

# THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 58 Number 11 The United Methodist Church of Kent—*A Place to Grow* Nov/Dec 2016

Dear Friends,

Every five or six years, Christmas and New Year's Day land on Sundays. It last happened in 2011, and it happened in 2005. This is the year again!

In 2005, I explained to our young children—then ages 7, 4, and 2—that our Christmas celebration would be a little different this year. We would start out Christmas morning as usual, sitting in our pajamas around the

tree, opening stockings and gifts; but then we would break from our usual routine to come to come to Christmas worship. My children had one question: "Can we wear our jammies to church?"

So my children and a number of others came to church wearing jammies on that Christmas morning. Jammies are welcome in church on Christmas morning again!

This year we invite you to include worship in your Christmas morning plans. We will have one combined worship service—at 10:00 AM in the sanctuary. It will be an abbreviated, 40-minute service, designed to fit within family celebrations of Christmas day. The service will be designed so that children of all ages can remain in the sanctuary (except for infants and toddlers, for whom we will have nursery care). Instead of a sermon, I will be sharing an extended children's message; and we will be singing many of our favorite Christmas carols. Imagine singing "Joy to the World" or "Hark! the her-ald angels sing, Glory to the newborn king!" on Christmas morning! I hope you will plan to join in this special worship time on Christmas Day (whether or not you are wearing pajamas!).

On New Year's Day, we will again have one worship service—at 10:00 AM in the gym. (The sanctuary will be closed for the painting of the ceiling.) This will be an hour-length service; children will depart as usual after the Children's Time, and they will go to a special multi-age activity in Pierson Hall (there will also be nursery care as usual). Our Worship Band will lead the music, and we will use a contemporary form of the Covenant Renewal Service designed by our Methodist founder John Wesley. It is a very meaningful way to start the New Year—by renewing our covenant with God!

Leading up to Christmas, we celebrate the season of Advent, a time of preparation, as we reflect about the coming of our Savior. Advent begins on the last Sunday in November, Nov. 27; see the article on the next page for special elements in our worship schedule.

I look forward to sharing with you, as we rejoice in the good news of Christmas, and take hold of God's blessings for the new year!

In His Service, Dr. David Palmer

#### **CELEBRATE ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS**

Our worship in this season includes the following special opportunities:

**SUNDAY, NOV 27–First Sunday of Advent.** We begin lighting the candles on the Advent wreath. Chancel Ringers will share the offertory at 10:30.

SUNDAY, DEC. 4–Communion, at all three worship hours.

**SUNDAY, DEC. 11—Children's Christmas Musical.** At the 10:30 hour, our Children's Choir presents a delightful Christmas musical entitled, "Shepherds, Sheep, and Savior." Resurrection will be singing at the 9:30 and 10:30 hours.

**SUNDAY, DEC. 18–New Spirit Christmas Musical and Youth Christmas Play.** At the 8:30 and 10:30 hours in the sanctuary, New Spirit will bring us the Christmas message through a musical entitled, "Behold the Star," by Lloyd Larson. At the 9:30 hour in the gym, our youth present a Christmas Play entitled, "The Living Nativity," by Karen Jones. The play is hilarious, but it also brings an important message! Our ZAMARingers youth handbell choir will be playing at both the 8:30 and 10:30 hours.

**SATURDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24—Candlelight services at 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.** Our Christmas Eve services are essentially identical, except that we have a children's time and the children's choir at 7:00, and the sanctuary choir at 9:00. If you are coming to the 9:00 service, come early, as there will be an extended prelude starting at 8:30, featuring various soloists and ensembles. Child care will be provided at the 7:00 service only.

**SUNDAY, DEC. 25, CHRISTMAS DAY**—There will be one worship service at 10:00 in the sanctuary. This 40 minute service is designed for children to remain the entire time in the sanctuary, although there will be nursery care available for our smallest children.

**SUNDAY, JAN. 1, NEW YEAR'S DAY**—There will be one worship service at 10:00 in the gym. A special children's Sunday School program will be held in Pierson Hall. The hour-length worship service will include a covenant renewal, based on a service that John Wesley created for Methodists to use at the start of a new year.

