

# STEEPLETALK

JANUARY 2016



## No Fear New Year

On New Year's Eve, as we say goodbye to 2015 and hello to 2016, many will have thoughts like:

- I'm glad 2015 is over! I'm looking for a better year.
- I'm excited for what lays ahead in 2016.
- I fear the changes ahead.

By nature, we enter into the unknown with a mixture of excitement and apprehension. All of us will find some measure of fear/anxiety for the unknown.

According to research by Chapman University (Orange, California) on American fears the study group asked a random sample of 1,541 adults from across the United States about their level of fears. Following are the top 10 fears:

1. Corruption of government officials
2. Cyber-terrorism
3. Corporate tracking of personal information
4. Terrorist attacks
5. Government tracking of personal information
6. Bio-warfare
7. Identity theft
8. Economic collapse
9. Running out of money in the future
10. Credit card fraud

This list reveals just how complex our world has become. Not too many years ago this list would have looked quite different. But one thing hasn't changed; fear is a companion of life. Just as our ancestors feared Woolly Mammoths or a devastating drought, we have fears today.

In the Bible the word fear appears over 500 times. That's no surprise when you consider how honest scriptures are around life's realities. Fear is real!!

Entering into 2016 we face many personal, national and international uncertainties. Breathing can be heavy with the thought of possible changes regarding health or family. The heart can begin to palpitate with the thoughts of political, economic, and sociological changes that loom before us.

But the Bible is not done. Many of the verses that contain the word "fear" are surrounded with words like "not" and "do not". The message of the Bible is clear, we have fears; but it is equally clear that we have reason to approach life differently with encouraging words like "Fear not" or "Do not be afraid."

Yes, we are confronted with persons, evil, danger, circumstances and loss that can cause apprehension. But the Bible does have something to say about how we can find peace and comfort in life's anxieties. Join us on the

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## THROUGH THE YEARS

The year 2016 will see the General Conference of the United Methodist Church hold its quadrennial meeting. The General Conference is the highest legislative body of the church. The conference has met every four years since 1792, in years divisible by four.

John Wesley named Francis Asbury and Thomas Coke co-superintendents of the American Methodist Episcopal Church in 1784. There were challenges to their leadership and Coke recommended a general conference to resolve any issues within the church. This was the 1792 meeting.

This year's meeting will be held in Portland, Oregon from May 10th through the 20th at the Oregon Convention Center. There will be 864 delegates, including 12 from the East Ohio Conference. The delegates are split equally between clergy and laity. They were elected at last year's Annual Conference.

The conference establishes committees to deal with petitions based on their content. Petitions are proposed by individuals, agencies, annual conferences, and other groups. They can pertain to revision of the Book of Discipline, the denomination Book of Law, the Book of Resolutions, and policies on social issues. The committees usually break into subcommittees who review and refine legislation. The subcommittees recommend rejection, adoption, or adoption with amendments of petitions to the full committee. The committee then recommends to the entire conference what action should be taken. No action is final until voted on by the entire conference.

The 2020 General Conference will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. To reflect the international makeup of Methodism, the 2024 conference will be held in Manila, Philippines and the 2028 conference will be held in Harare, Zimbabwe.

There is a free app available for your "smart" device, if you should want information on the conference. It is available for both Apple and Android devices, just search for United Methodist General Conference and install it.

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](mailto:dhumphrey@ameritech.net).

**"I Have  
a DREAM..."**

Sunday Supper at Mentor UMC  
Sunday, January 24th

5:30—8:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

What's on your plate Sunday evening, January 24th? All are invited to share supper together, view the film *The Long Walk Home*, and join in dialogue and discussion after the film. This film features Whoopi Goldberg and Sissy Spacek and depicts a troubled era in American history based on the Montgomery bus boycott. Come celebrate the spirit of justice of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy of service and social justice while enjoying fellowship, food, and conversation.

This free event is sponsored by Mentor United Methodist Women and all are welcome to attend! Please RSVP so we can plan for enough food. Child care will be provided upon request. Please contact Carole Ring (255-7213 or [umw@mentorumc.org](mailto:umw@mentorumc.org)) to RSVP, if you have questions, or would like child care or transportation. We hope you will join us for this special night out!

