

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

MARCH 10, 2024

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 & 11 AM Modern

9 & 11 AM Traditional



PASTOR'S LETTER

"...you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." - Matthew 16:23c

What does it look like to set our minds on divine things instead of human things? How do we know one from another? Is thinking about how to feed 5,000 people thinking about divine things or human things? Is intervening on behalf of a woman caught in adultery the result of thinking about divine things or human things? What about trying to prevent your friend, the one whom you have just identified as the Messiah, from walking into a very harmful situation?

In our passage for this Sunday, we hear some harsh words come from Jesus aimed directly at Peter. Picture the scene: Jesus is walking down a dusty road on a hot day with his disciples and starts to tell them he must go to Jerusalem and suffer and be killed. It's the first time Jesus has spoken like this and it is understandably upsetting. Peter, whom we have come to know in this series as a man of action, steps in front of Jesus and says, "No Lord!" Then Jesus turns to Peter, and says, "Get behind me, Satan!" As I picture the scene, Jesus is looking Peter in the eyes and pointing at him as he annunciates every syllable "Get-be-hind-me!... Satan!"

I wonder if Jesus paused before he called Peter "Satan" or if it just came right out. What a contrast! Just five verses earlier Jesus called Peter "The Rock" upon which Jesus will build his church! How quickly Peter's identity goes from "The Rock" to "Satan" a "Stumbling Block to Jesus". And yet, how refreshing! What a story of God's grace! There's hope for you and me and all the rest of us who oscillate so quickly from people of strong faith to people who stand in the way of what Jesus must do! It is also encouraging that Jesus goes on to point out what led Peter astray. "...you are setting your mind not on divine things, but on human things." Still, I'm sure Peter was confused wondering, "How is trying to protect the well-being of my friend, the Messiah, setting my mind on human things and not divine?" If nothing else, the story suggests to us that knowing the difference between divine and human things is not always so clear. It also suggests that focusing on divine things sometimes calls for us to follow Jesus toward Jerusalem. In other words, the Jesus way is sometimes the way of sacrifice.

On February 26, at Africa University in Zimbabwe, I attended the dedication service for the newly completed Women's dormitory. The story was told about how our Bishop, Bishop Tracy S. Malone, in 2019 cast a vision that God had put on her heart. The vision was to have a state-of-the-art women's dormitory built to provide safe, comfortable housing for 93 women students thus allowing them to avoid the risks associated with walking or hitching rides to campus. The vision called upon churches in the East Ohio Conference to give sacrificially to raise \$1.5 million over three years for this project. Shortly after the vision was cast, churches were shut down due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. Shortly after the vision was cast, the economy, mostly due to the pandemic, tanked. Shortly after the vision was cast, the 2020 General Conference of the UMC was postponed again and again and about 30% of United Methodist Churches in East Ohio decided to leave the denomination. These setbacks and others easily could have derailed or at least postponed the vision. Looking back, it seems to me, that Bishop Malone and the United Methodist Churches of East Ohio kept their mind on divine things and not human things. As a result, the money was raised in two years instead of three, the vision was realized, and the dorm was completed!

In the words of Bishop Malone:

"If God gives a God-size vision and if we trust God with the vision and if we commit to it wholeheartedly, giving it everything we've got, being all in, God will make the necessary provisions to bring the vision to a reality."

Mentor United Methodist, you are a church that keeps its mind on divine things! Indeed, that is what we are called to do. Indeed, God has a vision for this church and this community for this moment in time. As we follow Jesus, as we trust in him and our fears fade, we will go with him through the grave to experience resurrection and new life! Praise God!

Walking with Jesus together,



Pastor Steve



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

Salida Woods - Doris Sturm

Aristocrat Berea - Virginia Gilman

Parker Place - Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell, Deloris Parsons

Danbury Senior Living - Kathryn Bevacqua

Tapestry - Gloria McFeely

Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom

Breckenridge/Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher

Danbury Mentor - Dale Porter

Members who are in need of prayer:

Karen Mancini, Marilyn Oliver, Luke Sanvido,

David Fell, Norma Ickes, Ruthie Hobart, Mike Cosmo,

Terry Szabo, Nora Kieser, Lois Dyckman, Kathy Fellows

Love & Sympathy to the family and friends of Kathryn "Kay" Disbro who passed on February 28, 2024. A service will be held at Brunners Funeral Home at 7 PM on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. Calling hours are 4-7 PM that same evening.

Wednesday Nights in Lent

February 21 - March 20

Family, Feast, and Fellowship

A time to Connect & Grow

Dinner at 5:45-6:30 PM in the Gallery will include a 20-minute "camp style" worship.

Let us know if you have dietary restrictions, we will do our best to accommodate.

No charge, though donations are accepted

MENU:

March 13: Ham & Bean Soup and Grilled Cheese

March 20: Mama Robertos (Chick Parm)

RSVP HERE

Wandering Heart

Figuring out Faith with Peter Class, 6:30-7:45 PM

Go deeper in the texts about Jesus and Peter each week as we engage questions for reflection, conversation, and spiritual formation exercises.

