



THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 59 Number 3 The United Methodist Church of Kent—*A Place to Grow* March 2017

Dear Friends,

This month we begin the season of **Lent**. Since Easter comes late this year, Ash Wednesday is on the first day of March—Wednesday, March 1.

For centuries, the forty days of Lent have been a special time of spiritual focus for Christians—a time of reflecting about what Christ has done for us, and a time of deepening our relationship with Christ.

Opportunities for spiritual growth during Lent include the following:

- We begin Lent with a **Service of Ashes** on Ash Wednesday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m. See the relevant article in this newsletter for more details.
- We will have a **Wednesday Evening Series** entitled “**God’s Concerns Are Ours.**” What is God concerned about in today’s world? God’s concerns should be ours! The series will unfold each Wednesday during Lent from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the gymnasium. There will be different speaker each week. See the article below.
- We have a **Wednesday Evening Lenten Potluck**, beginning at 6:15 p.m. each Wednesday, starting March 1, in Pierson Hall. Bring one dish to share, plus table service; beverages will be provided. The potluck finishes in time for people to go to the evening program in the gymnasium. Everyone is invited!
- Our children will be encouraged to put a dime a day in a **Lenten coin folder** as a spiritual exercise in self-giving. The folders will be distributed in our Sunday school classes; the dimes will go toward United Methodist mission work.
- We have a new Lenten term starting in our **University of Life**—our series of courses for adults from 9:30 to 10:15 each Sunday morning. The class actually begins on Feb. 26 and is being led by Rev. Douglas Denton. See the relevant article in this newsletter for details.
- The sermon series on **The Points of the Cross—How the Cross of Christ Can Save You** will continue through the month.

I look forward to sharing with you as together in many ways we grow in our walk with Christ!

In His Service,

Dr. David Palmer

Youth Ministry News

March 2017

Matthew 25:40 reads “Then the king will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

Every day, nearly 8,000 kids are dying from hunger-related causes. On the weekend of February 5 and 6, 25 of our youth participated once again in World Vision’s 30 Hour Famine. For 30 hours, the youth of our church went hungry to raise funds to help hungry children around the world. This annual event creates an opportunity for our youth to make a huge impact on the continual problem of hunger and poverty both locally and worldwide, while at the same time experiencing in a small taste of what hunger is like. During the course of the weekend over 1,800 canned goods were collected and donated to the food pantry at Kent Social Services. Additionally, students participated in a variety of games and activities designed to teach us about the issue of hunger on a global scale. Overall, the weekend was a fantastic learning experience and our youth went away with the understanding that they can make a difference for the world.

Another way we give opportunity to your youth to make a difference in the world is through our mission trip. As many of you are aware, the youth will be traveling again this summer to Mountain T.O.P. located in Altamont, Tennessee to be in ministry with the people of the Cumberland Mountain Plateau. We are very excited to have 55 members of our youth group and various adults registered to attend Mountain T.O.P. this summer!

While each student attending is responsible for more than ¾ of their individual cost for the week at Mountain TOP, the remaining funds to cover costs including travel needs to be raised. Additionally, there are students from some families who will have difficulty paying their required portion. Therefore, we would like to ask the congregation to consider getting involved in our quest to raise the required funds for this year’s trip by considering participating in one of the following financial opportunities to help

1. **Scholarships** As mentioned above there are several families who may have difficulty in today’s economy paying for the required portion of their trip. Monies given toward the required portion from each student and full sponsorships are a wonderful way to help.
2. **Buy a brick** At the time of this writing, our annual telethon brick sale will be Sunday afternoon, February 26 beginning at 3:00. When the youth call, please prayerfully consider supporting their efforts by purchasing a \$25 brick in support of these trips. Remember every gift, no matter how big or small, goes to make a difference in the lives of another.

While these trips may seem like huge undertakings, with God’s grace and your generous support we can make it happen.

