

PRELUDE "Now Pray We to the Holy Spirit" Buxtehude
Amy Bender, organist

WELCOME Willie Dycks, liturgist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

When the people gathered, the Spirit of God moved among them like wind they could not control and fire they could not ignore.

We gather today longing for a close encounter with God.

Some come with joy and expectation. Some come weary and uncertain. Some come wondering if anything can truly change.

Yet God meets ordinary people in extraordinary ways.

The Spirit still blows through closed rooms and guarded hearts. The Spirit still speaks across barriers and divisions. The Spirit still calls people into new life.

Come, Holy Spirit. Fill this place with your presence.

This is the good news: God does not remain distant. In Jesus Christ, God comes near.

We open our hearts to the living God. We come ready for a close encounter. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** "Holy Spirit, Truth Divine" UMH 465

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

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE Genesis 2:7 CEB, p. 2

ANTHEM "Fill-A Me Up!" Pepper Choplin
Charter Members Men's Choir; Craig Eppler, soloist

GRAD & SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION

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.

** Congregation is invited to stand or remain seated*

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 "The Folded Flag" Joseph M. Martin
Charter Members Men's Choir; Ben Chiappone, soloist; Bonnie Budziak, accompanist

***DOXOLOGY #94**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow:

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN OF CENTERING** "Breathe On Me, Breath of God" UMH 420

Hymn History: The words to this hymn were written by Edwin Hatch. He was born in Derby, England in 1835. He graduated from Oxford University in 1853. Hatch was ordained an Anglican Priest in 1859. He was a noted scholar of early Church history. Hatch taught in Canada (in both Ontario and Quebec) for several years before returning to England in 1867. He held the title of Vice Principal at St. Mary Hall at Oxford University and also lectured there until 1885. He died in 1889 in Oxford. Hatch wrote a small number of hymns. Today's hymn was put to several different tunes. The one we sing today is the tune Trentham written by Robert Jackson. Jackson was born in Oldham, England in 1840 and died in that same city in 1914. He served as the organist at St. Peters Church in Oldham for forty-eight years.

SCRIPTURE Acts 2:1-18, 22a, 32-33, 36-38 - NIV, p. 771

MESSAGE "Close Encounters: Filled with the Holy Spirit"
Rev. Steve Stultz Costello

***HYMN OF MISSION** "There's a Spirit In the Air" UMH 192

***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 "Postludium" Gordon Young

Please stay for the Congregational photo immediately after Postlude

Mentor United Methodist Church

Traditional Worship | May 24, 2026

With deepest thanks and appreciation to the
Charter Members Men's Choir
for another season of beautiful and heart-felt music

