UMCOR Sunday

On March 11, 2018, we will join with thousands of other congregations in receiving a special offering to support the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

When our congregation participates in UMCOR Sunday, we help cover the operating budget of UMCOR. Checks may be made out to MUMC and noted “UMCOR Sunday”.

Your support makes it possible for UMCOR to direct 100 percent of all other contributions to those facing disasters. Our gifts enable UMCOR to respond in times of crisis.

UMCOR is present with heartfelt prayers, empathy, monetary donations and volunteering spirits after disaster strikes. We saw that over and over in 2017 when hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria battered Texas, Louisiana, Florida and Puerto Rico, and again when mudslides swept through Sierra Leone.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief is there for the long haul, thanks to your generosity. UMCOR is still present in Louisiana and West Virginia more than a year after floods devastated parts of those states. And that is just one example of UMCOR’s commitment to helping survivors get back on their feet.

The work of UMCOR also goes beyond disaster relief. As millions of refugees and migrants seek safety and opportunity, UMCOR is present. All over the world, UMCOR is there, providing compassion and hope to those who desperately need it.
From the Pastor

“But our citizenship is in heaven.” Philippians 3:20a

It wasn’t near the record low of -7° set in 1981, but the temperature was a chilly single digit when we backed out of the driveway at 6:45 AM on January 4 to begin our journey to downtown Cleveland. Six of us were huddled together with the destination of the Carl B. Stokes U.S. Federal Courthouse. We walked into the courthouse around 7:30 and passed through metal detectors in route to the naturalization ceremony. The star of the day was our Hungarian daughter-in-law, ready to be sworn in as a US citizen. Along for support were husband, two sons, and we the in-laws. This was a big deal considering the months and months of bureaucratic logistics, quite a sum of money, and the interview. I did not know what to expect with the ceremony, other than short and sweet.

We came into a courtroom with around 50 others ready to take the oath, along with support persons. It was a sight to behold! At the front of the courtroom was a large painting of George Washington, signing the Constitution. Nearly every seat was filled with persons dressed in their finest, and beaming with excitement. After ninety minutes of gathering and further processing, at 9:00 all rose as a United States District Judge entered the chambers. Following some introductions, the judge gave a talk beginning with a statement of the importance of this decision to become a US citizen. He stressed how important immigrants have been to our nation. He expected the same from the group assembled and thanked them for coming through this legal process. It was time for the oath, and with raised right hands 50 some people agreed to:

“I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform noncombatant service in the Armed Forces of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by the law; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; so help me God.”

I couldn’t help but entertain some thoughts and emotions. First, I was very proud of our daughter-in-law. Secondly, I had an overwhelming sense of awe for my ancestors who left family and homes to come to America. Because of them, I simply had to be born to be a citizen. Third, I was taken back by the excitement and buzz—being a US citizen is important!

Finally, I thought of this verse from Philippians 3:20, that as a Christian, while proud to be an American, ultimately my citizenship is in heaven. We’re not born Christians, we make that decision, a decision to receive Jesus as Savior and Lord. Becoming a citizen of heaven is the biggest decision we ever make, eternity weighs in the balance. The danger of Christianity is that we can, in the words of German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, make this grace cheap. This is to claim the gifts of Christianity without repentance. So I close with these merged values and challenges:

“I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any sin; that I will support and defend the Christian faith; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to Jesus; that I will serve God and neighbor; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; so help me God.”

-Pastor Kurt

Prayer Focus - Nancy Landerholm
Will the REAL Jesus stand out!!

Commit to reading John 13-21 during this month. Ask the Holy Spirit to help the REAL Jesus to stand out to you as you read. Earnestly seek to know the REAL Jesus in a deeper way, or possibly for the first time.
Children and Family Ministries

www.mentorumc.org/children
www.mentorumc.org/sunday-school

MOPS & MOMSnexxt Meetings
March 9, 9 AM to 12 PM – Meeting in Fellowship Hall
March 23, 9 AM to 12 PM – Small Groups in Adams Parlor/Conference Room
www.mentorumc.org/mops

StuCo 56, 5th & 6th grade youth group
March 18 6:00-8:00 PM – Meeting
April 8, 12 PM to 6:45 PM – Laser Tag with Occupy (deadline to PAY is April 4 NO EXCEPTIONS) LIMITED to 32 KIDS TOTAL!
www.mentorumc.org/stuco-56

Parents Morning Out
Mondays 10 AM to noon, parents may have a morning to themselves! See the website at www.mentorumc.org/parents-morning-out for cost and registration details.

