



THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 58 Number 1 The United Methodist Church of Kent—*A Place to Grow* January 2016

Dear Friends,

One of the most popular courses at Kent State is a physics course called “Seven Ideas that Shook the Universe,” which looks at revolutionary scientific ideas that fundamentally changed the way we understand the universe. My daughter took the course this fall. The basic idea of it has given rise to the theme of the next sermon series – “Ten Truths that Change Life.” We will look at how central truths revealed in God’s Word bring about a fundamental change in how we understand ourselves and how we approach life.

The first Sunday of the month, January 3, will be the concluding sermon in the “Prophetic Visions” series. It will be Epiphany Sunday, when we celebrate the visit of the wise men (and still have Christmas music); the service will include the sacrament of Communion at all three worship hours. The sermon will be entitled, “Nations Shall Come to God’s Light.”

The “Ten Truths that Change Life” series will start on January 10. The first four truths are as follows:

- January 10 “You Are Here on Purpose” – the truth about who we are
- January 17 “What’s the Problem?” – the truth about our basic human problem
- January 24 “God Is Good” – the truth about who God is
- January 31 “God Shows You What Is Right” – the truth about morality

Our services will also include some special elements. On Sunday, January 10, we will have a recognition for Margie Stahl at all three worship hours, as we recognize her many years of faithful service as our kitchen hostess. Margie’s retirement date was December 31, 2015. There will be a special reception after the 8:30 hour (when Margie typically worships) as well as after the 10:30 hour.

Special music during January will include the Chancel Ringers on January 17, the Children’s Choir on January 24, and ZAMARingers on January 31.

Jesus said, “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32) In a world that suffers from falsehood, deception, and evil, we can rejoice in the truth of God!

In His Service,

Dr. David Palmer

Youth Ministry News

January 2015

Happy New Year! And what an exciting year we have planned. We have completed our spring calendar and are very excited about our upcoming events. Here are a few of the highlights of what to expect this spring:

- The weekend of February 5 and 6 the youth will participate in World Visions 30 hour famine. Once the details are finalized, packets and important information will be distributed so see Rick and watch the mail if you need more information about this exciting weekend.
- January 18 we will be planning an activity to celebrate Martin Luther King Day
- March 13 is Youth Sunday.
- And the Time and Talent Auction is scheduled for Sunday, April 24.

Over all I am very excited about our plans and hope that everyone will take advantage of one or more of these events. Additionally, don't forget youth group is every Sunday from 7 pm to 8:30 PM. Make sure you plan to come and bring a friend to any or all of these events.

Shalom,

Rick ∞

Calling all actors:

Youth Sunday is an annual day when the youth of our church lead our Sunday morning worship service. It is characterized by a focus on the music of our youth musical groups Resurrection and the ZAMARingers, liturgical dance, drama and teaching by a senior member of our youth group.

On Wednesday, January 6 at 7:00 in the Sanctuary there will be an informational meeting and open try outs for anyone interested in being a part of this year's Youth Sunday. At this meeting we will explain this year's theme, talk about ways to be involved and discuss rehearsal times. We need both actors and dancers for this annual event. If you would like to be involved, please plan to attend this important meeting as part of the Youth Sunday preparation process.

Troop 252 Update

Christmas is now past, when beautiful evergreen wreaths adorned many of the congregation's front doors. The evergreens and circle are important symbols to Christians everywhere, so this fundraiser is especially meaningful. Troop members appreciate your support and hope you enjoyed the holidays.

Our September pancake breakfast was a success and we look forward to seeing you again in February. The smell of the hotcakes and sausage tend to make the hall smell so good!

Troop 252, along with parents, Mike and Rebekah Kulis, and Glenn and Susan Adair, announce their sons have attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Less than 4% of all Boy Scouts earn the rank, which is recognized by an extensive project and mandatory list of badge requirements. Please join the Troop in congratulating William M. E. Kulis and Zachary W. Adair. Will's Court of Honor was held November 28, 2015, while Zach's will be held January 3, 2016.

