

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

MARCH 17, 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

SAVE THE
DATE

"Heroes for Humanity"

YSP Fundraiser

Dinner, Entertainment,
Silent, Live & Dessert Auctions

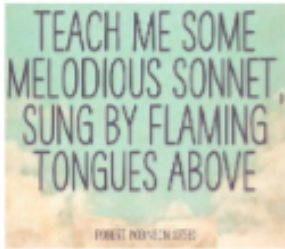
Sunday, April 14th

5:00 pm



YSP: Youth Service Project
Our teens are headed on a
mission trip to Tennessee
this summer.

PASTOR'S LETTER



FIGURING OUT OUR FAITH THROUGH PETER: TEACH ME

The scriptural passage of Matthew 18:15-22 hold the concept of our sharing this week. As we seek to follow the actions of the disciple Peter during Lent, we are listening as he says in verse 21: *...“Lord, if my brother keeps on sinning against me, how many times do I have to forgive him? Seven times?”* And Jesus answers Peter’s question, and for our benefit, we hear these words in verse 22: *“No, not seven times,” answered Jesus, “but seventy times seven.”* (some scripture translations say 70 times 70).

Our theme this week is TEACH ME, as we deal with forgiveness. And it is very clear that God’s way of forgiving and our way of forgiving differ starkly. Jesus is not proposing that we simply 1) have a conference or bring somebody before the church or 2) talk to two or three people to witness, or exposing how you have been wrong. But, Jesus suggest that we go beyond that. He teaches us to forgive like he does, forgive infinitely.

And yet, the misunderstanding comes when Jesus entertains Peter’s question. Because Peter wants Jesus to sanction the way he wants to forgive! But I caution us to be careful in deciding to count to seven when forgiving folk. **Caution, because the person who forgives seven times is not really forgiving!** No, that person is not forgiving, but instead that person is keeping count, keeping a record, holding on to the offenses. Why? You ask. Well, the person who keeps count of the offenses is keeping a tickle file of offenses or wrongdoings against themselves. **And keeping count or counting produces a smoldering resentment.** Why? Again you ask. Well, when a person keeps count they are really hoping that the enemy, rival, adversary, antagonist will not change their ways after the seventh offense, because all the while they are planning to STRIKE BACK ON THE EIGHTH! One-two-three-.....six, seven...EIGHT! STRIKE BACK!! SO, STOP COUNTING!

I recall Charles Allen, author of ‘God’s Psychiatry’ doing a great job of dealing with this idea of forgiveness. The book reveals...**So, does forgiveness really work? Not always, of course.** Some souls are too hardened and unresponsive to mercy, preferring to interpret it as weakness. **But does nonforgiveness work? Hardly ever.** Anger ignites anger, harsh words prompt harsh words, animosity breeds animosity, poison produces poison. In contrast, the Bible tells us that *“A soft answer turns away wrath”* (Prov 15:1), kindness calms the irritated temper, and apology prompts apology.

How often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him?” (Matt 18:21) When Jesus said “seventy times seven,” He did not mean 490 times. No, the standards Jesus taught are not like most standards. But neither are the standards by which Jesus lived. Jesus does not forgive us just seven times, or 490 times, or even 49,000 times, but infinitely, over and over, again and again. Yes, we can be thankful that Jesus practiced what He preached. So cut it out! **AND ALL WHO KEEP A FILE ON HOW MANY TIMES YOU HAVE BEEN OFFENDED.... STOP COUNTING!** Jesus means we are to forgive an infinite number of times. More correctly, Jesus meant that we are not to count the number of times we forgive, because we have been forgiven so many times that we must reciprocate what has been done for us. SO, teach me Lord to STOP COUNTING!—Pastor Ivy



Teach me about abundance, about seventy-times-seven and all the days of my life. Teach me about joy, about its contagious weaving and its soul-healing. Teach me about mercy, about open hands and deep breaths. Teach me about the dawn of time and the stars in the sky. Teach me what matters most. Teach me what is mine to do. Teach this achingly curious heart until I run out of questions or I run out of days. Teach me some melodious sonnet, and I will have a life well-lived. —from “Teach Me” by Rev. Sarah Speed



