

# 

Volume 60 Number 12

The United Methodist Church of Kent-A Place to Grow

December 2018

Dear Friends,

We are entering the season of Advent, which for many of us is one of the most meaningful seasons of the church year, as we reflect about the coming of our Savior. Just prior to Advent, on the last Sunday in November, it is "Christ the King" Sunday—the final day of the "church year." Advent begins on the first Sunday in December. We look forward to many special elements in worship! The schedule includes:

**NOVEMBER 25—CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY.** The church liturgical year, which tracks the story of Jesus from his promised coming (Advent) to his enthronement in glory (Christ the King), comes to a joyous climax on this Sunday, as we celebrate the reign of Christ on the throne of heaven. A new sermon series begins, entitled "The Kingdom Is at Hand." New Spirit will be doing a prelude at 10:30, and ZAMARingers will share at the 10:30 hour.

**DECEMBER 2—FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT, COMMUNION** We begin our celebration of Advent with the lighting of the Advent wreath at all worship hours. The Chancel Ringers will play during the offertory at 10:30. The sermon is entitled, "Be Ready."

### DECEMBER 9-SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT; CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

At the 10:30 hour, our Children's Choir will be sharing with us a Christmas musical entitled "Carriers of the Light." The sermon at all three worship hours, entitled "Salty Believers," will continue the sermon series entitled, "The Kingdom Is at Hand." Our Resurrection ensemble will sing at the 9:30 and 10:30 hours.

**DECEMBER 16—THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT.** ZAMARingers will share at the 10:30 service. The sermon will be entitled, "Keep the Light On."

### **DECEMBER 23-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

### NEW SPIRIT CHRISTMAS MUSICAL at 8:30 and 10:30; YOUTH DRAMA at 9:30

At 8:30 and 10:30 worship, the New Spirit singers and band will proclaim the Christmas message through a cantata entitled, "Were You There that Christmas Night?" Both services will be in the sanctuary.

The 9:30 service will feature a play performed by our youth entitled, "The Christmas Movie." This is a hilarious play which, along with the humor, brings a powerful message.

### CHRISTMAS EVE, MONDAY, DEC. 24-CANDLELIGHT SERVICES, 7:00 & 9:00 P.M.

The 7:00 service will feature a blend of contemporary and traditional styles. Our worship band will have a significant role in the service this year, leading some of the music, while some Christmas carols will be sung with the organ. The Children's Choir will sing; child care will be provided.

The 9:00 service will be a purely traditional style, and will be preceded by a half hour prelude. Come at 8:30 for special music! The Sanctuary Choir sings at this service, and all the Christmas carols are sung with the organ. The same Christmas sermon will be given at both hours.

**SUNDAY, DEC. 30—COVENANT RENEWAL.** What better way can there be to head into a new year than to renew our covenant with God? As a part of our worship experience at all three worship hours, we share in a covenant renewal service that John Wesley created for Methodists to use on or near New Year's Eve. Here is an opportunity to truly "start the year right"—by getting ourselves right with God!

**EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JANUARY 6—COMMUNION** On this Sunday we remember the visit of the wise men to the infant Jesus. The sermon series entitled, "The Kingdom Is at Hand," comes to its conclusion. The Chancel Ringers share at the 10:30 hour.

I look forward to joining with you as in many ways we rejoice and share in the good news of Christmas!

In His Service, Dr. David Palmer

## Youth Ministry News

### December 2018

December Acolyte Schedule			
DEO O	Andy Curtin		
DEC 2	Dylan Schmidt		
DEC 9  DEC 16  DEC 23	Beau Harper		
	Jeremiah Lepp		
	Tyler Morris		
	Andy Curtin		
	Jeremiah Lepp		
	Dylan Schmidt		
DEC 24-7 PM	Ben Ina		
	Beau Harper		
DEC 24-9 PM	Tyler Morris		
	Andy Curtin		
DEC 20	Dylan Schmidt		
DEC 30	Ben Ina		

As I reflect on the year it's hard to believe how fast it's gone by. I can't believe that I am sitting here writing the December news already. The past year has been a fantastic one for our youth. From the 30 hour famine to Youth Sunday to the auction, the mission trip, 5<sup>th</sup> quarter or the Halloween party our youth have been blessed with the ability to spend time together sharing Christ love and growing in their faith. It has been my privilege to see lives touched, and live changed over the past year.

Late fall is always a busy time in the lives of our youth. Our Halloween party last month brought together between 50 and 55 of our youth for a time of food fellowship and fun. Additionally, rehearsals have started for your annual youth Christmas play. This year the Youth will be performing "The Christmas Movie" by Carrie Varnell. The play addresses the fact that Christmas is the time of year when hearts are open to "feel-good" themes like peace and charity. Movies love to cash in on these themes and the patrons who gladly pay the ticket price! This play is the retelling of some popular classic Christmas movies, how the message of Christ is inescapable and how God's "screenplay" will not be outdone. The youth are have

a great time preparing this play for the congregation and I hope many of you will turn out to see them.

