

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

NOVEMBER 26, 2023

8600 MENTOR AVE

MENTOR OH 44060

MENTORUMC.ORG

440.255.3496

Worship with us in-person or online:
[Mentorumc.org](https://www.mentorumc.org), [Facebook](#), and [Youtube](#)

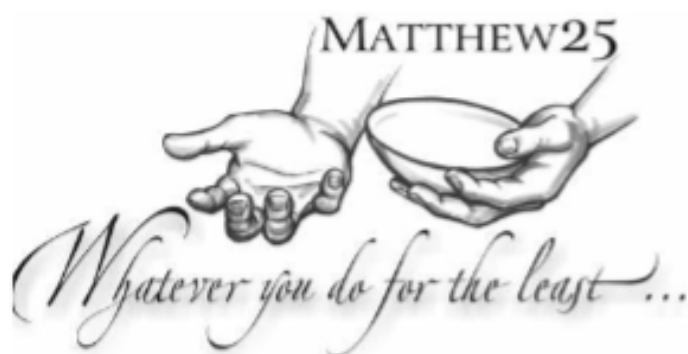
Worship Schedule

9 & 11 AM Modern

9 & 11 AM Traditional



PASTOR'S LETTER



WHAT WILL I GIVE HIM?

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.-Matthew 2:11



This is the time of year that we intentionally celebrate the fact that God gave us the greatest gift in His own Son, Jesus Christ. God gave us Jesus so that through faith in Him we could be forgiven of our sins and have eternal life.

One of the most quoted or recited verses in the Bible, John 3:16, exclaims: "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son that whosoever believes on Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

My question to you is this: **Have you received the gift God gives?** In short, we show our belief by our actions toward God and one another.

Two points about this incredible priceless gift.

1. The gift is Jesus Christ himself. The gift God offers is Jesus Christ. To know Him as a friend, to have fellowship with Him, to have a relationship with Him, The gift God offers us is to be known and loved by Christ. **Have you received this gift?**
2. The gift has great value. Although there is nothing more desirable than knowing Christ, many people just can't see it. Their eyes are not opened. They look in the manger and they don't see the King. They don't see the Savior of the world, they don't see the Prince of Peace, they don't see the Everlasting Father, they don't see anything special at all. They want the baby, the toys, the presents, they seek gold, myrrh, and frankincense. I ask: **Have you received this gift?**

Now, in response to receiving a gift, one might ask: **WHAT WILL I GIVE HIM?**

1. The best gift you can give to God is yourself.



2. By focusing on the needs of others and by giving without expecting something in return, we will be doing God's will, and our lives will take on new meaning, purpose, and direction.

Everyone is so busy getting ready for Christmas. It is my hope that you allow yourself to be giving to others and to God during this Christmas season. Jesus says in our passage this week, Matthew 25:31-46, we learn that when we share, give, touch others with the gift

given to us, we are claiming Christ as our King!

—Pastor Ivy

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 - Kay Disbro, Delores Tackett,
Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith, Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler

Salida Woods - Doris Sturm

University Manor - Virginia Gilman

Parker Place - Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell, 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, Luke Sanvido,

David Fell, Norma Ickes, Ruthie Hobart,

Mike Cosmo, Bob Williams, Mary Lou Haines

**Love & Sympathy to the family and friends of Patricia Bonner,
who passed on Sunday, November 19, 2023.**

A Celebration of life will be held at MUMC on December 12, 2023.

Upcoming seasonal offerings

Blue Christmas

Join us in the Chapel for our Blue Christmas service at 7 PM on December 20th. This service is for those who are grieving or struggling this Advent and Christmas season.

Sunday Morning Services

Our Sunday morning worship services continue to be 9 & 11 AM Modern and 9 & 11 AM Traditional. 9 AM Modern is streamed online as well as 11 AM Traditional. For the fourth Sunday of Advent (Christmas Eve morning) we will have 9 AM Modern & 11 AM Traditional, both livestreamed.

