

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

NOVEMBER 9, 2025

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

Hello to my siblings in Christ,

How are you doing as we inch closer to Thanksgiving? Have you made all of your plans to be with friends and family on November 27? It is only 18 days away!

This Sunday begins our series titled Distractions. I find this to be an appropriate series prior to Advent, the time when we want to avoid distractions as we prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus. This is always easier said than done!

Our scripture for this Sunday is Matthew 13:18-23, the Parable of the Sower. Fun fact, my junior year in high school, I was in Godspell, and this was the story that I told. I remember one rehearsal where one of my castmates was causing a distraction by overacting as the plant that was choked out by the weeds! Our director told her to dial it back because the focus needed to be on my telling the parable. Oh, the things I can remember as opposed to the things I cannot....

As we consider this parable, it is an excellent example of how the distractions of "cares, riches, and pleasures of life" can hinder our spiritual growth by pulling our focus away from God and God's word. I know there are so many things that can pull us away from our relationship with God, and it is important to stay grounded in our faith. We need to remember what is truly important in our lives. My prayer is that when we feel ourselves being distracted and turning from God, that we will stop and remember Whose we are.

I look forward to seeing you soon,

Pastor Tammy

Pastor Tammy



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 - Delores Tackett, Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith,
Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler, Joe & Judy Tirpak

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

Fairmont - Gretchen Tice

Governor's Point - Bob Williams

Mentor Ridge - June Van Ostrand

In need of prayer:

Hilary Pleska, Karen Mancini, Tom Martin, Laurie Eppler, Noralee Starr,
Connie Sterner, Sandy Williams, Dee Smith, Russ Lancaster, Kay McKinney,
Ruthie Hobart, Terry & Mary Ellen Reynolds, Kimberlee Johnson, The Hall
Family, Doug & Kathy Koman, Sandy Mazelis, The Denton Family,
Syndie Toth, Heather Lippert, Jill Tackett

DISTRACTIONS

NOVEMBER 9 - 23

11/9: Naming Our Distractions

11/16: Focus on Jesus, Don't Be Distracted
Commitment Sunday

11/23: Overcoming Our Distractions

Join us in-person or online
Sundays 9 AM and 11 AM



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 Sunday!

Youversion

<https://bible.com/events/49517484>

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

Commitment Sunday

Keep an eye out in the next few days for your Commitment Card in the mail. We will commit our giving for MUMC on Sunday, November 16th during both services.

Shepherding Summit

Join us on Saturday, November 15th for the annual Shepherding Summit. Open to all, though especially beneficial to those serving or wishing to serve in a group or committee.

Open Table

This monthly event is open to all and FREE! Join us in the Gallery at MUMC for food, fellowship, and fun from 5:30 to 7 PM every second Thursday of the month. [RSVP online here.](#)

Emergency Planning & Preparedness

Available starting the 16th, find yellow slips in the seat pockets and pews that remind us how to remain calm in case of emergency situations. Mentor UMC is committed to creating a safe environment and worship space for ALL to enjoy. Feel free to take a slip home to reassure and use for discussion with your friends & family.

Poinsettia Forms

Pick up a form in the Info Hub or fill out your order [online here](#) for Poinsettias on Christmas Eve.

Thanksgiving Trees

Pickup a Caring Servants Thanksgiving Tree in the Gallery this Sunday after worship. This craft is a fun way to show what you are grateful for this autumn season.

Bread, Broth, Brownies, & Bingo Luncheon

You are invited to a presentation by Rose Darling, Church & Community Engagement Coordinator for Flat Rock Homes, Care Center, and Community Services. The menu includes Fall Harvest soup, crusty Italian bread, Autumn Orchard salad, and Ghirardelli chocolate brownies. We hope you will join us on Wednesday, November 12th at noon in the MUMC Gallery! Please RSVP to uwf@mentorumc.org, register [online](#), or find the signup sheet in the Info Hub.

Advent Studies

All are invited to join two Advent study groups this winter. We will be discussing Walter Brueggemann's book, *Names for the Messiah: An Advent Study*. Books can be purchased on your own or through the church.

Group 1: Join Pastor Tammy on Mondays, November 24, December 1, 8, and 15 from 6:00-7:30 PM at Mentor UMC.

Group 2: Join Mackalyn for a Tuesday night group called "Brews & Bibles." We'll meet at a different local holiday bar each week at 6 PM to study Brueggemann's book.

BOTH of these groups are open to ALL! Please register [HERE](#) for either group no later than November 16th.

Need to Know

CWC Luncheon

Ladies are invited to the Christian Women's Connection Luncheon on Tuesday, November 18th from 11:15 AM to 1:30 PM. We'll hear speakers from Lake Metroparks, Fairport Lighthouse Museum, and former TV anchor, Carol LeBeau. Cost is \$28. RSVP to cwcstonecroft@yahoo.com or call Lynn at 440.488.4351.

New Member Sundays

Join us for New Member Sundays on November 9th and 16th where we'll celebrate our new members during worship. If you wish to be a new member, get in touch with a pastor.

Connection Corner

Relate. Love. Disciple

A part of MUMC's mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ—echoing the Great Commission to "go and make disciples of all nations." John Wesley reframes the focus of evangelism—not as a one-time conversion decision to follow Jesus—but as the beginning of a lifelong journey of faith and spiritual growth. The R.E.L.A.T.I.O.N.A.L. acronym helps explain the Wesleyan approach to Evangelism.

I. INVITING

An inviting church reaches out, welcoming people to worship, attend a special event, or join a class. When we invite others in and treat them with warmth and kindness, amazing transformations can happen—often more than we can imagine.

