

STEEPLETALK

OCTOBER 2014



Church and Culture.

Kendra Creasy Dean grew up in the mid-section of Ohio. She was raised in a United Methodist Church and attended our church camps. Along the way God got hold of her life and she attended seminary and then earned her Ph.D. at Princeton Theological Seminary where she joined the faculty and now serves as Professor of Youth,

Church and Culture. She worked with the 2003-05 National Study of Youth and Religion that took a hard look at adolescent spirituality in the United States. She has since written a book entitled "Almost Christian" where she reflects on the study that reveals...

- Today's youth have a lackadaisical faith
- There is no real commitment or excitement about faith
- They treat religious participation like another extracurricular activity, e.g. sports, music, etc.
- They have an "Almost Christian" theology that calls for being nice, feeling good about yourself, and saving God for emergencies
- Time and time again in the interviews young people were met who called themselves Christians, who grew up with Christian parents, who were regular participants in Christian congregations, yet who had no readily accessible faith vocabulary, few recognizable faith practices, and little ability to reflect on their lives religiously.

Obviously these finds are not universal and there are exceptions to be found. But generally these comments are reflective of American adolescents.

In her book, Dr. Dean makes the following comments:

- The religiosity of American teenagers must be read primarily as a reflection of their parents' religious devotion.
- Lackadaisical faith is not young people's issue, but ours.
- While we have modeled and taught the value of morals and feeling happy, "What we have been less able to convey to young people is faith."
- "...this is the only 'Christianity' they know."
- Real faith is "far more likely to take root in the rich relational soil of families, congregations, and mentor relationships where young people can see what faithful lives look like, and encounter the people who love them enacting a larger story of divine care and hope."

At Mentor UMC we are intentional in children's and youth ministries. We have dedicated staff, teachers, workers, committee members, etc. We have invested in facilities and we are investing more in facilities. Children and Youth Ministries are a major part of our ministry emphasis.

But the church can't stand alone on this task. It must be a shared ministry in the home and the church. And the leadership must begin in the home. Deuteronomy 6:6-9 teaches of the importance of the home in faith formation. Dr. Dean writes: "...we must assume that the solution lives not in beefing up congregational youth programs or making worship more "cool" and attractive, but in modeling the kinds of mature, passionate faith we want young people to have."

As we seek to live into our mission to lead all onto a path of Christ-centered discipleship, how you live out your faith in your home will be of utmost importance. As we practice and grow in your own faith, we need to invest in our children's faith development at home.

— Pastor Kurt

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SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES



As of the week of September 19th, excavation for the new construction should be completed and footers poured. Block walls are coming up, first on the north side of Fellowship Hall, then the south side, and finally in the new entrance area to the southwest. Meanwhile the main gas line has been installed in preparation for some of the new heating and cooling systems to be placed the following week. Work is being done on the new sanctuary boiler.

Parking continues to be affected. It is planned that once foundation and footers are complete, some sidewalks will be poured and a rough base added to the dirt parking areas creating some parking. In the meantime, please watch signage for parking and door entrances.

With the reduction of some parking, we request that those who are able park off-site and walk to the church. Parking is available in the rear of the Village Plaza strip mall to the east, the Napa Auto Parts store across from the strip mall (north side of Mentor Ave.), Jimmy's Backyard Barbeque (only in the rear please), and the music store. For those who worship in iConnect, we especially request you park in the business parking toward the east or use the east parking lot of the church and enter the back door. We are grateful for the local businesses allowing for parking; please respect their need for customer parking by using the rear parking. Please use caution and the crosswalks when crossing Mentor Avenue.

- - - - - **THROUGH THE YEARS** - - - - -

We all rejoice that the church's organ has been refurbished! The organ once again inspires us with those great Methodist hymns so capably played by Amy Bender and Carol Haines. A group of 29 church members traveled to Schantz on August 14th to see how a pipe organ is manufactured. We would like to thank the anonymous donor who provided the limobus for the trip. We were all impressed by the craftsmanship and dedication of the Schantz employees.

