

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

MAY 11, 2025

8600 MENTOR AVE

MENTOR OH 44060

MENTORUMC.ORG

440.255.3496

Worship with us in-person or online:
Mentorumc.org, Facebook, and Youtube

Worship Schedule

9 AM Modern

11 AM Traditional



Pastor's Letter

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. – John 1:16 NRSV

Last week, Chris Fletcher (MUMC's Chair of Evangelism) and I led a New Member Orientation. The purpose of the orientation is to talk about membership in the United Methodist Church and specifically, membership at Mentor UMC. We allowed two hours but two hours went by in a flash and we spent another fifteen minutes continuing on before wrapping up. As it turns out, talking about church membership is more exciting than one might think!

I love hearing about people's faith journey. Many members at MUMC grew up in a different church tradition (Catholic, Baptist, Non-denominational, Presbyterian, etc.) and some grew up with no church experience at all. I always ask participants at a new member orientation to tell me about their faith journey and to share how it is that they started coming to Mentor UMC. When we have participants who are brand new to the United Methodist Church, I am always excited to tell them about what distinguishes the UMC from other Christian traditions / denominations. In a word, it's grace.

While the doctrine (or teachings) about grace is found in every church and denomination I can think of, grace is the centerpiece in the United Methodist Church! By that, I mean, from our beginnings as a movement in the 18th century, we have always been a church that gives more attention and reflection to grace. Our founder, John Wesley, wrote and preached extensively about grace. In fact, he described three forms of grace that challenged much of the dominant theology of his time as it still does today. The three forms of grace are:

- Prevenient Grace – The grace that goes before
- Justifying Grace – The grace that brings us into right relationship with God
- Sanctifying Grace – The grace that inspires and guides us to continue growing in our love for God and neighbor for the rest of our lives

Of these three forms of grace, it is the concept of prevenient grace that is so revolutionary. By prevenient grace, God loves us before we ever do anything to earn that love. In fact, God loves, accepts, claims and is at work to be known in our lives before we even come to believe in God or Jesus! Prevenient grace is at work on our behalf even before we are born, even before we are conceived! Picture this, since the beginning of creation, God's prevenient grace has been at work preparing a way for you (and for each of us) to be born! It is by our belief in prevenient grace that we baptize infants – affirming that God's grace is bigger and predates any knowledge or understanding of God or faith.

God's grace, in all its forms, prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying, is a gift that God provides for everyone. When we take or renew our baptismal vows and when we take vows of church membership, we are saying to God and to the Body of Christ, the church, "I accept the gift of God's grace and I want to do all I can to grow that gift in me so that I can share it with others."

This past week, one of the participants at the New Member Orientation was so interested in the teachings about grace in the United Methodist Church, that he asked if I could recommend a book! I am looking for just the right book to recommend. When I find it, I will let all of you know. Until then, be on the watch!

Thank you God for your grace, for the United Methodist Church, and especially, for Mentor UMC!

Blessings,



Pastor Steve

Care CONGREGATIONAL

In our prayers today & in your personal prayer time, please remember the following:

Members admitted to Rehab.

Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:

The Enclave - Delores Tackett, Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith,
Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler, Carol Anderson

Parker Place - Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell,
Deloris Parsons, Mary Ann Haycox

Tapestry - Gloria McFeely

Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom

Village of St. Edward: Dale Porter

Holly Hill - Floyd Richards

Brookdale - Bill Wolfgang

Members who are in need of prayer:

Kay Feiten, Hilary Pleska, Nora Kelley, Karen Mancini
Noralee Starr, Laurie Eppler, Doug Koman, Connie Sterner,
Bob & Sandy Williams, Dee Smith, Bob & Sandy Linsell

Every Sunday in May

Tension Trust Trials Truth

Jukebox Jesus

U2 Taylor Swift Kendrick Lamar Garth Brooks

9 & 11 AM Worship

In-person & Online

May Sermon Series

The next sermon series, "Jukebox Jesus" will be an exploration of scripture through popular music. We will also enjoy "Music at Seven & Mixer" on Friday, May 30th in the Gallery.