Mentor UMC 101, 6:30-7:45 PM

A Class to learn more about the Christian faith, the United Methodist Church, and Mentor United Methodist Church

Heart Reflections to Resurrection, 6:30-7:45 PM

Youth Ministry NexGen - more on last page

Finding Our Faith, 6:30-7:45 PM

Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade
Childcare provided for babies through preschool



Palm Sunday, March 24

Lenten Cantata, March 24

Maundy Thursday Worship, March 28

Good Friday Worship, March 29

Easter Sunrise, March 31

Easter, March 31

**Scan to RSVP for
Dinner and/or classes
or find the RSVP slip in
person to fill out**



Youversion

<http://bible.com/events/49224495>

Learn more about Sunday's scriptures and worship by visiting this link each week.

Easter Flowers

Forms are available in the Narthex/Info Hub or [online here](#). Orders due **MARCH 10!**

Bread, Broth, Brownies, & Bingo Luncheon

Mentor United Women in Faith (UWF) will again offer a 4B luncheon and program. The March menu includes minestrone soup, breadsticks, salad, and chocolate brownies. We'll combine faith and fun as we take a fascinating glimpse at butterflies, factually and metaphorically. We hope to see you on Wednesday, March 13th at noon in the MUMC Gallery. Please RSVP to uwf@mentorumc.org, [register online here](#), or find the signup sheet in the Info Hub.



Bunny Brunch

The Easter Bunny will be making a special stop at MUMC on Saturday, March 23 from 9:30 to noon. To help out, [please click here](#).

Easter Egg Hunt

Join us on Saturday, March 30 at Garfield Park for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. To get involved, [click here](#). To donate candy, check the MO page.

Need to Know

David Smith Celebration of Life

All are welcome to join as we celebrate the life of Pastor Ivy's husband, David Smith at 1 PM in the Sanctuary on March 9th with a luncheon to follow. Many have asked how to show love and support for Pastor Ivy during this time and one way is to contribute to the luncheon. Monetary donations can be designated in your Giving, in-person or online by March 4. If online, select the option "Other" then specify in the comment section that it is for David Smith's COL/Luncheon.

Puzzles

Visit the table in the Gallery to put our Puzzles together! With your help, Mentor United Methodist Church is a more complete picture of the Body of Christ!

Lenten Devotional

Digital copies of our Lenten Devotional *Wandering Heart* are available through our email blasts. Contact the church office to get on our email list if you are not already.

Dine & Discover

This is an event for ALL to attend! Together we'll learn how to prepare a budget-friendly nutritious meal, learn about local food resources, and build community! MUMC will be hosting on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at 1 PM. RSVP by calling the church office/emailing us! For more, [see our website](#).

The United Methodist Church & the 2024 General Conference; *Historic Times, Different Perspectives on Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity*

On March 17, after the 11 AM services, we will have a lunch that will feature Rev. Cara Stultz Costello who will talk about the United Methodist Church & General Conference. Pastor Cara has been an adjunct professor of United Methodist Polity at Methodist Theological School of Ohio (MTSO) since 2019. She will be attending the 2020 General Conference as a member of the East Ohio delegation scheduled for April 23 - May 3, 2024. Currently, Cara is serving with Rev. Edgar Brady as one of the District Superintendents of the Central Valley District in the East Ohio Conference.

This will be an opportunity for us to learn about the United Methodist Church and LGBTQ as it relates to General Conference. If you have questions that you would like for Pastor Cara to consider, [please use this link](#) or submit them on paper to the church office by March 14th. Please include your name, phone number and email address. If you plan on attending the lunch, [please register here](#).

Please visit our website to learn more about the content of this lunch by reading a letter from Pastor Steve. [Click here to read](#) OR find a physical copy in the Info Hub.

Easter Giving (March Mission Moment)

We will split our special plate Easter Giving to Re:Source Cleveland, which works with the Cleveland immigrant community, and to the UMCOR Global Migration Response.

Here are links to those two projects to learn more:

<https://www.resourcecleveland.org/>

and <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/3022144/>

Food Distributions

The next Distribution is March 18-19 to Broadmoor & Mentor Schools. We will be putting together 22 food baskets that value around \$75 *in addition* to our current contributions. Consider donating or designating your giving to Food Ministry to support the cost of these baskets!

More Than A Meal

MTAM is Saturday, March 30 in Fellowship Hall. Doors open at 5 and dinner is served at 5:30 PM. This free meal is open to all! To get involved with cooking, serving, or cleaning, [click here](#) or visit our website. Those volunteering must arrive at the church at 4:00 PM.



What's Your M. Mission Opportunities?



