Dear Friends,

This weekend in worship we will conclude our sermon series New Year, New Life: Lessons from Jonah. We’ve learned a lot over these six weeks and we’ll end the series focusing on our call from God to love. If we’re honest, it is easy to follow God when it feels rewarding to us and it is easy to love others when we like them. Like Jonah’s situation, sometimes we are called to follow God when it doesn’t feel rewarding and to love others that we don’t agree with them or share much in common. Through the story of Jonah, we are reminded of God’s love and care for all, even the unfaithful Jonah and the sinful Ninevites.

Jesus, in the Gospel of John, challenges his followers to this same kind of love. The love of both friend and enemy. The love that forgives and offers reconciliation. Jesus says, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35, NRSV) This is our call, to love one another and to offer forgiveness and reconciliation.

We have many opportunities at Mentor United Methodist Church to grow in our love for others. Whether it is participating in the food pantry collection this weekend, being part of a Journey Group, or serving in another ministry, we grow in our faith and learn to love like Jesus. I want to share with you the words of a familiar hymn that might inspire you on your journey:

“And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.”

May it be so,
Pastor Mikayla Doepker

Sunday Morning Services
The YouVersion link for this week is https://bible.com/events/48222644

Join us in worship!
9 AM Modern and 11 AM Traditional
Facebook, YouTube and our website www.mentorumc.org

Mentor Mondays
Our prayer focus this week is Lent as we remember Jesus’ time in the wilderness. If there is a video for Mentor Mondays, it will be posted on Monday on our website, social media and app.

Caring Servants
Caring Servants are lay people who serve as an extension of the pastoral care ministry at Mentor United Methodist Church. They provide visitation, phone calls, and notes to people in the congregation as a means of staying connected to shut-ins, those in care facilities, in rehab, or recently home from the hospital; those who have recently celebrated weddings or births and those who are experiencing illness or grief. Caring Servants bring a special ministry of compassion and empathy vital to meeting the ongoing needs of congregational care for our members. Caring Servants will make friendly visits to many in our church family as they represent the Body of Christ.
If you would be interested in learning more about becoming a Caring Servant, please contact Pastor Barb at bholzhauser@mentorumc.org or call the Church Office.
Congregational Care

Members admitted to the Hospital:
Lake West - Jane Ortiz • Hillcrest - Carole Leland

Members admitted to Rehab, Assisted Living or Nursing Home Facility:
Aberdeen Crossing - Barbara Bradarich • 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 • Heartland of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom
Continuing Healthcare of Mentor - Virginia Gilman

Members who have returned home or are homebound:
Dale Snyder, Linda Leach, Karen Mancini, Val Hardy, Sarah Wade, Spike Sudekum,
John Hurley, Tom Knesbeck, Russ Lancaster, Barb Zimmerman, Carl Snyder, Noel Barber,
Jeff Gray,

Facebook Bakeoff Event - Last Day to Enter
Please be sure your post is set to "public" so we can see your #mumcbakeoff!
With snow falling and temperatures dropping, Mentor United Methodist Church is baking up a storm! Join us for the first-ever virtual MUMC Bakeoff. Simply cook up your favorite baked good (breads, pies, cakes, and other delicious treats all welcome!) and post a picture or video of your creation on Facebook with the hashtag #mumcbakeoff from February 1-14.

If your post has the most reactions at the end of the challenge, you will win $50 in gift cards to Starbucks and Malleys! Make sure to challenge and tag your friends--these count as additional reactions. Mmmmm...we’re getting hungry already. Let the baking begin!

Food Ministry Drop-Off Event Today
MUMC will hold a drive thru food donation drop off under the Gallery portico on Sunday, February 14 from 10 AM to 2 PM. Please use the list below to fill a box or bag to donate. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please choose FOOD as the fund online or mark your check Food Distribution. Each box of food given is valued at approximately $50.

Items most needed:
• Canned green beans or corn • 26 oz. box mashed potatoes
• Canned peaches, pears, fruit cocktail • Boxed mac & cheese
• 24 oz. jar spaghetti sauce • 28 oz. can baked beans
• Box of cereal

This event will be COVID safe with donors remaining in their vehicle with masks on.
**Lent-in-a-Bag**
As the Lenten Season begins, kits have been assembled to help your journey be more meaningful. Included in each bag are weekly devotions and activities to engage you with our Lenten Theme: A Way in the Wilderness. The series begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17, and runs through Easter, April 4.

The bags are available for pick-up during office hours: Monday – Friday (9 – 3:30); during Ash Wednesday Drive-Thru (February 17 noon – 1 or 6 – 7 PM); or on Sunday, February 21 from 12 – 1.

Lent-in-a-Bag was designed with our entire church family in mind... so come get one!

**Ash Wednesday**
Pastor Mikayla and Pastor Sondra will be at the Gallery entrance from noon-1 and 6 – 7 PM on Wednesday, February 17. They will distribute ashes... hand out “Lent-in-a-Bag” should you wish... and be available for prayer.

You are invited to join Mentor UMC for online worship at 7:30 PM on Facebook, YouTube and our website home page.

**Easter Flowers** - Due March 7
It is a tradition at Mentor United Methodist Church to place spring flowers on the altar for Easter services in the memory or appreciation of a loved one(s) or for the glory of God. Plants are $7 each.
To order, see the Google form at this link [http://bit.ly/3d6X020](http://bit.ly/3d6X020), the app or website. Payments may also be dropped off at the church office or mailed to “MUMC c/o Altar Guild Easter Flowers", 8600 Mentor Ave., Mentor, Ohio 44060”. There also is a 2-page printable form at the end of this Weekly Update.
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

Our results for the Souper Bowl of Caring collection:
- Kansas City Chiefs $765.99
- Tampa Bay Buccaneers $353.01
- Commercials $10.00
Total donated $1,129 that will be sent to Project Hope for the Homeless! Thank you for your generosity!!! This is more than the 2019 and 2020 totals combined!

