

**MENTOR**

**UNITED**

WEEKLY UPDATE

**METHODIST**

**CHURCH**

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

8600 MENTOR AVE

MENTOR OH 44060

MENTORUMC.ORG

440.255.3496

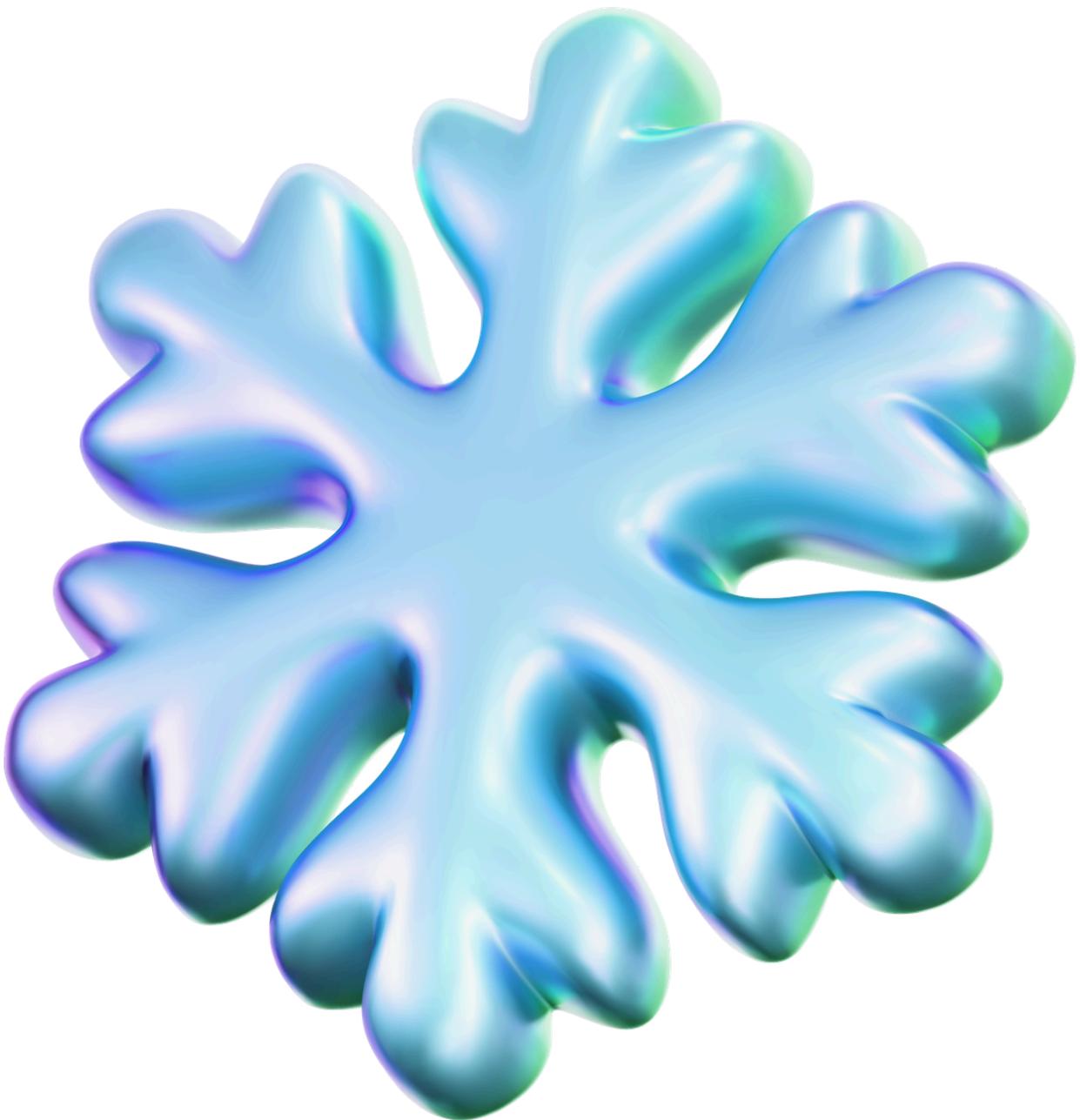
Worship with us in-person or online:

Mentorumc.org, Facebook, and Youtube

**Worship Schedule**

9 AM Modern

11 AM Traditional



# Pastor's Letter

Tell Me Something Good

*The Good News is... so good it catches us by surprise*

"They have no more wine." – John 2:3

"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed..." - Matthew 13:31

This Sunday is the first Sunday in Lent and the first Sunday of our Lenten series, *Tell Me Something Good*. Each Sunday in this series, we will explore the Good News. What is it? Where is it? Who is it for? How do we recognize it? How do we share it? The series comes from a guild of artists, theologians, pastors, and writers called "A Sanctified Art". They began by reading the Gospels, looking for what was central to Jesus' life and ministry. What they found again and again was liberation, love, mercy, and grace – all of which are meant to be very good news for us all. This Sunday, the focus is: **"The Good News is... so good it catches us by surprise."**

The gospel readings take us to two very different places: a village wedding where something goes unexpectedly wrong, and a teaching of Jesus about a seed so small it's easy to overlook. Neither scene seems dramatic at first glance. No thunder. No mountain-top moment. Just ordinary life unfolding. And yet, in both stories, something quietly wonderful happens.