**THE HOPE CHEST** — "A Community of Volunteers Serving Lake County"

**We remain devoted to our mission statement:** *To provide clean clothing, new socks and shoes, and new underwear to school children so that they can attend school with dignity and pride.* **Our Clients** are referred to us by Forbes House, Project Hope, Beacon Health, Job & Family Services, Food Force, as well as local churches and schools.

As things go on sale after the holidays why not pick up a shirt or pair of pants to donate or some children's clothing, socks and underwear. *Pay it forward* by organizing a collection of new washcloths, towels, or new children's clothing at your workplace. As you clean out your closets and drawers, donate your clean, gently used adult and children's clothing and coats. We are extremely grateful for all of your support. Our clients are also grateful for your support. Monetary

**CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES**  
Tammy Palermo—[tpalermo@mentorumc.org](mailto:tpalermo@mentorumc.org)

**KNOW**

- **Sunday School**
  - Children 0-4 years old—Early Childhood area
  - K-2nd Grade—Room 107
  - 3rd Grade—Room 103
  - 4th-6th Grade—Room 104
  - Family Worship is **FIRST** Sunday of the month and K-6th graders remain in worship with their families

**GROW**

- **StuCo 56**, 5th & 6th grade youth group
  - **Sunday, January 10th**, 5:30-7:30 p.m. (Super Bowl of Caring Prep)
  - **Sunday, January 24th**, 4:30-8:30 p.m. (Snow Tubing)
  - <http://mentorumc.org/stuco-56>
- **GENERATIONS**, family fellowship group
  - **January 30th or February 6th**, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Mentor Ice Arena for Ice Skating
  - <http://mentorumc.org/generations>
- **MOPS & MOMSnext Monthly Meeting**
  - Fellowship Hall, January 8th, 9:30—Noon “Nurturing Yourself”
  - Friday, January 22nd, 9:30-11:30 a.m.; MOPS Playgroup & MOMSnext discussion “Raising Teenagers”
  - <http://mentorumc.org/mops>

**SHOW**

- Sunday School Servant sign up  
[www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school](http://www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school)
- Children’s Choir (1-6 Gr.) rehearses Sundays 10:15-10:45, Room 112
- Cherub Choir (3 Yr. Old-K) rehearses Sundays, 10:15-10:45, Room 104



**NEWSLETTERS & CHILD REGISTRATION FORMS:**

<http://mentorumc.org/>

children

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

“The Basics” offered on five Monday evenings in January from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. on January 4, 11, 18, 25 and February 1 in the Conference Room. Whether you’re a member or want to become a member, these five classes focus on the Bible, Jesus, Prayer and the Church. Led by Pastor Bev Wrobel. Registration is required.

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

**RUTH-ESTHER CIRCLE:** We won’t be having a meeting in January. Join us February 9th — we will be cleaning the candle holders from Christmas Eve services. Please bring a paring knife if you have one.

Join the **NEW DAY CIRCLE Monday, January 11th** at 10 a.m. in the Adams Parlor. All women are welcome! Please contact Carole Ring at 255-7213 if you have questions.

**GRIEF SHARE**

A Grief Recovery Support Group

This is real help for deep hurt. Winter sessions on Wednesdays, January 6th to March 30th, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Cost is \$20 (includes book).

The facilitator is Rev. Beverly Wrobel, LPC. Please register by calling or emailing Rev. Wrobel at [blwrobel@mentorumc.org](mailto:blwrobel@mentorumc.org). For more information visit the GRIEF SHARE website at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org).

Weekly video seminars are designed to help you successfully travel the journey from mourning to joy.

**FINANCE UPDATE**

**YTD through NOVEMBER 30, 2015**

Receipts	\$893,570
Disbursements	871,524
Surplus	22,046

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

**2016 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE NOW**

Stop in the Arcade (hallway between the Narthex and Chapel) on Sunday morning or drop by during the week to pick yours up.

**2016 Pledge Campaign & In THIS House 2 Debt Reduction Campaign** are winding up. If you have not returned your pledge card, please leave it in the offering plate on Sunday morning, drop off in the Church Office during the week or return by mail.

So far we have received the following commitments:

2016 Operating 393 pledges for a total of \$644,195.96  
In **THIS** House 2 171 pledges for a total of \$597,108.20



## MISSIONS MINISTRY

**Many thanks for all the ways this congregation has served our community this holiday season.** Your generous contributions for the food pantry, gifts for families in need, and coats for our coat ministry have all been distributed and greatly appreciated.

