

Mentor United Methodist Church Children & Family Ministries Parent Newsletter December 2015

"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 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

- Sunday School
 - •Ages 0-4 in Early Childhood Area
 - •K-6th Grades in Education Wing
 - mentorumc.org/sunday-school
- •StuCo 56
 - •December 13 from 12:00-1:00 pm
 - •December 13 from 5:30-7:30 pm
 - •December 27 from 7:00-9:00 pm @ Scores
 - •mentorumc.org/stucco-56
- •Generations, family fellowship group
 - •Christmas Musical & Potluck—Saturday, December 12 at 4 pm
 - •ALL Church Caroling—Sunday, December 20 from 3:00-5:30 pm
 - mentorumc.ora/aenerations

•Advent Calendars for sale for \$5

SHOW through Service and Outreach

- Food Sorting
 - •Sunday, December 13 from 12:00-2:00 pm
 - Can be done together as a FAMILY
- Food Distribution
 - •Monday, December 14 from 9:00-10:30 am
 - •Can be done with PRESCHOOLERS
- •Sunday school Servant sign up at mentorumc.org/Sunday-school
 - •Winter Quarter is OPEN for sign ups
- •More Than a Meal, free community dinner, on the last Saturday (December 26) of each month at 5:30; please contact Karen Martin at dansgirl9065@sbcglobal.net

This & That

STAY CONNECTED

Stay up to date on what is happening with our KidMin & FamMin <u>tpalermo@mentorumc.org</u>

REGISTRATION FORM

A current form needs to be completed for each child for 2015-16 <u>mentorumc.org/children</u>

2015-16 Theme: A Fierce Flourishing

For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ~Isaiah 55:12



DECEMBER MEETINGS: Friday, December 11th ((IM)Perfect Poinsettias; RSVP by Dec. 8) from 9:30 am to noon at Mentor UMC's Fellowship Hall and MONDAY, December 14 from 9:00-

10:30 am for Food Distribution

WHO: Moms with children of all ages; childcare provided for moms who RSVP

WHAT: An opportunity to connect with other moms





We as parents are on the search for the "perfect" gift this (okay, EVERY) Christmas. We get caught up in the trap that our kids want "stuff" when the reality is that they want US! They want us to put down our devices and be with them in the moment. As we head into Christmas, please remember that the best gift you can give your child is your PRESENCE not presents.

Merry Christmas to my Mentor UMC Family, Tammy



Does your family have a Christmas heritage? Many families today are missing out on the joy of traditions in the home. Traditions build memories, stability, and unity in the family. Start your own heritage this year. Incorporate one of these ideas, or an idea from your own childhood into this year's Christmas celebrations.

- Nativity "Dinner Guests"-Place one figure from the nativity scene by each dinner plate. Ask each person to share what that character contributed to the Christmas story.
- Box of Love-Each family member writes a Christmas card for Jesus. On each card write, "I will show my love for Jesus this Christmas by......" Complete the cards by writing a project of love to be done for someone else. All projects are placed in a box, kept secret, and finished by Christmas. On Christmas morning, open the gift with all the cards and have each family member read their card and tell what they did to show someone the love of Jesus.
- Year in Review-Record memories of your family in 2016. Gather the family, pass out mugs of hot chocolate, and think of memories that begin with each letter of the alphabet. Let mom or dad be the secretary and write down your memories from A to Z. Examples: A (answer to prayer), B (bubble blowing contest), or C (catching fireflies in the dark).
- Tour the Neighborhood-Pile the family in your vehicle and roam around your neighborhood searching for the best Christmas lights. When a winner has been agreed upon by all the family members, take homemade treats to the door of the winning home.