# **Mosaic Goes Digital**

This is the last edition of the Mosaic that will be routinely mailed to a large mailing list. We are going fully digital, but you can still get a printed copy in two ways:

- If you are unable to receive a digital copy, you can contact our church office (330-673-5879, ext. 10) and request to be on a Mosaic mailing list. We will still be mailing out printed copies to those who need to receive a print form.
- We will have printed copies at the church, which you can pick up around the building.
- Otherwise, be sure we have your email address by emailing adamalderson@kentmethodist.org, or visiting our website and clicking "Email Newsletter Signup" in the Links menu.

We have encountered increasing print challenges due to aging printing equipment for which we can no longer get parts or a replacement. The highly efficient machine we used to print the Mosaic is no longer manufactured! The whole world is going digital! These problems prevented us from printing the November Mosaic altogether.

We will still be putting out a highly informative monthly newsletter, just in a fully modern format!

# MAKE YOUR RECEIPTS COUNT!

We are nearing the close of the 2016 Acme Community Cash Back program from August 11 through December 31. Your Acme receipts can be placed in the collection envelope in the kitchen on the refrigerator and will be submitted to the Cash Back program for our UMW mission donations. UMW received \$435 for missions at the beginning of this year, nearly 50% more than previous years due to more and better receipt submissions! Receipts that are acceptable must be the ENTIRE receipt and have "Community Cashback" listed at the bottom followed by a dollar amount. Receipts that are missing this information or those that are partial receipts cannot be submitted. The UMW appreciates your efforts to collect and bring these receipts to us, so please let's make sure that they count!

#### **Health and Wellness**

The church is very pleased to announce that Zumba Fitness will once again be available as part of our health and wellness offerings for adults. This high-energy aerobics class meets from 6–7 PM in the Gym on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This is in addition to yoga, which will continued to be offered in the parlor on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM. If you would like to participate in either of these classes, or would like more information, please attend one of their regular sessions!

# Altar Flower Sign Up Available

The altar flowers will be displayed during the 8:30 and 10:30 services with your dedication in the bulletin. After worship on Sundays, the flowers are delivered to ill or grieving members of our congregation by volunteers. Please contribute to this important ministry by signing up for an upcoming Sunday in the Atrium. Payment of \$35 can be made by writing "Altar Flowers" on your check or envelope.

#### MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP

#### Thursday, December 29 at 6:30 PM

Raymond Dietz, Jr., Certified Insurance Agent, will be on hand at the Kent Free Library to help those who are turning 65, over 65, under 65 and disabled, or family or friends of those dealing with Medicare questions and decisions. Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D and much more will be covered and updated. Time will be set aside at the end for Q and A.

This program is for adults and registration is requested. Spaces are limited; registration begins December 1. Please call the library at 330-673-4414 for additional information or to register.

# **Goodyear Band Christmas Concert**

We are pleased to have the Stan Hywet Goodyear Band once again in our church sanctuary to celebrate the season with inspiring sounds of Christmas. The band will present a Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 4, at 4:00 PM. The hour-long concert will be followed by a fellowship time in Pierson Hall. Everyone is invited!

# **Christmas Offering**

Our Christmas offering this year will support a wide range of missions. A letter about the offering and the mission goals will be mailed out in early December.

# **Connect with Worship Online**

Did you know that you can view a video of each week's sermon on our web site, hear an audio recording of the entire worship service, or listen to the sermon in a podcast? Many members of our church who are out of town or who have to miss a Sunday are connecting with the worship service via the web. Go to the "Sermons" tab at www.kentmethodist.org. You can get sermons from the past several months. Each Sunday's video is available on Tuesday, and podcast episodes are available Wednesday. Also, watch for the entire Contemporary Worship Service to be available through the website in the coming weeks!

