

STEEPLETALK

News from Mentor United Methodist Church

November

2017

Ministries - Find your fit! Look for the different ways to get involved.



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Stewardship Campaign

"Church – The First Social Network"

During the first three Sundays of November, we will be looking at 2 Corinthians. This was a letter written to a first century church where the people were learning to live together in Christian community.

Whenever two or more are gathered together in Jesus' name, we will be challenged to...

Reconcile (forgive)

- 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

Develop the life-line of Christian friendships

- 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

Give in a way that blesses the community of faith

- 2 Corinthians 9:6-15



On Sunday, November 19, we will have the opportunity to make our financial commitments for 2018.

From the Pastor

'In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.' (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

During my college days, I was walking across campus when I spotted a female student I did not know, who was clearly distraught. Her frantic face and actions told me something was terribly wrong. As I approached her across the campus lawn, she cried out to me, "I lost my engagement ring; it just slipped off my finger." I joined her in the frantic search, pacing back and forth, looking for flashing gold or a shining diamond. After a few minutes of search, my eyes fell upon the missing ring bedded neatly in the grass and reached to retrieve it. Turning to her with the ring pinched between my thumb and forefinger, I declared, "I found it!" She came running in my direction. As her eyes fell upon her lost and found ring, the look of frantic fear turned to ecstatic relief and joy. What followed was an impromptu bear hug of a complete stranger born out of gratitude and joy.

A news service organization shared the story of a Canadian woman, Mary Grams, 84, who lost her engagement ring 13 years ago while weeding her garden on the family farm. It, too, was found after her daughter-in-law discovered the ring while harvesting carrots. While pulling the carrots, she noticed one of them looked strange. She almost fed it to her dog but decided to keep it and just threw it in her pail. When she was washing the carrots, she noticed the carrot had grown through the ring. Grams said she was eager to try the ring on again after so many years. With family looking, on she washed the ring with a little soap to get the dirt off. It slid on her finger as easily as it did when her husband gave it to her. She is wearing it proudly again. (Taken from Illustration Exchange)

It is easy to be thankful when we are blessed with good results. Gratitude is easy when the lost is found, the diagnosis is good, the weather is nice and we're feeling good. Thankfulness slips off our tongue when we look around the world and realize how fortunate we are to live in America, that we have plenty to eat and we're enriched with wonderful relationships. But the instruction to the Christians in Thessalonica was to give thanks for everything. This is a mystery!

One day, my wife Nancy took our children to the county fair. During the day, as she trampled through sawdust floored livestock barns and rows of countless exhibits; as she rode with our small children on carnival rides, somewhere, who knows where, her diamond came loose from the setting and was lost. There was no happy ending to this story. How can you be thankful for that?

Just as life can bring the good, life brings hardship: like when the diagnosis is not good, rain falls on the family reunion, and the "Cinderella" story doesn't play out with "happily ever after." How can we be thankful in this? I don't think Paul meant to say that we rejoice in disappointment and hardship; what he meant was that despite the hardship and pain, in the bigger picture we find that God still loves us and cares about us. That God holds the future and we can find redemption in Jesus, whereby the momentary set-backs are seen against the backdrop of eternity. We give thanks, not for the bad, but for the larger good that we find in Jesus. Paul said, "...give thanks...in Christ Jesus."

During this month where we come together to be thankful for our many blessings, let's also focus on the larger picture we have in Christ and find a grateful heart, not only November 23, but each day throughout the year.

- Pastor Kurt

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Worship & Music

Altar Guild is selling Poinsettias for the Christmas altar displays. The last date to order is December 5. Checks can be made out to MUMC or Mentor United Methodist Church. If returning your check and form by mail, please address as: Mentor United Methodist Church
c/o The Altar Guild
8600 Mentor Ave. Mentor, OH 44060

Altar Guild will be at the Sign-Up tables (in the Atrium outside Fellowship Hall) on the Sundays of November 12, 19, and 26. Forms and payments may be completed at that time.

Plants designated for the Sanctuary may be picked up after the 11:00 PM service Christmas Eve. Plants designated for iConnect may be picked up after the 7:00 PM service on Christmas Eve.

(PLEASE CLEARLY PRINT YOUR INFORMATION)

NAME OF PERSON ORDERING

IN MEMORY OF:

IN APPRECIATION OF:

TO THE GLORY OF GOD ____

FLOWERS ARE DESIGNATED FOR ____ SANCTUARY ____ ICONNECT

TOTAL NUMBER OF PLANTS ORDERED ____ X \$7 EACH = \$_____
____ CASH ____ CHECK



Deeper - Discipleship Ministries

PRAYER FOCUS - Nancy Landerholm
Please continue to pray for those affected by natural disasters and those who have suffered so much loss in Las Vegas! "For the Lord comforts his people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones." (Isaiah 49:13b.)

This is the month we celebrate Thanksgiving, so spend some time each day giving thanks.
1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, "give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in all circumstances."

