



THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 62 Number 10 The United Methodist Church of Kent—*A Place to Grow* November 2020

Dear Friends,

As our livestreamed worship continues, the month of November features a number of special elements in worship, as follows:

Sunday, Nov. 1 – ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, COMMUNION. Worship at all hours will include a remembrance of loved ones who have died during the past year. People could submit names for remembrance over the past few weeks.

Sunday, Nov 8 – CONSECRATION SUNDAY. On this day we especially reflect about our opportunity to make a commitment to the work of Christ for the coming year. Following the worship hours, starting at 11:30 a.m., we will have a Virtual Gathering. This half hour event will include a chance to connect with other church members and a “reveal” of some recent improvements in the sanctuary. You need to register ahead of time for this Zoom gathering, which you can do through our website.

Sunday, Nov. 15 – We will hear a mission moment about our special Thanksgiving missions offering.

Sunday, Nov. 22 – THANKSGIVING SUNDAY. Our worship will have a Thanksgiving theme. Even in difficult times, we have reason to give God thanks! This Sunday will be the conclusion of the sermon series entitled, “Winning Life’s Battles with the Armor of Faith.”

Sunday, Nov. 29 – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT. We begin lighting the Advent candles each Sunday. An Advent sermon series will begin on the theme: “Chosen for Blessing.”

As I noted in a recent sermon, we had once hoped that we might be returning to in-person worship by Christmas; but with the current circumstances of rising Covid cases, there is unfortunately no way for us to do that responsibly. We continue to believe that Jesus’ commandment to “love your neighbor” means to prioritize and protect our neighbor’s health! So we continue our pattern of livestreamed contemporary worship at 9:30, livestreamed traditional worship at 10:30, and a small in-person service at 8:30 (designed especially for those who cannot connect with our digital services).

Although we are physically separated, we rejoice that we can yet join in spirit!

In His Service,
Dr. David Palmer.

Thanksgiving Offering

The Thanksgiving Offering goes to support a variety of mostly local missions. We respond in gratitude to God’s grace by reaching out in care to others. A letter about the Thanksgiving offering is being mailed out in late October.

Farmers’ Market Resumes in December at Our Church

The Farmers’ Market will resume its winter markets in Pierson Hall in December, starting on December 6. The first three Saturdays of December, we will be hosting its Holiday Market in both Pierson Hall and the Gym.

East Ohio Annual Conference 2020 Report

The conference was held September 26 and 27 at Church of the Savior in Cleveland, due to the virus instead of Lakeside, Ohio. It is scheduled to move next year, 2021, to Akron University. The East Ohio Annual Conference has been held at Lakeside for over 78 years. The conference was virtual with all the delegates attending from home on Zoom. Only a limited number of staff and participants were live.

The theme this year was "Bearing Fruit that Lasts". The Bishops message is that the churches stay focused on why we are United Methodist, even with our differences, we are to stay united as Christians in our believe and love of Jesus Christ with all the social issues we are facing today. The only resolution presented and passed was "A call for East Ohio United Methodist to Address Racism in our Churches and Communities".

Some parts of the various committee reports that I felt were interesting:

1. Last year 13 churches were closed for a number of different reasons.
2. The conference has a policy on minimum salary compensation for the pastors; our conference has the lowest minimum salary of any conference in the U.S. other than 2 missionary conferences.
3. The conference council on Finance and Administration was able to reduce the conference budget by 5%. This committee has been chaired by Dr. Palmer for the last 8 years. This was his last year. The conference thanked him for all the hard work that he and committee have done to be able to either maintain or reduce the budget.

Your conference delegate,
Ed Clark

Sunday school news:

In-person Sunday school will be suspended as long as we continue without in-person 10:30 worship services. However, we are offering an online Sunday school option that students may tie in to. Our Children's Choir Director, Chelsea Alderson (formerly Chelsea Young) is making videos for our Sunday school lessons and placing those videos on our church website. Currently, we have all Sunday school materials available for download on our church website. Chelsea is teaching those lessons in a video format in order to enhance our online Sunday school experience as we continue with online worship through the fall.

UCM Fundraiser

While the pandemic is keeping us from gathering for the UCM Dinner, we know our supporters and alumni are looking forward to learning about KSU student life and UCM programs. Join us for the "Dinnerless" Dinner Virtual Fundraising Event! UCM staff and students will join supporters on Zoom for the premiere of the 2020 UCM video. Our goal is to raise \$1,000 through ticket sales and a special offering. All proceeds will be split between student programs and "Jake's Fund"—UCM's student emergency fund started many years ago by beloved campus minister, Rev. Bill "Jake" Jacobs. Tickets are \$25 per household, and the event will be held on Thursday, November 12 at 7:00 PM. Purchase tickets online at myucm.org or by contacting UCM by email at ucm@kent.edu.

