

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2, 2025

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MENTORUMC.ORG

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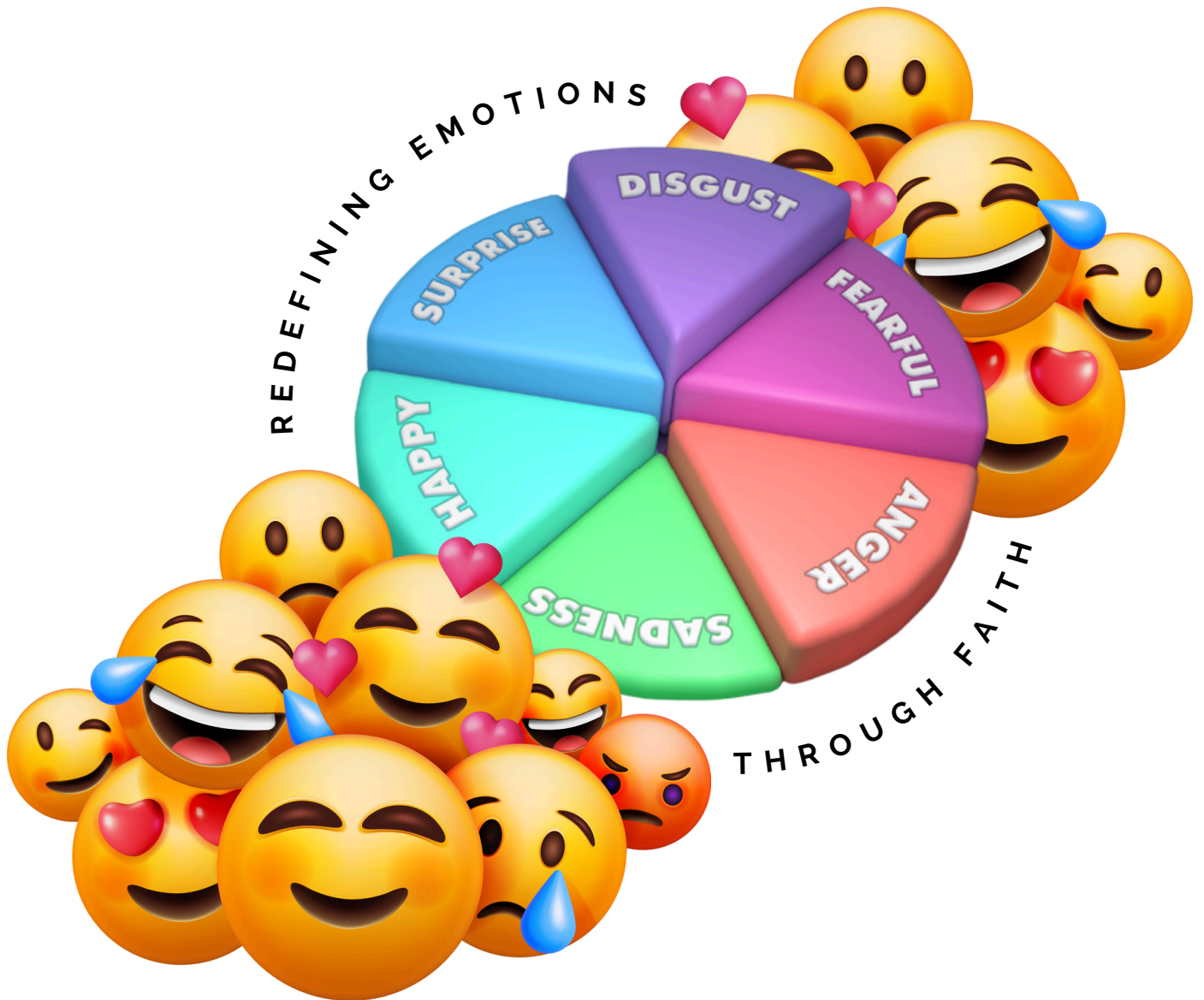
Worship with us in-person or online:

Mentorumc.org, [Facebook](#), and [Youtube](#)

Worship Schedule

9 AM Modern

11 AM Traditional



Pastor's Letter

**You're Not the Boss of Me:
Redefining Emotions
Through Faith - Fear**

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. – 1 John 4:18 – ESV

When I was about 7 years old, my dad was doing some work on the roof of our two-story home. The aluminum extension ladder that he used was leaning against the house at a steep angle. I couldn't resist. I wanted to be on the roof with my dad. So, I started climbing up the ladder. I got to within a couple rungs from the roof when I froze. I couldn't move. I thought for sure I would die. The wind at that height was probably not much different than down below, but when mixed with my fear and anxiety, it felt like a storm determined to see me fall to my doom! I couldn't go up and I couldn't go down. I was convinced that the slightest move at all would be the last move of my life!

