



THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 65 Number 3

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

March 2023

Dear Friends,

We continue to journey this month through the season of Lent. Each Wednesday, we will have a Lenten potluck in Pierson Hall, starting at 6:00 p.m. Bring a food item to share plus table service; beverages are provided. Following the potluck, starting at 7:00 p.m., there will be a Lenten Program in the sanctuary. This year we are having a musical series, as we continue to celebrate the renovation of our sanctuary organ. Each Wednesday evening will feature a half-hour concert, according to the following schedule:

- March 1 Dawn Filler, organ
- March 8 Lenten Hymn Sing
- March 15 Nik Stackpole, organ
- March 22 Organ Plus Soloists
- March 29 Dawn Filler, organ

Everyone is welcome!

In Sunday worship, Rev. Denton will be preaching on March 5, when we will also have the sacrament of Communion; and then the sermon series entitled “Living in the Vine” will continue through the rest of the month. **Remember to turn your clocks ahead on Sunday, March 12.** Holy Week begins April 2, and we will have details about Holy Week services in the April Mosaic.

Did you know that we average more than 450 people in worship each Sunday? No matter when you attend worship in our church, you never get a sense of this number. If you attend one of our three in-person services, you do not see all the people who are attending the other two, and you not see the more than 250 people who attend our services online each week. If you attend online, you see the some of the people in either the contemporary or the traditional service, depending on which online service you attend, but of course you do not see the many other people who are also attending online. As a result, it is easy to get the impression that our church attendance has seriously dwindled, when in fact the opposite is the case. In 1995, when we had two in-person services, our average Sunday worship attendance was 332. In 2022, when we had three in-person services and two livestream worship offerings, our average worship attendance was 479. This growth is also reflected in our church finances. Giving has increased year to year, and our church financial position is now the strongest it has ever been.

As churches across the country are discovering, we are in a new world in this post-pandemic worship environment. Many churches are in fact shrinking; but others, like ours, have reshaped our approach to embrace online worship and are thriving, yet the dynamics of worship are quite different from what they used to be. For longtime worshippers, this requires some adjustment in perspective. When we worship, we need to realize that although we cannot see most of our fellow worshippers, we are in fact in spiritual fellowship with a large congregation of fellow believers. But of course, this sort of reality has been a feature of Christian worship for centuries. Christians have long held the conviction that whenever we gather in worship, we are in spiritual fellowship with an unseen throng of the faithful – believers in other churches and all the saints in heaven! As we worship today, we continue to be bound together through the Holy Spirit, and we can rejoice in our connection in Lord.

In His Service,
Dr. David Palmer

Youth Ministry News

March 2022

Matthew 25:40 reads *"Then the king will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"*

Every day, 1 in 10 people do not have enough to eat, thousands of children under the age of five are dying daily from hunger-related causes. On the weekend of February 24th and 25th, 8 of our youth participated once again in World Visions 30 Hour Famine. For 30 hours, the youth of our church went hungry to raise funds to help hungry children around the world. This annual event creates an opportunity for our youth to make a huge impact on the continual problem of hunger and poverty both locally and worldwide, while at the same time experiencing in a small taste of what hunger is like. During the course of the weekend students fed the hungry at the Lords Lunch and canned goods were collected and donated to the food pantry at Kent Social Services. Additionally, students participated in a variety of games and activities designed to teach us about the issue of hunger on a global scale. Over all the weekend was a fantastic learning experience and our youth went away with the understanding that they can make a difference for the world.

Another way we give opportunity to your youth to make a difference in the world is through our mission

MARCH ACOLYTES	
MAR 5	TBA
MAR 12	Tyler Hymes
MAR 19	Audrey Hinkle
MAR 26	TBA

trip. As many of you are aware the youth will be traveling again this summer to Mountain T.O.P. located in Altamont, Tennessee to be in ministry with the people of the Cumberland Mountain Plateau. This year we are very excited to have 16 members of our youth group and various adults registered to attend Mountain T.O.P.!

While each student attending is responsible for more than 3/4 of their individual cost for the week, at Mountain TOP the remaining cost including travel needs to be fundraised. Additionally, there are students from some families who will have difficulty paying their required portion. Therefore,

we would like to ask the congregation to consider getting involved in our quest to raise the required funds for this year's trip by considering participating in one of the following financial opportunities to help.

- 1. Scholarships.** As mentioned above there are several families who may have difficulty in today's economy paying for the required portion of their trip. Monies given toward the required portion from each student, and full sponsorships are a wonderful way to help.
- 2. Buy a brick.** At the time of this writing, our annual brick sale will be **Sunday Afternoon, March 5 beginning at 4:00.** When you receive the letter from the youth please prayerfully consider supporting their efforts by purchasing a \$25 brick in support of these trips. Remember every gift no matter how big or small goes to make a difference in the lives of another.

While these trips may seem like a huge undertakings, with God's grace and your generous support we can make it happen.

Shalom,
Rick <>

MARCH YOUTH CALENDAR

SUNDAY 5	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 12	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 19	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 26	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship

East Ohio Summer Camps

Campers! We want your summer to be full of fun, faith formation, adventure, and growth! Our hope is when you tell the story of what you did this past summer you say, "I connected with great friends and great counselors, had fun adventures, learned new things, experienced God, and now my faith is soaring!" That is what we are planning for Summer 2023 at Aldersgate, Asbury, and Wanake!

Brochures are available in the church office and remember register through our church and receive a tuition discount

Building Use

Our church building is an extremely active space. We have many church groups meeting each week, and we host multiple community groups in the building. In January, the Haymaker Winter Farmers' Market is moving to a different location, which will free up Pierson Hall on Saturdays, but Pierson Hall and the gym are heavily booked overall. We have been happy to host the Farmers' Market during winter months for the past nine years.

