



# THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 64 Number 12

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

December 2022

Dear Friends,

About every six years, Christmas lands on a Sunday, and it is happening this year! Whenever this occurs, we have a single joint worship service on Christmas morning and also on New Year's Day. The service will be at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Here is a chance to add a very special element to your celebrations on Christmas morning and on New Year's Day! On Christmas day, our service will include a lot of singing of Christmas carols. The whole service will be suitable for children; children are even welcome to come in their PJs! There will be no Sunday School, although child care will be offered for the smallest children. On New Year's Day, the service will be a Covenant Renewal Service. Based on a service written by John Wesley, this service provides a wonderful spiritual beginning to the new year, as it guides us to renew our covenant with God.

Throughout the month, we have many special elements in worship. Our calendar is as follows:

Sunday, December 4 – Second Sunday in Advent, Communion. We continue to light the Advent wreath. The new sermon series, entitled, "God's Answer to the World's Need," will continue throughout the month.

Sunday, December 11 – Third Sunday in Advent, Children's Christmas Pageant. Our children will present a short Christmas pageant as a portion of our worship during the 9:30 and 10:30 hours.

Sunday, December 18 – Fourth Sunday in Advent, Christmas Cantata and Youth Play. At the 8:30 and 10:30 worship hours, the main portion of worship will be a cantata presented by an expanded New Spirit ensemble and a small orchestra, led by Nik Stackpole. At the 9:30 hour, the message of the morning will come to us via a Christmas play presented by our youth. These services are always very meaningful and uplifting.

Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve candlelight services at 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. Note that there will be an extended musical prelude prior to both services. The early service will feature a musical blend, with our Worship Band leading some segments and our organ leading other parts of the service. The prelude music, by our Worship Band, will start at 6:45 pm. The late service will be very traditional and will feature our Sanctuary Choir. The prelude music will start at 8:30 p.m. Child care and bus transportation will be offered for the 7:00 service only.

Sunday, December 25 – Christmas Day. Single worship service at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Sunday, January 1 – New Year's Day. Single worship service at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Sunday, January 8 – Epiphany Sunday, Communion. We return to our usual schedule of three worship hours.

I rejoice to share with you in this season!

Dr. David Palmer

# Youth Ministry News

## December 2022

### DECEMBER ACOLYTES

|        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| DEC 4  | Audrey Hinkle     |
| DEC 11 | Tyler Hymes       |
| DEC 18 | Savannah Phillips |
| DEC 24 | TBA               |

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 three short skits that are designed to help us focus on the real meaning of the season and help us not let busyness and commercialism ruin what's really important.

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 programming 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<><

### 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.

### DECEMBER YOUTH CALENDAR

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| SUNDAY 4             | 6-7 ZAMARingers<br>7-8:30 Youth Fellowship        |
| SUNDAY 11            | 6-7 ZAMARingers<br>7-8:30 Youth Fellowship        |
| SUNDAY 18            | AM—Youth Christmas Play<br>PM—NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES |
| SUNDAY 25            | NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES                               |
| SUNDAY,<br>JANUARY 1 | NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES                               |

### Would you sponsor a college student to go to the Holy Land?

We have several college students in our church who will be going on the Bible Lands Tour and whose way will be paid by their parents (the Palmer kids and Abbey Stiller). We also have at least one Mount Union student, not from our church, who is interested in going but who is in need of financial assistance. If you would be willing to be a sponsor, providing partial support to help a student make this spiritual journey, please be in touch with Dr. Palmer.

## MAKE YOUR RECEIPTS COUNT!

Acme announced the dates for its 2022 Community Cash Back program, which runs from August 4 through December 24. 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!

### Christmas Movie

#### "Why the Nativity"

**Friday, December 16, 7:00 p.m.,  
Gymnasium**

"Why the Nativity" is a new movie produced by Turning Point Ministries, which presents the Christmas story in a fresh and engaging way. We are showing the movie, which runs about an hour and a half, in our church gymnasium on Friday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m. This is suitable for all ages! Christmas cookies and beverages will be available. Dr. Palmer will provide a brief commentary and closing prayer after the film.

