Mentor United Methodist Church WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday, January 3, 2021

www.mentorumc.org

Happy New Year!

As we begin to fill in the blank pages of our 2021 calendars, I pray you will watch for God's activity every day. We celebrate God with us! Emmanuel! Who desires for us to know and experience Love's presence and power. I look forward to seeing what God will do in our midst this year ... and through us for the sake of Jesus' Kingdom!

This week, we welcome Pastor Mikayla and Robert Doepker! We look forward to getting to know them ... even in the midst of a pandemic with worship online.

I encourage you to reach out to them. How strange to move to a community of faith without really seeing the community! Nevertheless, we will find ways to connect. On Sunday, we will learn a little bit about Pastor Mikayla ... and we look forward to learning more in the days and years to come.

We will also share communion together this Sunday. So, have your communion elements ready.

God is with us! May we always be on the look out for God at work ...

Pastor Sondra



Sunday Morning Services The YouVersion link for this week is https://bible.com/events/48144893 Join us in worship! 9 AM Modern and 11 AM Traditional Facebook, YouTube and our website www.mentorumc.org

Christmas Cantata 2019 Online through Epiphany Sunday, January 3, 2021

We are pleased to offer a last opportunity today to listen to the 2019 Christmas Cantata on YouTube. The link is unlisted to comply with copyright requirements. Please use this link to access it <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7oAk1ITHP4</u>. You will not see the video appear on our YouTube Channel or be able to search for it. Thank you for understanding as we navigate online copyright issues. If you have any difficulty, please call or email Carolyn in the office at 440.255.3496 or <u>cnagy@mentorumc.org</u>. She can email the link directly to you.

Blood Drive

MUMC will hold a Red Cross Blood Drive on January 5, from 9 AM to 3 PM in the Asbury and Wesley rooms. You can schedule an appointment at <u>www.redcrossblood.org</u>.

Congregational Care

Members admitted to the Hospital: Lake West - John Proegler

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

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 • Continuing Healthcare of Mentor - Virginia Gilman

<u>Members who have returned home or are homebound:</u> Dale Snyder, Linda Leach, Jeanne Babcock, Karen Mancini, Art Sydow John Hurley, Tom Knesbeck, Ken Ireland, Noel Barber, Evelyn Scott

Our sympathy to Marye Etta Fairchild-Reed, David Reed, Kristen Reed, and Jacob Andrews in the passing of Jim Reed on December 31.

Help the Homeless – Volunteer for Project Hope

Since 1993, more than 8,000 children and adults experiencing homelessness in Northeast Ohio have received shelter, care, and guidance through Project Hope for the Homeless, the only emergency shelter in Lake County.

Volunteers are key to Project Hope's ability to provide shelter and care. Opportunities include prepping, serving and cleaning up after meals, providing dinners, packing lunch bags for shelter guests, shelter ministry and much more.

To get started, visit <u>www.projecthopeforthehomeless.org</u> and click on Volunteer, or contact Missy Knight, volunteer services director, at (440) 354-6417 ext. 106, or <u>volunteer@</u> <u>projecthopeforthehomeless.org</u>.

Prayer for the New Year (as shared during December 27, 2020 worship)

Dear God, we thank you for your faithfulness and for seeing us through the trials and struggles of 2020. You are faithful, and we pray you will continue to empower us to follow you!

We pray you will make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able to do. Let your gifts flow freely through us to share your love and hope with others, so that you will be honored by our lives, and others will be drawn to you. We do not know what the future holds but we pray for the faith to trust you with each day! And, in your mercy and grace, that you will reveal yourself to us each day!

Increase our faith and increase our witness for you! For all time is yours, O Lord ... the past and the present and the future ... and even more so, we are yours now and forever. Amen.

Children & Family Ministries

www.mentorumc.org/children

MUMC Family Style Sunday Morning Kids' Journey Groups are 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

The Talks Study: A parent's guide to critical conversations about sex, dating and other <u>unmentionables</u> is being offered starting January 19 online. Registration is currently open at this link <u>http://bit.ly/3mE9LIK</u>. Every parent knows about "the talk." What many parents fail to realize is that one conversation isn't enough. Your kids desperately need help to navigate the rapidly changing sexually-charged culture in which they live.

Packed with solid research and practical tools, The Talks provides you with the help you need to get comfortable having some critical conversations in your home. It covers both "what to know" and "what to do." Whether your kids are 6 or 16, you'll be equipped to help your kids make wise choices now and to prepare them to experience God's gift of sexuality in the right time and in the right way.

<u>Positive Parenting Book Club's</u> next book is Lisa TerKeurst's book, <u>It's Not Supposed to Be This</u> <u>Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments Leave You Shattered</u>. We will read and then meet to discuss the book biweekly starting on January 7 and concluding on March 18 at 7:30 PM.

<u>MOPS & MOMSnext</u> meets Friday, January 8 in the morning and Thursday, January 21 in the evening. The group will be meeting virtually until further notice. The theme is <u>Decide to</u> <u>Rise</u> and is very appropriate and timely. Contact MOPS at <u>mops@mentorumc.org</u> for more information.

MUMC Youth Bible Study

We are excited to announce that we will be starting a new virtual Bible study, geared towards student-led topics, for our older students! (10th grade and higher, exceptions will be made for interested 9th graders) It will begin in mid-January, and is currently planned for Friday afternoons, but we will work with our Youths' schedules. We plan to make it an in-person study with activities as soon as we are able! We hope they will join us to discuss the hard questions about faith, the Bible, and showing God's love.



YSP Update

Letters of intent for YSP 2021 are due February 7. Please fill out the following form to submit your intent to join our trip this year! For more information about YSP 2021, please reach out to Leah Nash at Inash@mentorumc.org

YSP Letter of Intent can be found at this link <u>https://forms.gle/B5DRpAzH9C5cdmbNA</u>.

Our next information meeting will be January 31 at 4:00 PM online. Email Leah for the meeting link at <u>Inash@mentorumc.org</u>.