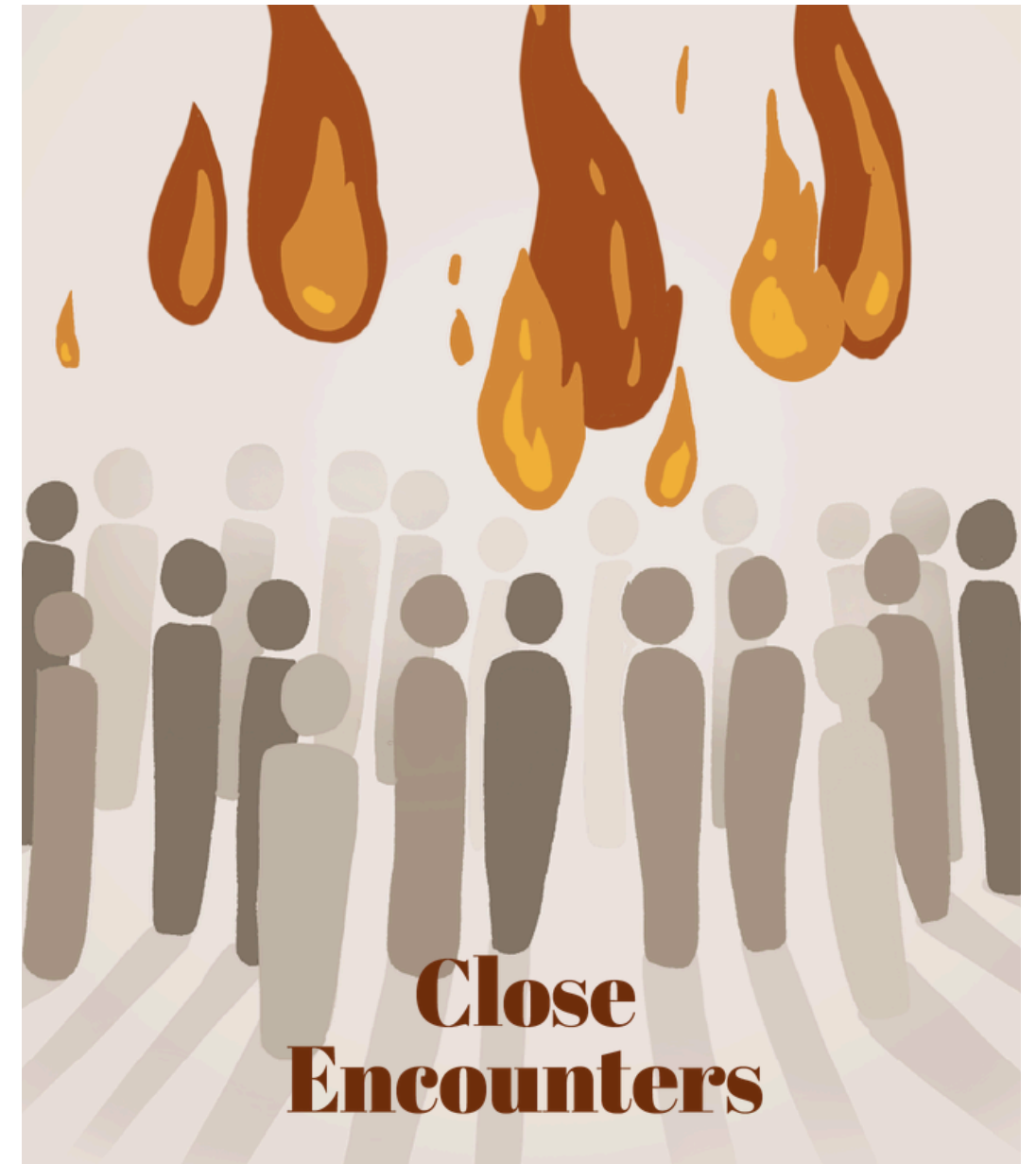
Ben Chiappone	Len Kosatka
Jack Donahue	Paul Montgomery
Craig Eppler	Trem Oatman
Tom Erbaugh	Luke Rhoads
Mike Fournier	Dave Sechnick
Larry Fram	Charlie Tackett
Doug Koman	
Bonnie Budziak, <i>accompanist</i>	



Altar Flowers are presented by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Montgomery
In Loving Memory of Lance Corporal Brian Montgomery

Pulpit Flowers are presented by Roxy Beers
In Loving Memory of Eric & Andrea Beers, parents

To order flowers please contact Kathy Fellows at 440.477.4485




**Close
Encounters**

 **MENTOR**
United Methodist Church

8600 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060
440.255.3496 - info@mentorumc.org

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

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WIFI password: GodLovesYou

Hannah's Home Baby Bottles

It is time for the annual Baby Bottle fundraiser for Hannah's Home. Take a bottle home (find in the Info Hub or Gallery) and fill it with cash or a check then return to the church by Father's Day. Last year this congregation raised \$1,094.30! Hannah's Home is a local organization that helps mothers and babies.

Fair Play Project

ALL are invited to the Fair Play performance on Tuesday, May 26th at 7 PM here at the church. This is a FREE event where local students participate in performances based on the Methodist Social Principles.

Scan to Read the Weekly Update



Lilah Catey Ring

Born on Sunday, May 17, 2026

Daughter of Andrew & Sarah Ring, sister of Aiden



Admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:

Enclave: Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith, Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler, Joe & Judy Tirpak

Ohman Family Living: Bob & Sandy Linsell

Parker Place: 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, Noralee Starr, Sandy Williams, Russ Lancaster, Kay McKinney, Terry & Mary Ellen Reynolds, Norma Ickes, Jo Brown, Syndie Toth, Doug Fletcher, Nancy Smith



Love & Sympathy to the family & friends of Doug Koman,
who passed on Thursday, May 21, 2026.

