



# THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 64 Number 1

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

January 2022

Dear Friends,

The month of January begins in our church with **Epiphany Sunday** on January 2. It is the day that we remember the visit of the wise men to the infant Jesus. We will have Communion as usual on the first Sunday of the month.

On Sunday, January 9, a new sermon series begins entitled, “**Stories of the Kingdom.**” The series is a natural follow-on to the “Good Teacher” sermons series of last fall, as it will lift up more of the inspiring parables of Jesus and their message for our lives. During the month, the Chancel Ringers will ring on January 9, the ZAMARingers will ring on January 23, and New Spirit will sing on January 2 and January 16. At the end of the month, our United Methodist Women will present the worship services on January 30, with an uplifting mix of music, word, and drama.

On Sunday, January 9, we rejoice to resume our **University of Life**, which offers short courses for adults each Sunday at 9:30 in the Conference Room (located in the office wing of the building). Dr. Jeff Wattles, retired Kent State philosophy professor, will be presenting an eight-week class on the **Key Teachings of Jesus**. See the article in this newsletter for more details.

On Martin Luther King weekend (Sunday, January 16), we take a special offering for the **Black College Fund**. Our United Methodist church has eleven historically black United Methodist colleges that are scattered across the southern states. These schools were founded in the aftermath of the Civil War, when African-Americans were routinely denied the opportunity to pursue higher education. The eleven colleges – Bennett College, Bethune-Cookman University, Claflin University, Clark Atlanta University, Dillard University, Huston-Tillotson University, Meharry Medical College, Paine College, Philander Smith College, Rust College, and Wiley College – opened the door in the nineteenth century for African-Americans to enter into career fields that had long been closed to them, and these schools continue to provide very important opportunities especially for ethnic minority students today. Our Kent church seeks to give \$1100 to the Black College Fund each year (\$100 for each school). You can contribute at any time by marking a contribution “Black College Fund.”

Wishing you a blessed and joyous New Year,

Dr. David Palmer

# Youth Ministry News

## January 2022

Happy New Year! And what an exciting year we have planned. We have completed our spring calendar and are very excited about our upcoming events. Here are a few of the highlights of what to expect this spring:

- January 17 we will be planning an activity to celebrate Martin Luther King Day
- The weekend of February 12 the youth will participate in World Visions 30 hour famine. Once the details are finalized packets and important information will be distributed so see Rick and watch the mail if you need more information about this exciting weekend.
- May 1 is Confirmation Sunday.
- May 22 is Youth Sunday

Over all I am very excited about our plans and hope that everyone will take advantage of one or more of these events. Additionally, don't forget youth group is every Sunday From 7-8:30 make sure you plan to come and bring a friend to any or all of these events.

Shalom,  
Rick <>

### Pave the Way

This past fall we launched a new two-year capital campaign to renovate our church parking lot. The project will include several components:

- The entire lot will be "milled" (the crumbly and crack-filled top layer taken off) and then covered with fresh asphalt. The last time we did this was 25 years ago.
- Deteriorated concrete sidewalks around the building will be replaced with new concrete. This affects multiple areas, where aging and uneven concrete has become a hazard.
- Problem areas in the parking lot will be corrected. The bothersome hump at the west entrance will be eliminated, and concrete will be laid in the trash dumpster area
- The whole lot will be freshly striped.

You can make a pledge at any time, and you can contribute by marking your donation, "Pave the Way." We hope to actually do the project in the summer of 2022, as the parking lot will definitely be in need at that point.

### JANUARY YOUTH CALENDAR

SUNDAY 2	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 9	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SATURDAY 15	9:30-12 Confirmation
SUNDAY 16	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
MONDAY 17	MLK Day Activity, TBA
SUNDAY 23	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 30	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship

### 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!

## University of Life Resumes with Course by Dr. Jeff Wattles

*Key Teachings of Jesus: Quotes, Questions, and Comments* — This is the title of an 8-week class that Jeff Wattles will conduct on Sundays at 9:30 beginning January 9. 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](mailto:jwattles@kent.edu).

The class will meet in the Conference Room, from 9:30 to about 10:20 each Sunday, from January 9 through February 27. All adults are invited!

## Contribution Statements:

Thank you for your continued stewardship through a very challenging year! If you made contributions online, you may login and print your statement. If you made contributions directly to the church, annual giving statements will be available upon request. Please email your request to [lynnette@kentmethodist.org](mailto:lynnette@kentmethodist.org). If you do not have access to email you may call the church finance office to request a statement of giving.

## Church Library

Our church library offers a wonderful resource for our congregation. It is open each Sunday morning on the top floor of our Education Wing. Additionally, there is now a very nice library table that has been set up in the atrium, with selected seasonal books that are available for immediate checkout (just fill out the card with the book and leave it in the box on the table). Thanks to Dr. Meghan Harper for directing our church library!

## Upcoming Kent Interfaith Alliance for Racial Reconciliation and Justice Events

KIFA is an interfaith group in Kent but also reaching out to all of Portage County working through education and community action to build a truly inclusive, "Beloved Community". We work closely with the NAACP and other community groups to learn about each other and grow together. In the past we have offered seminars and film viewings and discussions. We have also held vigils and walks to promote anti racism in our community.

Our theme for the coming year is "Learning Our History for Reconciliation." On January 6, 2022 we will be sharing in a national Vigil for Democracy and Voting in remembrance of the attack on the United States Capital one year ago. More information on time and place will be available soon in the Portager and on our facebook page.

