

8600 MENTOR AVE
MENTOR OH 44060
MENTORUMC.ORG

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

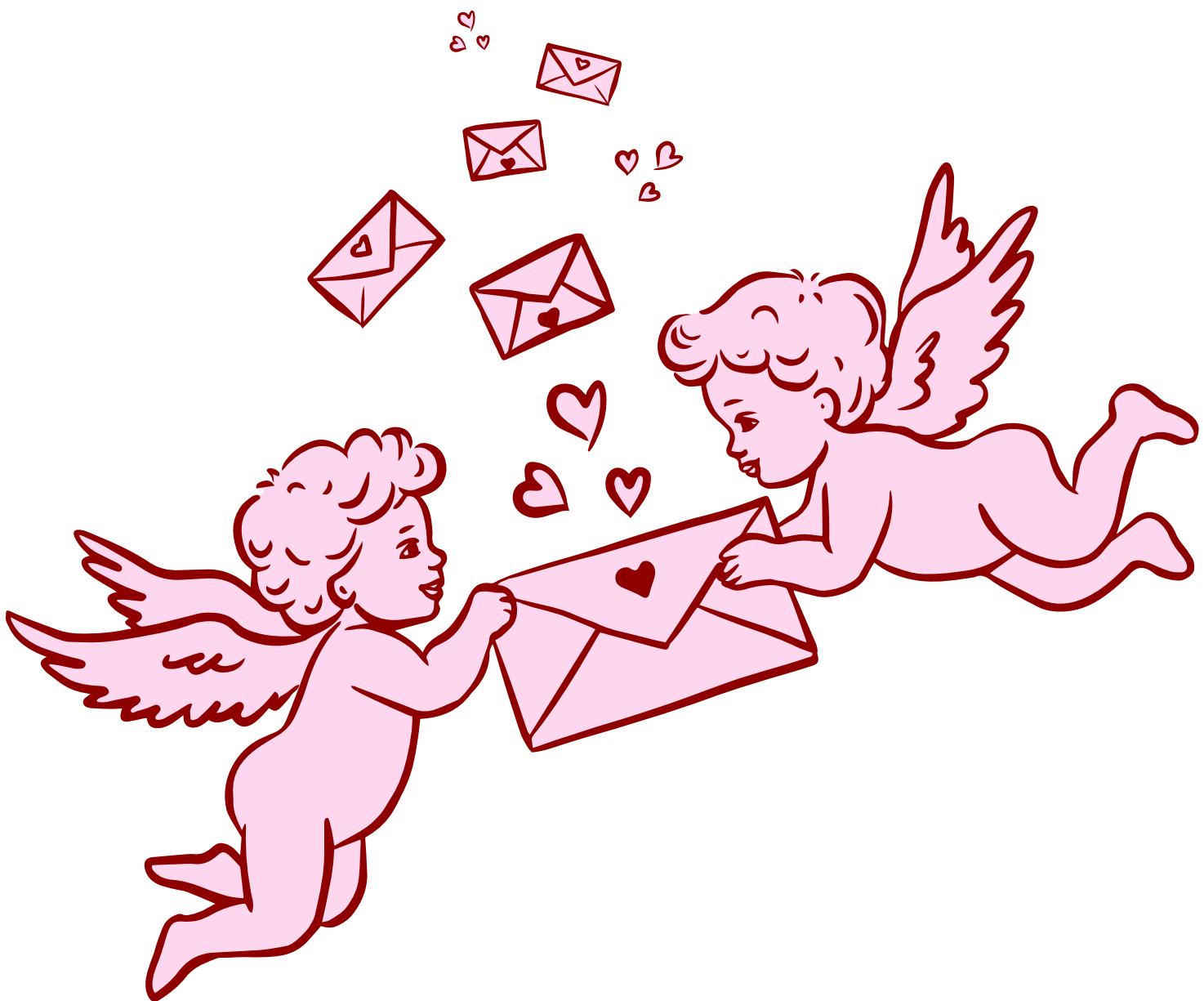
Worship Schedule

9 AM Modern

11 AM Traditional

MENTOR UNITED WEEKLY UPDATE METHODIST CHURCH

FEBRUARY 15, 2026



Pastor's Letter

Hello Siblings in Christ,

This week's text, Matthew 22:34-40, is one of my favorites, and if you have ever heard me preach or teach, you have most likely heard me say what Jesus taught in this passage. We are to love God and love our neighbor as we love ourselves. As I reread this familiar passage, I am drawn to how we are to love God: *with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind.* Jesus was quoting the *Shema* from Deuteronomy 6:4-5, the basic teachings of Jewish belief and what they are to teach their children.

When we read the first part of this passage, we learn that Jesus had left the Sadducees, the priests, speechless causing the Pharisees, made up mostly of laymen, to meet together to test Jesus on His knowledge of Jewish law. These leaders were trying to protect their power and feared who Jesus was and how people were listening to Him.

This past week I heard a saying that I think is relevant for 2026: Jesus was political and not partisan. If we look at the context of the time when Jesus lived and when the Gospels were written, we learn that the Roman government was suppressing the Jewish people. When Christians talk about how we are to love one another regardless of a person's heritage, skin color, status in society, or any of the other myriad of things that make us all different from one another, it has to do with how human beings are to be treated. Jesus did not teach one side against another when He said that we are to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. When we love ourselves, do we base that love on our heritage? Our skin color? Our status in society?