If you or your organization would like to request space in the building, the process is to fill out a building use form through our web site. You will find this under the "about us" tab at www.kentmethodist.org.

Church Job Openings

Our church has two immediate job openings, for the following positions:

Sunday Custodian – This is a Sunday morning position that involves a range of responsibilities from 7:30 a.m. to early afternoon each Sunday. Talk to Dr. Palmer for more details and to apply.

Assistant Worship Band Leader – There is a full description of this position on our web site. Interested persons should send a resume to Dr. Palmer.

Bible Lands Tour

We currently have 27 people registered for the Bible Lands Tour, but there is room for more! You need to register by the end of February to avoid a late fee. The Bible Lands Tour, led by Dr. Palmer, is visiting Turkey and Israel from June 16 to July 1, 2023. Brochures are available at church and online.

Flower Calendar

You can sign up to donate altar flowers in 2023 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.

EASTER LILIES

You are invited to purchase Easter lilies to beautify the church during our Easter services. Please complete the information below and mail it to the church office, or drop it into the offering plate on Sunday. **Please print** for the best legibility! All flower requests must be accompanied by payment. All checks must be made payable to the United Methodist Church of Kent by March 26. Following the 10:30 AM service on Easter Sunday, April 9, flowers will be distributed to shut-ins by members of our UMW Circles.

I/WE WISH TO PURCHASE _____ PLANT(S) AT \$10.00 EACH

IN MEMORY OF: _____

OR

IN HONOR OF: _____

GIVEN BY: _____



March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00 pm Lenten Potluck Dinner/Pierson Hall 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm 7 pm Wednesday Lenten Program/Gym	2 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH	3	4
5 Regular Schedule	6 7 pm Worship Band Re- hearsal/Gym	7 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	8 6:00 pm Lenten Potluck Dinner/Pierson Hall 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm 7 pm Wednesday Lenten Program/Gym	9 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill	10	11
12 Regular Schedule	13 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 200	14 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	15 6:00 pm Lenten Potluck Dinner/Pierson Hall 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm 7 pm Wednesday Lenten Program/Gym	16 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH	17	18
19 Regular Schedule	20 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 200	21 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym 7-9 pm Janus Circle/PH	22 6:00 pm Lenten Potluck Dinner/Pierson Hall 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm 7 pm Wednesday Lenten Program/Gym	23 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill	24	25
26 Regular Schedule	27 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Disciple I/Room 200	28 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	29 6:00 pm Lenten Potluck Dinner/Pierson Hall 7 pm Disciple II/Conf. Rm 7 pm Wednesday Lenten Program/Gym	30 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill	31 11 am-5 pm Red Cross Blood Drive/Gym	<div> 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 </div>

USHERS AND GREETERS

Date	8:30/10:30
March 5	5
March 12	6
March 19	1
March 26	2

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.

**Our sympathies to:**

- Family and friends of Brad Dickerson
- Joanne Senyek and family on death of her brother, Anthony Rota

Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Chris Coiner, Greg Curtin, Glenn Luttner, Sr., Tim Smith,

UNIVERSITY OF LIFE: MARCH 12,19,26, APRIL 5
WORDS OF LIFE – ADAM HAMILTON

Rev. Denton will lead a series of four sessions based on Hamilton's book and DVD. This will be concluding the series, based on the Ten Commandments, begun last Lent. We will meet Sundays, 9:30 a.m to 10:25 a.m. in the conference room located on the offices' corridor. All are welcome.

10:30 CAMERA SCHEDULE

MAR 5	Eric Wertz
MAR 12	Andrew Alderson
MAR 19	TBA
MAR 26	Eric Wertz

Thank You Notes

Dear church family,

Thanks so much for the beautiful bouquet of flowers that Becky Mulloy kindly delivered concerning my brother's death. They cheered my spirits.

Gratefully,
Mike and Joanne Senyek

Dear United Methodist Church of Kent members,

We sincerely appreciate your generous, prayerful support to our Pastoral Care office ministry. For over 50 years, community support like yours to Pastoral Care has made the greater Portage County churches' commitment to provide a part-time administrative secretary to the Pastoral Care office at UH Portage Medical Center possible.

Your continued partnership with us will help to ensure the services our department now offers: directly notifying churches and synagogues of parishoner hospitalizations; issuing clergy and laity badges; educational seminars for the community and support to the pastoral care volunteers who minister to patients through regular visitation and emergency on-call support.

This ministry would not be possible without your support. Please keep the hospital and the Pastoral Care Department in your prayers.

Sincerely,
Glen Johnson

Chaplain, Pastoral Care Department, UH Portage Medical Center

MARCH LAY READERS

MAR 5	Wendy Seed
MAR 12	Alex Seed
MAR 19	Pat Baldwin
MAR 26	TBA



**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**

Apply
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Here

Mailing Label Here

Mailed March 1

**“And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power.”
*I Corinthians 6:14***

Worship Calendar

Date	Sermon	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
March 5	“He Came to Save, Not to Condemn”	John 3:1-18; Romans 14:10-13	Rev. Douglas Denton	Communion, <i>Chancel Ringers</i>
March 12	“Turning a Profit”	Luke 16:1-8; Matthew 25:14-29; Luke 19:12-26	Dr. David Palmer	<i>New Spirit,</i> Spiritual Gift Inventories
March 19	“The Power that Sets Free”	Mark 1:21-27, 5:1-20; II Cointhians 4:6-7; EPhesians 6:12-13	Dr. David Palmer	<i>ZAMARingers</i>
March 26	“In the Name of Jesus”	John 14:13-14, 17:25-26; Colossians 3:17; Acts 3:1-10	Dr. David Palmer	<i>New Spirit</i>



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