



THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 66 Number 4

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

April, 2024



LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

Supporting Second Chances: Donate Professional Attire this April

April marks “Second Chance” month, a time to spotlight the challenges faced by individuals who were previously incarcerated and the barriers to their successful reentry into our community. As we reflect on our shared values, let’s embrace the opportunity to embody compassion and support for these neighbors.

Transitioning back into our community, many individuals prioritize securing employment as a crucial step toward stability and self-sufficiency. However, this journey often begins with the hurdle of obtaining appropriate attire for job interviews.

To address this need and uphold the spirit of Second Chance month, we are launching a clothing drive throughout April. We invite you to join us in collecting gently used or new professional attire, such as suits, blouses, dress shirts, pants, blazers, skirts, and dress shoes. Donations can be dropped off in a donation bin available in the atrium. All donations will go to the County Clothing Center.

Together, let’s extend a hand of support and opportunity to those seeking to rebuild their lives. Your generosity can make a meaningful impact, offering a tangible symbol of hope and solidarity to our brothers and sisters on their journey toward a brighter future.

Navigating the Chaos of Reentry

Wednesday, April 3

6 pm Potluck Dinner in Pierson Hall

*7 pm – 8:30 pm Panel Discussion
in the Sanctuary*

“Second Chance Month,” observed in the United States during April since 2017, is a nationwide effort to recognize the importance of helping individuals, communities, and agencies appreciate our collective role in supporting safe and successful reentry for millions of people returning from incarceration each year. In collaboration with partners in the West Ohio Conference of The UMC and from Kent State University, we will host a panel discussion in our Sanctuary on Wednesday, April 3, from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. This will be a great opportunity for all of us to learn more about the challenges our neighbors face in reentering a community after an incarceration experience and how we might offer support. Panelists will include individuals from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, individuals who have personally navigated the reentry process, and individuals currently engaged in offering local support. The panel discussion will be preceded by a potluck dinner in Pierson Hall, beginning at 6 pm. Come for food and fellowship and stay for an opportunity to learn more about ways we can love our neighbors.

Youth Ministry News

April 2024

APRIL ACOLYTES	
APRIL 7	Jozsi Jakab
APRIL 14	Alvin Fields
APRIL 21	Sienna Heeman
APRIL 28	Savannah Stephan

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 14 members of our youth group and various adults registered to attend Mountain T.O.P.

In order to support this trip, we have sent letters our encouraging our church family to donate to our annual 'brick sale.' When you receive your letter please prayerfully consider donating to this worthwhile cause.



Shalom,
Rick <>

MARCH YOUTH CALENDAR	
SATURDAY 6	Confirmation
SUNDAY 7	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 14	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 21	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 28	Youth Sunday— No Youth Activities!

Habitat Workday set for May 4

Our next work day on the house on Summit Street is set for May 4 from 9 am to 2 pm. 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.

VBS is returning to the Kent UMC!

We are currently planning to hold VBS at the Kent UMC the week of June 17-20. (four days) The theme this year will be JUST Like Me! "JUST Like Me is an inclusive VBS curriculum that will help kids celebrate their identity as God's beloved creations just as they are! Through scripted lessons and extension activities, students will practice sharing, asking questions, using their voice, finding community, and speaking up for others."

Everyone has a song to sing and a gift to bring! This is especially true in our community garden. Each member of the Garden Group is unique, and we need each of their gifts to make our garden thrive. Just like the characters in the Bible stories we learn each day, our gardeners know that the things that make them different are also the things that make them special!

So come and join us in the garden June 17-20 as we celebrate who we are, learn how to use our voice, and share our gifts with our community! Each day we'll meet a new member of our Garden Group who will share their special gift and invite us into a new Bible lesson and skill. Visiting gardeners (students) will get to explore the stories of a variety of First and Second Testament characters through the eyes of our gardeners in order to understand that these amazing characters in the Bible are just like us!

Hello Church Family!

I wanted to officially say how excited I am to be working as the Director of Children's Ministries at UMC Kent.

If we haven't met, I have been attending this church since 2014. I joined the staff as the Children's Choir Director in 2017, and I've been singing with the children here ever since. My background is in Music Education and vocal performance. In addition to working here, I teach general music to grades preK-8. I live in Stow with my husband Andrew and our daughter Faye.

As a member of this church, I believe it is a wonderful place for families to belong. I hope to continue to strengthen and grow the Children's Ministry with your prayers, and your help. If you have any thoughts, concerns, or ideas about anything related to Children's Ministry at this church, please send me an email at chelseaalderson@kentmethodist.org.

Chelsea Alderson
Director of Children's Ministries

Upcoming Children's Ministry Events

Sunday April 21

Children's Spring Music Presentation

The 9:30 am Sunday School class will present our Spring Music Program at the 10:30 am service this year. The theme is "We can Make a Difference"! Please come and support our children at this service!