Journey Groups at Mentor UMC are still welcoming new members. There is one at a time and day convenient for you! Contact Pastor Quincy at QWheeler@mentorumc.org to join today!



Together - Congregational Care

Thank you We want to thank everyone at church for your love, support, visits, cards, phone calls, food and mostly your prayers this past year. We are feeling so blessed because Bob is doing so well. We can feel God's presence through these acts of kindness, love and faith.
- Love to all, Bob and Sandy Williams



Support

Finance News

Finances YTD Through September 2017
Receipts \$733,822
Disbursements \$723,415
Surplus \$10,407

Charge Conference All are welcome to join us for Charge Conference Sunday, November 5, at 4:30 pm at Hope Ridge United Methodist Church.



Deeper - Discipleship Ministries, cont.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

KNOW

- Sunday Mornings
- o Nursery to 4 years old go to Early Childhood
- o K-6th grade Kids' Journey Groups go to Children & Youth Hallway with K-2nd Grade sign in Room 107; 3rd-4th Grade sign in Room 104; 5th-6th Grade sign in Room 103
- o FIRST Sunday of the month, K-6th grade children join their parent/guardians in worship

www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school

GROW

- MOPS & MOMSnext Monthly Meeting
- o Fellowship Hall on Friday, November 10 from 9:30 am to noon
- o Service opportunity on Monday, November 12 from 9:00-11:00 am
- o "Free Indeed"
- o www.mentorumc.org/mops
- StuCo 56, 5th & 6th grade youth group
- o Meeting Sunday, November 11 from 6:00-8:00 pm

www.mentorumc.org/stuco-56

SHOW

- Sunday School Leadership sign up: www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school
- Children's Choir (1-6 Gr) rehearses 10:15-10:45 in Room 112
- Cherub Choir (3, 4, 5 YO, K) rehearses 10:15-10:35 in Room 104

CURRENT INFO and CHILD REGISTRATION FORMS: www.mentorumc.org/children



FOR EVERYONE:

- "It's a Wonderful Life"
- ONE NIGHT ONLY
- Saturday, December 9 at 4:00 pm
- Potluck Meal to follow performance
- Cost is a free will offering
- Reserve tickets at

www.mentorumc.org/truth-light-players



Outward - Outreach, Missions & Special Events

Coat Ministry

Please remember us as you clean out closets and prepare for the winter months. We are in great need of new or gently used coats, hats, gloves and scarves. In the past, we have helped so many due to your generosity. May God continue to bless our ministry through you.

These items can be brought to the church and placed in the designated bin located behind the sign-up center. Should you have any questions, please contact Maggie Goats at 440-742-2459 or via email at rimag618@yahoo.com.

Hope Chest

Winter is coming upon us and Hope Chest is in need of full-sized blankets (not afghans), towels and wash cloths. These items may be put in the Hope Chest box, which is located behind the sign-up center. Thank you so much for meeting the needs of this organization.

Griefshare: Surviving the Holidays

A free video seminar and support group for those who are grieving. What to do with your holiday emotions • Planning the holiday season • Tips for surviving social events and holiday pain

Attend one of two different times: Friday, November 17, 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM or Tuesday, November 28, 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM. Registration is not necessary but helpful. Contact Rev. Beverly Wrobel at blwrobel@mentorumc.org or 440-255-3496 x106.



Outward - Outreach, Missions & Special Events, cont.

MUMC Food Pantry Volunteers are needed to sort food donations, prepare food boxes and bags, and distribute food to identified families. This all takes place here at MUMC!

November dates are:

- Sunday, November 5: Grocery bags for donations distributed after service
- Sunday, November 12: Grocery bags collected
- Monday, November 13: Donations sorted and repacked 9-1 PM
- Monday, November 13: Distribution 4-8 PM
- Tuesday, November 14: Distribution 12 noon to 2 PM

December dates are:

- Sunday, December 3: Grocery bags for donations distributed after service
- Sunday, December 10: Grocery bags collected
- Monday, December 11: Donations sorted and repacked 9-1 PM
- Monday, December 11: Distribution 4-8 PM
- Tuesday, December 12: Distribution 12 noon to 2 PM

If you can help in November, December or both, contact Mike Cosmo at m.cosmo@sbcglobal.net or 440-255-7452.

International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day

Join a community of suicide loss survivors to find comfort and gain understanding as we share stories of healing and hope.

Keynote speaker: Deb Straniero, Teacher at Gesu Catholic School

Guest speaker: Lara Proegler, Natural Wellness Consultant

Saturday, November 18 at 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM
This free event is located at the Concord Township Community Center
7671 Auburn Road, Concord Township, OH 44077

For reservations contact rgrady@lakeadamhs.org 440.350.2196 or contact Rev. Beverly Wrobel at blwrobel@mentorumc.org

CALENDAR

Regularly Scheduled Weekly November Meetings:
These meetings are listed here instead of the calendar. Please see other events on the calendar page.

