

STEEPLETALK

March 2016



*From the
Pastor*



“Inhale and Exhale, the Rhythm of Life”

In the early days of my ministry I obtained a computer. It was a small IBM PC Jr. This was long before internet; the purpose of the computer was solely for typing documents. It was an exciting piece of technology. I had graduated from an IBM Selectric III typewriter with the amazing technology that allowed for the correction of mistakes by a simple strikeover. But this glorified typewriter allowed me to type out the whole document, edit, and even run a spell check; all before printing.

We kept the computer in a spare bedroom. I would do my sermon research in my church office, take extensive notes, and pull everything together in a briefcase and go home and plug in the computer, fire up the disc operating system (DOS), and type my sermon. I could store several sermons on an amazing 5 1/4" floppy disc!

When I was home on the computer, my children knew they were to “leave daddy alone.” One day I was busy at the computer when I heard the door push open, soon standing at my side was our little toddler Mark. He didn’t say anything, for he knew he wasn’t supposed to be in the room. He quietly held up a little stuffed lamb. I took the lamb and made all over it, acting like we were communicating. Mark broke the silence and said something like this, “Daddy, it’s not alive.” I looked at him and said, “How do you know it’s not alive?” In his innocence he declared, “Because it’s not breathing!”

As we approach the last full week of the month, we’ll observe the most significant events in the Lamb of God. We’ll remember his last hours with his disciples on Thursday, we’ll remember how he drew his last breath on Friday, and we’ll celebrate that he is alive on Easter Sunday. Yes, the Lamb of God was not alive, the breathing ceased; but he rose from the dead and he breathed again.

Just as breath is a sign of life in our physical bodies, it is a sign of life and health in our spiritual lives. We need to inhale, and we also need to exhale. If we only inhale we have a buildup of oxygen, and that is not healthy; if we only exhale we have a buildup of carbon dioxide, and that is not healthy. In both cases it is life threatening. Likewise, in our spiritual lives we need a healthy rhythm of breathing — inhaling and exhaling — receiving and giving.

Holy Week gives us a good opportunity to inhale as we take in the life giving message of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. So join us as we take a deep breath:

Thursday, March 24th at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 25th at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 27th at 7 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

The rhythm of breathing also means we need to exhale. Here’s an opportunity: On Saturday, May 14th we will step out into our community for “Change the World” day. The Administrative Council has set the goal of 581 persons involved in some sort of outreach that day. You will have all sorts of opportunities to serve, for a short block of time, or for all day. Plan to join us as we change the world through breathing life out into the community. Watch in the coming weeks for details.

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Where
there's
breath,
there's life.



FINANCE UPDATE
YTD through JANUARY 2016

Receipts	\$87,843.
Disbursements	81,449.
Surplus	6,394.

Electronic giving is available online at
www.mentorumc.org



**“Remembering the Church
as you plan for your estate”**

The GEM (Gifts, Endowments & Memorials) Committee is planning an informational meeting on Planned Giving for Monday, April 11th. A special guest will present options and ideas for estate planning. Appetizers will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a dinner to follow. We will meet in the Asbury & Wesley Rooms.

Please RSVP to the Church Office, 255-3496, so we can plan for the meal and printed materials. All are welcome and encouraged to join us.



MUMC 2016

Are you a confirmed member of Mentor UMC or know someone who is that will be attending college in the Fall of 2016? If so, Mentor UMC is once again offering scholarships to students in the high school graduating class of 2016, as well as seminary students and students that are currently enrolled in college and will continue on in the Fall of 2016.

Applications for the scholarship can be completed online by navigating to <http://www.mentorumc.org/scholarship>. Instructions on submitting the application are also included in the application. All completed applications must be turned in to the Church Office by Friday, April 1st by 4:00 p.m.

DeJohn Funeral Home — The Ross & Carmella DeJohn Scholarship Award is being offered to high school seniors in our community who have exemplified the FIVE STAR STANDARDS of *independence, integrity, excellence, fairness and professionalism*. This scholarship is not based only on grades or athletic achievement.