# Youth Ministry News December 2016

I cannot believe that I'm sitting at my desk writing the final newsletter for 2016. Time seems to go by so fast and it's humbling to take the time to sit and reflect on the blessings of this year. I am blessed with the memories of another summer full of love and ministry as we lead two more mission trips this year. I am thankful for the relationships that were developed on these trips and the ways God strengthened all of our faith through these experiences. As always it seems that many of us came home changed and more blessed by the people and cultures we encountered then the families were blessed by our service.

I am also blessed buy the commitment our youth have made to be open about their faith in their communities. It make my heart smile to see new students come to youth group and call it home simply because of the witness our youth have made at school and the fact someone took the time to invite them. Relationships are everything is our motto within the leadership of our youth and it's a blessing to see relationship blossom because we were made to share the love of Christ

God has blessed our Youth Group immensely over the course of this year and we have all learned that we are all made in the image of God. Made to love, made to serve, made to pray, made to lead and made to live as examples for others at of Christ love in this world. And every time we are together our goal as a youth group is to help hold each other accountable in love to that calling.

> I am continually humbled and blessed by the opportunities God has given me to serve here at Kent UMC. I am also filled with excitement at the thought of the blessings 2017 will bring.

> > Shalom,

Rick <><

# Advent Devotions For Adults, Youth, And Children

Our Advent Devotions book, which contains meditations for each day of Advent written by members of our church, is available this year as an e-book. Additional copies will be available at the church.

A Children's Advent Calendar also will be distributed to all children's families through Sunday School classes on the first Sunday of Advent, November 27. The calendar has a tab for children to open on each day of Advent.

> We also will have children's Advent activities available. These will be available for \$1 each in the Atrium.

	DECEMBER	
3	9:00–3 Confirmation County Clothing Center	
1	7-8:30 Youth Fellowship	
11	7-8:30 Youth Fellowship	
18	7-8:30 Youth Fellowship	
25	NO YOUTH GROUP	

December Acolyte Schedule				
	Maren Seaholts			
DEC 4	Mallory Moldvay			
DE0 11	Kevin Ina			
DEC 11	Desmeal Leigh			
DEO 10	Zane Ferrara			
DEC 18	Mya Syphrit			
DEC 24,	Will Stresing			
7 PM	Abbey Stiller			
DEC 24,	Kevin Ina			
9 PM	Desmeal Leigh			
	Jaden Lepp			
DEC 25	Mallory Moldvay			

# Young Adult Group

The Young Adults Group is a group of 20-somethings looking to grow in faith and service. We are a combination of college undergraduates, graduate students, and young professionals. We sometimes refers to ourselves as SASS—Sort of Adults Searching Scripture (spend an evening with us and you will see the name fits well).

You will find us every Tuesday night at 7 PM in the parlor discussing our current book, praying, and just hanging out together. Currently we are reading Shane Claiborne's book "The Irresistible Revolution". A major goal of our group is to be actively involved in service to the community. In the past we have volunteered at Haven of Rest, Freedom House, and Kent Social Services. We are committed to finding big and small ways to show love in a tangible way.

Our group also enjoys spending time together outside of study with game nights, hikes, attending shows, and whatever other fun things we can come up with. If you can't attend Tuesday nights, we love to have people join us in our service projects and social events. Hope to see you there!

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#### University of Life Classes for Adults Sunday mornings, 9:30 – 10:15

Started November 6: "Surprised by Hope" Location: Conference room

"Surprised by Hope" is a video Bible Study by N.T. Wright, one of the world's leading New Testament scholars and the bishop of Durham in England. This engaging and enlightening study is a good follow-on to the "Story of Heaven" study that we had in the University of Life in October; but everyone is welcome on any Sunday – no prerequisites required! The topics of each remaining week are:

- Rethinking the Soul Nov. 27
- The Hope of Salvation Dec. 4
- The Hope of the Church Dec. 11

Each week features a twenty minute video followed by class discussion. All adults invited!

#### WE WILL BE COLLECTING MITTENS AND HATS

And we would like to invite the entire congregation to help. There is a mitten tree on the second floor of the Education Wing to place the mittens on. In Portage county there are many families in need during the current economic times.

