Mentor United Methodist Church WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday, December 13, 2020

www.mentorumc.org

One of Mentor UMC's Core Values is that we are "Relationship-Sensitive - We value relationships and the building of relationships because people matter."

You matter!

Your neighbor matters!

Our community is full of people who matter!

Thank you for your generous support of our Giving Tree Ministry. When we switched to online sign-up, honestly, we didn't know how it would go. Yet you stepped up and found ways to adopt and connect with people who need to know they matter. It is easy to overlook or dismiss the needs of others. It is easy to be focused on our personal situations. Yet a core value of Christian discipleship is seeing others. And, not just seeing them; coming alongside them! Being sensitive to their needs and wants. Thank you for coming alongside 102 families who, this week, received an outpouring of grace.

For Joseph, his relationship with Mary mattered. Even when news broke of her pregnancy he was willing to go against the status quo and "dismiss her quietly." Then God broke in and offered another option, "Take her home." It may be difficult for us to comprehend the profound absurdity this proposal was in the culture. Yet this is God. Always breaking in with newness and possibility.

As we continue our Advent journey, may we continue to believe God always breaks in. God desires relationship! God continues to speak truth into our lives, sometimes challenging and pushing us to see beyond the status quo until all people know they matter.

This week's Gospel lesson is Matthew 1:18 – 25. During worship we will hear it proclaimed by some of our Truth and Light Players. I thank them for their engagement in the story telling.

You matter to me!

Pastor Sondra

Sunday Morning Services The YouVersion link for this week is https://bible.com/events/47526405

Join us in worship!
9 AM Modern and 11 AM Traditional
Facebook, YouTube and
our website www.mentorumc.ora

Lighting the Advent wreath in services today are the Rhoads family in Modern Worship at 9 AM and the Babcock family in Traditional Worship at 11AM.

Reflections on 2020

On December 27, our final worship of 2020, we will take a look back on 2020. We look forward to moving on to a new year! Yet ... what are the lessons or blessings of 2020 that you don't want to forget? What do you want to remember about 2020? Pastor Sondra is looking for your input. Please send her an email by next Monday (December 21) so she can include your thoughts in the service (ssnode@mentorumc.org).

Congregational Care

Members admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:

The Lantern - Jim Reed • Aberdeen Crossing - Barbara Bradarich
The Enclave - Kay Disbro • Brookdale Mentor - Norma Kuzik
Mentor Ridge - Gloria Meyer • Parker Place - Opal Pinasky
Danbury Senior Living - Ross & Kathryn Bevacqua
Maple Ridge Sr. Living - Bob Chamberlin • Brookdale Wickliffe - Fran Rose
Tapestry Senior Living - Gloria & Ron McFeely
Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher, Art Sydow

Members who have returned home or are homebound:
Dale Snyder, Karen Mancini, Linda Leach, Erica Wilmot, Jeanne Babcock
Kimi Schmidt, Carl Snyder, Sylvia Bisbee, John Proegler
John Hurley, Tom Knesbeck, Ken Ireland, Noel Barber, Evelyn Scott

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Bonivere Stewart, who passed on December 4.

Children & Family Ministries www.mentorumc.org/children

MUMC Family Style Sunday Morning Kids' Journey Groups is every Sunday morning at 10:10-10:50 AM. Check your email for login details or contact Tammy.

PS, K, 1st gr led by Kate & Abby Colbow

2nd, 3rd, 4th gr led by Eliana Palermo & Ryan Poje 5th & 6th gr led by Barb Brown & Leah Nash

MOPS & MOMSnext meets Thursday, December 17, in the evening. The group will be meeting virtually until further notice. The theme is <u>Decide to Rise</u> and is very appropriate and timely. Contact MOPS at <u>mops@mentorumc.org</u> for more information.

Altar Flowers January 31, 2021

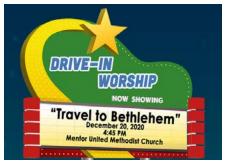
There is an opening to provide altar flowers for Traditional Service on January 31, 2021. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Fellows at 440-255-5899.

Stewardship for 2021 Operating Budget

Please prayerfully consider your 2021 pledge and return your pledge card by mail or by dropping it off at the church office. Please remember that online pledging and giving remains available at www.mentorumc.org and via the MUMC church app.

Thank you for your continued support of our church and our mission to lead all onto a path of Christ-centered discipleship. If you have questions you can contact Teresa Simons <u>tsimons@mentorumc.org</u> 255-3496.





Come And Worship As A Church Family - "Travel to Bethlehem" December 20, Drive-In Worship Experience

4:45 – 5:30 PM Drive past Christmas Scenes along the Ed Wing

Listen to our Modern Worship Band on our FM Station

Pick up candles and glowsticks under the portico for Christmas Eve

Bring snacks, and candles or flashlights

Find a spot in our parking lot to be ready for singing and story telling

5:30 - 6 PM Worship over the FM Station and Seeing each other "car-to-car"

We will hear the familiar story

We will sing favorite carols to our organ

accompaniment

We will end the evening with "Silent Night"

We receive a Christmas Blessing

Letters of Gratitude and Encouragement for Cleveland Clinic

The Cleveland Clinic has a program for writing a note of gratitude or encouragement to a Cleveland Clinic Caregiver or a Patient currently admitted to a Cleveland Clinic hospital. There are very specific instructions and there is a survey link to use for each letter at https://redcap.ccf.org/redcap/surveys/index.php?s=3X7YKDCHK8.

Cleveland Clinic Caregivers are so appreciative of your service and your efforts to practice social distancing and keep your hands clean. As you participate in this virtual opportunity, please, practice frequent hand hygiene (alcohol hand rubs & soap/water), cough etiquette (cover coughs and/or use cloth face masks) and please, do not participate if having symptoms of any illness.

Please send one note per stamped envelope, addressed as populated by the bottom of the link based on your choices. Any questions can be directed to: 216.219.9766 or ourvoice@ccf.org.

If you would be willing to capture a photo of yourself writing the letter, addressing, or mailing, they can be emailed to Amy Szabo at szaboa3@ccf.org.