The scholarship recipients will receive \$500 that can be used toward **college or technical school** and a special recognition certificate during the awards ceremonies at their school; plus, their names will be placed on DeJohn's Five Star Scholarship Winners Plaque.

Applications are available through your school guidance counselor, MUMC office or by contacting DeJohn Funeral

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

KNOW

- **Sunday School**
 - . Children 0-4 years old—Early Childhood Area
 - . K-2nd Grade—Room 107
 - . 3rd Grade—sign in at Room 103 at 9 a.m.
 - . 4th-6th Grade—sign in at Room 104 at 9 a.m.
 - . 3rd—6th Grade sign in at Room 104 at 11 a.m.
 - . Family Worship is FIRST Sunday of the month and K-6th graders remain in worship with their families
 - . <http://www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school>

GROW

- **StuCo 56**, 5th & 6th grade youth group
 - . Sunday, March 13, 4-5:00 p.m. for Egg Stuffing & 5:30-8:00 p.m. for The BIG Event
 - . Sunday, March 20, 12-2:00 p.m. for Food Sorting
 - . <http://mentorumc.org/stuco-56> for details & RSVP
- **GENERATIONS**, family fellowship group
 - . Saturday, March 26 from 10 a.m. to Noon at Garfield Park for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt
 - . <http://www.mentorumc.org/generations>
- **MOPS & MOMSnext Monthly Meeting**
 - . Fellowship Hall on Friday, March 11 from 9:30 to noon—"Life Giving Lilies"
 - . Monday, March 21 from 9:00-11:00 a.m.; assist With Mentor UMC's food distribution
 - . <http://www.mentorumc.org/mops>

SHOW

- **Sunday School Servant sign up for SPRING**
 - . March, April & May
 - . <http://www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school>
- **Vacation Bible School Servant sign up:**
 - . <http://www.mentorumc.org/children>
- **Children's Choir (1-6 Grade)**
 - . Rehearses Sundays, 10:15-10:45 in Room 112
- **Cherub Choir (3 Yr. Olds/Kindergarten)**
 - . Rehearses Sundays, 10:15-10:45 in Room 104
- **Heifer Project Kick-Off** will be March 27 in Sunday/School; NOISY OFFERING on May 1st

NEWSLETTERS & CHILD REGISTRATION FORMS:

- . <http://www.mentorumc.org/children>

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. If you have any questions, please contact Rich & Katie Elwell at 440 255-6794 or Don & Pat

THROUGH THE YEARS

The Easter season brings with it many wonderful traditions. We all enjoy the food, the sweets, and, of course, the wonderful church services during the season. One tradition we have comes from Victorian England, it is the association of the lily with Easter. The lily, with its growth, dying back, and growth again the following year symbolizes the Resurrection of our Lord. Other flowers, such as tulips, daffodils, and narcissus also bloom each spring. However, it was thought that the lily, with its large, white bloom marks the Easter season perfectly.

Another English tradition that continues to this day is the giving of Maundy Money (sterling silver coins) by the monarch to local elderly men and women for their service to their community and their church. The ceremony takes place on Maundy Thursday at a cathedral or abbey that changes every year. This practice has continued since the 1200s and King John (of Magna Carta fame). The monarch gives out coins to a man and a woman for each year the monarch has lived. For example, this year Queen Elizabeth II will hand out 90 coins each to a man and woman. The tradition is intended to show the humility of the monarch toward the people, mimicking Jesus Christ's acts of humility. The British monarch used to wash the feet of some of the poor, but that practice ended with James II in the seventeenth century.

While flowers can symbolize and monarchs can commemorate, there is only one example necessary at Easter, the love and sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Easter marks the ultimate victory over death. Whatever you plan for Easter Sunday, always remember the great gift He gave us all, that of eternal life. Happy Easter!

