

MENTOR

UNITED

WEEKLY UPDATE

METHODIST

CHURCH

JANUARY 5, 2025

8600 MENTOR AVE

MENTOR OH 44060

MENTORUMC.ORG

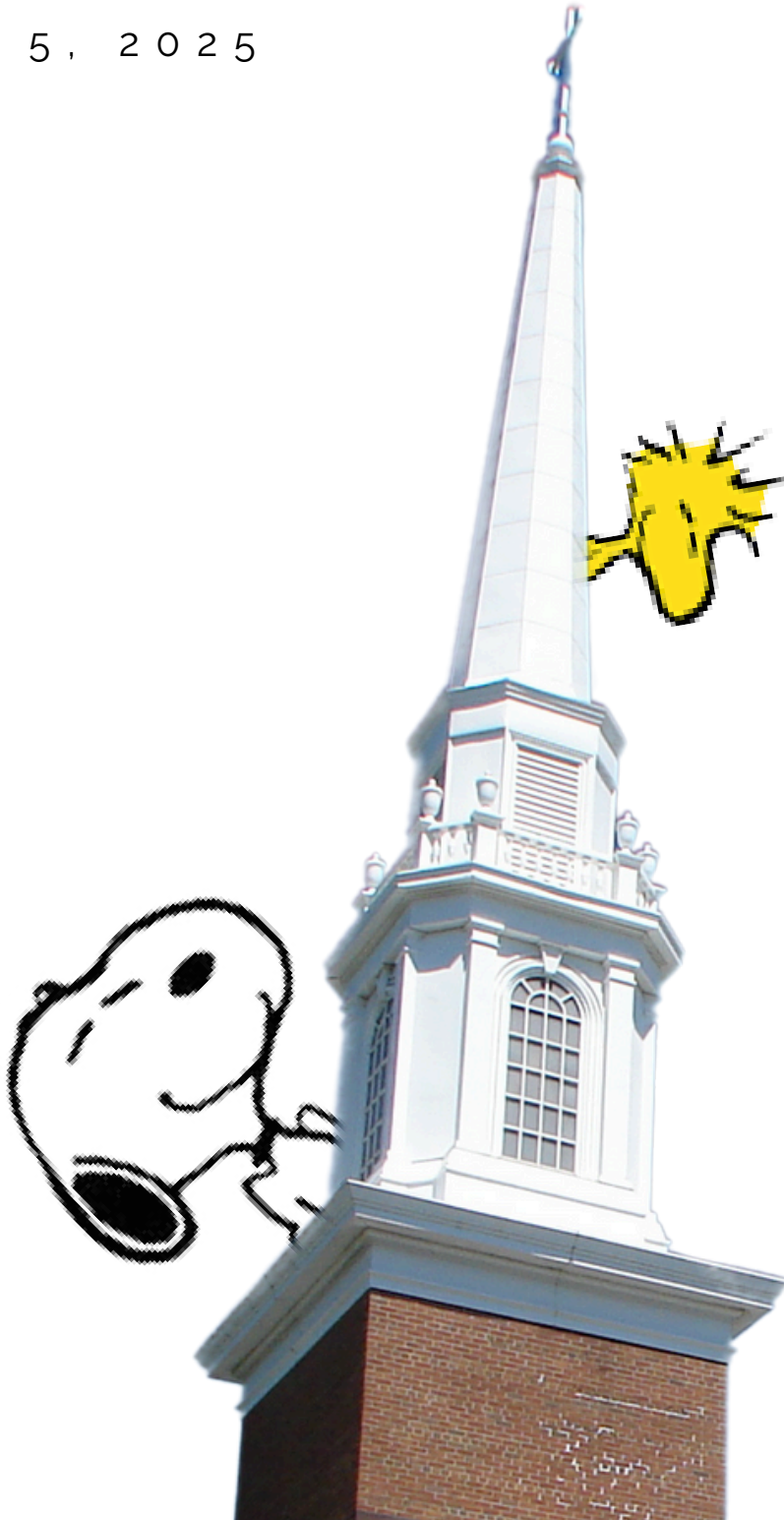
440.255.3496

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

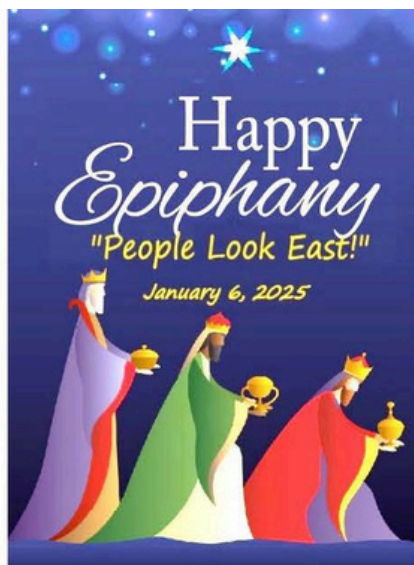
Worship Schedule

9 AM Modern

11 AM Traditional



Pastor's Letter



NOT EVERYTHING CHANGES



I want to welcome you to 2025! I don't know a better way to begin the new year than by remembering God's blessings! As there are many ways to celebrate the transition, (night clubs, church services, home parties) just surviving (whew!) another year, warrants salute. WE MADE IT! So, however you celebrate, **I pray that you do more than wish for a new year. I pray that you work, plan, design, develop, adopt AND pray for a new year with purpose.**

If you know me at all, you know I love the jazz guitarist and vocalist extraordinaire, George Benson. OMG I love him! Well, he has this wonderful tune, that many artists have reversioned, entitled "Everything Must Change." And I hold fast to that truth, as January 1 reminds us repeatedly, year after year. We cannot escape the change time brings.

Yet, somehow, yes someway, we find in the Old Testament book of Psalms, the writer David profoundly contradicts the principle of change. He exclaims that change is not a part of our God, he says: "**God is the same yesterday, today and forever!**" And I like that in comparison to a God of variance and vacillation. **I don't know about you but God being a constant, God being persistent, God being perpetual is the greatest gift ever given!** It makes the lyrics of the old-time hymn "Down Through the Years" so meaningful as we look forward to 2025.

Down through the years, God's been good to me, Down through the years, God's been good to me

Down through the years, God's been good to me, God's really been good, to me.

All of my life, God's been good to me, All of my life, God's been good to me

All of my life, God's been good to me, God's really been good, to me.

