

STEEPLETALK

News from Mentor United Methodist Church

January

2019

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Look for the different ways
to get involved.



Deeper - Discipleship
Ministries



Outward - Outreach,
Missions &
Special Events



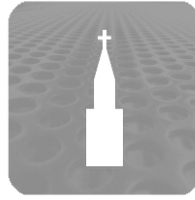
Special Interest



Support



Upward - Worship &
Music



Download our app!
Mentor United Methodist Church



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The app is packed with powerful content and resources to help you on the path as you grow upward in worship, deeper in discipleship, together in Christian community, and outward in service. Scan the QR code to download it now!



Read the newsletter every month online! Go to mentorumc.org/current/newsletter.

Children and Family Ministries

Register for events through the app or at www.mentorumc.org/children
www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful Christmas! As we prepare to get back into the groove after a short break, I wanted to share with you some exciting things that are in the works for January.



Prayer Buddies registration is on-going as we find more children who want to receive the blessing of prayer from the awesome adults who want to pray for them! You can sign up at any time to be included. You can find more info at mentorumc.org/prayer-buddy.

Positive Parenting Book Club selection is *Relentless Parenting* by Brian & Angela Haynes and will be on January 8. I will also be leading an online version of Spiritual Parenting. I would love to have you join in either (or both) of these discussions. God is calling us to an amazing task by being parents, and we need to be in community to support each other in this awesome endeavor!

Our 5th & 6th grade youth group, **StuCo 56**, is scheduled to meet on January 13 and 20 from 6:00-8:00 pm. All students in those grades are welcomed and encouraged to attend. I only ask that you RSVP for your student, so I can plan accordingly. You may want to mark your calendars for our annual SNOW TUBING outing on February 13.

LAMB (Learning And Mommy Bonding) will be starting the next 8 week session on January 8 and 10. This is an awesome program for moms with young children. Registration is open. If your child is interested in singing and would like to join the **Children's Choir** (grades 1-6) or **Cherub Choir** (ages 3-Kindergarten), January is a great time to jump in! They both meet at Sunday mornings at 10:15 in room 112 and room 104, respectively starting January 13.

Please let me know how I can come alongside you during this awesome time of parenthood! I want to resource you and more importantly cheer you on! As we begin a new year, let's make our spiritual lives a priority not only for our family but for ourselves.

By HIS Grace and through HIS love,

- Tammy Palermo, Director of Children & Family Ministries

From the Pastor

Change and a New Year

"Now the Lord said to Abram (Abraham), 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.'" (Genesis 12:1 NRSV)

This is one of the most important scriptures in all of the Bible. It represents a U-turn, a radical departure from one place to another. It not only involved a person, it was an event that shaped history. God called Abraham to "Go."

Recently I was in a conversation with a group of people who have been working to bring change to a not-for-profit organization. To a person each one shared that they don't like change, that is until I spoke up saying, "I don't mind change, I find it invigorating." By that I did not mean I necessarily like change, but what I meant was that change is the antidote to complacency.

As we enter the year 2019, consider the changes that have happened in the past 100 years (c-change). Yes, some do not seem for the better, that's where we struggle with change. But imagine the world of 1919 that was pre-antibiotics, the personal computer, and television? I don't want to surrender my microwave oven and central heat and air! Jet air traffic is great with children in two foreign countries, Hungary and Texas (well, not quite Texas). Think of living in a world without insulin or organ transplants. You get the picture; changes have made our world a better place to live.

In a world where "cut and paste" involved scissors and paste; and Google was baby talk—life may have been simpler, but not all change is bad.

Entering a New Year means there will be change. By the time we reach midnight on December 31, 2019, things will look different than they do now. Some changes may be difficult, but change can also be good.

How we embrace change is a matter of faith. As people of faith we should embrace change differently than most. Change can be a good thing, because God is always doing a "New Thing."

When God called Abram to leave his country and family and household to go to a new land he did not know, that was a change with uncertainty. The writer of Hebrews used Abraham (first known as Abram) as an example of faith, "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going." (Hebrews 11:8)

With Abraham as an example, as we enter into a New Year with certain change and uncertain changes, let's remember to walk by faith and seek to walk faithfully with God.

