



THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 63 Number 12

The United Methodist Church of Kent—*A Place to Grow*

December 2021

Dear Friends,

We find ourselves in one of the most meaningful seasons of the church year, as we reflect about the coming of our Savior. We look forward to many special elements in worship! The schedule includes:

DECEMBER 5 – SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT, COMMUNION We continue 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.

DECEMBER 12 – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT; CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Children from our 9:30 hour children's program – which currently involves a blend of music, worship, and Sunday School lessons – will be sharing a short Christmas pageant during our 9:30 and 10:30 worship hours. Later in the afternoon, the Goodyear Band Christmas Concert will take place in our sanctuary at 4:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 19 – 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, New Spirit will proclaim the Christmas message through a cantata. The 9:30 service will feature a play performed by our youth.

CHRISTMAS EVE, FRIDAY, DEC. 24 – CANDLELIGHT SERVICES, 7:00 & 9:00 P.M.

Both services will be traditional Christmas Eve candlelight services. Child care will be provided for the 7:00 service only. The 7:00 hour will be preceded by a video presentation of music by our worship band. The 9:00 service will be preceded by an extended prelude featuring numerous musicians in our church; that prelude will begin at 8:30. The Sanctuary Choir will sing at the 9:00 service. Both services will be livestreamed.

SUNDAY, DEC. 26 – 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 brief 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! The sermon of the morning will be the conclusion of the sermon series entitled, "The True Spirit of Christmas."

EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JANUARY 2 – COMMUNION On this Sunday we remember the visit of the wise men to the infant Jesus. Rev. Denton will be preaching.

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

In His Service,
Dr. David Palmer

Youth Ministry News

December 2021

Late fall is always a busy time in the lives of our youth. Our Halloween party last month brought together our youth and their friends 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 having 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 our mission trip. We are preparing an exciting 30 Hour Famine in February, then there is Youth Sunday, and so much more. I am grateful for the way that the youth have taken ownership of their own youth group with the understanding that programing doesn't grow a youth group, the willingness to invite friends does. It makes me excited to see what God has in store for the future of our youth.

Shalom,
Rick <3

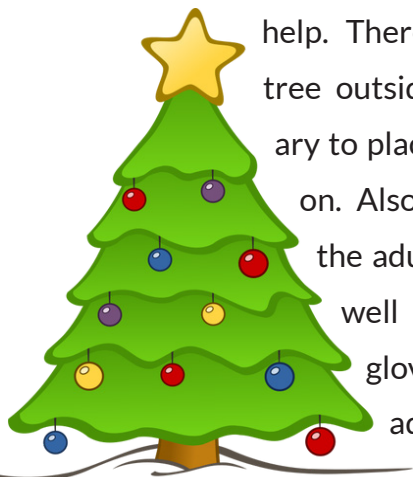
DECEMBER YOUTH CALENDAR

SUNDAY 5	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 12	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 19 AM	Youth Christmas Play
SUNDAY 19 PM	No Youth Activities
SUNDAY 26	No Youth Activities

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 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.



University of Life Resumes with Course by Dr. Jeff Wattles

Key Teachings of Jesus: Quotes, Questions, and Comments is the title of an 8-week class that Jeff Wattles will conduct on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. beginning January 9. The class will meet in the Conference Room and will conclude around 10:20 each Sunday. Participants will choose topics from Jeff's current book manuscript. Needed materials will be emailed to participants.

Possible topics include:

- What does it mean to enter the kingdom of God with the faith of a little child?
- What was the living truth of Jesus' message?
- What is the kingdom of God within you?
- What does a wisdom quest have to do with finding the will of God?
- How can we share Jesus' joy?
- How shall we become wholehearted in the love of God?
- What is involved in receiving God's mercy and forgiving someone else?

Questions? Contact Jeff at jwattles@kent.edu

Stewardship Update

If you have not yet turned in a pledge card for 2022, you are invited to do so! Cards are available around the church building and online. You are invited to support our annual church budget and also to make a commitment to our new capital campaign – Pave the Way – which is to resurface the parking lot and do a major renewal of deteriorated concrete sidewalks around the building.

If you would like an update on where you are in your giving to the church for 2021, please contact our Financial Director, Lynnette Begue-Lavery, by phone at 330-673-5879, ext. 11, or her email, lynnette@kentmethodist.org.