JANUARY

3	Last day to join Mission Trip teams 7-8:30 PM Youth Fellowship
6	Youth Sunday rehearsal 7-8 PM
9	Confirmation 9:30-12
10	7-8:30 PM Youth Fellowship
13	Youth Sunday rehearsal 7-8
17	7-8:30 PM Youth Fellowship
18	MLK activity TBA
20	Youth Sunday rehearsal 7-8
22	Confirmation trip to Temple TBA
24	7-8:30 PM Youth Fellowship
27	Youth Sunday rehearsal 7-8
31	7-8:30 PM Youth Fellowship

January Acolyte Schedule

JAN 3	Rhiannon Lewis	David Richardson
JAN 10	Abbey Poole	Olivia DeVries
JAN 17	Faith Kaminski	Josh Thompson
JAN 24	Rhiannon Lewis	David Richardson
JAN 31	Brandon Harvey	Nathan Palmer

DID YOU KNOW?

The last day to sign up to be a part of this year's Mountain TOP team or the Youth Works trip to Minnesota is Sunday, January 3, however, the Mountain TOP trip is already full! If you'd still like to go but haven't signed up, see Rick about reserving one of the few remaining spaces for Minnesota.

Youth group meets Sundays, between 7 and 8:30 in **THE PIT**.

ADULT RETREAT 2016

All adults in the church family are invited to participate in the Adult Retreat. It will occur on April 15–17 at the Berlin Grande Hotel in Berlin, Ohio—the heart of Amish Country. We meet for dinner Friday evening at the Farmstead Restaurant adjacent to the hotel and wrap up with breakfast and a worship service led by Dr. Palmer on Sunday morning. We try to schedule a special dinner experience for Saturday evening. The activities of the weekend are yet to be planned but we always have a good time including some free time to enjoy the area. The total cost will be about \$250.00 per room including the Saturday evening dinner (two persons) plus meals on your own Friday night and Saturday noon. The hotel gives us a fine conference room for our meetings and has a great Breakfast Buffet. To participate, make out a deposit check for \$20.00 to the church marked “Adult Retreat Deposit” and give it to Roger Stiller or put it in the offering plate. For more info call Roger at 330-297-8933.

Black College Fund

On the Sunday of Martin Luther King weekend we take a special offering for the Black College Fund. This fund supports eleven historically black United Methodist colleges that are scattered across the South. Methodists established these colleges after the Civil War in order to give African Americans an opportunity for higher education when other institutions were closed to them. The colleges are: Bennett College, Bethune-Cookman University, Claflin University, Clark Atlanta University, Dillard University, Huston-Tillotson University, Meharry Medical College, Paine College, Philander Smith College, Rust College, and Wiley College. These schools continue to do important work today. Our goal is to contribute \$1100, \$100 for each school. You can contribute by marking a check or envelope “Black College Fund.”



UCM Students at their Advent Worship

CHURCH RE-KEYING PROJECT

Did you know that our church building has more than 120 doors? And since the church was built in stages, with multiple renovations, those doors have all sorts of different keys. Some of the locks have deteriorated over time. Some of the keys are wearing out. Lots of keys were given out to various users that then were never returned.

This whole jumble will be rectified in the coming weeks, as we are having the entire building rekeyed. Lots of problems with various locks and doors will be solved, and we will have a new comprehensive system in the end. Keys will be issued to users that give precise access to the particular areas that various people need. Electronic doors on the east and west sides of the building (the education wing and campus ministry entrances) will use programmable fobs that will be especially useful for the many outside groups that use the building. The whole system will be coordinated and monitored through the office of our business manager, Adam Alderson.

Adam will begin issuing new keys shortly before the work is completed. Watch the bulletins as the date nears. (New locks will be installed in late December and early January.) If you currently use a key to access the building or certain rooms, please contact Adam in the office to discuss building access and be notified when new keys are available. The electrification of the Education Wing door has already taken place, so please see Adam for a fob if you need access through that door.

Prayer Quilt Ministry Meeting

The Prayer Quilt group will have their next meeting 1–3 PM Wednesday, January 20 in Room 207. Anyone who is interested is welcome to join. There are tasks available for all levels of ability and experience. Contact Arla Dee McPherson at 330-678-6461 or email amcphers@kent.edu with any questions, or just attend!

