

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

APRIL 13, 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

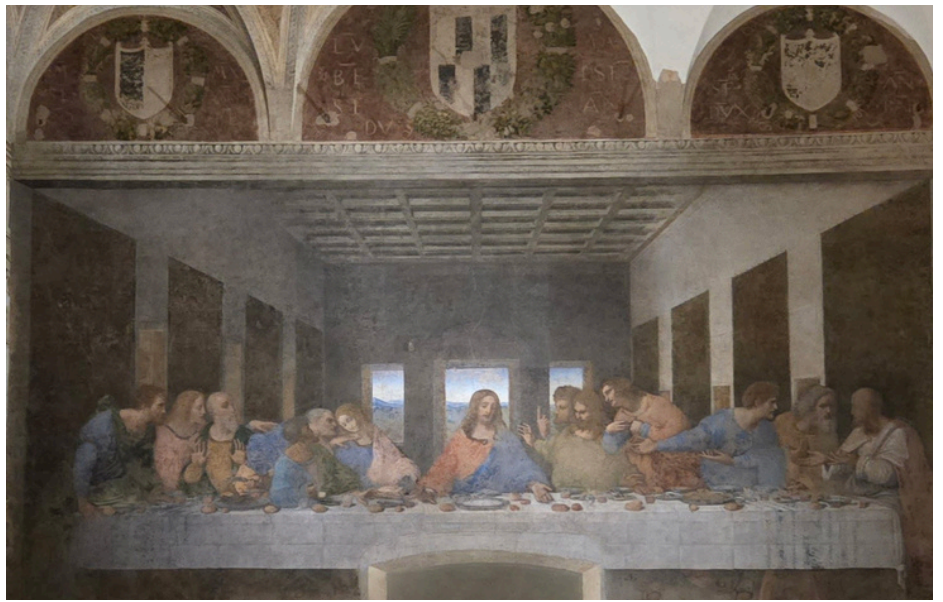


Pastor's Letter

He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer..."

But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table."

- Luke 22:15, 21



Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper"

Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper" is a renowned mural painting depicting the biblical scene of Jesus' Last Supper with his apostles, located in the refectory of the Santa Maria delle in Milan, Italy, and painted between 1495 and 1498. I'm grateful for Doug and Denise Post, participants of my Disciple Bible Study class for this picture. They were recently in Milan, Italy where they saw and were permitted to take pictures of da Vinci's The Last Supper. They shared in class that da Vinci chose to portray the scene right after Jesus said that one of them would betray him.

This Sunday, April 13, we celebrate Palm/Passion Sunday which is always the Sunday before Easter. It is called "Palm" Sunday because it always includes one of the Gospel readings that tell about Jesus coming into Jerusalem for the Passover celebration when Jews remember how God freed them from slavery in Egypt as recorded in the book of Exodus. It is also the last Sunday in Lent, the Sunday before Easter.



In our "Dinner with Jesus" series this Lent, this dinner with Jesus is the most iconic and memorable. As you know, this is the dinner we celebrate and remember every time we take communion. It is at this dinner that an argument develops about who is the greatest, and Jesus teaches us about true greatness and servant leadership. It is at this dinner that Jesus gives a new commandment - that we love one another as Jesus loves us (John 13:34). It is at this dinner that Jesus reveals that one of the disciples would betray him. It is the last dinner with Jesus before he dies on a cross.

Come to this last dinner with Jesus and experience a taste of His kin-dom, love, grace, and forgiveness so that others may experience the same with us.

Pastor Steve

Pastor Steve





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

Breckenridge/Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher

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

This Easter, Let's Make History!

Does anyone remember there ever being an MUMC Easter Sunrise service at Fairport Harbor Beach Park? Or, has there ever been a sunrise service the week after Easter to re-enact the story in John 21 when the resurrected Jesus appears on the shore of the Sea of Galilee? The disciples have been fishing all night and have caught nothing. When they get to the shore, Jesus feeds them fish from a charcoal fire and then asks Peter three times "Peter, do you love me?" No? Ok, then, let's make history together!

Here's how you can help make these services even more effective and memorable...Let Pastor Steve know if you are interested in helping in any of the ways below.

For April 20th, *Easter Sunrise Service*, 6:30 am at Fairport Harbor Beach Park:

- Be a greeter: get there by 6:10 AM & be ready to welcome people as they arrive
- Bring light refreshments (donuts, muffins, a container of coffee, etc.)
- Bring a folding table to set refreshments on

For April 27th, *John 21 Reenactment Sunrise Service*, 6:30 am at Fairport Harbor Beach Park:

- All the above plus...
- One or two men to be disciples in the boat
- A fishing boat (one without a motor/one that can be rowed) that could be used. *Do you have such a boat? Do you know someone who does?*
- A casting net or something like it.

Painesville UMC is going to be collaborating with us for the Easter Sunrise on April 20th. It is rare for Easter to be this late in the year. So, I'm hopeful for a beautiful sunrise! See you there!

Pastor Steve

Background picture courtesy of Nancy Richards

Youversion

<https://bible.com/events/49418131>

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

Scholarships 2025

Students in high school and college are encouraged to fill out the MUMC Scholarship form for 2025. Find it online [HERE](#). **Deadline to submit is THIS WEEK, Friday, April 18th.**

Poverty Simulation

Join us at MUMC in Fellowship Hall on April 26th from 11 AM to 1 PM for a Poverty Simulation. Please register by April 24th. **We need at least 30 participants and 15 facilitators for this simulation.** Ages 13 and up are welcome and a light lunch will be provided. Childcare for 12 and under available upon request. Contact mthomas@eocumc.com with any questions. [Learn more and register here.](#)

May Sermon Series & Donations

Donations of vinyl records being accepted for our next sermon series, "Jukebox Jesus". We'll explore scripture through popular music and enjoy an exciting music event on Friday, May 23rd. Donations can be dropped off to the church office or to Kenna's office.

