



THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 61 Number 2 The United Methodist Church of Kent—*A Place to Grow* February 2019

Dear Friends,

At the end of February, from February 23–26, a historic special General Conference of the United Methodist Church will be held in St. Louis to consider, and possibly change, the church's current stance on human sexuality. You will be able to follow the events as they unfold at the General Conference through the general church web site—www.umc.org—or through our East Ohio Conference web site—www.eocumc.com.

In our Sunday worship this month, I am continuing a sermon series entitled: "The Way Forward—What God Says to the Church on Human Sexuality." We are looking in depth at what the Bible actually says on the subject of same-sex relationships. Rev. Denton is leading a University of Life class looking at the same themes each Sunday; the class meets from 9:30 to 10:15 Sunday mornings in room 200 (top floor of the education wing). What we are finding each week is that the relevant Biblical passages speak to all of us!

The one Sunday in February that will have a different focus will be February 10, when our United Methodist Women will be leading worship at all three worship hours. Teams of women have been working for months preparing a dynamic blend of drama, dance, video, word, and special music, all on the theme of "Boldly Witnessing Past to Present," with the anchor Scripture being Acts 4:31—"When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness." Be sure to be present on February 10 for an uplifting experience of worship!

The season of Lent begins late this year. Please note that Ash Wednesday, when we have a 7:30 p.m. Service of Ashes, will be on March 6.

I look forward to sharing with you as we continue to grow in God's Word.

In His Service,
Dr. David Palmer



Youth Ministry News

February 2019

February Acolyte Schedule

FEB 3	Beau Harper Andy Curtin
FEB 10	Dylan Schmidt Ben Ina
FEB 17	Jeremiah Lepp Tyler Morris
FEB 24	Beau Harper Ben Ina

What a great start our youth have had to the new year! Rehearsals have begun for this year's Youth Sunday, to be held on Sunday, March 10. This year's theme is "Outreach" and will focus on responding to God's call according to your ability as in Matthew 25:15. On a cold and snowy Martin Luther King Day several of our high school youth traveled to Play:CLE for an afternoon of adventure on their "ninja" courses. Also, in January on the 25th our confirmation class visited the Temple Israel in Akron and participated in their Interfaith Youth Service.

Looking forward to February our team of 23 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 24. While each student attending is responsible for more than half of their individual cost for the week, the remaining cost including travel needs to be fundraised. 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 24 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 28 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 1 and 2 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 20th summer the youth will again be 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 24. When the youth call please prayerfully consider supporting their efforts to share the love of Jesus to those who so desperately need it.



Statistical Report—2018

For the United Methodist Church of Kent, 2018 was another year of gradual growth and very active ministry. Church membership grew from 1129 to 1132. Nineteen people joined the church, there were eleven deaths, and five names of long-term inactives were removed. Total average worship attendance grew from 451 to 468. “Physical attendance”—persons present in the building each Sunday—dipped slightly, from 385 to 381; while average “digital attendance”—persons connecting with worship electronically—rose sharply, from 66 to 87.

For the third year in a row, the church continued a record high level of giving more than \$170,000 to missions during the year, with a total of \$174,259 contributed in 2018 toward a broad range of local, regional, national, and international mission projects. The church expanded its many forms of hands-on ministry by adding the Lord’s Lunch, a Saturday lunch for the needy where we are now providing the lunch and the volunteers three times a year. Other forms of hands-on mission and service include our Country Clothing Center volunteers, the gleaning ministry, the Kent Social services hot meals program, the tax help volunteers, the make-a-difference week volunteers, and of course the annual Mountain T.O.P. mission trip—plus numerous other opportunities for service. Additionally, our church serves the community and university by hosting more than thirty community groups in the building, including five twelve-step recovery groups, the Ben Curtis Foundation “birdie bag” program, and the campus ministry of United Christian Ministries.

Opportunities for spiritual growth in our church also continue to expand. A new young women’s circle—the Joanna Circle—formed in the past year; and a new men’s Bible study began in the

fall, started by men who are active in the 9:30 service. We continue to have two Disciple Bible studies, which were at maximum capacity when they started up again in the fall, plus we began another Companions in Christ group in the fall. There are dozens of small groups with which people connect—musical ensembles, women’s circles, the men’s breakfast, the quilting ministry, the intercessory prayer group, and many others. Our ministries for young people also continue to be strong—from our Sunday School and Vacation Bible School to youth group to the Scouting programs we support—Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts.