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

MAKE YOUR RECEIPTS COUNT!

Acme announced the dates for its 2021 Community Cash Back program, which runs from August 6 through December 25. 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 \$250.00 the first of this year for receipts collected in 2020. Receipts that are acceptable must be the entire receipt and have “Community Cash Back” 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!

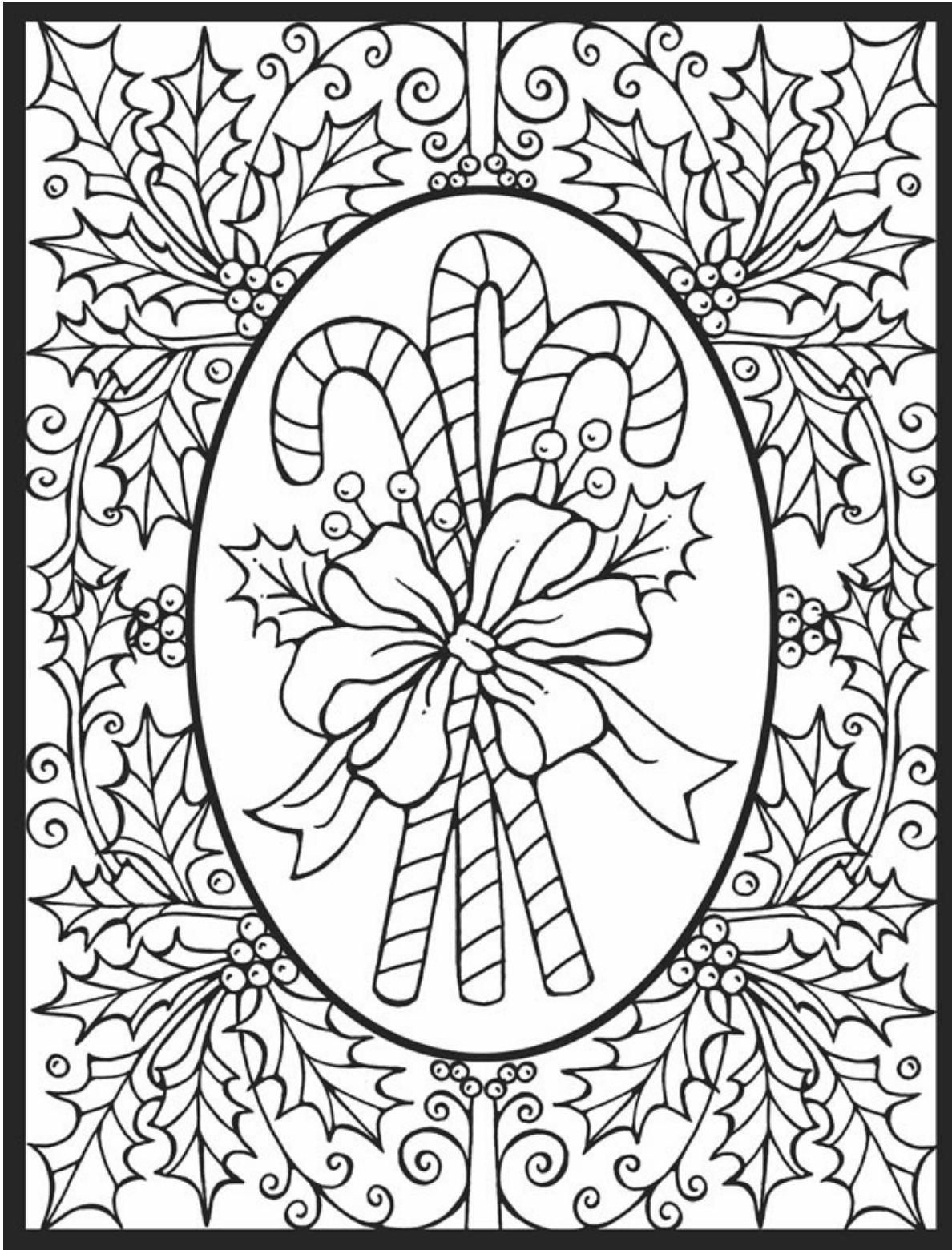
Flower Calendar

You can sign up to donate altar flowers in 2022 by registering on the flower calendar that is now posted in the atrium. Flowers are \$35 for a Sunday (which covers both arrangements). The flowers are delivered after worship by volunteers to shut-ins or people who have had recent health issues or losses in their family.