Thinking about next year I am excited about all the things we have yet to come. Planning has already begun for Youth Sunday. We are preparing an exciting 30 Hour Famine in February, then there is the mission trip, and so much more. As we gear-up for the start of another year, I want to thank all who have in so many ways made this ministry possible. Whether you came to the auction, chaper-oned an event, went on the mission trip, or supported us in your prayers, this ministry would not be possible without the support of a loving church family like yourselves. May God bless you for all you do and may He continue to bless our youth group in the upcoming year. I am extremely blessed to have had the opportunity to serve at the United Methodist Church of Kent for the past 12 years

	DECEM	DER TOOTH ONEERDAR
	SAT 1	Confirmation 8:30–3 PM
	SUN 2	Resurrection, ZAMARingers, Youth Fellowship
	SUN 9 AM	Resurrection performs
•	SUN 9 PM	Resurrection, ZAMARingers, Youth Fellowship
	SUN 16 AM	ZAMARingers perform
	SUN 16 PM	Resurrection, ZAMARingers, Youth Fellowship
	SUN 23	No Youth Activities
	SUN 30	No Youth Activities

DECEMBER YOUTH CALENDAR

Shalom,

Rick≪

### **Christmas Mitten Tree**

In Portage County there are many families in need during the current economic times. In an effort to help the Sunday School department will once again be collecting mittens hats and gloves, and we would like to invite the entire congregation to help. There is a mitten tree on the second floor of the Education Wing as well as one outside the sanctuary to place the mittens on. Also, please keep the adults in mind as well by supplying gloves and hats in adult sizes.

### Music Enhancements in 2018

There have been several enhancements of our music ministry during 2018, which have been made possible through generous donations of time and funding. Here are some of the major ones:

New Sanctuary Choir robes—Through donations especially from the Dave Beaumont memorial fund and also from Sanctuary Choir members, new choir robes were purchased and dedicated on Easter Sunday, in memory both of Dave Beaumont, dedicated choir member, and Jack Hurd, who led our music committee for many years.

**Sanctuary acoustics project**—An acoustical study of the sanctuary, funded by special gifts, has enabled ongoing projects to enhance the acoustics in the sanctuary both for music and the spoken word. Further work in this area is developing.

**Gymnasium stage expansion**—The gymnasium stage was expanded to accommodate our growing worship band at the contemporary service. Funding was provided from memorial gifts, and the construction work was done by our Tuesday Work Group.

Choir room grand piano—The failing piano in the choir room was replaced by a beautiful Young Chang grand piano, provided by Nicki Heisser and her daughter, Terry Adaska. The piano is providing much better support for all our choral groups that rehearse in the choir room—the Sanctuary Choir, New Spirit, and Resurrection. Judy Smith designed and made a very nice piano cover for it, to keep it protected!

Looking ahead: the sanctuary organ—The "Music for the Soul" campaign was launched to rebuild our pipe organ. A team led by David Dix spent much of the year studying the needs of the organ and investigating possible organ builders for the project, finally choosing the Charles Kegg company and finalizing a plan. Pledge cards and informational sheets about the organ are available around the building.

### Why Believe Book to Be Published

Place to Grow Press—our church's publishing arm!—is publishing Why Believe, a book by Dr. Palmer that addresses the skepticism and doubt of our age. The book contains the ideas presented in last summer's sermon series but also develops a number of the subject areas further. The book will be available shortly on Amazon—in either Kindle form or in print—and print copies will be available for sale in our church atrium. The price is \$15 for a print copy or \$9.99 for the Kindle version. All proceeds support the mission of our church.

### Media Volunteers Needed

With a short bit of training, you can become one of our audio or video volunteers! We have excellent equipment, and are in need of a few additional volunteers for several of our teams. Generally you would be in a rotation such that you are "on" just once every six weeks. We need **sound board** volunteers and **video camera** volunteers for the 10:30 service, and we need **video projection** and **video streaming** volunteers at the 9:30 service. It's fun, easier than you might think, and a great way to serve the church! To volunteer, please contact Dr. Palmer.

### **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 2, at 4:00 PM. The hour-long concert will be followed by a fellowship time in Pierson Hall. Everyone is invited!

### **New Member Orientation**

Our New Member Orientation, led by Dr. Palmer, provides a brief overview of the United Methodist Church and the history and ministries of our Kent congregation; it is for all persons who are interested in joining the membership of our church. You have an opportunity to attend this orientation on Saturday, December 15 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m., and participants are received into membership at any worship hour on the next day—December 16. Interested persons can sign up in the atrium or online at www.kentmethodist.org/join.