All these ministries are hosted in an outstanding facility, which is open seven days a week from early morning until late in the evening. We made substantial investments in our physical plant in 2018. We paid off the sanctuary roof project, and carried out more than \$80,000 of major repairs and improvements. These included new parking lot and gym lighting (replacing deteriorating, hard-to-maintain and inefficient lighting with LED fixtures), a major drainage system project on the building’s south side, new building wifi, and a large number of smaller projects all around the building. As always, our building maintenance costs were greatly mitigated by the dedicated service of the Tuesday Work Group. We concluded the year by reaching a \$460,000 pledge goal for a complete organ renovation within the space of two months. Early payments on those pledges enabled us to make the first installment of \$59,900 toward the construction of a new organ console.

Beyond all the statistics, our congregation demonstrates a wonderful spirit of grace, showing forth the love and care of Christ. We rejoice in how we can share in God’s work!

February Meetings of Kent United Methodist Women (UMW) Circles

The **Miriam** and **Mary Reed** Circles of Kent United Methodist Women will not meet in February.

The **Rebecca** Circle meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, February 6 in Pierson Hall. The program will be called "Socially Responsible Sweatshop". Dottie Emerick will hostess, assisted by co-hostesses Gail Lundberg and Gail Wolfe. Devotions will be led by Sue Abbott.

Janus Circle will meet at 6:30 PM on Sunday February 17 in the church library. The hostess will be Becky Mulloy, and Nancy Lewis will lead devotions. Meghan Harper will present "Our Church Library and All Its Resources".



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

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 traveling 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

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 31. Following the 10:30 AM service on Easter Sunday, April 21, 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: _____



Scout Sunday – Pancake Brunch

Scout Sunday this year will be on February 17. Our Scouts will participate in special ways in worship, and they will also hold a pancake brunch in Pierson Hall from 9:00 to 1:00. Pancakes, sausage, and beverages are provided; there is no charge, but there will be baskets on the tables for a freewill offering. All proceeds support our Scout program.

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. The next New Member Orientation will be on Saturday, March 16, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Participants are received into membership at any worship hour on the next day, March 17. Interested persons can sign up in the atrium or online.

Altar Flowers

We still have some openings in the 2019 calendar for people to sign up to provide altar flowers. The cost is \$35 per Sunday. Sign up on the large calendar in the atrium. The flowers are taken by volunteers after worship to shut-ins or people dealing with illness or loss. Thanks to all those who support this ministry!



Why Believe Book Published

Place to Grow Press—our church's publishing arm!—has published *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 is available 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.

UNIVERSITY OF LIFE— WINTER TERM

A Way Forward for the United Methodist Church

The University of Life is be studying and discussing the United Methodist Church's effort to reach consensus on how to address its approach to homosexuality. This class is built around Dr. Palmer's sermon series that began January 13. The sessions will be a study of the Scriptures from which Dr. Palmer preaches each Sunday. Rev. Denton is leading these sessions, 9:30 AM – 10:15 AM, in room 200, which is the first large classroom on the top floor of the Education wing. All adults are invited!

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10–1 Haymaker's Farmers' Market/Pierson Hall
3 Regular Schedule Communion Sunday	4 7:30 pm Worship band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Rm 207 7 pm Disciple II/Rm 200	5 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7–9 pm Basketball/Gym	6 10 am Companions in Christ/Room 208 6 pm Yoga/Parlor 7 pm Rebecca Circle/ Pierson Hall	7 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH	8 12–5 pm Blood Drive/Gym	9 10–1 Haymaker's Farmers' Market/Pierson Hall
10 Regular Schedule	11 7:30 pm Worship band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Rm 207 7 pm Disciple II/Rm 200	12 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7–9 pm Basketball/Gym	13 10 am Companions in Christ/Room 208 6 pm Yoga/Parlor	14 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 6:30 pm UMW Book Club/ Library	15	16 10–1 Haymaker's Farmers' Market/Pierson Hall
17 Regular Schedule	18 7:30 pm Worship band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Rm 207 7 pm Disciple II/Rm 200	19 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7–9 pm Basketball/Gym	20 10 am Companions in Christ/Room 208 6 pm Yoga/Parlor	21 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 5:30 pm Joanna Circle/ Room 208	22	23 10–1 Haymaker's Farmers' Market/Pierson Hall
24 Regular Schedule	25 6 pm Garden Club/Pierson Hall 7:30 pm Worship band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Rm 207 7 pm Disciple II/Rm 200	26 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7–9 pm Basketball/Gym	27 10 am Companions in Christ/Room 208 6 pm Yoga/Parlor	28 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill	Regular Sunday Schedule 8:30 Worship Service/Chapel 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 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	

