



# THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 64 Number 2

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

February 2022

Dear Friends,

Last month we completed our “annual report” – a statistical summary of the past year that we submit every January to the United Methodist Church. In spite of Covid, 2021 was a strong year for our church in ministry. We contributed more than \$175,000 to missions, supporting a broad range of outreach projects both locally and worldwide. We completed more than \$200,000 of needed projects in our church building, maintaining our wonderful facility that supports so many forms of ministry. Major projects included the ongoing organ renovation, the installation of new carpet in our Sunday School classrooms, the updating of education wing light bulbs to energy-efficient LED bulbs, the completion of a long-needed rest room renovation in the campus ministry wing, the purchase of new tables and chairs for Pierson Hall, further enhancements to the sanctuary audio/visual system, and the replacement of a large section of our flat roof (to stop a chronic leaking problem). In our church membership, we completed a major process of removing the names of long-term out-of-town inactives from the church rolls, in order to bring our membership lists up-to-date. We ended the year with 1003 members; the count does not include pre-teen children who have not yet been confirmed. We averaged 410 persons per Sunday in worship. At the beginning of the year, worship attendance was almost entirely online. In-person worship began to restart in late May, and by the end of the year nearly half the congregation was attending in-person, with more than half attending digitally. We ended the year in solid financial condition. Thanks to all who continue to be actively involved in the life and ministry of our church!

In worship during the month of February, the sermon series on the “Stories of the Kingdom” will continue. On February 20, we will welcome Rev. Bob Machovec to the pulpit; he will preach at all three worship hours. Rev. Machovec was the associate pastor of the United Methodist Church of Kent from 1980 to 1985. He came to our church after getting his Bachelor’s Degree from Mount Union and his Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt Divinity School. Following his time in Kent, Bob served as the pastor of several churches across East Ohio until his retirement in 2016. In recent years he has been working part-time as the Chaplain/Bereavement Coordinator for Caring Hospice Services of Ohio. During our Wednesday Lenten series in March, Bob will be leading a three-week series entitled, “Caring for the Caregiver.” Many of us find ourselves in the role of caregiver – caring for children or for a parent or spouse or other relative or for friends – and often we may be called upon to provide care in multiple directions simultaneously. But where do we find care for the caregiver? Bob will be addressing the challenges of the caregiver role in this series that will take place at 7:00 p.m. in the gym on March 9, 16, and 23. The series will also be livestreamed. More details will be in the March Mosaic.

Lent will begin on March 2, **Ash Wednesday**, which is relatively late this year. We will have a traditional services of ashes that day at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. This very meaningful service uses the ancient symbolism of ashes to signify our repentance and the forgiveness of Christ. The service will be preceded by the first of our Lenten potlucks, which take place in Pierson Hall each Wednesday during Lent at 6:15.

Also during February, **Scout Sunday** will be on February 13. We will present Cub Scout religious awards during worship, and the Scouts will be holding a Pancake Brunch in Pierson Hall from 9:00 to 1:00. (This assumes that the present decline in omicron cases in our area continues.) Scouts receive freewill donations for the brunch. It’s a great way for us to support our Scouting program!

Dr. David Palmer

# Youth Ministry News

## February 2022

Calling all actors:

Youth Sunday is an annual day when the youth of our church lead our Sunday morning worship service. It is characterized by a focus on the music of our youth handbell choir the ZAMARingers, occasionally a liturgical dance, drama and teaching by a senior member of our youth group.

We are in the process of planning youth Sunday for Sunday May 22. If you would like to be involved as part of Youth Sunday in some way, please contact Rick Stout to find out how you can be a part of this year's very special Youth Sunday.

Shalom,  
Rick ∞



### Mission Trip News

For our 22<sup>nd</sup> summer the youth will be again traveling to Mountain T.O.P. located in Altamont, Tennessee the week of June 18-25. 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." If you missed the opportunity to sign up but would like to attend this trip please contact Rick as soon as possible to check on available space.

### FEBRUARY YOUTH CALENDAR

SUNDAY 6	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SATURDAY 12	9:30-12 Confirmation
SUNDAY 13	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 20	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 27	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship

### 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. 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 meets in the Chapel, from 9:30 to about 10:20 each Sunday through February 27. All adults are invited!