May you know God's abiding presence each and every day in the year ahead.

- Pastor Kurt



Christmas Offering

Your Missions Commission has voted to distribute the 2018 Christmas offering in the following ways:

The first third will be designated internationally, meeting our new commitment to our Covenant Relationship with Helen Roberts-Evans (\$2500) and any additional funds will be used for student scholarship support in Liberia.

The second third will be split evenly to support national ministries: half to McCurdy Ministries in Espanola, NM and half to UMCOR for National Disaster Relief in light of the recent hurricanes and wildfires.

The final third is designated for local ministries and will be split evenly between the English as a Second Language program of Helping Hispanics Hope in Christ in Painesville and Project Hope. Missions Commission thanks you for your generous support of these ministries.

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★ Through The Years

The emblem of the United Methodist Church, the Cross and Flames is very familiar to members of our denomination. This emblem, or logo, can only be used by official United Methodist agencies, including local churches. It should not be used by individuals for personal purposes. It is a powerful symbol known worldwide that identifies us as United Methodists. The emblem is registered with the United States Patent and Trademark office.

The Cross and Flame emblem was adopted following the 1968 merger of the Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren Churches. The color version is red, black, and white with a red flame. There is also a black and white version. The cross represents Christ while the flame represents the Holy Spirit. The flame reminds us of Pentecost where witnesses were unified by the Holy Spirit and saw "tongues, as of fire" (Acts 2:3). The flame reminds us of John Wesley when he sensed God's presence and feel his heart "strangely warmed". The two tongues of the flames also can be understood to represent the union of the two denominations.

There are strict requirements for the proportions on the emblem. The base of the flame should be lower than that of the cross. The tip of the left portion of the flame must align with the left arm of the cross. The space between the flame and the upright of the cross is slightly wider at the top of the design than it is at the bottom. You cannot alter the words "The United Methodist Church" when accompanying the emblem.

These may seem like a lot of requirements for an emblem, but remember, it identifies our church throughout the world and it leaves no doubt who this church represents. Any use of the emblem for commercial purposes must be approved by the General Council on Finance and Administration. Images for church use can be downloaded from the official United Methodist website, umc.org. This information was obtained from the official United Methodist website.



We all take delight in seeing the emblem of our church. Let's make sure we see it used in 2019 to promote Christ centered discipleship throughout the world.

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

Don Humphrey
7330 Holly Park Dr.
Concord, Ohio 44060-6704 or e-mail to: dhumphrey@ameritech.net

January Prayer Focus - Nancy Landerholm



And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Jesus wants us to talk to him about our temptations. We can tell him about our darkest thoughts and emotions and every destructive desire that would lead us into evil. He already knows what we are thinking and the battles that rage within our minds. We can tell Jesus about our resentful attitude, our adulterous thoughts, our negativity, our lust, our jealousy, our "dirty" mind, our selfish desires, our hatred toward a neighbor, and on and on the list goes. Only Jesus can give victory and has the power to win the battle! (Some battles of the mind are so strong that we need to seek out someone to pray with us and we need to be accountable to that person).

Informational Listening Posts at Mentor UMC for the UMC's Special General Conference in Feb. 2019

In advance of the United Methodist Church's Special General Conference to discuss issues of Human Sexuality and the church on February 23-26, 2019, the pastors of Mentor UMC with the backing of church leadership will present three informational listening posts. The posts are to help any interested persons understand the issues under discussion, the proposed plans under consideration and the possible results of the Conference for the church worldwide, nationwide and on a local level.

On Sunday, January 13 from 2-3:30pm, Monday, February 11 from 7-8:30pm, and Wednesday, February 20 from 7-8:30pm, we will hold a 90-minute session in the Chapel. We will spend 30 minutes describing the two basic positions of United Methodists on the issue of human sexuality and the Biblical issues at play and have 15 minutes of questions regarding the information we have shared and responses. Then we will spend 30 minutes describing the three plans proposed to the Special General Conference and the possible results from the Conference for the church, followed by another 15 minute session of informative questions-and-answers.