Celebration of Life is Wednesday, May 27th at 11 AM at Mentor UMC.



UPCOMING

AT MENTOR UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, May 24

- 9, 9:15, & 11 AM Worship
- 10 & 12 Fellowship Hour
- Martin Journey Group
- Children's Sunday School
- YSP Meeting

Monday, May 25

- OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, May 26

- Ring Journey Group
- Disciple III
- Young Adult Group
- Fair Play Performance, 7 PM

Wednesday, May 27

- Knitting Group
- Gaming Group
- Traditional Worship Meeting

Thursday, May 28

- Tardio Journey Group
- Bell Choir

Friday, May 29

Saturday, May 30

- Modern Worship Practice

Graduates & Scholarship Recipients 2026



College/Higher Ed Graduates

Tristan Bly
Isabella Cuff
Jaron Grantz

High School Graduates

Reid Crozier
Jack Cuff
Jayne Fletcher
Makayla Lippert
Sean Murphy
Jonathan Nemelka
Alex Ogrin
Darin Petrowski
Mark Poje
Tessa Rhoads
Sadie Stovall

The June Pfeiffer Scholarship

Helena Cherian
Samuel Gingrich
Kiersten Grantz
Penny McFadden
Jonathan Nemelka
Alex Ogrin
Ryan Pershing
Darin Petrowski
Jason Rhoads
Leia Toivonen
Rebecca Toth

The Rebecca Horvath Scholarship

Reid Crozier
Emily Strunk

The Romig Education Fund Scholarship

Julia Gainar
Evan Palermo

The Mentor United Methodist Church Scholarship

Abigail Colbow

The Rev. Ronald & Marna Eppler Scholarship

Kiersten Grantz

The A. Hugh Brown Scholarship

Joseph Nemelka

The Rev. Dorothy Penny-Larter Scholarship

Evan Palermo

The Eleanor D & Herbert W Weil Scholarship

Emma Simons

Scholarship Histories

The June Pfeiffer Scholarship

June Pfeiffer was a very active member of Mentor United Methodist Church. She was an original member of the 9:30 AM Sunday School Class which met for many years. She often led the class Bible Study. June spent many hours working in the Church Office assisting the secretarial staff, in the Christian Education Office lending a hand to the Christian Education Director, and was very involved in the educational ministries of the church. She supported the United Methodist Women in their many activities. She did extraordinary needlepoint and supported the UMW Gingerbread House Craft Fair with the donations of many beautiful handmade items.

On July 21, 1988, Mrs. Pfeiffer established a large irrevocable Charitable Remainder Unit Trust which names Mentor UMC as the beneficiary. The charitable trust mandate was the education of church members. She contributed her many gifts and talents to the service of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God, and she leaves for the people of God a legacy of discipleship to be modeled by all.

The A. Hugh Brown Scholarship

A. Hugh Brown was a longtime resident of Mentor and Sarasota, Florida. He was a member of Mentor United Methodist Church, a trustee for Lake Hospital Systems, was a Shriner and a member of Charles M. Setzer Free and Accepted Masons Lodge 693. He was a U.S. Army Air Force veteran and a VFW member. Mr. Brown served on the Mentor Board of Education for 20 years. He was a former president of Mentor High School PTA and served as chairman for the MHS PTA Circus for 10 years. He was a past president of TOP 25 Parents Club. The Mentor Cardinal Stadium was dedicated in Mr. Brown's honor. He earned the honor of Outstanding Citizen of the Year in 1975. He was a member of Mentor Rotary, Mentor Chamber of Commerce, Elks Lodge and chairman of School Neighborhood Action Community Committee. He retired from General Electric in 1990 after 41 years of service.

