

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

AUGUST 20, 2023

8600 MENTOR AVE

MENTOR OH 44060

MENTORUMC.ORG

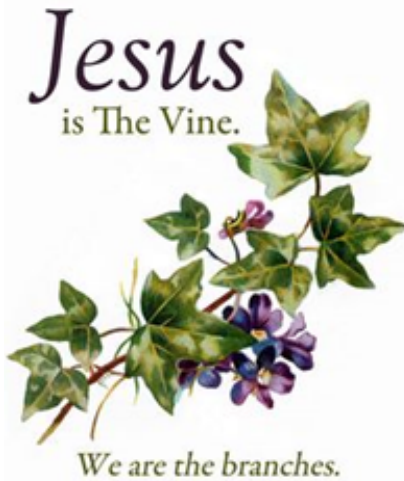
440.255.3496

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



CHECK OUT THE DISPLAY OUTSIDE
THE GALLERY ALL SUMMER LONG!

I AM / WE ARE: I AM THE TRUE VINE



John 15:1-2, 4-8 ESV 1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

This "I AM" statement is one that I am not familiar with at all. This term "true vine" is not like the other six I AM phrases for me. The writer, John, exclaims the power of Christ in pinpointing Jesus as he says I Am:

- the Light of the World, ● the Bread of Life,
- the Gate/The Good Shepherd, ● the True Vine,
- the Resurrection and the Life, ● the Door,
- the Way, the Truth and the Life.

So, I had to really study and search for enlightenment on this "true vine" concept.



My first thought was to turn to music, and my mind went straight to the great Marvin Gaye singing a 1960s tune hit of "I Heard it Through the Grape Vine, which has nothing to do with this I Am statement, but the word 'vine' pressed on me.

I'm finding so many analogies and illustrations from Jesus of being the Vine and us being the branches, along with the fruit we are to bear. I mean, WOW! The thoughts of plants growing, being planted, being cut back, being pruned, being alive, being dead, growing tall, growing outward...the ideas won't stop!

Jesus provides for us a beautiful vision where we are all connected to the same vine. We, as branches, leaves, shoots of his powerful stem of life. This image shows us that we have our life and our being only alongside Christ, the True Vine.

I'm not a super gardener, but I have always loved getting into the dirt and making pretty flowers array my home. Some others are vegetable growers and farmers even. And yet, this concept of us being connected to Christ and given the ability to grow and flourish should be a source of contentment for us. As we are connected to God, through the True Vine, we have a great chance to become examples of his love and grace.

- Pastor Ivy

The seven "I Am" statements all appear in the Gospel of John:

I am the bread of life (John 6:35), the light of the world (8:12), the gate (10:7), the good shepherd (10:11, 14), the resurrection and the life (11:25), the way and the truth and the life (14:6), and the true vine (15:1).

Thank you

To all my friends at Mentor United Methodist Church:

Thank you is really not enough to say how touched I was to see so many friends in the congregation who came to help me celebrate my 90th birthday. There were also so many friends from South Euclid Methodist where Jacque and I attended and I directed the choir and played organ beginning in 1955.

We raised our children, Jeffrey & Laurie, there.

We came to Mentor in 1984 when I played organ for Janet Reichert when she wanted two months to accompany the Mentor HS faculty musical. Jacque and I loved the music groups so much we stayed and sang in the choirs and Mentor Methodist became our church home.

- **Carol Haines**

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:

Aberdeen Crossing - Barbara Bradrich

The Enclave - Kay Disbro, Delores Tackett,

Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith, Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler

Salida Woods - Doris Sturm

CareCore - Virginia Gilman

Parker Place - Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell,

Opal Pinasky, Deloris Parsons

Danbury Senior Living - Kathryn Bevacqua

Tapestry - Gloria McFeely

Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom

Breckenridge/Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher

Members who are in need of prayer:

Karen Mancini, Marilyn Oliver, Dick Anderson,

Luke Sanvido, Star Bruno, David Fell

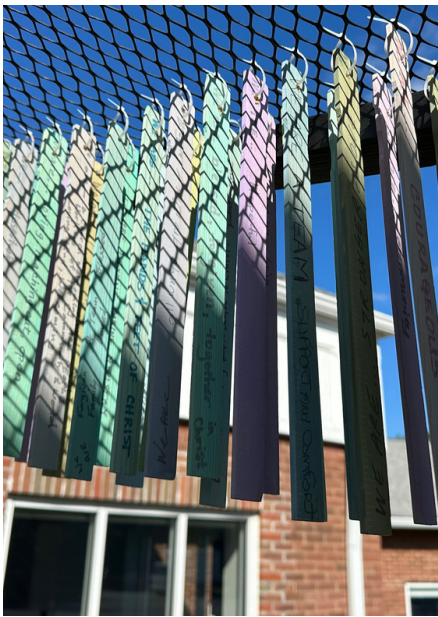
Need to Know

Youversion

<https://bible.com/events/49115970>

Sermon Series Activity

Come to the main entrance to the Gallery and walk under the collection of paint sticks – each reflecting aspects of who each of us is and who we are together as the Body of Christ! Come complete your own stick. Watch the collection grow each week! Invite a friend to participate any time.



Learn more about the art and artist that inspired our display by [clicking here](#).

Summer Worship Schedule

Through Sept 3:

9 AM Modern

11 AM Traditional

These two services will still be live streamed.