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

Don Humphrey
7330 Holly Park Drive
Concord OH 44060-6704

Or email to dhumphrey@ameritech.net

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING . . .

Dear Church Family,

We cannot all be present when disaster strikes. However, on **March 6th**, we will do our part equipping others to go.

I am excited that our congregation will join thousands of others across the U.S. by participating in a Special Sunday of the United Methodist Church. Together, we will help fund the critical disaster-relief efforts of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

For more than 75 years, UMCOR has provided disaster relief, often long after others have left the scene. UMCOR has aided refugees and confronted the crippling challenges of world hunger and poverty. However, UMCOR simply cannot do it without us.

Unlike other benevolent causes, UMCOR does not receive any funds from the regular United Methodist Church budget. Our generous gifts help cover the agency's administrative costs so UMCOR can continue to guarantee that 100 percent of all other donations go toward specific relief projects. Examples are many — rebuilding after the Haiti earthquake, Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, Hurricane Katrina, Superstorm Sandy and many other disasters.

One Great Hour of Sharing allows UMCOR and The United Methodist Church to respond immediately when disaster strikes. Think of UMCOR as our "Go Team" who can be there when help is needed.

Friends, our support is critical. Let's be there for those in need.

Please prayerfully consider how God would have you join us in cheerfully and generously showing God's love around the world ~~with your gifts.~~

— Pastor Kurt



Thank you so much to all who sent cards, visited and brought meals, but most of all your prayers.

MARCH 2016 CLASS OFFERINGS

To register for these classes, email gavery@mentorumc.org

Wonderstruck - Recognize the presence of God in the midst of your routine, and discover peace in knowing you're wildly loved. Led by Carole Ring, **Tuesdays, from 9:30-11:00am, March 29 - May 10 at Mentor UMC.**

NEW OFFERING: The new Greeting Card Class is open to anyone interested in crafts and learning how to make a variety of greeting cards. We'll meet on the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. You will make two greeting cards each time – one for you to keep and one to donate to the Visitation Ministry Team to be shared with our members who are shut-in or in care facilities. Please bring a pencil, ruler and scissors. All other materials will be provided. Cost each session is \$2 to pay for the supplies.

Contact Phyllis Wendorf at 357-8890 with questions. Upcoming dates: March 9, April 13, May 11 – come to one or come to all!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

RUTH-ESTHER CIRCLE MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 8th at 9:30 a.m. We will be finishing up our work of cleaning the candles and candle holders from Christmas Eve services. If you have a small paring knife, please bring it. This is a time of fellowship, work, and refreshments. Please join us!

NEW DAY CIRCLE

We take for granted that the water coming out of our tap is clean and safe . . . But what if we found out that it was toxic? Many of our neighbors near and far face water issues every day. **Join the New Day Circle at 10 a.m. Monday, March 14, in the Wesley Room** as we explore some water related issues in observance of World Water Day. We will take a free will offering for the Flint Water Crisis to help purchase water filtration units and replacement filters for residents affected by unsafe contaminants and lead in their tap water. **“I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.”** All women are welcome to join us!

SERVANT OPPORTUNITIES

PLEASE CONTINUE TO BRING FOOD DONATIONS FOR OUR FOOD PANTRY: Easter distribution is only weeks away. Your items can be left at the Sign Up Center (in the Atrium outside Fellowship Hall) on Sunday mornings or dropped off at the church during the week. Some of our needs are:

peanut butter & jelly
macaroni & cheese
complete box dinners
Spaghetti O's
Stew, chili, ravioli

applesauce
all types of crackers
spaghetti sauce/pasta
instant potatoes
packaged cookies

canned/boxed soups
canned fruit
cereal - hot & cold
canned vegetables
canned tuna, chicken

During the month of MARCH we are asking for additional donations of canned fruit and applesauce.

