



# THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 65 Number 7

The United Methodist Church of Kent—*A Place to Grow* July/August, 2023

Siblings in Christ,

On our first Sunday in worship together, I shared with you that I have been appointed as pastor not only to our congregation but to our whole broader community. I also shared with you my intent to listen to the ways God is speaking and working in your life, in the life of the UMC of Kent, and in the life of our neighborhood. In the brief time that I have been blessed to be with you here in Kent, I have begun to listen to what our neighbors know about our congregation, what they love about living in our community, and what concerns they are carrying. In the coming months, I intend to continue these conversations, both informally and more formally, and I am asking for your help to connect me with some individuals whom you would consider to be our “community leaders.”

Please prayerfully consider some of your community connections. Do you teach or work in our public schools? Are you part of a service club? Do you hold an elected office locally? Are you active with a community group or organization? Are you a social worker, a counselor, or a small business owner here in Kent or in one of our neighboring communities? Are you friends with someone who has a gift for perceiving the challenges and opportunities our community is facing? Who is someone I should talk to in order to learn more about the neighborhood where God is calling us to be in ministry?

In the coming weeks, please prayerfully consider someone you know who might be able to offer me a valuable perspective on our community, and help me to connect with them (feel free to share their contact information with me or my contact information with them; my email address is [nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org](mailto:nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org)). And if you have something to share with me directly from your own work in our schools and in our community, please reach out to me. I would love the opportunity to hear from you how you sense God is calling us in this time and place to build beloved community.

By God’s grace, may we each continue to listen and to learn where the Spirit is leading us next.

Peace,

Pastor Nathan

## **News from our East Ohio Conference**

During the June 2023 session of our East Ohio Annual Conference, conference members voted to re-district our Conference from ten districts to four beginning January 1, 2024. Bishop Tracy S. Malone and the Cabinet will determine the boundaries of these four new districts and will begin that work during their Fall Cabinet Retreat in September. Please pray for them during this season of discernment and planning.

Some other important dates to note across our United Methodist connection:

- April 23 – May 3, 2024: the postponed 2020 General Conference will meet in Charlotte, North Carolina
- June 13 – 15, 2024: the 55th session of the East Ohio Annual Conference will meet at the John S. Knight Center in Akron
- July 10 – 13, 2024: the North Central Jurisdictional Conference will meet in Sioux Falls, South Dakota

# Youth Ministry News

## July/August 2023

In late June our youth completed their 23rd trip to Mountain T.O.P. In all my years of going to the Mountain, I don't think there has ever been a week that was as cold or as rainy as the week we were there this year. Regardless of the weather our mission teams' spirit was not dampened and their resolve to serve was unwavering. Hear these words from first year team members Jozsi Jakob and Savannah Stephen reflecting on their first experience on "The Mountain."

*This was my first year going on the Mountain Top mission trip. I was nervous, but excited. It felt very good to help other people and I learned a lot, especially about tools as I had to tear down and rebuild a porch. I felt God's presence throughout the week and really liked having worship every night. I helped serve communion one night. I can't wait to go back next year!*

Jozsi

*Mountain T.O.P was such an amazing experience. I met a lot of wonderful people. I got to do yard work, build a deck, and paint. The people we worked for were thankful for us coming out and helping them. At camp I got to participate in worship by serving communion, singing in the worship band, and leading prayers. I feel that through Mountain T.O.P I grew in my faith and my love for God.*

Savannah

I hope you can appreciate when reading these words the impact this trip has on the lives of our students. Words can't describe the feelings one gets from living for a week in the slow pace of the Southern Tennessee mountain life, smiles and waves from the mountain people, pecan pie, sweet tea, biscuits and gravy and pulled pork sandwiches. It is equally uneasy to express the feeling comes from living for a week in Christian community, putting the needs of others first and setting an example and living your life the way that Jesus intended for us to live. Equally hard to express is the closeness you feel to God while on the mountain, daily devotions and yet we still get to work by nine and nightly worship services that never seem to grow old. Family style meals that start with grace and end with prayers for the community and a work day that begins and ends in prayer give you a unique perspective on what it really means to live as a Christian.

As we move through the rest of the summer and begin to prepare for next summer's trip, I look forward to sharing more with everyone about our mission trips through testimonies from those who went to "change lives" and wound up changed themselves.

Shalom,  
Rick<><

### Summer Sunday School News

Our Sunday School program will continue over the summer month during the 9:30 hour only. Children ages 4 through sixth grade are welcome to meet in room 104 of the education wing for Bible lessons and crafts. The toddler room and cry room will continue to be available for age appropriate children during both hours.

