

# STEEPLETALK

JUNE 2016



The Mentor United Methodist Church is deeply blessed with strong and committed lay leadership. One important sign of congregational life is the priesthood of all believers. I Peter 2:9 reads, *“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”* Our United Methodist Church states that “ministry in the Christian church is derived from the ministry of Christ, who calls all persons to receive God’s gift of salvation and follow in the way of love and service. The whole church receives and accepts this call, and all Christians participate in this continuing ministry.” All believers are called to be in ministry and mission. What a blessing to see the work of lay ministry.

It also states that “within the church community, there are persons whose gifts, evidence of God’s grace, and promise of future usefulness are affirmed by the community, and who respond to God’s call by offering themselves in leadership as set-apart minister, ordained and licensed. These persons are in partnership with the laity to be the church.”

According to my count, over the 198 year history of this congregation there are been 105 pastors, past and current. Two of those will be ending their appointed service at the end of June.

Rev. Kathy came to the church as a Youth Director about 18 years ago, but began serving in 2007 as a Deacon. Kathy has brought rich ministry to the youth program and then to the larger congregation, community and world through her strong leadership of missions. Kathy’s gifts of connecting, resourcing, recruiting and preaching have left a deep impact. Kathy will continue to work with the Conference serving to advance the 3 C’s initiative of clinics, classrooms and churches in Liberia and elsewhere.

Pastor Jon Wilterdink came to Mentor UMC on a shared basis in 2011. With strong Conference investment in his compensation, for four years Jon served the congregation, along with Hope Ridge UMC. He has been a tremendous gift helping the Mentor congregations serve together in ministry, giving leadership to discipleship, expanding outreach, preaching, and being a steady presence during transitions. In 2015, as Conference support was phasing away, Jon was able to continue to serve this congregation, while taking on responsibility of Shoregate UMC. Jon will be taking family leave and staying in the area.

We are deeply indebted to both of these servants. They have been glowing examples of servanthood and living into the call of ordained and licensed ministry. To honor them a reception following both worship service hours will be held on June 5 (for Jon) and June 19 (for Kathy).

Our 106th pastor will join the staff in July when Rev. Bruce Becker begins serving 1/4 time. Rev. Becker, like Kathy, is an ordained Deacon. He will be giving oversight to missions and outreach, and also assist in preaching. He has 14 years of experience working with youth ministry and has led over 40 mission trips. Rev. Becker works full-time at the corporate headquarters for Sherwin-Williams. He and his wife Stacy, have three children. Their home is in Chesterland. The congregation will have an opportunity to meet him on July 10.

Together we celebrate the gift of laity and clergy as we continue to seek to lead all unto a path of Christ-centered discipleship.

— Pastor Kurt

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## FINANCE NEWS



### YTD through APRIL 2016

Receipts	\$323,074.
Disbursements	336,863.
Deficit	(13,789.)

Electronic giving is available online at  
[www.mentorumc.org](http://www.mentorumc.org)

## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



### *Blood Drive* 2:30 p.m.

Jordan Martin will be hosting a blood drive in memory of her grandmother on **Saturday, June 11th from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

You may register by visiting [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and under "find a blood drive" enter "birthday" as the sponsor code.

Delicious refreshments courtesy of Chick-fil-A and Max & Erma's as well as gift bags will be provided. If anyone has questions, please feel free to contact Jordan at [martinjn2019@mountunion.edu](mailto:martinjn2019@mountunion.edu).

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



### **RUTH-ESTHER CIRCLE:**

We will hold our Annual Picnic & Bingo Event at Veterans Park, Hopkins Road, Mentor, on Tuesday, June 14th from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Bring a sandwich for lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided. Bingo prizes should be a food item in a paper bag! All women of the church are invited to join us.



### **GINGERBREAD HOUSE CRAFT FAIR WORKSHOPS**

We have started up the 2016 workshops! Join us any Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Fellowship Hall (you can come for the whole time or part—bring your lunch if you like). We're open to new craft ideas—bring your own or we will have something for you to do. No experience necessary. If you have questions, call Kathy Fellows at 255-5899.