ALDI GIFT CARDS NEEDED: Mentor UMC Missions and our Food Pantry are in need of \$25 and \$50 Aldi's gift cards for the Easter March 21st food distribution. Last year we helped over 100 families in the Mentor area with holiday food baskets. The gift cards from Aldi's were a part of this ministry.

You can either put funds in the offering plate designated for this ministry or the next time you are at Aldi's purchase a card and drop it in the office or the offering plate. We need these donations by March 1st so that the gift cards can be ordered through the Aldi's corporate office. Thanks for your help with this ministry.

FOOD SORTING FOR EASTER FOOD BOXES will be done on Sunday, March 20th in Fellowship Hall beginning at 12:30 p.m. All are welcome to join us in preparation for the distribution.

Kids Singing for KIDS Concert

Saturday, March 5th — 7:00 p.m.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Mentor Performing Arts Center
6477 Center Street

The Singing Angels
&
Mentor Top 25 Show Choir

Silent Auction Tables open at 6 p.m.
& during intermission

Purchase tickets in the MUM Church Office:
\$15/age 13 to adult; \$8/6-12; 5 & under
free. Tickets will also be available at the door

GENERATIONS FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL



This year, our egg hunt will be held offsite so that more families can celebrate the joy of Christ's resurrection. **The egg hunt will be held at Garfield Park, 7967 Mentor Avenue, on Saturday, March 26th. Games will begin at 10 a.m. and the egg hunt will be held at 10:30 a.m. — rain or shine!**

We will have snacks, activities, including the popular egg drop competition, and lots of egg hunting fun, with over 3000 eggs! No need to bring eggs or a brunch dish this year as food and eggs will be provided. But we do need you to bring friends and family.

As we are looking forward to increasing the size and reach of this event, we are asking for your help. Please bring a small wrapped candy to fill the eggs. Candy can be dropped off at the Sign-Up Center (outside Fellowship Hall) or left in the Church Office during the week. Please turn in candy by March 13th so we have time to stuff the



UPDATE . . .

The Commission on Missions wants to thank the congregation for their generosity over the last months. First, Hannah's Home has thanked us as Mentor UMC raised \$1271.99 through the Baby Bottle Collection. The Christmas offering totaled \$10,139. Therefore, \$3379.66 was sent to UMCOR Advance #3022144 Global Refugee/Migration and also to McCurdy Ministries. Project Hope and Lake County Community Network each received \$1689.84.

Our Christmas Giving Tree raised \$90 for Birthright, \$190 for Camphor Mission, \$191 for Forbes House, \$16 plus a bus pass and two McDonald's gift cards for Project Hope, \$170 for Royal Family Kids Camp, and \$170 for S.O.A.P. (Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution). Additionally, gifts were provided for 23 families from Broadmoor and 87 families from the Mentor Schools. In total, 245 children received Christmas gifts donated by our congregation. And finally, 98 families received food for the Christmas holiday. Thank you to everyone!



SERVANT OPPORTUNITY . . .

SAVE THE DATE! CHANGE THE WORLD DAY IS MAY 14th

Have you ever wondered what it would take to bring about a difference in this world? To change things that need changing to something better? Well, all it takes is just one thing: YOU! Your prayers, your talents, your ideas, your time, can all have a significant impact! So, here's your mission: get involved! "How?" you may ask . . . you tell us. This year our focus for "Change the World" is local missions. For us, local is Lake County.

Share with us ideas you may have or be willing to lead on that day or weekend; we are looking for local community projects and outreach. If you are willing to lead an event (no matter how big or small), the deadline is March 7th to turn in your Event Planning Form. Get your thinking caps on!

A copy of the Event Planning Form to submit your ideas and leadership for events can be found at the Sign-Up Center in the Atrium (outside Fellowship Hall), in the Church Office or on the church website. Sign up to participate in the events will start April 1st, so be on the lookout for those!

If you have any questions about this, please contact Lara Proegler at lproegler@hotmail.com or call/text 440-487-7607.