All the volunteers made each task go quickly. Thank you for helping to provide a Merry Christmas for so many!

**PLEASE NOTE:** Our Food Pantry is in need of PASTA & SPAGHETTI SAUCE. We will collect these items throughout the month of January.

### **Project Hope Meals Needed:**

The Homeless Shelter of Lake County relies on volunteers to provide a meal each night for 40 individuals and drop it off at the shelter by 6:45 p.m. Project Hope is located at 25 Freedom Road, Painesville.

Mentor UMC coordinates the first Wednesday of each month and you can help be a part of this ministry by signing up to provide a meal with your family or a group of your friends. If you are new, this is a great Opportunity to get to know others—contact Nancy Leyden at 255-1567 if you would like to join with a group and help prepare a meal. **Open dates are:** February 3rd, March 2nd, April 6th, May 4th, June 1st, July 6th, August 3rd, September 7th, October 5th and November 2nd.

**JANUARY 3rd — 12:30 p.m.**

**Fellowship Hall  
Lunch & Program**

**Join the Missions Commission & United Methodist Women for a time of fellowship, food, and learning**

**on January 3rd at 12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.** We are planning a soup and pie lunch. Our Special guests will be Mark, Eszti, and Samuel Landerholm. Mark will be speaking that morning in iConnect about their work in Hungary, including their work with the refugees streaming through that country.



**Make plans to Attend “Getting Ahead!”**

**“Getting Ahead” is a program that helps people get ahead!** It will be offered at MUMC beginning Monday, January 18th and continue through June 1st. We will meet once a week for 16 weeks for three hours. It is made up of a group of 8-15 people who come to learn about how economic, emotional, social, and financial resources affect our lives everyday.

You will learn about your own resources and other resources that can assist in helping you develop a personal plan that is right for you in getting ahead. When you attend “Getting Ahead”, you can expect friendly people who are here to help. They do not evaluate or judge or tell you what to think or do. You are the one that makes a plan for your life in getting ahead. Each week will start with a meal (no cost) at 5:30 p.m. At 6:00, we will move to Room 112 where we will meet until 9:00. Experienced people will present the material, and there will be a table discussion.

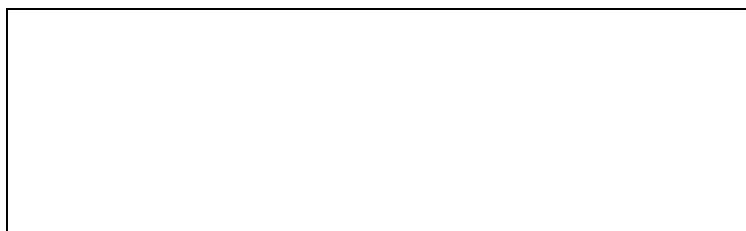
Participants are expected to attend weekly, be on time and be an active part of the group discussion. “Getting Ahead” offers you the chance to become a part of a community that helps all people to reach their potential. Babysitting and transportation can be provided if needed.

Contact Rev. Kurt Landerholm, 440-255-3496, if you have questions or know your would like to participate.

**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**



**WORSHIP**

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

**COMMUNION**

10:30 a.m.  
Join us in the Chapel  
(Except for the 1st Sunday of the month)

**CHILDCARE**

9 & 11 a.m.  
Babies & Toddler/2 Yr. Olds  
(as of September 1st 2015 & toilet trained)  
Early Childhood Check-In

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

9 & 11 a.m.  
K—2nd Grade — Room 105  
3rd Grade — Room 103;  
4th—6th Grade — Room 104

**FAMILY WORSHIP**

(1st Sunday of the month)  
Kindergarten through 6th Grade  
Worship with their families



Inclement  
Weather  
Policy

In the event of possible church closings due to weather or power outages, please go to News Channel 5 for updates.

**MUMC PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION**

Preschool registration is open to church members now for the 2016-2017 school year. Please call (440) 255-3496, ext. 23, to register or email us at [mumpreschool@mentorumc.org](mailto:mumpreschool@mentorumc.org). You can also visit our website at [mentorumc.org/preschool](http://mentorumc.org/preschool) to see all of the exciting things we have to offer your child. Hurry! Spots can fill fast and registration

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

**STEEPLETALK**  
**January 7, 2016**  
**For FEBRUARY Issue**