Shalom,

Rick 

MARCH

1	Ash Wednesday
5	7–8:30 Youth Fellowship
11	9:30 Confirmation
12	Youth Sunday— No Youth Activities
19	7–8:30 Youth Fellowship
26	Spring Break No Youth Activities

March Acolyte Schedule

MAR 1	Aron Kooijman Will Stresing
MAR 5	Kyle Schmidt Jaden Lepp
MAR 12	Abbey Stiller Mya Syphrit
MAR 19	Zane Ferrara Mallory Moldvay
MAR 26	Mya Syphrit Aron Kooijman

UCM Dinner March 10

United Christian Ministries at Kent State University will host their Semi-Annual Fundraising Dinner on Friday, March 10, 2017 at 6:00 PM in Pierson Hall of the Kent United Methodist Church. Adult tickets are \$20, and children 12 and under eat free. Childcare will be available in the gym after the kids eat. The Italian themed menu includes Salad, Chicken Parmesan, Pasta, Vegetables and a BIG dessert. Vegetarian Eggplant Parmesan is available upon request at time of reservation. Reservations are required and can be made at www.myucm.org or by calling the office at (330) 673-5687. If you are unable to attend, please consider making an online donation. Proceeds from the dinner support UCM's student programs.

Thank you for your continued support of campus ministry!

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.

Campus Ministry Update

UCM students are off to a busy start! Students worked to make 34 fleece blankets for Project Linus. These blankets comfort children who are hospitalized or in crisis. In response to the post election aftermath, UCM students felt compelled to spread a message of love among campus student groups, LGBTQIA, Muslim Student Association, Jewish students from Hillel, and Black United Students by writing love letters. Those who wrote letters did so to express concerns about harassment and violence against certain populations. In tradition, the students made Valentine treat bags for students served in local centers. With more fellowship and service planned, UCM students have no plans to sit still, even in the chaos of their course load!



EASTER LILIES

You are invited to purchase Easter lilies to beautify the church during our Easter services. Please complete the information below and mail it to the church office, or drop it into the offering plate on Sunday. **Please print** for the best legibility! All flower requests must be accompanied by payment. All checks must be made payable to the United Methodist Church of Kent by March 26. Following the 10:30 AM service on Easter Sunday, April 16, flowers will be distributed to shut-ins by members of our UMW Circles.

I/WE WISH TO PURCHASE _____ PLANT(S) AT \$10.00 EACH

IN MEMORY OF: _____

OR

IN HONOR OF: _____

GIVEN BY: _____



God's Concerns Are Ours

God's Concerns Are Ours is the title of a 5-part Lenten series that will take place on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the gymnasium. The schedule is as follows:

March 8: How Do We Know What God's Concerns Are? Leader: Dr. Palmer We know God's concerns because God tells us! In a fast-moving Bible study, Dr. Palmer will take us from Moses through the Biblical prophets to Jesus to discover the "heart" of God.

March 15: God's Concern for a Community of Shalom. Leader: Dr. Ann Schierhorn Come see the groundbreaking presentation that Dr. Schierhorn created to tell the inspiring story of desegregation in a southern community. Floor displays in the gymnasium will augment the spoken and video presentation. The theme of overcoming racism continues to be very relevant!

March 22: Whatever Happened to the Orphanage? God has a great concern for disadvantaged children! This led church leaders in years past in America to establish orphanages, which in recent decades have transitioned to an even tougher challenge of helping today's troubled youth. Hear the story of how we are at work through United Methodist-related Guidestone in Berea, with a presentation by a Guidestone representative.

March 29: God's Concern for the Poor. Leader: Rick Stout Part of our outreach to the poor happens through our youth and adult mission teams. Come hear and see the story of how our summer teams were at work last year in Grundy County, Tennessee, one of the poorest counties in the country, and at the Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota.

April 5: TBA

SAVE THE DATE!



**UMC Kent VBS
June 12-16**

Adult Retreat 2017

All adults in the church family are invited to participate in the Adult Retreat. It will occur April 28–30 at Zinck's Inn in Berlin, Ohio—the heart of Amish Country. We meet for dinner Friday evening at the Farmstead Restaurant in Berlin and wrap up with breakfast and a worship service led by Dr. Palmer on Sunday morning. We plan a special dinner experience for Saturday evening. The activities of the weekend are planned by the group attending, and we always have a good time (including some free time Saturday afternoon to enjoy the area). The total cost will be about \$250 per room including the Saturday evening dinner (two persons) plus meals on your own Friday night and Saturday afternoon. The hotel provides a conference room for our group meetings and has a great complimentary breakfast buffet. To participate, make out a deposit check for \$20 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.

