Greetings Friends,
This week in worship we will continue with our sermon series, New Year, New Life: Lessons from Jonah. We’ll meet Jonah in the belly of the fish and find him praying to the Lord his God. Praying can be difficult sometimes. We might feel like we don’t have the right words to say or the courage to be vulnerable. We might doubt that God will hear us and respond. We might feel like our situation isn’t as important to God as others. We might simply not make the time to communicate with God. We are reminded by Jonah and his prayer, though, that God does care about us and our situation. Most importantly, we are reminded that God hears us.

As a congregation, one of our core values is that we seek to be prayer driven. We want prayer to guide our life together as a congregation and to shape our individual lives of discipleship. I invite you to be a part of our new prayer initiative Mentor Mondays. Throughout the day, we will pray for our church and its ministries, and whatever else God lays on our hearts. We will also share a prayer focus. This week, our prayer focus is our community. You can find more information online at mentorumc.org, through our Church App, and on social media.

I invite you to pray! And be reminded that you can pray anytime and anywhere and be heard by God. Even Jonah was heard in the belly of the fish!

Let’s pray,
Pastor Mikayla

Sunday Morning Services
The YouVersion link for this week is https://bible.com/events/48222612
Join us in worship!
9 AM Modern and 11 AM Traditional
Facebook, YouTube and our website www.mentorumc.org

Coffee with the Pastors
If you are interested in learning more about the church, connecting with us, or figuring out how to connect with MUMC, join Pastors Sondra and Mikayla on Zoom February 7 at noon. Email Pastor Mikayla at mdoepker@mentorumc.org or call the Church Office for the link to join.

Mentor Mondays
Throughout the day, pray for our church and its ministries, and whatever else God lays on your heart. Each week we will unite on a common prayer focus and occasionally our church leadership will offer a short video to guide us. This week we pray for our community. See Pastor Mikayla’s video at this link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycP7d5SYb2I.
Congregational Care

Members admitted to the Hospital:
Hillcrest - John Proegler • Cleveland Clinic - Sarah Wade, Barb Zimmerman

Members admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:
Aberdeen Crossing - Barbara Brodarich • Ohman Family Living - Jeanne Babcock
The Enclave - Kay Disbro • Brookdale Mentor - Norma Kuzik
Mentor Ridge - Gloria Meyer • Parker Place - Opal Pinasky
Danbury Senior Living - Ross & Kathryn Bevacqua
Maple Ridge Sr. Living - Bob Chamberlin • Brookdale Wickliffe - Fran Rose
Tapestry Senior Living - Gloria McFeely
Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher, Art Sydow
Continuing Healthcare of Mentor - Virginia Gilman

Members who have returned home or are homebound:
Dale Snyder, Linda Leach, Karen Mancini, Val Hardy,
John Hurley, Tom Knesbeck, Noel Barber, Russ Lancaster, Jim Lodge

Easter Flowers
Easter is just around the corner on April 4. We will be ordering flowers for sale to decorate the altar, but we are not sure exactly what will be offered. Please “stay tuned” for more information soon. Each year for Christmas and Easter, we are proud to support local florist Madison Avenue Greenhouse in Painesville. They grow their own plants right here in Lake County.

Journey Groups
Start 2021 off right! Join a Journey Group for connection, learning and growing together. Contact Pastor Mikayla at mdoepker@mentorumc.org.

YSP Update
Letters of intent for YSP 2021 are due February 7. Please fill out the form to submit your intent to join our trip this year! For more information about YSP 2021, please reach out to Leah Nash at lnash@mentorumc.org. YSP Letter of Intent can be found at this link https://forms.gle/B5DRpAzH9C5cdmbNA.

Our next information meeting will be January 31 at 6:00 PM online (please note the time change from 4 to 6.) Email Leah for the meeting link at lnash@mentorumc.org.

Middle School Mission Week 2021
It’s time to begin planning our MSMW Service Project for 2021! Our first information meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 27, at 7:00 PM. Following meetings will be on the 4th Wednesday of every month. If you are interested in helping plan the event or have questions about MSMW, we invite you to join us! Please email Leah at lnash@mentorumc.org for the meeting link and password.
Please consider making this mission week part of your Summer plans and help our youth find ways to serve!
MUMC Family Style Sunday Morning Kids’ Journey Groups are every Sunday morning at 10:10-10:50 AM. Check your email for login details or contact Tammy.

