



THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 60 Number 2 The United Methodist Church of Kent—*A Place to Grow* February 2018

Dear Friends,

This month we will begin the season of **Lent**. 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.

Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday**, which this year is February 14. It is an interesting coincidence that this is also Valentine's Day! On this day when our culture celebrates love, we can also celebrate the greatest love of all – the love poured out upon us by God through Jesus Christ.

On Ash Wednesday, we have a **Service of Ashes** at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. This very meaningful service uses the ancient symbolism of ashes to signify our repentance and the forgiveness of Christ. The Sanctuary Choir will sing, and there will be child care available for the hour-long service. The service is preceded by the first of our Lenten potlucks.

Our **Lenten potluck suppers** provide a wonderful food and fellowship opportunity throughout the season of Lent. Each Wednesday night, from February 14 through March 21, we gather for supper in Pierson Hall at 6:15 p.m. Just bring a food item to share, plus table service. Beverages are provided.

The potlucks are followed each night by a **Wednesday Lenten Series**. After Ash Wednesday, the series continues for five weeks, from Feb. 21 through March 21. We will have a speaker each night making a presentation – with time also for questions and discussion – from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. The series will take place in the gymnasium. You can come for both the supper and the series, or just one or the other.

The theme of the series this year is the **United Methodist Social Principles** – our church's stand on major issues of our time. As you may know, the major area where the United Methodist Church is currently wrestling is in the realm of human sexuality, and our Lenten Series will give particular focus to that debate; but we will focus on some other key areas as well. Our schedule will be as follows:

- **Feb. 21 – The Social Principles and the Quest to Find "A Way Forward" on Human Sexuality**
Presenter: Dr. Palmer
- **Feb. 28 – The Human Sexuality Debate and the Reconciling Movement**
Presenters: Bill and Joy Watts, Uniontown United Methodist Church
- **March 7 – Bridges Out of Poverty**
Presenters: Rev. Douglas Denton and Amy Winter
- **March 14 – Achieving Peace in Today's World**
Presenter: Lorna Westlake, East Ohio Conference Peace with Justice Advocate
- **March 21 – The Story of an Afghan Christian Refugee**
Presenter: Mujeeb Wafa, Cleveland State student, refugee from the Afghan Pashtun region

Plan to come to any or all of these presentations!

Also in Lent, our children are invited to fill a **Lenten coin folder** as an activity of self-giving for others. Lenten coin folders are distributed in our Sunday School classes; the proceeds go toward missions.

In Sunday worship, the sermon series also connects with the spirit of Lent, as we continue so accompany Jesus on his "**Journey to Jerusalem**." I look forward to sharing with you as we grow as Jesus' disciples.

In His Service,
Dr. David Palmer

Youth Ministry News

February 2018

What a great start our youth have had to the new year. Rehearsals began in January for this year's Youth Sunday, to be held on Sunday, March 11. This year's theme is "The ONE" and will focus on Matthew 18:12-14 in this parable Jesus focuses on how God is willing to leave the rest of his flock to search for one lost soul. Youth Sunday will feature three short skits, a performance art piece, and messages brought to us by Seniors Meredith Hartsook and Cole McDougal. Also in January, on the 26th, our confirmation class visited the Temple Israel in Akron and participated in their Interfaith Youth Service.

Looking forward to February our team of 28 is set for our annual mission trip to Mountain T.O.P. and plans are underway to raise the necessary funds. Our annual brick sale will be Sunday, February 25. While each student attending is responsible for more than half of their individual cost for the week, the

remaining funds, 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 the brick sale. When the youth call on February 25, won't you please consider purchasing a symbolic brick for \$25 in support of the youth mission trip? Planning for the "Time and Talent" auction is also underway. This year's auction WILL include an autographed helmet signed by Urban Meyer, use of a flat for a week in London England, golf passes and much more. Please mark Sunday, April 22 on your calendar and plan on coming out in support of the youth ministry here at our church.