## Scout Sunday – Pancake Brunch

Scout Sunday this year will be on February 13. 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## Kent Interfaith Alliance for Racial Reconciliation and Justice News

On Thursday, January 27th, KIFA hosted a Zoom showing of “Africa: A History Denied” with a discussion following. It is part of a series in an effort to learn some of the history that has contributed to the racism of today. There will be a monthly zoom presentation on February 24 at 7:30 probably sharing a film about Black Wall Street. More information will come on that later in the month. Look for fliers that will be out soon.

An important way for us to move forward in our journey toward the “Beloved Community” is to learn more of the history that we have missed including positive contributions as well as tragedies that have left scars that can only be healed if we work together.

KIFA is also working together with the Portage County NAACP and other community organizations to plan a peaceful and joy filled celebration for Juneteenth, June 19, 1865 the day that the Emancipation Proclamation was finally read in Texas. Last year Juneteenth was made a Federal Holiday.

KIFA also asks that you be aware and research State Bills 322 and 327 that seek to limit the teaching of the FULL history of our great country in both K-12 and higher education.

## 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!

# February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	2 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm	3 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/ Sanctuary	4	5 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall
6 Regular Schedule	7 7 pm Worship Band Re- hearsal/Gym 7 pm New Spirit Rehearsal/Sanctuary	8 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 207	9 1 pm Rebecca Circle/ Pierson Hall 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm	10 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/ Sanctuary	11 11 am Red Cross Blood Drive/Gym	12 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall 9:30 am Confirmation Class
13 Regular Schedule Scout Pancake Brunch 9:00-1:00 in Pierson Hall	14 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm New Spirit Rehearsal/Sanctuary	15 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 207	16 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm	17 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/ Sanctuary	18	19 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall
20 Regular Schedule	21 6 pm Garden Club Dinner/ Pierson Hall 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm New Spirit Rehearsal/Sanctuary	22 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 207	23 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm	24 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/ Sanctuary	25	26 10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall
27 Regular Schedule	28 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
February 6	4
February 13	5
February 20	6
February 27	1

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).

## Our sympathies to:

- Barbara Farrell upon the death of her sister
- Gail Wolfe and family upon the death of her mother, Helen Semelsberger

## Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Carl Crawford, JoAnn Dickerson, Ray Jobin, Mark King, Helen McGrew, Joanne Senyek

## 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

FEB 6 Andrew Alderson  
FEB 13 TBA  
FEB 20 Eric Wertz  
FEB 27 Eric Wertz

## FEBRUARY LAY READERS

FEB 6 Janeen Philips  
FEB 13 Mark Lewis  
FEB 20 Judith Nedel  
FEB 27 Tom Emerick

## What Are Those Jars That Say 2-cents a Meal?

2-cents a meal is a fund raiser for Hunger Network in Ohio (HNO), an advocacy and networking organization whose focus is to stamp out hunger and poverty. East Ohio Conference is a founding member of this ecumenical organization based in Columbus. West Ohio Conference is also a member organization.

The idea behind 2 cents is that most of us can spare 2 cents a meal, and it is amazing how those pennies add up. It is also a way that children in Sunday School can help make a difference. Of the 2 cents collected, one cent stays in our local church to help those in our own community and one cent goes to HNO for their work in advocating for fair legislation to help people escape the debilitating poverty that makes so many go hungry. HNO also networks between various social service agencies, like our own Kent Social Services and Center of Hope, in their work feeding the hungry throughout the state.

For more information on Hunger Network in Ohio you can find them on Facebook and at [www.hungernetohio.com](http://www.hungernetohio.com).

Let's keep those pennies coming! It is a simple way to help feed hungry children. A monthly amount collected will be posted in the Mosaic each month.



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**Dr. David Palmer,  
Senior Pastor**

**Douglas Denton,  
Minister of Pastoral Care**

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

Apply  
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Here

Mailing Label Here

**Mailed February 3**

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near... *Mark 2:15*

## Worship Calendar

Date	Sermon	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
February 6	"God's Invitation"	Isaiah 25:6,8; Luke 14:15-24; Matthew 21:1-13	Dr. David Palmer	Communion, <i>Chancel Ringers</i>
February 13	"The Lost Are Found"	Luke 15:1-10, 11-32	Dr. David Palmer	<i>New Spirit</i>
February 20	Special guest preacher Rev. Bob Machovec			<i>ZAMARingers</i>
February 27	"Let It Begin with Me"	Isaiah 2:4; Micah 6:6-8; Matthew 5:9; Romans 12:9-21	Rev. Douglas Denton	<i>New Spirit</i>



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