Fear can be paralyzing! Have you experienced it? How so? Was it on a ladder like me or in some other situation? Were you eventually set free, or are you still there unable to move up or down?

Fortunately for me, when I was stuck on that ladder, I was able to cry for help. My dad heard me and came over. Gently and patiently, he was able to coach me down the ladder one step at a time. "Just keep looking at me. I'm holding the ladder steady. It won't go anywhere. I've got you. I promise!"

I think of that experience when I read 1 John 4:18. God has promised to be with us. No matter the situation, we can cry out for help. God's love is so perfect that it drives out fear. And, as long as we keep our eyes on Jesus, our Lord will gently guide us through our fear. Our Lord will reach out and steady whatever metaphorical scary ladder we are stuck on, assuring us that he's got us. Sometimes, we are guided back down to the safety of the ground. But, other times, our Savior is encouraging us to keep climbing. "You're doing great! I'm with you. I'm going to help you every step of the way. You can do this!"

In the past two weeks, I have heard several people, both Democrats and Republicans, express concerns and fears about some of the decisions of our new president. Some fear for themselves and how these changes will affect their own lives. Others fear for their neighbors across the country whose situations put them at greater risk. Still others have expressed fear for the future of our country. Along with their fears are the emotions that often accompany fear such as feeling anxious, scared, insecure, worried and helpless.



At the same time, some of our siblings in Christ see our new president as making bold and courageous decisions that will make our country stronger and better. More than fear, they feel hopeful and encouraged.

Whatever our hopes and fears, whatever our political perspectives, as followers of Jesus and fellow members of Mentor UMC, what is God calling us to do? Based on 1 John 4:18, let us embrace love – love for God, love for one another, love for ourselves, even love for our fears. Can we listen to our fears and listen to the fears of one another? Can we listen to our hopes and the hopes of one another? How might we invite God to guide us into deeper understanding of one another, perfecting us in God's love, helping us channel our emotions of fear and hope toward compassion, humility, discernment and action? What can we learn from others who have responded to their fear with hope and action in faith?



Black History month reminds us of our African American siblings in Christ who demonstrated the power of love to make change. Let's learn and relearn the stories of those who heard God's voice calling them to keep moving, trusting that God was with them, trusting God's love to be witnessed through non-violent protests. Let's be reminded of the words of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., "Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that." Let Mentor UMC be known as a church where love that casts out fear is being perfected in Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Steve

Care CONGREGATIONAL

In our prayers today & in your personal prayer time, please remember the following:

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

The Enclave - Delores Tackett, Johanna Kessler, Dee Smith,
Mary Lou Haines, John Shetler, Carol Anderson

Governors Point - Doris Sturm

Parker Place - Bill Owen, Bob & Sandy Linsell,
Deloris Parsons, Mary Ann Haycox

Tapestry - Gloria McFeely

Symphony of Mentor - Lorraine Ahlstrom

Breckenridge/Fairmount - Patricia Laubscher

Village of St. Edward: Dale Porter

Holly Hill - Floyd Richards

Brookdale - Bill Wolfgang

Mentor Ridge - Russ Lancaster

Concord Ridge - Jack Brown

Members who are in need of prayer:

Karen Mancini, Marilyn Oliver, Luke Sanvido,
Bob Linsell, Joan Korenko, Kay Feiten

YOU'RE NOT THE BOSS OF ME!

REDEFINING EMOTIONS THROUGH FAITH

JANUARY 26 - FEBRUARY 16

January 26 - Surprise, You're Not the Boss of Me!
February 2 - Fearful, You're Not the Boss of Me!
February 9 - Anger, You're Not the Boss of Me!
February 16 - Happy, You're Not the Boss of Me!