Please help by bringing mittens! Also, please keep the adults in mind as well by supplying gloves and hats in adult sizes.

Have you ever wondered what it was like to go to Mountain TOP? Did you go as a youth and always wanted to go back? Good news; this year you can!

Beginning the summer of 2017, Mountain TOP is offering a unique opportunity for anyone 17 and older, and our church is looking to take full advantage of it! While the youth trip is completely full there is room for anyone 17 and older to participate in one of two other mission opportunities being offered this summer, Quest and Major Home Repair.

Quest started during the Summer of 2010 as an adventure style camp for teenagers who live in Grundy County. Our goal is to provide an experience where

youth are able to explore character building through challenging events such as rock climbing and ropes course elements.

Is major home repair and large scale construction more your style? Then Major Home Repair is the place for you. You will be able to work with an incredible family for an entire week. You may choose to work alongside your youth or other youth that are participating.

Both of these opportunities are open to anyone in our church who wants to go! You do not have to commit to chaperoning students in order to participate. Sound interesting? Contact Rick at the church office by cell 330-283-4838 or at rickstout@kentmethodist.org.

#### Janus Christmas Cookie Fundraiser Sale

It's that time again when Janus Circle members start their annual Christmas Cookie fundraiser! This is the major event to raise money for missions, projects, and the Janus Circle Scholarship fund. On November 13, Janus Circle will host the coffee hour and provide free samples of this year's selection of Christmas cookies to order. This year, in addition to the popular and delicious Christmas-shaped Cutout Cookies (which may be ordered frosted or unfrosted), Lemon Cookies and Chocolate Crinkles will be offered. Also available to order is an Assorted Mix, which includes six Cutouts, three Lemon Cookies, and three Chocolate Crinkles. Each dozen is \$8 and payment can be made in cash or by check payable to "United Methodist Women". Payment in full is due when ordering. The last date for placing an order is Sunday, December 4. Cookies will be distributed on Sunday, December 11 at the church after each service.

These make great gifts for the Christmas season and money raised goes towards missions and good causes! Please support the Janus Circle fundraising project and place your order for Janus Christmas cookies! Thank you!

Kent UMC Janus Circle Chris		s Cool	nie Sa	 le 2016	Order must be     PREPAID in Full		
I	QTY	Price	Total Cost		<ul> <li>Please pay with cash or checks payable to UMW (United</li> </ul>		
COOKIES sold by the DOZEN:					Methodist Women).		
Iced Cutouts		\$8			Orders must be turned in		
Lemon Cookies		\$8		PAID-	<ul><li>by Sunday, December 4.</li><li>Cookie orders that</li></ul>		
Chocolate Crinkles Mixed Dozen (6 Iced Cutouts, 3Lemon, 3CC)		\$8		Write "Cash"	are not picked up at		
		\$8		or Check # below	the designated time		
Unfrosted Cutouts		\$8		WIII De	<ul><li>will be donated.</li><li>If needed, please contact</li></ul>		
Grand Total	Grand Total • If needed, please contact Denise at her email address dmote@kent.edu						
Print Name (First & Last)					using the subject line "Janus Cookie Sale."		
Phone Number(s)					Thank you for supporting our		
Email Address							
You are invited to donate poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary for Christmas. Flowers will be distributed by Circle members to shut- ins from our church. Circle members may pick up the poinsettias December 25, after the 10:00 AM service or later. Please complete the information below, printing legibly, and mail it to the church office, or drop it into the offering plate on Sundays. All checks must be made payable to the United Methodist Church of Kent and returned with this form by <b>December 4</b> .							
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WISH TO DONATE PLANTS A	T \$10	).00 EA	СН				
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#### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN OF KENT DECEMBER MEETINGS

Kent United Methodist Women's Miriam Circle will meet at **9 AM on December 7** in the Parlor of the church for a **Christmas Cookie and Recipe Exchange.** Chris Pryor will be the Hostess and will present Devotions and the Mission Moment.