Youversion

<https://bible.com/events/49432316>

Learn more about Sunday's scriptures & worship by visiting this link.

New Member Sunday

All are invited to celebrate new members on Sunday, May 18th during services. If you are interested in getting involved or becoming a member at a later date, contact a pastor or the church office.

Music Recital

Join us at 2 PM on May 18th for a Music Recital at MUMC. The recital will feature Mackalyn Figgins on trombone with a brass ensemble featuring Pastor Steve, Mitch Niemi, Andrew Ring, and Charlie Tackett.

Series Playlist

You can find this eclectic mix across genres [on our website](#) or Spotify (@mentorumc). The playlist features songs from the artists we are referencing throughout the sermon series, "Jukebox Jesus". NOTE: Though only CLEAN versions are on this playlist, some of these songs contain themes or references that can be suggestive or strong. There is no need to listen to this playlist in order to understand the series. This is just for fun!

Need to Know



Music at Seven & Mixer

The musical excitement of May culminates in another "Music at Seven" followed by a mixer on the night of May 30th. We'll meet in the Gallery at 7 PM to listen to incredible live performances by members & friends of MUMC (get in touch with Amy Bender if you would like to participate). Then around 8 PM we'll begin our mixer featuring snacks, mocktails, crafts, games, dancing, and playing real records from every decade. This event is FREE and OPEN TO ALL! Invite friends & family for a good time.

Ordination Invitation

All are invited to celebrate Pastor Tammy's ordination on Saturday, June 14th. The ordination service begins at 9 AM in McGaw Chapel at The College of Wooster. There will be a light luncheon for MUMC folks to follow. Get in touch with Pastor Tammy if you would like to come or [RSVP online](#).

MUMC Softball

Mentor UMC has two teams that you can support this softball season. Games are on Tuesdays @ Richmond Heights Community Park.

Young Adult Small Group

Young Adults are encouraged to join a small group that meets in-person and online on Tuesday at 5 PM. This group is ongoing and accepting new friends at anytime. [Sign up online](#) or get in touch with Mackalyn.

Communion

Communion is the first Sunday of the month in both services. On all other Sundays, Communion & Prayer is held in the Chapel at 10:30 AM.

Fellowship Hour

Join us after service every week in the Gallery for Fellowship Hour. First Sunday of the month is Pancakes!

Pastor Steve Renewal Leave

If you missed the letter from SPRC about Pastor Steve's renewal leave this summer, you can read it on our [website here](#).

Blood Drive

The next Blood Drive at MUMC is THIS WEEK on Tuesday, May 13th from 9 AM to 3 PM. Register [online here](#) or scan the QR code on the flyers throughout the church. Your gift is lifesaving!

Hannah's Home Bottles

The Annual Hannah's Home Baby Bottle fundraiser takes place from Mother's to Father's day. Grab a bottle in the Info Hub and fill with a cash or check donation. Bottles can be dropped off in the church office. If you wish to give online, visit our website and make sure to designate your Giving to "Hannah's Home" in the comment section.

Middle School Mission Week

We hope this will be a week for building relationships, service and spiritual growth for Middle School students.

Students will meet at MUMC then begin or travel to a local destination to complete mission work.

Register a Middle Schooler or volunteer at [THIS LINK](#).

- July 7-11

- 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

- Starting at MUMC and then traveling to other locations

What's Your M.O.? Mission Opportunities

Adult Mission Trip

Interested in learning about an adult mission trip to CASS Detroit? Come to an information session on May 18th at 5 PM. Mission trip dates: July 10th - July 13th, leaving Thursday evening and returning midday on Sunday. Approximate cost is \$150 (covers lodging, meals, and transportation).