Children’s Choir & Cherub Choir
Children’s Choir (1-6 Gr) rehearses 10:15-10:45 in Room 112
Cherub Choir (3 YO-K) rehearses 10:15-10:35 in Room 104

Life Changers are needed for SPRING quarter
Why not sign up to help with our Sunday children’s programs? Be a “Life Changer” as an adult or youth who helps children change their lives through the transformative grace of Jesus!

Vacation Bible School, June 18-22 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM See Tammy Palermo for details.

Easter Egg Hunt
Come and celebrate Easter by hunting eggs, eating snacks and playing games. Kids ages 8 and up are invited to compete in an egg drop contest!

Activities begin at 10am, Egg hunt at 10:30.
Rain or shine!
Saturday, March 31, 10 AM
Garfield Park, Mentor
RSVP TPalermo@mentorumc.org

YSP BIG EVENT “The Tonight Snow”
On March 11th, YSP will be hosting their annual big event fundraiser in preparation for YSP trip to Johns Island, South Carolina.
Doors will open at 5pm, dinner will start at 5:15. We will have a live auction, silent auction, pasta dinner, and live entertainment from the YSP team and others! You will not want to miss this night.
Tickets will go on sale between services and will be; 0-3 years - free
3-11 - $5
12 & up - $10
We are always so thankful for the support of this great church. If you would like to donate a basket or live auction item, please contact Toby Mattern, TMattern@mentorumc.org.

Giving Tree 2017
Thank you to everyone that took a child’s name and shopped for them, donated toys, gift cards or donated your time this year. We had another successful year with 102 families; 268 children blessed with gifts this year! Also, several charities were included on the tree: Ohio Guidestone $110 Forbes House $503 Camphor VIM $95 Salvation Army $215
Thank you, Mentor UMC, for your generous and loving spirit.

More Than a Meal
We need your help for June 30, August 25, September 29, October 27 and November 24. During your journey in 2018, when will you be the hands, the feet, the smile of Jesus Christ? This is a great opportunity for Journey groups, Committees, and families to give back.
Groups of 4 or more individuals are needed to sponsor a meal, plan and prepare a meal, serve during the dinner, visit with our guests or help with set up and clean up.
For more information you may call or text Jim Post at 440-477-6130. Meals are the last Saturday of every month.
News from Commission on Missions

The new year is upon us and Missions Commission has some new and exciting ideas for ways that we can serve and share the love of Christ in our community and to those in need. We also have some on-going commitments where we need your help.

• MUMC has committed with Lake Geauga Habitat for Humanity to be one of 12 local churches participating in an Apostle Build project. We will be providing funds and volunteer manpower to build a home in Painesville during 2018. The land has been purchased and the deserving family, a single mom with a six-year-old child, selected. We will be bringing you updates once the ground is broken.

• We have committed to assist the Painesville Hispanic Alliance Church provide classes in English as a Second Language. Classes started this past fall at the YMCA and are averaging twenty people a week. The plan is to expand the program, meeting twice a week in a larger space, which will allow the group to incorporate Bible study and children’s programs.

• Project Hope is a very busy shelter for the homeless, the only one in Lake County. MUMC provides a dinner only once a month on the first Wednesday of every month for 50 individuals at the shelter. It is one small way that we can be Christ’s hands, providing a meal to those less fortunate than we are. Please do not be overwhelmed by the number 50. You do not need to provide the whole meal. Perhaps you would like to donate a salad, or a casserole or a meatloaf, or a dessert. Maybe you just want to help cook a meal with food that others have purchased. If you are not a cook, you could pay for a catered meal, or deliver the meal. We do not serve the meal, but we deliver it to the shelter in Painesville by 6:45 PM ready to be served. There are many small ways to assist with this ministry. Please contact Nancy Leyden who coordinates this service. Leave her a message at 440-255-1567 or nancyleyden@att.net.

• More Than A Meal is another on-going opportunity to put your faith into action. Journey groups, committees, and families can sponsor a meal on the last Saturday of every month. Individuals can volunteer to be a part of planning, preparing or serving the dinner; we prepare food for 100. Maybe you prefer to set up tables or clean up after folks have eaten. If your gift is hospitality, come and visit with our guests; a very important part of this ministry is MORE than the food. Call or text Jim Post at 440-477-6130 to volunteer or get more information.