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/3mE9LK.

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 will be watching The Princess Bride TONIGHT February 14. We will meet at Great Lakes Atlas Cinema at 5:30 PM for a start time of 6:00 PM. Bring money for concessions. Please see the sign up for all the details at this link https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4c4b29a2fa7-youth7.

MOPS & MOMSnext meets Thursday, February 25 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.

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!

MUMC Scholarship Opportunities
Please see our website at this link http://mentorumc.org/post-secondary-scholarship to see the new form and apply for scholarships. The deadline is Friday, April 9, by 3:30 PM for your complete submission. If you have any questions, please contact Tami White at Scholarship@mentorumc.org.
Heart & Sole is for any girl brave enough to be herself. Join us for a journey that will empower you to tap into your strengths and learn new life skills. Every week, we’ll run, laugh and learn about what makes each other tick. The program ends with a celebration of how far you’ve come... and a 5K that will remind you that you can crush any goal you set your mind to.

**Registration Opens**
February 9, 2021

**Season Starts**
Week of March 15th
Teams meet twice a week

**End of Season Celebration**
Saturday, May 15, 2021

Practice Location: Mentor United Methodist Church
*Delivery Model: Hybrid
Days & Times: Tues & Thurs / 4:15-5:30
Open to girls in grade: 6th - 8th
Contact: Bev Lee, 440-666-2058
Beverly.k.lee@gmail.com

*Delivery Model determined by site.
Virtual: All sessions will be 100% virtual. Supplies will be mailed directly to participants. Lessons are 45-60 min.

Hybrid: Sessions will be in-person. Should your location close, lessons will continue on the same schedule, but will shift to virtual.

Register online at [www.gotrneo.org](http://www.gotrneo.org)
or by phone at (234) 206-0786

@gotrnortheastohio

Registration fees are based on a sliding scale and scholarship funds are available to all participants in need. Contact us at 234-206-0786 to learn more!
Girls on the Run is for EVERY girl.

DO YOU WANT TO

Meet new friends?  Accomplish big things?  Help others in your community?  Have so much fun?

JOIN Girls on the Run!

Registration Opens
February 9, 2021

Season Starts
Week of March 15th
Teams meet twice a week

End of Season Celebration
Saturday, May 15, 2021

Register online at www.gotrneo.org
or by phone at (234) 206-0786

Location:
Mentor United Methodist Church

*Delivery Model:
Hybrid

Practice Days & Times:
Tues & Thurs / 4:15 - 5:30

Open to girls in grade:
3rd - 5th

Contact:
Bev Lee  440-666-2058
Beverly.k.lee@gmail.com

*Delivery Model determined by site.

Virtual: All sessions will be 100% virtual. Supplies will be mailed directly to participants. Lessons are 45-60 min.

Hybrid: Sessions will be in-person. Should your location close, lessons will continue on the same schedule, but will shift to virtual.

Registration fees are based on a sliding scale and scholarship funds are available to all participants in need.
Contact us at 234-206-0786 to learn more!
To ensure that all girls have equal opportunity to participate, a registration lottery will take place on February 15th. Registration will reopen on a first-come, first-served basis on 2/15/21 for sites with spots still available.

LEARN MORE AT www.gotrneo.org

@gotrnortheastohio
Easter Flowers 2021 - Due March 7

It is a tradition at Mentor United Methodist Church to place spring flowers on the altar for Easter services in the memory or appreciation of a loved one(s) or for the glory of God. Plants are $7 each.

To make your payment online, choose “Easter Flowers” as the fund at this link http://mentorumc.org/onlinegiving. Payments may also be dropped off at the church office or mailed to “MUMC c/o Altar Guild Easter Flowers, 8600 Mentor Ave., Mentor, Ohio 44060”.

* Required

1. Email address *

2. Name of Person Ordering as you want it to appear in the bulletin *

3. How we can best contact you (phone number, email address) *

4. Pick up or donate. Plants may be picked up on Easter Sunday from noon to 1 PM or during the week from the Church Office. *

   Mark only one oval.
   
   [ ] I will be picking up my plants on Easter Sunday at noon or during the week.
   
   [ ] Please donate my plants to the church.

5. Name of Person(s) plants are in Memory Of

6. Name of Person(s) plants are in Appreciation Of

7. Dedication is “To The Glory of God” instead of a name

   Mark only one oval.
   
   [ ] Yes
   
   [ ] No

8. Space where plants are to be displayed *

   Mark only one oval.
   
   [ ] Sanctuary (Traditional Services)
   
   [ ] Fellowship Hall (Modern Service)
   
   [ ] Some in both
9. Total number of Lillies ordered *
   Mark only one oval.
   □ 0
   □ 1
   □ 2
   □ 3
   □ 4

10. Total number of Daffodils ordered *
    Mark only one oval.
    □ 0
    □ 1
    □ 2
    □ 3
    □ 4

11. Total number of Tulips ordered *
    Mark only one oval.
    □ 0
    □ 1
    □ 2
    □ 3
    □ 4

12. Total number of Hyacinths ordered *
    Mark only one oval.
    □ 0
    □ 1
    □ 2
    □ 3
    □ 4

13. My form of payment *
    Mark only one oval.
    □ I will mail a check to the church
    □ I will drop off a check
    □ I will be paying online