



THE METHODIST MOSAIC

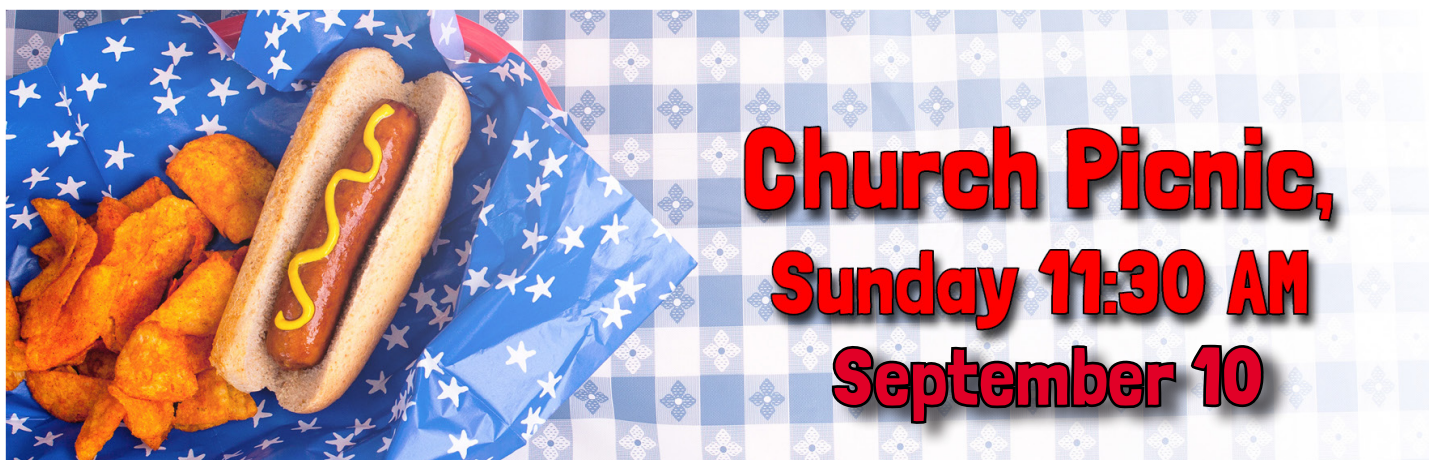
Volume 65 Number 8

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

September, 2023

Potluck Church Picnic **Sunday, September 10** *after the 10:30 am worship service*

All are welcome to join us for food and fellowship after the 10:30 am worship service on Sunday, September 10. This will be the first day of the new "Sunday school year," and we want to celebrate together. Hot dogs and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to share, invite a friend, and join us!



NEW Bible Study Opportunity: Covenant Bible Study **Mondays at 7 pm, beginning September 11**

Covenant Bible Study is a 24-week, in-depth group Bible study curriculum based on the understanding that we can best experience scriptures' transformative power through study, reflection, and engagement in community. This study is organized into three 8-week modules, each focusing on a different aspect of "covenant"—creating, living, and trusting the covenant—underscoring the unique relationship God chooses with us as God's people. Participants will be welcome to participate in one, two, or all three modules during the course of this year. The first 8-week session, "Creating the Covenant," will begin meeting on Monday, September 11 at 7 pm in the Room 200. Please contact Pastor Nathan (nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org) for more information and/or to express your intent to participate.



Youth Ministry News

September 2023

It's hard to believe that summer is coming to an end. Our youth group had a memorable week at Mountain TOP. Many were involved in the programs at our East Ohio Camps. Fall sports, marching band and other school activities have started. Now it's time to get everything geared up and resume our youth activities.

Youth Group will begin with a picnic including food, games and a campfire on Sunday, September 10 for all 6th through 12th graders at 7:00 PM. Additionally, ZAMARingers will also resume on that day at 6:00 PM. I am also excited to announce that we will continue serve a light dinner on Sundays at 7:00 in between ZAMARingers and youth group.

Looking forward in the fall, a hayride is being planned for October 21. There will a special activities to be announced on November 11 so be sure to keep that date for another youth activity to be announced.