### Stewardship Update

We had an uplifting Consecration Sunday on October 28. If you were not able to be present that day and have not yet turned in a pledge card for 2019, you are invited to do so! Cards are available around the church building.

If you would like an update on where you are in your giving to the church for 2018, please contact our Financial Coordinator, Lynnette Begue-Lavery, at 330-673-5879, ext. 11, or lynnette@kentmethodist.org.



### **MAKE YOUR RECEIPTS COUNT!**

Acme announced the dates for its 2018 Community Cash Back program, which runs from August 10 through December 29 (please note the date changes from past years)! 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 over \$500 for missions at the beginning of this year, more than any previous year due to better receipt submissions! Unfortunately, last year, we also received several receipts that could not be used because they did not have the ENTIRE receipt included. 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!

# December Meetings of Kent United Methodist Women (UMW) Circles

The **Miriam** and **Mary Reed** Circles of Kent United Methodist Women will meet at 1:00 PM on December 5 in the church parlor. The program will be "Christmas Gathering" Hostesses will be Pat Gynn and Judy Hayden.

The **Rebecca** Circle meeting will be held at 6:30 PM on December 5 at the home of Hostess Judy Smith (226 S. Lincoln in Kent) for their Christmas dinner and gift exchange and the underwear collection for Kent Social Services. Co-Hostesses will be Gail Lundberg and Gail Pytel.

Janus Circle will meet at 7:00 PM on Monday, December 3 at the home of Hostess Rebekah Kulis (1673 Overlook Rd., Kent). Rachel Slippy will co-hostess. The discussion will center around adopting a family from Miller House. An ornament exchange will be held.

### UMCOR/Sager Brown Mission Trip: Oct 27-Nov 1, 2019

Yep, we still have spots available for YOU (and your friends) if you are interested in planning a vacation/mission trip opportunity for 2019. Now that we are only 1 year away from this opportunity (as opposed to 2 1/2 years from the time of booking), it is time for some of you to reconsider the opportunity to join us on a trip to Baldwin, LA the last week of October in 2019.

During the week we inspect donated emergency kits such as flood buckets, hygiene or school kits which are given out to those who are hungry, displaced, sick or in poverty due to natural or human-made disasters. We can also choose to work in the sewing room and in the local community during the week. Along with relief efforts here in the United States, UMCOR serves 81 countries of the world. Each year, more than 3,000 volunteers come to the depot at Sager Brown to work in the depot and community surrounding Baldwin, LA.

Cost of the week is \$255.00 per person. This fee includes a \$25.00 processing fee, \$120.00 for lodging, and \$110.00 for meals. Additional costs include hotel rooms for travelling to and from Louisiana.

The work is light, the food is good and the time is well spent. Please consider joining us in mission next year.

Questions? Contact Carol Pozuc.

Phone: 330-571-5741 email: cpozuc@aol.com

### **How Boring!**

You may not want to receive socks and underwear for Christmas but many Portage County families do. When you need them, you probably just buy new ones. But that is not true of everyone. There is a box in the Atrium under the UMW Board to collect new socks and underwear for distribution at the Phyllis Zumkehr County Clothing Center. Items are needed for all ages—children and adults. If you have any question or would like to volunteer on the first or second Monday of the month, give me a call. Gail Closs. 330-626-2062.

### **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.

### Kitchen Help Needed!

Would you like to help provide financial support to over 20 local missions and worthy church activities? How about the County Clothing Center, Kent Social Services, Boy Scout Troop #252, Miller Community House, UMC Vacation Bible School (to name just a few)? This year \$8,500 was distributed primarily to our local community charitable non-profits and some church activities. The Kitchen Ministry is a tremendous operation that generates these funds, but it needs your help! Volunteers are needed in the kitchen and dining room to serve Rotary lunches every Tuesday and Kent Garden Club

Monday dinners once per month under the direction of Staci Stout. Lately, a few of the regular volunteers have been unable to serve in this ministry and we are looking to add new people to fill those gaps. The tasks are easy to learn and the camaraderie is free! The sign-up sheet is posted on the refrigerator in the kitchen, so please prayerfully consider joining this team and support this important source of funding for local missions and church activities! All ages welcome who can work in the kitchen and dining room!



You are invited to donate poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary for Christmas. Flowers will be distributed by Circle members to shutins from our church. Circle members may pick up the poinsettias December 24, after the 9:00 PM 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 **December 2**.

