

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

MARCH 29, 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 Letter

"Hosanna!"... "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!" – Mark 11:9-10

This Sunday is Palm Sunday. It is one of my favorite Sundays of the year. It marks the official beginning of the final events of Jesus' life. He and his disciples are going into Jerusalem for the annual Passover festival celebration. They aren't the only ones. Historians and biblical scholars estimate that between 200,000 and, in some years, one million Jews would make the pilgrimage to Jerusalem for Passover! Keep in mind that the normal population of Jerusalem during the early first century was about 50,000-80,000. The crowds are massive! But why? What was Passover all about?

Passover was and is a major Jewish holiday that commemorates the story of God's people, the Israelites (the Jews), being delivered from slavery in Egypt. You can read about it in Exodus 12. To get the full story, to feel the weight and significance, read the first twelve chapters of Exodus. It is the historic, epic story of how the most powerful nation on earth at the time (circa 1400 BCE) was brought to its knees by the Israelites who had been slaves for 430 years. Passover tells and retells the story of a persistent people led by Moses, who responds to God's call to confront the most powerful figure in the land, demanding that he let his people, the Israelites, go! Moses appeals directly to Pharaoh nine times, and nine times Pharaoh's refusal results in a plague: river water and streams turn to blood, frogs come in millions, gnats, flies, death of livestock, boils and hail, locusts, and darkness. It is one of the most powerful examples of trusting God's call and God's faithfulness, bringing about devastating plague after devastating plague to wear down Pharaoh's ironclad and arrogant resistance. Ultimately, it is the tenth and final plague that results in God's people departing Egypt in a hurry, crossing the Red Sea into the wilderness, where, as a freed people, they will learn what it means to become God's people.

When Jesus came to Jerusalem for the Passover, God's people were once again suffering under an oppressive regime. This time it was Rome under Caesar's rule. When the massive crowds see Jesus coming, they wave palm branches and shout "Hosanna!" – a word from Psalm 118 that means "Save us NOW!" In other words, everyone who has heard about this Jewish Rabbi from Nazareth, seen or heard about his miracles and his power, followed his growing popularity over the past three years since his baptism in the Jordan, has all come to the parade with hopes that this will be the time when God will again set God's people free. Save us, Jesus! Save us now! This is the time. Do it! Bring in the kingdom of our father David!

And Jesus comes. Riding on a colt in the tradition of the coming promised king as told in Zechariah 9:9. He comes, prepared to face the authorities, the powers that be, the rulers of his day. He comes, ready to stand firm with his promise of a new order, a new regime that is at hand. He will succeed, but not in the way the crowds were expecting. He still succeeds, but it is by another way.

I pray we will immerse ourselves in the story of Passover, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday to prepare us for the Good News of Easter. It is a story like no other that has changed the lives of millions. It has and is changing the world by inspiring people to act. May it inspire us too.

As followers of Jesus,



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 - 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, Russ Lancaster, Kay McKinney,
Terry & Mary Ellen Reynolds, Norma Ickes, Jo Brown



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	
February 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/49584523>

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

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](#).

Open Table

Join us on April 9th for the next Open Table at 5:30 PM in the Gallery. This month's theme will be a preview for this 2026 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.

Fair Play Project

Theatre Enthusiasts in high school or college are encouraged to participate in this year's 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 or [register online here](#).

Need to Know

April's Bread, Broth, Brownies, & Bingo Luncheon

Don't miss the next 4B luncheon! Mentor United Women in Faith invites you to join us for chicken tortilla soup, cornbread, salad, and dulce de leche brownies. Guest speaker Becky O'Donnell, President of Guatemala Family Development, will share with us some ways they are involved in the health, well-being, and education of Mayan children and families in rural Guatemalan communities, including the upcoming medical mission trip which the Langdons will be a part of. We hope you will join us Wednesday, April 8th at noon in the MUMC Gallery! All are welcome. Please RSVP to uwf@mentorumc.org, [register online here](#), or find the signup sheet in the Info Hub.

CWC Luncheon

Join us at Pine Ridge CC for the next Christian Women's Connection Luncheon on Tuesday, April 21st. The afternoon will feature Billy Herron from Bremec Garden Centers and Laura Loveberry with a talk. Cost is \$28 at the door. RSVP by April 16th to 440.488.4351 or send an email to: cwcstonecroft@yahoo.com

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](#).

Chair Yoga

Join us from 1-2 PM (arrive at 12:45 PM) on Friday, April 10th for a special session of Chair Yoga. Cost is \$10. No materials or training necessary. This is meant to be a meditative time that ALL can participate in. [Register online here](#).

Connect

It's hard to remember every face in church, especially if someone has been missing. That is why we wish to use the Connect Cards to help us stay in touch. If you notice a member or friend we should reach out to, simply fill out the Connect Card. You will find them in the back of the chair/pew, at the Information Hub, and the Welcome Center in the Gallery. You can drop off a filled out card to the main office or in an offering box.

Hope Ridge Info Talk

Join members and friends at Hope Ridge UMC for their next Info Talk, "ESTATE PLANNING, TRUSTS, AND WILLS." We'll meet on Wednesday, April 8th at 7:00 PM in the Hope Ridge Chapel. No RSVP necessary.



EASTER OFFERING

This year's Easter Offering is designated for UMCOR, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, and Missions.

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**. More info and the volunteer signup is [available online here](#).

- **SILENT AUCTION:** Items and bidding forms will be set up in the Gallery on Wednesday, April 15th & Thursday, April 16th from 12 PM to 7 PM AND Friday, April 17th 10 AM to 5 PM. To donate items for the auction, contact Jan: janrobinsnest@gmail.com.

Youth Service Project

The Youth Service Project will be helping Carolina Rebuilding Ministry (CRM) from June 5th to June 14th. This trip is **ONLY** possible with the support of the congregation:

- Purchase a **"YSP Stock"** - Receive a certificate and unique benefits [here](#).
- Attend the **BIG Event** - 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 NOW:** Grab in the Info Hub after worship.
- Save the date for the **Plant Sale** - 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.

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

More Than a Meal

Volunteer to prepare, cook, serve, or clean up for the next More Than a Meal on Saturday, April 25th. 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 Middle Grade
- Men's Underwear, L - 4XL

Project Hope Golf Outing

Join Project Hope for a Golf Outing on Monday, May 18th at Little Mountain Country Club. Learn more and [register online here](#).

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 workingwithwoodlawnkarol70@gmail.com

Blood Drive

Thank you to the March drive participants. Units Collected: 24 (lives impacted: 72). **NEXT UP:** Tuesday, May 12th from 9 AM to 3 PM.

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

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 community. [Sign up online](#) to help.

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 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.](#)