What strikes me is how often God's goodness shows up not in the moments we plan for, but in the moments we never saw coming. Sometimes grace arrives in situations that seem small or even inconvenient. Sometimes hope begins in ways we almost miss. Sometimes what feels like an ending turns out to be the beginning of something better.

Many of us carry concerns, disappointments, or worries we didn't expect to be holding at this point in our lives. We wonder where good news is supposed to fit into all of that. This week we'll explore how God's goodness often meets us right there—in the ordinary, the overlooked, and even the awkward moments—and how surprise can become a doorway to joy and renewal.

I don't want to give away too much ahead of time. But I hope you'll join us as we listen for good news that may already be closer than we think.

I look forward to worshipping with you this Sunday.

Grace and peace,



Pastor Steve

*Messianic Secret*  
by T. Denise Anderson  
Inspired by John 2:1-11  
14"x18" Acrylic on canvas  
A Sanctified Art | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)



# Care CONGREGATIONAL

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

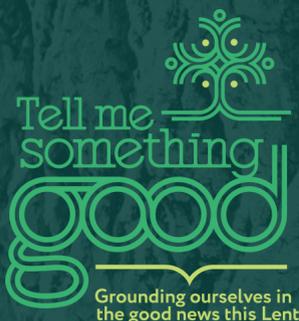
## Admitted to Rehab,

### 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, Jack Donahue, The Lippert Family, Norma Ickes



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 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 PM

**Good Friday**  
Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 PM

**Lenten Cantata**  
Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM

**Easter Sunrise Service**  
Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 AM

**Maundy Thursday**  
Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 PM

**Easter Church Services**  
Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM, 9:15 AM, 11 AM

## Thank you!

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone for your thoughts and prayers before, during, and after my open heart surgery. The blessings I've received are to many to enumerate. A simple thank you seems cliché but know not only do I give thanks to God for my healing in mind, body, and spirit but to everyone at MUMC.

-Sandy Mazelis, Mentor UMC's office assistant.

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 25<sup>th</sup>, 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.

*Childcare will be offered from 6:45 to 8 PM for those that wish to attend a group.*

### Order Easter Flowers

Grab a form in the Info Hub or [order online](#) for Easter flowers! Daffodils, Tulips, and Hyacinths are \$8 each, and Hydrangeas are \$15 each. 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](mailto: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. Check the schedule on our website.

### Wesleyan Presentation

Join Pastor Tammy on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

### March Madness Watch Party

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

### 9:15 AM Chapel Service

Join us in the Chapel at 9:15 AM for a NEW service.

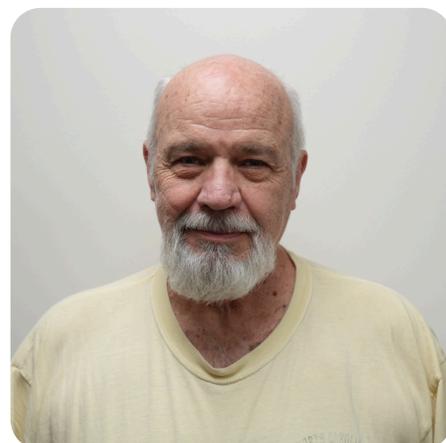
This is a great option for those that enjoy the Traditional style of worship in a more intimate setting.

### Open Table

Join us in APRIL for the next Open Table. For Lent, there is no meal to account for the Wednesday night dinners. April's theme will be a preview for this year's Vacation Bible School hosted by the Children & Family Ministry team! [RSVP online](#), in the Info Hub, or just show up.

## 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.



## TV Thank You!

Many thanks to the Cornerstone Fellowship group for funding the new monitor and sound system upgrades in the Gallery and to those who donated their time to install the system. These upgrades will enhance the dinners, programs, and events in the Gallery for the church and outside groups who use this space, and we are grateful!

## Souper Bowl of Caring

*Seahawks*: \$422.00

*Patriots*: \$266.00

*Commercials*: \$37.86

Thank you to all who participated in this year's "Souper Bowl of Caring." The total donations going to Project Hope for the Homeless is **\$725.86!**

## POP UP Food Pantry

The next POP UP Food Pantry will be on February 28<sup>th</sup> at Mentor-on-the-Lake Public Library. We'll pack up food at the church at 9 AM then distribute from 10-12 PM. To volunteer or donate, please reach out to Mackalyn Figgins.

## 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](mailto: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](http://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 18<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto: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 4<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM. There will be candy, games, and fun! If you wish to volunteer, please reach out to Pastor Tammy.

## You've Been Egged!

Youth are invited to join us on the evening of April 4<sup>th</sup> to "egg" friends and members that are on our minds. We'll create Easter baskets with fun goodies then drop them off at people's homes as an Easter surprise.

## Gaming Group

Join this Intergenerational group 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, please get in touch with Mackalyn for the schedule.***

## Youth Ice Skating

Youth are invited on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Scholarship 2026

Students are invited to [fill out the MUMC Scholarship form](#) by Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2 PM. This opportunity is for any high school or higher education student who has been a member here for at least ONE year. We'll celebrate our recipients and grads on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

## 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 an outing on the evening of Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. 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 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.

## Shrek Tickets

Come enjoy a terrific show at Mentor Memorial Middle School on Friday, February 27, at 7:30 PM or Saturday, February 28 at 7:30 PM. This is a special outreach of Pastor Tammy's that helps build relationships and foster creativity amongst students in our community. [Purchase online here.](#)