Altar Flower Visitation Volunteers Needed!

The Altar flowers that are taken by volunteers after worship to shut-ins or people dealing with illness or loss are very much appreciated. Just read the many letters of thanks in the Mosaic! This activity is coordinated through the United Methodist Women’s Circles. However, we are in need of more volunteers, to help us with this important ministry, since some of the UMW members are struggling with driving and getting out themselves. It is very easy to do! Not only are there instructions in the Flower Visitation book in the Usher’s Closet, but any Circle member would be glad to offer their help. Although it is meaningful to those who receive the flowers, those who participate in this ministry receive as much in return through blessings for helping others in need. Please consider offering your help for a few Sundays each year. For further information or to volunteer, contact Becky Mulloy at 330-697-8943 (leave a message), or sign up on the sheet in the Atrium. For those who already participate in this ministry – thank you so much!



Surrounding the candy canes above, we see holly leaves and berries. The sharp shape of the holly leaf recalls Jesus' crown of thorns and the red berries the blood he shed for us. Candy canes as a traditional Christmas candy have been around for hundreds of years. The white and red stripes represent the purity and blood of Jesus, and the shape brings to mind the shepherds who visited Jesus at His birth.

Please enjoy this coloring page!

Volunteer Opportunity

The Portage County CASA – Court Appointed Special Advocates – is opening a new program in our county to serve children who have experienced abuse and neglect. CASA Volunteers will soon be advocating in juvenile court for the more than 400 children who are part of the child welfare system in Portage County. This new CASA Program joins more than 55 other Ohio counties serving children through court advocacy services and volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates. Children with a CASA Volunteer are less likely to return to the foster care system, more likely to do well in school, and more likely to receive professional services so they can thrive. Almost anyone can volunteer for this new CASA Program if they are over 21 years of age and can pass a criminal background check. Training is provided free of charge to the Portage County community – there is a 30-hour initial requirement, and 12 additional hours each year. More than 2,400 people in Ohio have become Court Appointed Special Advocates. If you are interested to hear about or to become a volunteer for CASA of Portage County, please contact Ann Walden at 330-298-3910 or awalden@portageco.com.

Bible Lands Tour


Join a spectacular Bible Lands Tour through Turkey and Israel led by Dr. Palmer in late May of 2022. Full details are found in brochures at the church or through the link that you can access on the home page of our web site at www.kentmethodist.org

Audio/Visual Volunteer Team

We are extremely grateful that many of the previous volunteers are returning to their roles, but we need additional help to keep services running smoothly. If you have ever been interested in audio or video equipment, or if you have been enjoying the online services and are curious about how they come together, there is a role available for all comfort levels. Visit our new page, www.kentmethodist.org/volunteers, to read about and watch brief videos outlining the roles available to anyone of any age or experience level. We are excited about the changes we've made, and look forward to welcoming you to the team!

Farmer's Market

The Farmer's Market resumes having its winter location at our church, starting December 4. The market takes place from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Dec. 4, 11, and 18, with many different food and craft booths in Pierson Hall and in the gymnasium.



Order Your Poinsettias

You are invited to donate poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary for Christmas. Flowers will be distributed by Circle members to shut-ins 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 14**.

