

STEEPLETALK

January 2015



Happy New Year!

In the waning days of another calendar year, the seasonal greeting of "Merry Christmas" gives way to "Happy New Year." A new year brings both expectation and uncertainty. Some hope for a new year to bring better results than the previous, others reluctantly greet another year with the discomfort of the unknown. This global celebration marks a new beginning, no matter how we might embrace it.

In the scriptures we find that "new" is not a stranger to people of faith. In fact, newness is not an annual event but a daily recognition. Lamentations 3:23 declares that God's mercies are new each day. Think of that, each day we receive a new deposit of God's mercy. If mercy is getting what we don't deserve, then every day we receive blessings from God, even when we don't necessarily recognize them, or take the time to give God thanks.

Psalm 40:3 records the words of David who found, in the midst of struggle, that God gave him a new song, a song of praise. In the midst of life, David found words of praise and worship to God that lifted his soul, even out of the muck and mire of strife.

In 2 Corinthians 5:17 the Apostle Paul wrote about being new creatures in Christ. This speaks of the work that Jesus does in us that brings new life, new vitality, a new beginning. This newness of life is like starting all over when we are born again (John 3:3; 1 Peter 1:3). This is the new start gift, like a new year, but a new life in Christ. This newness is refreshed, rebooted daily in our walk with Christ.

In the letter to the Christians in Ephesus, Paul spoke of having a new mind (Ephesians 4:22-24). Sometimes our minds become cluttered with negativity, criticism, self-centeredness, etc.; but Paul reminds us that we can have a new mind. That is a mind marked by humility and service (Philippians 2), love (Galatians 5), and whatever is the mark of the renewing power of God at work in us.

This newness has come, is coming, and will come. In the final book of the bible, Revelation 21:5 promises us that God will do everything new someday. It will be marked by a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21:1).

God is about newness; new each day, new in Christ, renewed in the Spirit, and new through eternity. I join in the chorus to wish others a Happy New Year, but my greatest wish for you is to find the hope, comfort and reality of what God makes new for us in Jesus Christ.

Happy New Life in Christ.

— **Pastor Kurt**

Lead Pastor

Kurt Landerholm
klanderholm@mentorumc.org

Associate Pastor

Of Pastoral Care & Counseling

Beverly Wrobel
blwrobel@mentorumc.org

Associate Pastor

Of Modern Worship & Evangelism

Quincy Wheeler
qwheeler@mentorumc.org

Associate Pastor

Of Discipleship, Outreach

& Shared Ministry

Jon Wilterdink
jwilterdink@mentorumc.org

Associate Pastor of Missions

Kathy Dickriede
kdickriede@mentorumc.org

Youth Ministry

Lauren Ring
lring@mentorumc.org

Children & Family Ministries

Tammy Palermo
tpalermo@mentorumc.org

Address and Phone:

8600 Mentor Ave.
Mentor, OH 44060
440 255-3496

Web

www.mentorumc.org
Facebook.com/mentorumc
Twitter: @MentorUMChurch
info@mentorumc.org





While the week of December 22 was shortened by the Christmas holiday, carpentry work did continue with the goal of enclosing the new construction by the first of the year. Some final concrete work was completed and electrical work was ongoing. In the coming weeks we can expect further carpentry work.

The SW parking area was graded and stoned for parking. This has opened approximately 50 additional parking spaces for use on Sunday mornings. Please note the temporary orange paint indicating parking spots. There is access to the NW parking lot through a temporary stoned walkway.

On-site parking includes:

- The NE parking lot (please allow this lot to be used by seniors, handicapped and visitors)
- NW parking lot (access to sanctuary)
- South & East parking lots (access to the south end of the Education Wing and into iConnect)

Please, as you are able, use off-site parking so that others can use our lots. The following parking is available:

- The Village Plaza strip mall (east one block on Mentor Avenue)
- The Federated Auto Parts Store across from the strip mall (north side of Mentor Avenue)
- Jimmy's Backyard Barbeque (only in the rear please)
- The law offices on the corner of Mentor Avenue & Murray Avenue (sanctuary access)

Updates will be provided as we move forward, and the most up-to-date information is found on the church website at www.mentorumc.org. Thanks for your patience during these times of construction.



