

MENTOR

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

UNITED WEEKLY UPDATE METHODIST

Worship Schedule

9 AM Modern

11 AM Traditional

CHURCH

MARCH 15, 2026



Letter from the Editor

“People say, “I didn’t ask to be born,” I think we did, and that’s why we’re here. We are here, and we have to do something nurturing that we respect before we go. We must. It is more interesting, more complicated, more intellectually demanding and more morally demanding to love somebody, to take care of somebody, to make one other person feel good.”

Toni Morrison

When I read this week’s scripture, Deuteronomy 24:17-22, I think of the above quote from writer, Toni Morrison. As one of my favorite authors, she is always on my mind, but especially lately, as I participate in the year-long celebration that the state of Ohio is doing in her honor. This quote from a 1990 interview always strikes me in unsuspecting times. When I feel small or worn or evaporated by heavy emotions, I remember her opposition to the common grievance, “I didn’t ask to be born!” *We did*, she says. *We did*.

Can you imagine that? A time before you met the earth; a time where pieces of your soul and flesh asked to be here? *You* asked to be part of this confusing and hurtful world because you could do something with it. The trick is making sure you *are* doing something with it.

In Deuteronomy 24:17-22, the phrase, “Remember how you were a slave in Egypt,” is repeated twice. This means the writer is asking you to listen. To pay attention. *You have suffered, why allow the suffering of others?* To invoke another greater writer, James Baldwin said similar words:

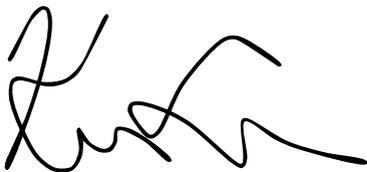
“Love has never been a popular movement...the world is held together, really it is, held together by the love and the passion of a very few people. What you’ve got to remember is what you’re looking at is also you. Everyone you’re looking at is also you.”

Everyone you’re looking at is also you. Remember how you were a slave in Egypt.

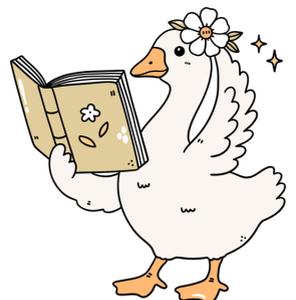
Any one of us can say it a dozen different ways, but the common thread between these quotes and verses is that we *must* love others. It’s *why* you are here. You don’t get out of it because you want to or because you think you’ve done enough. You must love, you must take care of others, you must make someone else feel good. In Deuteronomy, that includes the immigrant, the orphan, and the widow.

If you are finding it hard to live this out, remember that the immigrant, the orphan, and the widow are **you**.

Let’s remember to love together,



Kenna Tanner



Care CONGREGATIONAL

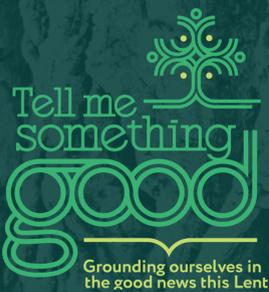
In our prayers today & in your personal prayer time, please remember the following:

**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 - 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

**Lenten Cantata
Sunday, March 29th
11 AM Traditional**

**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
Fairport Harbor Beach**

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

Finance Update

At the end of February the church Operating Fund stood at \$164,473.11, which is a decrease of \$9,035 from last month. This is mostly due to our restart of paying our full monthly apportionment to the Conference in February, as well as catching up on the January portion. We are now 100% up to date for 2026.

Church Operating Summary	
January Giving	\$73,525
YTD Giving	\$151,624
YTD Expenses	\$160,441
YTD Overage (Deficit)	(-\$8,817)



Percentage of Conference apportionments paid this year => 100%

Youversion

<https://bible.com/events/49577727>

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 is for current Methodists to rediscover and reconnect with who we are as United Methodists. It's also a great opportunity for visitors to learn more about what it means to be a United Methodist.
- **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! Deadline to order is March 16th. If you need any assistance in ordering, contact the church office.

Need to Know

Book Club

Join us for Book Club on Monday, March 30th at 6 PM in the library at Mentor UMC. We will discuss books we've been reading in our own time. Keep in touch between meetings by joining our [Slack channel](#).

Chair Yoga

Join us from 1-2 PM on Friday, April 10th for a special session of Chair Yoga. Cost is \$10 or pay what you can. No materials or training necessary. This is meant to be a meditative time that ALL can participate in. [Register online here](#).

CWC Luncheon

Join us at Pine Ridge CC for the next Christian Women's Connection Luncheon on March 17th. We'll have corned beef and cabbage to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. The lunch will feature speaker, Bobbi DeZarn and a soloist, Reagan Simon. Cost is \$28. RSVP by the 12th to 440.488.4351 or send an email to: cwcstonecroft@yahoo.com

March Madness Watch Party

Youth & Young Adult Ministry is hosting a March Madness watch party that ALL are invited to on Saturday, March 21st around 4 PM. Feel free to bring items like beanbag chairs or blankets since we will be in the Gallery. Please bring a snack to share if you can. RSVP [online here](#).