The Reverend Dorothy Penny-Larter Scholarship

Dot Penny-Larter was born in Bradford, England in 1958. She graduated from Tong High School in Bradford and attended school at Bulmershe College in Reading, England. After coming to Ohio, she earned her Master of Arts in Biblical studies in 1998, and her Master of Divinity degree in 2003, both at Ashland University. She served Millersburg UMC from 1998 to 2001, Gnadenhutten UMC from 2001 to 2005 and Mentor UMC from 2005 to 2010. She taught several Disciple classes at Mentor UMC. The Reverend Dorothy Penny-Larter Scholarship was established by individual memorial donations in her memory.

The Rev. Ronald and Marna Eppler Scholarship

Ronald and Marna Eppler met at Baldwin Wallace College in 1954 and were married at the First United Methodist Church, New Philadelphia in 1956. Marna earned her Bachelor's Degree in Education, and Ron went on to earn his Master of Divinity Degree at Boston University Seminary. Ron served as a pastor at several churches in the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church, served as a Minister of Music, and became Mansfield District Superintendent in 1987. In retirement, he served the Mentor United Methodist Church as Visitation Pastor and was given the honorary title of Pastor Emeritus in 2002. Marna taught history, served as secretary of the Painesville United Methodist Church for most of the 1970's and then returned to teaching and tutoring children.

The Rev. Ronald and Marna Eppler Scholarship was established through the donations of many individuals.

The Mentor United Methodist Church Scholarship

The Mentor United Methodist Scholarship is awarded through the generosity of individual contributions to the Gifts, Endowments and Memorials (GEM) Committee of Mentor United Methodist Church. The Endowment Fund was created on May 20, 1991 to ensure the future of the church. Scholarship is one of several endowments.

The Eleanor D. and Herbert W. Weil Scholarship

Eleanor "Davie" Weil (b. 1924, d. 2017) attended the Massachusetts Collage of Art and was Art Director at Meister Publications in Willoughby. She was also a painter and several members of the Mentor UMC have her work in their homes. She held leadership positions in Mentor Women's Club and other civic organizations that raised scholarship money. At Mentor UMC she sang in the Chancel Choir and volunteered in many other areas. Herbert W. Weil (b. 1925, d. 1982) held music degrees from Queens College, NY and was the chief arranger and tenor saxophone player in the 179th General Hospital Band during WWII. He taught music for over 30 years in Kirtland, Cleveland Heights, and Brecksville, and he was also the choir director at Old South Church in Kirtland. Davie and Herb passed their love of the arts on to their sons, a musician and a writer and English professor.

The Rebecca Horvath Scholarship

Rebecca A. Horvath (b. 1978, d. 1997) was an Architect Major at Ohio State University in Columbus. She attended Garfield Elementary School, Mentor Memorial Junior High, and graduated from Mentor High School in 1996. She was a member of the tennis team, worked in the Unit Office all three of her high school years, and was Editor of the 1996 Mentor High School Yearbook to which she also contributed photographs. Rebecca was an active member of Mentor United Methodist Church. She volunteered in the Sunday School and with the Vacation Bible School program. She contributed many volunteer hours here at church and in school. She was a very loving and caring young lady.

This scholarship is gifted in her memory and honor.

Summer Thursday Worship

Join us in the Chapel on Thursday evenings all summer long. We'll meet at 7 PM for worship - with some special evenings outside! All are welcome to this service, especially those who may find themselves busy on Summer Sundays.

Choirs' Last Days Before Summer Break

Join us in Traditional worship the next few weeks for the last days of our choirs before summer break. Last day to see Charter Members Men's Choir's will be May 24th and Bell Choir's will be May 31st. Chancel Choir's last day will be Sunday, June 7th.

Pastor Ivy Farewell

Celebrate and Honor Pastor Ivy Sunday, June 21st, 2026 There will be pie a'la mode served in the Gallery after each service. We will present a love offering to Pastor Ivy as she leaves MUMC for a new appointment at Trinity UMC in Tallahassee, Florida. You can be a part of that gift by sending either cash or a check payable to MUMC, memo: Love Offering Pastor Ivy, to our church office by June 13th. Thank you, in advance, for being a part of this special celebration and helping to show love and appreciation for Ivy's ministry.