FINANCIAL PEACE PREVIEW NIGHT
Tuesday, January 6th, 7 p.m.

Check out a one-hour preview of *Financial Peace University*. This is a time to ask questions, meet the facilitator, and see if this small group experience is something of interest for you. No reservation is needed. *Financial Peace University* is being offered January 8—March 5, 7-8:30 p.m. See the SMALL GROUP page to find out more and to register.



FINANCE UPDATE
YTD through November 30, 2014

Receipts	\$858,198
Disbursements	846,736
Surplus	11,462

Electronic giving is available online at www.mentorumc.org

SERVANT OPPORTUNITIES

HEARTLAND VISITATION . . .

Join us on Sunday, January 18th at 10:45 a.m. as we worship with the residents of Heartland.

MUMC MORE THAN A MEAL



Free Community Dinner

A huge THANK YOU to Jim and Lori Post and friends who hosted our November meal even after coming off the heels of a very successful Thanksgiving Dinner! We are blessed to have hosts for the next SIX months!

If you, your family, a small group, or committee would like to host during the summer (cooking is easy on the grill!) , please email Karen Martin at dansgirl9065@sbcglobal.net for more information.



Greeters Needed

How exciting that as our construction continues, doors are reopening and warm, friendly, smiling, sincere and helpful people are needed to greet our congregation members and visitors as they arrive for worship!

Studies of first time visitors indicate that friendliness of a church is one of the most important factors they consider when deciding to come back to visit again. Recently, a first time couple complimented our church on our friendliness and how welcomed they felt. Our prayer is that all visitors have that same experience every time.

Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to be part of our Greeter Ministry. Welcome Center volunteers and substitutes for both are needed. **Contact Kathy Koman at 440-257-9077 or kskoman@aol.com for more information or to sign up.**

preschool registration



PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION
2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Church members may register their 3, 4 & 5 year olds beginning January 2nd. Children must be toilet trained and the age of their class by September 30, 2015. Please visit our preschool website to obtain a registration form. The completed registration form, a registration fee of \$60 (per family) and one month's tuition must be returned to the Preschool Office or Church Office to hold a spot for the next school year. Current students will register Thursday, January 29th. Open registration will begin January 30th. A community Open House will be held Saturday, February 7th from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. Please free to contact Colleen Judson or Suzanne Teringo by email at mumpreschool@mentorumc.org, or phone 440 255-3496, ext. 23 for additional information or to make an appointment to register in person. We look forward to hearing from you!

THROUGH THE YEARS

As we begin the new year, 2015 will mark many significant milestones in both church and world history. Perhaps one or two will be written about as the year goes on, but here are a few significant milestones this year:

The Magna Carta — this year marks the 800th anniversary of the great English charter that is considered the first steps towards democracy in Britain. One of the leading proponents, along with English barons, was Stephen Langton, the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Magna Carta was signed on June 15, 1215.

The martyrdom of Jan Huss. Huss was, along with John Wycliff, one of the first reformers of the Catholic Church. Born in the present day Czech republic, Huss opposed the church's use of indulgences (the paying of money) to forgive sins. Huss challenged the abuse of power of the church. He was burned at the stake on July 6, 1415 after refusing to recant his views of the church. It is alleged that as he was about to die, Huss cried out "Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us".

The birth of Jan Sibelius—born on December 8, 1865, this year marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of the most famous Finnish composer in history. Sibelius wrote seven symphonies as well as many other works. His work, "Finlandia", is revered throughout his country and is the music for the hymn "Be Still My Soul" No. 534 in our Methodist Hymnal.

There are many other significant non-religious milestones being observed this year. They include the 150th anniversary of the end of the American Civil War on April 9, 1865 and the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo which ended Napoleon's reign in France and sent him into exile.