"Everyone can be great because everyone can serve. You don't have to have a college

THE BIG EVENT!!

Sunday, March 13th

This year's theme is

SNL

SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE

**Come and enjoy a great evening of fun,
fellowship, food, silent auction, and
entertainment – our very own Charter Members!**

- > Doors open at 5 p.m.
- > A great Pasta Dinner prepared by Jim Post will be served at 5:30 p.m.
- > Distribution of Silent Auction items begins at 7:30 p.m.
(The evening ends around 8:00 p.m.)

**Tickets are available at the Sign-Up Center
(in the Atrium outside Fellowship Hall), a YSP participant or the Church Office.
\$10 for adults, \$5 for kids 4-12 years. Children 3 and under are FREE.**

This is a great way to support our 2016 Youth Service Project (YSP). We will be returning to Spirit Journey, in support of Native American Youth, in Newport, Michigan to build additional cabins at the camp. We will leave MUMC June 24th and return July 2nd.

**DO YOU HAVE AN ITEM OR SERVICE YOU CAN DONATE TO THE BIG EVENT AUCTION
BY MARCH 7th? Please drop off in the Church Office on Sunday morning, or during
the week indicating it is for The Big Event. You can also email Phyllis Hanson at
pmehanson@gmail.com or call 440-840-4927.**



PRESALE FOR ANNUALS IN FLATS & POTS

Order forms will be available at the
Sign-Up Center during the month of April

**PLANT SALE . . .
MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND
May 6—7—8 MUMC East Front Parking Lot**

Friday 12 p.m.—7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m.—7 p.m. & Sunday Morning
Hanging Baskets—Hanging Bags—Planters

Proceeds from the sale support the 2016 Youth Service
Project (YSP) trip to Northport, Michigan.

MORE THAN A



MEAL

Free Community Dinner

Our next meal is March 26th at 5:30 p.m. We are looking for additional families or groups to host several open months in 2016. Call Lori Post at 440-477-6472 if you are interested or have questions.

Extra hands are always appreciated for set-up, starting at 4 p.m. through clean-up, which is usually around 7 p.m. Stop in, lend a hand, eat and visit with some of

Sunday, March 13

Easter Cantata
9:00 & 11:00 a.m.—Sanctuary

Sunday, March 20

Palm Sunday
Children's Processional
With Palms



Maundy Thursday
March 24 — 7:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Good Friday
March 25 — 7:30 p.m.
Sanctuary



Easter Celebration
Sunday, March 27

Sunrise Service
7 a.m. — Sanctuary

Worship Service
9 a.m. & 11 a.m. — Sanctuary

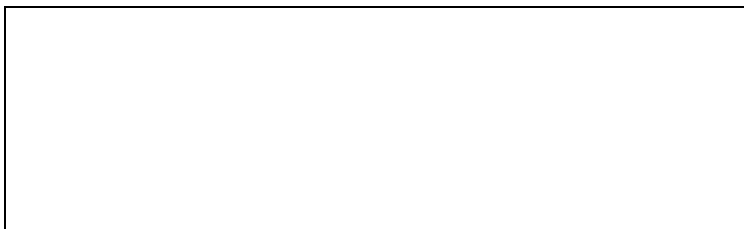
iConnect Service
9 a.m. & 11 a.m. — Fellowship Hall

9 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Childcare—Babies & Toddlers

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

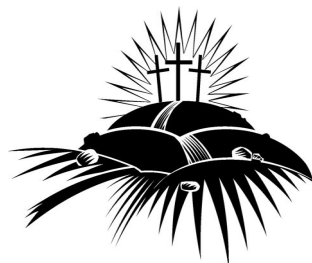
FAMILY WORSHIP

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

Lenten Cantata

Sunday, March 13th

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary



“Come Walk with Me”
Through the Passion and Resurrection of Christ

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

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

STEEPLETALK
Deadline
For APRIL Issue
March 7th



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