
Mentor United Methodist Church

WEEKLY UPDATE

Palm Sunday, April 5, 2020

www.mentorumc.org



Our 2020 Lenten Journey has been a real wilderness experience! A pandemic continues to impact our lives and ministry. Yet Holy Week arrives! We have been *Walking with Jesus*, discovering how spiritual disciplines can enrich our lives. Now we embrace Jesus' final days ready to receive the redeemed life God offers.

This Sunday, we hope you are able to join our worshiping community through our website or Facebook page. Our Palm Sunday worship will begin with a special video from some familiar faces. As you prepare for worship, we invite you to read: Mark 11: 1 – 10, and Mark 8: 34 – 38.

It is the first Sunday of the month, so we will celebrate communion together. We invite you to gather bread or crackers, and juice – grape if you have it. As part of our worship we will bless the elements and receive the holy meal together.

Although celebrating Holy Week is different this year, we invite you to join us online for special, meaningful opportunities. On Thursday and Friday, we will post the recorded services by noon on our website, app, YouTube and Facebook. At 7:30 PM we will livestream the recordings on Facebook and YouTube.

Maundy Thursday - We will engage in a meaningful worship experience. We encourage you to gather a few supplies to enhance your experience: a candle (scented, if possible); paper and pen; (finger paint is optional); a rock; a bowl of water and hand towel; bread/crackers and juice.

Good Friday – Our Lord's Passion will be shared by various voices, mixed with meaningful music.

Easter Morning – Join us as we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection! It will be a celebratory morning at 9 & 11. Be ready to engage and celebrate victory in Jesus!

Although worship services at our facility are cancelled until further notice, we continue to be Christ's Church! Thank you to everyone who is giving their time, talents, finances, and sharing their faithful witness during this unusual season. We continue to pray for your health – and encourage you to STAY HOME.

Remember, should you have a need please do not hesitate to call the church office. We love you!

Pastor Sondra and Pastor Quincy



Children & Family Ministries
www.mentorunc.org/children
www.mentorunc.org/sunday-school

Annual Easter Egg Hunt has been canceled.

Sunday Morning Kids' Journey Groups, Cherubs, Children's Choir, and Youth 56 are suspended until further notice.

[Positive Parenting Book Club](#)

Masterminds & Wingmen by Rosalind Wiseman

Thursdays, April 2, 16, 30, May 14

6:30 - 8:30 PM in YOUR HOME ONLINE

Read Masterminds & Wingmen by Rosalind Wiseman then join Tammy online for a virtual meetup to discuss the book.

[MUMC Kids' MeetUp](#)

11:30 AM Monday through Saturday

and 10:30 AM on Sundays. Please check your email for the password.



Youth 56 will have a weekly [Youth 56 Meetup](#) at 7:00 pm Sunday evenings. Please check your email for the password.

SUMMER 2020 PROGRAMS are still being planned!

mentorunc.org/summer-programs

Vacation Bible School: Knights of the North Castle ~ June 8-12 for kids 4 as of 1/1/2020 thru 6th grade

Get Out Doors (G.O.D.) Camp: Follow the Way ~ June 8-12 for students who have completed 5th or 6th grade

Middle School Mission Week ~ July 6-10 for students who have completed 6-8 grades

Theatre Arts Camp: Shrek, Jr. ~ July 13-17 AND 20-24 / Performances July 24 & 25 for students who have just completed K-8 grade

Sunday Morning Services



The YouVersion link for this week is <https://bible.com/events/7061238>.

Join us in worship!

9 AM and 11 AM

[Facebook live](#), [YouTube](#), and [website home page](#)

Congregational Care



Members admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:

The Lantern - Jim Reed • Aberdeen Crossing - Barbara Bradarich
Enclave of Newell Creek - Kay Disbro
Mentor Ridge - Gloria Meyer • Brookdale Mentor - Norma Kuzik
Tapestry Senior Living - Gloria & Ron McFeely • Brookdale Wickliffe - Fran Rose
Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher, Kimi Schmidt • Maple Ridge Sr. Living - Bob Chamberlin
Danbury Senior Living - Ross & Kathryn Bevacqua
Concord Village - Shirley Dessner • Briar Hill - William Boyd

Members who have returned home or are homebound:

Linda Leach, Susan Rimes, Carl Snyder, John Proegler, John Reno

Our sympathy to Tim Kincaid and family in the death of his mother, Marjorie Kincaid, on March 27 in Kansas.