A great big **THANK YOU**, to all the people who helped with Vacation Bible School this year! From sharing your time and talents to donating supplies, you are all truly a blessing to the many children who come and spend the week with us. Without you our VBS would have never been a success!

Rick Stout, Director of Christian Education

### JULY/AUGUST ACOLYTES

JULY 23	TBA
JULY 30	TBA
AUG 6	Aidan Phillips
AUG 13	Savannah Phillips
AUG 20	Tyler Hymes
AUG 27	TBA

## Intern being sought

Starting late summer/early next fall our church will again be supporting a ministry intern. The internship will focus on youth ministry, and Christian Education.

The goal of this program is to offer college age students and young adults the opportunity to explore ministry in a hands on way, answer questions about ministry as a vocation, and explore the idea of "call" in a person's life. And better yet, they get paid to do it!

If this sounds like an opportunity you would like to learn more about or if you know of someone who you feel might be interested in this opportunity please contact me via, my cell 330-283-4838 or at [rickstout@kentmethodist.org](mailto:rickstout@kentmethodist.org) to learn more about this exciting program.

## Confirmation News

One of the most important parts of the life of the church is Confirmation. For seventh (and sometimes eighth, ninth or tenth) graders, Confirmation provides an opportunity to really think about what it means to be a Christian, and it leads up to the Service of Confirmation, when young people "confirm" or "say yes" to the Christian faith.

Our Confirmation program is a combination of classroom experiences, where we focus on major elements of Christian faith, and local mission trips—where we put Christian faith into action. Our Confirmation Class generally gathers once a month on a Saturday. We have a class session at the church in the morning, followed by an afternoon trip.

Confirmation begins with a CONFIRMATION LUNCHEON, immediately following worship on Sunday, September 17. This is for all students grades seven and beyond who have not been confirmed, and their parents and families. You are invited to a light lunch, after which Rick Stout and Nathan Howe will explain the Confirmation program in detail. We should be finished by about 1:15 PM. It is very important that everyone planning to be a part of Confirmation be present for this luncheon. This is what will "bring you on board" with our Confirmation program. To register for Confirmation and for the September 17 luncheon, please contact Rick Stout at the Church office.

## New Church Leadership

Our Church Leadership Committee has completed its work, and a new church Leadership Directory has been posted on our website. Thanks to all who accepted positions of leadership! Our leadership terms follow the academic year, beginning in July of each summer, with most positions having a three year term. In the Leadership Directory, the year next to a person's name indicates that the person's term ends in June of that year. We are blessed to have so many gifted people sharing in the leadership of this church!

## Attention all third graders and their parents

As you enter the third grade this year, your church would like to present you with a very special gift -- your very own Bible. The Bible is one of the most wonderful gifts that the church can give, because it contains God's message of salvation!

Bible Presentation Sunday will be August 27. During the early part of the 9:30 a.m. service, third graders and their parents will be called to the front to receive Bibles. Parents are involved in the Bible presentation, because this is a way of recognizing the important role that parents play in enabling children to attend church. The previous Sunday, August 20, all will be invited to share a favorite verse of scripture which will then be distributed to our 3rd graders.

Of course, the Bible only becomes really valuable when we use it. To this end, we have some powerful helps for third graders learning to use their Bible. First of all, our Sunday school enables children to really learn the Bible, how to use it, and how to apply its message to our lives. Secondly, we have a Bible mentor program. Each third grader is paired with an adult who will be his or her Bible mentor throughout the school year. Mentors guide third graders through a variety of activities that help them to enjoy, appreciate, and become familiar with their Bible. To begin the mentor experience, we invite all third graders, their parents, and mentors to a luncheon in the parlor on Bible Presentation Sunday (August 27) at 11:40 AM. We will explain the Bible mentors program, and children and mentors will have an opportunity to get started together. The gathering will take place immediately following the 10:30 service.

Please pray for these students and their families as they receive their Bibles and search the scriptures for God's still-speaking word.

## Girls on the Run is coming to the UMC of Kent!

Unlocking Power & Potential, Girls on the Run has fun, evidence-based programs that inspire all girls to build their confidence, kindness and decision making skills. Dynamic lessons instill valuable life skills including the important connection between physical and emotional health.