FOOD FOCUS

Food Pantry Needs

Mentor UMC's Food Pantry holds regular distributions for families and individuals in need. The next distribution is THIS month on the 17th & 18th. The Pantry is ALWAYS accepting and in need of non-perishable items. Please drop donations off to the Community Center bin (near the ramp). You may also [give online](#) through our website.

POP UP Food Pantry

In a combined effort, folks at and connected with Mentor UMC and our preschool are collecting food for those suffering from cuts to SNAP. Our goal is to collect enough food that we can do a few pop-up food pantries throughout Mentor for folks who do not have transportation or resources to get to a food program. There is a blue bin for collecting non-perishable food items located in the Gallery. We are looking for the following items:

- Non-perishable food items
- Non-perishable foods that can be made in the microwave
- Canned foods with a pop-open lid
- Can openers for canned items without a pop-open lid
- \$5-10 gift cards for folks to buy fresh dairy & produce

More Than a Meal

Volunteer to prepare, cook, serve, or cleanup for this month's More Than a Meal (free community meal) on Saturday, November 29th. Doors open at 5 and the meal is served at 5:30 PM. Signup online here or get in touch with the church office for help with signing up.



Thanksgiving Day Meal

Save the date for the annual MUMC Thanksgiving Day Meal on Thursday, November 27th. Each year this church comes together to supply, cook, and serve a FREE Thanksgiving Meal to our community. This blessing isn't possible without YOU! [Sign up online](#) or visit the table in the Gallery for Food Donations and the Volunteer signup.

Royal Family Kids

Royal Family Kids Camp is collecting donations to buy gift cards for Club and Camp families for Thanksgiving! Give cash, a check, or \$25 gift card to Aldi by Tuesday, November 11th. For checks, please put "Thanksgiving RFKC" on the memo line. Turn your donations in to the church office. Contact Johanna Martin for questions.

Modern Service Communion Coordinators Needed

We're looking for volunteers to help set up communion on the first Sunday of each month. This is a simple but sacred act of service. Whether you're called to serve once or regularly. This is a beautiful way to support worship behind the scenes and participate in the spiritual rhythm of our church.

Please contact Chris Fletcher at Membership@mentorumc.org.

Hope Chest

Hope Chest is in need of Full, Queen, and King blankets. Donations can be dropped off in the Community Center at MUMC.

Giving Trees

It's time for the trees to go up around the church. Can you help? No heavy lifting required. We need branch fluffers and ornament hangers. We will be at church on Monday, November 10th from 9-11 AM and Tuesday November 11th from 2-4 PM. Additional times added as needed to get the job done. Please call or text Betsy at 440-283-6524.

Blood Drive

Register online for the next Blood Drive on Tuesday, November 11th, 2025, from 9 AM - 3 PM at MUMC.

THANK YOU

Many thanks to the Mentor United Women in Faith who provided 48 winter jackets and 53 pairs of winter boots for children at Woodlawn Homes in Painesville. Special thanks goes to Pam Mele, Gayle Avery and Carole Ring who shopped for all these items and to all those who donated hats, scarves, and gloves to keep the kids warm this winter. Proceeds from the Gingerbread House Craft Fair helps to fund this effort each year! -Carol Ryan, Woodlawn Ministry Coordinator

Holiday Hygiene Gifts

Painesville UMC is putting together Holiday Hygiene Gifts for their Food Pantry visitors. Check out their needs list [online](#) to help support this mission.

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

9:00 & 11:00 AM at MUMC 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.

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!"

MOMCo Meetings

Meetings are the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM in the Gallery at MUMC. [Register and learn more online here](#).

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](#).

Youth Sunday School

Grades 6-12 are invited to Sunday School during the 9 AM worship service each Sunday. We'll meet in the Youth room for fellowship & fun.

Youth Group

Youth are invited to meet in the Youth Room from 4-6 PM on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month for Youth Group. If there is a special event on one of those Sundays, then the event replaces YG.

Young Adult Group

Meet us in-person (Youth Room) on Tuesdays from 6 - 7 PM. Currently, we're reading and discussing Octavia Butler's novel *Parable of the Sower*. During Advent, we will do a study that takes us to local Christmas bars (details on the *Need to Know* page). Contact Mackalyn for details.

Parents of Youth

Fill out an online form [here](#) if you are a parent of a youth and interested in connecting with other parents.

Project Feed

The Ohio UMC is hosting a Project Feed event on November 16th at Kent UMC. This is an opportunity for Youth to pack meals for folks in need. Cost is \$10 per student. Adults are free. This event fills up fast, so please let Mackalyn know if you are interested as soon as possible. [RSVP online here](#).

Gaming Group

Wednesdays are game nights! Join this Intergenerational group on Wednesdays from 5:30-9:30 PM (or whatever time you can spare) in the Youth Room. Right now, D&D is the game offered. If there is a particular game you are interested in seeing at MUMC, get in touch with Mackalyn. There is space and opportunity for board games, video games, card games, etc.

Young Adult Outing

Join us for the Christmas Tree lighting in Cleveland on Saturday, November 29th. We'll leave the church at 3:30 OR you may meet us downtown at 4 PM. The tree lighting event includes music, food trucks, campfires, ice skating, and more. No cost to get in but bring money for food and festivities!

Youth Service Project

YSP holds regular meetings at MUMC to plan the 2026 trip and fundraisers. [Visit our website](#) for dates or get in touch with Mackalyn.

Christmas Play Tickets

Tickets for MUMC's Truth & Light Players' production of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" are one sale NOW! They will perform on Friday, December 5th in Fellowship Hall at MUMC. [Buy online here](#).