

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

FEBRUARY 4, 2024

8600 MENTOR AVE

MENTOR OH 44060

MENTORUMC.ORG

440.255.3496

Worship with us in-person or online:
Mentorumc.org, Facebook, and Youtube

Worship Schedule

9 & 11 AM Modern

9 & 11 AM Traditional



PASTOR'S LETTER

JUSTICE OR JUST US? WORLD TURNED UPSIDE DOWN

Pastor Ivy Smith

Our series has led us into some deep revelations about Jesus' teachings on Justice and how we relate to others. These days everybody seems to be irritated by everyone and everything! The list is long when it comes to social injustice. For sure, political correctness, human sensitivity, and cultural awareness are super-hot buttons in our society. So much so that the many atrocities force us to seek stress-free zones and de-escalation tactics just for a mental respite and peace. In short, our level of stress and rage is off the charts!



Well, our passages this week, John 2:13-17 and Mark 11:15-18 tell about Jesus getting angered at a super injustice. The scene—Jesus becomes incensed and moved to action when he sees the exploitation, molestation, and abrupt robbery of good people. At a wonderful religious festival, the festival of Passover, as people are giving of their resources in a charitable fashion, the folk in power calculate and impose ways to cheat them, and cheat them exponentially. Jesus is angered by the injustice, the unfair treatment, the gall of embezzlement.

We know of people who cheat, rob, and exploit the marginalized in our society, you know, the shysters, scumbags, shakey politicians, fake charities, online scammers, crooked store owners, and the like. At their acts, we should very well be angry. And Jesus invites us, not to be violent or attack others, but to be moved to action! Moved to address injustice and maltreatment.

It is true that some things definitely deserve our outrage, our outright disgust, our outright anger. And Jesus shows us when and where action is appropriate. He shows us that our actions should lead us to seek justice for those who are being taken advantage of.

Pastor Steve has been deeply impressed with the influences of persons like Martin Luther King, Thomas Merton, and Mahatma Gandhi. Pastor Tammy is a liberation theologian and her call as a deacon is to seek justice and compassion for others. And me, in this context, my skin color exudes a knowledge and view of life through a varied lens. And so, this series of *Justice or Just Us?* affords us the ability to shine with examples of managing our strong emotions toward the long list of injustice.

God, Grant me the
Serenity
to Accept the Things
I Cannot Change
Courage
to Change the Things
I Can & the
Wisdom
to Know the Difference

**ANGER
MANAGEMENT**

In small or large ways, we should seek out chances to **manage our intense emotions around injustices so that justice prevails!** So how do I do that Pastor Ivy? Well, a few things are:

- **Pray for others and yourself. Examine your habits and beliefs.**
- **Educate yourself about social justice issues. Help local organizations.**
- **Volunteer. Donate. Invest responsibly.**
- **Support more minority-owned businesses, artists, writers, local colleges or universities.**
- **Be kind, understanding, and compassionate.**



Care CONGREGATIONAL

In our prayers today & in your personal prayer time, please remember the following:

Members admitted to Rehab,

Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:

The Enclave - Kay Disbro, Delores Tackett,
Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith, Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler
Salida Woods - Doris Sturm
Aristocrat Berea - Virginia Gilman
Parker Place - Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell, Deloris Parsons
Danbury Senior Living - Kathryn Bevacqua
Tapestry - Gloria McFeely
Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom
Breckenridge/Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher

Members who are in need of prayer:

Karen Mancini, Marilyn Oliver, Luke Sanvido,
David Fell, Norma Ickes, Ruthie Hobart,
Mike Cosmo, Mary Lou Haines,
David Smith, Jon & Rev. Beth Wilterdink
Nora Kieser, Moy Family, Georgeanna Allen

Wednesday Nights in Lent

February 14

Ash Wednesday: "Tune my heart"

7:30-8:00 AM worship in the Chapel
12:00-12:45 PM worship in the Chapel
7:00-8:00 PM worship in the Sanctuary

February 21 - March 20

Family, Feast, and Fellowship

A time to Connect & Grow

Dinner at 5:45-6:30 PM in the Gallery
will include a 20-minute "camp style" worship.
Let us know if you have particular dietary parameters,
we will do our best to accommodate.
No charge, though donations are accepted

Wandering Heart

Figuring out Faith with Peter Class, 6:30-7:45 PM
Go deeper in the texts about Jesus and Peter
each week as we engage questions for reflection,
conversation, and spiritual formation exercises.

