday, December 10: Grocery bags collected
Monday, December 11: Donations sorted and repacked 9-1 PM
Monday, December 11: Distribution 4-8 PM
Tuesday, December 12: Distribution 12 noon to 2 PM

If you can help, contact Mike Cosmo at m.cosmo@sbcglobal.net or 440-255-7452.



Christmas Day Invitation

Kurt and Nancy Landerholm invite you to our home on Christmas Day for food and fellowship. If you, or you and your spouse will be alone on Christmas Day, we welcome you to spend part of the day with us. Even if you will be with family or friends before or after Christmas, but will be alone on December 25th, we invite you to come.

We will serve food between 1:00 and 5:00 PM Christmas Day, so you could come anytime during those hours and stay as long as you like! Our address is 7929 Newell Creek Drive in Mentor (Take the first left off of Johnny Cake Road heading west from the Center Street, we're about 3 blocks down Newell Creek Drive.)

Please RSVP to Nancy at noochylee@gmail.com or 330.524.3882.

13 Reasons to Talk With Your Kids About “13 Reasons Why”

The popular Netflix series “13 Reasons Why” follows the fictional story of a teenage girl who leaves behind 13 mysterious audio recordings after killing herself. Renowned speaker and author Kevin Hines will lead the discussion about the myths and facts about suicide. He is a survivor of attempted suicide by jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge.

Monday, December 4 at 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Auburn Career Center
8140 Auburn Rd., Painesville, Enter at Door 33, south side of parking lot

Free event. RSVP to Pam Schafer-Jones at 440-639-1200 or pam@namilake.org



Giving Trees The Christmas trees in the Gallery and outside the Chapel are decorated with different giving ornament tags. Select an ornament and show Christ's love.

Green Trees: GIVING Gifts for children in need. Gifts are due back by noon on December 10 and should be wrapped with the tag securely attached. There is a 2-part tag. Please fill out one and place it in the box below the tree. This gives us your contact information. The second tag is to be placed on the gift.

If you would like to shop for a whole family, please contact Betsy Iskra as soon as possible at iskra5@aol.com or call/text 440-283-6524.

Red Hearts: SHARING Monetary donation to a charity may be placed in the envelope provided and placed in the box at the Welcome Center. Charities are Forbes House, Ohio Guidestone and Salvation Army.

Yellow Angels: PRAYING Pray for the name or group listed throughout the holiday season.

Blue Bells: CARING Suggestion for something you can do to help others.

White Churches: MISSIONS Donations for Camphor Mission in Liberia

Tree of Forgotten Toys

Donations of unwrapped toys/clothes or gift cards for ages birth through high school can be placed under the tree in the office. These are used to ensure all the needs of the Giving Tree are met. Gifts are due December 10. Contact Joan Sadler with any questions at 440-257-5522.

CALENDAR

Regularly Scheduled Weekly December 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:

10:00 AM Journey Group - Petrowski
10:15 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
10:15 AM Cherub Choir Rehearsal
05:00 PM Journey Group - Landerholm
06:00 PM Occupy Youth Group
07:00 PM Journey Group - Nagle

Monday:

10:00 AM Parents' Morning Out
07:00 PM Men's Group Meeting

Hope Chest thanks everyone who celebrated our 50th anniversary this summer. We reconnected with old friends, and met new friends, donors and clients. Our shelves were full—for a few weeks.

Hope Chest has a list of winter “needs”. These items may be new or slightly used. Towels, blankets or bedding, dishes, small kitchen and household items are needed.

Seasonal clothes in all sizes, including coats, sweatpants, hoodies and adult gloves are hard to keep supplied at this time of year. Monetary donations allow us continue our mission to purchase new sneakers, socks and underwear for school children.

Donations may be mailed or brought to Hope Chest, 1 Victoria Place, Suite 321, Painesville, OH 44077 Monday-Thursday from 9:00 am-1:00 pm, or left inside our brown bin located on the building's dock off of South St. Clair Street. Visit our website at www.hopechest.yolasite.com or email us at hopechest.painesville@gmail.com with questions. Hope to see you soon, we will be around for the next 50 years, helping folks in Lake County, thanks to you.



Watch for your eNewsletter! Let the office know if you still would like a paper copy mailed.

Email cnagy@mentorumc.org with your preference or call the office at 440-255-3496. The Newsletter is always online at www.mentorumc.org/current/newsletter.

Tuesday:

09:30 AM Journey Group - Palermo
09:30 AM Journey Group - Ring
07:00 PM Emmaus/Journey Group
07:00 PM Canticle Bells
07:00 PM Journey Group - Imbler

Wednesday:

01:00 PM Knitting Group
07:00 PM Boy Scout #280

Thursday:

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

Friday:

01:00 Journey Group - Sterner

Saturday:

08:00 AM iConnect Rehearsal

Through The Years - Traditions and Customs

The Christmas season brings with it all the traditions and customs we love at this time of year. There are so many of them associated with the season that there is not room to discuss them all. Here are a few with historical and/or religious significance.

