IN THIS ISSUE

2017 Annual Stewardship Campaign

From the Pastor

Poinsettia Order Form

Ministry Events and Updates

Through the Years

Calendar

Stewardship Campaign

“Church – The First Social Network”

During the first three Sundays of November, we will be looking at 2 Corinthians. This was a letter written to a first century church where the people were learning to live together in Christian community.

Whenever two or more are gathered together in Jesus’ name, we will be challenged to...

Reconcile (forgive)
• 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

Develop the life-line of Christian friendships
• 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

Give in a way that blesses the community of faith
• 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Special Interest

On Sunday, November 19, we will have the opportunity to make our financial commitments for 2018.
From the Pastor

‘In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.’ (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

During my college days, I was walking across campus when I spotted a female student I did not know, who was clearly distraught. Her frantic face and actions told me something was terribly wrong. As I approached her across the campus lawn, she cried out to me. “I lost my engagement ring! I just slipped off my finger.” I joined her in the frantic search, pacing back and forth, looking for the ring, flashing gold or a shining diamond. After a few minutes of search, my eyes fell upon the missing ring bedded neatly in the grass and reached to retrieve it. Turning to her with the ring between my thumb and forefinger, I declared, “I found it!” She came running in my direction. As her eyes fell upon her lost and found ring, the look of frantic fear turned to ecstatic relief and joy.

A news service organization shared the story of a Canadian woman, Mary Grams, 84, who lost her engagement ring 13 years ago while weeding her garden on the family farm. It, too, was found after her daughter-in-law discovered the ring while harvesting carrots. While pulling the carrots, she noticed one of them looked strange. She almost fed it to her dog but decided to keep it and just threw it in her pail. When she was washing the carrots, she noticed the carrot had grown through the ring. Grams said she was eager to try the ring on again after so many years. With family looking, on she washed the ring with a little soap to get the dirt off. It slid on her finger as easily as it did when her husband gave it to her. She is wearing it proudly again. (Taken from Illustration Exchange)

It is easy to be thankful when we are blessed with good results. Gratitude is easy when the lost is found, the diagnosis is good, the weather is nice and we’re eating good. Thankfulness slips off our tongue when we look around the world and realize how fortunate we are to live in America, that we have plenty to eat and we’re enriched with wonderful relationships. But the instruction to the Christians in Thessalonica was to give thanks for everything. This is a mystery!

One day, my wife Nancy took our children to the county fair. During the day, as she trampled through sawdust floored livestock barns and rows of countless exhibits; as she rode with our small children on carnival rides, somewhere, who knows where, her diamond came loose from the setting and was lost. There was no happy ending to this story. How can you be thankful for that?

Just as life can bring the good, life brings hardship; like when the diagnosis is not good, rain falls on the family reunion, and the “Cinderella” story doesn’t play out with “happily ever after.” How can we be thankful in this? I don’t think Paul meant to say that we rejoice in disappointment and hardship; what he meant was that despite the hardship and pain, in the bigger picture we find that God still loves us and cares about us. That God holds the future and we can find redemption in Jesus, whereby the momentary set-backs are seen against the backdrop of eternity. We give thanks, not for the bad, but for the larger good that we find in Jesus. Paul said, “...give thanks...in Christ Jesus.”

During this month where we come together to be thankful for our many blessings, let’s also focus on the larger picture we have in Christ and find a grateful heart, not only November 23, but each day throughout the year.

- Pastor Kurt
Deeper - Discipleship
Ministries, cont.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

KNOW
- Sunday Mornings
- Nursery to 4 years old go to Early Childhood
- K-6th grade Kids’ Journey Groups go to Children & Youth
- Hallway with K-2nd Grade sign in Room 107; 3rd-4th Grade sign in Room 104; 5th-6th Grade sign in Room 103
- FIRST Sunday of the month, K-6th grade children join their parent/guardians in worship
  - www.menonmc.org/sunday-school

GROW
- MOPS & MOMNext Monthly Meeting
  - Fellowship Hall on Friday, November 10 from 9:30 am to noon
  - Service opportunity on Monday, November 12 from 9:00-11:00 am
- “Free Indeed”
  - www.menonmc.org/mopa
  - 5Co 56, 5th & 6th grade youth group
- Meeting Sunday, November 11 from 6:00-8:00 pm
  - www.menonmc.org/btcoa-66

SHOW
- Sunday School Leadership sign up: www.menonmc.org/sunday-school
- Children’s Choir (1-4 Gr) rehearses 10:15-10:45 in Room 102
- Cherub Choir (3, 4, 5 YO, K) rehearses 10:15-10:35 in Room 104

Catalyst Ministries
Missions Commission will be collecting school supplies as part of the School Partnership Program with Catalyst Ministries. Please place donations in the labeled box located behind the sign-up center. These supplies will be donated to Chestnut Elementary School where MUMC has a dozen individuals building relationships with teachers and kids by volunteering in classrooms. Donations will be accepted through November 12.