I/WE _____

WISH TO DONATE _____ PLANTS AT \$10.00 EACH

IN MEMORY OF _____

OR

IN HONOR OF _____

December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm	2 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Sanctuary	3 11 am-5 pm Red Cross Blood Drive/Gym	4 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall
5 Regular Schedule	6 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm New Spirit Rehearsal/Sanctuary	7 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 207	8 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm	9 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Sanctuary	10	11 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall
12 Regular Schedule	13 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm New Spirit Rehearsal/Sanctuary	14 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 207	15 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm	16 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Sanctuary	17	18 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall 9:30 am Confirmation Class
19 Regular Schedule	20 6 pm Garden Club Dinner/Pierson Hall 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm New Spirit Rehearsal/Sanctuary	21 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 207	22 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm	23 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Sanctuary	24 Christmas Eve Office Closed	25
26 Regular Schedule	27 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym	28 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	29	30 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed	
Regular Sunday Schedule 8:30 Worship Service/Chapel 9:15 Children's Choir—4 years-6th grade 9:30 Contemporary Service/Gym 9:30 Sunday School/Childcare 10:30 Worship Service/Sanctuary 10:30 Sunday School—Preschool-6th Grade, Youth Fellowship Time/Pierson Hall 11:30 Chancel Ringers/(Adult Bells)Sanctuary 12:00 ZAMARingers (Youth Handbells)/Sanctuary 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship/Gym and Pit						

USHERS AND GREETERS

Date	8:30/10:30
December 5	5
December 12	6
December 19	1
December 24 7 PM	2
December 24 9 PM	3
December 26	4

If you are unsure of what team you are on, please call the office at 330-673-5879 x14 or email Cara at caradesko@kentmethodist.org.



Remember
These
Members
in Their
Sorrow

Our sympathies to:

- Family and friends of Bob Webb
- Family and friends of Fred Gross
- Family and friends of Tami Haas
- Pat Beatty on the death of her aunt
- Christine Crawford on the death of her husband, Mark
- Deña Kooijman on the death of her father

Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Ann Becker, Krista Clavecilla, Tom Emerick, Al Siegfried, Brent Stokes

THANK YOU

Dr. Palmer and Rev. Denton,

Our family would like to thank the church for the compassion shown to our family this past month from the home visitations, to flowers being dropped off, taking time to meet with family after Bob's passing, and then the beautiful memorial service.

We so appreciate the mention of Bob this past Sunday and the continued prayers. This church has been a blessing for us in many ways!

Chris and Janeen Webb

Thank you for the use of the hall for Amanda Kelley's bridal shower! It was perfect for the number of guests and the round tables were a blessing with the tablecloths already in place! It was lovely to have a place to come together and celebrate and enjoy some time together!

Thanks again so much!

Melany Martinez

Dear Members of the United Methodist Church of Kent,

Jan Fencil shared 85 years on this earth with many wonderful people around Kent and the surrounding community. She was a member of the United Methodist Church for 37 years. That religious community has seen her through many gatherings and celebrations. She loved the church and the church gave back to her. She was fond of many of the stalwarts who attended the services with her.

Jan wanted each member of the church to know how central the church and its people were to her daily rituals. Her children were baptized there, attended Sunday School and Confirmation Class, and participated in the choir. There were funerals, as well as fellowship, Bible Studies and Prayer Chains to see Janet through the tough times and bumps of life.

It was very difficult to say "Goodbye" to Jan, but with many insurmountable health issues, she made her decision to part from this world. When her daughters were tearful at her life's end, she told them, "You'll be alright," as she knew the Bible would persevere, that the facts of life would be accepted.

Jan wanted to give special thanks to David Palmer and Douglas Denton for their years of service. There have been special friends in the congregation and there will be one less occupant at the Sunday Breakfast Group, but know that you all made a difference in Janet's life. She has asked for no service, only prayers and good tidings. She wanted to reach out to the many wonderful friends she saw during the service and at the breakfast table.

Won't you say a prayer for Jan?

Sincerely,

Diane and Denise Fencil

VIDEOTAPING SCHEDULE

DEC 5 Andrew Alderson

DEC 12 Eric Wertz

DEC 19 Eric Wertz

DEC 24 Eric Wertz

DEC 26 Andrew Alderson





**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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Mailed November 29

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Worship Calendar

Date	Sermon	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
December 5	"The Real St. Nick"	John 15:12-17	Dr. David Palmer	Communion, <i>Chancel Ringers</i>
December 12	"Xmas"	Luke 1:26-35	Dr. David Palmer	<i>New Spirit</i>
December 19		8:30 and 10:30—New Spirit Cantata 9:30—Youth Christmas Play		
December 24	7:00 PM Candlelight Service, 8:30 PM Musical Prelude, 9:00 PM Candlelight Service			
December 26	"The God Who Never Gives Up"	Luke 2:25-32; Nehemiah 9:6-31	Dr. David Palmer	Covenant Renewal



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or on Instagram/Twitter @kentmethodist