As we receive this gift of another year, **let us be willing and open to make adjustments for growth in this year ahead.** We all must review, assess, and stop at the end of the year and measure our progress. However painful or celebratory this is, we cannot escape it. So, as we lift up one another in remembrance and prayer, **our steadfast confidence emanates from the non-changing constant that God's presence is eternal and God will never leave us or forsake us.** GOD CHANGETH NOT from year to year AMEN! And that's good news. Happy New Year! *—Pastor Ivy*

- A New Beginning for a New Year
- 2025: Leap Forward for Spiritual Growth
- All Things New
- A Roadmap for the New Year
- God's Favor on the New Year
- New You for a New Year
- New Year's Essentials
- Making the Most of the New Year
- One Thing You Can Count On



IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO START

You can still join the Bible Year Readings! Even if you did not start on January 1, you can still start. You can read double or delay for later. Either way, don't negate this chance to journey into the entire Bible for 2025! Contact me, let's talk and I'll get you started. —Pastor Ivy



THE BIBLE YEAR

A Journey Through Scripture in 365 Days

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, David Fell, Carol
Anderson, Bob Linsell, Suzanne Dubeansky

The Gospel According to Peanuts

Sundays. January 5, 12 & 19

Join us in person or online

9AM Modern Worship or 11AM Traditional Worship



Need to Know

Youversion

<https://bible.com/events/49370487>

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

Disciple Bible Study

Beginning in the new year, we will start Discipleship Bible studies. Pastor Steve will lead a Disciple 1 class on Thursdays, 4-6 PM starting January 16th. Syndie Toth will lead Disciple 1 on Mondays from 10-12 PM and Lucas & Wendy Rhoads will lead Disciple 2 on Thursdays from 7-9 PM. This will go all 2025, with a break in the summer. Pastor Tammy will facilitate the fast track version, which is 24 weeks. The prayer is to have 100 plus people involved to learn more about the Bible. [Register here.](#)

The Gospel According to Peanuts: Snoopy Scavenger Hunt

Join us the first three Sundays of January for our new sermon series: *The Gospel According to Peanuts*. After service, we encourage all ages to participate in a Snoopy scavenger hunt: find all the Snoopys hidden around the building! There are 20 in total.

