

Mentor United Methodist Church
Children & Family Ministries Parent Newsletter
December 2013

“Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him.” ~Psalm 127:3

KNOW, GROW, SHOW at MENTOR UMC

A faith community seeking...to lead all on a Christ-centered path of discipleship. Know. Grow. Show.

KNOW through Sunday Worship at 9 am and 11 am

- **Sanctuary Service** *Rooted in Tradition, Growing in Christ*
- **iConnect** *relevant, relational, real*

GROW through Discipleship & Community

- **BREAKFAST CLUB, a Young Family study**—meets from 10:10-10:50 in Room 109

SHOW through Service and Outreach

- **Winter Sunday school** sign up: <http://tinyurl.com/SSWinter>
- **Discoverers Leadership**: <http://tinyurl.com/DiscLeaders>
- **More Than a Meal**—free community dinner on the last Saturday (December 28) of each month at 5:30; servants are need to assist with all aspects of this ministry; please contact Karen Martin at dansgirl9065@sbcglobal.net for more details

**SEE PAGE TWO FOR
ADVENT KNOW, GROW, SHOW OPPORTUNITIES**

This & That

AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRL TROOP UPDATE

- AHG is a non-profit organization dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country.

The first meeting has been rescheduled for January 9, 2014. Please contact Syndie Toth at mrstoth@sbcglobal.net for more info

STAY CONNECTED

- To **stay up to date** on what is happening with our Children & Family Ministries, please be sure Tammy has your current email address. Please email her at tpaler-mo@mentorumc.org to stay connected!

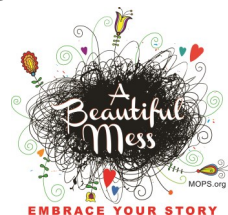
REGISTRATION FORM

- A current form needs to be completed for each child for 2013-14.
- Download: <http://tinyurl.com/MUMCKidMinReg>
- Online: <http://tinyurl.com/CFMReg13-14>




MOPS & MOMSnext: “A Beautiful Mess: Embrace Your Story”

- “Together-MESS”: Friday, December 13 from 9:30 am-12 pm
- MOPS: moms with children birth through kindergarten
 - MOMSnext: moms with school aged children
- To learn more, and/or reserve childcare: email mops@mentorumc.org or call 255-3496x18 by December 10



DECEMBER

PARENTS PAGE



Christmas family traditions should be simple and easy to do year in, year out. The purpose of a tradition is to create family unity, not to put too much pressure on an already pressure-cooker time of year. Here's how to become inspired enough to create your own family traditions.

What is a Christmas tradition?

Christmas traditions are as diverse as the culture and religious practices of each and every country in the world. When was the first Christmas card sent? Why do we kiss under the mistletoe? What on earth possesses us to put up a Christmas tree every year? It's all about tradition - something which has enough meaning for us to repeat year in and year out.

Which traditions do you want for your family at Christmas?

Do you want traditions that will be remembered for their fun, humor and good feelings? Or would you prefer more meaningful traditions that celebrate spirituality and giving? Think about which traditions will work for your family and the personalities involved.

Fun and meaningful Christmas traditions can be as simple as:

- Having all the kids in the extended family put on a Christmas play or a comedy show for the adults
- Drive around to look at the local Christmas lights
- Play Christmas games on Christmas day
- Watch your favorite Christmas movies
- Cook your own favorite family recipes for a feast
- Call or Skype faraway relatives
- Add handprints to a home-made tablecloth or make your own handprinted shopping bag to give to grandparents
- Choose to give a present of each child's choosing on Christmas Eve



Advent Opportunities—Know, Grow, and Show—at Mentor UMC

KNOW

- **"We Three Spies"** Saturday, December 7, 2013 4 pm in the Sanctuary; Potluck dinner to follow in Fellowship Hall: A-L main dish feeding 6-8 people; M-Z side dish or salad

GROW

- **Advent Devotional** <http://tinyurl.com/MUMCAAdvDevo13>
- **Christmas Caroling** Sunday, December 22 at 3 pm at Hope Ridge UMC <http://tinyurl.com/XmasCaroling13>

SHOW

- **Advent Wreath Candle Lighters** sign up
 - ⇒ iConnect <http://tinyurl.com/iConAdvCan>
 - ⇒ Sanctuary <http://tinyurl.com/MUMCAAdvCan>
- **Food Sorting** Sunday, December 15 from 12-3 pm; **Food Distribution** Monday, December 16 from 9 am to 12 pm