The organ was installed in 1975 by the Schantz Organ Company of Orrville, Ohio. Schantz has been building organs since 1873 when A J Schantz opened his shop. It is the oldest organ manufacturer in North America. Early in the twentieth century Mr. Schantz' sons joined the operation. Today the company is run by the fourth generation of the Schantz family.

Among the organs in Ohio that Schantz has either installed or refurbished include Severance Hall, Stan Hywet Hall, and Capital University, and many churches. Schantz also refurbished organs made by other companies. Some of them are Skinner, Aeolian and Moller organs.

The recent completed work ensures that our beloved organ will continue to inspire countless numbers of Mentor United Methodist Church members for many years to come.

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



Dave Ramsey's FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Hope Ridge United Methodist Church is hosting *Financial Peace University* this fall. This life-changing program teaches your congregation to achieve their financial goals by eliminating debt, saving for the future, and giving like never before.

The NINE WEEK class will begin on Thursday evening, October 16th, and will meet from 7-9 p.m. in the Conference Room at Hope Ridge. Membership kits and registration are available online at daveramsey.com for a discounted rate of \$93, plus shipping.

There is no other charge for the class. Childcare can be provided with a week's notice. If you have additional questions, please contact the Hope Ridge office, 440-352-2141.

Additional information about the course curriculum can be found on Dave Ramsey's website, www.daveramsey.com/fpu.

SERVANT OPPORTUNITIES

MORE THAN A MEAL



Free Community Dinner

We hope you will prayerfully consider supporting us either by helping with set-up, serving, and clean-up, by attending a meal to sit and visit with our guests while we dine, or by hosting a meal on the last Saturday of any month. Our next meal will be held on Saturday, October 25th.

We are still looking for families or church groups to host a meal in the coming months. Please email Karen Martin at dansgirl9065@sbcglobal.net if you are able to help out in this way, for more information or to let us know that you want to volunteer in some capacity.



HEARTLAND — October 19

At 10:45 a.m. we will have a worship service for the residents of Heartland. Look for the Elwells or Marge Westman in the Atrium (near the Welcome Center) after the 9 a.m. service or join us there at 10:45 a.m.

MISSION COMMISSION



OCTOBER . . .

Non-Perishable Items for Thanksgiving Baskets

Please donate items you might use in preparing your Thanksgiving Dinner.

— Thank you! Mission Food Ministry

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

RUTH-ESTHER CIRCLE MEETING: Tuesday, October 14 at 9:30 a.m. in the Adams Parlor. All women of the church are invited to attend. Join us for fellowship and refreshments.



ANNUAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE CRAFT SHOW

Friday, November 7 — 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Saturday, November 8 — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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.

Attic Treasures Room (mini-rummage sale) needs any kind of treasures (except clothing) — small appliances, cooking pans, kitchen items, knick-knacks, crystal, dishes, etc. This is your chance to do some clearing out before the holidays! We will need your homemade baked goods — cakes, coffee cakes, pies, cookies, cupcakes or your favorite specialty for our **Bake Shop**. The **Country Cupboard** needs homemade candies, pickles, jellies, apple butter, applesauce, snacks, etc. — any of your kitchen specialties.

We will also need volunteers to help with setting up, selling our items, and keeping tables stocked. Watch for the volunteer sign-up sheets. If you have any questions, contact Kim Mele at gingerbread@mentorumc.org.



SECOND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA — “Pretty in Pink” Saturday, November 15th — 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Join us for food, fun, fellowship, entertainment & a silent auction.