The Kent UMC will be hosting Girls on the Run on Tuesdays and Thursday evenings starting September 12, and we are currently looking for coaches! Girls on the Run coaches are trained volunteers who lead a team of participants through a season of powerful and fun lessons. You do not need to be a runner; you simply need to have a desire to support and encourage the next generation. Coaches receive all the tools and support they need and find that they get as much out of coaching as they give.

To apply to be a coach this fall please use the following link:

<https://www.gotrnortheastohio.org/coach>

But wait there's more! Are you between 16-18 years old and interested in coaching?

Check out our Junior Coach program for high school girls!

<https://www.gotrnortheastohio.org/junior-coach>

## Church Positions Open

We are now actively seeking candidates for the Worship Leader position for our contemporary service. We are looking to hire someone who can start in August or September. We are also continuing to look for an Assistant Custodian. The Assistant Custodian job is a small, part-time position that mainly involves hours on Sunday morning. There are job descriptions for both the Worship Leader and Assistant Custodian on our church web site at [www.kentmethodist.org](http://www.kentmethodist.org). If you know someone who might be good for either position, please encourage them to apply! Resumes can be sent to [info@kentmethodist.org](mailto:info@kentmethodist.org)

## Back to School Blessing

*Sunday, August 13*

*All three worship services (8:30 am, 9:30 am, 10:30 am)*

Join us in worship on August 13 as we pray for students, teachers, and support staff in our local schools as they begin a new school year (Kent City Schools begin classes on August 16; Kent State University fall classes begin on August 21). We will have "backpack tags" available as a reminder of God's love—and our congregation's love—throughout the school year.

## Thank You

Thank you to the Staff Parish Relations Committee and to the whole congregation for your very warm welcome on Sunday, July 2 and throughout the time we have been blessed to be with you. We are grateful that God has called us to this community of faith, and we are excited to get to know each of you better in the time to come. To all of those who set up the "welcome reception," to all of those who prepared and served food, to all of those who made arrangements, to all of those who cleaned up following, and to all of those who participated: thank you for your extravagant kindness and generosity. We are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the United Methodist Church of Kent.

—Pastor Nathan and Megan Howe

## Disciple Bible Study

*Wednesdays at 7 pm, beginning August 16  
in the Conference Room*

DISCIPLE I: Becoming Disciples through Bible Study is a program of disciplined Bible study aimed at developing strong Christian leaders as we explore the wholeness of the Bible as God's still-speaking word for our lives and for the world. Over the course of 34 weeks, we will follow the biblical story from the first creation to the new creation. Participants should expect to commit approximately thirty minutes to daily reading in addition to the weekly two-hour classes. For more information or to express your interest in participating, please contact Pastor Nathan ([nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org](mailto:nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org)).

## Fall Adult Mission Trip Being Planned

This year we are again planning an ADULT TRIP to Mountain T.O.P. on October 26-29 to participate in AIM and the fall festival.

Taken from the Mountain TOP website: *Adults in Ministry (AIM) seeks to bring adults from all over the country together to the Cumberland Plateau. We are theologically focused, integrated into our local community, committed to transformative experiences for all, intentional about working with (not for) local families. Our days are created around rhythms of work and rest, service and worship. No construction background? No problem! You don't have to have any construction knowledge in order to participate.*

You can also choose to participate in the Fall Festival if you choose.

If YOU would like to be a part of this amazing experience. If this sounds like YOU or if YOU feel called to be a part of this ministry, please contact Rick Stout about how you can be a part of this amazing opportunity.





## 2023 Trash-n-Treasure Sale: A Mission Market

Thur., Aug 24      6 - 8 pm  
 Fri., Aug 25      9 - 4  
 Sat., Aug 26      9 - 1

} Open to all

### Donation Times:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>15</b> <b>9:00 Table setup</b> donation time noon-4	<b>16</b> donation time 9-noon 4-7:30	<b>17</b> donation time 9-noon 4-7:30	<b>18</b> donation time 9-noon 4-7:30	<b>19</b> donation time 9-3
<b>21</b> donation time 9-noon 4-7:30	<b>22</b> donation time 9-noon 4-7:30	<b>23</b> Pricing 9-3	<b>24</b> Pricing 9-3 Sale 6-8	<b>25</b> Sale 9-4	<b>26</b> Sale 9-1 <b>Tear Down</b> <b>1-?</b>

**?? call Carol Pozuc: 330-571-5741**

NO DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER TUES., AUG 22

- Please donate with dignity: items should be clean and gently used.
- We do not accept Tube TVs, mattresses, cribs or car seats, encyclopedias

