

The liturgical color is purple for the 1st Sunday in Lent



PRELUDE "Prelude and Fugue in e minor" J. S. Bach
Amy Bender, organist

WELCOME Melanie Lyttle, liturgist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The good news of the gospel is:

Manna in the desert, water turned into wine, love after loss, forgiveness after pain.

The good news of the gospel is:

Release for the captive, hope for the hopeless, mourning turned to dancing, and strangers turned to friends.

So come on in. There's no time to waste! This surprising good news is here for you.

Let us worship this good-news God.

***OPENING HYMN** "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" UMH 540
Hymn History: The words to this hymn were written by Timothy Dwight, one of the most important composers of early American hymns. He was born in 1752 in Northampton, Massachusetts. Dwight was admitted to Yale College (now Yale University) at age 13 and graduated in 1769. Dwight also wrote poetry in addition to hymns. He served as a chaplain to the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. He later became a professor at Yale and in 1795, he became president of the college. He is credited with modernizing the curriculum and improving the spiritual life at Yale. The lyrics of his hymns are based on the Psalms. This hymn is based on Psalm 137. Dwight set this hymn to the music, St. Thomas, written by Aaron Williams (1731-1776), an English singing teacher and composer. Timothy Dwight died in New Haven, Connecticut in 1817.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, somewhere along the way we picked up the message that in order to be faithful, we have to be serious. We have to pray on our knees without ceasing. We have to be somber in worship and quiet in our studies. We have to check our wiggles and our questions at the door. But then you say the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed—unruly and untamed. You turn water into wine—surprising and extravagant. And all of a sudden, we wonder: Can we be like that mustard seed? Can we be faithful and unruly? Can we be playful and curious? Can we be messy and still be yours? We know the answer already. The Spirit whispers: of course, of course, of course. Forgive our doubt. Pull us closer into your embrace. With faith like a mustard seed, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Children invited to stay with families or to go to Sunday School at this time

SCRIPTURE John 2:1-11, p. 751

**Congregation invited to stand if able*

ANTHEM "A Highland Blessing" Derek K. Hakes
Canticle Bell Choir

SHARING STORIES OF GOD AT WORK THROUGH CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

MENTOR IN MINISTRY

SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

As the plates are being passed, please also take this opportunity to sign the Welcome Book and pass it on.

OFFERTORY "Peace in the Storm" Patricia Cota

***DOXOLOGY #95**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN OF CENTERING** "Seek Ye First" UMH 405

SCRIPTURE Matthew 13:31-32, p. 691

MESSAGE "Tell Me Something Good:
The good news is...so good it catches us by surprise"
Rev. Steve Stultz Costello

***HYMN OF MISSION** "Bring Forth the Kingdom" TFWS 2190

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION SUNG RESPONSE** "Go Now In Peace"
Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen. Amen. Amen.

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POSTLUDE "Prelude in g minor" J. S. Bach

Altar Flowers are presented by Judy Garris
In Loving Memory of Husband, Dale

FLOWER OPENING on March 29th
To order flowers please contact Kathy Fellows at 440.477.4485



Find the FULL artist's statement and other Lent inspired artworks on the "Gallery wall" in the Gallery.

Cover Art Artist Statement

"The Wedding at Cana is my favorite text because there is a lot of humor in it...If Jesus—whose ministry has not started, so there haven't been any wonders associated with him yet—tells you to fill jars with water and draw from the jar to give to the chief steward, what is going through your mind at that moment? I invite the viewer to focus on this servant and all his curiosity and expectation, and think of a time when you were surprised by something God did. What actions preceded the miracle? Did it make sense? What did you know, and what was hidden from you? What "secrets" might God be keeping from you now as God works clandestinely on your behalf?"

—Rev. T. Denise Anderson



Messianic Secret
by T. Denise Anderson
Inspired by John 2:1-11
14"x18" Acrylic on canvas
A Sanctified Art | sanctifiedart.org



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Pastor Steve Stultz Costello, Lead Pastor
Pastor Ivy Smith, Associate Pastor
Pastor Tammy Palermo, Pastor of Children & Family Ministry

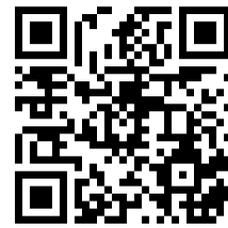
Scan to
Give, Connect,
Get Updates, and more



WIFI password: GodLovesYou



MENTOR UNITED HIGHLIGHTS METHODIST CHURCH



Scan to Read the Weekly Update

9:15 AM Chapel Service

Join us in the Chapel at 9:15 AM from February 22nd to May 31st for a NEW Sunday service. This is a great option for those who enjoy the Traditional style of worship in a more intimate, early morning setting.

Healing Service

Join us at Mentor UMC on Wednesday, March 11th at 6:45 PM in the Chapel for a Healing Service. This is open to ALL and will take place following that evening's Lent dinner. You are not required to eat with us to attend the service.