\$23 per ticket and they go on sale October 12th

at the Welcome Center — ONLY 64 tickets will be sold

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES
Tammy Palermo — tpalermo@mentorumc.org

KNOW

• **Sunday School**

- . Babies and Toddler/2 year olds will meet in the Adams Parlor
- . 3 year olds (as of September 1st & toilet trained) through 6th grade will meet in the Chapel after check-in
- . <http://mentorumc.org/sunday-school>

GROW

• **StuCo 56**, 5th & 6th grade youth group

- . Friday, October 18th from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at MUMC. Register: <http://mentorumc.org/stuco-56>

• **GENERATIONS, family fellowship group**

- . Annual MUMC Fall Fest on Thursday, October 23 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.; <http://mentorumc.org/fall-fest>

SHOW

• **Sunday School Leadership sign up:** <http://mentorumc.org/sunday-school>

• **MOPS & MOMSnext Monthly Meeting**

- . Friday, October 10 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Hannah's Home
- . "Courage to Serve"
- . <http://mentorumc.org/mops>

NEWSLETTER and CHILD REGISTRATION FORMS: www.mentorumc.org/children

THANK YOU



My sincere thanks for the cards and phone calls I received during my recent illness. The encouragement of friends, the hugs, and "welcome backs" when I was finally able to get back to church, made me realize how God is always with us no matter what we do or how we feel.

— Mid Donahue

YOUTH MINISTRY
Lauren Ring—lring@mentorumc.org

More Details Online at www.mentorumc.org
RSVP to lring@mentorumc.org

High Definition: Sunday evenings, 7th-12th grades meeting at the same time, with separate middle & high school small group times. 5:00-8:30 p.m. — Dinner, Youth Group & Church open for volleyball, games & hanging out.

Saturday, October 4: 5:30 p.m. meet at MUMC for OFF-SITE Youth Concert "Anthem for Lights" at Kirtland Christian Fellowship Church. Back at ???

Sunday, October 5: District Youth Corn Maze/Hayride — Details Coming Soon! This is an evening activity, and will take the place of High Definition Youth Group on Sun, Oct 5. RSVP: Sign up at Sign Up Genius to let us know you are coming: click on "Find a Sign Up" at the top right, and search for Sign Ups by lring@mentorumc.org

FINANCE UPDATE

YTD through AUGUST 31, 2014

Receipts	\$604,624.40
Disbursements	605,947.20
Deficit	(\$1,322.80)



The Finance Committee would like to thank the congregation for continuing to honor your pledges during construction.

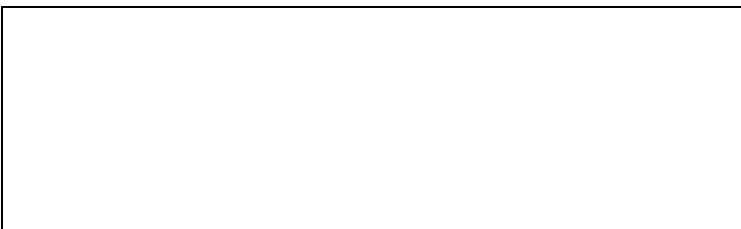
Expenses for the month of August were lower than usual because of construction: Sunday School had no expenses during the summer months; lower utilities and maintenance with the removal of HVAC system; other expenses were lower than usual. This all helped the church catch us on the previous year-to-date deficit posted in July.

Electronic giving is available online at
www.mentorumc.org

Mentor United Methodist Church
8600 Mentor Avenue
Mentor OH 44060

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23
6:30—8:00 p.m. In Fellowship Hall

HEROES UNMASKED!!

This is an exciting way for kids to learn more about God's love. Children and their families will encounter a story, play carnival games, decorate cookies to take home, do a craft, and collect Bible Hero cards to trade and treasure. Bring your camera for a DIY photo shoot.

**Be sure to join us for this fun-filled
FAMILY event!!**
For more details and registration, go to
mentorumc.org/fall-fest

WORSHIP

SANCTUARY Worship — 9 & 11 a.m.

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

COMMUNION — 10:40 a.m.
Join us in the Sanctuary at the Altar

CHILDREN

CHILDCARE — 9 & 11 a.m.
For infants— 2 year olds — Adams Parlor

Sunday School — 9 & 11 a.m.
3 Yr. Olds through 6th Grade — Chapel
after check-in

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**
RE M I N D E R :
**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS**

**DEADLINE:
STEEPLETALK
October 8
For NOVEMBER Issue**

