

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

JUNE 8, 2025

GRADUATION & SCHOLARSHIP
RECOGNITION SUNDAY

8600 MENTOR AVE
MENTOR OH 44060
MENTORUMC.ORG

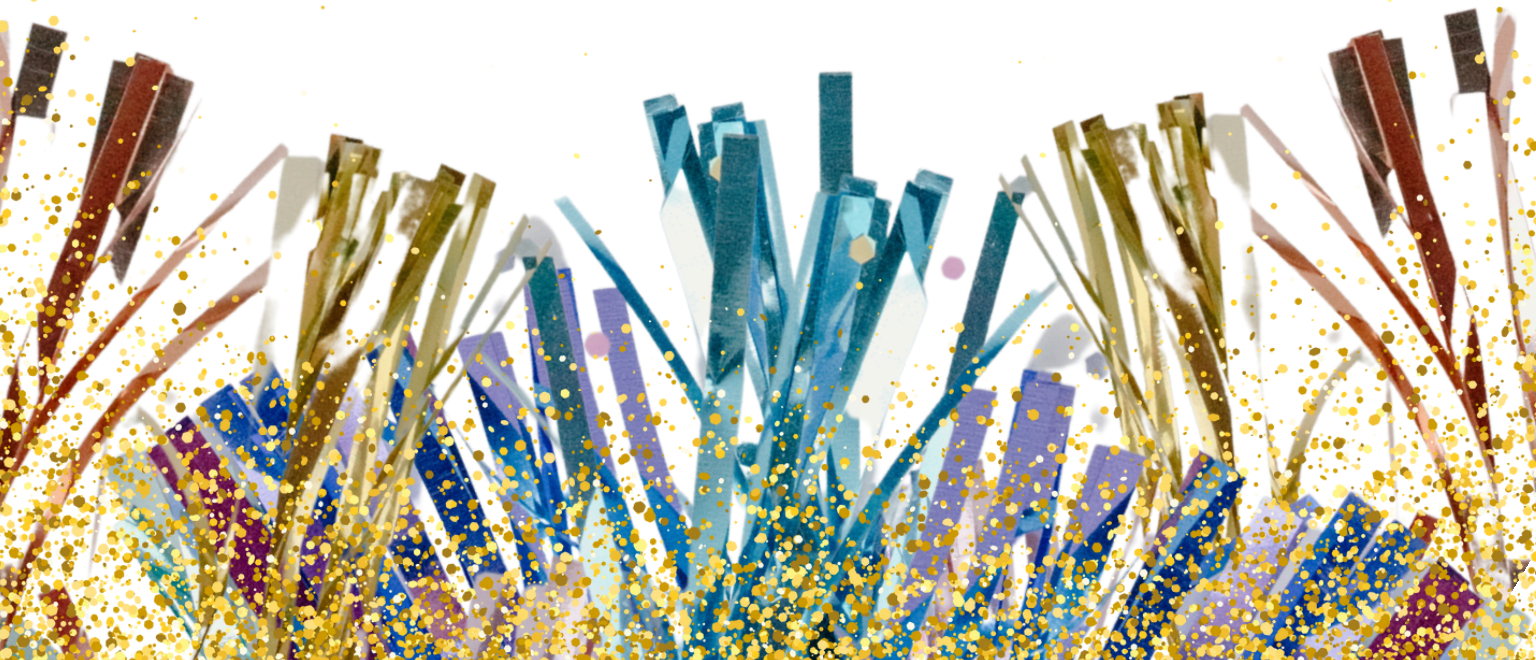
440.255.3496

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

Worship Schedule

9 AM Modern

11 AM Traditional



Pastor's Letter

Follow the Fire, The Scenic Route

So God led the people by the roundabout way of the wilderness
– Exodus 13:18a (NRSV)

