Mentor United Methodist Church WEEKLY UPDATE

8600 Mentor Ave. Mentor, OH 44060

mentorumc.org 440.255.3496

November 21, 2021

Traditional Worship at 9 AM and 11 AM

Modern Worship at 9 AM

The Gathering 11 AM, Fellowship Hall, mask required

Worship with us online every Sunday at 9 and 11 AM at mentorumc.org, Facebook, and YouTube.

The last Sunday of the liturgical year is Christ the King Sunday – the Sunday before Advent begins. Many know that Advent is when we begin to anticipate Christ's arrival, celebrated at Christmas. The church calendar begins with Advent. Thus, it ends with Christ the King Sunday.

Christ the King Sunday began to be observed in 1925. Instead of allowing cultural influences to shape people's lives and celebrations, Pope Pius XI desired to bring God back into the secular world. He designated a Sunday to celebrate God's authority and power in people's lives. The Church continues to find ways to prioritize Christ amidst cultural influences; to live into what it means to have Christ be Lord of all.



It is fitting, that the last Sunday of the Church calendar typically also points us towards Thanksgiving. We pause and give thanks for who God is. Especially after a pandemic year, we remember what we are truly thankful for in our lives. Not simply things or time with family or even health. As God's people, we give thanks for God's provision and peace, love and redemption; God's steadfast faithfulness. Even as we prepare and serve Thursday's dinner, we honor God at work in our midst.

It is fitting, that the last Sunday of the Church calendar is usually also our Stewardship Commitment Sunday. What better way is there to claim the goodness of God than by recommitting ourselves to living lives of faith? When Christ is Lord of our lives, we follow Christ's lead. We engage in Christ's work to share love, and work for peace and justice. We offer our time and talents, finances and resources to be a part of Christ's Kingdom in the world. We commit to being evidence of Christ to others.

Whatever the date on your calendar, may Christ help write your next chapter. This is how Christ will influence the culture – one faithful follower at a time.

Pastor Sondra

Stewardship Emphasis - "Help Write the Next Chapter" We want to thank you for your generous support for the ministry of Mentor UMC.

Our focus this year is "Help Write the Next Chapter." Be on the look-out in your mail for a letter highlighting our goals and needs for 2022. We will receive the commitment cards during worship today, November 21. You can also mail your commitment to the church or fill out an <u>online pledge card</u> on our website and church app. Thank you for your continued support of our church.



Congregational Care

In our prayers today and in your personal prayer time, please remember the following: Members admitted to the Hospital: Lake West - Joyce Trimble • UH - Mary Jane Scott

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

Aberdeen Crossing - Barbara Bradarich • The Enclave - Kay Disbro, Jeanne Babcock Vista Springs - Audrey Arslanian • Continuing Healthcare of Mentor - Virginia Gilman Parker Place - Opal Pinasky, Bill Owen, Bob and Sandy Linsell Danbury Senior Living - Kathryn Bevacqua, Hugh Samson • Salida Woods - Doris Sturm Maple Ridge Sr. Living - Bob Chamberlin • Brookdale Wickliffe - Fran Rose Tapestry Senior Living - Gloria McFeely • Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom Breckenridge/Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher, Ann Shetler

Members who are home or homebound:

Karen Mancini, Karen Scott, Beverly Rhoades, Ruth Johnson, Noel Barber, Dale Snyder, Jeff Klein

YouVersion

The YouVersion link for this week is https://bible.com/events/48798344.

More Than A Meal Please note that More Than a Meal is November 27 and for next month is moved to the third Saturday of the month, which is December 18.

Children & Family Ministries

www.mentorumc.org/children
Tammy Palermo <u>TPalermo@mentorumc.org</u>

MUMC Sunday Morning Kids' Journey Groups, mask required in Education Wing and Early Childhood Area

- 9:00 AM at MUMC
 - o 0-2 year old & 3-4 Year old sign in at the Early Childhood Area prior to service
 - o Kindergarten through 6th grade begin worship with their families. You will be dismissed from there to go to the Education Wing.
 - o Leaders are still needed <u>Winter Sign Up</u>. Please note that all leaders are asked to wear a mask as we LOVE GOD & LOVE PEOPLE.
- 11:00 AM The Gathering (mask required)
 - o Interactive, Intergenerational, and Intentional worship service

There are still some Advent Calendars available. First come, first served. Order Link

MOPS & MOMSnext meets Friday, December 10, from 9:30 AM to Noon at MUMC.

MOPS Kids is in need of a few more **paid caregivers**. If you are interested in watching some children on Friday mornings, please contact Tammy at tpalermo@mentorumc.org.

Pre-Registration is open for the 2022-2023 school year for **MUM Preschool**. If you know of anyone looking for a preschool next fall, please share the <u>mentorumc.org/preschool website</u>.



Giving Trees - Gifts Due by December 12

Beginning today, Sunday November 21, the Giving Trees are up! We are doing a combination of the "old" way and the "new "way. There are names on the tree in the gallery of children to donate gifts to. These are mostly single child families. On the Signup Genius are families with 2 or more children. If you are planning on picking several children, please visit the Signup Genius and bless a whole family. Gifts are due back to MUMC by December 12 at noon. Gifts must be wrapped and tagged.

Signup Genius link here

Please note: The distribution of gifts is December 13 and 14. Gifts must be brought in, wrapped and on time by December 12, to be given out. As soon as your gifts are ready, please feel free to bring them up to the church. We have secure storage for them. Thank you!

Also on the trees are throughout the church are:

YELLOW ANGELS: these represent names of members of our church in need of prayers.

Please feel free to take these ornaments home.

BLUE BELLS: These represent good deeds or acts of kindness that can be completed.