CALENDAR
Regularly Scheduled Weekly March Meetings:
These meetings are listed here instead of the calendar. Contact your group leader for any time changes. Please see other events on the calendar page.

Sunday:
09:00 AM Confirmation Class
10:15 AM Journey Group - Petrowski
10:15 AM Children’s Choir Rehearsal
10:15 AM Cherub Choir Rehearsal
05:00 PM Landerholm Journey group, except 12:30 PM March 11
07:00 PM Journey Group - Nagle

Monday:
10:00 AM Parents’ Morning Out
10:00 AM Centenary Bible Study - Carr
06:30 PM DivorceCare
07:00 PM Men’s Group Meeting

Tuesday:
06:30 AM Men’s Journey Group
09:30 AM Journey Group - Palermo
09:30 AM Journey Group - Ring
07:00 PM Emmaus/Journey Group
07:00 PM Canticle Bells
07:00 PM Journey Group - Imbler
07:00 PM Boy Scout #280

Wednesday:
09:00 AM Journey Group - Nancy Landerholm
10:00 AM Journey Group - Wednesday Morning Way
01:00 PM Knitting Group
01:00 PM GriefShare
07:00 PM Journey Group

Thursday:
10:00 AM Overeaters Anonymous
05:30 PM Fitness Journey Group - Mike Hope
06:45 PM Charter Members
07:00 PM Journey Group - S.A.L.T.
07:00 PM Disciple II, except for March 29
07:45 PM Chancel Choir

Friday:
01:00 Journey Group - Fournier / Korenko

Saturday:
08:00 AM iConnect Rehearsal
**Royal Family Kids**

DO YOU HAVE A HEART TO HELP HURTING KIDS?

Royal Family Kids’ Camps, Inc. (RFKC, Inc.) is a network of Christian camps, children’s clubs, and child mentoring for abused, abandoned and neglected children in the foster care system. RFK was founded in 1985 by Wayne and Diane Tesch. Camps are held worldwide to help bring love and hope to traumatized children.

If you feel called to serve on the upcoming Camp experience for children of Lake County, please pick up an application at the Information Table or contact Pastor Bev Wrobel at 255-3496 x106 or blwrobel@mentorumc.org. New staff are interviewed in March. Training is in April, and Camp will be held June 3-8. To learn more visit: www.rfk.org or willoughbyhillsroyalfamilykids.org

**Kids Singing for KIDS Concert, Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction**

Featuring THE SINGING ANGELS, APRIL 6, 2018

Support Royal Family Kids Camp by attending the pasta dinner (served 5:00-6:30 by donation) and The Singing Angels in concert at 7:00. Tickets are $10 for 13 and over, $5 for 6-12 and children 5 and under are free. There will also be a silent auction. Advance sale tickets can be purchased in the office. You can support this year’s Camp by attending the dinner and/or the concert.

**Food Pantry - Easter Food Baskets**

MUMC Food Pantry Volunteers are needed to sort food donations, prepare food boxes and bags, and distribute food to identified families. This all takes place here at MUMC!

Sunday, March 11: Grocery bags for donations distributed after service

Sunday, March 18: Grocery bags collected

Monday, March 19: Donations sorted and repacked 9-1 PM

Monday, March 19: Distribution 4-8 PM

Tuesday, March 20: Distribution 12 noon to 2 PM

If you can help contact Mike Cosmo at m.cosmo@sbcglobal.net. Monetary donations for Aldi gift cards can be given to the office. Please note on your check “Easter Food Baskets”.

**Mentor UMC Scholarship for Post Secondary Education**

Deadline: April 6, 2018 4PM

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to offer Mentor UMC scholarships for both vocational and academic post secondary pursuits.

THIS YEAR: Scholarships will be awarded not only to high school graduating seniors in 2018, current undergraduate college students, and seminary students, but also to current vocational school students.

Students who are in the present senior high school class, vocational school students, college students, and seminary students are eligible to apply. As in past years, the student applying must be a member of Mentor United Methodist Church (as of April 1, 2017) and meet all other eligibility requirements.

If you were confirmed, you are a member. If you took the BASICS classes and joined the church as an older student, you are a member. For questions about your membership, please contact the church office at (440) 255-3496.

This application is designed to be completed online and then printed. You are to mail or deliver this along with your essay and other required documents to the scholarship committee.

All information is saved to an account and password that you set up and does not need to be completed in one session. Questions? Please contact Laurie Babcock, MUMC Scholarship Chairperson at Scholarship@mentorumc.org.