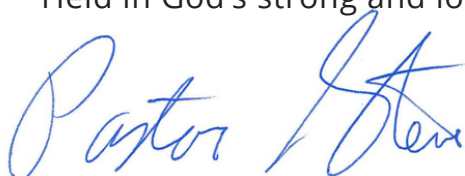
This week, we continue on the road in our series, *Road Trip: On The Go With God*. We will reflect on two passages of scripture from Exodus 13 and Acts 2 (Pentecost). The Exodus passage is part of the story of God delivering God's people, the Israelites, from slavery in Egypt. If you have ever watched the 1956 movie, "The Ten Commandments," you have, branded in your mind's eye, the iconic image of Moses, played by Charlton Heston, boldly striking the Red Sea with his staff and the waters miraculously parting for God's people to go through. It is powerful. In fact, it is a story of inspiration and identity-making that is told and referenced over and over again throughout the Old Testament. It is a reminder of God's power and faithfulness that reminds us to trust and follow God even into a turbulent sea while being chased by enemies!

But, did you know, that they didn't have to cross the Red Sea? Seriously! They could have taken a land route that would have been shorter! Exodus 13:18 says that God led the people (intentionally) by the roundabout way of the wilderness. Why? Why did God take them through the Red Sea and into the wilderness where they ended up wandering around for 40 years—a whole generation! That's a question for us to ponder and it's one that I will reflect on more in my sermon this week. For now, this passage has me thinking about the value God places on the journey as much as the destination.

It seems that God is saying to the Israelites *SLOW DOWN, take the scenic route, don't just try to get to your destination as fast as you can, you have much to learn on the way*. It is an important message for all of us in our current age and context. We need to take time for sabbath, time to reflect, time to pause from the everyday demands that keep us always on the go.

In the United Methodist Church, and similarly in several other denominations, clergy are encouraged to take between six weeks and six months of renewal leave once every six years. My last renewal leave was eight years ago. I am grateful for our Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) that has given me their unanimous, strong support to take renewal leave this summer. Please see their April announcement re-published in this Weekly Update. I look forward to taking this time of renewal leave to pause from the daily demands of ministry, to reflect, spend more time with family, and be renewed in ways that require simply slowing down. I am grateful for your prayers and support.

Held in God's strong and loving hands,



Pastor Steve

Pastor Steve Renewal Leave

First published & verbally announcement in worship on 4-27-25

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

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 - 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

Prosper at Wickliffe - Gloria McFeely

Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom

Village of St. Edward: Dale Porter

Holly Hill - Floyd Richards

Brookdale - Bill Wolfgang

Fairmont - Gretchen Tice

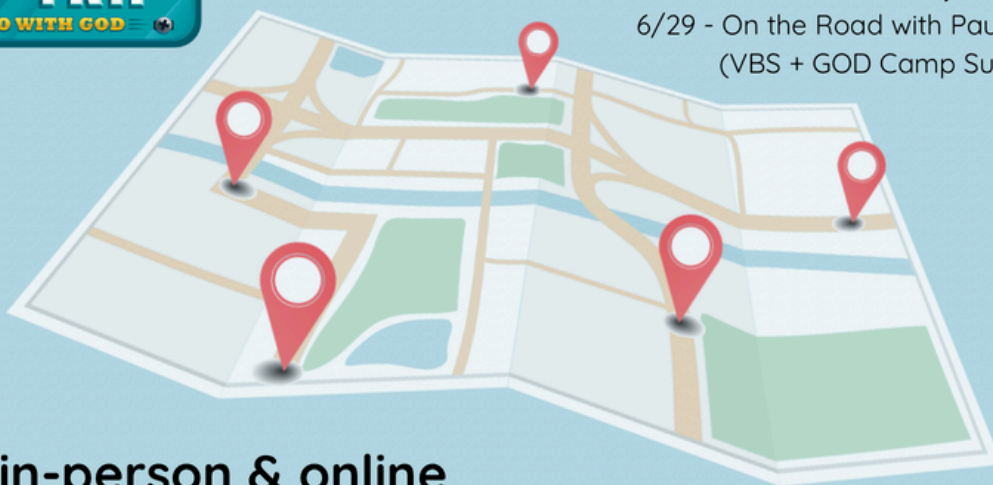
Governor's Point - Bob Williams

In need of prayer:

Kay Feiten, Hilary Pleska, Nora Kelley, Karen Mancini
Noralee Starr, Tom Martin, Laurie Eppler, Connie Sterner,
Sandy Williams, Dee Smith, Russ Lancaster, Kay McKinney, Ruthie Hobart



6/1 - Abraham and Sarah Follow God
6/8 - The Israelites Take the Scenic Route
6/15 - Guest Pastor: Rev. Chel-Fan Son
6/22 - Youth Service Project Sunday
6/29 - On the Road with Paul
(VBS + GOD Camp Sunday)



Join us in-person & online

9 AM Modern Worship

11AM Traditional Worship



Communion

Communion is the first Sunday of the month in both services. On all other Sundays, Communion & Prayer is held in the Chapel at 10:30 AM.

Fellowship Hour

Join us after service every week in the Gallery for Fellowship Hour. First Sunday of the month is Pancakes!

Ordination Invitation

All are invited to celebrate Pastor Tammy's ordination on Saturday, June 14th. The service begins at 9 AM in McGaw Chapel at The College of Wooster. There will be a light luncheon for MUMC folks to follow. Get in touch with Pastor Tammy if you would like to come or [RSVP online](#).

PLUS: Join us after services on Sunday, June 15th for cake & celebration in the Gallery.

MUMC Softball

Mentor UMC has two teams that you can support this softball season. Games are on Tuesdays at 6:30 PM @ Richmond Heights Community Park.

Baptism Opportunity

There will be a sunrise immersive baptism on June 29th around 7 AM at Headlands. Anyone who wishes to be baptized can contact the office.

New Member Tea

New members from the past year are invited to an afternoon "tea" at MUMC. We'll meet in the Gallery around 2:30 PM and check in with one another while enjoying light refreshments. [RSVP online](#) here or call the church office.

Need to Know



CAMERON JOSEPH HUETTNER

born on May 3, 2025

BENJAMIN FORREST LINGAFELTER

Born May 31, 2025

Grandsons of Kay Lingafelter



Summer Book Club

Join our Summer Book Club Slack channel to share with others throughout the summer about what you're reading! [Click to join](#).

Pentecost

Join us on Sunday, June 8th for Pentecost Sunday. Wear red for our Congregational photo after service!

Pastor Bev Celebration

Join us on Sunday, June 22nd to enjoy cake in the Gallery after services to honor Bev Wrobel. Pastor Bev will be retiring as a deacon in the conference. She was a previous associate pastor here at MUMC and has been serving as a Deacon in extension ministry but has remained affiliated with MUMC.

Young Adult Brunch

Young Adults are invited to brunch on Sunday, June 29th at Yours Truly at 10:30 AM. [RSVP online here](#). If you are thinking about carpooling, get in touch with Mackalyn Figgins: mfiggins@mentorumc.org.

Day Trip

Join Pastor Tammy and others on a day trip to the Charles Wright Museum in Detroit on August 15th. [RSVP online](#).

Men's Breakfast Club

All men are invited to join our Men's Breakfast Club which meets every Thursday at 8:00 AM at Market Street Family Restaurant, 8450 Market Street, Mentor (across from Ollie's Bargain Outlet). On the first of the month, the wives join! It is a great way to get to know your church family and stay connected during the week.

Martin Journey Group

Join the new 6-week study, *John: The Gospel of Light and Life* by Adam Hamilton on Sunday, June 15th. This group meets in the Conference Room (and online) between the services. New folks are welcome to join us & should contact Barry or Johanna with any questions: johannamartin@sbcglobal.net

CWC Luncheon

Next luncheon is on June 17th at 11:15 AM. Cost is \$30. RSVP: 440.488.4351 or cwcstonecroft@yahoo.com

Pet Blessing

Are you an animal lover? Do you want to help plan a Pet Blessing? Contact Chris Fletcher 740-739-2155 or Chrisfletcher67@aol.com.