If we proclaim that we are followers of Jesus Christ, then what is holding us back from loving our neighbor, even those who are different from us, as we love ourselves? I have witnessed how you, the faith community of Mentor UMC, have shown love towards your neighbor without making it a partisan issue, but one of justice and compassion. Let us remain steadfast in how we treat our fellow human beings...in how we are to love like Jesus.

With the Love of Jesus,

Pastor Tammy

Pastor Tammy



CONGREGATIONAL Care

In our prayers today & in your personal prayer time, please remember the following:

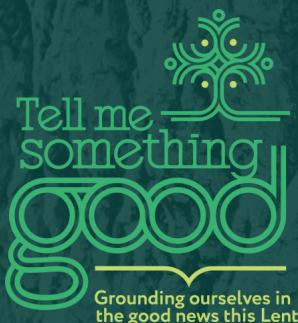
Admitted to Rehab,

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, Sandy Mazelis, Jack Donahue, The Lippert Family



Join us in worship during the season of Lent to explore perspective, spiritual grounding, and what this time of year really means.

9 AM Modern Worship
9:15 AM Chapel Worship
11 AM Traditional Worship

Free dinners followed by three optional groups are offered every Wednesday of Lent at MUMC. You are free to attend any number of evenings you choose. Learn more [online](#).

Healing Service
Wednesday, March 11th at 6:45 PM

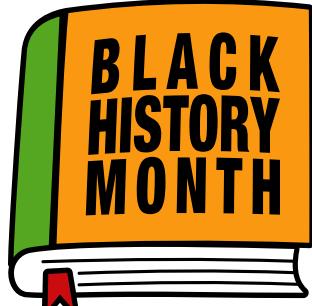
Lenten Cantata
Sunday, March 29th at 11 AM

Maundy Thursday
Thursday, April 2nd at 7 PM

Good Friday
Friday, April 3rd at 7 PM

Easter Sunrise Service
Sunday, April 5th at 7 AM

Easter Church Services
Sunday, April 5th at 9 AM, 9:15 AM, 11 AM



February is Black History Month!

There are many ways you can honor and learn more about *Black History Month*. Visit the East Ohio Conference [website](#) to find helpful resources that celebrate and reflect on Black History.

You can also find the "29 Ways You Can Participate in Black History Month" article on the UMC's General Commission on Religion and Race site [here](#).

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

Lenten Dinners & Groups

Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday. On the following Wednesday, February 25th, our weekly Lent dinners & groups kickoff. These evenings bring us together and drive us deeper into our faith. Join us for dinner at 5:45 PM and for groups at 6:45 PM. Find the dinner and group RSVPs [online here](#).