United Christian Ministries Updates

Jesus comes early at UCM! On December 9, (the week before finals) UCM students gathered for the traditional Advent banquet—comfort foods to fill their hungry bodies for the tribulation of Finals Week. After dinner the students moved to Wesley Chapel for a student led worship service. Students process carrying the flame of God’s presence, the Bible, and communion emblems. The Advent wreath was lit and scriptures were read. Students hauled in their offering to be dedicated—big boxes of toys and gift cards for the children served by Kent Social Services. Communion was led by students and shared in the name of Jesus Christ. Then quietly they formed a circle. The light of Christ coming into the world is passed and everyone sings “Silent Night”. You see, these University students consider themselves “church”. As church they long to share the joy of Christmas worship together—however early it might seem. Jesus comes early to these faithful young people, and their hearts are ready for Jesus whenever he comes! UCM hopes you have a Merry Christ-mas!

Canal District UMC Leadership Training Event

On Saturday, January 30, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., the Canal District of the East Ohio UMC conference will offer a leadership training event. It will be held at the Northampton United Methodist Church (852 W. Bath Rd., Cuyahoga Falls). Lunch will be provided if you have paid the \$8 per person fee and registered in advance. It will include sub sandwiches, fruit, and other goodies! Just contact Adam in the office to register.

You may attend the entire day or just the morning or the afternoon sessions. The planned schedule for the day is as follows:

- Registration/Gathering, Coffee, Juice and Donuts from 9:00 a.m. to 9:25 a.m.
- Opening with Keynote Address—9:30–10:40 a.m.

Dr. Paul W. Chilcote, Ph.D.—Ashland Seminary Ordained Elder in the Indiana Conference and Academic Dean and Professor of Historical Theology and Wesleyan Studies at Ashland Theological Seminary. Dr. Chilcote is the author of over 20 books and has taught on three continents. He is a frequent speaker and workshop leader in applied Wesleyan studies, particularly in the areas of spirituality, worship, discipleship, and evangelism. His keynote address will focus on resources for vitality in the church today, touching on gifts the Wesleyan heritage offers local congregations and the wider church with regard to the living Word, saving faith, holistic spirituality, accountable discipleship, formative worship, and missional vocation.

- Morning sessions (10:45 a.m. -12:15 p.m.) Workshops offered:
 - ◊ Follow Up Session With Keynote Speaker : Paul Chilcote
 - ◊ Conflict: One of God's Gifts to the Church: Valerie Stultz
 - ◊ Prayer and Spiritual Disciplines: Robin Dillon
 - ◊ Music/Wesley's Rules for Singing/Wesleyan Hymns: Charlie Tobias
 - ◊ Hospitality: Do all the Good You Can: Tina Nees
 - ◊ Tips and Tools for Vitality: Kelly Brown
 - ◊ Small Group Formation/Accountability: Ron Rinehart
 - ◊ Don't You Forget About Me: Pastoral Ministry, Mental Illness and Stuff: Brad Price
- Lunch 12:15 – 1:10 p.m.
- Afternoon sessions (1:15 -2:45 p.m.) Workshops offered:
 - ◊ Planning Worship that Touches Hearts: Karen Drotar
 - ◊ Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee: Ed Peterson
 - ◊ Learning a 2nd Language: Issues around Being a Multi-generational Church: Erik Marshall
 - ◊ Community Outreach: Brett Bartels
 - ◊ Children in Church: Kris Patt
 - ◊ Youth: Thinking Outside of the Box: TBA
 - ◊ Trustees—Your Ministry as a Local Church Trustee: Jerry Rinehart
 - ◊ Stewardship: Inspiring Christian Generosity: Brian Sheets

KENT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ANNOUNCE JANUARY MEETINGS

Janus Circle of UMW will meet on **Sunday, January 18 at 9:15 AM** in Pierson Hall. The program is entitled "Sarah: A Woman Like Us." Laurel Stiller will serve as Hostess and also lead Devotions.

Rebecca Circle will hold their meeting at **7:30 PM on Wednesday, January 6** in Pierson Hall. The Hostess will be Beth Jordan assisted by Co-Hostesses Sherry Vanderneut and Dottie Emerick. Deb Saito will present the program entitled "Blessed Are the Meek for They Shall Inherit the Earth". Devotions will be led by Sue Abbot and the Mission Moment will be presented by Judy Smith.

Mary Reed Circle and Miriam Circle will not meet in January.

A meeting of the Kent UMW Executive Board will be held on **Wednesday, January 20 at 7 PM** in the Conference Room. President Denise Mote will conduct the meeting.