Emails from the Church

If you know of someone who is not receiving emails from the church, they probably opted out of our newsletter. This means they must resubscribe through Mailchimp. Because of privacy, we are not able to just resubscribe them. Please direct them to our [webpage](#) to fill out the Mailchimp form. If you have any questions, please contact Carolyn in the office at cnagy@mentorumc.org or 440-255-3496.

Unsubscribe from the Paper Copy of Steepletalk

If you receive a paper newsletter and only need an email version, please use this link <https://bit.ly/39ktErl> to let us know, call, or email the office at cnagy@mentorumc.org. We are trying to be careful with postage costs. Thank you!

General Conference Update

The global gathering of United Methodists, General Conference, scheduled for May 2020 has been postponed until 2021. Upcoming General Conference discussions that were scheduled at Mentor UMC for April and May have been postponed. We continue to pray for the witness of The United Methodist Church around the world. Now is the time to set our differences aside and unite in Jesus as we care for the world.

Hope Chest Closed

Hope Chest is closed until further notice. We are not accepting any donations until they are up and running again. Please hold on to your items at home. Thank you!

Special Easter Offering

This year, as in years past, our Special Easter Offering will support mission. As we continue to battle the pandemic, ½ of the special offering will be used to assist with the current missional needs of our congregation. By supporting our General Fund, these dollars will assure our preparedness for needs as they arise – including support of our Food Pantry, More Than a Meal, and Project Hope outreach. Half of the special offering will be designated to our Mission Committee for their use as they continue to support local, national, and international missions. As we share the love of Christ, THANK YOU for your support.

Youth Ministry

lnash@mentorumc.org



Follow the Youth on Instagram for all Youth Activity Updates at MUMCYouth712
Make sure to download the YouVersion App and follow along with this week's devotion titled: The Greatest Story Ever Told

Confirmation

Confirmation classes have resumed virtually through Google Meet video conferencing. The classes will take place at the normal time on April 5 and April 19. This will conclude our classes.

There is not a definitive date planned for our confirmation retreat or confirmation Sunday. More information on those events will be released soon.

Youth Group: 7-12

We will be having Youth Group remotely until further notice. Join us at 6:00 PM on Sunday to share a brief message, have fun conversation, do activities together, and sing a few songs. You can connect by using this link: <https://meet.google.com/xpd-pdwq-riv>

We have a Minecraft Realm!

All students are welcome to join our MUMC Server. This is a safe, closed environment where students can come together, create, and talk to one another from home. To join, simply email lnash@mentorumc.org your Username/Gamer tag and Leah will send you an invite.

*Note, this server is run through the Java Edition of the game and not the Microsoft Edition.

Students are welcome to play at any time, however, we will have a designated time **Wednesday, March 8 at 7:00 PM** for as many people to play as possible.



Youth Group: Senior High

Students in grades 10-12 are welcome to join our Google Hangout Chat <https://hangouts.google.com/group/89S7EbidCwyKZGaK8>.

We will use this chat to keep in contact with one another, plan virtual activities, and share prayers and concerns. Join us at 8:30 PM on Sundays for our scheduled Youth Group Hangout. You can connect by using this link: <https://meet.google.com/xpd-pdwq-riv>

Youth Service Project

At this time, YSP is still planned for June, however the nature and location of the mission trip may change. We hope to give you more detailed information by April 15 regarding the trip. The Big Event continues to be postponed until further notice.

MUMC Scholarship

We want to let the high school seniors, all students enrolled in an accredited vocational school, university, college, undergraduate program, or enrolled in seminary, know that we are still planning on awarding scholarships this year. We understand that schools are closed and, in some cases, it may be impossible to get your letters of recommendation and official transcripts in a sealed envelope but we will still need it on school letterhead.

Please have those two items emailed to scholarship@mentorunc.org and also follow the instructions for the online application on our website at <http://mentorunc.org/post-secondary-scholarship>. All emails must have the subject say "MUMC Scholarship and (student's name)".