Join us in-person or online
Sundays 9 AM and 11 AM



Need to Know

Youversion

<https://bible.com/events/49383803>

Learn more about Sunday's scriptures & worship by visiting this link.

Healthy Congregations Workshop

ALL are invited to attend the Healthy Congregations Workshop on Saturday, February 8th from 9-4 PM. This workshop is about understanding the church as a system of relationships. It helps church members, leaders, staff and pastors recognize how anxiety works in a system and equips us to be better non-anxious leaders that elevate the health of the whole Body of Christ. The cost is \$15 and can be paid by cash or through our online giving. [Click here to access the registration form](#)

YSP Fundraising

Youth Service Project fundraising has begun! Purchase a stock, come to the Bake Sale on the 9th, and mark your calendars for the BIG Event and the Plant sale in May. Support YSP as they prepare for their trip to God's Country Cooperative Parrish in Newberry, MI. Learn more about Stock options by clicking [here](#).

Nametag Reminder

Please remember to wear your nametag on Sunday mornings to help others get to know you. You can order church nametags from the office.

Bread, Broth, Brownies, & Bingo

Join Mentor UWF for February's bread, broth, and brownies luncheon! The menu includes dinner rolls, vegetable beef soup, salad, and butterscotch chip brownies. This month's theme is "Sharing God's Love," and you are invited to bring any of the following items to share with Project Hope for the Homeless: 10-12 oz. disposable cups, plasticware, Lysol spray, toilet bowl cleaner, 33-gallon trash bags. We hope to see you on Wednesday, February 12th at noon in the MUMC Gallery! Please RSVP to uwf@mentorumc.org, register [online here](#), or sign up in the Info Hub.

Caring Servants

Caring Servants meet on February 12th from 3 to 4:30 PM at Mentor UMC.

Greeters

[Sign up online](#) to serve on Sunday morning as a greeter. You can also find a signup in the Info Hub.

Visit from the Bishop

Join us in worship on February 23rd when Bishop Jung comes to preach. Bishop Jung's current bio can be found on the East Ohio Conference [website here](#).

Journey Groups

Join a journey group this winter/spring! There are openings in the groups below. To learn more about each group please [visit our site](#) or get in touch with Pastor Tammy.

- Sundays @ 10 AM
 - in-person
 - Led by Barry & Johanna Martin
 - Studying *Deborah Unlikely Heroes and the Book of Judges*
- Sundays @ 7 PM
 - in-person
 - Led by Craig Eppler & Fourniers
 - Studying *RC Sproul* video series
- Tuesdays @ 9:30 AM
 - in-person
 - OPTION ONE: Led by Lindsay McFadden & Sue Patterson - Studying *Everywhere is Jerusalem* by James C. Howell
 - OPTION TWO: Led by Carole Ring - Studying *Reckless Love: Jesus' Call to Love Our Neighbor* by Tom Berlin (in-person AND online)

Hope Chest

Nearly 60 years ago, a handful of teachers in Painesville, who were also members of the Painesville UMC, realized that some children weren't walking to school in the Winter because they didn't have coats to wear. Hope Chest was the ministry born out of that need.

Hope Chest has been providing coats, boots, gloves and other clothing to children in Lake Co ever since. Since then, they've expanded their service to include adult clothing & household goods. Several churches, including Mentor UMC, have partnered with Hope Chest from nearly the beginning.

Mentor UMC Missions Commission has dedicated **Sunday, February 16th** as "Hope Chest Day" and we will be hosting an informational "Soup & Sandwich" Lunch between the 9 & 11 Services.

Jan Milazzotto, current Executive Director of Hope Chest, will give a short presentation during worship.

This is primarily an informational opportunity. Hope Chest has just moved into a new facility with new challenges and will be sharing their vision going forward and the type of support they need.

As you are aware, we often turn to our very generous congregation to ask for support for the many, many needs of our local, national, and international community. We can be proud that Mentor UMC always responds. We appreciate your gifts and ask only that you give what you are able and to those needs that touch your heart.

We hope to see you on February 16th.

Blessings,

The Missions Commission

What's Your M.O.? Mission Opportunities

YSP Bake Sale

Join us after service on February 9th for the YSP Bake Sale. Proceeds go to the Youth Service Project Trip this summer.