**SAVE THE DATE! Rise Against Hunger - May 19**

MUMC will be sponsoring a meal-packaging event on Saturday May 19. We are planning to package 20,088 meals for Rise Against Hunger (formerly known as Stop Hunger Now). Watch for more information!

**Ruth Naomi Circle**

The March meeting will be a service project continuing to clean the Christmas candle holders. All ladies are welcome!

March 8, 9:30 AM Fellowship Hall

If the Mentor Schools have canceled school, the meeting will be canceled.

Contact Georgeanna Allen for more information at (440) 255-5515.
Through The Years -

This historical year for Mentor United Methodist Church gives us reason to reflect on the history, not only of our church, but of our faith itself. As we approach Easter, there is some interesting historical information about this most important day in the Christian faith. It goes without saying that Easter is the cornerstone of our faith. The resurrection of Jesus Christ gave us victory over sin and death.

While our traditions of celebrating Easter are cherished and very old, there were days in early church history when this wasn't the case. One of the biggest issues facing early Christians, in the first two centuries, about Easter was when to celebrate it. Some of the early Christian leaders from the churches in Asia, primarily the Middle East, felt that Easter should be celebrated at the same time as Passover. However, Passover is observed on the fourteenth day of the Jewish month of Nisan, the first month in the Jewish calendar. This presented a problem, as the date can fall on any day of the week. The majority of church elders wanted Easter to always be on a Sunday, the day of Christ's resurrection. This led to numerous conferences and councils and eventually, in the second century A.D., it was agreed upon to observe Easter on Sunday.

But which Sunday? This was a question that caused considerable debate. Indeed, there were some early churches who actually celebrated Easter every Sunday! Finally, the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D. established Easter as the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. They recognized the equinox as March 21. This established the range of dates for Easter to fall anywhere from March 22 to April 25. It sounds very confusing but to make matters more confusing, the Eastern Orthodox Christians continue to calculate their date base on the Julian calendar, not the Gregorian calendar that is used in the West. They also add, that it must fall after Passover. Therefore, most years the two Easter celebrations are on different Sundays.

While these are all interesting historical facts, the one thing we must always remember is that Easter commemorates our Lord's victory for us over the forces of evil and death. And while we don't celebrate Easter every Sunday formally as some early Christians did, isn't that what we really do by attending church every week and giving thanks to Jesus Christ for our salvation? Happy Easter! He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Do you have any MUMC history you would like to share with the congregation? Please send it to:
   Don Humphrey
   7330 Holly Park Dr.
   Concord, Ohio 44060-6704 or e-mail to: dhumphrey@ameritech.net

GEM Memorial Highlight
In December of 2017 the church received a generous memorial gift in memory of Robert F. and Mabel K. Eaton. They were long term members who joined the church in the 1940’s and passed away in 1999 and 2012 respectively.

They were active in the life and ministry of the church where Mabel taught Sunday school and served as the church secretary. Their daughter Peg has warm memories of singing in the Cherub Choir. The family appreciated the rich music program and helped inspire Peg to serve her church today as organist and pianist. For that reason the memorial gift was directed to the church music ministry where it has been put to use for a timely and needed update.

This is just one or many examples where gifts, memorials and endowments enrich and bless the ministry of Mentor United Methodist Church.

The GEM Committee
EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

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

Tulip, Daffodil, Lily, Hyacinth $8

Please make your check to MUMC or Mentor United Methodist Church.
Checks and forms can be mailed 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, February 18th, 25th, March 4th and 11th with forms to order plants. The last day to order will be March 12th, 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 ($8)     ____ Daffodil ($8)   ____ Lily ($8)      ____ Hyacinth ($8)

Total $ _______________

(PLEASE PRINT NAMES)

From  _________________________________________________________________________

In memory of _____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

In appreciation of  _______________________________________________________________

To the Glory of God _____  _____  Sanctuary  _____  iConnect
2018 Annual All-Church Rummage Sale
April 28, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Hear Ye Hear Ye, Come one come all!

Gather up all those useful household items, clean clothing (NO FOOT WEAR) and bring them to the church Monday, April 23, through Thursday, April 26, 9:00 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sorting your own donations is a great way to help! Just put your items on the appropriate tables.

NO ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON FRIDAY APRIL 27.

Please NO major appliances, dehumidifiers, refrigerators, air conditioners, tires, sofa beds, non-flat screen televisions, bowling balls, encyclopedias, cook books, landline telephones or footwear.