Year-End Contribution Statements

Year-end contributions statements will be available for pickup in the Atrium beginning January 17. If you contribute through our online giving app or web service, please visit the giving website to print your statements. Contact the financial coordinator, Lynnette, at lynnette@kentmethodist.org with any questions. Thank you for your generosity!

Advent E-book Report

This year, our Advent devotional booklet was available as an e-book for the first time on the Amazon and iBooks platforms. Thanks to the help of our contributors, the e-book was very successful! A total of 256 digital copies of the e-book have been downloaded so far all across the world, with about 75% of those read on Amazon's Kindle. Readers in the US, Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, and India have been enjoying the daily readings and inspiration created by our own congregation.

Thank you for helping to make this a successful transition, and thanks also for your support as we find new ways to increase the reach of our message and make these special projects more sustainable into the future.

University of Life – Winter Term
Classes for adults—Sundays, 9:30–10:15
January 3–February 7

“Embracing the Prophets in Contemporary Culture”

Leader: Dr. Jonathan Smith

Location: Conference Room

Dr. Jonathan Smith leads this class, which will be a good follow-on to Dr. Palmer’s sermon series on “Prophetic Visions.” Each class session features a video presentation by Dr. Walter Brueggemann, who is widely considered to be today’s leading Old Testament scholar on the prophets. The “Embracing the Prophets” course is a part of the “Embracing” series, which Dr. Smith used in a very popular class last year.

The course will take participants on a lively ride through the prophets, making connections between the Old Testament context and the world today. The prophets have a very relevant message for our own time! Come to this engaging class to expand your understanding and your faith.

No study book is needed. Just come to the Conference Room at 9:30 a.m. Sundays!

Epiphany Sunday

Sunday, January 3, we will celebrate Epiphany (January 6). The most well-recognized story of Epiphany is the arrival of the wise men, delivering their gifts to the infant Jesus, but really it is much more than that. It is a time to reflect on the recognition of Jesus as the Son of God and how all of us welcome him into the world and into our lives. As we examine the story of the Magi, we remember that Herod had very different reasons for seeking the Son, and Epiphany presents us with a time to examine our own motivations and faith. Share this coloring page below with a young person, and share also the good news of how God is with us here on earth!



The Wise Men Followed the Star

January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Regular Sunday Schedule Communion Epiphany	4 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Room	5 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Luncheon/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	6 6 pm Yoga/Parlor 7:30 Rebecca Circle/ Pierson Hall	7 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir	1 New Year's Day Office Closed 8	2 9 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall
10 Regular Sunday Schedule	11 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Room	12 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Luncheon/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	13 6 pm Yoga/Parlor	14 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir	15	16 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall
17 Regular Sunday Schedule	18 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Room 7:30 pm Education Comm/Conference Room	19 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Luncheon/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	20 6 pm Yoga/Parlor 7 pm UMW Board Mtg/ Conference Room 7 pm Gifts, Memorials, and Investments Comm./ Room 207	21 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir 7 pm Finance Comm./ Conference Room	22	23 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall
24 Regular Sunday Schedule 1:00 Cub Scout Pinewood Derby/Pierson Hall	25 6 pm Kent Garden Club/ Pierson Hall 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Room	26 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Luncheon/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	27 6 pm Yoga/Parlor	28 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir	29	Regular Sunday Schedule 8:30 Worship Service/Chapel 9:00 Holy Donut Shoppe/Kitchen 9:15 Children's Choir-4, years-6th grade 9:30 Contemporary Service/Gym 9:30 New Spirit/Sanctuary 9:30 Child Care/Nursery 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship Service/Sanctuary 10:40 Sunday School-Preschool-6th Grade, Youth 11:30 Fellowship Time/Pierson Hall 11:45 Chancel Ringers/Sanctuary 5:00 pm Club 56/Gym 5:00 pm Resurrection (Youth Choir)/Choir Room 6:00 pm ZAMARingers (Youth Handbells)/Sanctuary 7:00 pm Youth Fellowship/Gym and Pit
31 Regular Sunday Schedule						

USHERS AND GREETERS

Date	8:30/10:30	9:30
January 3	3	5
January 10	4	1
January 17	5	2
January 24	6	3
January 31	1	4

If you are unsure of what team you are on, please call the office at 330-673-5879 x10 or email Adam at adamalderson@kentmethodist.org.