## TUESDAY MORNING SUMMER BOOK DISCUSSIONS

**Tuesday, June 14th**

***The Way of Tea and Justice: Rescuing the World's Favorite Beverage from Its Violent History***  
by Becca Stevens

What started as an impossible dream—to build a café that employs women recovering from prostitution and addiction—is helping to fuel an astonishing movement to bring freedom and fair wages to women producers worldwide where tea and trafficking are linked by oppression and the opiate wars. Becca Stevens started the Thistle Stop Café to empower women survivors. But when she discovered a connection between café workers and tea laborers overseas, she embarked on a global mission called "Shared Trade" to increase the value of women survivors and producers across the globe. As she recounts the victories and unexpected challenges of building the café, Becca also sweeps the reader into the world of tea, where timeless rituals transport to an era of beauty and the challenging truths about tea's darker, more violent history. She offers moving reflections of the meaning of tea in our lives, plus recipes for tea blends that readers can make themselves.

**Tuesday, July 19th**

***The Underground Girls of Kabul: In Search of a Hidden Resistance in Afghanistan***  
by Jenny Norberg

**Tuesday, August 16th**

***Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love*** by William H. Willimon

The Summer Book Discussions will be held in the Adams Parlor at 10:00 a.m. Please contact Carole Ring at 255-7213 or [umw@mentorumc.org](mailto:umw@mentorumc.org) if you have questions regarding these book discussions. All are welcome to join us!

## THROUGH THE YEARS

This month we will continue our series of articles on the history of Mentor United Methodist Church. These articles will lead us into the church's bi-centennial in 2018. Our first church building built on the current site was constructed in 1848. The groundwork for the new building was laid a few years earlier. The first Board of Trustees was elected on April 25, 1842. The first trustees were: Isaac Sawyer, Harry Holmes, James Prouty, Erastus Parmalee and William Kerr. The church received its incorporation from the Ohio General Assembly on March 10, 1843. Two church members, William Kerr and Captain Parker, purchased a half acre of land for \$50. A frame building was erected and the contractor, Mr. Moffat, accepted his pay in cattle. The first dedication was held on February 13, 1848 with Bishop Joseph Perry presiding over the service. He quoted Isaiah 11:10, which reads: *"And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious."* (KJV) A choir of eleven members sang. The sanctuary was located on the upper floor and the original seating consisted of planks laid on logs, in 1846-47, pews were built. The church was heated by a furnace which used both coal and wood. A photograph of the 1848 church still exists. Extensive repairs were done in 1866 and the church was rededicated with Bishop Kingsley preaching the sermon. An organ was added to the church in 1867.

A parsonage was built in 1853 and replaced with a new one built in 1881. That parsonage was moved to the southeast corner of Rosebud and Murray Avenues where it stands today as a private residence.

Groups started at this church include a YMCA chapter in 1884 and the Epworth League in 1892. The church continued to serve the needs of Mentor Methodists until it was replaced by a new building in 1906, on the exact location of our current Chapel.

I owe a great debt to the authors of the Memories Book of Mentor United Methodist Church for the research and information contained in this article. This book is a wonderful resource for anyone interested in our church history and can be found in the church library.

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

Mr. Don Humphrey  
7330 Holly Park Drive  
Concord OH 44060-6704

Or you can email him at [dhumphrey@ameritch.net](mailto:dhumphrey@ameritch.net)

## SERVANT OPPORTUNITIES

**CAMPBOR MISSION STATION:** May 12th was a bad day at Camphor Mission with a large storm hitting the mission and doing real damage to the roofs at the school, dining hall, and girl's dorm. You can only imagine the damage done to village homes! We should respond with prayers, love, mercy, and funds. (You can see photos at the Camphor Mission Station Facebook page.) We have already started a fund for the roof project. The first estimate was \$14,000—school and boy's and girl's dorm for a new roof. Now we need to include the dining hall roof.

This is no longer an elective infrastructure maintenance request, this is an emergent need. If you would like to contribute to this need, a donation can be made through Mentor UMC with Camphor roof in the memo. Please offer prayers for our brothers and sisters in Liberia.

**RELIEF SUPPLY KITS:** It is traditional in the united Methodist Church for relief supply kits to be collected around the time of Annual Conference at Lakeside, Ohio. Rather than ask our ministers to load their cars with cleaning buckets, health kits, layette kits, and school kits, the Missions Commission is sponsoring a month-long campaign requesting monetary donations which will then be sent to UMCOR for the purchase of these kits so vital to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief's response to disasters).