Mentor UMC 101, 6:30-7:45 PM

A Class to learn more about the Christian faith,
the United Methodist Church, and
Mentor United Methodist Church

Heart Reflections to Resurrection, 6:30-7:45 PM
Youth Ministry NexGen - more on last page

Finding Our Faith, 6:30-7:45 PM

Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade
Childcare provided for babies through preschool

Palm Sunday, March 24
Lenten Cantata, March 24
Maundy Thursday Worship, March 28
Good Friday Worship, March 29
Easter Sunrise, March 31
Easter, March 31

Youversion

<https://bible.com/events/49195714>

Learn more about Sunday's scriptures and worship by visiting this link each week.

Offering Envelopes

2024 Offering envelopes are available in the Information Hub. Look for yours this Sunday after service! Envelopes will be out until mid-February.

And if you haven't made your pledge for 2024, contact the church office or check out our online giving on our website or app.

Church Records Update

Help us update our records! There are yellow forms in the Info Hub & Church office for you or your family to fill out in order to provide the most up to date info about you. You can also [fill out online](#).

A Journey to Puerto Rico!

In January, Katelynn Gurbach traveled to Puerto Rico with young adults from East & West Ohio Conferences on a Discover Mission Journey. Please join her on Sunday, February 18th, after service for a "Lunch and Learn". A free will offering will be taken and will benefit the churches and camps that hosted the group. Bring the family and get ready to experience Puerto Rico! Please RSVP using this [link](#)!

WEEKLY UPDATE

Need to Know

Bread, Broth, Brownies, & Bingo Is Back!

Mentor United Women in Faith (UWF) will have a 4B luncheon & program on Wednesday, February 7th. Feb's menu includes chili, cornbread, salad, and chocolate brownies. Welcome Briyant Hines, our new youth director, and share in a time to get acquainted with him. We will also put together Valentines for our college students. Hope to see you on Feb 7th at noon in the MUMC Gallery. Please RSVP to uwf@mentorumc.org, register [online here](#), or signup in the Info Hub.

Wellness Wednesdays

Painesville UMC is offering Wellness Classes—free and open to the public!

Wednesday, February 7th:

Diabetes Awareness

Wednesday, February 28th:

10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's

Wednesday, March 6th:

Understanding & Responding to Dementia-Related Behavior

Wednesday, March 20th:

Intro to Estate Planning

Wednesday, April 17th:

Basic Computer Health

Sunday, March 10th:

Basic Car Maintenance

Contact 440-354-3642 to get involved or visit our Info Hub for more details.

Church Directory

If you did not get your picture taken for this year's Church Directory, you can still send a picture to the church office or email to ktanner@mentorumc.org.

Let us know what info you would like listed in the directory as well (address, email, phone, etc.). If you do **NOT** want your picture in the directory but still wish to be listed in the roster, please contact the church office. **Please submit your picture/info AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. We will accept submissions until Feb 18th.**

YSP's BIG Event

"Heroes for Humanity". This annual fundraiser helps raise money for Youth Service Project. It's a great evening that includes dinner, raffles, and entertainment:

Sunday, April 14th, 5PM-8PM

\$10 adults

17 and under are FREE

[Ticket information to come](#)

Rummage Sale

The Rummage Sale is coming Saturday, April 20! If you are interested in being part of the planning committee, contact Chris Fletcher cletcher67@aol.com or call 740-739-2155. If you wish to donate items please keep an eye out for specific drop off dates in APRIL!

MENTOR UMC

Food Ministry

The next Distribution is March 18-19 to Broadmoor & Mentor Schools. We will be putting together 22 more food baskets that value around \$75 in addition to our current contributions. Consider donating or designating your giving to Food Ministry to support the cost of the baskets!

More Than A Meal

Volunteer for Saturday, February 24th for MTAM. [Click here!](#) Volunteers need to arrive at 4 PM. Doors open at 5 and food is served at 5:30.

Youth Ministry Leaders NEEDED

If you can volunteer your services for youth events, please email Briyant (bhines@mentorumc.org). There will be an interest meeting via Zoom for those interested in working with the youth. Details are forthcoming.



YSP Bake Sale

Meet us in the Info Hub on Sunday, February 11th for the Youth Service Project bake sale!!! Grab some delicious treats while supporting their trip to Reelfoot Rural Missions in Obion, TN in June.

