

STEEPLETALK

APRIL 2014



"The Easter Story"

"The story of Easter is the story of God's wonderful window of divine surprise."

— Carl Knudsen

Mystery novels are a popular genre of fiction in which a detective, either an amateur or a professional, solves a crime or a series of crimes. Suspense is the driving force as the plot unfolds with a surprise ending. One might pick up a mystery novel and struggle to put it down, reading page by page at the edge of your seat. Mystery novels and their element of suspense engage readers to read a story from cover to cover, to become involved with the unfolding plot from beginning to end.

Two thousand years ago a mystery began to unfold as a Galilean itinerant preacher rode into the capital city of Jerusalem. During the next few days the plot builds, culminating seven days later with the surprise ending.

A study by Nicholas Christenfeld and Jonathan Leavitt of the University of California San Diego's psychology department studied subjects reading short stories and found that those who read the ending first actually had more fun.

Perhaps you're one of those people who like to read the end of the book first?

The psychologists suggest that the reason spoilers have more fun is because it's easier to read a spoiled story. They surmise that once you know the ending it is easier to process the information and focus on a deeper understanding of the information.

The Galilean story's surprise comes with the empty tomb of Easter. In this story we know the ending, so we can freely focus on the details of the story. The pages of the drama played out over the last week of Jesus' life and are known as holy week; Palm Sunday through Easter. It begins on the back of a colt and ends in a cemetery. Who would have ever guessed the ending?

We invite you to be a spoiler reader. Sure we know the end, so let's try to process the rest of the drama as we walk through Holy Week together.

- April 13 Palm Sunday with services at 9 & 11 a.m.
- April 17 7:30 p.m. Holy Thursday service with Holy Communion
- April 18 7:30 p.m. Good Friday service
- April 20 Easter services at 7:00; 9:00; 11:00 a.m.

Together let's discover the week of drama and help make the final page most meaningful.

Pastor Kurt Landerholm



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YOUTH MINISTRY

THE BIG EVENT UP DATE:

Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered, entertained, cooked, served and came in support of this year's **BIG EVENT**. We had a record turn out AND our Youth Service Project event raised approximately \$5000!!

MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION WEEK:

Honey Baked Ham Co. order forms for Easter are available at the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings. Last day to order is Sunday, April 6th. No waiting in line at the store! Place an order and pick it up here at the church on Saturday morning, April 19th from 10:45 a.m. to noon. Super easy! Proceeds benefit Middle School Mission Week.

Any questions contact Lauren Ring at 255-3496, ext. 16 or call Nancy Nagle at 255-1452.

Baker's Square Pie Cards will be available at the Welcome Center on Sundays through April 6th. \$13 green cards are good for one whole specialty pie and \$11 red cards are good for one whole fruit pie. Just take your card to the store anytime and exchange it for a pie!

A card only costs you a penny more than buying a pie in the store and benefits Middle School Mission Week. Who wouldn't love pie for Easter? Remember, Mother's Day is just around the corner. Any questions, contact Lauren Ring.

MUMC SCHOLARSHIP: Are you a high school senior that is graduating in the spring of 2014 that will be attending college in the fall? If so, Mentor United Methodist Church is pleased to announce that **applications for the MUMC Scholarship are available on the church's website at <http://mentorumc.org/scholarship>.**

All graduating seniors or seminary students who have been a member of MUMC for at least one year are eligible to apply for a scholarship award.

Applicants must complete and return the application and all required documents to the Church Office no later than Friday, April 4th.



Easter Candy

EVERYONE!!! MALLEY'S EASTER CANDY SALE MOPS & MOMSnext Annual Fundraiser

- Order online until April 13th at: <http://www.malleys.com/mentor-mops> and have order shipped directly to your house at a date of your choosing
- Free shipping on all orders of \$60 or more to one address!
- Questions can be directed to Tammy Palermo: 255-3496, ext. 18 or tpalermo@mentorumc.org

SERVANT OPPORTUNITIES

HEARTLAND VISITATION . . .

Please join us at Heartland Rehab and Nursing Home on April 20th at 10:45 a.m. where we will present a brief worship service for the residents.



CAN YOU HELP??

Please prayerfully consider giving some time to our children. They really need you.