On **December 7 at 1 PM** members of Mary Reed Circle will meet in the church parlor. A program entitled **"Christmas Joy"** will be presented. Davina Gosnell will lead Devotions and the Mission Moment. Pat Gynn will serve as Hostess.

Rebecca Circle will meet on **December 7 at 7:30 PM**. The program, **"A Time to Celebrate His Birth,"** will be accompanied by their Christmas Salad Dinner. Judy Smith will lead Devotions and the Mission Moment will be presented by Judith Nedel. Judy will also serve as Hostess, with Kathy Hardy and Gail Lundberg as co-Hostesses.

On December 11 at 9:15 AM, Janus Circle will meet in the Parlor for their Christmas Gathering. Devotions will be lead by Rachel Slippy and Rebekah Kulis, who will also serve as co-Hostesses. The program is entitled "Women of Shunem: A Story to Tell" and is a continuation of the year's study of "Everyday Women: Ever Faithful God."

#### **Advent Booklet**

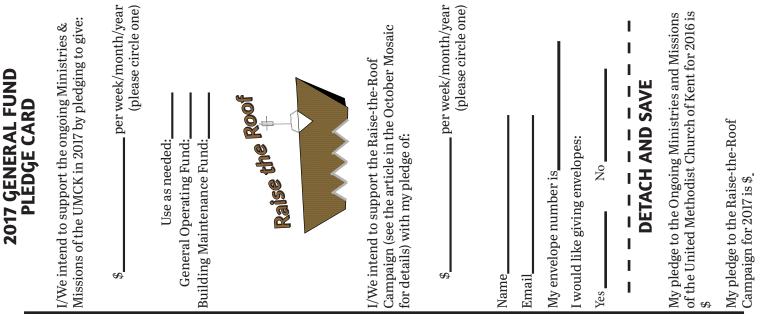
This year, our Advent devotional booklet will once again be an e-book! It will include, as in years past, short devotions and Bible passages (about 2–3 minutes of reading) for each day leading up to Christmas, written by congregation and staff members.

Once again this year, instead of mailing the book, it will be available at no charge as an e-book through Amazon.com for Kindle devices and apps and Apple iBooks for the iPad, iPhone, and iPod touch. In order to receive a link and announcement when the e-book becomes available, or to volunteer to contribute to the book, please contact Adam at adamalderson@kentmethodist.org.

#### **Stewardship Campaign**

The Bible talks in many places about how we are stewards of God's gifts—we have been entrusted by God with what we have in this world, in order that we might use those gifts to carry out God's purposes.

Our Consecration Sunday provides an opportunity for us to respond to God's call by making a financial commitment to the work of Christ through this church for the coming year. Articles in the October Mosaic and the cover letter detail the this year's Raise the Roof and stewardship campaigns. If you were not able to join us for Consecration Sunday, please complete and mail in the card below to make your commitment for 2017.



December 2016

MondayTuesday28296 pm Garden Club/PH8:30 am Tuesday Morning7 pm New Spirit/ChoirWork Group	Wednesday           30           9 am Miriam Circle/ Parlor
<ul> <li>7 pm Disciple III/Rm 200</li> <li>7 pm Voung Adults/Parlor</li> <li>7 pm Young Adults/Parlor</li> <li>7 pm Young Adults/Parlor</li> <li>7 pm Young Adults/Parlor</li> <li>7 pm New Spirit/Choir</li> <li>8:30 am Tuesday Morning</li> <li>8:30 am Tuesday Morning</li> <li>7 pm Disciple III/Rm 207</li> <li>6 pm Zumba Fitness/Gym</li> </ul>	6 pm Yoga/Parlor
day Morning	21 6 pm Yoga/Parlor
6 pm Zumba Fitness/Gym 7 pm Young Adults/Parlor 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym <b>27</b>	28
Office Closed 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group	

# Our Sympathies Go to:

- family and friends of Bob Meeker
- family and friends of Dick Abbott
- family and friends of Tim Barber
- Ami Curtin on the death of her father
- Laing Kennedy on the death of his brother
- family and friends of Ethal Simon
- family and friends of Bob Klein

