

# MENTOR

# UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

# METHODIST

# CHURCH

JANUARY 25, 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

## Glory Revealed – Glory Confronts Us

*The people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.*

– Matthew 4:16 NIV

What do you think of when you hear the word “glory”? I’m reminded of growing up and hearing my dad mockingly say, “Who gets the glory? Who gets the glory?” He’d say this whenever my brothers would be arguing over something, each one insisting that he was right!

When we hear the word glory in everyday life, we usually think of bright lights and big moments. We think of glory days, championship trophies, standing ovations, red carpets—moments when someone is seen, celebrated, and lifted up. In our culture, glory tends to shine where success shines.

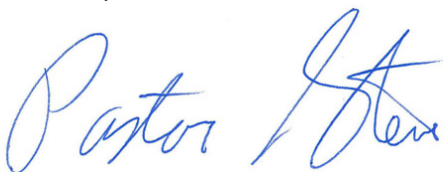
But Matthew tells us something very different. He says, “The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death, light has dawned.”

Notice where the light shows up. Not in palaces. Not in power centers. Not in places already glowing with success. The light, God’s glory, dawns in places of darkness. In overlooked regions. Among ordinary people. Along dusty roads, in fishing villages, in lives that are weary and waiting.

In other words, God’s glory doesn’t just shine where things are already impressive. God’s glory shines where light is needed most. And when we see God’s glory, when God’s glory is revealed, we are often confronted. It changes us. What we see cannot be unseen! What we come to know cannot be dismissed. Our lives, like the disciples’ and like so many throughout history, take on new direction, new focus, and new identity.

This week, we start a new three-week series, “Glory Revealed.” My hope is that together we will come to see and know God’s glory more fully through the lens of Jesus, or in other words, through the lens of the cross. We will explore how God’s Glory confronts us, shapes us, and shines through us. We are invited to look for glory not only in what’s bright and celebrated—but in what’s quiet, hidden, struggling, and hungry for light. Because that’s often where God chooses to dawn.

On a path of Christ-centered discipleship with you,



Pastor Steve



# 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  
*Prosper at Wickliffe* - Gloria McFeely  
*Symphony of Mentor* - Lorraine Ahlstrom  
*Governor's Point* - Bob Williams  
*Salida Woods* - June Van Ostrand  
*Danbury Senior Living* - Terry Reynolds

## 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, Heather Lippert, Jack Donahue, Doug Fletcher

## Glory REVEALED

1/25 - Glory Confronts Us  
2/1 - Glory Shapes Us  
2/8 - Glory Shines Through Us



Join us in-person or online  
9 AM & 11 AM



[www.mentorumc.org](http://www.mentorumc.org)

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

### **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.

### **Book Club**

Join us for Book Club on Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM at Mentor UMC. We will discuss books we've been reading in our own time and what reading goals we have for the year.

### **Museum Trip**

The EOC is sponsoring a day at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit, Michigan. You are invited to meet at and ride a charter bus from Mentor UMC to the museum. Together, we will spend the day learning, meeting new friends, and fellowshiping. Lunch will be served on the bus. January 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to [register online](#) for this opportunity.

### **Lenten Dinners & Classes**

Lent will begin soon and with it, weekly Lent dinners & classes that bring us together and drive us deeper into our faith. Join us on Wednesdays beginning February 25<sup>th</sup> through March 25<sup>th</sup>. Dinner will be at 5:30 PM and classes begin at 7 PM. You can attend either or both. Details on menu and class specifics available soon.

# *Need to Know*

### **Offering Envelopes NOW IN**

Pick up your offering envelopes this Sunday in the Information Hub.

### **Leadership podcast**

Join Pastor Steve in watching/listening to Jack Shitama's "The Non-anxious Leader" podcast. Share your thoughts on Slack with other viewers and Pastor Steve. Join Slack [online here](#).

### **The Promise of Heaven**

*The Promise of Heaven* by Dr. David Jeremiah book study will be January 22, 29, February 5, 12, 19 4:00-6:00 in the Conference room. Please contact Pastor Tammy to sign up: [tpalermo@mentorumc.org](mailto:tpalermo@mentorumc.org).

