

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

FEBRUARY 23, 2025

8600 MENTOR AVE

MENTOR OH 44060

MENTORUMC.ORG

440.255.3496

Worship with us in-person or online:
Mentorumc.org, Facebook, and Youtube

Worship Schedule

9 AM Modern

11 AM Traditional



But I say to you who are willing to hear: Love your enemies. – Luke 6:27

Pastor's Letter

Have you ever heard this verse? Did you know that Jesus tells us to love our enemies? My guess is that most of us have heard this before. I'd also guess that most of us don't think about this verse on a regular basis. If we are honest, we might even admit that this is one of those verses we tend to gloss over like other passages that make us uncomfortable. For such a short passage, it raises a lot of questions.

What does it mean to love someone? Is loving your enemy the same as loving your neighbor? Who is our enemy? Are we supposed to even have enemies? Should we not focus first on the people who mean the most to us before spending energy trying to love our enemies? After all, most of us could do a better job showing our love for our loved ones. What stories or exercises have shaped your understanding of love, enemies, of loving your enemies?

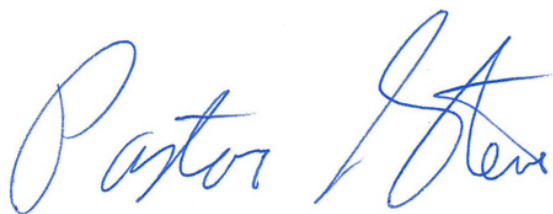
I remember when I was in the first grade. It was the first week of school. My assigned seat was next to a kid named Jimmy Thraw. In an effort to get to know Jimmy, I challenged him to a pencil fight! I pulled out my pencil and braced it between my hands inviting Jimmy to flick it with his pencil in an attempt to break it. Jimmy accepted the challenge and we carried out the fight discretely behind our desks so the teacher wouldn't see. After a few rounds, I succeeded in breaking Jimmy's pencil, thereby declaring myself the winner! But then, Jimmy pulled out another pencil and stabbed me in the arm with it! I was sent to the school nurse, and Jimmy was sent to the principal's office. I decided for certain on that day that Jimmy was not going to be a friend. Jimmy was my enemy! I still have a scar with a little piece of lead under my skin! Ask me, I'll show you.

A few weeks later, my parents were planning a birthday party for me. They asked me who I wanted to invite. I thought of about seven friends to invite. My dad said, "I think we should invite Jimmy Thraw." I said, "No way! He's not a friend, he's an enemy! Dad, he stabbed me with a pencil!" My dad persisted and Jimmy Thraw came to my party! Looking back, I'm glad he did.

Though at first, it was a bit awkward, but the end of the party, Jimmy apologized for stabbing me and thanked me for inviting him. We became friends and our friendship lasted throughout our school years.

I think of that experience with Jimmy when I read this passage about loving your enemies. What do you think about? How has this verse affected your life thus far? How might it affect your life ahead?

I look forward to wrestling with these questions together in worship this Sunday.



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

Concord Ridge - Jack Brown

Members who are in need of prayer:

Kay Feiten, Sally Carr, Weiss Family, Sean McArthur, Hilary Pleska,
Jeff Klein, Lois Dyckman

**Love & Sympathy to the family of Jack Brown, who passed on Saturday,
February 15, 2025. His service will be March 14th at 12 PM at Brunners,
calling Hours 10 AM-12 PM.**



YOU'RE INVITED TO

 Dinner with Jesus 

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER
March 12, 19, 26, April 2

SUNDAY WORSHIP
March 9 - April 6

March 9: Celebration March 30: Ministration
March 16: Invitation April 6: Preparation
March 23: Intention

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

 MENTOR
United Methodist Church

 www.mentoruc.org

Lent Sermon Series & Dinners

Lent is almost here! Join us for our sermon series, "Dinners with Jesus" that take a look at stories in the Bible that highlight meals with Jesus culminating in Holy Week services & Lenten offerings. We will once again gather on Wednesday evenings to enjoy fellowship and a dinner followed by classes and groups that are open to all. [Register online here.](#)

Church Directory

The Church Directories are IN and available for pickup in the Information Hub on Sunday, February 23rd. If you can't make it in person we'll set yours aside for pickup in the church office during the week. We are asking that you only take one per family.

Part of the cost of the directories was graciously covered by our Cornerstone ministry. We are asking for additional support through donations to cover the remainder of the cost of these long awaited books. Donations can be dropped off in the church office. Thank you to the Directory Committee for their hard work and to the congregation for their patience!

Need to Know

Ash Wednesday

MARCH 5th

7:30 AM in the Chapel

12 PM in the Chapel

7:30 PM in the Sanctuary

MLK Worship Service

The East and West Ohio Conferences are coming together to honor the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a joint worship service on Sunday, February 23rd at Garfield Memorial UMC in Pepper Pike at 4 PM. Learn more and [watch online here.](#)

Easter Flowers

Order your Easter Flowers [online](#) or in person (forms in the Info Hub). Prices are on the forms.

Fellowship Hour

Every Sunday we gather in the Gallery after worship to enjoy food & fellowship. Here are a couple ongoing offerings:

- Join us the first Sunday of the month for Pancakes in the Gallery after services!
- Modern Worship hosts the second Sunday of the month, so come check the Gallery out!

To host Fellowship hour, get in touch with Kathy Fellows: 440.477.4485

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 *Everywhere is Jerusalem* by James C. Howell (in-person AND online)
 - OPTION THREE: Led by Alan Vick, this group meets on Tues at 7:30 PM studying Adam Hamilton's *Luke*.

Blood Drive

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

There will be a recruitment table set up in the Gallery on **March 9th**. Stop by and learn more about giving blood and sign up for the next drive!

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](#).

Rummage Sale

Donations will be accepted starting the week of April 7th at MUMC. Check our website in the coming weeks for a detailed donations list and the volunteer sign up. The Rummage Sale will be on April 12th!



What's Your M.O.? Mission Opportunities



YSP Fundraising

YSP fundraising has begun! Purchase a stock 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 by clicking [here](#).

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](#).

Alzheimer's Walk 2025

The Walk will be held at Lake Farm Park on September 27th. This year our team goal is to raise \$2,000. All Journey groups & committees are encouraged to walk as part of Team MUMC. Get your team registered as soon as possible so we can meet our goal! [Click here](#).

Poverty Simulation

Join us at MUMC in Fellowship Hall on April 26th from 11 AM to 1 PM for a Poverty Simulation. Please register by April 24th.

We need at least 30 participants and 15 facilitators for this simulation. Ages 13 and up are welcome, a light lunch will be provided. Childcare for 12 and under available upon request. Contact Melanie Thomas at mthomas@eocumc.com with any questions.

Poverty is a reality for many individuals and families. But unless you've experienced poverty, it's difficult to truly understand. The Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS) bridges that gap from misconception to understanding. CAPS is an interactive, immersive experience. It sensitizes community participants to the realities of poverty. Learn more [online here](#).



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.

Register for 2025-2026

Register for the 2025-2026 school year at MUMP: [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.

Young Adult Small Group

Young Adults are encouraged to join a small group that meets in-person and online on Tuesday at 5 PM. This group is ongoing and accepting new friends at anytime. [Sign up online](#) or get in touch with Mackalyn.

*This group will skip this week (Feb 25th). See you on the 4th!

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](#).

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

March 9 & 23