Sunday Seminar, by Dr. Palmer— Sunday, March 12:

Explaining the Cross

The historical and theological backstory of the "Points of the Cross" series

On Sunday, March 12, Dr. Palmer will offer a 45 minute "Sunday Seminar" in the gymnasium, from 9:30 to 10:15. The seminar will explore the historical and theological backstory of the current "Points of the Cross" sermon series. Dr. Palmer will lead participants through the key ways in which the great theologians of church history have "explained" what is happening on the cross. We will see how each approach can help us to come to a fuller and deeper understanding of the cross.

This Sunday Seminar is offered on March 12 because that day is Youth Sunday, when there are only two worship services presented by our youth—at 8:30 and 10:30 in the sanctuary. Note that the University of Life class offered by Rev. Denton will pause on March 12 and will resume on March 19. There will be child care offered during the 9:30 hour as usual.

University of Life Lenten Study through April 9

"What Christians Believe and Why" will be the subject for this 6-week series. It will be based on the book and DVD from Adam Hamilton, pastor of The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas. We will consider the question, "How do we discover and examine the truths that give meaning and purpose to our life?" Adam Hamilton believes some of the answers are contained in the Apostles' Creed, an early statement of foundational Christian beliefs. This series will begin at 9:30 AM in the church's conference room.

Summer Camp Registration Is Open

The average American youth spends:

- 270 minutes a day watching TV
- 4 minutes a day playing outside
- 7.5 hours a day on electronics

A week at camp provides 10,080 minutes away to consider, to dream, to believe that they are loved and created for a purpose. The United Methodist Church of Kent will pay half the cost of the camp as a "campership." For full details on applying for and receiving a campership, please visit our website at www.kentmethodist.org, or contact Dr. Palmer or Lynnette Begue-Lavery, our financial coordinator.

Ukraine Orphanage Program

Michelle Maly, daughter of former Robinson Memorial Chaplain Everett Schleef, is currently a missionary in Ukraine ministering to orphans in the public orphanages of Odessa. She is returning to Ohio briefly; and on Tuesday, March 7, she will be giving a presentation about her work and her experience of caring for orphans. She has a passion for encouraging adoption and is a good resource for anyone who has thought about adoption. She can answer questions about the challenges and blessings and help people think through issues around international adoptions. Her ministry in Ukraine is fully funded so she does not ask for money for herself. Her desire is to raise awareness of the plight of orphans in the Ukraine and to challenge Christians to find ways to become involved. She will be at St. Luke's Ministries, 3810 Ridgewood Rd., Copley on Tuesday, March 7, at 6:00 PM. Alternatively, you are invited to join Everett and Phyllis Schleef and Michelle Maly at their home, 5242 Lakewood Road, Ravenna, on Thursday, March 9, at 7:00 PM. RSVP to 330-839-8745 if you are able to attend or to ask any questions you may have about the presentation.

March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Regular Schedule Communion	6 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Room 7 pm Disciple I/Rm 207 7 pm Disciple III/Rm 200	7 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 6 pm Zumba Fitness/Gym 7 pm Young Adults/Parlor 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	1 Ash Wednesday 9 am Miriam Circle/Parlor 1 pm Mary Reed Circle/Parlor 6 pm Yoga/Parlor	2 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 6 pm Zumba Fitness/Gym 7 pm Disciple Fast-Track/Room 208 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Choir Room	3	4 8 am-1 pm Haymaker Farmers' Market/Pierson Hall
12 Youth Sunday	13 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Room 7 pm Disciple I/Rm 207 7 pm Disciple III/Rm 200 7 pm UMW Board Meeting/Conference Rm	14 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 6 pm Zumba Fitness/Gym 7 pm Young Adults/Parlor 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	15 6 pm Yoga/Parlor 7 pm Education Comm/Conference Room	16 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 6 pm Zumba Fitness/Gym 7 pm Disciple Fast-Track/Room 208 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Choir Room	17	18 8 am-1 pm Haymaker Farmers' Market/Pierson Hall
19 Regular Schedule	20 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Room 7 pm Disciple I/Rm 207 7 pm Disciple III/Rm 200	21 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 6 pm Zumba Fitness/Gym 7 pm Young Adults/Parlor 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	22 6 pm Yoga/Parlor	23 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 6 pm Zumba Fitness/Gym 7 pm Disciple Fast-Track/Room 208 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Choir Room	24	25 8 am-1 pm Haymaker Farmers' Market/Pierson Hall
26 Regular Schedule	27 6 pm Garden Club Mtg/Pierson Hall 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Room 7 pm Disciple I/Rm 207 7 pm Disciple III/Rm 200	28 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 6 pm Zumba Fitness/Gym 7 pm Young Adults/Parlor 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	29 6 pm Yoga/Parlor	30 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 6 pm Zumba Fitness/Gym 7 pm Disciple Fast-Track/Room 208 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Choir Room	31	31