Need to Know



Background picture courtesy of Nancy Richards, taken at Fairport Harbor Beach

Bread, Broth, Brownies, & Bingo

Don't miss the international flavors & fun at Mentor UWF's May luncheon! Menu includes naan flatbread, chicken tortilla soup, Australian Tim Tam (cookie) brownies, and an opportunity to sample teas from around the world. Carol Haines will share a personal story of an amazing "international connection" made through a youth group project. We hope to see you on Wednesday, May 7th at noon in the Gallery! RSVP to uwf@mentorumc.org, [register online here](#), or in the Info Hub.

Fellowship Hour

Join us the first Sunday of the month for Pancakes in the Gallery after services! To host Fellowship hour, get in touch with Kathy Fellows: 440.477.44851

This Sunday is Pancake Sunday! The cost of this monthly breakfast has been generously taken care of by the Niemi family. If you feel so inclined to help defray the cost or to sponsor the monthly breakfast, please feel free to do so using any of our giving options with it clearly labeled PANCAKES.

Pastor Steve's Renewal Leave



We hope this message finds you well and thriving in your faith journey. We are pleased to announce that Pastor Steve will be taking renewal leave from July 1 to August 26, 2025.

The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) unanimously approved Pastor Steve's request at their March 25 meeting, and he has also received support from our District Superintendent, Rev. Angela Lewis. As outlined in the United Methodist Book of Discipline, renewal leave may include study, travel, spiritual retreat, or other restorative activities that enhance ministry effectiveness. This opportunity for rest, recharge, and spiritual refocus is encouraged for all clergy in the United Methodist Church every six years. Pastor Steve's last renewal leave was in 2017, making this a timely and much-deserved break.

Pastor Steve plans to travel to Virginia to visit family and explore the Appalachian Trail, and to Canada, where he and his wife Cara share a cabin with her siblings. He will also spend time reading, studying, working on home projects, and enjoying special outings with his sons, Eli and Atticus.

During Pastor Steve's leave, Pastor Ivy will serve as Senior Pastor, with Pastor Tammy assisting in pastoral responsibilities. Preaching and worship will be led by Pastor Ivy and Pastor Tammy, along with guest preachers for two or three Sundays. Rev. Barb Holzhauser will provide pastoral care assistance as needed.

Pastor Steve has expressed that he is not feeling burned out and feels blessed to serve as the Sr. Pastor at Mentor United Methodist Church. He remains energized and excited about our future together, attributing part of his vitality to proactive renewal leave.

We ask for your prayers that Pastor Steve's renewal leave will be a true time of Sabbath and renewal. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to anyone on SPRC or speak directly with Pastor Steve.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Blessings,

SPRC

Candy & Volunteers

Children & Family Ministry is in need of candy donations for this year's Community Egg Hunt at Garfield Park. Donations can be dropped off in the church office or to Pastor Tammy. Volunteers are also needed to stuff eggs ahead of time and/or on day of to bring food, run an activity, or cleanup. [Sign up online here](#) or on our website.

Change the World Day

For Change the World Day 2025 we are hosting *Rise Against Hunger* to pack 15,000 meals to be distributed worldwide to people in need. This is a hands-on event to be held at MUMC in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 3rd, from 10 AM to noon. ALL ages and abilities welcome! There are tasks to do standing or sitting down--we encourage all to participate.

To volunteer for this event please register [here](#) or on the sign-up sheet in the Info Hub.

Donations to cover the cost of these meals can be made to MUMC with Rise Against Hunger in memo line or online at <https://www.mentorumc.org/onlinegiving> Select Fund: Missions or Other: Rise Against Hunger.

Pictures from previous CTWD.

What's Your M.❤️.? Mission Opportunities

Easter Offering

This year's Easter Offering is designated to the following Missions Ministries:

1/3 Food Ministry, 1/3 Hope Chest, 1/3 UMCOR National Relief

Royal Family Kids

Royal Family Kids Camp is an overnight camp experience for kids ages 6-11 who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned. This year's camp runs from Friday, June 6th through Wednesday, June 11th. Apply to volunteer full time or help out part time, as your schedule permits.

If you are 16 or older, you can help! The number of campers who can participate in this life-changing experience is limited by the number of volunteers. Don't be the reason some child can't come to camp! **[APPLY HERE](#)** or on our website.

Training date is Saturday May 3 from 8-4 at Willoughby Hills UMC. For more information, see or call Johanna Martin, 352-1432.

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](#).



Rise
AGAINST HUNGER

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:

April 11, 25

May 9, 23

Child & Caregiver Class

Age 2 ½ to 3 ½

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

- SPRING: April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14

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

Middle School

Grades 6-8 are welcome Sundays from 9:15-10 AM in the Youth Room during worship.

Easter Basket Making

Youth are invited to create special Egg Baskets for Easter this year to give out on Saturday, April 19th. Talk to Mackalyn for details.

Community Egg Hunt

This year's Community Egg Hunt is at Garfield Park on Mentor Ave. We'll meet at 10 AM to hunt for eggs! All families welcome.

Summer Programs

Get an early look at this summer's lineup at MUMC and beyond by visiting our [website](#). Find dates and the registration link under the "Upcoming" section [here](#).

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.

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:

April 13 & 27

May 11 & 25

Youth Service Project

This year YSP will be going to God's Country Community Mission in Newberry, MI. Learn more about events & fundraisers [here](#).