May we all experience a blessed new year and feel the presence of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ in our lives.

Do you have any MUM history you would like to share with the congregation? Please send it to:

Mr. Don Humphrey
7330 Holly Park Drive
Concord OH 44060-6704

Or email to dhumphrey@ameritech.net.

It's Your Move



NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE WORSHIP SERIES . . .

Start your New Year off by joining us for a four-week message series revolving around the practical, life wisdom of the book of James illustrated through popular family board games! After Christmas and in the long, cold months of winter, families often love to get together and play games, warming hearts with laughter and friendly competition. In a similar way, God desires to move within our lives in this coming New Year — at home, at work, and at church — to bring us the warmth of His Spirit's movement. Come to hear the message and join the fun!

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Sunday, January 4 | Game: Chutes and Ladders | James 1:5-8 |
| Sunday, January 11 | Game: Monopoly | James 1:9-12 |
| Sunday, January 18 | Game: Clue | James 1:13-15 |
| Sunday, January 25 | Game: Sorry | James 1:16-18 |



Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day with a Sunday Supper at Mentor UMC
Sunday, January 18th — 5:30-8:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

What's on your plate Sunday evening, January 18th? All are invited to share supper together, view the film *Race to Freedom: The Underground Railroad*, and join in dialogue and discussion after the film, including a glimpse into some local connections to the Underground Railroad. *Race to Freedom* chronicles the dangerous flight of four determined slaves from a cotton plantation in America to the "Promised Land" in Canada. Come celebrate Dr. King's legacy of service and social justice while enjoying fellowship, food and conversation.

This free event is sponsored by Mentor United Methodist Women and all are welcome to attend! Please RSVP so we can plan for enough food. Child care will be provided upon request. Please contact Carole Ring at 255-7213 or umw@mentorumc.org to RSVP, if you have questions, or would like child care or transportation. We hope you will join us for this special night out!

KNOW

- **Sunday School**
 - Babies and Toddler/2 year olds meet in the Adams Parlor
 - 3 year olds (as of Sept. 1, 2014 and toilet trained) through 6th grade meet in the Chapel after check-in
 - Family Worship is FIRST Sunday of the month and K-6th graders remain in worship with their families; a special KidMin bulletin is available at check-in
 - <http://mentorumc.org/sunday-school>

GROW

- **StuCo 56**, 5th & 6th grade youth group
 - Meeting on Friday, January 16th from 7-9 p.m.
 - <http://mentorumc.org/stuco-56>
- **GENERATIONS**, family fellowship group
 - January 31 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Mentor Ice Arena for ice skating
 - <http://mentorumc.org/generations>
- **MOPS & MOMSnext Monthly Meeting**
 - Friday, January 9th from 9:30 a.m. to noon “SPA Meeting”
 - <http://mentorumc.org/mop>

We are looking for a few more caregivers on the Second Friday of the month. This is a paid position. Please call Dawn Linch at 740-705-1990 for more information or to be considered.

SHOW

- **Sunday School Leadership sign up**
 - <http://mentorumc.org/sunday-school>

NEWSLETTERS & CHILD REGISTRATION FORMS:
<http://mentorumc.org/children>



Are you a high school senior that is graduating in the spring of 2015 or current college student that will be working towards an undergraduate degree in the fall of 2015? If so, Mentor United Methodist Church is pleased to announce that applications for the MUMC Scholarship are available on the church's website <http://mentorumc.org/scholarship>. All graduating senior high students, current undergraduate college students or seminary students who have been a member of MUMC for at least one year are eligible to apply for a scholarship award. Applicants must complete and return the application and all required documents to the church office no later than Friday, April 10th.

THE NEW DAY CIRCLE will meet on **Monday, January 12th** from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Adams Parlor. Contact Carole Ring (255-7213) or umw@mentorumc.org if you have questions. All women are welcome to join us!

