

# ROOTED

## Mentor United Methodist Church Children & Family Ministries Parent Newsletter May 2016

“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](http://mentorumc.org/Sunday-school)
- **StuCo 56 & Generations, family fellowship group**
  - **ENCOURAGED** to participate in **Change the World Day** on Saturday, May 14

**SHOW** through Service and Outreach

- **Heifer International Project**
  - Noisy Offering May 1
  - [mentorumc.org/heifer-project](http://mentorumc.org/heifer-project)

- **Vacation Bible School Servant** sign up at [mentorumc.org/summer-programs](http://mentorumc.org/summer-programs)
- **SUMMER Sunday school Servant** sign up at [mentorumc.org/Sunday-school](http://mentorumc.org/Sunday-school)
- **More Than a Meal**, free community dinner, on the last Saturday (May 28) of each month at 5:30; please contact the church office for details

### **This & That**

#### **STAY CONNECTED**

Stay up to date on what is happening with our KidMin & FamMin [tpalermo@mentorumc.org](mailto:tpalermo@mentorumc.org)

#### **REGISTRATION FORM**

A current form needs to be completed for each child for 2015-16 [mentorumc.org/children](http://mentorumc.org/children)

#### **SUMMER DATES ANNOUNCED**

- Vacation Bible School: June 20-24
- Get Out Doors Camp: June 20-24
- Theatre Arts Camp: July 18-22 AND 25-29
- [mentorumc.org/summer-programs](http://mentorumc.org/summer-programs)



### **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*



#### **MAY FRIDAY MEETINGS**

May 13 “Collecting Memories from Your Garden” (RSVP by April 5)  
from 9:30 am to noon at Mentor UMC’s Fellowship Hall

May 27 from 9:30-11:30 am for MOPS Playgroup and MOMSnext Discussion “Caring for Yourself”



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

**WHAT:** An opportunity to connect with other moms

[mentorumc.org/MOPS](http://mentorumc.org/MOPS)   [mops@mentorumc.org](mailto:mops@mentorumc.org)   [mumcmomstalk.wordpress.com/](http://mumcmomstalk.wordpress.com/)

## What Kids Do on Sunday Mornings at Mentor UMC...

Over the past many months changes have occurred to our Children's Ministry space physically as well as spiritually. The physical changes are fairly obvious as they have been witnessed, but the spiritual changes are not as noticeable. To help everyone realize what happens on a typical Sunday morning, keep reading.

The babies, toddlers, and two year olds are checked in to the Early Childhood Area where they are safely cared for while their parents are in worship. The three and four year olds are also checked in to the Early Childhood Area and then move to their classroom to experience TruBlessings, where children have the opportunity to engage in hands-on activities, celebrate God together, and discover God's Word.

The elementary age children check in to classrooms in the Education Wing according to their grade level. Once they arrive, they Anticipate the lesson for the morning in the first ten minutes. They then meet in Room 112 for Celebrate, the lesson, The Big God Story, and a time of worship takes place for thirty minutes. Following the Celebrate portion of the lesson, they return to their small groups for the Respond and Blessing.

TruStory reveals God's redemptive plan through the telling of The Big God Story. Kids in Kindergarten through Sixth grade experience God through exciting activities, meaningful times of response and blessing, creative storytelling and more. The Big God Story is told as one large group by one leader. All the children hear the same story and then respond to the story in age appropriate ways. This helps keep prep to a minimum for the small group leaders.

Tru curriculum has proven to be an effect way for our kids to experience the love of God and how to draw closer to Him as they navigate life. Parents are encouraged to engage with their

children throughout the week to be the leaders in their child's faith formation. Unfortunately, the time needed for Tru to be successful does not allow for our children to be in worship every Sunday. This is why the Children's Message that was occurring in the Sanctuary service was eliminated. Family Worship is an important part of our children's spiritual development. This takes place the first Sunday of every month and allows our children to be ACTIVE participants by reading scripture and leading parts of the liturgy. In order for the Children's Ministry to be successful in sharing the love of Jesus with our kids, Tammy needs adults and youth to serve on Sunday mornings.

Here are several **MYTHS** about serving in Children's Ministry:

- ♦ I have to be the parent of children in the program. FACT: Tammy welcomes adults of all ages to share their love of Jesus with our kids.
- ♦ I have to know the Bible. FACT: Not true! She provides you with lesson plans that are VERY user friendly.
- ♦ I have to commit to a school year. FACT: The time commitment to serve is for THREE months or THIRTEEN Sundays for those serving with our kids ages 0-4 or TEN Sundays for those serving with our kids in K-6th Grade.
- ♦ I will miss hearing the sermon that Sunday. FACT: The sermons are posted online at <http://mentorumc.org/sermons>.
- ♦ I am not creative. FACT: The lesson plan offers the creative activities as well as a keep it simple alternative idea.

If you are hearing God's call to serve in Children's Ministry, please contact Tammy at [tpaler-mo@mentorumc.org](mailto:tpaler-mo@mentorumc.org). She will be happy to offer areas where you can be the light of Jesus to our kids!

## PARENTS PAGE

God has given mothers a special place in the raising of their children. It is often mothers who spend countless hours caring and praying for their children. The book of Samuel tells the story of a mother who should be an inspiration to all moms. Hannah desperately wanted a child. She prayed and asked for God's help. A promise was made to the Lord. If Hannah had a son, she would dedicate the child to the Lord. God answered Hannah's prayers, and she soon gave birth to a boy named Samuel. When Samuel was old enough, Hannah took him to the tabernacle to live and serve God. No doubt Hannah loved her son, and prayed for him often. Samuel became one of the greatest prophets of the Old Testament. He was greatly used of God, and all because he had a mother who dedicated her child to her Lord. As Mother's Day approaches, think of those little blessings God has given you. Take time to pray for them, and dedicate them to the Lord. You never know what great work He may have them accomplish!