Hannah's Home Bottles

The Annual Hannah's Home Baby Bottle fundraiser takes place from Mother's to Father's day. Grab a bottle in the Info Hub and fill with a cash or check donation. Bottles can be dropped off in the church office. If you wish to give online, visit our website and make sure to designate your Giving to "Hannah's Home" in the comment section.

Helping with Youth

Want to help out or support the Youth & Young Adult Ministry at MUMC but you aren't sure how? Click [here](#) to fill out your info so that Mackalyn can get in touch with you.

Middle School Mission Week

We hope this will be a week for building relationships, service and spiritual growth for Middle School students. Students will meet at MUMC then begin or travel to a local destination to complete mission work. Register a Middle Schooler or volunteer at [THIS LINK](#).

- July 7-11

- 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

- Starting at MUMC and then traveling to other locations

What's Your M.O.? **Mission Opportunities**

Adult Mission Trip

Join a group as they head to CASS Detroit from July 10th to July 13th, leaving Thursday evening and returning midday on Sunday. Approximate cost is \$150 (covers lodging, meals, and transportation). Cass Community Social Services (CCSS) was established as a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) in 2002. Prior to that many of its programs started as a part of Cass Community United Methodist Church. The Detroit-based agency works across the city in areas of concentrated poverty providing programs for food, health, housing and jobs. Contact Katelynn Gurbach to learn more.: 440.223.9250

Project Hope Needs

Project Hope for the Homeless is in need of 33-gallon trash bags, paper towels and 16oz bottled water. You may drop items off at the shelter between 9 AM and 2 PM, Mon-Friday.

Hope Chest

Hope Chest is in need of wash cloths and bath towels. Donations can be dropped off in the Community Center (between the Gallery & Fellowship Hall).

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](#).

Rocks Cry Out

If you are feeling led to be part of *Rocks Cry Out*, a group of people who want to explore the United Methodist Church's Social Principles to take action, please email Pastor Tammy at tpalermo@mentorumc.org.

Connection Prayer Group

Connections are the heartbeats of our Church. We are looking for disciples that enjoy praying for others, writing encouraging notes, and talking to others about MUMC. To learn more about a new Connection Prayer Group, contact Chris Fletcher at 740.739.2155 or chrisfletcher67@aol.com

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

VBS: Road Trip, On the Road with God

This is a week long adventure in the mornings at Mentor UMC. We'll sing, dance, craft, and get to know each other through Spirit-filled fun.

- June 23-27
- 9 AM to 12 PM
- 4 yrs old - grade 6

G.O.D. Camp: Water of Life

Join the week-long excitement of G.O.D. Camp at Mentor UMC and beyond. We'll explore the community around us through various activities.

- June 23-27
- 9:30 AM to 4 PM
- completed grades 5 - 6

[LEARN MORE ABOUT
SUMMER PROGRAMS HERE
OR ON OUR WEBSITE.](#)

Middle School

Middle Schoolers are invited to Sunday School during the 9 AM worship service each Sunday.

NOTE: NOT meeting on JUNE 8TH!

Youth Group

Youth are invited to meet in the Youth Room from 4-6 PM on the following dates: June 8th, July 13th, & August 24th

Mashups

Throughout the summer youth are invited to get involved with "Mashups", a youth experience that joins with other youth groups in the community:

- Sunday, June 29th @ Mayfield UMC
- Sunday, July 20th @ Mentor UMC
- Saturday, July 26th @ Camp Aldersgate (Beach Day)
- Sunday, August 10th @ Camp Hi (Canoeing day)

Grad & Scholarship Celebration Video

Congrats to all our Graduates and Scholarship recipients! We are so proud of your accomplishments and can't wait to support you as you grow.

To view the celebration video, visit our website or [click here](#).