And finally on the weekend of February 2 and 3 our youth will once again work to end world hunger by participating in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine. I hope everyone will plan to take part in one or all of these exciting events.

Shalom,

Rick ✕

Mission Trip News

Buy a Brick in Support of our Mission Trip

For our 19th summer the youth will be again traveling to Mountain T.O.P., located in Altamont, Tennessee, to be in ministry with the people of the Cumberland Mountain Plateau. Grundy County, where we will be working, is the poorest county per capita in the entire United States, and our youth group will be traveling there to do minor home repair and make a difference in the lives of the people living "on the mountain." Our Annual telethon brick sale will be Sunday Night, February 25. When the youth call, please prayerfully consider supporting their efforts to share the love of Jesus to those who so desperately need it.

February Acolyte Schedule

FEB 4	Yulan Zhu Cassie Holman
FEB 11	Joseph Crawford Christine Thomas
FEB 14	Addy Fritsch Logan Poole
FEB 18	Cameron Lantz Jake Fankhauser
FEB 25	Shelby Beekman Cassie Holman

FEBRUARY YOUTH CALENDAR

2-3	30 Hour Famine-details TBA
4	No Youth Fellowship
10	9:30-3 Confirmation Class to Light House of Hope
11	7:00-8:30 Youth Fellowship
14	Ash Wednesday
18	7:00-8:30 Youth Fellowship
25	Brick Sale 3-5



United Methodist Women to Present Dynamic Worship Service

A lively worship experience is in store at all three worship hours on Sunday, February 18. Drama, liturgical dance, special music, and visual arts will all support an inspiring message on the theme of "Mission 'N You." The service has been in planning and preparation stages for many weeks by a large team of our United Methodist Women. The same major elements will be presented at the 8:30, 9:30, and 10:30 services, although the congregational singing will differ among the services as usual. Be sure to be present for this special worship experience!

UNIVERSITY OF LIFE – WINTER TERM, JANUARY 7–FEBRUARY 18

The God You Can Know is the theme of our new University of Life class, which is held each Sunday morning from 9:30 to 10:15 in the Conference Room. The class will use a series of video Bible studies that explore the "I Am" sayings of Jesus. Filmed in the Holy Land, the videos are presented by United Methodist pastor Rob Fuquay, who serves St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Indianapolis, one of the largest churches in our denomination. The study will lead us to experience Jesus anew and discover the God who wants to be known. Class leaders are John and Sandy Kerstetter. All adults are invited!

LENTEN TERM FEBRUARY 25–MARCH 25

The University of Life Lenten Study led by Doug Denton will be centered around the book *Anxious for Nothing* by Max Lucado. We will base our study around Phillippians 4, where Paul admonishes us to "not be anxious about anything..." Lucado says, "The presence of anxiety is unavoidable, but the prison of anxiety is optional." This will be a five-session study, beginning February 25, 9:30 AM, in the church's conference room.

Year-End Contribution Statements

Year-end contributions statements for 2017 will be available for pickup in the Atrium beginning January 21. 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!

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 2018 in the Atrium. Payment of \$35 can be made by writing "Altar Flowers" on your check or envelope.

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 sermon 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! We are currently looking for volunteers to run the streaming video equipment in the gym. If this sounds interesting to you, please contact Adam in the office or Rick Stout at rickstout@kentmethodist.org. Training will be provided.

February Meetings of Kent UMW

Miriam Circle will hold their first meeting of the year at **9:30 AM on February 7** in Pierson Hall. The program is entitled "Heart to Heart". Co-Hostesses will be Barbara Farrell and Shirley Rog. Devotions and the Mission Moment will be presented by Sandra Andrews.

On **February 7 at 1 PM**, the members of Mary Reed Circles will meet in the parlor. The program entitled "Women for Women: Ohio and Cambodia" will be presented. Candy Thaxton will lead Devotions and present a Mission Moment. Jan Hambleton and Gretchen Laflin will serve as Co-Hostesses.