All workers and members are welcome to come bid on our silent auction/buy it now priced items. They will be displayed again this year on the counter in the gallery Tuesday through Friday with bids accepted until 6:00 pm on Friday.

Workers are needed all week to help unload, sort, set up and price items. On Saturday, the day of the sale, we need workers to help customers, check-out (cash only) and help people get their purchases to their cars. Please be sure to sign up as this helps us plan. On Saturday, lunch and snacks will be provided for workers. Sign up with friends and enjoy time together while working for a good cause.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Money earned from this project supports significant church projects.
Contact Rhonda Hoon at rhondahoon@yahoo.com or 440-255-6569 with any questions.

Lake Health Volunteers
Join our volunteer teams!
Do all you can with what you have, in the time you have, in the place you are...volunteer!

We need volunteers for
• Emergency Department
• Information Desk
• Gift Shop
• Pastoral Care
• Patient Transport
• Pet Therapy
• Surgical Desk
• Patient Visitation
• Patient Room Service
• Patient Registration

Call Volunteer Services for more information at:
TrPoint Medical Center 440-354-1665
West Medical Center 440-953-6049

The Musical Theater Project
Monday, April 16, 2018 - 7:30 PM
If you are a fan of Rodgers and Hammerstein, you won’t want to miss their trailblazing musical play - the teams’ third Broadway collaboration following Oklahoma! and Carousel.

Tickets are $30. Use the code MENTORUMC to get $5 off! Tickets available 24 hours a day through Brown Paper Tickets at 1-800-838-3006 or www.MusicalTheaterProject.org.
## MARCH 2018

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<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>See the newsletter for regularly scheduled weekly meetings.</td>
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<td><strong>04</strong></td>
<td>06:00 PM - Occupy Youth Ministry</td>
<td>09:30 AM - Ruth Naomi Circle 10:00 AM - Western Reserve Garden Club Ping, Mtg. 07:00 PM - Mentor Jr. Women's Club Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>05</strong></td>
<td>10:00 AM - Worship at Brookdale Heisley 11:00 AM - Worship at Ahla Newell Creek 06:30 PM - Journey Group</td>
<td>09:30 AM - MOPS &amp; MOMSnext Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td>01:30 PM - YSP Big Event 06:00 PM - StuCo 56 06:00 PM - Journey Group - Wooledge 06:00 PM - Occupy Youth Ministry</td>
<td>09:30 AM - Love &amp; Light Evening of Worship</td>
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<td><strong>12</strong></td>
<td>10:00 AM - New Day Circle -- Christianity's Family Tree 11:30 AM - Mentor UMW Board Meeting 07:00 PM - iConnect Planning</td>
<td>08:00 AM - Journey Group Leader Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td>09:00 AM - Easter Food Collection 03:25 PM - YSP Meeting - Adults 10:00 PM - YSP Meeting 06:00 PM - Occupy Youth Ministry 08:00 PM - After Glow</td>
<td>09:00 AM - Easter Food Sorting 10:00 AM - Worship at Brookdale Heisley 11:00 AM - Worship at Ahla Newell Creek 01:30 PM - Alzheimer Support Group 04:00 PM - Easter Food Box Distribution 06:30 PM - Journey Group 07:00 PM - Rummage Sale Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>19</strong></td>
<td>12:00 PM - Easter Food Box Distribution</td>
<td>11:00 AM - AM Group 01:15 PM - Mentor Miscellaneous Club 07:00 PM - Administrative Council</td>
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<td><strong>25</strong></td>
<td>01:30 PM - StuCo 56 &amp; Occupy Laser Tag</td>
<td>07:00 PM - Worship Committee 07:00 PM - VBS Team Meeting 08:00 PM - Staff-Parish</td>
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<td><strong>26</strong></td>
<td>07:00 PM - iConnect Planning</td>
<td>07:30 PM - Maundy Thursday Worship Service</td>
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<td><strong>27</strong></td>
<td>07:00 PM - Worship Committee 07:00 PM - VBS Team Meeting 08:00 PM - Staff-Parish</td>
<td>07:00 PM - Service of Worship for Good Friday</td>
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<td><strong>28</strong></td>
<td>07:30 PM - Maundy Thursday Worship Service</td>
<td>10:00 AM - Easter Egg Hunt 04:30 PM - More than a Meal Prep 05:30 PM - More than a Meal</td>
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