Spring Sunday School sign-up:

<http://tinyurl.com/SSSpring>

Vacation Bible School sign-up:

<http://tinyurl.com/VBSServe14>

MUMC MORE THAN A MEAL



Free Community Dinner

Our next meal is Saturday, April 26th. Our meal will be held after the Annual Rummage Sale. We are looking for extra volunteers to help with the sale clean-up so we can prepare the room for dinner. Come anytime after 3:30 p.m. to help with set-up, serving, enjoy a meal with new friends or help with the clean up. As always, the more help, the merrier! If you are able to help on Saturday afternoon, please contact Karen Martin by emailing to dansgirl9065@sbglobal.net. Thank you everyone for your continued support of this ministry!

KEEP STUFFING YOUR SOCK TO STOP HUNGER NOW

Approximately 25,000 people die each day from hunger or hunger-related causes. 74% of them are children. We can do something about that. Each year Americans spend about \$23.8 billion on candy, \$65.9 billion on soft drinks, and \$566 billion eating out in restaurants. Why not give up a candy bar, soft drink or meal out and donate the money to Mentor UMC's Stop Hunger Now effort?

Mentor UMC is raising \$8000 to host an event on Saturday, May 17 to pack 30,000 highly nutritious dehydrated meals comprised of rice, soy, vegetables, flavoring and 21 essential vitamins and minerals. The meals are easily transported to crisis-burdened areas or supplied to school feeding programs around the world. More than 270 socks have been distributed throughout the congregation to set aside money during Lent.

Please keep stuffing your sock and bring in your donations any time between now and Easter. **Collection containers are located in the back of the Sanctuary and in Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings.**

Sign ups to volunteer for the May 17th packing event will begin soon!

THROUGH THE YEARS

The Easter season has many traditions. One of the most varied and universal is the food made for Easter and the Easter season. While we have our Easter food staples in the United States, there are many others around the world. Some of them are:

Tsoureki—a brioche like bread from Greece. It is flavored with the essence of the seeds of wild cherries. Hard boiled eggs are placed on top. The eggs are dyed red to symbolize the blood of Christ.

Columba Di Paqua — a candied peel stuffed cake from Italy. It is often made in the shape of a dove symbolizing peace.

Capirotada—a spiced bread pudding from Mexico. It is made with raisins, cloves, cinnamon sticks, and Cheese. The cloves represent the nails of the Cross. The cinnamon sticks represent the Cross. The bread represents the body of Christ.

Kulich—a cake made in Eastern Orthodox countries like Bulgaria, Georgia, and Russia. It is made in a Tall decanter and covered in white icing with either sprinkles or flowers. The cake is often blessed By the priest after Easter service.

Pacoca De Amendolm—an Easter treat from Brazil. It is made from peanuts, sugar, and cassava flour.

Finally, in a lighter and non-religious note, there is the Easter Bilby in Australia. A Bilby is an indigenous rodent in Australia with long ears. He is used in place of a rabbit since rabbits are notorious pests to crops. The Bilby brings the chocolate eggs. You can also enjoy an Easter Bilby!

Whatever food you may enjoy at this time of year, the important thing to remember is Christ's resurrection and triumph over death. Happy Easter!

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 email to dhumphrey@ameritech.net.

LIVE IN CONCERT . . . At Mentor UMC

The Singing Angels — Saturday, April 5th

The Singing Angels was founded in 1964 and is dedicated to youth development through the highest level of artistic achievement in the performing arts. The Singing Angels has performed in 34 countries - entertaining dignitaries, presidents and popes. The Singing Angels have performed four times at the White House and in concert with a host of stars.

This wonderful evening includes both a silent and live auction! **Doors open at 6 p.m.** Advance ticket sales available at the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings, in the Church Office or by calling (440) 255-3496 or (440) 585-9462. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6-12, and 5 & under free.

All proceeds will benefit Royal Family KIDS Camp #271 and Royal Family KIDS Mentoring Club #053 of Willoughby Hills United Methodist Church.



GENERATIONS FELLOWSHIP sponsored Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 19th at 10 a.m.

Come and celebrate Easter with brunch, games and an egg hunt. The fun begins in Fellowship Hall with brunch at 10 a.m. We will share in the Easter story and then hunt for eggs on the front lawn. All are welcome! Bring friends and family!

Please bring a basket for each child and 10 treat filled eggs per child. Each child will go home with 10 eggs. **Also, please bring a brunch dish to share, according to your last name: A-H fruit, I-Q bread, rolls, doughnuts, etc., R-Z main dish/casserole.** Register at <http://tinyurl.com/GenEggHunt>.