Rebecca Circle will meet **February 7 at 7:30 PM** in Pierson Hall at the church. The program is entitled "Sacred Space of Hope: The Haven of Portage County". Tina Ballentine will serve as Hostess. Lee Hall will lead Devotions and Gail Closs will lead the Mission Moment.

On **February 11 at 6:30 PM**, Janus Circle will meet at the home of Hostess Laurel Stiller, who will also lead Devotions. The program will be a speaker on the opioid crisis in Portage County.

New Member Registration Form

Use this form to register for one of our upcoming New Member Orientations, which provide a helpful overview of our church life and who we are as United Methodists. The New Member Orientation, led by Dr. Palmer, takes places on a Saturday evening from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Child care is provided, and there is also a dessert, but eat supper before you come! New members are received into membership on Sunday morning at any of our three worship hours. Turn this form into the church office, or simply place in a church offering plate/basket.

NAME and BIRTHDATE (couples can fill out the same form together)

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

HAVE YOU BEEN BAPTIZED? Yes ____ No ____

NAMES AND BIRTH DATES OF CHILDREN:

DO YOU NEED CHILD CARE AT THE ORIENTATION? Yes ____ No ____

PLACE OF CURRENT CHURCH MEMBERSHIP *If you are currently on the membership roll of another church, please indicate the name and the city of the church; we will contact the church to have them transfer your membership. If you are not a member of another church, simply mark none.*

SPONSOR SUGGESTION *The sponsor is someone who will introduce you to the congregation when you join. It can be any member of the church that you know or have just casually met. The sponsor will take part in the latter half of the orientation event. Please indicate here the names of people you can think of who might be a sponsor for you. We will contact the person(s) on your behalf. A couple can be sponsored by one individual or another couple.*

ORIENTATION DATE YOU PLAN TO ATTEND: Sat., Feb. 24 ____ Sat., Apr. 7 ____

Orientation is 6:00–8:30 p.m. in the church parlor. You will be welcomed into membership the next morning.

Prior to the orientation, please visit our church web site at kentmethodist.org/join and review especially the sections on What We Believe, Our History, and Our Missions.

New High in Mission Giving

In 2017, our church gave more than \$176,000 to missions, the first time in our history that we exceeded \$175,000 in mission giving. Our financial support strengthened many local missions as well as the worldwide outreach of the United Methodist Church. In addition to this financial giving, we had hundreds of church members involved in various sorts of hands-on mission, joining in mission teams and serving as volunteers at local mission projects and agencies. You can find a complete listing of the many elements of our mission outreach online at www.kentmethodist.org or in the new missions brochures that have been placed around the church building.

Choral Festival February 23

The United Methodist Church of Kent is proud to welcome the Akron chapter of the AGO (American Guild of Organists) for a scholarship fundraising concert. The concert will feature five choirs from area churches, including the Sanctuary Choir from our own church, with special performances by the Suburban Brass Quintet and Sound Bites (a local a cappella quartet). Please join us at 8 PM in the Sanctuary on Friday, February 23, for this exciting opportunity to hear organists and singers from all across the Akron area!

Become a Member of the Church

Have you been attending for a while but have never actually joined the church? There are two opportunities this spring to take the step of becoming a full member!

You join the church by attending a New Member Orientation, which takes place on a Saturday evening from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. The orientation, led by Dr. Palmer, provides a helpful overview of our church life and who we are as United Methodists. Those attending the orientation are then received into church membership at any of our three Sunday worship services the following day.

We are offering a New Member Orientation on Saturday, February 24 (new members received on Sunday, February 25) and on Saturday, April 7 (new members received on Sunday, April 8). Child care is provided during the orientation, which also includes a dessert.