RUTH-ESTHER CIRCLE does not meet in January. Our next meeting is February 10th at 9:30 a.m. We will be cleaning and putting away the candles and candle holders from the Christmas Eve services. This is a time of fellowship, work, and refreshments.

JOIN US ON THE PATH (Women's Retreat)
Friday, February 20—Saturday, February 21
At the Hilton Garden Inn, Mayfield Village

Encounter real women of the bible to discover courage, compassion, and a connection with God. Session leader is Rev. Kathy Dickriede. Registration forms are available at the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings, online, or in the Church Office. Registration deadline: February 1st with balance due February 15th. Overnight cost with four meals ranges from \$115-\$170 (financial assistance available). **For more information and to register go to www.mentorumc.org and click on The PATH 2015 registration.** This retreat is open to all women of the church, friends, and family.

GRIEFSHARE
A Grief Recovery Support Group

This is real help for deep hurt. Winter sessions on Wednesdays, January 7th to April 1 (13 weeks), 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Cost is \$20 (includes book).

The facilitator is Rev. Beverly Wrobel, LPC. Please register by calling or emailing Rev. Wrobel at blwrobel@mentorumc.org. For more information visit the GRIEFSHARE website at www.griefshare.org.

Weekly video seminars are designed to help you successfully travel the journey from mourning to joy.



If you are interested in a class on the basics of the Christian faith consider attending . . .

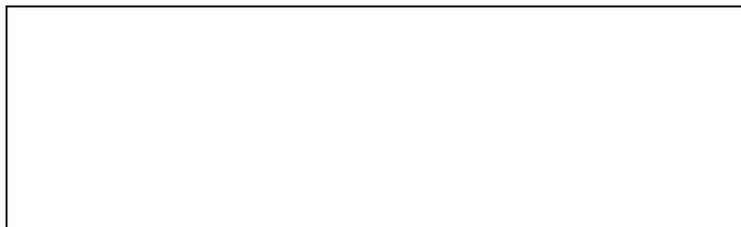
“The Basics” offered on five Tuesday evenings in January from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on January 6, 13, 20, 27 and February 3 in the Chapel. Whether you're a member or want to become a member, these five classes focus on the Bible, Jesus, Prayer and the Church. Led by Pastor Bev Wrobel. Registration is required.

These classes are required for membership but everyone is welcome to attend. To register, please email or call Pastor Bev Wrobel at blwrobel@mentorumc.org or 440-255-3496, ext. 14.

Mentor United Methodist Church
8600 Mentor Avenue
Mentor OH 44060

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Mentor OH 44060
Permit No. 37

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



WORSHIP

SANCTUARY Worship — 9 & 11 a.m.

iCONNECT Worship — 9 & 11 a.m.
(Fellowship Hall)

COMMUNION — 10:40 a.m.
(Sanctuary)

CHILDREN

CHILDCARE — 9 & 11 a.m.
For infants—2 year old
Adams Parlor

SUNDAY SCHOOL — 9 & 11 a.m.
For 3 year olds—6th grade
Chapel

2015 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP: Stop by this morning to pick your envelopes at the tables in the Arcade (hallway between the Sanctuary and Chapel).

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:
TURN IN YOUR ARTICLES EARLY!
RE M I N D E R :
DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES IS

STEEPLETALK
Deadline
For FEBRUARY Issue
January 8th



TAKE THE RICE BUCKET CHALLENGE!

Our Camphor Mission United Methodist brothers and sisters are feeling the stress of the Ebola crisis in Liberia, West Africa. The school is closed as a precautionary measure, which means no salary and, therefore, no food. Rice has gone from \$35 per bag to \$70 per bag.

We can make a difference. Let's fill their stomachs with food and their hearts with our love by taking the challenge: \$70 for one bag, \$350 for five bags. All donations are appreciated! Please make your check out to Mentor UMC with Rice Bucket Challenge on the memo.



Contact Kathy Dickriede with questions at kdickriede@mentorum.org



In the event of possible church closings due to weather or power outages, please go to News Channel 5 for updates.