Our sympathies to:



Remember
These
Members
in Their
Sorrow

- Friends and family of David Plaskonka
- Friends and family of Jim Mullen
- Denise Mote and family upon the death of Debbie Soroka
- Gail Pytel and family upon the death of Cullen Meyer

Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Daniel Alvim, Diana Douglas, Dottie Emerick, Dave Kurtz, Carol Onuschak, Mary Rodriguez, Luke Schmidt, Gordon Seaholts, Carrie Shelly, Mark Siebert, Tim Smith, Kathi Smith, Roger Stiller, Rick Stout, Larry Vandersall

Upper Room Devotional

Print copies of the November/December issues of the Upper Room are available in the church office entryway. You can pick up a regular or large print copy at any time; there is a basket for donations. We emailed the digital version of the September/October issue with a Weekly Word at the beginning of September to everyone on our email list. The Upper Room provides a brief devotional for each day.

“You will not need to fight in this battle.

Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem! Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord is with you.”

2 Chronicles 20:17

This was a key verse in Dr. Palmer’s sermon on October 18th, 2020. As he noted, it’s challenging to “stand still” and turn off the rushing river of our minds. Often the thoughts are so loud we can’t even hear the Lord, much less follow His direction. If only there was something we could do about this...

The practice of mindfulness has been scientifically proven to positively impact emotions, reduce stress, and improve sleep. In fact, MRI scans conducted by the University of Massachusetts Medical Center (which has been researching this topic since the 1970s) have shown that the amygdala – that portion of our brains that controls the flight, fright or freeze response – physically gets smaller with practice. Conversely, the portion of our brain that helps with decision making, concentration and awareness grows larger. What!? How can being mindful (think to yourself, “be still”) be so transformative? Will it work for me? How can I learn more?

Mo McFarland has been blessed to become a Koru Mindfulness teacher through Kent State of Wellness and would love to share her passion for this experience with you. Any age can benefit, from teens to the most life experienced. Koru Basic consists of one 75-minute session for four weeks in a row. Two courses will be offered in November. Each will be virtual so everyone is safe and anyone with a computer can attend. Multiple persons in one household can attend, although separate screens are recommended (not required). Participants will need to purchase a book ahead of time, entitled, “The Mindful Twenty-Something: Life Skills to Handle Stress . . . and Everything Else,” which is available through Amazon

at: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/Bo1CFGRFJo>. Participants will also use an application during their practice, which will be theirs to use for life, after the class is over. Although there is generally a fee associated with this, the cost for UMC participants will be covered by an outside donor.

Koru Basic #1 will be held from noon to 1:15 pm on Tuesday, Nov. 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th

Koru Basic #2 will be held from 5:00 pm until 6:15 pm on Thursday November 5th, 12th, 19th, and December 3rd (to avoid Thanksgiving Holiday).

If you would like to sign up, please visit:

Class #1: https://student.korumindfulness.org/course-registration.html?course_id=MMC4166

Class #2: https://student.korumindfulness.org/course-registration.html?course_id=MMC4167

If you have any questions, please email Mo at momc23@yahoo.com.

As Psalm 46:10 reads, it will be wonderful to learn together how to, “Be still, and know that [He] is God.”



KORU
mindfulness

THANK YOU

UMC of Kent,

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to justice in Ohio by supporting the Hunger Network. Our shared ministry continues to help connect policy-makers to the changing needs in our community.

Truly
Nick Bates, Director
Hunger Network in Ohio

MAKE YOUR RECEIPTS COUNT!

Acme announced the dates for its 2020 Community Cash Back program, which runs from August 6 through December 28 (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! 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!



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Douglas Denton,
Minister of Pastoral Care

Rick Stout,
Director of
Christian Education
and
Youth Ministries

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Mailing Label Here

Mailed October 30

“O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love
endures forever.” Psalm 107:1

Worship Calendar

Date	Sermon	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
November 1	“Victors in the Strife”	I Corinthians 15:51-58	Dr. David Palmer	Communion, All Saints’ Day
November 8	“Rise Up and Build”	Nehemiah 2:17-20, 4:7-20	Dr. David Palmer	Consecration Sunday Event
November 15	“Achieving Real Peace in a Conflicted World”	Micah 4:1-4; Matthew 5:38-45; Psalm 20:6-8	Dr. David Palmer	
November 22	“From Distress to Thankfulness”	Psalm 118	Dr. David Palmer	Thanksgiving Sunday
New sermon series: <i>Chosen for Blessing</i>				
November 29	“The Chosen One”	Genesis 12:1-3; Isaiah 42:1-7	Dr. David Palmer	First Sunday of Advent



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