

STEEPLETALK

February 2017



*From the
Pastor*



"Dogged by Relationships"

Shoan Sibary has confessed to the DAILY MAIL, "I get rid of dogs as soon as they stop being cute puppies." Indeed, she has given away four dogs in four years.

She writes:

I'm a serial dogamist. In the early stages of the relationship I'm head over heels. I attend all the puppy classes. I don't even begrudge picking up dog poo. There's nothing I wouldn't do for my new canine companion. But the moment things get complicated and they develop a problem, I don't covet a dog-free existence like any other sane person might. Instead, I start wondering if there is another, more suitable dog out there. Maybe one that is less bouncy, less barky, less inclined to molt everywhere. And so the new search begins and I cannot rest until I have found a replacement puppy to lie adoringly at my feet.

She uses a term found on the social network Facebook. You can check your relationship status, e.g. single, or in a relationship, or engaged, or married, or in a civil union, or divorced, or widowed. But one status you can't choose is "It's complicated."

Whether in marriage, out of marriage, at work, in the family, or wherever you interact with others, relationships can be complicated."

So often our relationships are like a puppy waiting to turn into a real dog. We begin with excitement and optimism, but then it becomes complex. It can be fun and interesting and invigorating but then reality sets in. Everybody loves the puppy stage, but every puppy eventually becomes a real dog.

Consider how...

- During dating there may be "puppy love," but it can turn into "dog days" of clashing.
- Sibling rivalry and jealousy kick in.
- Innocent children turn into teenagers, and teenagers turn into independent college students.
- The new supervisor at work is a delight until they make changes that are difficult.
- Infatuation gives way to irritation.

How do we deal with complicated relationships? Well, it starts, and ends with love—real love, committed love. Love that fades with effort is puppy love. Love that fulfills its obligations is real love.

"Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good." (Romans 12:9, NLT)

To enjoy long-term committed relationships we must accept the long-term responsibilities that come with them.

During the first three Sundays of February we'll be teaching around the theme of relationships. Unless you live alone in a cave, you have relationships, and they can be complicated. We'll see what the Bible teaches us about relationships and

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SANCTUARY
Rooted in Tradition, Growing in Christ



THROUGH THE YEARS

While the early Methodist movement in the United States was directed by English speaking leaders, there is a strong tradition of German speaking ones who helped develop the church we know today as the United Methodist Church.

One such person is Philip Otterbein. He was born in Dillenburg, Germany in 1726 and attended a German Reformed Church seminary and was ordained in 1749. Otterbein left for America in 1752 and settled in Pennsylvania. Though a German Reformed minister, Otterbein began teaching classes in 1773 in the Wesleyan tradition. He moved to Baltimore, Maryland in 1774 to pastor a new church. The day he began this new assignment, he met Francis Asbury and the two remained friends for the rest of their lives. When Asbury was ordained Methodist Bishop in 1784, he asked Otterbein to be one of four clergy to lay hands on him on December 27, 1784. This is the date that the Methodist Episcopal Church was officially organized.

In 1767 or 1768, Otterbein attended a worship service at Long's Barn near Lancaster, Pennsylvania. There he heard Martin Boehm, a Mennonite, preach. After the service Otterbein told Boehm "Wir sind Bruder" which translates to We are Brothers. Boehm was a bishop in the Mennonite faith but felt he needed a more deepening experience. He was drawn to Otterbein and the Methodist movement. He was eventually excommunicated from the Mennonite faith for being too evangelical. Unlike Otterbein, Boehm was born in the U.S. in 1725.

Eventually Otterbein and Boehm formed a separate Protestant denomination. The first meeting took place in 1798 at Otterbein's church in Baltimore. Two years later an organizational conference was held. The new denomination was called the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. They adopted a German translation of the Methodist Episcopal book of discipline.

Boehm died in 1812 and Otterbein in 1813. The two men had sown the seeds of a new church which would later, through merger, become part of the United Methodist Church. Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio is named for Philip Otterbein.

One last interesting note, on June 27, 2016, the Mennonite faith restored Boehm's credentials and made him a Bishop Emeritus at Boehm's Chapel near Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The Mennonites wanted to correct the "small thinking" of their leaders at the time of his excommunication.

Next month, we will discuss another German speaker, Jacob Albright, who was instrumental in the formation of the United Methodist Church.