Believe it or not we have already started thinking about next year's youth mission trip. We will again this year be partnering with Mountain T.O.P. in order to be in ministry with the people of the Cumberland Mountain Range. The trip is scheduled for June 22–29, of 2024. Preparation for this trip will begin with a parent/student interest meetings in September 24 at 7:00 PM in Pierson Hall. At this meeting we will announce any changes that are going to occur around next year's trip and we will officially begin taking registrations. It is important that anyone grades 6–12 who is interested in going on the mission trip attend this meeting. The opportunity to register for this trip will close the first week of January. I am very excited about next year's trip and look forward to sharing all the exciting news at the meeting on September 24.

Shalom,
Rick<><

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.

To register for Confirmation and for the September 17 luncheon, please contact Rick Stout at the Church office.

SEPTEMBER YOUTH CALENDAR

SATURDAY 9	OSU vs YSU watch Party (Gym)
SUNDAY 10	7–8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 17	Confirmation Lunch 6–7 ZAMARingers 7–8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 24	Mountain TOP Interest Mtg 6–7 ZAMARingers 7–8:30 Youth Fellowship

Children's Choir and 9:30 Sunday school set to return September 10

Beginning September 10 full Sunday school along with Children's choir will return to the 9:30 hour. Interested students can report to room 201 at 9:30 to participate in these activities.

Sunday School Teachers needed:

The Sunday school department is in need of teachers for the 9:30 and 10:30 worship hour. If you'd be willing to help your church by teaching Sunday school on a rotating basis please contact Rick Stout in the office.

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 to learn more about this exciting program.

Mountain T.O.P. interest meeting September 24

Believe it or not plans are underway for our annual mission trip. This year we will again be going to Mountain TOP. Mountain TOP is an interdenominational Christian Mission, affiliated with the Tennessee Conference of the United Methodist Church. Its ministry is dedicated to improving the quality of life for the rural people living in the Cumberland Mountains of Tennessee. This year's trip is scheduled for June 22 through June 29, 2024.

An interest meeting for anyone interested in attending next year (Even if you've already been to Mountain T.O.P.) is scheduled for September 24 at 7:00 PM in the Pierson Hall. At the meeting any changes to this year's trip will be discussed, therefore; we are requiring that at least one parent attend this meeting along with any 6th through 12th grader interested in going on the trip. However, attendance at this meeting does not guarantee participation on the trip this is only an information gathering time.

Please contact Rick at 330-283-4838 if you are unable to attend this meeting but are planning to go to Mountain T.O.P. Also, feel free to contact me with any other questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing everyone on that Sunday.

Upcoming Book Discussions

At the heart of our discipleship journey—growing in our love of God and neighbor—is the ongoing challenge and opportunity to perceive ourselves and each other more fully and more truly as God's beloved children. All are welcome to join us for one or more of these conversations around books that can help us grow in this sacred work.

Made for Goodness: And Why This Makes All the Difference

by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu

Tuesday, October 3 at 7 pm in the Conference Room

Archbishop Desmond Tutu witnessed and lived through some of the world's most difficult moments, fighting for decades against the racist government policy of apartheid in South Africa and serving worldwide as an ambassador of peace amid political, diplomatic, and natural disasters. And yet, those who knew him also found him to be one of the most joyful and hopeful people they had ever encountered. In *Made for Goodness*, a 2011 book co-authored with his daughter, Mpho, an ordained Anglican priest, Tutu argues that God has made us for goodness, and when we walk in the direction of this calling, God is there always to meet us, to encourage us, and to embrace us. Together, father and daughter offer an inspiring message of hope with the power to transform readers into activists for change and blessing in the world.

The Anatomy of Peace: Resolving the Heart of Conflict

by the Arbinger Institute

Wednesday, November 15 at 7 pm in the Conference Room

What if conflicts at home, conflicts at work, and conflicts in the world all stem from the same root cause? What if we systematically misunderstand that root cause? And what if, as a result, we systematically perpetuate the very problems we think we are trying to solve? Amid a cultural context that can feel increasingly divided and contentious, *The Anatomy of Peace* instills hope and inspires reconciliation by encouraging us to understand and then resolve conflicts at every level by addressing the heart of our division.