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 Worship Service/Sanctuary
 10:40 Sunday School—Preschool-6th Grade, Youth
 11:30 Fellowship Time/Pierson Hall
 12:00 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

Our Sympathies Go to:

- Family and friends of Pat Pickel
- Bill Childers on the death of his aunt
- Family and friends of Michael Mills
- Leo Fertig on the death of his mother
- Janice Swan on the death of her father



Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Louise Klein, Dave Kurtz, Monsaw Leigh, Ray Loughridge, Tim Price, Del Proudfoot

USHERS AND GREETERS		
Date	8:30/10:30	9:30
March 1	2	5
March 5	3	1
March 12	4	2
March 19	5	3
March 26	6	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.

MARCH LAY READERS

MAR 5	Tom Emerick
MAR 12	Youth Fellowship
MAR 19	Pat Baldwin
MAR 26	Andy Denton

Mar 5-Sharon Coia
 Mar 12-Don Ashton
 Mar 19-Betty Sweet
 Mar 26-Janice Anderson



VIDEOTAPING SCHEDULE

MAR 1	Eric Wertz
MAR 5	Cheryl Brode
MAR 12	Gary Mote
MAR 19	Eric Wertz
MAR 26	Brittany Brode

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Rev. Palmer,

Wesleyan Senior Living Foundation recently received your congregation's gift of \$300. I wanted to thank you for your efforts on behalf of our residents.

Last year, we provided charitable support for nearly 200 of our 400 residents at Wesleyan Village—individuals who have outlived their personal resources and rely on us to provide for their on-going needs. Your gifts make it possible for individuals to remain within the committed and caring environment that they have come to call home, Without undue disruption in their lives as their personal finances dwindle.

Thank you to you and your congregation for your commitment to our mission and support.

Sincerely,

Kristen Jones

VP of Development and Church Relations

Dear Faithful supporter,

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of Faithful Servants Mission, Inc., thank you for your generous support in 2016. Your donation will help to continue to provide both physical and spiritual care to our community at FSCC, as well as to expand our outreach to the uninsured through our partnerships with South Street Missions, Urban Vision, and Haven of Rest.

It's a joy to serve alongside you,
 Gayle Grater—Treasurer FSCC

Dear Friends of ZOE,

Thank you for building the Kingdom of God by helping orphans and vulnerable children help themselves. Because of your contributions in 2016, over 31,000 orphans and vulnerable children in Kenya, Rwanda, Malawi, Liberia, Zimbabwe, India, and Guatemala are transforming their lives through the ZOE empowerment program.

Again, thank you for standing behind these children as they pull themselves and their siblings out of extreme poverty and understand they are loved by God. Because of you, lives are changing.

Grace and Peace,
 Gaston Warner,
 CEO, ZOE

Dear Church Members,

On behalf of our clients, the Board of Directors, and the staff, thank you for your recent gift of \$300 to OhioGuidestone. Your charitable support allows us to make a positive impact on the 27,000 children and families we serve.

Your generous contribution provides pathways for growth, achievement, and lifelong success to our clients who often struggle with poverty. OhioGuidestone empowers children, families, and communities to become educated, self-reliant, and strong.

Sincerely,

Cindy Naegele

VP of Advancement and Communications



**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**

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Lent begins on March 1—Ash Wednesday.

Worship Calendar

Date	Sermon	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
March 1	“Forgive Them”	Luke 23:32–34	Dr. David Palmer	Service of Ashes
March 5	“Love Outpoured”	Mark 8:31–35	Dr. David Palmer	Communion
March 12	Youth Sunday—8:30 and 10:30 service in the sanctuary, 9:30 seminar in the gym			
March 19	“The Cross Is Victory”	I Cor. 15:56–57 Col. 1:11–14, 19–20	Dr. David Palmer	<i>Children’s Choir, Chancel Ringers</i> New members received
March 26	“Into a Land of Strangers”	Genesis 12:1–8 Hebrews 11:1, 8–12	Rev. Douglas Denton	



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