RED HEARTS: These represent charities that we are supporting this holiday season.

They include:

Nehemiah Mission • The Salvation Army • The Lake County Free Clinic

CHURCH WINDOWS: These ornaments are for donations to Africa University to help fund the building of a dormitory.

On Sundays, there is a green box in the Information Hub by the Church Office to place your red heart or church window donations in, or give them to the office during the week.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions at 440-283-6524. Thank you, Betsy Iskra

Advent Candle Lighters Sign Up

Advent is fast approaching and we need people to light the Advent candles each week and on Christmas Eve. This is a much loved tradition and is so special this year. Use the <u>Sign Up Genius link</u>, sign up at the Info Hub, call the Church Office, or email Tammy at <u>TPalermo@mentorumc.org</u>.

Christmas Play Tickets

Truth & Light Players will present their annual Christmas production. This year is "The Grunch" on December 11 at 4 PM. Tickets are necessary to obtain prior to the show. Please go to https://mumctlp.booktix.com/, or see the app and website.

All Ages Movie Night TONIGHT!

On Sunday, November 21 at 6 PM, we will host a movie night. We are viewing a Christmas classic that involves someone's heart growing three sizes and a cute little dog named Max. Bring your own beverage and we will supply the popcorn!

Click here to watch our fun promo video.



Advent Study

This classic Christmas tale is the inspiration for our Advent study as well. Our study will be <u>The Heart That Grew Three Sizes</u> by Matt Rawle.

This is open to ALL ages and will be Sunday evenings from 5:00-7:00 PM and will include dinner.



If you prefer to participate from home via Zoom, please email Tammy Palermo at tpalermo@mentorumc.org no later than November 21.

The study is every Sunday evening in Advent, November 28 through December 19.

Sign-up is required at this link on our website and app, or contact the Church Office at 440.255.3496.

Christmas Eve Schedule and Ushers

We are so pleased to return to our Christmas Eve service schedule of 3 PM Traditional Worship - Communion • 5 PM Children-led service (mask required) 7 PM Modern Worship • 7 PM Traditional Worship - Charter Members 9 PM Traditional Worship • 11 PM Traditional Worship - Hallelujah Chorus The 7 PM Modern and 9 PM Traditional services will also be livestreamed

Volunteers are needed for ushering during the five Sanctuary Christmas Eve services. Please consider serving your congregation, and meeting new people, by ushering! A sign-up sheet will be at the Information Hub beginning November 21.

You can also sign up through the website and app at this link. If interested in ushering but hesitant, training will be provided on Tuesday, December 7 or Wednesday, December 15 in the Narthex from 7 – 8 PM. If you have further questions, please contact Chris Meldrum at (440) 220-0824.

Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner

This Thanksgiving, we will host our 31st annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner! It will look like last year as we provide drive-thru and delivery of meals only.

Monetary donations are always appreciated. If giving online, please use the fund "Thanksgiving Dinner".

Please use the links to confirm when you have signed up to help with the dinner. Also, please bring in your donations as noted on the sign-up genius.

To sign up to donate food please use this link: https://bit.ly/3IXQZsl

To sign up to work please use this link: https://bit.ly/3vpTOG1

This outreach makes such an impact and we look forward to sharing the spirit of giving as we give thanks. Please contact Jim Post or Katelyn Gurbach at dinnerhelp@mentorumc.org with any questions about volunteering.

31st Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 25, 2021 11 AM To 2 PM

Mentor United Methodist Church 8600 Mentor Avenue, Mentor, Ohio

Meals are served as drive-thru only.

Meal delivery is available in Lake County to shut-ins.

For Meal Drive Thru and Delivery:

- · Please call by 11/22 to reserve your meal
- · Delivery is to Lake County only
- · Call 440-255-3496 between 9AM and 3 PM
- · Email info@mentorumc.org after hours



We look forward to helping you enjoy Thanksgiving!



This dinner is provided for the community by the people of Mentor United Methodist Church.

Poinsettia Plants for Christmas Eve

It is a tradition at Mentor United Methodist Church to place poinsettias on the altar for Christmas Eve services in the memory or appreciation of a loved one(s) or for the glory of God. Plants are \$7 each. Forms can be found on our app, website, or at the Information Hub.

To make your payment online, choose "Poinsettia" as the fund at this link. Payments may also be dropped off at the church office or mailed to "MUMC c/o Altar Guild Poinsettias, 8600 Mentor Ave., Mentor, Ohio 44060".

Orders are due November 28.

Custodial Volunteer Assistance

The month of December is a busy month at Mentor UMC – and occasionally custodial assistance is needed. Are you willing to help with some cleaning, set-up or tear-down? Are you willing to be on-call when a need arises? We are especially in need of some assistance on Christmas Eve. We are so glad to welcome the community back into our building! We appreciate your willingness to help engage in our ministry needs.

Please contact the church office for more info at 440-255-3496.

Part-time Office Assistant Position

Our church is looking for a part-time office assistant. If you are interested in learning more about the position or would like a copy of the job description, please call or stop by the church office.

Brunner Tree of Remembrance Memorial

The holidays are a special time for remembering. We at Brunners are remembering you and your loved one this holiday season. We cordially invite you and your family to join us at our Tree of Remembrance Memorial Service.

Sunday, 1:00 PM, December 5, 2021, on the lawn of Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center at 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor.

Bring a weatherproof ornament to place on our outdoor Tree of Remembrance when your loved one's name is read. Your ornament will remain on our tree until January 9, 2022. In the event you cannot join us, be assured your loved one will be mentioned in our service. Please call our office if wish to hang an ornament but cannot be present on this date. 440.255.3401