Each of these books can be found to borrow through most library systems or to purchase through most online sellers including thriftbooks.com and bookshop.org (two online booksellers that reuse books and support local bookshops).

To express your interest in participating in any of these discussions, please RSVP to Pastor Nathan at nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org.

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. If you know someone who might be good for either position, please encourage them to apply! Resumes can be sent to info@kentmethodist.org

Habitat Workday Set For September 16

Our next work day on the house on Summit Street is set for September 16. If you would like to help on that day, no experience is needed just sign up in the church atrium. Lunch will be provided on that day.

A Message from the Finance Director

Dear Church family,

Thank you for your continued support to the work of Christ through our ministries and missions! Year after year our church has played an essential role in nurturing our spiritual growth, offering a sanctuary of love, understanding, and unwavering support. Not only in our own community, but our fellowship and outreach. I wanted to let you know that your generosity in the face of disaster is overwhelming and that our church family has contributed over \$4500 to UMCOR efforts in Maui.

As we begin a new academic year and wrap up summer, we continue our efforts to keep costs down and be good stewards by utilizing the technology available to us. Please know that I am available to answer any financial questions you may have. You may easily reach me at 330-673-5879 ext. 11 or by email at lynnette@kentmethodist.org

Grundy County Fall Festival Coat Drive

This year we are again planning an ADULT TRIP to the mountain on October 26-29. 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.

As a part of this trip on the weekend of October 28 the Mountain T.O.P. ministry will host its annual Grundy County Fall Festival! While the festival focuses on new shoes for the needy in the area, Mountain T.O.P. will be distributing winter coats, books and school supplies to the people of Grundy County. Towards this end, Mountain T.O.P. has asked our church to again sponsor a coat collection for the fall festival. Beginning September 3 bins will be placed around the church for you to drop off NEW or EXTREMELY GENTLY used coats and jackets of various sizes to be given out to the people of Grundy County. You may also drop them off at Rick Stout's office. If you have questions or if you would like to go with the coats to mountain T.O.P. and be a part of the fall festival please contact Rick Stout in the church office.

A New Season of Music at the United Methodist Church of Kent

The new season is getting under way for the music ministry program at the United Methodist Church of Kent!

Our music program includes several very active ensembles which are happy to welcome new members.

The Sanctuary Choir, which sings each Sunday and for special services, presents a wide range of music for SATB choir. The Choir is accompanied by our organist, Dawn Filler. Rehearsals, which are held in the sanctuary on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m., will resume on Sept. 7.

Director – Frank Wiley: frankwiley@kentmethodist.org

New Spirit is a modern-traditional vocal ensemble, with a wide range of ages and musical backgrounds, which sings for worship twice a month. New Spirit presents a major cantata each year during Advent. Rehearsals are held on Monday evenings from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m.

Director – Nik Stackpole: nicholasstackpole@kentmethodist.org

Chancel Ringers is an adult handbell choir which presents music for worship once a month. Rehearsals, which are held on Sundays at 12:00 noon, following the 10:30 a.m. service, will resume on Aug. 27.

Director – Rachelle Ryan: rachelleryan@kentmethodist.org

ZAMARingers is a youth handbell choir which presents music for worship at both the 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services once a month. Rehearsals, which are held at 6:00 p.m. on Sundays, will resume on Sept. 10.

Director – Nik Stackpole: nicholasstackpole@kentmethodist.org

The Worship Band provides worship leadership for the 9:30 a.m. service held in the gym, as well as special services. The Worship Band rehearses on Monday evenings. While we are currently searching for a new Worship Band Director, Michael Goff is graciously and ably leading the ensemble.

Interim Director - Michael Goff: michaeljgoff16@gmail.com

Children's Music is part of our 9:30 am Sunday School, which begins on Sept. 10. This is for children age 4 through 6th grade. We use music to enhance the Sunday school lesson, and present songs in a Christmas Pageant and Spring presentation.