- PS, K, 1st gr led by Kate & Abby Colbow
- 2nd, 3rd, 4th gr led by Eliana Palermo & Ryan Poje
- 5th & 6th gr led by Barb Brown & Leah Nash

It’s not too late to join The Talks Study: A parent’s guide to critical conversations about sex, dating and other unmentionables. We meet on Tuesdays at 8:00 PM via Zoom. Registration is currently open at this link http://bit.ly/3mE9L1K.

Every parent knows about “the talk.” What many parents fail to realize is that one conversation isn’t enough. Your kids desperately need help to navigate the rapidly changing sexually-charged culture in which they live.

Packed with solid research and practical tools, The Talks provides you with the help you need to get comfortable having some critical conversations in your home. It covers both “what to know” and “what to do.” Whether your kids are 6 or 16, you’ll be equipped to help your kids make wise choices now and to prepare them to experience God’s gift of sexuality in the right time and in the right way.

YOUTH 512 is going Snow Tubing on Sunday, January 31. We will meet at Boston Mills Brandywine to tube from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Cost is $25 per person. Contact Tammy at tpalermo@mentorumc.org or Leah at lnash@mentorumc.org for more information or to sign up. Parents should check their email for more details!

Positive Parenting Book Club’s current book is Lisa TerKeurst’s book, It’s Not Supposed to Be This Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments Leave You Shattered. Contact Tammy if you would like to join.

- February 4 Chapters 2-3
- February 18 Chapters 4-5
- March 4 Chapters 6-7
- March 18 Chapters 8-9
- April 8 Chapters 10-11

MOPS & MOMSnext meets Thursday, January 28 in the evening. The group will be meeting virtually until further notice. The theme is Decide to Rise and is very appropriate and timely. Contact MOPS at mops@mentorumc.org for more information.

Blood Drive
MUMC will hold a Red Cross Blood Drive each month. The next drive is February 1, from 9 AM to 3 PM in the Asbury and Wesley rooms. You can schedule an appointment at www.redcrossblood.org.

For those who like to plan ahead, here are the dates for Summer 2021:
- June 28-July 2 Vacation Bible School & Get Out Doors (G.O.D.) Camp
- July 12-16 & 19-23 Theatre Arts Camp

MORE DETAILS TO COME!
YSP Fruit Sale Fundraiser 1/24/2021-2/7/2021
Please consider supporting our Youth Service Project, which will be held in Hiram, Ohio at Camp Asbury this year! We plan on building a new Art Programming space for Camp Asbury. You can purchase your fruit online until February 7, and it will be delivered straight to your home! [https://shop.floridaindianrivergroves.com/eCommerce/1023265](https://shop.floridaindianrivergroves.com/eCommerce/1023265)

Membership Class
Plans are underway for Pastor Sondra to lead a Basic Membership Class using Zoom, beginning in February. If you are interested in exploring your faith development and finding out more about the ministry of Mentor United Methodist Church, please contact Pastor Sondra at the church office by January 24. You can call 440.255.3496, email ssnode@mentorumc.org or fill out the Connection Card online at this link [http://bit.ly/39rSXtL](http://bit.ly/39rSXtL).

Valentine Boxes for our College Students
Mentor United Methodist Women is collecting monetary donations to purchase items for Valentine boxes (we will purchase the items so all the boxes are identical). Donations may be made through online giving (select “other” for the fund and email tsimons@mentorumc.org to let her know the donation is for “Valentine Boxes”) or may be mailed or dropped off at the Church Office. Please be sure to note “Valentine Boxes.”
The last Sunday for donations will be February 7.

Please complete the form at this link [http://bit.ly/39BllJQ](http://bit.ly/39BllJQ) with your college student’s full name and address by February 2. We regret that because of the prohibitive cost, we cannot ship packages to locations outside the U.S. You can also email your student’s full name and address to Carolyn Nagy at cnagy@mentorumc.org or Leah Nash at lnash@mentorumc.org.

Food Pantry
The Food Pantry was able to bless over 100 families in November and December. We have provided food and monetary resources to families in need. During this difficult time, families have been so very appreciative of the generosity of the church. We could not do this without your support so thank you all so much for keeping this amazing ministry going.

Our next distribution will take place at the end of March. As of right now, the food pantry is accepting monetary donations to support this distribution. We will need to order food and additional Aldi gift cards to distribute to families. Monetary donations can be made by selecting “Food” when giving in the church app or the website. We thank you for the continued support of this ministry.