### Our Church Partners with Habitat for Humanity *Help build a new home this Christmas*

Along with several other area churches, our church is partnering with Habitat for Humanity to do an "Apostle Build" in Ravenna, on Summit Rd. The term "Apostle Build" describes the building of a house that is supported by a coalition of churches. Work has already started on the property and foundation, and the family needing the home has been selected. It is a family with five children, four of whom are still at home. The first step is fundraising. At UMC Kent, we are seeking to raise at least \$10,000 to contribute to the project, and we are using our Christmas offering to that end. Simply mark a contribution "Christmas Offering" to participate! We will be looking for volunteers of various sorts in the months to come, starting in the spring. There will be new communications as different phases of the project develop.

## Church Table at the Farmers' Market

During the winter months, starting in December, we host the Farmers' Market in Pierson Hall and in the gym. It is quite popular, especially in December! This year we want to have a church table, primarily for the purpose of letting all the visitors know about our church! We will have church brochures available and also Dr. Palmer's books for sale (proceeds from the sales support the church). We need volunteers to staff the table! The market is open from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. each Saturday, starting December 4, but it will not be operating on Christmas or New Year's days. Volunteers at our church table will just need to set up our items on the table and then be ready to offer a friendly welcome to people passing by! If you would be willing to help with this outreach ministry, please contact Dr. Palmer at [davepalmer@kentmethodist.org](mailto:davepalmer@kentmethodist.org).

### Goodyear Band Christmas Concert Sunday, December 18, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

We again host the Goodyear Band for an annual Christmas concert in our sanctuary. The one-hour concert is followed by a fellowship time with punch and cookies in Pierson Hall. This event is open to all and always draws broadly from our community.

### Bible Lands Tour

Registrations are still open for the Bible Lands Tour, a 16-day journey through Turkey and Israel that will be led by Dr. Palmer in late June of next year. The dates are June 16–July 1, 2023. There are brochures around the church building, and there is a direct link to a tour description and online registration on the front page of our church web site.

### 2023 UMC of Kent Flower Delivery Schedule

The act of service, through recycling and reusing the donated bouquets that decorate our worship spaces, allow us to reach out and connect with members of our congregation. Whether to say, "Get Well," We're thinking of you, or during a time in life when someone needs a kind word, flowers are a simple gesture to bring warmth to another's day.

We are using Signupgenius.com for flower delivery signups for 2023. Please visit the link below to learn more and sign up!

[www.kentmethodist.org/altarflowers](http://www.kentmethodist.org/altarflowers)

# December 2022

| Sunday                                   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday                      | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday  |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------|--|--|---|
|  |   |  |                                | 1<br>7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill<br>12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH  | 2<br>11 am-5 pm Red Cross Blood Drive/Pierson Hall | 3<br>10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall  |
| 4<br>Regular Schedule                    | 5<br>7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym<br>7 pm Disciple I/Room 200  | 6<br>8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group<br>12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH<br>7-9 pm Basketball/Gym  | 7<br>7 pm Disciple III/Rm 200  | 8<br>7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill<br>10 am-2 pm Portage County Retired Teachers' Luncheon./Pierson Hall | 9  | 10<br>10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall |
| 11<br>Regular Schedule                   | 12<br>7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym<br>7 pm Disciple I/Room 200 | 13<br>8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group<br>12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH<br>7-9 pm Basketball/Gym | 14<br>7 pm Disciple III/Rm 200 | 15<br>7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill<br>12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH   | 16<br>7 pm Family Movie Night/Gym                  | 17<br>10 am-1 pm Haymaker's Farmers Market/Pierson Hall |
| 18<br>Regular Schedule                   | 19<br>7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym<br>7 pm Disciple I/Room 200 | 20<br>8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group<br>12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH<br>7-9 pm Basketball/Gym | 21<br>7 pm Disciple III/Rm 200 | 22<br>7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill  | 23   | 24<br>Christmas Eve Services at 7 PM and 9 PM           |
| 25<br>Christmas Day!<br>10:00 AM Service | 26  | 27<br>8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group<br>12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH<br>7-9 pm Basketball/Gym | 28                             | 29<br>7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill  | 30   | 31<br>New Year's Eve                                    |

