

Pastor's Letter

Hi everyone!

It's great to be writing again from the Pastor's Letter seat! In case we haven't met, my name is Mackalyn Figgins, and I am the Director of Youth Ministry at Mentor UMC. I also oversee the Young Adult ministries here at the church.

Fall is here—thank goodness it's finally getting cooler again! And our regular Youth Groups are back! In addition to our regular programs from last year, we've started a new Fresh Expression Gaming Group! The game we're focusing on is Dungeons & Dragons (D&D). D&D is a fantasy role playing game where players get to express themselves through their character as they go on adventures. D&D is an interest of mine in that it allows people to authentically be themselves through imagination and theater. It helps teach life lessons, how to work with others, and the skill of mental math. I'm so excited for this season, and I'm hopeful that we will start to bring in more people who are seeking community, safe spaces, and who want to have fun!

Creating experiences where young people can be themselves, feel welcome, and find community is one of my favorite parts of my job. Life is hard, and sometimes we feel alone. But I think the beauty of the Church and Life Jesus calls us to is that we are made to love and support each other. This was really what inspired our current sermon series, *Masterpiece: EVERY Body*.

So often, I have seen folks get excluded for various reasons. A reason I see quite frequently is because of our bodies; what we look like (or don't look like), what we wear, how much we weigh, what our bodies do (or can't do)...and the list could go on. I have experienced this, too, and I think it's something that we're ashamed to talk about, especially at church. Yet I think of all of the times that Jesus used bodies, especially disabled bodies, to teach and express God's love. I think of all the times He included people regardless of what their bodies looked like or could/couldn't do. He saw every person as a masterpiece. *Every* body was included and seen as beautiful and created by and for God.

That's the point of this sermon series: to help us to see and celebrate ourselves and others. Especially our bodies. It should also help us think about who is here at Mentor UMC, who *isn't* here, and how we can make this a more welcoming and loving space for all people—EVERY body, just as Jesus did with His ministry that we are called to replicate.

PACE (Positive Attitude Changes Everything)

Mackalyn



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
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:

The Hall Family, Hilary Pleska, Nora Kelley, Karen Mancini, Tom Martin, Laurie Eppler, Connie Sterner, Sandy Williams, Dee Smith, Russ Lancaster, Kay McKinney, Ruthie Hobart, Terry & Mary Ellen Reynolds, Kimberlee Johnson, Roberta, Catherine, Charlotte



SEPTEMBER 14 - 28

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



www.mentorumc.org



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/494 96968

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

Kloie Louise Reed baptized September 28, 2025

Young Adult Outing

Young Adults are invited to monthly outings to build relationships and have fun! Join us at Regal Vineyard on Saturday, October 18th at 6 PM for a haunted corn maze, haunted house, food, firepit, and more. Bring money for food, drink, and activities.

Sermon Series Planning

Share your ideas about next year's sermons! All ideas will be taken under consideration but NOT guaranteed to be included. Click here to share.

Healing Service

Join us on Tuesday, September 30th at 7 PM for an evening of worship, prayer, and reflection. Find comfort and peace with us for this very special service in Fellowship Hall.

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.

Need to Know

Pickleball Group

Join us on Mondays at 5 PM in the south parking lot for Pickleball at MUMC beginning September 22nd. All skill levels welcome & limited paddles are available.

Pet Blessing

Are you an animal lover? Bring your pets to MUMC on October 4th at 10 AM for a Pet Blessing.

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.

StrengthsFinder Study

All are encouraged to participate in a *StrengthsFinder* study in October. There is an orientation on Sunday, September 21st from 2 to 4:30 PM at MUMC with Rev. Terry McHugh. The study will be on Wednesday nights in October from 6:30-8:00 PM. Register online here or get in touch with Pastor Tammy for questions.

Bread, Broth, Brownies, & Bingo

Mentor UWF invites you to join us for a soup lunch and a presentation by Connie Brocone LSW, Community Outreach Social Worker from The Lake County Council on Aging. We hope to see you on Wednesday, October 8th at noon in the MUMC Gallery! Please RSVP to uwf@mentorumc.org, register online here, or find the signup sheet in the Info Hub.