USHERS AND GREETERS

Date	8:30/9:30/10:30
February 3	2
February 10	3
February 17	4
February 24	5
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.	



Remember
These
Members
in Their
Sorrow

Our sympathies to:

- Family and friends of Earl Somoskey
- Family and friends of Becky Lewis
- Family and friends of Tom Pierson
- Gail Wolfe on the death of her son, Eric Hinchee

Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Gail Closs, Darlene Flynt, Addy Fritsch, Wesley Kessing, Candy Thaxton

THANK YOU

There are no words to express our gratitude for the support shown to us following the loss of our precious daughter and sister, Becky Lewis. Thank you to Doug Denton for a beautiful service, to the Service Committee and all who contributed to the luncheon, and to Gail and Tom Lundberg for visiting and delivering the altar flowers. We also want to thank all those who attended the service, sent cards, or otherwise shared comforting words of affirmation of Becky's life. We are blessed by the love you have all shared with us.

Ginny Smith and John Lewis

Dear Dr. David Palmer,

I have volunteered with the AARP Taxaide Program for several years. The Kent United Methodist Church has provided space, equipment, and most important, many volunteers for the program, for more years than I have been a part of the program.

We have just completed a week of instruction for new and returning volunteers at the church. I was one of the two instructors for the event. Denise Mote was the other instructor. From we the instructors, and all of the volunteers, I want to thank you and the members of your church for providing the facilities and the support for this very worthwhile community need.

Warm regards,
Bob Bell

Kent United Methodist Church,

Thank you for the donation of new packages of socks, underwear, hats, and gloves to the Phyllis Zumkher County Clothing Center.

A big thank you goes out to all of the youth that came from your church and acted as elves to help all the children shop. You were all such a big help and did so well with the children. You played a big part in making this such a success this year! We were able to let 167 kids shop for 3 gifts for family members or friends that day.

Our hope is that all of these children will be able to experience the joy of giving rather than just receiving at Christmas.

Thank you for helping to make that possible.

Sincerely,

Candy Pollard, Program Manager and the CCC Advisory Board

Dear Friends,

Thanks to your support, when veterans experiencing homelessness living in the Portage County area and across Ohio turn to Freedom House for help, we are able to give them the critical programs and support that they so desperately need. Your support (\$300 worth of cleaning supplies) gives our veterans the opportunity to achieve their goals of having a safe place to call home.

With heartfelt thanks,

Jason Davis, Program Manager, Freedom House

Feb 3-Sharon Coia

Feb 10-Don Ashton

Feb 17-Betty Sweet

Feb 24-Janice Anderson



VIDEOTAPING SCHEDULE

FEB 3 Eric Wertz

FEB 10 Gary Mote

FEB 17 Cheryl Brode

FEB 24 Eric Wertz

FEBRUARY LAY READERS

FEB 3 John Enlow

FEB 10 UMW Sunday

FEB 17 Scout Sunday

FEB 24 Larry Andrews



**The United Methodist
Church of Kent**
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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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Mailed January 25

“Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.” Isaiah 1:18

Worship Calendar

Date	Sermon	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
February 3	“The Unlikely Recruit”	Deuteronomy 23:1; Acts 8:26–39	Dr. David Palmer	<i>Chancel Ringers,</i> Communion,
February 10	“A Bold Journey with Purpose”	Ephesians 6:19–20; Isaiah 55:9–11	Laurel Stiller	UMW Sunday
February 17	“What God Creates Is Good”	Genesis 1:26–27; Genesis 2:15–24	Dr. David Palmer	<i>Children’s Choir,</i> Scout Sunday
February 24	“Those We Are Not to Judge”	Romans 1:18–32	Dr. David Palmer	Worship Music Staff perform



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