Order Easter Flowers

Grab a form in the Info Hub or order online for Easter flowers! Daffodils, Tulips, and Hyacinths are \$8 and the Hydrangeas are \$15. The deadline to order is March 16th. If you need any assistance in ordering, contact the church office.

Royal Family Kids Dinner

Join us for the Royal Family Kids #271 fundraising dinner at Mentor UMC on March 5th, 2026, at 5:30 PM. Come learn about and support this wonderful mission. There are **FREE** seats available at sponsored tables. Please contact Johanna Martin to secure your spot: johannamartine@sbcbglobal.net We look forward to celebrating 15 years of RFK and get ready for the next 15 years. See you there!

POP UP Food Pantry

The next POP UP Food Pantry will be on February 28th at Mentor-on-the-Lake Public Library. To volunteer or donate, please reach out to Mackalyn Figgins.

Wesleyan Presentation

Join Pastor Tammy on Sunday, February 22nd after service for a special presentation about her Wesley Heritage Tour that she attended this past fall. Open to ALL.

Book Club

Join us for Book Club on Monday, February 23rd at 6 PM at Mentor UMC. We will discuss books we've been reading in our own time.

Admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:

The Enclave: Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith, Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler, Joe & Judy Tirpak
Parker Place: Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell, Deloris Parsons, Mary Ann Haycox
Symphony of Mentor: Lorraine Ahlstrom
Governor's Pointe: Bob Williams
Salida Woods: June Van Ostrand

In need of prayer:

Hilary Pleska, Karen Mancini, Tom Martin, Noralee Starr, Sandy Williams, Dee Smith, Russ Lancaster, Kay McKinney, Terry & Mary Ellen Reynolds, Doug & Kathy Koman, Jack Donahue, The Lippert Family, Norma Ickes

UPCOMING

AT MENTOR UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

Monday, February 23

- Carr Journey Group (2)
- Parents Morning Out
- Young Adult Group

Thursday, February 26

- Bell Choir
- Charter Members Men's Choir
- Chancel Choir

Sunday, February 22

- 9, 9:15 & 11 AM Worship
- 10 & 12 Fellowship Hour
- 10:30 AM Communion
- Martin Journey Group
- Children's Sunday School
- Youth Sunday School
- Wesleyan Presentation

Tuesday, February 24

- Ring Journey Group
- Disciple III
- Trustees Meeting
- Book Club

Wednesday, February 25

- Knitting Group
- Lent Dinner, 5:45 PM
- Lent Groups, 6:45 PM

Friday, February 27

- MOMCo

Saturday, February 28

- Modern Worship Practice
- More Than a Meal

Lent Dinners

 Check the boxes and turn in to the office/offering box to RSVP 

Join us at 5:45 PM on Wednesday evenings in Lent for **weekly dinners** with new and old friends. We'll meet in the Gallery and enjoy a meal and dessert together. Dinners include conversation and camp-style worship.

If you are interested in **volunteering** to help with the meal, there are many different areas that you can assist such as meal prep, Gallery set up, greeting visitors, serving food, and cleaning up. Check our website by scanning the QR code or visit the Info Hub to find out more.

Dinner Schedule & Menu:

For dietary restrictions, get in touch with the church office.

- Wednesday, February 25th
Orange Chicken with steamed jasmine rice, stir-fry vegetables, egg rolls, and fortune cookies.
- Wednesday, March 4th
Meatloaf, mashed potatoes & gravy, peas & carrots, coleslaw, rolls
- Wednesday, March 11th
Betsy's Unlasagna, garlic bread, Italian medley, and salad
- Wednesday, March 18th
Grilled chicken Alfredo, steamed broccoli & cauliflower, fruit cup, rolls
- Wednesday, March 25th
Rhonda's Salsa chicken with black beans & rice, corn salsa with tortilla chips, refried beans, and salad.

Join us on Wednesday evenings around 6:45 PM at Mentor UMC for three exciting group opportunities. Each of these is open to anyone who would like to participate. There is NO cost and NO additional materials to purchase.

CHILDCARE OFFERED FROM 6:45 TO 8 PM.

- "Tell Me Something Good" In Depth**
Join pastor Steve Stultz Costello and pastor Ivy Smith for this group that will go further into the themes of the prior Sunday's sermon & scriptures. No materials needed but you are encouraged to take a look at the digital Lenten Devotional, which you can find a link to on our website.
- The Social Principles**
Join Youth & Young Adult Director, Mackalyn Figgins, in learning more about the UMC Social Principles. This group is good for those who want to have a deeper understanding of how to engage with contemporary issues in a biblical and theological way.
- #BeUMC**
Join Chris Fletcher for "#BeUMC," an introductory, relaxed look into what being a Methodist means. We'll meet in Gallery as the meal ends, so you don't even need to leave your seat! No materials needed.

Check the box of the group you'd like to join and turn in to the office or the offering box.

NAME: _____
CONTACT INFO: _____

 Go deeper in your discipleship.
Lent Groups