# **Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:**

Lee Hall, Ray and Ruthe Loughridge, Lois Mauck, Westin Dean Nebelsick, Julie Zeager

	VIDEOTAPIN	NG SCHEDUL	.E
DEC 4	Cheryl Brode	DEC 24: 7 PM	Eric Wertz
DEC 11	Gary Mote Eric Wertz	DEC 24: 9 PM	Eric Wertz
DEC 18	Brittany Brode	DEC 25	Eric Wertz

# THANK YOU NOTES

Remember These

1embers

in Their

Sorrow

Dear Church Family,

Dec 25-Janice Anderson

Dec 4-Sharon Coia Dec 11-Don Ashton Dec 18-Betty Sweet

Thank you for all the cards, calls and flowers when I had my recent shoulder surgery. Also, many thanks to Doug Denton for his visit and calls. We are moving near Sarah on October 18.

Our new address is: 6153 Stonepath Circle Centreville, VA 20120 You are always welcome to visit. Margie Miller

**USHERS AND GREETERS** 

Date

**December 4** 

December 11

December 18

**Christmas Eve** 

(7 and 9 pm)

December 25

(10 am)

8:30/10:30

5

6

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.

2

9:30

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SCREENING

3

A big thank you to the UMC for your generosity and support of my Eagle Scout project. People at all three services were very willing to contribute and I appreciate every dollar I received. The project is underway so feel free to stop and see the progress.

Sincerely,

Ross Adair, Troop 252

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers and the lovely card made by Miriam Circle. And for Phyllis and Margaret Neel who delivered them to my home.

They are very much appreciated.

Pauline Yohe

I would like to express my thanks for the cards and flowers, thoughts, prayers and kind words at the time of the passing of my mother, Edna Bromley. We are very fortunate to have such a caring church family.

Sally Ruckman

Janus Circle,

Thank you so much for selecting me to be one of the recipients of the scholarship. That money will help aid the continuation of my education, but the support of the church and the confidence you gave me by selecting me as the recipient, and your belief in me, is what pushes me to do great things.

Thank you, Kylee Thompson

United Christian Ministries would like to thank you for your faithful support at our Fall Blue and Gold Dinner. We were able to raise money for student programming and mission trips. It would not have been possible without all of you! We hope to see you at our Spring Italian Feast, keep an eye out for the menu and ticket sale dates.

Sincerely, The staff and students of UCM

Many thanks to my church family for all the support you provide during my treatments. Adam brought flowers, Gretchen brought communion for Bill and me, Doug stopped for a visit. The cards continue to come. I am so blessed. A card I received from Wendy Seed had a powerful impact on me—and you can learn from it, too. She and I have never had a conversation, just greeted each other. She wrote, "You have been missed by people like me who look forward to seeing you in the congregation. You always look so happy to be there." How easily we can positively impact other people. Sally Hershiser

Here .					
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The United Methodist Church of Kent PO Box 646 Kent, OH 44240					
Church Office: 330-673-5879 Web Site: www.kentmethodist.org	Mailing Label Here				
Dr. David Palmer, Senior Pastor					
Douglas Denton, Minister of Pastoral Care					
Rick Stout, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministries					
Mailed November 18	Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"				

	Worship Calendar						
Date	Sermon	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event			
December 4	"God Pitches His Tent"	Exodus 29:42–46 John 1:14, Matthew 1:23	Dr. David Palmer	Communion			
December 11	Children's Musical "Sl and Savior" a		Dr. David Palmer	Resurrection			
December 18	8:30 and 10:30 9:30	-	al "Behold the Star" e Living Nativity"	ZAMARingers			
December 24	"You Need Fear Disaster No More"	Zephaniah 3:14–20	Dr. David Palmer	7 рм Children's Choir 9 рм Sanctuary Choir			
December 25 Special combined 10:00 AM service with carol singing and Children's Time (see cover letter for details)							
Connect with us at www.kentmethodist.org,							
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Visit us Web or on Instagram/Twitter @kentmethodist							