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



ASBURY FELLOWSHIP Sponsored

VALENTINE DINNER & Performance by Mentor's TOP 25
Saturday, February 11th in Fellowship Hall

Social Hour with appetizers—5:30 p.m.
Dinner at 6:00 p.m. & TOP 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 per person and are available at the Sign-Up Center (Atrium outside Fellowship Hall) on Sunday mornings. Choices for dinner are Basil Encrusted Prime Rib, Salmon Encroute, Pasta Primavera (meatless). Complete menu can be seen at the Sign-Up Center.

All church members and friends are invited. If you have questions or need to make reservations by



KNOW

- **Sunday School**
 - Children 0-4 years old—Early Childhood Area
 - K-2nd Grade—Room 107
 - 3rd-4th Grade—Room 103
 - 5th-6th Grade—Room 104
 - Family Worship is **FIRST** Sunday of the month & K-6th graders remain in worship with families
 - <http://www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school>

GROW

- **StuCo 56**, 5th & 6th grade youth group
 - **Wednesday, February 1** from 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Making dinner for Project Hope
 - **Sunday, February 5**—Souper Bowl of Caring
 - **Sunday, February 12** from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
 - **Sunday, February 26** from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
MEET at Busy Bees Pottery
 - <http://mentorumc.org/stuco-56> for details
- **MOPS & MOMSnext Monthly Meeting**
 - Fellowship Hall on **Friday, February 10**
from 9:30 to noon—Meeting
 - **Friday, February 24** from 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Discussion Groups
 - <http://www.mentorumc.org/mops>

SHOW

- **Souper Bowl of Caring—Sunday, February 5**
 - StuCo 56 kids will be holding soup pots for your donations that will go directly to Project Hope for the Homeless in Painesville
- **MOPS & MOMSnext Annual**
 - **Malley's Easter Candy Fundraiser**
Order will be taken after worship
February 12—March 12
- **Children's Choir (1-6 Grade)**
 - Rehearses Sundays, 10:15-10:45 in Room 112
- **Cherub Choir (3 Yr. Olds/Kindergarten)**
 - Rehearses Sundays, 10:15-10:35 in Room 104
- **Sunday School Servant sign up for SPRING**
 - <http://www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school>

NEWSLETTERS & CHILD REGISTRATION FORMS:

• <http://www.mentorumc.org/children>



MUMC LIBRARY . . .

We have Pray & Play Story Time on Thursday mornings from 9:00-9:30 a.m. for preschoolers age 1 and up.

There are stories, songs, finger plays and, of course,

Are you a confirmed member of Mentor UMC or know someone who is that will be attending college in the Fall of 2017? If so, Mentor UMC is once again offering scholarships to students in the high school graduating class of 2017, as well as seminary students and students that are currently enrolled in college and will continue on in the Fall of 2017.

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 4 p.m. on Friday, April 7th.



**FINANCES THROUGH
DECEMBER 31, 2016**

Receipts	\$1,015,515.	
Disbursements		957,410.
Surplus		58,105.

Electronic giving is available online at www.mentorumc.org/onlinegiving.

Text your giving — text 440-210-9089 with the Amount you would like to contribute, complete the Registration, and receive verification by text & email.

We hope you find these options convenient. Contact Teresa Simons at 255-3496, ext. 11, if you have any questions or need assistance.

2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES: Stop at the tables set-up in the Arcade or just outside Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning (hallway between the Narthex and Chapel) or drop by the church during the week to pick up your envelopes.



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 Humphrey at 440 354-3833. Why not join us on February 21st.



Thank you so much for the cards sent to me during the holidays. I truly appreciate your thoughts and prayers during my recent illness.

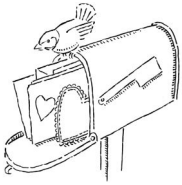
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



JOIN US ON THE PATH (Women's Retreat)
Saturday, March 4th - Sunday, March 5th
The Hilton Garden Inn, Twinsburg

Relax, reflect and connect. Join us as author Carole Hamm leads us in a "Springtime of the Soul" experience of personal discovery designed to awaken and deepen our faith. **Registration forms are available at the Sign-Up Center on Sunday mornings, online, or in the Church Office.** Overnight cost with meals ranges from \$110-\$175 (financial assistance may be available). This retreat is open to all women of the church, friends, and family.