Christmas Eve Services

All our Christmas Eve services are candlelight.

3 PM - Communion

5 PM - Family Service

7 PM - Modern (streamed as well)

9 PM - Traditional (streamed as well)



Need to Know

Church Directory Sign Ups

NEW DATE ADDED!

Dec. 12-13 (NEW DATES)

Dec 14-16 (FULL)

Sign up online TODAY for your picture to be taken for the church directory (or just for you!). **Our church code is oh2729 and the password you will use is: photos (case sensitive).** To sign up in person, please visit the Info Hub. You can visit our website to learn more. There will also be a YELLOW info sheet for people to fill out in order for us to update our records (find in the office or Info Hub). Even if you do not get in the directory, this form is important for our records. CLICK HERE for the online form.

Tree of Remembrance

On Sunday, Dec 3rd at 1:00 PM on the lawn of Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home (8466 Mentor Ave) there will be a Remembrance ceremony. Bring a weatherproof ornament to place on the outdoor Tree of Remembrance when your loved one's name is read. Your ornament will remain on the tree until Jan 8. Please call our office if you wish to hang an ornament but cannot be present on this date. 440.255.3401

Christmas Cantata:

O Holy Light

Come see our annual Christmas Cantata during the 9 & 11 AM Traditional services in the Sanctuary on December 3rd. Our 11 AM service is streamed on Facebook and YouTube. We look forward to the excellent efforts of our choir and orchestral members. No cost or registration is required.

Prelude to Christmas

We'll meet in the Sanctuary on December 15th at 7:30 PM for the "Prelude to Christmas", a wonderful service led by our Charter Members Men's Choir and some members of the men's choirs from Painesville & Chardon UMC. No cost or registration is required.

Charge Conference

Join us for Charge Conference on Wednesday, December 6th at 7:00 PM.

Young At Heart Luncheon

RSVP here for this years YAH luncheon which will be on December 13th from 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. Those 62 years and older are invited to join us for a meal and some Christmas fun! There is no charge for this event!

Advent Devotionals

NOW available: Info Hub, Gallery, and the Narthex.

Youversion

<https://bible.com/events/49172036>

Learn more about Sunday's scriptures and worship by visiting this link each week.

Poinsettia Orders

TWO WEEKS LEFT! Place your orders for poinsettias online or in the Information Hub. Orders must be in by the first weekend in December. Plants cost \$7 each.

Usher Training

Join us at 7 PM on Wednesday, December 13th and Tuesday, December 19th at 7 PM in the Narthex for Usher training. This is a great opportunity for those who wish to get involved for the Christmas Eve services or Sunday mornings. You can contact the church office or Chris Meldrum for more info.

CWC Luncheon

Join us on Tuesday, December 12th from 11:15 AM to 1:30 PM for the Christian Women's Connection of Lake Co. Luncheon. It is \$20 and will be at Pine Ridge Country Club, Annette Campbell will be the speaker. They will be doing their "Holiday Gift Mart" that includes candy, cookies, center pieces, pins and more for sale! To RSVP please email: cwcstonecroft@yahoo.com or call Dee at 440.487.0661

Giving Trees

Our Giving Trees ministry is an annual mission where we provide gifts and support for those in need. To get involved, visit the trees displayed throughout the church or [this page](#). Deadline to drop off gifts is December 10th.

Plarn Mats

MUMC will start hand weaving sleeping mats out of plarn (plastic yarn) to distribute to the homeless community in Lake County. Donations of plastic grocery bags will be an ongoing need. Please only donate **clean** and **dry** grocery bags for use. Volunteers to weave can step up any time at the loom & start weaving. This is a great activity for all ages. Come check it out in the gallery! If you have any questions please reach out to Katelynn Gurbach 440-223-9250

Fieldtrip to Washington D.C.

You are invited to join Pastor Steve, his wife Rev. Cara, Pastor Ivy & Pastor Tammy along with others from Mentor UMC on a field trip to Washington DC from Dec 3-5th. We will leave together in vans. You will be responsible for the cost of lodging and food. Register by [clicking here](#). [LEARN MORE HERE](#) or on our website. Flyers are also available in the Info Hub.