YSP BIG Event Auctions

YSP students are looking for items to fill the Silent and Live Auction tables for our fundraiser, Heroes for Humanity, on April 14th. Ideas of sought after items in the past: restaurant gift cards, rounds of golf, tickets to an event, themed baskets such as Movie Night, Coffee-Lovers, Game-Night, Gardening, etc. (no lottery tickets or alcohol please) Donation forms are located in the church office. For more information please contact Karen Martin at karen@martin4.net

Buy a YSP Stock!

Buy a "YSP Mission Trip Stock" to support our trip to Reelfoot Rural Mission in Obion, TN. Purchase one of three classes of stock: Class C \$35, Class B \$75, and Class A \$125. [Click here](#) or visit our website to learn more about what you receive for your stock!

Easter Candy Donations

Individually wrapped candy is needed for stuffing eggs for upcoming Easter events! Please drop off donations to Pastor Tammy or the church office.

Catalyst Tutors

Would you like to become a child's reading tutor in a Painesville city school? Catalyst Ministry is conducting another "Read to Succeed" tutor training session on Wed, Feb 28th at Elm Elementary School at 10 AM. The training session will be conducted by Neal Nelson, Administrative Director of Catalyst Ministry. To register for training or to get more info please contact: Neal Nelson at neal@catalystministry.net

Volunteer at Woodlawn

On Sat, March 23rd from 1 PM - 3 PM will be an Easter Celebration for the children of Woodlawn Homes. There will be crafts, games, candy, lunch, and reading the story of Easter.

If you are interested in helping at either of these events please contact Carol Ryan at 440-488-0541 or Carol Hoskinson at 1-330-655-4180. Thank you for your help!

Blood Drive

Sign up for the next one on March 19th on [our site](#).



WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

Children & Family Ministries

www.mentorumc.org/children

Sunday Morning Kids

9:00 & 11:00 AM at MUMC for all services. Join us for our current curriculum, "Celebrate Wonder".

- [Check-In Instruction Video](#)
- Ages 0-2 and 3-4 sign in at the Early Childhood Area before service
- Grades K-5 will begin in worship with their families and then be dismissed to the Education Wing.

Sunday Morning Signup

Mentor United Methodist Church'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 SPRING leader signup](#). There are spots for various ages/levels, so check out what section works for you:)

"Worship one, serve one!"

Child & Caregiver Class

Age 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 on Weds from 9:15-10:45 AM. Cost is \$60 per 8 week session (prepaid, non-refundable). The winter session has started. Please check out our website for more details.

2024-2025 Preschool Reg

Pre-Registration for the 2024-25 school year is open to YOU, our church families. Click here for the: [Pre-Registration Link](#). If you have any questions, please contact our State Manager, Brittany Jones at bjones.preschool@mentorumc.org.

MOMCo.

MOMco (The Mom Community) will meet on Friday, March 22 at Mentor UMC. For more details, [check our website](#)

Seedlings Class

Registration is open for children who are 3 as of Jan 1, 2024 and potty trained. Children who are 2 1/2 AND potty trained are also welcomed. If you have any questions, please contact State Manager, Brittany Jones bjones.preschool@mentorumc.org.

Heart Reflections to Resurrection: Youth Lenten Series

Starting on Wed, Feb 21, after dinner in the Gallery, youth will gather in the MUMC Youth Room for reflections and activities as we prepare our hearts for the season of Lent. [RSVP here](#).

YSP's BIG Event

Mark your calendars for April 14th for the YSP Dinner and Auction. Come hungry as we will once again hold a Dessert Auction where you or your table can bid on amazing cakes and cupcakes. Along with that "sweet" auction, you can bid on a variety of donated items and baskets. Be sure to watch for updates on some of the items that will be up for bid!

"Heroes for Humanity"

Sunday, April 14th, 5PM-8PM

\$15 adults

17 and under are FREE

[Ticket information to come](#)

YSP Meetings

Youth Service Project meetings are on the following Sundays at 12 PM in the Wesley Room: March 10, April 14, May 5, June 9. Email ysp@mentorumc.org for more info or [click here](#).

Youth Service Day

Open to all youth grades 6-12 on **March 15**. We will be at Nehemiah Mission from 9 AM to 2 PM. Please bring a packed lunch with drink. Adult drivers and chaperones needed: Reach out to Kate Colbow kate_colbow@yahoo.com

Middle School

Grades 6-8 are welcome Sundays from 9-10 AM.

Youth Mornings

Every Sunday between services from 10am-11am, youth are invited to come hangout in the MUMC Youth Room for fun, fellowship, and refreshments.

Youth Evenings

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday from 6pm-7:30pm. Dates are as follows: March 3, March 17, April 7, April 21, May 5, May 19, June 2, and June 16. [RSVP here](#).

VBS helpers needed

[Click here](#) to see when and where you can help out with VBS this June.

Be The Light Lock-In

Youth are invited to join us for a church lock-in on Friday, March 22nd from 6:30 PM to Saturday, March 23rd at 7:30 AM. [RSVP here](#).