Registration forms are available at the Sign-Up Area (in the Atrium outside Fellowship Hall) Sunday mornings, online, or in the Church Office. Registration deadline: February 8th with balance due February 21st. Overnight cost with four meals ranges from \$110-\$175. (A limited amount of financial assistance is available on a first come, first served basis.)



*Valentine Boxes for
Our College Students*

The UMW is collecting monetary donations to purchase items for the Valentine boxes (we will purchase the items so all the boxes are identical). You can place your donation in the offering plate on Sunday mornings (be sure to note "Valentines") or leave it in the Church Office. The last Sunday for donations will be February 5th.

PARENTS: Please email your college students address to Gayle at gavery@mentorumc.org or drop in the offering plate or leave in the Church Office.

ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME TO HELP PACK BOXES on Monday, February 6th at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

RUTH-ESTHER CIRCLE MEETING:

Our next meeting is scheduled for February 14th at 9:30 a.m. We will be cleaning and putting away the candle holders from the Christmas Eve services. If you have a small paring knife, please bring it with you. This is a time of fellowship, work, and refreshments. Please join us!

MISSION MINISTRIES

NEW 3Cs MEDICAL MISSION UVMIM TRIP being planned: August 1-15, Ganta Hospital, Liberia

Looking for current medical professionals or young adults looking to enter the mission field to work in ministry at the Ganta Hospital in Liberia. Current passport and yellow fever shot required. Total cost for air travel and in-country expenses \$3,000.

Informational meeting on Sunday, February 12th at North Canton Faith at 2:00 p.m. If you would like more information, contact Kathy Dickriede at kdickriede@gmail.com or Ben Lewis, lewisbw@mountunion.edu. Please share this information with others that you think might be interested.

WE HAVE MANY WAYS TO SERVE & SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST IN OUR COMMUNITY . . .

We have a number of ongoing mission opportunities that are always looking to grow:

- ◇ **More Than A Meal**—Served in Fellowship Hall on the last Saturday of each month. This ministry is seeking servants for the monthly meals. The meal is served at 5:30 p.m.
- ◇ First Wednesday of each month a meal is prepared and taken to **Project Hope for the Homeless** in Painesville. These meals are prepared and delivered to the shelter. Project Hope takes care of serving the meal.
- ◇ **School Partnership Program**—This is a very exciting ministry where we partner with Catalyst Ministries and serve in the Painesville Elementary Schools each week. Two volunteers needed for two hours one day a week and we work with the classroom teacher on whatever the needs are in the classroom. This is a great way to get to know the staff and kids. We also help provide for the needs of that classroom.



**Is God calling YOU to be a part of
ROYAL FAMILY KIDS CAMP — June 4-9, 2017?**

Royal Family Kids Camp is a week long camp for traumatized children ages 7 through 11. Most of the children are Lake County residents. Many are in foster care because of abuse or neglect. At camp, the kids enjoy numerous activities including swimming, hiking, basketball, archery, campfires, games, etc. They attend chapel twice a day for Bible study, a puppet show and object lesson that reinforces the theme of the week. The most important part of Camp is the experience of Christ's love the kids receive through the kindness and compassion of RFK volunteers. Relationships are made at camp that are transformational for the kids. Then after camp, the kids are invited to participate in a mentoring and club program that meets throughout the school year allowing an on-going connection with the kids. (Volunteering for Camp does not require a commitment to volunteer at Club.)

This year's Royal Family Kids Camp will be held Sunday through Friday, June 4-9. If you are interested in serving at Camp, please pick-up an application at the Sign-In Center (Atrium outside Fellowship Hall). There will be all-day training held on Saturday, April 22nd. Please contact Pastor Bev Wrobel for more information, blwrobel@mentorumc.org or 440-255-3496, etc. 14 or visit the national website at royalfamilykids.org. Our local RFK #271 is offered through Willoughby Hills UMC.

PLEASE NTOE: Applications need to be turned in by FEBRUARY 28th, as all volunteers must be interviewed, background checked, and fingerprinted.

The Singing Angels in Concert — Friday, March 31st

Save the date! Royal Family "KIDS SINGING FOR KIDS" Concert

Mentor UMC will host this year's Annual Fundraiser for Royal Family Kids Camp. The concert will again feature the renowned SINGING ANGELS of Northeast Ohio. Tickets will be available in the Church Office in February.