The deadline is still Friday, April 10, but by noon instead of 4:00 PM, as that is Good Friday and the office will close at noon. When you hand-deliver your packet to the church, please ring the doorbell by the office and we will instruct you. We are looking forward to your application packets! Stay safe and God bless. - Tami White, Scholarship Committee

Project Hope for the Homeless Volunteers Needed

Volunteers that are not in the high-risk age range and do not have underlying health conditions are needed at Project Hope for the Homeless. They are waiving their normal training schedule and will set up a person-to-person training instead. Anyone interested can work with Dana Ludwig from 4-7 PM on Tuesday afternoon for this training, and then they would be set to volunteer.

If you know of anyone interested and able to help, have them contact Project Hope for the Homeless in Painesville at volunteer@projecthopeforthehomeless.org.

Project Hope for the Homeless Meal Help

Project Hope is looking for volunteers, specifically to help with meal prep, meal service, and meal clean-up, as well as other odd jobs, at their family shelter from 1-4 PM or 4-7 PM, or at their adult shelter from 7-11 PM for the same needs. This opportunity is for folks who are between the ages of 18 and 50 years old, while the pandemic is occurring. You can apply to be a volunteer for any of these needs or any other ways you are willing to help via this link: <https://projecthopeforthehomeless.org/online-volunteer-application/>

Project Hope is also looking for folks who would volunteer to make or purchase a meal and bring it to the shelter for meals on Saturday night. If you are interested in helping with this meal, please contact Pastor Quincy at 440-417-8078 or qwheeler@mentorunc.org.

Watch for Email and Online Scams

At this time, we do need to be careful with our internet accounts. This is a good article from Consumer Reports regarding Facebook Messenger. Please do not forward messages that ask you to forward! <https://www.consumerreports.org/.../facebook-messenger-scams.../>

Another good article for your email <https://www.jdsupra.com/.../be-careful-where-you-click-covid.../>

Resurrection Cookies to make Saturday Evening

Use the recipe and instructions at the link below or on the last page to make delicious, meaningful cookies. The recipe follows the crucifixion and rising of Jesus.

[Click here for the recipe, directions and Bible verses.](#)





On the Way to Calvary

- P** Crosses of palm, fashioned by the faithful in faraway places, unite us in our devotion of Jesus of Nazareth, and focus our gaze on the King, the Lamb, the Son of God.
- C** **On the way to Calvary and victory, palms were waved—honor given the coming King.**
- P** Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
- C** **On the way to Calvary and victory, palms were waved—response to One who came to suffer so.**
- P** He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.
- C** **On the way to Calvary and victory, palms were waved—prelude to the cross and death.**
- P** Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.
- C** **On the way to Calvary and victory, we take up our crosses, and watch this One, who takes this deathward journey in our stead.**
- P** On the way to Calvary, we take our places—to watch in silence, to wait in humble expectation as he rides now to death...and to life eternal—one King, one Lord, one Death—for all!

Cookie Recipe for Easter

EASTER STORY (RESURRECTION) COOKIES

You will need:

Your family Bible
1 cup sugar
1 cup whole pecans
1 zip-lock baggie

1 wooden spoon
1 teaspoon white vinegar
3 egg whites
tape

Preheat oven to 300° F.

Place pecans in zipper baggie and let children beat them with the wooden spoon to break into small pieces. Explain that after Jesus was arrested He was beaten by the Roman soldiers. **Read John 19:1-3.**

Let each child smell the vinegar. Put 1 tsp. vinegar into mixing bowl. Explain that when Jesus was thirsty on the cross He was given vinegar to drink. **Read John 19:28-30.**

Add egg whites to vinegar. Eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave His life to give us life. **Read John 10:10-11.**

Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand. Let them taste it and brush the rest into the bowl. Explain that this represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers, and the bitterness of our own sin. **Read Luke 23:27.**

So far the ingredients are not very appetizing. Add 1 cup sugar. Explain that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know we belong to Him. **Read Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16.**

Beat with a mixer on high speed for 12 to 15 minutes until stiff peaks are formed. Explain that the color white represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus. **Read Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3.**

Fold in broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto parchment paper covered cookie sheet. Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. **Read Matthew 27:57-60.**

Put the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door and turn the oven OFF. Give each child a piece of tape and seal the oven door. Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. **Read Matthew 27:65-66.**

GO TO BED! Explain that they may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight. Jesus' followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed. **Read John 16:20-22.**

On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface and take a bite. The cookies are hollow! On the first Easter, Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty. **Read Matthew 28:1-9.**