Milo Antoin Andree

September 17, 2025 Child of Rachael Iskra Grandchild of Betsy & Dave Iskra



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 John Wesley nations." the focus reframes evangelism—not as a onetime conversion decision to follow lesus—but as the beginning of a lifelong journey of faith and growth. spiritual The R.E.L.A.T.I.O.N.A.L acronym helps explain the Wesleyan approach to Evangelism.

A. ACCEPTANCE

Sharing with others about prevenient grace, reaching out before we're aware of it is more than evangelism; it's offering hope, dignity, and a deep assurance that acceptance by God is not beyond anyone and is a free gift.

WEEKLY UPDATE MENTOR UMC

Treat Street 2025 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sign up online or talk to Pastor Tammy about volunteering for this year's trunk or treat, *Treat Street,* on Saturday, October 11th from 3-5 PM in the northwest parking lot at MUMC. You can be a trunker (decorate your trunk and hand out candy) or run a game/activity. You can also help set up the haunted hallway by reaching out to Mackalyn or Kenna.

Food Pantry

Mentor UMC's Food Pantry is in need of the following:

- Manwich
- Chef Boyardee
 Spaghettios
- Tomato Soup
- Veggie Soup
- Any other canned meals/soups

Items may be dropped off in the bin in the Community Center.

Hope Chest

Hope Chest is in need of bath towels and kids sweatshirts. Donations can be dropped off in the Community Center at MUMC.

UMCOR

UMCOR provides disaster relief through the United Methodist Church's Global Ministries. To learn more or donate, visit their website: <u>umcmission.org/umcor</u>

What's **1 O ?** Mission Opportunities

Nehemiah Mission

There are volunteer opportunities at Nehemiah mission in Cleveland, especially for their "Bread on Bridge" ministry. Learn more online here.



Project Hope

Project Hope is in need of 33-Gallon trash bags, Lysol spray, drink mix (no red), paper towels, aspirin, Tylenol, Advil, hot cocoa packets. Drop off in the Community Center.

More Than a Meal

On the last Saturday of each month, we provide a free community meal at MUMC. You can help cook, clean up, or hand out meals while interacting with guests. The time commitment is about four hours. Please signup online or call the church office for details.

Mission Luncheon Success

Last Sunday, Willie Berman, a United Methodist missionary shared about his work at Mano Juntas in Mexico. The mission there provides schooling, daycare, tutoring, a thrift shop, a medical clinic, education parent and welcomes teams of volunteers to come and serve. Visit the website to learn more: manosjuntasmx.org. If you'd like to support Willie's mission, you can donate online through the Global Ministries Portal or turn in your donation to the church office, marking it for *Manos* Juntas.



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! <u>Click here for leader signup.</u> 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. Upcoming dates:

- September 12 & 26
- October 10 & 24

Parents Morning Out

On Monday mornings from 9:15-11:15 AM, parents are invited to bring their children, who are walking through kindergarten, for a morning of play, music, snacks, a Bible story and a craft. **WE ARE CURRENTLY AT CAPACITY**. REGISTER FOR WAITING LIST ONLY. Upcoming dates:

- September 15, 22, 29
- October 6, 13, 20, 27



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.

• NO Sunday School on 9/28

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. Check the website for updates.

Young Adult Group

Small group meets in-person (Youth Room) and online on Tuesdays from 5 - 6 PM. Currently we're reading and discussing Octavia Butler's *Parable of the Sower*. Contact Mackalyn for details.

Parents of Youth

Fill out the online form <u>here</u> if you are a parent of a youth.

Volunteer Appreciation

We would like to celebrate YOU on October 5th from 3 - 5 PM in the Gallery. Join us for dessert and fellowship, followed by a training session that will equip you to continue making a difference in the lives of our youth. Please RSVP online