Director – Chelsea Alderson: chelseaalderson@kentmethodist.org

Instrumental Music is also an important component of our worship services. We have several talented musicians who play frequently for services. If you are an instrumentalist and would like to be involved with our worship services, please contact Frank Wiley, Director of Music, at frankwiley@kentmethodist.org or one of our other ensemble directors.

Organ music, presented by our organist, **Dawn Filler**, is an especially significant part of many of our worship services, through solo repertoire, accompanying the Sanctuary Choir, and leading the singing of congregational hymns. Our pipe organ was recently restored by the Charles Kegg Organ Builders company.

Getting to Know the SPRC

Through the waters of our baptism, God calls each of us to be faithful disciples, to grow to maturity in faith, and to engage actively in the ministry of making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. As we all participate in this ministry together, servant leaders are called, equipped, and entrusted with the vital task of managing and deploying God's gifts through the life of the local congregation. The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is one of those teams entrusted with this ministry of servant leadership among us.

Specifically, the SPRC is responsible for assisting the pastor and paid staff in assessing their gifts, maintaining health holistically, and setting priorities for leadership and service while functioning as a liaison between the staff and the whole congregation. The SPRC "keeps an eye on the big picture" of the congregation while staff and other leaders provide day-to-day oversight of our ministries. The SPRC also holds both the staff and the congregation accountable for carrying through with plans and promises that lead us toward our mission.

Over the course of each year, the SPRC carries out its ministry through three primary responsibilities: conducting pastoral and staff evaluations; maintaining a connection with the district superintendent (DS); and stewarding communication among the pastor and staff, the congregation, and the DS. While annual evaluations of the pastor and staff typically have been conducted in July and August, if you have questions/concerns/gratitude to share regarding any of the staff at any time during the year, please do not hesitate to reach out to a member of the SPRC.

Current members of the SPRC are Sally Dean (chairperson), Bob Berger, Andy Lepp, Claire Bank, Laing Kennedy, Sean Phillips, Tom Lundberg, Sue Webb, Chris Schjeldahl, Roger Stiller, and Michael Goff.



World Wide Communion October 1, 2023

World Wide Communion is a Sunday when church members have the opportunity to serve those who are unable to worship with us in person. We need you to volunteer to make this happen! What you need to do is:

1. Sign up by either contacting Rev. Machovec (234-282-6009) or bobmachovec@kentmethodist.org, or look for a sign up sheet by the chapel or the atrium beginning in September.
2. Pick up your assignment, along with communion elements, in the atrium on Sunday, October 1.
3. Visit the person assigned on Sunday (or as soon as possible the following week). A brief communion prayer will be attached to the assignment for you to share with the recipient.

If you have any questions, give Rev. Machovec a call.

Blessing of the Pets Sunday, October 1, 5 pm on the Lawn between the Chapel and the Sanctuary

On Sunday, October 1 at 5 PM, all are welcome to bring their pets and join us in the lawn near the office entrance to our building as we give thanks to God for our animal companions and ask God's blessing on them and us. Please have larger animals on a leash and smaller animals in a carrier. For more information, please contact Pastor Nathan at nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org.

Medicare 101 Educational Meeting

The entire community is welcome to attend a complimentary Medicare 101 Educational meeting to be held at the Kent Free Library on Tuesday, October 3 from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. Raymond B. Dietz, a financial advisor with Osaic Wealth, LLC will provide the information.

Those approaching age 65, those 65 and older, and those who are helping others with Medicare will find the information helpful. Medicare A and B as well as Drug Plans and your options regarding Medicare will be discussed.

Flower Delivery Ministry Seeks Volunteers

Each week our worship is blessed with floral arrangements donated by so many. The flowers add beauty and serve to remind us all of God's creative abundance. After the 10:30 service there are folks who help deliver the altar flowers to our homebound, those recently hospitalized, even those who may be celebrating a special event in their lives. It's a wonderful ministry to share the flowers with those who may not be able to worship in person. If you would like to help deliver flowers, please feel free to call Rev. Machovec at 234-282-6009 or at the church office so you can share in this ministry.