Also on January 15, 2022 we are hoping that many will support the work of the Portage County NAACP for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Breakfast." This gathering will be held virtually due to concerns with COVID. You can find more information on their website. The NAACP also has a wonderful Social Justice coloring book for children for a donation of \$2.50. This coloring book was developed by youth from our own community.

On January 27, 2022 KIFA will be hosting a virtual viewing of a film focused on a rich cultural history that has too long been forgotten followed by a discussion time. Please look for flyers showing how to register and zoom in.

Please join us in our search for knowledge and working toward a "Beloved Community."

## 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 website at [www.kentmethodist.org](http://www.kentmethodist.org)

## 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.

# January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Regular Schedule	3 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm New Spirit Rehearsal/Sanctuary	4 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	5 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm	6 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Sanctuary	7	1 8 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall
9 Regular Schedule	10 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm New Spirit Rehearsal/Sanctuary	11 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 207	12 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm 6 pm UMW Board Mtg/Room 200 7 pm Gifts, Memorials, and Investments Comm/Room 207	13 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 7 pm Finance Comm/Conference Room 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Sanctuary	14	15 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall
16 Regular Schedule	17 MLK Day, Office Closed 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm New Spirit Rehearsal/Sanctuary	18 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 207	19 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm	20 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Sanctuary	21	22 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall 9:30 am Confirmation Class
23 Regular Schedule	24 6 pm Garden Club Dinner/Pierson Hall 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm New Spirit Rehearsal/Sanctuary	25 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 207	26 11 am Blood Drive/Pierson Hall 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm	27 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Sanctuary	28	29 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall
30 Regular Schedule	31 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm New Spirit Rehearsal/Sanctuary				<b>Regular Sunday Schedule</b> 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 11:30 Fellowship Time/Pierson Hall 12:00 Chancel Ringers/(Adult Bells)Sanctuary 6:00 pm ZAMARingers (Youth Handbells)/Sanctuary 7:00 pm Youth Fellowship/Gym and Pit	

**USHERS AND GREETERS**

Date	8:30/10:30
January 2	5
January 9	6
January 16	1
January 23	2
January 30	3

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](mailto:caradesko@kentmethodist.org).



Remember  
These  
Members  
in Their  
Sorrow

**Our sympathies to:**

- Andy Lepp and family on the death of his father, Peter Lepp
- Charlie Nichols and family on the death of his son, Chuck Nichols
- Sue Harvey on the death of her sister, Ruthann Watts

**Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:**

Krista Clavecilla, Addy Fritsch, Helen McGrew

**Ushers needed**

We need a few new ushers at the 10:30 and 8:30 services. Ushering is a ministry of hospitality, and we spread it around across six teams at each service, so that your assigned dates come up only occasionally (and you can always switch if a particular date does not work). Please contact Dr. Palmer at [davepalmer@kentmethodist.org](mailto:davepalmer@kentmethodist.org) to hear more about this service opportunity in our church!

**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](http://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!

**CAMERA SCHEDULE**

JAN 2	TBA
JAN 9	Andrew Alderson
JAN 16	Andrew Alderson
JAN 23	Eric Wertz
JAN 30	Andrew Alderson

**JANUARY LAY READERS**

JAN 2	Jill Beer
JAN 9	Larry Andrews
JAN 16	Edgar Kooijman
JAN 23	Alex Seed
JAN 30	UMW Sunday

**UMW Sunday Woman's Chorus  
in Need of Volunteers**

UMW Sunday is fast approaching on January 30, 2022. I know there are women in our church family that love to sing but don't feel they have the time to commit to singing in Sanctuary Choir or New Spirit. This is your chance! We are hoping to have a women's chorus for UMW Sunday. The anthem will be easy and I can imagine the beautiful sight and sound we will have on our special women's Sunday. A sign up list is in the Church Atrium. This invitation also includes any youth that would like to join us. Rehearsal times will be announced as soon as we know how many women are available. Let's all join our voices in songs of praising God.





**The United Methodist  
Church of Kent  
PO Box 646  
Kent, OH 44240**

**Church Office:  
330-673-5879**

**Web Site:  
[www.kentmethodist.org](http://www.kentmethodist.org)**

**Dr. David Palmer,  
Senior Pastor**

**Douglas Denton,  
Minister of Pastoral Care**

**Rick Stout,  
Director of  
Christian Education and  
Youth Ministries**

Apply  
Postage  
Here

Mailing Label Here

**Mailed December 28**

**"I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall know that I am  
the Lord" —Ezekiel 16:62**

## **Worship Calendar**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sermon</b>	<b>Scripture</b>	<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Special Event</b>
January 2	"Christmas... A Real Trip"	Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 2:15-16; Matthew 2:9-10	Rev. Douglas Denton	Communion, <i>New Spirit</i>
January 9	"The Hidden Treasure"	Matthew 13:13-16, 34-35; Matthew 13:44-46	Dr. David Palmer	<i>Chancel Ringers</i>
January 16	"Small and Slow but Steady"	Matthew 13:31-33; Mark 4:26-29; James 5:7-8a	Dr. David Palmer	<i>ZAMARingers</i>
January 23	"Justice for All"	Isaiah 42:1-9; Luke 4:16-21	Rev. Douglas Denton	<i>New Spirit</i>
January 30	UMW Sunday	Our United Methodist Women will lead all three worship hours		



**Connect with us at [www.kentmethodist.org](http://www.kentmethodist.org),**

**[facebook.com/UMCofKent](https://facebook.com/UMCofKent),**

**or on Instagram/Twitter @kentmethodist**