To attend these listening posts, you will need to sign-up at the Information Hub or online via Sign-Up Genius. Each session will be limited to 60 participants. We encourage you to sign-up for one of these events so that you can be prepared and informed on this important time in the UMC.

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Church
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Mentor OH 44060

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MENTOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Rape Aggression Defense Systems - R.A.D.

Women's Self-Defense Classes

January 7, 11, 14 & 18. 6-9 PM, held at Mentor United Methodist Church.

Could you effectively defend yourself if attacked?
Reserve your spot for this free course taught by certified instructors. Attendance is needed for all four sessions for course completion.

Open to all women aged 13 and older. Call or text Brooke Taylor at 216-681-6303.

Check out the website at rad-systems.com.

We are very fortunate to be able to offer this class!
Sponsored by United Methodist Women.



Traditional worship service in the Sanctuary Sundays 9 AM and 11 AM
Modern worship, iConnect, in Fellowship Hall Sundays 9 AM and 11 AM
Deadline for the February Newsletter is January 4.

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
06 09:00 AM - Confirmation Class 10:00 AM - Journey Group 10:00 AM - Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM - Journey Group - Woolegde 05:00 PM - Journey Group - Landerholm 06:15 PM - Sunday Night Basketball 07:00 PM - Journey Group - Nagle 07:00 PM - Occupy & StuCo 56 Bowling & Arcade Party	07 10:00 AM - Parents Morning Out 10:00 AM - Worship at Brookdale Hesley 10:00 AM - Journey Group - Carr 06:00 PM - UMW - R.A.D. Program 07:00 PM - Men's Group Meeting 07:00 PM - Disciple III - Carr / McAdams	08 09:30 AM - Journey Group - Ring 09:30 AM - Journey Group - Palermo 06:00 PM - Positive Parenting Book Club 07:00 PM - Emmaus/Journey Group	09 10:00 AM - Journey Group - Wednesday Morning Way 01:00 PM - Knitting Group 07:00 PM - Missions Commission 07:00 PM - Imbler Journey Group 07:00 PM - Boy Scout Troop #280	10 06:30 AM - Men's Journey Group 10:00 AM - Overeaters Anonymous 04:30 PM - Journey Group - Lauren Ring 05:00 PM - Mills/Hodge Rehearsal 06:00 PM - Canticle Bell Rehearsal 06:45 PM - Charter Members Rehearsal 07:00 PM - S.A.L.T. 07:45 PM - Chancel Choir Rehearsal	11 09:30 AM - MOPS & MOMSnext Meeting 01:00 PM - Journey Group - Fournier / Korenko 06:00 PM - UMW - R.A.D. Program	12 08:00 AM - iConnect - Vocal Rehearsal 08:00 AM - iConnect Rehearsal 01:00 PM - Mills/Hodge Family 02:30 PM - Mills/Hodge Wedding
13 09:00 AM - Confirmation Class 10:00 AM - Journey Group 10:00 AM - Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM - Journey Group - Woolegde 10:15 AM - Children's Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM - Cherub Choir Rehearsal 02:00 PM - Listening Post 05:00 PM - Journey Group - Landerholm 06:00 PM - StuCo 56 06:00 PM - Occupy Youth Ministry 06:15 PM - Sunday Night Basketball 07:00 PM - Journey Group - Nagle	14 10:00 AM - Parents Morning Out 10:00 AM - New Day Circle 10:00 AM - Journey Group - Carr 06:00 PM - UMW - R.A.D. Program 07:00 PM - Men's Group Meeting 07:00 PM - iConnect Planning 07:00 PM - Disciple III - Carr / McAdams 07:30 PM - Communications Team	15 09:30 AM - Journey Group - Ring 09:30 AM - Journey Group - Palermo 07:00 PM - Emmaus/Journey Group	16 10:00 AM - Journey Group - Wednesday Morning Way 01:15 PM - Knitting Group 07:00 PM - Imbler Journey Group 07:00 PM - Imbler Journey Group 07:00 PM - Boy Scout Troop #280	17 06:30 AM - Men's Journey Group 09:00 AM - LAMB - Learning and Mommy Bonding 10:00 AM - Overeaters Anonymous 10:00 AM - PEO Meeting 04:30 PM - Journey Group - Lauren Ring 06:00 PM - Canticle Bell Rehearsal 06:45 PM - Charter Members Rehearsal 07:00 PM - Mentor Jr. Women's Club Meeting 07:00 PM - S.A.L.T. 07:45 PM - Chancel Choir Rehearsal	18 09:30 AM - MOPS Steering Team 01:00 PM - Journey Group - Fournier / Korenko 06:00 PM - UMW - R.A.D. Program	19 08:00 AM - Journey Group Leader Meeting 08:00 AM - iConnect - Vocal Rehearsal 08:00 AM - iConnect Rehearsal
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2019