LOOKING AHEAD

MEN'S SOFTBALL BEGINNING SOON: A few openings remain for players on our teams in the Lake County Church League. Practices begin in April and game nights are Mondays and Wednesdays in May, June and July (playoffs in August). Interested ball players should contact Brian Bly at 440 463-7712 or brianbly11@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE!!

An Organ Benefit Auction & Entertainment: "**STRIKE UP THE BAND**" will be held here on Saturday, May 10th. We need your help with donations of auction baskets for the event. All proceeds will go to the organ repair fund. You can leave your baskets in the Church Office. A letter recognizing your contributions will be sent to you and can be used for tax purposes.

No tickets for the event will be necessary — a free-will offering will be taken that evening at the door. All costs of the benefit have been underwritten by members of our church. This means 100% of the income from the benefit will be used for the organ repair. The entertainment will be the David Sterner Quartet so be sure to mark your calendars now. Let's get our organ back in shape.

SUMMER PROGRAMS:

- Vacation Bible School — June 23-27 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for children age 4 (as of 1/1/14) through 6th grade.
- Get Out Doors (G.O.D.) Camp — June 23-27 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for students who have just completed 5th and 6th grade
- Theatre Arts Camp — July 21-25 AND 28-August 1 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Performances are August 1st & 2nd.
- Check out our website at www.mentorumc.org/summer-programs.



CHURCH SURVEY FOLLOW-UP

During the first photography session for the new church pictorial directory you were given the opportunity to complete a survey. Over 200 took the survey and we are very grateful for your responses. The information has been collected, collated, made available to staff, and is being used.

The information has been very useful in planning and organizing. We have been able to better respond to your interests and expectations. In addition, the data have been beneficial in helping identify persons for certain ministries. We also have a better understanding of interest for study groups and outreach opportunities.

The amount of information provided gives us a good base to work from. Not all things can be done immediately, but we will do what we can with you in mind. We will follow-up the best we can as opportunities unfold.



Our family would like to thank the members of this church congregation as you have supported us in the recent death of our dad and husband, Dick Swain.

Your many prayers, cards, visitations to Heartland, and donations to YSP in his name mean so much to our family. Thank you also for sharing in the celebration of his life at his memorial service on February 22nd.

The Swain/Kilpeck Family

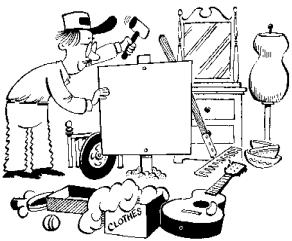
CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

- **Family Sunday:** 1st Sunday of the month; 3rd through 6th grade remain in worship; no Children's Message; 3 year olds through 2nd grade meet in Chapel then go to Education Wing.
- **The BREAKFAST CLUB, a Young Family Study** Sundays from 10:10-10:50 in Room 109; Childcare is available in Room 102.
- **Parents Morning Out** (toddlers—4 yr. olds) Mondays, 10 a.m.—12 p.m.
- **Discoverers (5 YO-6 Gr.) WEDNESDAYS** from 6:00-7:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 and program follows; "Journey to the Cross" <http://tinyurl.com/DiscLent>

StuCo 56 (5th/6th grade) meets **Wednesday, April 2 from 4-8 p.m.** at MUM to make dinner for Project Hope & Lent dinner: <http://tinyurl.com/StuCo56Meal>
AND Sunday, April 13 from 1-3 p.m. for Food Sorting: <http://tinyurl.com/StuCo56FoodSort>

MOPS & MOMSnext: "A Beautiful Mess: Embrace Your Story"

- Friday, April 11 from 9:30 a.m.—12 p.m. MOPS (moms with children birth through Kindergarten): "Control Mess"
- MOPSnext (moms with school age children): "Techno Turmoil"
- To learn more, and/or reserve childcare: Email mops@mentorumc.org or call 255-3496, ext. 18 by April 8th



**Annual All-Church Rummage Sale
Sponsored by the Asbury Fellowship
With assistance from members of our congregation.**

Saturday, April 26 — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Gather up all those unused items and bring them to the church starting Monday, April 21st through Thursday, April 24th. Workers will be available at the church to help you unload. **No items will be accepted on Friday, April 25th.** If you need to have items picked up, please contact the Church Office at 255-3496.