What's Your M.O.?

Mission Opportunities

Meals for Pastor Ivy

You can sign up to make or buy meals and deliver them to Pastor Ivy's house by visiting [this link](#) (call the church office if you need help signing up). We continue to pray for and support her during her husband's recovery of his stroke.

Caring Servants

We are seeking people to add to our visitation list. Caring Servants help provide connectivity to our church to those no longer physically able to be present in church. Visits, calls, cards, deliveries, and other support are provided. If you know of any member who can benefit from this interaction, please call the church office at 440-255-3496.

Snack Donations for Kids

You can sign up [online](#) to donate snacks for the theatre kids at Memorial Middle School.

Tackle Hunger

We will be doing our annual Tackle Hunger (previously: Souper Bowl of Caring) on Sun, Feb 11th! Pick who you want to win the Super Bowl by donating money to their designated container. All donations go to Project Hope for the Homeless.

Blood Drive THANK YOU

We had 45 donors register and collected 40 units towards our 31-unit goal during last month's Blood Drive! Sign up for the next one on March 19th on [our site](#).

NextGen Tutoring Program

For those interested in starting a tutoring program for the youth at Mentor UMC, please email Briyant (bhines@mentorumc.org). There will also be an interest meeting later on for those interested in tutoring subjects and building a tutoring program for spiritual and educational enrichment. Stay tuned!

Sunday Morning Greeters

You can sign up online or in the Info Hub to be a greeter on Sunday morning. You can choose which service and location. If viewing the online signup, you can plan and look at availability throughout 2024. [Sign up today!](#)

Project Hope

PH is in need of Coffee Creamer & Lunch Chips. You may drop it off at the shelter between 9am and 2pm, Mon-Friday OR Subaru, located at 1991 Mentor Ave, Painesville.

WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

Children & Family Ministries

www.mentorumc.org/children

Sunday Morning Kids

9:00 & 11:00 AM at MUMC for all services. Join us for our current curriculum, "Celebrate Wonder".

- [Check-In Instruction Video](#)
- Ages 0-2 and 3-4 sign in at the Early Childhood Area before service
- Grades K-5 will begin in worship with their families and then be dismissed to the Education Wing.

Sunday Morning Signup

Mentor United Methodist Church's mission is to lead all onto a path of Christ-centered discipleship. Here is a great place to do just that! [Click here for WINTER leader signup](#). There are spots for various ages/levels, so check out what section works for you.)

"Worship one, serve one!"

Child & Caregiver Class

Age 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 on Weds from 9:15-10:45 AM. Cost is \$60 per 8 week session (prepaid, non-refundable). The winter session has started. Please check out our website for more details.

MOMCo.

MOMCo (The Mom Community) will meet on Friday, February 9th at Mentor UMC. For more dates and locations, [check our website](#)

2024-2025 Preschool Reg

Pre-Registration for the 2024-25 school year is open to YOU, our church families. Click here for the: [Pre-Registration Link](#). If you have any questions, please contact our State Manager, Brittany Jones at bjones.preschool@mentorumc.org.

Seedlings Class

Registration is open for children who are 3 as of Jan 1, 2024 and potty trained. Children who are 2 1/2 AND potty trained are also welcomed. If you have any questions, please contact State Manager, Brittany Jones bjones.preschool@mentorumc.org.

Heart Reflections to Resurrection: Youth Lenten Series

Starting on Wed, Feb 21, after dinner in the Gallery, youth will gather in the MUMC Youth Room for reflections and activities as we prepare our hearts for the season of Lent. [RSVP here](#).

YSP Meetings

Youth Service Project is for grades 9-12: Trip Dates are June 21-29 to Reelfoot Rural Missions in Obion, TN.

Meetings are on the following Sundays at 12 PM in the Wesley Room.

[Meeting Dates](#): Feb 11, March 10, April 14, May 5, June 9.

Email ysp@mentorumc.org for more info or [click here](#).

Middle School

Grades 6-8 are welcome every Sunday starting February 4th from 9 - 10 AM. Meet new people and gain a deeper and more relevant understanding of God's word to help apply scriptural truth to everyday living.

Youth Morning

Youth may join us on Sunday, February 4th, from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm in the youth room. [RSVP here](#).

Youth Hangout

Every Sunday between services from 10am-11am, youth are invited to come hangout in the MUMC Youth Room for fun, fellowship, and refreshments.