## Regular Sunday Schedule

8:30 Worship Service/Chapel  
 9:30 Contemporary Service/Gym  
 9:30 Sunday School/Children's Choir/Childcare  
 10:30 Worship Service/Sanctuary  
 10:30 Sunday School/Childcare  
 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 |
|------------------|------------|
| December 4       | 1          |
| December 11      | 2          |
| December 18      | 3          |
| December 24 7 PM | 4          |
| December 24 9 PM | 5          |
| December 25      | 6          |

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 Sue Hassler
- Family and friends of Tina Ferrell

## Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Karen Andrews, Karen Beck, Morgan Closs, Meghan Harper, Nicki Heisser, Dusty Laffin, David Palmer, Sally Ruckman, Jan Taylor

## Thank You Notes

Thank you to Rev. Doug Denton for having church members volunteer to help mature members do autumn jobs around their homes.

We came home to a front yard full of children with rakes in full motion. Three boys, 11, 8, and 4 with mother Leigh Ann Tomaswick and Mark Ryland with granddaughter 7 having a "Fall Ball" gathering leaves for Kent City collection. They then all came inside for cookies and milk until time to scoot off for soccer practice after constant conversation.

We loved their family way of teaching "church" to their children.

Bless your example!

Hal and Lee Hall

I am so appreciative of all the prayers and wishes for healing from our caring congregation. It was such a lovely surprise to have the Pryors stop in for a visit and to deliver the altar flowers. They are still beautifully reminding me of the way our Church surrounds us in prayer and love. The cards from individuals and the Rebecca Circle help me feel the support. As Thanksgiving approaches, my gratitude overflows. I am honored to be a member of our Church.

Thank you, UMC of Kent.

Karen Beck

## 10:30 CAMERA SCHEDULE

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| DEC 4    | Andrew Alderson |
| DEC 11   | Andrew Alderson |
| DEC 18   | Eric Wertz      |
| DEC 24 7 | TBA             |
| DEC 24 9 | TBA             |
| DEC 25   | Andrew Alderson |

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 18**.

I/WE \_\_\_\_\_

WISH TO DONATE \_\_\_\_\_ PLANTS AT \$10.00 EACH

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

OR

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_





**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 1**

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

## **Worship Calendar**

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Sermon</b>                      | <b>Scripture</b>  | <b>Preacher</b>  | <b>Special Event</b>                        |
|-------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------|---|
| December 4  | "Are You Ready?"                   | Matthew 25 1:1-13;<br>Luke 12:35-38,40  | Dr. David Palmer | Communion,<br><i>Chancel Ringers</i>        |
| December 11 | "The Great God of<br>Small Things" | Matthew 10:28-31  | Dr. David Palmer | <i>Children's<br/>Christmas<br/>Pageant</i> |
| December 18 |                                    | 8:30 and 10:30—New Spirit Cantata<br>9:30—Youth Christmas Play  |                  |   |
| December 24 |                                    | 6:45 PM, Contemporary Musical Prelude, 7:00 PM Candlelight Service,<br>8:30 PM Traditional Musical Prelude, 9:00 PM Candlelight Service |                  |   |
| December 25 |                                    | Lessons and Carols for a single 10:00 AM service in the Sanctuary   |                  |   |



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[facebook.com/UMCofKent](https://facebook.com/UMCofKent),  
or on Instagram/Twitter @kentmethodist**