- **Group 1:** *Tell Me Something Good* Deep Dive with Pastor Steve and Pastor Ivy. Learn more about the themes of this sermon series and the scriptures that guide it.
- **Group 2:** #BeUMC with Chris Fletcher shares what the Methodist church is all about. This is an easy, low stakes way to learn more about Methodism.
- **Group 3:** *Social Principles* with Mackalyn Figgins. Go deeper in your understanding of how to engage with contemporary issues in a biblical and theological way. [Signup online](#) or reach out to Mackalyn.

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.

Need to Know

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: johannamartin@sbcglobal.net We look forward to celebrating 15 years of RFK and get ready for the next 15 years. See you there!

New Beginnings Class

Curious about Mentor UMC, Methodism, or what it means to be a member? New Beginnings is a welcoming space to explore faith, ask questions, and discover community. Whether you're ready to join or simply seeking clarity, come learn what it means to be part of a church that loves boldly, serves joyfully, and leads courageously. Check the schedule on our website.

Olivia Van Der Horst

daughter of
Cameron & _____
Granddaughter of
Mary Ann & Larry Van Der Horst
baptized on Sunday,
February 15, 2026

Ellie Zelenkofski

daughter of
Catherine & Mike,
Granddaughter of
Kitty Schirm
baptized on Sunday,
February 15, 2026

Ash Wednesday Services

7:30 AM in the Chapel

12 PM in the Chapel

7:30 PM in the Sanctuary

Join us for worship on Ash Wednesday, February 18th, at Mentor UMC for one of our services. The evening service will include the choir.

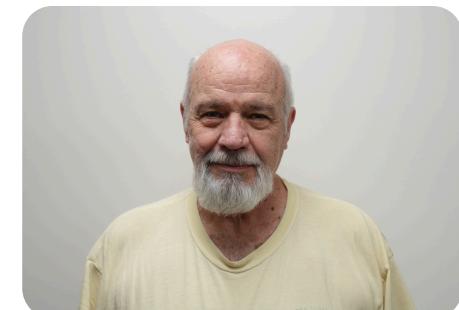


9:15 AM Chapel Service

Join us in the Chapel at 9:15 AM beginning February 22nd for a NEW service. This is a great option for those that enjoy the Traditional style worship in a more intimate setting.

WELCOME DAN BROOKS!

Welcome to Dan Brooks, Mentor UMC's new Part-time Assistant Facility & Custodial Specialist. Dan is married with four children. He previously served in the military and is retired from a company where he spent forty years. We are so excited to be part of this chapter in his life and so blessed that he is here at MUMC.



MORE EVENTS ON LAST PAGE

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.

Snacks for Theatre Students

Sign up online to donate snacks to the students at Memorial Middle School as they rehearse for their upcoming production of *Shrek*. If interested, take one week and provide 80 individually wrapped snacks. This is an area of Pastor Tammy's ministry that focuses on reaching out and forming relationships with the community.

Spring Sunday School Signup

MUMC's mission is to lead all onto a path of Christ-centered discipleship. Here is a great place to do just that! Get in touch with Pastor Tammy or click here for the Sunday School leader signup. There are spots for various ages/levels, so check out what section works for you.

"Worship one, serve one!"



What's Your M.O.?

Mission Opportunities

Nourishment for Body & Spirit

Lent is right around the corner as are the Wednesday Night Lent Dinners, starting February 25th. We are inviting individuals or groups to volunteer with prep, greeting, serving, and cleaning up. Please prayerfully consider supporting this important ministry moment. Contact membership@mentorumc.org or sign up online here.

More Than a Meal

Volunteer to prepare, cook, serve, or clean up for the next More Than a Meal (free community meal) on Saturday, January 31st. Doors open at 5 PM and the meal is served at 5:30 PM. This meal happens EVERY last Saturday of the month, so if you can't help this month, check out later dates. Signup online here or get in touch with the church office for help with signing up.