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

FINAL NIGHT: THIS WEEK **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 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**



Lenten Cantata

Come Walk With Me

Through the Passion and Resurrection of Christ

March 24, 2024

9 & 11 Traditional Worship
11 AM Livestreamed also

Youversion

<http://bible.com/events/49227768>

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

Bunny Brunch

The Easter Bunny will be making a special stop at MUMC on Saturday, March 23 from 10 to noon. To help out, [please click here](#).

Easter Egg Hunt

Join us on Saturday, March 30 at Garfield Park at 10 AM for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. To get involved, [click here](#). To donate candy, check the MO page.

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.

Need to Know

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.

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.

Egg My Yard

Egg My Yard will take place on the evening of March 30th. Egg My Yard is a great fundraiser that we do each year for and with the Youth! Choose the amount of eggs, content of eggs, and level of difficulty for their hiding place in your chosen yard. To have your (or someone else's) yard "egged" for a donation, [please fill out this form on our site](#).

YSP's BIG Event

"Heroes for Humanity"

Sunday, April 14th,
5PM-8PM

Fellowship Hall

\$15 adults

17 and under are FREE

Ticket information to come

Mark your calendars for April 14th for our annual YSP fundraiser that includes a dinner, auctions, and entertainment.

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. You can check out what items are up for auction by visiting our website, Info Hub, and social media.

To donate a basket, pick up a form in the Information Hub. You can drop off your basket to the church office during office hours.



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. Find out more on [our site](#) or click below.

Re:Source Cleveland

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

UMCOR:

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

Food Distributions

Help support our ongoing distributions. 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.

Blood Drive

THIS WEEK! Sign up for this drive on March 19th on [our site](#).

VBS helpers needed

[Click here](#) to see when and where you can help out with VBS this June (or visit our website)!

What's Your M.O.? 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

Royal Family Kids

It's that time of year when Royal Family Kids is gearing up for another year of camp. The number of kids that can have a potentially life-changing experience this summer depends on the number of teens (age 16+) & adults who volunteer their time to create positive memories for children who have experienced neglect and abuse. Camp is scheduled to begin for staff on Friday, June 7. Children ages 6-11 arrive on Saturday, June 8 and stay through the afternoon of Wednesday, June 12. At camp children receive positive attention and encouragement as they engage in many activities. Volunteers are needed both full and part time to have fun and make moments matter in a >

child's life. Volunteers are interviewed and receive a background check for the safety of the children. Also, all volunteers receive training before the start of camp. Learn more on their site by [clicking here](#). For more info speak with Johanna Martin johannamartin@sbcglobal.net or [visit our website](#) for more.

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 please contact Carol Ryan at 440-488-0541 or Carol Hoskinson at 1-330-655-4180. Thank you for your help!

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.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES. YOUTH MINISTRIES. JOURNEY GROUPS. 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](#).

Middle School

Grades 6-8 are welcome Sundays from 9-10 AM in the Youth Room.

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 17, April 7, April 21, May 5, May 19, June 2, and June 16. [RSVP here](#).

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](#).

Youth & Family Night

Join us on April 10th for Y&FN at a Cleveland Cavaliers game! Please arrive by 6:30 PM for the Early Entrance Experience. Our group will enter Rocket Mortgage Field House 30-minutes prior to the Cavaliers vs. Grizzlies game. Upon entry, we will be escorted to the lower bowl to watch pre-game warmups, which is a super exclusive and cool environment, which isn't available to the general public, and allows us to experience the sights and sounds of what goes into preparation for an NBA game. [You can RSVP here](#).

The BIG Event:

YSP Fundraiser

April 14, 2024

5-8 PM

Fellowship Hall

Tickets on sale SOON

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](#).