I/WE	
WISH TO DONATE PLANT	S AT \$10.00 EACH
IN MEMORY OF	
	OR
IN HONOR OF	

# December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Regular Schedule Communion Sunday Goodyear Band 4:00 PM	3 7:30 pm Worship band Rehearsal/Gym 8 pm Disciple I/Rm 207 8 pm Disciple II/Rm 200	4 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	5 10 am Companions in Christ/Room 208 6 pm Yoga/Parlor	6 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH	2	1/8 10–1 Haymaker's Farmers' Market/Pierson Hall
9 Regular Schedule	10 7:30 pm Worship band Rehearsal/Gym 8 pm Disciple I/Rm 207 8 pm Disciple II/Rm 200	11 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	12 10 am Companions in Christ/Room 208 6 pm Yoga/Parlor	13 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill	14	151 10–1 Haymaker's Farmers' Market/Pierson Hall 6:00 New Member Orientation/Parlor
16 Regular Schedule	17 6 pm Garden Club/Pierson Hall 7:30 pm Worship band Rehearsal/Gym 8 pm Disciple I/Rm 207 8 pm Disciple II/Rm 200	18 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	19 10 am Companions in Christ/Room 208 6 pm Yoga/Parlor	20 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 5:30 pm Joanna Circle/ Room 208	21	22 10–1 Haymaker's Farmers' Market/Pierson Hall
23 Regular Schedule	24 7 pm Christmas Eve Service (Blended)/ Sanctuary 8:30 pm Musical Prelude 9 pm Christmas Eve Service (Traditional)/ Sanctuary	25 Christmas Day Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH	28	29 10–1 Haymaker's Farmers' Market/Pierson Hall
30 Regular Schedule	31 7:30 pm Worship band Rehearsal/Gym	1 New Year's Day Office Closed			Regular Sunday Schedule 8:30 Worship Service/Chapel 9:15 Children's Choir—4 years–61 9:30 Contemporary Service/Gym	Sunday Schedule Worship Service/Chapel Children's Choir—4 years–6th grade
					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 – 6 11:30 Fellowship Time/Pierson Hall 12:00 pm Chancel Ringers/(Adult Bi	9:30 New Spirity 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 pm Chancel Ringers/(Adult Bells)Sanctuary

5:00 pm Resurrection (Youth Choir)/Choir Room 6:00 pm ZAMARingers (Youth Handbells)/Sanctuary 7:00 pm Youth Fellowship/Gym and Pit

<b>USHERS AND GREETERS</b>				
Date	8:30/9:30/10:30			
December 2	3			
December 9	4			
December 16	5			
December 23	6			
Dec. 24 7 PM	1			
Dec. 24 9 PM	2			
December 30	3			

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.

# VIDEOTAPING SCHEDULE DEC 2 Gary Mote DEC 9 Gary Mote DEC 16 Cheryl Brode DEC 23 Eric Wertz DEC 24 Eric Wertz DEC 30 Eric Wertz

DECE	DECEMBER LAY READERS		
DEC 2	Bob Berger		
DEC 9	Cara Desko		
DEC 16	Rebekah Kulis		

### Remember These Members in Their Sorrow

### Our sympathies to:

- Friends and family of Margaret Niessner
- Friends and family of Ken Miller
- Friends and family of Eleanor Flanik
- Tim Price on the death of his father, Keith Price

### Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Reed Beck, Davina Gosnell, Dave Gynn, Becky Head, Sally Hershiser, Arla Dee McPherson, Tom Pierson, Carrie Shelly, Earl Somoskey

Dec 2-Sharon Coia

Dec 9-Don Ashton

Dec 16-Betty Sweet

Dec 23-Janice Anderson

Dec 30-Mavis Palmer

University of Life – Advent Term – Nov. 25–Dec. 16 "Advent Conspiracy"

### Sundays, 9:30–10:15 a.m., Conference Room Leaders: John and Sandy Kerstetter

This well-designed four week class invites participants into a more authentic connection with the real meaning of the season. Thought-provoking video presentations will be followed by time for class discussion and reflection. All adults are invited!









Apply Postage Here

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 November 28

Christ was born today, Christ was born today!

Worship Calendar					
Date	Sermon	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event	
December 2	"Be Ready"	I Thessalonians 5:2–9; Luke 12:32–40	Dr. David Palmer	Chancel Ringers, Communion,	
December 9	"Salty Believers"	Luke 14:34–35; Matthew 5:13–16	Dr. David Palmer	Children's Musical, Resurrection	
December 16	"Keep the Light On"	Luke 12:35–38; Matthew 25:1–13	Dr. David Palmer	ZAMARingers, New Members Recieved	
December 23	nber 23 New Spirit Cantata: Were You There That Christmas Night? 8:30 & 10:30 Youth Play: The Christmas Movie 9:30				
December 24	"He Does Not Look Like Royalty"	The Christmas Story	Dr. David Palmer	7:00-Children's Choir and Worship Band 9:00-Sanctuary Choir	
December 30	Covenant Renewal Service		Rick Stout	Festival Choir	



Connect with us at www.kentmethodist.org, facebook.com/UMCofKent, or on Instagram/Twitter @kentmethodist