MUMC PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

preschool registration



Registration is open for the 2017-2018 school year. Call 255-3496, ext. 23, to register or email us at mumpreschool@mentorumc.org. You can also visit our website at mentorumc.org/preschool to see all of the exciting things we have to offer. Hurry! Spots are filling up fast and registration is now open to the community.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

"NOT IN MY BACKYARD?!"

A Comprehensive Look at Opiate & Heroin Abuse in Our Neighborhood

St. John Vianney Wellness Ministry in cooperation with Lake County ADAMHS Board, Lake County Health District, Lake County Narcotics Task Force & Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers will present "Not in My Backyard?!" on **FEBRUARY 16TH**

from 8:30 the St. Vianney Center, Bellflow-Mentor. must for of teens, adults one cerned the drug ic. request-



Please join us for the kick-off of **TRANSFORMATION LAKE COUNTY**

This is a unique opportunity to show tender love and care by helping neighbors draw closer to the Lord

Learn how you can get involved: 9a-12p | Feb. 18 25 Freedom Rd. | Painesville, OH Project Hope for the Homeless

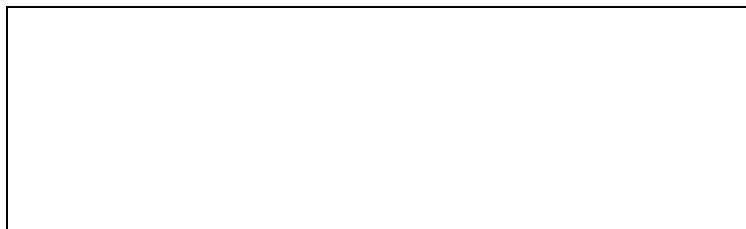
For more information: development@projecthopeonline.org

7:00 to p.m. in John Social 7575 er Road, This is a parents young and any-con-about epidem-RSVP ed but

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 2016 & toilet trained)
Early Childhood Check-In

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9 & 11 a.m.
K—2nd Grade — Room 105
3rd-4th Grade — Room 103;
5th—6th Grade — Room 104

FAMILY WORSHIP

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



“THE JOURNEY” CONTINUES . . .

**New Journey groups are
starting and ongoing groups are
welcoming new members!**

Journey groups are Mentor UMC’s long-term small groups, available on many different days and at many different times of the day, which meet to encourage each other in our faith and help us grow on our journey toward Christ-centered discipleship.

If you would be interested in joining a group, please contact Pastor Quincy: qwheeler@mentorumc.org.



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

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

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

**STEEPLETALK
Deadline
For MARCH Issue
February 6th**

LOOKING AHEAD...



Ash Wednesday
 March 1
 Chancel Choir Cantata
 April 2
 Palm Sunday
 April 9
 Maundy Thursday
 April 13
 Good Friday
 April 14
 EASTER Celebration
 April 16

Painesville United Methodist Church presents ...

Western Reserve Brass Band
 Sunday, February 12th at 4:00 p.m.
 71 North Park Place—Painesville

Western Reserve Brass Band presents a dynamic concert, taking the vibrant brass band sound and a wide variety of repertoire, to present a wonderful afternoon concert. The band presents quality music at the highest possible level of performance with a passion and energy which is apparent to the audience. Formed in 1997 and under the direction of Dr. Keith M. Wilkinson, this combination of brass and percussion is sure to keep your attention. They have performed in concert venues such as The Amphitheater, Chautauqua Institution, Hoover Auditorium, Lakesie and Severance Hall, Cleveland.

There is no charge for admission. A free-will offering will



Order Your
Easter Flowers

TIME TO PLACE YOUR EASTER FLOWER ORDER

This year we are offering lilies, tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and hydrangeas. The prices are as follows:

Tulip, Daffodil or Lily	\$8
Hyacinth	\$8
Hydrangea	\$10

Please send your order along with your check to The Altar Guild, c/o Mentor United Methodist Church, 8600 Mentor Avenue, Mentor OH 44060.

The Altar Guild will also have a table set up at the Sign-Up Center (Atrium outside Fellowship Hall) on Sunday, March 12, 19 & 26 with forms to order plants. **The last day to order will be March 26th** so we can place our order and they can be delivered for Easter.

Your plants may be picked up after the 11 a.m. service on Easter morning.

Please indicate how many you want:

___ Tulip ___ Lily ___ Daffodil ___ Hyacinth ___ Hydrangea

Total \$ _____

(PLEASE PRINT NAMES)

From _____

In memory of _____

In appreciation of _____