Admin Council

Next Admin Council meeting is August 30th at 6:30 PM here at MUMC.

Name tags

Would you like to have a name tag ordered? Please contact the church office or Stephanie Lee if so: 440.255.3496

Pastor Meet & Greets

Pastors Steve and Ivy would like to meet with groups of 8-15 people once a week through the end of November. If you would like to plan a meet & greet, call Stephanie at the church to schedule a time. Steve and Ivy have set aside several 1.5 hour slots each week at various times. Learn about dates, times, and locations on our website or by clicking [HERE](#).

Backpack Blessing

The back-to-school backpack blessing will be on Sunday, August 27th!

3rd Grade Bibles 2023

For children going into Third Grade, MUMC would like to give the gift of a Bible. The Bible will be presented on August 27 during the service of your family's choice. We would like to invite 3rd graders & parents to attend a breakfast & practice on Sat., August 26 from 9:00-10:30 AM. Following the meal, we will run through the worship service so that you will know how the Bible presentations will go. Please [SIGN UP HERE](#) or visit our website to sign up online.

Staff Retreat/Office Closure

MUMC Staff will go on a retreat Thursday, August 24th to Friday, August 25th. The church office will be **CLOSED** on that Friday.

Caring Servants Picnic

Monday, August 21st will be the Caring Servants Picnic. If you haven't RSVP'd to Karen Scott, make sure you do so! If you have any questions, call 440-666-2058

CWC Luncheon

Join us Tuesday, September 19th for the next Christian Women's Connection Luncheon at 11:15 at Pine Ridge. Cost is \$20. Donna Miller will be the speaker! RSVP to 440.487.0661 or email: cwcstonecroft@yahoo.com.

Mission Moment

Walk to End Alzheimer's

Register online today for the 2023 Lake/Geauga Walk to End Alzheimer's on Saturday, September 23, 2023. For questions, contact team leader Karen Martin: 440-796-2179. [Click here](#) or visit our website to register.

Our MUMC Alzheimer Walk Team will be taking orders for Krispy Kreme doughnuts on Aug 20th and 27th in the Gallery. A dozen original glazed doughnuts ~ \$14.50. They will be delivered after both services fresh from Krispy Kreme on Sept 10th. If you are not available that day, gift certificates are available for \$16.00. All funds raised go to The Alzheimer's Association.

Our Team will also be creating a display of paper flowers to show support in the fight against Alzheimer's disease. For a monetary donation, you can write your name or the name of a loved one you wish to honor or memorialize on the flower. Flowers are available on August 20th and 27th in the Gallery. The flowers will be taken to the Walk on Sept. 23rd.



Food Ministry

- Canned Fruit
- Ravioli/Spaghetios
- Canned Chicken
- Au Gratin, Scalloped, Mashed Potatoes

Items can be dropped off in the community center.

For an extended list of items, please visit the Info Hub or our [website](#).

More Than A Meal

You can sign up for August and later dates by checking [online](#). The August MTAM is on Saturday the 26th. Doors open at 5:00 PM and food is served at 5:30 PM!



Fellowship Hour

Fellowship hour is looking for individuals, families, Journey Groups or Teams to host on Sunday mornings. There are also still opportunities to donate prepackaged food such as chips, crackers, and cookies. To get involved or know more, please contact Kathy Fellows: 440-477-4485.

Disaster Relief

Thank you to all who have designated their giving to UMCOR/Disaster Relief in response to the devastation in Maui. You can designate your giving online, in-person, or in the mail. You can also visit UMCOR's [website](#) to learn more.

Hope Chest

Hope Chest is in need of toothpaste and children's winter coats. Fall and winter is approaching and they are low on boys & girls coats, so please consider donating! Items can be dropped off in the Community Center.

WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

Children & Family Ministries

www.mentorumc.org/children

Sunday Morning Kids

9:00 & 11:00 AM at MUMC

- [Check-In Instruction Video](#)
- Ages 0-2 and 3-4 sign in at the Early Childhood Area before service
- Grades K-6 will begin in worship with their families and then be dismissed to the Education Wing.

Sunday Morning Signup

Mentor United Methodist Church's mission is to lead all onto a path of Christ-centered discipleship. Here is a great place to do just that! Click the link for Sunday morning [FALL sign up](#) (or visit our site). There are spots for various ages/levels, so check out what section works for you:) "Worship one, serve one!"

MOPS & MOMS

We will meet August 21st at Helen Hazen Wyman Creek & Playground and on the 24th at Veteran's Memorial Park. For future dates, [check our website](#).

MUMP Registration Open

MUM Preschool has a few more openings for the 2023-24 school year! Registration is open for the Child & Caregiver class and for Young 3s. Contact Kat Fisher at fisher.preschool@mentorumc.org.

Youth

Join us on Sunday mornings! We meet from 10:10-10:50 to be in community and have discussion. We are following the sermon series for our discussions.

CCYM Application

Youth, want to get involved at a conference level? Apply [here](#) or on our website.

Youth Feedback

Want to give feedback on MUMC Youth? [Click here](#).

Youth Outing

Join us on September 17th for an outing to Ramseyer Farms. Details to come!



Our Back to School Bash will be on Saturday, August 26th from 1:00 - 3:00 PM here at MUMC! Join us for this free community event where there will be custard, music, photo booth, bounce houses, dunk tank, and games! Bring your friends for all the fun!