Shepherding Summit

Join us on January 15th here at MUMC for the next Shepherding Summit. This is a great opportunity for leaders & friends of the church who wish to know more about leading all onto a path of Christ-centered discipleship through faith, processes, ministries, and more. More info coming soon!

Nominations Thank You

Nominations Committee would like to offer a big thanks to all committee members for your years of dedicated service at MUMC. Your commitment to our church community has been integral in furthering our mission. We continue to strive for experience and stability in our committees by rotating classes of 3-year terms. As this current term comes to a close, please know how grateful we are for the time, effort, and energy you have put into serving as part of this committee. May God continue to bless you as you have blessed us.



Healthy Congregations Workshop

The Healthy Congregations workshop is on Saturday, February 8th from 9-4 PM. This workshop is designed to equip leaders to respond to the presence or potential threat of anxiety in a congregational system in ways that prevent destructive conflict and help the church stay focused on its unique mission and purpose. The cost is \$15 and can be paid by cash or through our online giving. [Click here to access the registration form](#)

Communion

Continue to join us in the Chapel at 10:30 AM in between services for communion.

Altar Flowers

There are openings for flowers in January: in Traditional worship. Please contact Kathy Fellows at 440.477.4485

Church Directory

Directories will be available soon. We're excited to start off the New Year with new books!

Slack

Join our Slack to keep in touch for new groups & devotions this year. [Click the link](#) or visit our website to learn more. Download Slack from your app store and create a free account.

Pastors Discretionary Need

As winter heightens and the holidays draw near, the Pastor's Discretionary fund is in need of financial support. The purpose of this fund is to help needy individuals in a confidential and timely manner at the discretion of either the Lead or Associate Pastor of the church. This fund has helped many families in need of emergency rent, utilities, medical needs prescriptions, etc. Often these families are living in a car, have fallen on hard times, are disabled, or working in low paying jobs and don't qualify for other assistance. Mentor UMC's Pastor's Discretionary fund has been a life saving vehicle. Because of the great need in our community, this fund is dangerously low, and contributions would be welcomed. Checks can be made out to Mentor UMC and designated to Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Thank you for your generosity!

Hope Chest

While Hope Chest is in the process of moving locations. During this process, we ask that donations be paused. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

What's Your M.O.? Mission Opportunities

Christmas Eve Giving

Thank you to all who gave this holiday season! This year's Christmas Eve offering will be sent to UMVIM and Nehemiah Mission.

UMVIM: "United Methodist Volunteers in Mission is a grassroots movement of United Methodists who seek to put their "Christian Love in Action." Since the 1970s, UMVIM has offered a framework through which disciples can engage in short-term mission locally, nationally, and globally." [Learn more here.](#)

Nehemiah Mission: "The Nehemiah Mission of Cleveland serves low income persons & neighborhoods by providing community enhancement, home maintenance & targeted programming for; international newcomers, elderly, disabled & those without shelter, food and clothing." [Learn more here.](#)

Blood Drive

The next Blood Drive at MUMC is Tuesday, January 14th. Signup [online here](#) or at our site.

Home Healthcare

For those interested in assisting in home healthcare please contact Susan Swain, 440.567.6249



Youth Lock-In

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@mentorumc.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@mentorumc.org

MOMCo

MOMCo meets Fridays, January 10 and 24. Moms join us in the Gallery from 9 AM - 12 PM.

Child & Caregiver Class

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

- WINTER: January 15, 22, 29, 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

Starting on January 26th, Youth are invited to meet on the second and fourth evenings of the month in the Youth Room from 4-6 PM

Young Adult Small Group

Young Adults are encouraged to join a small group that meets in-person and online at 6 PM on Mondays. This group is ongoing and accepting new friends at anytime. [Sign up online](#) or get in touch with Mackalyn.

Winter Jam

Youth are invited to come to a contemporary Christian concert at Wolstein Center on Friday, January 31st. We'll leave from the church together at 4 PM. Cost is \$15 (plus money for food) at the door. Learn more about Winter Jam on [their website](#) or by getting 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.



Youth Lock-In