You register for the New Member Orientation by filling out a New Member Registration form, which you can find on the opposite page. Please fill this out yourself, or share with a friend who hasn't yet become a member. The form can also be filled out online at www.kentmethodist.org/join, where you can begin to learn more about our church. For more information, please contact Dr. Palmer at 330-673-5879, ext. 21, or davepalmer@kentmethodist.org.

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 11. Following the 10:30 AM service on Easter Sunday, April 1, 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: _____



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6

USHERS AND GREETERS

Date	8:30/9:30/10:30
February 4	6
February 11	1
February 14	2
February 18	3
February 25	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.

February 4-Sharon Coia

February 11-Don Ashton

February 18-Betty Sweet

February 25-Janice Anderson



Remember
These
Members
in Their
Sorrow

Our sympathies to:

- The family and friends of Gertrude Bodnovich
- The family and friends of Harold Stewart
- Margie Stahl on the death of her sister
- The friends and family of Jeff Stevens
- Rick Stout and family on the death of his grandmother, Louise Baker

Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Tina Ballentine, Sharon Coia, Janet Crnkovich, Davina Gosnell, Virgil Herzberger, Mike Hornyak, Jack Hurd, Sandra Kennedy, David Kurtz, Nancy Moore, Charlie Nichols, Kathi Smith, Joanne Yarnall

VIDEOTAPING SCHEDULE

FEB 4	Eric Wertz
FEB 11	Eric Wertz
FEB 14	Gary Mote
FEB 18	Gary Mote
FEB 25	Cheryl Brode

FEBRUARY
LAY READERS

FEB 4	Pat Baldwin
FEB 11	Ben Ina
FEB 18	Wendy Seed
FEB 25	Vanessa Heeman

THANK YOU

Many, many thanks to David and Kathy Blair (especially David) who came and cleaned my driveway and sidewalk on a bitter cold day. What wonderful church friends!

Carole Stokes

To our church family,

Just wanted to thank Pastor Denton for the visits of my last surgery.

Also wanted to thank our church family for the calls and many cards.

We are truly blessed to have such a caring church family.

Respectfully,

Dave Munn

Judy really enjoyed giving her time to the church by helping with Rotary and Garden Club. She enjoyed the fellowship everyone provided while setting up and preparing the meals. The flowers you sent were beautiful and reflected her true spirit.

The family of Judy Price

Tree City Open House

Tree City Preschool will hold an informational open house for individuals interested in registering their 3- or 4-year olds for next year's classes. The open house will be held in the Education Wing on February 9 from 10:30 to noon. Please visit www.treecitypreschool.org for additional information.

SCOUT SUNDAY AND PANCAKE
BREAKFAST—FEB. 11

Scout Sunday, an annual Sunday when we celebrate Scouting, will be recognized in our church on Feb. 11. Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will attend in uniform, there will be a special recognition of our Scouts during the announcement time, and Boy Scouts from our Troop 252 will have leadership roles in the service. Our Scouts will have a Pancake brunch in Pierson Hall starting at 9:00 AM and continuing until 1:00 PM, so that people from all three worship services can come. There is a freewill offering at each table; proceeds support our Scout program.



**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**



Apply
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Here

Mailing Label Here

Mailed January 26

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near... *Mark 2:15*

Worship Calendar

Date	Sermon	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
February 4	"The Miraculous Meal"	II Kings 4:42-44; Mark 8:1-9a; Mark 6:31-44	Dr. David Palmer	Communion, <i>Chancel Ringers</i>
February 11	"The Dazzling Vision"	Mark 9:2-13; Mark 9:30-32	Dr. David Palmer	<i>Resurrection</i>
February 14	"Repent, and Believe the Gospel"	Mark 1:14-15	Dr. David Palmer	Ash Wednesday
February 18	"Mission 'N You"		Judith Nedel	UMW Sunday
February 25	"The Picture Becomes Clear"	Mark 8:22-35; Mark 10:46-52	Dr. David Palmer	<i>ZAMARingers, Children's Choir</i>



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or on Instagram/Twitter @kentmethodist