Lenten Cantata

Join us in the Sanctuary on Sunday, March 29th at 11 AM for the annual Lenten Cantata

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.

Hiking Group

The next session of the Hiking Journey Group will be starting on Saturday, May 2nd at 10:00 AM at North Chagrin Reservation with the study book, *I Have Loved You: on love for the poor* by Pope Leo. This book is available at Cokesbury.com and Amazon for \$14.29.

StrengthsFinder

A NEW session of StrengthsFinder will begin on April 19th through May 17th from 12:30 to 2:00 PM. Chuck Tackett will be facilitating. Sign up [online here](#).

Fair Play Project

Rehearsals will be 3:00-4:30 PM at MUMC on May 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, and 21. The performance will be on Tuesday, May 26th at 7 PM. Toget involved, reach out to Pastor Tammy.

Youth Service Project

The Youth Service Project is an annual trip where students & adult volunteers travel to an area within the United States that is in need. Partnering with local orgs, they assist in building projects, renovations, and more. This year, YSP will be going to Windsor, North Carolina to help the Carolina Rebuilding Ministry (CRM) from June 5th to June 14th. This trip is ONLY possible with the support of the congregation! There are many ways to get involved:

- Purchase a **"YSP Stock"** - There are three classes of stock. Each receive a certificate and unique benefits tied to YSP.
- Attend the **BIG Event** - The BIG Event on Sunday, April 12th is an exciting fundraiser dinner and night of entertainment. You can grab a form in the Info Hub or [download here](#) to donate a raffle basket for the event. Tickets on sale soon.
- Save the date for the **Plant Sale** - Each Mother's Day weekend, we celebrate mom's with a special Plant Sale here at the church. Presale forms will be available this spring or you can join us on the days of the sale, May 8th & 9th. All proceeds go towards YSP.
- **Give any time** - You are always welcome to designate your giving, in-person or [online](#), to Youth Service Project.

What's Your **Mission Opportunities**

Change the World Day

Join us for *Change the World Day* on Saturday, April 25th from 9 AM to 2 PM as we partner with [Sleep in Heavenly Peace](#) to build beds for children in the local community. [Sign up online](#) to help.

More Than a Meal

Volunteer to prepare, cook, serve, or clean up for the next More Than a Meal on Saturday, March 28th. 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

New or gently used items encouraged. Donations can be dropped off in the Community Center:

- Boys & Girls Clothes, sizes toddler to Elementary / Middle Grade
- Men's Underwear, L - 4XL

Woodlawn Easter Party

On Saturday, April 11th, the UWF will be sponsoring an "In the Spirit of Easter Party" at the Woodlawn Homes Community Center in Painesville. Children's party from 12:30 to 2:30 PM includes crafts, games, prizes, and food. Volunteers are needed! Call Carol Ryan at 440.488.0541 or email her at workingwithwoodlawncarol70@gmail.com

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: 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

Rummage Sale

Save the date for this year's Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 18th. We will collect donations the week leading up to the sale ONLY. The volunteer signup is [available online here](#).

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!"

Eggstravaganza Volunteers & Donations

The Eggstravaganza on April 4th is in need of candy donations. Drop off at the church office or to Pastor Tammy. We are also in need of volunteers for the day of. Please [sign up online](#).

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.

You've Been Egged!

Youth are invited to join us on the evening of April 4th 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.

Scholarship 2026

Students are invited to [fill out the MUMC Scholarship form](#) by Wednesday, April 8th, 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 24th (please fill out the [grad form](#) to help us celebrate you!).

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.

Upcoming: April 14th-May 26th we will be reading Toni Morrison's *Sula* as part of the Ohio Celebrates Toni Morrison year-long event.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

• Vacation Bible School

Children age 4 (as of 1/1/26) through completed Grade 6, are welcome to join us the week of June 22nd - 26th from 9 AM to 12 PM here at the church. The cost is \$20 per child. [Register online here.](#)

• G.O.D. Camp

Completed grades 5 & 6 are welcome to join in a week of adventure from June 22nd to 26th. We'll begin our days (9:30 AM) at the church then head out to local parks for activities, devotions, and building lasting relationships. The cost is \$75 per student. [Register online here.](#)

• Theatre Arts Camp

[Auditions May 30th: sign up here](#) Students (grades 1 - 8) are welcome to participate on the weeks of July 6th-10th AND 13th-17th. The cost is \$100 per CAST MEMBER (grades 1 - 8) and \$70 per CREW MEMBER (grades 6 - 8). [Register online here.](#)

• MSMW

Middle school-aged students are invited to join us for Middle School Mission Week from July 20th to 24th. We'll meet at MUMC in the morning then venture to a local organization or location for missions. [Register online here.](#)

• East Ohio Camps

EOC are a great summer opportunity for youth participants and young adult volunteers. Learn more and register on their [website.](#)