- January 3-Sharon Coia
- January 10-Don Ashton
- January 17-Betty Sweet
- January 24-Janice Anderson
- January 31-Mavis Palmer



Our Sympathies Go to the Friends and Family of:

- Sam Snellenberger, Sr.
- Paula Patterson
- Betty Shepherd Geiger
- Ruth Kotila

Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Dick Abbott, Marcus Ballentine, Charles E. Nichols, Tom Emerick, Pat Gailey, Sue Maxwell, Pat Stevens

JANUARY LAY READERS

JAN 3	Judith Nedel
JAN 10	Richard Abbott
JAN 17	Mavis Palmer
JAN 24	Pam Hickson-Stevenson
JAN 31	Lee Hall

VIDEOTAPING SCHEDULE

JANUARY 3	Brittany Brode
JANUARY 10	Jack Miller
JANUARY 17	Eric Wertz
JANUARY 24	Eric Wertz
JANUARY 31	Gary Mote

THANK YOU NOTES

A "Big Thank You" to Sherry and Dave Vanderneut and Greg, Ami, and Andrew Curtin for raking my leaves and getting them out to the curb. It was greatly appreciated.

It was good to see Andrew helping his parents rake. I'm all for parents teaching and working with their children.

Thanks again,
Dorothy Meyer

Thank you for the beautiful altar flowers which Mickey Peoples and Becky Head brought for me to enjoy while I've been recovering from my stroke. They truly brightened my spirits as did all the visits, prayers, cards, and calls, and other support our wonderful church family continues to offer. May our wonderful God continue to bless each of you for being so special.

Sue Maxwell

I would like to thank everyone for their gifts and cards. Also Janus Circle and Margie Stahl for my party in Pierson Hall.

Your Friend,
Tony Russell

Dear friends at the United Methodist Church of Kent,

Thanks to your generosity, when veterans experiencing homelessness living in the Portage County area and across Ohio turn to Freedom House for help—we are here to give them the critical programs and support that they so desperately need.

The thoughtful donation you recently made couldn't have come at a better time. As you may know, Freedom House is the only shelter in Portage County that provides emergency shelter and supportive programming to homeless veterans. The demand for shelter continues to rise, and you have made it possible for us to continue to provide safety and comfort to veterans.

Your support gives veterans a chance to achieve their goals of having a safe place to call home.

With heartfelt thanks,
Colleen Reaman, Program
Manager, Freedom House

Kent Congregation,

Thank you for your most recent gifts totaling \$92.67. We are grateful for your steady generosity over the years and opportunity to share with you in the mission of ending hunger in Ohio,

Bob Erickson
Director, Hunger Network in Ohio



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 14
KENT, OHIO

**The United Methodist
Church of Kent
PO Box 646
Kent, OH 44240**

**Church Office:
330-673-5879**

**Web Site:
www.kentmethodist.org**

**Dr. David Palmer,
Senior Pastor**

**Douglas Denton,
Minister of Pastoral Care**

**Rick Stout,
Director of
Christian Education
and
Youth Ministries**

Mailing Label Here

Mailed December 18

Start the year right—start with God!

Worship Calendar

Date	Sermon	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
January 3	“Nations Shall Come to God’s Light”	Isaiah 60:1–6	Dr. David Palmer	Epiphany, Communion
New Sermon Series: “Ten Truths that Change Life”				
January 10	“You Are Here on Purpose”	Genesis 1:1–5, 11–12, 24–27; Acts 17:26–28	Dr. David Palmer	Recognition of Margie Stahl
January 17	“What’s the Problem?”	Genesis 3:1–13; Romans 5:6–10	Dr. David Palmer	<i>Chancel Ringers</i>
January 24	“God Is Good”	Psalms 100; Colossians 1:19–23, 2:6–27	Dr. David Palmer	<i>Children’s Choir</i>
January 31	“God Shows You What Is Right”	Psalms 19:7–10; Jeremiah 31:31–34; Ephesians 1:17–19	Dr. David Palmer	<i>ZAMARingers</i>



Connect with us at www.kentmethodist.org,

facebook.com/UMCofKENT,

or on Instagram @umcofkent