Sunday Afternoon Walk *September 3 at 4 pm at Trail Lake Park*

Enjoy the beauty of God's creation—both outdoors and in each other! Invite a friend or a neighbor, and join us. All are welcome. We will meet in the parking lot of Trail Lake Park (605 Ravenna Road, Streetsboro) at 4 PM and then walk together in the park. Trail Lake Park includes two marked trails: the Osprey Loop is 1.62 miles, paved and accessible; Kingfisher Way is 1.48 miles and makes its way through wetlands, mixed woodlands, and meadows. We will decide which trail to walk based on those who come (or we might walk them both). If you plan to participate, please RSVP to Pastor Nathan by the end of the day on Thursday, August 31 at nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org.

University of Life

Our class this Fall with Jeff Wattles is titled "Loving and being loved: Heart, humor, and happiness in the religion of Jesus."

We will explore how the simplicity of Jesus' way leads us into and through life's challenges. Curious? Drop in at the Conference Room any Sunday between 9:30 and 10:20, September 10 through November 26. Questions? Reach Jeff at jwattles@kent.edu or (330) 687-7330.

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Regular Schedule	4 Labor Day Office Closed	5 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7 pm Ed. Comm./Conf. Rm 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	6	7 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 7 pm Stewardship Comm/ Conference Room	1 2	9
10 Regular Schedule Church Picnic	11 7 pm Covenant Bible Study/Room 200 7 pm Worship Band Re- hearsal/Gym	12 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	13 6:30 pm Fellowship Committee/Room 200 7 pm SPRC/Conf. Rm	14 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans	15 8	
17 Regular Schedule Confirmation Luncheon	18 7 pm Covenant Bible Study/Room 200 7 pm Worship Band Re- hearsal/Gym	19 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	20	21 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH	22 23	
24 Regular Schedule	25 7 pm Covenant Bible Study/Room 200 7 pm Worship Band Re- hearsal/Gym	26 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	27	28 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans	29 30	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
September 3	2
September 10	3
September 17	4
September 24	5

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.



Bradley

- Family and friends of Lee Hall
- Family and friends of Gretchen Laflin
- Sterling Bradley on the death of his father, Sterling Bradley
- Patti Alderson and family on the death of her mother, Joyce Given

Our sympathies to:

Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Laing Kennedy, Jane Minard, Tim Smith

Thank You Notes

Dear Friends –

In writing to the faithful in Philippi, Paul wrote “Every time I think of you I give thanks to God”. It truly is wonderful and an honor to join with you all, to be back in Kent once again. I want to thank all for the lovely reception for us on July 16. I look forward to the opportunities to come to know you more to share in the wonderful journey in serving Christ together.

Bob Machovec

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Pastor Nathan Howe and also to Pastor Bob Machovec for their loving care and support expressed to me and our family during my heart surgery last week. I am indebted to the cardiology team at University Hospital in Cleveland and to the members of this church.

Receiving the flowers delivered to me on Sunday by Bob Berger made for a great day!

Laing Kennedy

Dear friends at the Kent UMC,

Oh my goodness! Thank you so much for the incredibly generous donation to Heart 4 the City! As I know, you know the needs in the Akron community continue to increase, especially for those families living paycheck to paycheck or on fixed incomes. Your gift will help us meet the needs while sharing the good news of the Gospel to folks who are hungry physically and spiritually.

Blessed,

Heart 4 the City

10:30 CAMERA SCHEDULE

SEP 3	Eric Wertz
SEP 10	Eric Wertz
SEP 17	TBA
SEP 24	Andrew Alderson



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

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

**Web Site:
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 August 29

This year's potluck church picnic will be held on September 10!

Worship Calendar

Date	Week	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
September 3	14 th Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 3:1-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28	Rev. Nathan Howe	Communion
September 10	15 th Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20	Rev. Nathan Howe	Church Picnic
September 17	16 th Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 14:19-31 Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-25	Rev. Nathan Howe	Confirmation Luncheon
September 24	17 th Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16	Rev. Bob Machovec	



**Connect with us at www.kentmethodist.org,
facebook.com/UMCofKent,
or on Instagram/Twitter @kentmethodist**