COST: $10

Outward - Outreach, Missions & Special Events

COST: $10

Calendar: Collectively Scheduled Weekly November Meetings:
These meetings are listed here instead of the calendar. Please see other events on the calendar page.

COST: $10

MUMC Food Pantry
Volunteers are needed to sort food donations, prepare food boxes and bags, and distribute food to identified families. This all takes place here at MUMC!

November dates are:
- Sunday, November 5: Grocery bags for donations distributed after service
- Sunday, November 12: Grocery bags collected
- Monday, November 13: Donations sorted and repackaged 9:1 PM
- Tuesday, November 14: Distribution 4-8 PM
- Tuesday, November 14: Distribution 12 noon to 2 PM

December dates are:
- Sunday, December 3: Grocery bags for donations distributed after service
- Sunday, December 10: Grocery bags collected
- Monday, December 11: Donations sorted and repackaged 9:1 PM
- Tuesday, December 13: Distribution 4-8 PM
- Tuesday, December 13: Distribution 12 noon to 2 PM

If you can help in November, December or both, contact Mike Cosmo at mc.cosmo@sbcglobal.net or 440-255-7452.

International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day
Join a community of suicide loss survivors to find comfort and gain understanding as we share stories of healing and hope.
- Keynote speaker: Deb Straniere, Teacher at Gesu Catholic School
- Guest speaker: Lara Proegler, Natural Wellness Consultant
- Saturday, November 18 at 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM
- This free event is located at the Concord Township Community Center 7671 Auburn Road, Concord Township, OH 44077
- For reservations contact crgrady@lakeaudubon.org
- 440.350.2196 or contact Rev. Beverly Wrobel at blwrobel@menorunc.org

13 Reasons to Talk With Your Kids About “13 Reasons Why”
The popular Netflix series “13 Reasons Why” follows the fictional story of a teenage girl who leaves behind 13 mysterious audio recordings after killing herself. Renowned speaker and author Kevin Hines will lead the discussion about the myths and facts about suicide. He is a survivor of attempted suicide by jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge.

- Monday, December 4 at 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM
- Auburn Career Center 8160 Auburn Rd., Painesville, Enter at Door 33, south side of parking lot
- Free event. RSVP to Pam Schafer-Jones at 440-639-1200 or pam@namlake.org

Outward - Outreach, Missions & Special Events, cont.

Hope Chest
Winter is coming upon us and Hope Chest is in need of fully-sized blankets (not afghans), towels and wash cloths. These items may be put in the Hope Chest box, which is located behind the sign-up center. Thank you so much for meeting the needs of this organization.

Giftshare: Surviving the Holidays
A free video seminar and support group for those who are grieving.
What to do with your holiday emotions • Planning the holiday season • Tips for surviving social events and holiday pain
Attend one of two different times: Friday, November 17, 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM or Tuesday, November 28, 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM. Registration is not necessary but helpful.
Contact Rev. Beverly Wrobel at bwrobel@mentorumc.org or 440-255-3496 x106.

CURRENT INFO and CHILD REGISTRATION FORMS: www.menonmc.org/children
**Annual Gingerbread House Craft Show**

Come shop the wonderful array of handmade gift items by over 85 local crafters & vendors. Attic Treasures, Bake Shoppe, Middlefield cheese, and more.

The Gingerbread House Craft Show is sponsored by the Mentor United Methodist Women.

All proceeds benefit the local, national, and international mission projects of the UMW.

Friday, November 3, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday, November 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Through The Years - St. Paul’s United Methodist Church**

Tiffin, Ohio is the county seat of Seneca County. It is located about 55 miles southeast of Toledo. It is the home of both Heidelberg and Tiffin Universities. Tiffin is also the home of St. Paul’s United Methodist Church which enjoys a unique distinction in history.

The congregation began in 1823 and held services in the Hedges building. The building had three levels, each serving a different purpose. The basement was a jail, the first floor was a store, and the second floor was used as a court room during the week and for church services on Sunday. Their first regular preacher was hired in 1824 which is the date the church considers its founding. The church built its own building in 1828. A second building was dedicated in 1849.

The church continued to grow and a third building was needed and ground was broken for it in 1873. On February 21, 1875 four rooms on the first floor were dedicated. The second floor, however, was not completed until 1883, due to the economic depression that made funding difficult. This floor would house the sanctuary of the church. During that same year, plans were underway to erect the Edison Electric Illuminating Company in Tiffin. An enterprising contractor decided to wire the church building’s second floor for electric lights, which made St. Paul’s the first public building in the world wired for electricity while under construction. Thomas Edison gave the church an ornate brass electric light chandelier. This chandelier is still in use today. The completed building was dedicated on January 6, 1884.

St. Paul’s UMC was named an Historic Site by the United Methodist Church in 1985. In 2001, it received an Ohio Historical Marker. St. Paul’s is also on the National Register of Historic Places. Quite a distinction for a Methodist church located in Ohio!

Do you have any MUMC history you would like to share with the congregation? Please send it to: Don Humphrey 7330 Holly Park Dr. Concord, OH 44060-6704 or dumphrey@ameritech.net