Women: Save The Date For The Path 2019!

Saturday-Sunday
March 23-24, 2019

Hilton Garden Inn Twinsburg

Mark your calendars now!

Registration begins in January. See

our website in January at

www.mentorumc.org.



2019 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes are available in the arcade for you to pick up beginning December 16.



Sub Sale

The Mentor UMC Bible Quizzers in grades 5-12 are learning the Gospel of John this season and as they raise money for their trip to the National Bible Quiz Tournament in April, they are selling sub sandwiches for delivery on Super Bowl Sunday, February 3!



You can order subs and cookies at the information center on Sundays January 13, January 20, and January 27 or during the week by emailing sharitoth@gmail.com. Subs are \$4 and you can get a bag of three cookies for \$1. Last day to order will be Monday, January 28.

Karaoke and Lunch!

Sunday, January 27, 12:30 PM

Join us for karaoke for all ages with Cornerstone! There will be a soup and chili lunch

and then a fun time of singing. Please RSVP to Michelle Park at mpark@mentorumc.org

that you are coming and let her know your song request. Songs must be Christian music or uplifting selections.



Rape Aggression Defense Systems - R.A.D.

Women's Self-Defense Classes

January 7, 11, 14 & 18. 6-9 PM, held at Mentor United Methodist Church.

Could you effectively defend yourself if attacked? Reserve your spot for this free course taught by certified instructors. Attendance is needed for all four sessions for course completion.

Open to all women aged 13 and older. Call or text Brooke Taylor at 216-681-6303.

Check out the website at rad-systems.com.

We are very fortunate to be able to offer this class! Sponsored by United Methodist Women.



News From Missions Commission

Missions Commission wants to inform the congregation that as of January 1, we have begun a Covenant Relationship with Helen Roberts-Evans, a General Board of Global Ministries missionary serving as director of the Dept. of General Education and Ministry of the UMC in Liberia. She was commissioned in October 2009, having initially gone to Liberia as a mission volunteer in July 2008.



Helen was born in Liberia and her return as a missionary was a lifelong dream. Her work includes meeting needs in such areas as teacher training, scholarships, resources, new school construction, and school building renovation and repair. She has been very helpful to the staff of Middle School Mission Week as she has met with them and linked them to students needing scholarship support and kept us informed of the students' progress. Helen understands life and the challenges in Liberia. To read more about Helen, go to <http://www.umcmmission.org/Explore-Our-Work/Missionaries-in-Service/Missionary-Profiles/Roberts-Evans-Helen>.

As there are many changes happening in the church in Liberia, including a new bishop, it was Kathy Dickriede's suggestion that instead of sending our gifts directly to Camphor Mission, we commit to a Covenant Relationship with Helen Roberts-Evans. This is a three-year commitment to provide \$2500 annually, but the partnership is much more than a financial commitment. It is a dynamic relationship where the church and missionary pray for one another and community regularly.

When we Covenant with one missionary, we are supporting the entire United Methodist missionary community on their behalf. Please add Helen and her missionary work in Liberia to your prayer list.

More-Than-A-Meal is our free community meal served on the last Saturday of the month.

We are presently looking for Journey Groups, Committees, or individuals to sign up to prepare and serve the meals for 2019. This requires preparing for 100 persons and covering the costs if possible. If some funding is needed, there are limited funds available. Regular workers and experienced persons will be present to assist. If you are interested, contact Jim Post at 440-477-6130.