### **Royal Family Kids Dinner**

Join us for the Royal Family Kids #271 fundraising dinner at Mentor United Methodist Church on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:30 PM. Sponsor a table of 8 for \$200 and invite your friends and family to come learn about and support this wonderful mission. Please email Abbie Akucewich to reserve your table before February 17<sup>th</sup> at [abbie.carle@gmail.com](mailto:abbie.carle@gmail.com) OR if you would like to come and not sponsor an entire table, there are seats available at tables already sponsored. Please contact Johanna Martin for more information: [johannamartin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:johannamartin@sbcglobal.net) Join us to celebrate 15 years of RFK and get ready for the next 15 years. We hope to see you there!

### **Connect Cards: Helping Us Care Well**

If you notice a member or friend we should reach out to, simply fill out a Connect Card. You'll find them - in the back of the chair/pew, at the Information Hub and Welcome Center. Completed cards may be placed in the offering plate or in the little church at the Welcome Center. We believe these cards will strengthen our ministry of presence, care, and renewal—ensuring each person feels seen, valued, and remembered. Thank you for your support in this important ministry!

### **Young at Heart Valentine Luncheon**

Those 65 years and older are invited to join us for a meal and some Valentine fun Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, at noon in the Gallery. The luncheon will include pork tenderloin, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, gravy, roasted vegetables, salad, and pie. Missionaries Dr. Les and Debbie Dornon will speak with us following lunch on how they have been "Sharing God's Love Near and Far" while serving at Tansen Hospital in Nepal for 25 years. This event is sponsored by Mentor United Women in Faith and is open to all. Cost is \$5.00 per person cash or check payable at the door. **Please RSVP by Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> to [uwf@mentorumc.org](mailto:uwf@mentorumc.org), register [online here](#), or find the signup sheet in the Info Hub.**



## **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.

## **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.

## **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! 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 and Spirit**

Lent is right around the corner as are the Wednesday Night Lent Dinners, starting February 25th. We are inviting individuals or groups to help plan and cook a meal. Please prayerfully consider supporting this important ministry moment. Contact [membership@mentorumc.org](mailto:membership@mentorumc.org) or Chris Fletcher, 740-739-2155 for more information.



### **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.

### **Rummage Sale 2026, Planning Begins!**

It's time to start gathering those hidden gems! Go through closets, basements, and attics to find items you'd like to donate for our upcoming Rummage Sale on April 18th. Interested in helping shape the event? Join us for the **Rummage Sale Planning Meeting on Wednesday, February 11th** at 6:00 PM. Contact Chris Fletcher at 740-739-2155 with any questions.

### **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)

# CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES. YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES. 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

9:00 & 11:00 AM at MUMC 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.](#)

## Ski Outing

Join us on February 15th at 2 PM (weather permitting) for cross country skiing at Chapin Forest. We will meet at the church at 1:30pm to head over to the park. We will ski and return to the church around 5pm. Cost is \$15 per person. Please [sign-up online](#) if you are interested. And let Mackalyn know if you need help with transportation or cost!

## Spiritual Parenting

Join us on Tuesdays REMOTE from 8:15 to 9:15 PM, January 13<sup>th</sup> through February 17<sup>th</sup> for a study by Dr. Michelle Anthony. *Spiritual Parenting* introduces the simple but revolutionary concept that parents are, by the power of God's Spirit, to obey and depend on God in order to create an environment God can use to beckon their children to God. He wants hearts and souls that are shaped in vibrant faith and love toward God and others. [Register online here](#) or get in touch with 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 Thursdays at the same time.*

## Young Adult Group

Young Adults (post High School to 35 years old), are invited to join us for discussion and fun on Tuesdays at 6 PM in the Youth Room. We have two awesome studies coming up this winter/spring.

### • February 3, 10, & 17th:

Join us for a three-week study in February as we look at *The Journey - Forgiveness, Restorative Justice and Reconciliation* by Stephanie Hixon & Thomas W. Porter. This book intertwines stories from the Bible and recent history to illustrate the redemptive power of forgiveness, the restorative power of God's justice, and the Good News of reconciliation. Books are provided.

### • February 23, March 9, 17, 24, 31, April 7:

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 also 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.