Welcome Center Hospitality

Sign up online to volunteer your time at the Welcome Desk in the Gallery on Sunday mornings. Answer questions from visitors about our church worship and ministry moments, pass out welcome bags, and develop an initial relationship with the visitor. Contact Chris Fletcher with any questions or [signup here](#).

Birthright Fundraiser

All are invited to 'Light Up the Night' with Birthright on February 20th at Villa Croatia in Eastlake for an evening of fun, food, and fashion to support moms and little ones in need. Enjoy raffle baskets, a silent auction, a heartfelt fashion show with supporters, clients and children models, and inspiring stories from moms. Proceeds provide critical essentials like diapers, formula, and health items not covered by government assistance. Tickets are available now at birthrightlake.org

Blood Drive

The next Blood Drive is Tuesday, March 18th. Signup [online here](#) or at our site.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Join us on Sunday, February 9th for Souper Bowl of Caring, the annual fundraiser on Super Bowl Sunday. We will be taking donations in cans based on which team you are rooting for (proceeds go to Project Hope).

Snacks for Theatre Kids

[Sign up online](#) to donate snacks for the kids of Memorial Middle School as they rehearse this winter for their upcoming performance under the guidance of Pastor Tammy and Kat Fisher. This ministry is so important in building connections out in the community.

More Than a Meal

More Than a Meal is a free meal that is served to the community on the last Saturday of each month. The next MTAM is Saturday, February 22nd at MUMC. Doors open at 5 PM and meal is served at 5:30 PM. You can sign up to help with this monthly mission online. Visit our site or [click here](#).

MENTOR UMC

WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

Sunday Morning Kids

9:00 & 11:00 AM at MUMC for all services.

- ALL ages are encouraged to check in at the Early Childhood Center (or Gallery, if available).
- Grades K-5 begin in worship with their families and then be dismissed to the Education Wing.

Sunday Morning Signup

MUMC's mission is to lead all onto a path of Christ-centered discipleship. Here is a great place to do just that! [Click here for leader signup.](#) There are spots for various ages/levels, so check out what section works for you!

"Worship one, serve one!"

2024-2025 Preschool Reg

There are still a few openings for 2024-2025 Preschool. If you have questions or wish to register, please contact State Manager, Brittany Jones at bjones.preschool@mentorunc.org.

Pre-Reg for 2025-2026

Pre-register for the 2025-2026 school year at MUMC: [link here.](#) Get in touch with Brittany Jones to learn more: bjones.preschool@mentorunc.org

MOMCo

MOMCo meets Fridays in the Gallery from 9 AM - 12 PM. Upcoming dates:
February 14, 28
March 14, 28
April 11, 25
May 9, 23

Child & Caregiver Class

Age 2 ½ to 3 ½
9:15-10:45 AM in the Early Childhood Area

- WINTER: February 5, 12, 19, 26, March 5
- SPRING: March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14

Cost is \$60 per 8 week session (prepaid, non-refundable). [Apply here!](#)

Middle School

Grades 6-8 are welcome Sundays from 9:15-10 AM in the Youth Room.

Youth Group

Youth are invited to meet on the second and fourth Sunday evenings of the month in the Youth Room from 4-6 PM. Upcoming dates:
Feb 9 & 23

Memorial Middle School

Get your tickets for Memorial's production of *Beauty and the Beast* on February 21st & 22nd which Pastor Tammy & Kat Fisher have been working closely with the students on. [Click here!](#)

Young Adult Small Group

Young Adults are encouraged to join a small group that meets in-person and online regularly. This group is ongoing and accepting new friends at anytime. [Sign up online](#) or get in touch with Mackalyn.

Ice Skating

Youth will meet at Mentor Civic Center to ice skate from 1:30 to 3:30 PM on Sunday, February 2nd. Cost is \$11. Let Mackalyn know if you need a ride. [Signup here.](#)

Hockey Game

Youth are invited to a Monsters Hockey game in Cleveland on Saturday, March 1st. Tickets will be about \$20-30 and individuals will be responsible for their own concessions. First twelve kids to sign up will get their ticket half off! Click here to [sign up.](#)