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- We need help knowing how to price items. If you are a thrift shopper, could you help us decide how to price?
- Also, we would like to try to sell some things on the local internet sites like Kent Buy Sell and Trade. Posting could be done from your home if we send you photos and pick up times arranged at church.
- Accept donations during designated hours (pick days/times that work for you)
- Help Joe Pozuc pick up large item donations.
- Work during the sale: cashier, runner, department aid
- Tear Down/Clean – up/Help deliver left over items after sale
- **Last year's sale was a tremendous success because so many people participated by sharing their time and talents! Please consider how you can be of service and make this year a success as well.**

# August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	2	3 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH	4	5
6 Summer Schedule	7 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym	8 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	9	10 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill	11	12
13 Summer Schedule	14 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym	15 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	16 7 pm Disciple I/Rm 207	17 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH	18	19
20 Summer Schedule	21 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym	22 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	23 7 pm Disciple I/Rm 207	24 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill	25	26
27 Summer Schedule	28 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym	29 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	30 7 pm Disciple I/Rm 207	31 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Little City Grill		
						<b>Summer Sunday Schedule</b> 8:30 Worship Service/Chapel 9:30 Contemporary Service/Gym 9:30 Sunday School—Preschool—6th Grade, Youth 10:30 Worship Service/Sanctuary 10:30 Child Care/Nursery 11:30 Fellowship Time/Pierson Hall

## USHERS AND GREETERS

Date	8:30/10:30
July 23	2
July 30	3
August 6	4
August 13	5
August 20	6
August 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.



## Our sympathies to:

- Family and friends of Fay Timmerman

## Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Chelsea Alderson, Joyce Given, Lee Hall, Nancy Lewis, Paul Shonk, Kathi Smith, Tim Smith

## MAKE YOUR RECEIPTS COUNT!

Acme announced the dates for its 2023 Community Cash Back program, which runs from August 1 through February 15 2024. 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 \$235.00 the at the beginning of this year. 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!

## Thank You Notes

Andy and I have never been to a "Pie-palooza" before! It was great. But it was even greater to be with you on June 25. The day was filled with laughs, tears, smiles, memories, joy, and yes, even some sadness. Putting it all together, it was a meaningful event. I thank you not only for the new Kindle, but the contribution to the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park in my name, and the planting of a tree on the church lawn with a plaque imprinted with my name.

We also want to thank everyone for sharing in a wonderful, faith filled journey these past 20 ½ years. You have inspired us in more ways than I can name. May God bless you as you continue to follow Christ along an exciting and promising path.

Peace,  
Doug Denton

UMC of Kent,

Thank you for the lovely graduation gift! I'll be sure to give it a read. I appreciate the kind words despite not being part of the church itself.

Cheers,  
Ken Burchett

## 10:30 CAMERA SCHEDULE

JULY 23	Eric Wertz
JULY 30	Eric Wertz
AUG 6	TBA
AUG 13	TBA
AUG 20	Eric Wertz
AUG 27	Eric Wertz

## JULY/AUGUST LAY READERS

JULY 23	Tom Emerick
JULY 30	Mark Lewis
AUG 6	Alex Seed
AUG 13	Janet Sessions
AUG 20	Wendy Seed
AUG 27	Janeen PHillips



**The United Methodist  
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**Church Office:  
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**Web Site:  
[www.kentmethodist.org](http://www.kentmethodist.org)**

**Rev. Nathan Howe,  
Senior Pastor**

**Rev. Bob Machovec,  
Minister of Pastoral Care**

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

Apply  
Postage  
Here

Mailing Label Here

Mailed July 18

*The Goodyear Band will perform its annual summer concert in  
our Sanctuary on Monday, August 7 at 7:00 PM!*

## Worship Calendar

Date	Week	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
August 6	10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Genesis 32.22-31 Psalm 17.1-7, 15 Romans 9.1-5 Matthew 14.13-21	Rev. Nathan Howe	Communion
August 13	11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Genesis 37.1-4, 12-28 Psalm 105.1-6, 16-22, 45b Romans 10.5-15 Matthew 14.22-33	Rev. Nathan Howe	Back to School Blessing
August 20	12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Genesis 45.1-15 Psalm 133 Romans 11.1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15.10-28	Rev. Nathan Howe	
August 27	13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 1.8-2.10 Psalm 124 Romans 12.1-8 Matthew 16.13-20	Rev. Nathan Howe	3rd Grade Bible Presentation



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