- Mondays:**
 - 10:00 AM Parents Morning Out
 - 7:00 PM Men's Group Meeting
- Tuesdays:**
 - 9:30 AM Journey Group Palermo
 - 9:30 AM Journey Group Ring
 - 7:00 PM Canticle Bells except no practice November 7 and 21
 - 7:00 PM Emmaus/Journey Group
 - 7:00 PM Journey Group Imbler
 - 7:00 PM Disciple II except no meeting November 21
- Wednesdays:**
 - 1:00 Griefshare
 - 1:00 Knitting Group
 - 7:00 Journey Group
 - 7:00 Boy Scouts Troop #280

13 Reasons to Talk With Your Kids About "13 Reasons Why"

The popular Netflix series "13 Reasons Why" follows the fictional story of a teenage girl who leaves behind 13 mysterious audio recordings after killing herself. Renowned speaker and author Kevin Hines will lead the discussion about the myths and facts about suicide. He is a survivor of attempted suicide by jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge.

Monday, December 4 at 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Auburn Career Center
8140 Auburn Rd., Painesville, Enter at Door 33, south side of parking lot

Free event. RSVP to Pam Schafer-Jones at 440-639-1200 or pam@namilake.org

- Thursdays: except for Thanksgiving the 23
- 10:00 AM Overeaters Anonymous
- 6:45 PM Charter Members Rehearsal, practice on Thursday the 23 moved to Tuesday the 21
- 7:45 PM Chancel Choir, practice on Thursday the 23 moved to Tuesday the 21st
- 7:00 PM S.A.L.T
- 7:00 PM Journey Group Schwaller

Fridays:
1:00 PM Journey Group Sterner

Saturdays:
8:00 AM iConnect Rehearsal and Vocal Rehearsal

- Sundays:**
 - 8:30 AM Sunday Morning Prayer Time
 - 10:00 AM Journey Group
 - 10:00 AM Journey Group Petrowski
 - 10:15 AM Children's and Cherub Choir
 - 6:00 PM Occupy Youth Ministry, except the 12 and 26
 - 7:00 PM Journey Group Nagle



Special Interest

Annual Gingerbread House Craft Show

Come shop the wonderful array of handmade gift items by over 85 local crafters & vendors. Attic Treasures, Bake Shoppe, Middlefield cheese, and more.

The Gingerbread House Craft Show is sponsored by the Mentor United Methodist Women.



All proceeds benefit the local, national, and international mission projects of the UMW.

Friday, November 3, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday, November 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Women: Save The Date For The Path 2018!

Saturday-Sunday, March 3-4, 2018
Hilton Garden Inn Twinsburg
Mark your calendars now!
Registration begins in January.



Cornerstone encourages all members to support the Gingerbread House Craft fair and Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner by signing up to help!

We had a perfect fall day to hike together at Chapin Forest on October 14 – and we had dozens of outreach opportunities there! We invited fellow hikers to join us for pizza, veggies & dip, donuts and cider -- and we used those opportunities to tell them a little bit about MUMC! Check out Cornerstone for upcoming events for all ages!



Young at Heart Luncheon

All those 62 years and older are invited to enjoy a Christmas lunch and program with your church staff and friends at the Young at Heart luncheon.

\$5 (paid in advance or at the door) covers your meal, beverage, dessert AND fun! This year's entertainment will feature retired pastors Peggy and Gary Streiff presenting a musical program.

Please call the church office (255-3496) by December 1, and ask to be added to the Young at Heart luncheon list! Let us know when you call if you need a ride. We will be happy to arrange one for you!

Wednesday, December 6th
Noon in Fellowship Hall
Hosted by Mentor United Methodist Women

Through The Years - St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Tiffin, Ohio is the county seat of Seneca County. It is located about 55 miles southeast of Toledo. It is the home of both Heidelberg and Tiffin Universities. Tiffin is also the home of St. Paul's United Methodist Church which enjoys a unique distinction in history.

The congregation began in 1823 and held services in the Hedges building. The building had three levels, each serving a different purpose. The basement was a jail, the first floor was a store, and the second floor was used as a court room during the week and for church services on Sunday. Their first regular preacher was hired in 1824 which is the date the church considers its founding. The church built its own building in 1828. A second building was dedicated in 1849.

The church continued to grow and a third building was needed and ground was broken for it in 1873. On February 21, 1875 four rooms on the first floor were dedicated. The second floor, however, was not completed until 1883, due to the economic depression that made funding difficult. This floor would house the sanctuary of the church. During that same year, plans were underway to erect the Edison Electric Illuminating Company in Tiffin. An enterprising contractor decided to wire the church building's second floor for electric lights, which made St. Paul's the first public building in the world wired for electricity while under construction. Thomas Edison gave the church an ornate brass electric light chandelier. This chandelier is still in use today. The completed building was dedicated on January 6, 1884.

St. Paul's UMC was named an Historic Site by the United Methodist Church in 1985. In 2001, it received an Ohio Historical Marker. St. Paul's is also on the National Register of Historic Places. Quite a distinction for a Methodist church located in Ohio!

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, OH 44060-6704 or dumphrey@ameritech.net