We will accept clothing (no footwear), furniture, small appliances, tools, books, toys, miscellaneous household and business items, etc. **No major appliances** such as air conditioners, refrigerators, dehumidifiers, etc. No tires please.

The money earned from this project will be used for significant church projects. **Come and shop for the many bargains.**

**"Asbury Pre-Rummage Sale Auction"
Friday, April 25th at 7:00 P.M. Church Annex**

Special rummage sale items will be set aside for those church members wishing to bid on these items prior to Saturday's rummage sale. You are welcome to stop by Fellowship Hall during the week prior to the auction to have items set aside that you would like to be included in the auction. Come join us in the fun. Our church benefits from the proceeds of the rummage sale events. We will accept cash and checks payable to "Asbury Fellowship."

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



Women's Worship

**"O PRAISE HIM"
WOMEN'S NIGHT OF WORSHIP**

Join us on Friday, April 4th at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall for an evening where women can worship together through song and scripture, prayer and reflections. This service provides a place for women to explore their personal relationship with Christ in a unique and nurturing setting. All women are welcome and encouraged to attend!

RUTH-ESTHER CIRCLE:

We invite you to join us Tuesday, April 8th at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We'll be finishing up cleaning the candle holders from Christmas Eve. Bring an old, small paring knife if you have one. All women of the church are invited!

The NEW DAY CIRCLE:

We will meet on Monday, April 14th in the Asbury Room. Contact Carole Ring at 255-7213 or check out the website at umw@mentorumc.org if you have questions. All women are welcome to join us.



If you are interested in a short class on the basics of the Christian faith consider attending . . .

"The Basics" offered on four Tuesday mornings in April from 10:30 to noon on April 1, 8, 15 and 22 in the Adams Parlor. Whether you're a member or want to become a member, these four classes focus on the Bible, Jesus, Prayer and the Church. Led by Pastor Bev Wrobel. Registration is required.

These classes are required for membership but everyone is welcome to attend. To register, please email or call Pastor Bev Wrobel at blwrobel@mentorumc.org or 440-255-3496, ext. 14.



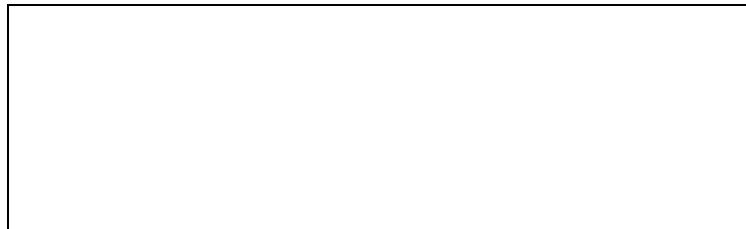
RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

Blood Drive The blood drive will be held here at MUMC on Sunday, April 6th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Asbury/Wesley Room. Every unit of blood can be made into three different life-saving components, your donation can help many people. RECYCLE LIFE — GIVE BLOOD!

Mentor United Methodist Church
8600 Mentor Avenue
Mentor OH 44060

Non-Profit Organization
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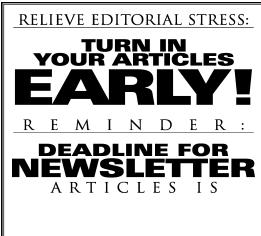
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



FINANCE UPDATE

Year-to-Date Operating Through
February 2014

Receipts	\$137,937
Disbursements	165,477
YTD Deficit	(-27,540)



DEADLINE:
STEEPLETALK
April 10
For MAY Issue



WORSHIP

SANCTUARY Worship — 9 & 11 a.m.

iCONNECT Worship — 9 & 11 a.m.
(Fellowship Hall)

COMMUNION — 10:30 a.m.
(Adams Parlor)

CHILDREN

CHILDCARE — 9 & 11 a.m.

For infants—2 year old

SUNDAY SCHOOL — 9 & 11 a.m.

For 3 year olds—6th grade

CHECK-IN — 3 year old—6th grade

Check in before worship in the Chapel

PICK-UP — The children are in their
Classrooms in the Education Wing

YOUTH

PULSE — 10:10 a.m. (Pettit Youth Room)
For 9th—12th grade

PULSE 78 — 10:10 a.m. (Asbury Room)
For 7th & 8th grade

ADULTS

BREAKFAST CLUB — 10:10 a.m. (Room 109)
For young families

ADULT BIBLE STUDY — 10:10 a.m.
(Wesley Room)