You are invited to make a donation towards these kits. Your donation can be left in the offering plate on Sunday morning, dropped off in the Church Office or mailed to MUMC, 8600 Mentor Avenue, Mentor OH 44060. Please be sure to write "Relief Supply Kits" in the memo area of you check.

More detailed information is available at <https://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies/Relief-Supply-Kits>.

## SERVANT OPPORTUNITIES

**HEARTLAND VISITATION** . . . Consider joining us for a brief service at Heartland on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We begin at 10:45 a.m. and are finished approximately 20 minutes later. It's a great opportunity to share the love of Jesus Christ with the Heartland residents. **Why not join us for our next service on Sunday, June 19th.** We need you and would love to see you there! If you have any questions, please contact Rich & Katie Elwell at 440 255-6794 or Don & Pat Humphrey at 440 354-3833.

### Love Thy Neighbors: THE FLINT WATER CRISIS

Although this situation is not on the news as much now, there is still great need for money to alleviate the situation there. The water is not drinkable or useable for household use unless it is filtered, etc. A long-term solution to the infrastructure of the lead-filled pipes will take a while.

Meanwhile, the Crossroads District of the Detroit Conference is seeking to provide help for what the people are dealing with now. Methodist Churches there are offering filtration systems, replacement filters, and education on how to use these systems. Although bottled water has come in, it is not enough for needs right now.

Financial help is needed for this crisis situation. **On June 26th, Mentor United Methodist Church will take a special offering for the Flint Water Crisis** as the United Methodists there minister to the needs of all in Flint. Detroit Conference Bishop Deborah Kiesey has said that the financial gifts will also be used for the management of the medical needs of the children involved. Please mark your check for the Flint Water Crisis.



### LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

We have an urgent need for drivers for the Meals on Wheels program in Concord Township and Leroy. For more information, please call 440-205-8111.

## MISSION COMMISSION UPDATE

On Monday, May 9th, the Missions Commission celebrated the final session of the first Getting Ahead class sponsored by MUMC with the six participants, called investigators in the program, who persevered and completed the 16 week program! Getting Ahead has been developed from the Bridges Out of Poverty movement. Investigators gathered each week at 5:30 p.m. for a free meal and then from 6 to 9 p.m. were led by a trained facilitator from Ohio Guidestone to learn about how economic, social, and emotional resources effect their everyday lives, how they got where they are, and then they formed personal goals and strategies defining what comes next to build the life they want. Initial responses from the investigators have been very positive. **The Mission Commission wants to thank the Western Reserve Junior Service League** for contributing a grant which purchased workbooks for the participants, *Getting Ahead in a Just-Getting'-By World: Building Resources for a Better Life* by Phillip E. DeVol from Aha Press.

**But our work is not done.** "Nearly 1 in 10 residents of Lake County live in poverty, and more than 1 in 8 children live in households with income below the poverty line." This quote from United Way of Lake County Director of Marketing and Communications Tami Lewis was in *The News-Herald* on May 11, 2016. It highlights that there is much more that needs to be done for a just society. At some future date, Missions Commission wants to offer the Getting Ahead program again.

If it is on your heart to "Change the World", if you want to assist in a future session of Getting Ahead by preparing a meal or volunteering to babysit or provide transportation, please contact Johanna Martin, Chair of the Missions Committee.

### Shop Amazon & Donate to MUMC!

We are now registered with AmazonSmile Foundation as a charitable organization. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) .05% of the price of the eligible purchases are donated to MUMC. There is no cost to the church and no cost to you. It is easy to get started. Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select Mentor United Methodist Church.

## CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

### KNOW

- **Sunday School**
  - . Children 0-4 yrs.—Early Childhood area
  - . **NO Summer Sunday School for children who have just completed K-6th grade**  
**Children worship with their families**
  - . [www.mentorumc.org/Sunday-school](http://www.mentorumc.org/Sunday-school)

### GROW

- **StuCo 56, 5th & 6th grade youth group**
  - . **Sunday, June 5th—Hello/Goodbye Party**  
**Hello** to the upcoming 5th graders  
(AKA current 4th graders)  
**Goodbye** to the outgoing 6th graders  
**5:30—7:30 p.m. at Garfield Park**
  - . [www.mentorumc.org/stucco-56](http://www.mentorumc.org/stucco-56) for details & to RSVP
- **SUMMER PROGRAMS**
  - . Vacation Bible School  
June 20-24, 9 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
  - . Get Out Doors Camp (G.O.D. Camp)  
June 20-24, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
  - . Theatre Arts Camp  
July 18-22 AND July 25-29, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
  - . [www.mentorumc.org/summer-programs](http://www.mentorumc.org/summer-programs)