What's Your M. ?

HELP NEEDED!

Directory Volunteers

If you are interested in helping this coming fall/winter with the Church directory, visit our site or [click here](#). Volunteers are needed for photography days Dec 12-16 in 2-3 hour shifts.

Hope Chest

Hope Chest is in need of gloves and coats ALL sizes. You may drop off items in the Community Center during office hours or on Sunday mornings.

Advent Wreath Lighting Sign Up: Now Open!

Sign yourself, family, or friends up for our wreath lighting this year! [Click here](#) to see what days and services are available. Pastor Tammy will contact you after you sign up with the information and liturgy.

Christmas Eve usher & Greeter Sign up

Sign up to be a greeter or usher for the Christmas Eve services this year. [Sign up online](#) or in the Info Hub.

Food Ministry

We continue to prepare for our ongoing Food Distributions.

Urgently needed items:

- Cake mix
- Stuffing
- Scalloped Potatoes
- Au Gratin Potatoes
- Ketchup
- Vegetable Oil
- Ranch
- Marinara Sauce

Items can be dropped off in the Community Center. Monetary donations are also accepted through your designated giving.

Thank you!

Thank you to all who donated time or resources for this year's Thanksgiving Day Dinner. We made and gave out well over 500 meals this past Thursday.

More Than A Meal

Volunteer for Saturday, December 30th for MTAM. [Click here](#)! Volunteers need to arrive at 4 PM. Doors open at 5 and food is served at 5:30 PM.

WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

Children & Family Ministries

www.mentorumc.org/children

Sunday Morning Kids

9:00 & 11:00 AM at MUMC for all services. Join us for our current curriculum, "Celebrate Wonder".

- [Check-In Instruction Video](#)
- Ages 0-2 and 3-4 sign in at the Early Childhood Area before service
- Grades K-5 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 here for WINTER leader signup](#). There are spots for various ages/levels, so check out what section works for you:)

"Worship one, serve one!"

Child & Caregiver Class

Age 2 ½ to 3 ½ on Weds from 9:15-10:45 AM. Cost is \$60 per 8 week session (prepaid, non-refundable). Please check out [our website](#) for more details and important dates.

MOMCo.

MOMco (The Mom Community) will meet on Friday, December 8th, at Mentor UMC. For more dates and locations, [check our website](#). updated dates.

2024-2025 Preschool Reg

While it seems to be an odd thing to share at this time of year, Pre-Registration for the 2024-25 school year is open to YOU, our church families. Click here for the: **[Pre-Registration Link](#)**. If you have any questions, please contact our State Manager, Brittany Jones at bjones.preschool@mentorumc.org.

Youth Feedback

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

Epiphany Party

Friday, January 5, 2024 from 6:00-11:00 PM Dress up, enjoy a nice dinner, glow in the dark activities, and Epiphany Worship Service.

Advent Calendars

Chocolate Advent calendars are available to purchase for \$5.00 each. Proceeds go to Vacation Bible School. Call the church office or stop by during office hours.

Youth MORNINGS

Grades 6-12 are welcome to join us every Sunday morning from 10:10-10:50 to be in community and have discussion. We are following the sermon series for our discussions.

Youth EVENINGS

Youth are invited to join us from 6:00 to 7:30 Pm here at MUMC.

[Upcoming Dates:](#)

November 26

December 10 (offsite)

[Signup for any dates here.](#)

Christmas Play - *Believe!*

Join us on Saturday, December 9th at 4:00 PM for our annual Christmas Play in Fellowship Hall. Get your tickets [here](#) or on our site.

Gift of Time

We will have 'Gift of Time', an afternoon of Childcare, on **Saturday, December 2nd** 1:00-4:00 here at MUMC. Childcare is offered by Children's Ministry Team. Sign up or volunteer by [clicking here](#).