1. Merry Christmas versus Happy Christmas - While there are some (particularly in the United Kingdom) who say Happy Christmas, Merry Christmas is by far the more common. Credit for this term is usually given to Sir Henry Cole, an Englishman, who designed the first commercial Christmas Card in 1843. It said "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year".

2. Figgie Pudding - This tasty treat mentioned in the carol, "We Wish You a Merry Christmas", came from the West country of England. The pudding can be made with figs, raisins or plums.

3. Holly and Ivy - These plants carry religious messages. The holly leaves are prickly signifying the Crown of Thorns that Christ wore when crucified. The red berries signify His blood. Ivy is a plant that must cling to something to grow. This reminds us to cling to God to support our lives.

4. December 25 as Christmas Day - The Emperor Constantine, the first Christian emperor, decreed that this date would celebrate Christ's birth in 366 AD. There are different theories why this date was selected, but some believe it is because it is nine months after the Annunciation which is celebrated on March 25.

5. Christmas Carols - The first recorded Christmas carol was in the year 129 AD when a Roman Bishop said a song called "Angels Hymn" should be sung commemorating Christ's birth. Through the middle ages most carols were composed in Latin and the public paid them little attention. However, in Victorian England, many old songs dealing with Christmas were cataloged. Many of the carols we love today were also composed during this period.

6. Christmas is Universal. The term Merry Christmas is spoken around the world, reflecting the universal message that Christ is our Savior. Here is a sample:

Swahili - Krismasi Njema Bulgarian - Vesela Koleda Sanskrit - Krismasasya shubhkaamna
 Hawaiian - Mele Kalikimaka Swedish - God Jul Navajo - Nizhonigo Keshnish

Whatever traditions or languages are used, the message is the same - Christ is Born! Merry Christmas to you all!

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


Celebrating the past, living in the present, building for the future.

1818 - 2018

Mentor United Methodist Church will celebrate it's 200th birthday next year!
 Watch for exciting events centered around our bicentennial.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

December 2017

02 09:30 AM - Bible Quiz Meet	01 07:30 PM - Community Night of Worship - Voices Raised	07 09:30 - MOPS & MOMSNext 07:00 PM - Christmas Show - It's a Wonderful Life"	08 09:30 - MOPS & MOMSNext 07:00 PM - Christmas Show - It's a Wonderful Life"	15 07:30 PM - Charter Members Christmas Sing XXI	23 03:00 - Troop 280 Eagle Scout Ceremony	30 05:30 PM - More than a Meal
09 04:00 PM - Christmas Show - It's a Wonderful Life" 06:00 PM - Christmas Show Potluck	06 12:00 PM - Young at Heart Luncheon 01:00 PM - GriefShare 07:00 PM - Trustees 07:00 - Communications	13 10:00 AM - UMW Board 07:00 - Fellowship/Evang. 07:00 - Children's Ministry 07:00 - Finance Comm. 07:00 - Missions Comm.	14 09:30 AM - Ruth Naomi Circle 07:00 PM - Usher Training	21 01:15 - Mentor Miscellany Club 07:00 - Membership Committee	28 01:15 - Mentor Miscellany Club 07:00 - Membership Committee	
05 12:00 PM - Christmas Food Box Distribution	12 09:00 AM - Christmas Food Sorting 09:00 AM - MOPS & MOMSnext Food Sorting 10:00 - New Day Circle 04:00 PM - Christmas Food Box Distribution	19 10:00 AM - Worship at Brookdale Heisley 11:00 AM - Worship at Aitra Newell Creek 01:30 - Alzhiemer Association 06:45 PM - Parker Place Monthly Visitation	18 10:00 AM - Worship at Brookdale Heisley 11:00 AM - Worship at Aitra Newell Creek 01:30 - Alzhiemer Association 06:45 PM - Parker Place Monthly Visitation	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26 07:00 PM - Usher Training	
03 08:00 AM - Christmas Food Collection 09:00 AM and 11:00 AM - Christmas Cantata 6:00 PM - StuCo 56 	04 10:00 AM - Parent's Morning Out 10:00 AM - Worship at Brookdale Heisley 11:00 AM - Worship at Aitra Newell Creek	05 12:00 PM - Christmas Food Box Distribution	06 12:00 PM - Young at Heart Luncheon 01:00 PM - GriefShare 07:00 PM - Trustees 07:00 - Communications	07 09:30 - MOPS & MOMSNext 07:00 PM - Christmas Show - It's a Wonderful Life"	08 09:30 - MOPS & MOMSNext 07:00 PM - Christmas Show - It's a Wonderful Life"	09 04:00 PM - Christmas Show - It's a Wonderful Life" 06:00 PM - Christmas Show Potluck