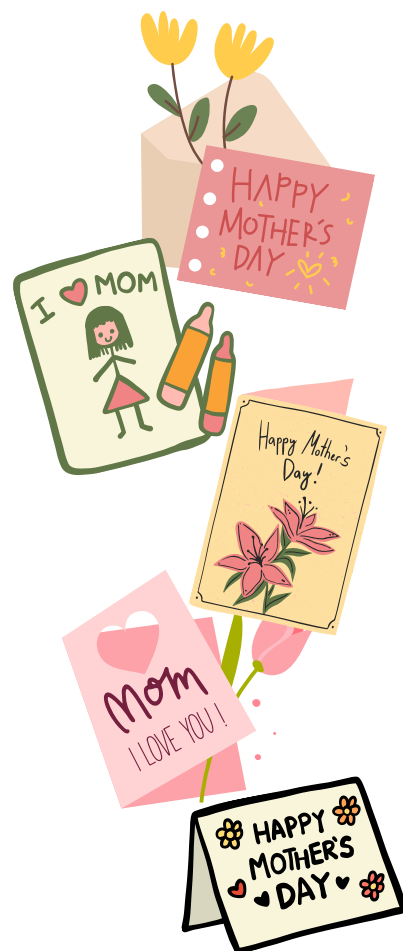
Cass Community Social Services (CCSS) was established as a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) in 2002. Prior to that many of its programs started as a part of Cass Community United Methodist Church. The Detroit-based agency works across the city in areas of concentrated poverty providing programs for food, health, housing and jobs.

Rocks Cry Out

If you are feeling led to be part of *Rocks Cry Out*, a group of people who want to explore the United Methodist Church's Social Principles to take action, please email Pastor Tammy at tpalermo@mentorumc.org.

Alzheimer's Walk 2025

The Walk will be held at Lake Farm Park on September 27th. This year our team goal is to raise \$2,000. All Journey groups & committees are encouraged to walk as part of Team MUMC. Get your team registered as soon as possible so we can meet our goal! [Click here](#).



WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

Sunday Morning Kids

9:00 & 11:00 AM at MUMC for all services.

- ALL ages are encouraged to check in at the Early Childhood Center (or Gallery, if available).
- Grades K-5 begin in worship with their families and then be dismissed to the Education Wing.

Sunday Morning Signup

MUMC's mission is to lead all onto a path of Christ-centered discipleship. Here is a great place to do just that! [Click here for leader signup](#). There are spots for various ages/levels, so check out what section works for you.)

"Worship one, serve one!"

Register for 2025-2026

Register for the 2025-2026 school year at MUMC: [link here](#). Get in touch with Brittany Jones to learn more:

bjones.preschool@mentorumc.org

MOMCo

MOMCo meets Fridays in the Gallery from 9 AM - 12 PM. Upcoming dates:
May 23

Child & Caregiver Class

Age 2 ½ to 3 ½

9:15-10:45 AM in the Early Childhood Area

- SPRING: April 23, 30, May 7, 14

Cost is \$60 per 8 week session (prepaid, non-refundable). [Apply here!](#)

VBS: Road Trip, On the Road with God

This is a week long adventure in the mornings at Mentor UMC. We'll sing, dance, craft, and get to know each other through Spirit-filled fun.

- June 23-27

- 9 AM to 12 PM

- 4 yrs old - grade 6

G.O.D. Camp: Water of Life

Join the week-long excitement of G.O.D. Camp at Mentor UMC and beyond. We'll explore the community around us through various activities.

- June 23-27

- 9:30 AM to 4 PM

- completed grades 5 - 6

Middle School

Middle Schoolers are invited to Sunday School during the 9 AM worship service each Sunday.

Youth Group

Youth are invited to meet on the second and fourth Sunday evenings of the month in the Youth Room from 4-6 PM. Upcoming dates: June 8 & 22

Graduation Sunday

High School Grads & Scholarship Recipients are invited to celebrate their accomplishments here at Mentor UMC on Sunday, June 8th.

Grads from year's past are encouraged to reach out to Mackalyn or [signup online here](#) to help with the celebration.

ALL Grads are encouraged to send [Kenna](#) a photo with their name and post-grad plans to be shared in the Grad video.

Civil Rights Trail

Youth are invited to join as we visit the Cleveland Civil Rights Trail on Saturday, May 31st. We'll leave from the church in the morning around 10 AM and arrive back around 3 PM.

LEARN MORE ABOUT
SUMMER PROGRAMS HERE
OR ON OUR WEBSITE.