### Children & Family Ministries Continued . . .

- **GENERATIONS**, family fellowship group
  - . Saturday, June 11 at Squires Castle for Capture the Flag
  - . [www.mentorumc.org/generations](http://www.mentorumc.org/generations)

### SHOW

**Please prayerfully consider giving some time to our children during the summer months:**

- **Sunday School Servant** sign up for SUMMER months (one month commitment)
  - . [www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school](http://www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school)
- **Vacation Bible School Servant** sign up
- **VBS Donation opportunities also available**
  - . [www.mentorumc.org/children](http://www.mentorumc.org/children)

### NEWSLETTER & CHILD REGISTRATION FORMS:

- . [www.mentorumc.org/children](http://www.mentorumc.org/children)

**PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS** are asked to complete the six questions survey found at

[www.mentorumc.org/children](http://www.mentorumc.org/children)



## 2016 MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION WEEK

**It's time to sign up for Middle School Mission Week!!**  
**Monday, July 11—Friday, July 15, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**MSMW is open to students completing grades 6, 7 & 8 during the 2015-2016 school year.** Older students can inquire about Junior leader positions. This is a week filled with earning local community service hours, fun, games, scavenger hunt, car wash fundraiser, an overnight and outing at Fun n Stuff! Each day is different. Come for the whole week or select individual days to fit your schedule. Invite friends and family to join you!

**\$35 per student** includes community service activities, t-shirt, snacks, and breakfast on Friday. Optional additional cost for overnight dinner and Fun n Stuff.

**DETAILS & ONLINE\* REGISTRATION** at [mentorumc.org/youth](http://mentorumc.org/youth).

**Deadline to register online, print your verification form and mail in your payment is Friday, June 24th.**

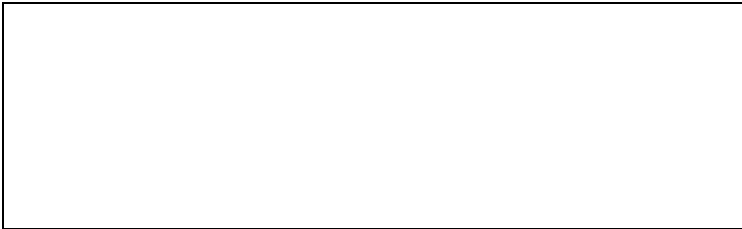
**ADULTS NEEDED:** Adult volunteers, parents and drivers are needed from one shift up to all week! **Adults must also register online\*.**

- \* **Please read the entire itinerary and info before registering. The online registration must be completed at one time (cannot be saved to return to finish later). Have emergency medical info/emergency contact info gathered BEFORE beginning registration process.**

**Mentor United Methodist Church**  
8600 Mentor Avenue  
Mentor OH 44060

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U. S. Postage Paid**  
**Mentor OH 44060**  
**Permit No. 37**

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



**Summer Worship Option . . .**

Beginning Thursday, June 9th through the last Thursday in August, the church offers an additional worship opportunity with an 8:00 p.m. Thursday evening service.

Perhaps travel or some summer activity will put you away on Sunday morning, you can join us for our Thursday evening service in the Chapel. It's informal. Come straight from work, the ball field, or mowing the lawn. Come as you are and join us for fellowship and worship.



**STEEPLETALK**  
**Deadline**  
**For JULY Issue**  
**June 8th**

**SADLY, IT'S TIME**  
**TO SAY GOOD-BYE!!**

**On Sunday, June 5th, following both services, Pastor Jon Wilterdink will be honored at a reception in the Gallery for his service to Mentor United Methodist Church. Please join us after one of the services as we say good-bye and wish him well in his new endeavor.**

**AND THEN . . .**

**On Sunday, June 19th, following both services, we will be holding a farewell reception for Pastor Kathy Dickriede in the Gallery. Join us as we say good-bye and thank her for the 18 years she has served our church in so many capacities.**