Hope Chest

Hope Chest needs men's winter gloves, hats, and jackets as well as Boys toddler pants. New or gently used items encouraged. Donations can be dropped off in the Community Center (by Fellowship Hall) at MUMC.

Sew for Charity

Head to Mentor Plains United Methodist Church for Sew for Charity Days from 10:30 AM to 2 PM (bring a lunch) on the following dates: Feb 27 & 28, March 27 & 28. All skill levels are welcome. There are sewing kits for making pillowcases, market bags, baby blankets, etc. as well as sewing machines (or you can bring your own). You have the choice to knit, crochet, or loom. You can RSVP for dates on SEW4SERVICE.ORG

The BIG Event

Save the date for this year's Youth Service Project fundraiser dinner, The BIG Event. Each year, the YSP students host an exciting night with auctions and entertainment. Keep an eye out for updates on ticket sales and ways you can get involved. YSP meets some Sundays after worship. Learn more online here.

Rummage Sale

Save the date for this year's Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 18th. We will be collecting donations the week leading up to the sale ONLY.

WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

Children's Min Meetings

Children's Ministry Team Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month on zoom at 7 PM. Contact Pastor Tammy for the link or for questions.

Sunday Morning Kids

9 & 11 AM for all services.

- ALL ages 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.

Child & Caregiver Class

This class is open to ages 2 ½ to 3 ½ on Wednesdays from 9:15 AM to 10:45 AM. The cost is \$65 per 8-week session (prepaid, non-refundable). The WINTER session is January 14, 21, 28; February 4, 11, 18, 25; March 4. The SPRING: March 25; April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13. [Fill out the form online here.](#)

Seedlings Class

Mentor UM Preschool's Seedlings class still has a few openings. This class is for children who are 3 years old as of January 1, 2026 and are toilet trained. Older children are welcome. It meets from 9:00-11:15 on Mondays and Fridays. Please contact Brittany Jones at bjones.preschool@mentorumc.org to register.

MOMCo Meetings

Meetings are the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month from 9:30 AM to 12 PM in the Gallery. [Register and learn more online.](#)

EGGstravaganza

Families & friends are invited to the community egg hunt at Mentor UMC on Saturday, April 4th at 10 AM. There will be candy, games, and fun! If you wish to volunteer, please reach out to Pastor Tammy.

Gaming Group

Wednesdays are game nights! Join this Intergenerational group on Wednesdays from 5:30-9:30 PM (or whatever time you can spare) in the Youth Room. Right now, D&D is the game offered. If there is a particular game you are interested in seeing at MUMC, get in touch with Mackalyn.

During Lent, we will meet on a different day.

Youth Ice Skating

Youth are invited on Sunday, March 15th to go Ice Skating together after church. Carpool or meet us at Mentor Civic center. The cost is \$7 per student. Reach out to Mackalyn Figgins for more info.

March Madness Watch Party

Youth & Young Adult Ministry is hosting a March Madness watch party that ALL are invited to on Saturday, March 21st. We will meet in the gallery to enjoy games and snacks.

Open Table

Join us on the second Thursday of the month for "Open Table," a themed evening of free food & fun at Mentor UMC. [RSVP online](#), in the Info Hub, or just show up.

Young Adult Group

For Lent, we'll be meeting on Tuesday evenings (mostly) for the *Taste and See* study at the church. This is an exciting study that looks at scripture through the creativity of food. Since we will be doing activities and cooks, we recommend that you join us in person when you can. Individuals are responsible for buying the book *Taste and See* by Margaret Feinberg in order to participate. Ebooks are available on Cokesbury for \$8 or you can find a used book on sites like [Thriftbooks](#) for a little less. If you need help purchasing, just reach out to Mackalyn.

Young Adult Outing

Young Adults are invited to a n outing on March 7th. We'll carpool or meet at the Towpath Trail at [Sokolowski's Overlook: 1203 University Rd, Cleveland, OH 44113](#) for their annual Lantern parade. Arrive around 6:30 PM to make a lantern then join in the parade as it makes its way down the trail. This event is completely free and goes until 8 PM.

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. The event is 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.