June 17-20

Mark your calendars for this summer's Vacation Bible School! Students in PreK-5th grade are invited to attend this fun 4 day event. We read stories, do craft projects, play games, sing songs, and learn about Jesus. We will need adult volunteers for this event - please let Chelsea Alderson or Rick Stout know if you can help with this ministry. More information and registration will be available soon!



Native American Ministries Sunday Sunday, April 14

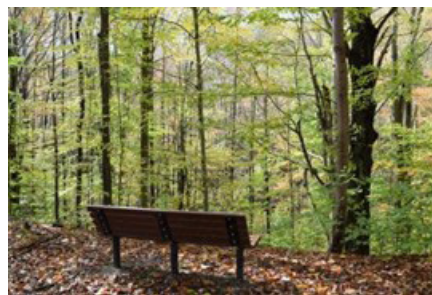
Native American Ministries Sunday is one of six annual special giving opportunities in The United Methodist Church. On this special Sunday, we gather to celebrate the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to The United Methodist Church and to our society as a whole. Your financial gifts to the Native American Ministries Sunday offering strengthen Native American ministries in annual conferences; Native American rural, urban, and reservation ministries and communities; and scholarship programs for Native American seminary students. Gifts can be made through the UMC of Kent either online or by check by designating "NAMS." Thank you for your generous participation in this faithful work.

Mission Journey to Cambodia December 31, 2024 – January 12, 2025

In 2017 and 2019, I was blessed to travel three times to Cambodia to meet and build relationships with neighbors on the other side of the world. Christianity remains a very small portion of the population in Cambodia, but the Methodist movement has been growing in recent years especially among young people. Traveling to Cambodia and being with Methodists there provides a wonderful opportunity to learn from and with first-generation Christian communities while offering encouragement and support.

I am now in the early stages of planning a mission journey through United Methodist Volunteers in Mission to Cambodia at the end of December and beginning of January (2024–2025). If you might be interested in participating in this journey with me, please email me (nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org) to express your interest and with any questions. The expected cost including travel, lodging, and food probably will be around \$4000 per person; financial assistance may be available. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

—Pastor Nathan



Sunday Afternoon Walk April 14 at 4 pm, Shaw Woods

We are blessed locally with multiple park systems that provide abundant opportunities to enjoy God's creation, both outside and in each other. All are welcome to join us for our next Sunday afternoon walk on April 14. We will meet in the parking lot of Shaw Woods (7075 Beery Road, Ravenna) at 4 pm and then walk the trails together. Invite a friend or neighbor, and join us! If you plan to join us, please RSVP to Pastor Nathan by the end of the day on Thursday, April 11.

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. 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).

***Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge,
and the Teachings of Plants***
by Robin Wall Kimmerer
Tuesday, April 9 at 7 pm
Conference Room

From the author's website:

Drawing on her life as an indigenous scientist, a mother, and a woman, Kimmerer shows how other living beings—asters and goldenrod, strawberries and squash, salamanders, algae, and sweetgrass—offer us gifts and lessons, even if we've forgotten how to hear their voices. In a rich braid of reflections that range from the creation of Turtle Island to the forces that threaten its flourishing today, she circles toward a central argument: that the awakening of a wider ecological consciousness requires the acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world. For only when we can hear the languages of other beings will we be capable of understanding the generosity of the earth, and learn to give our own gifts in return.

The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times
by Jane Goodall and Douglas Abrams
Tuesday, May 14 at 7 pm in the Conference Room

Looking at the headlines, it can be hard sometimes to feel optimistic. And yet, hope has never been more desperately needed. In conversation with Doug Abrams, Jane Goodall focuses on four reasons for hope: the amazing human intellect, the resilience of nature, the power of young people, and the indomitable human spirit. Told through stories and fascinating research, *The Book of Hope* addresses vital questions and responses for our time.

THE JANUS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Due Date: April 30th in the UMC of Kent Office (postmarked or delivered)

Print Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Signature (Complete then print this form out to sign and date): _____ **Date:** _____

High School : _____

College or Post-Secondary School: _____

Planned Field of Study: _____

Copy of Acceptance Letter Enclosed: YES ___ NO ___ (Check one)

Year Became Member of UMC of Kent: _____ **Additional Sheets? YES ___ NO ___** (Check one)

Part A: UMC of Kent Participation & Leadership

	Activity	What Years?	Estimated Time Spent (hours per week, or days total)	Office Use
1)	Youth Group WED SUN			
2)	ZAMARingers			
3)	Resurrection			
4)	Praise Band			
5)	Annual Mission Trip			
6)	30 Hour Famine			
7)	District Youth Council			
8)	Conference Council on Youth Ministries			
9)	Youth Annual Conference Delegate			
10)	Sunday School Assistant			
11)	Nursery Help			
12)	Vacation Bible School			
13)	Youth Sunday (List Roles)			
14)	Other			
15)	Other			
16)	Other			

Please complete Part B on the next page.

Part B: Service Participation & Leadership Outside of Church (not sports or academic extracurriculars)

	Activity	List Years	Estimated Time Spent	Office Use
1)				
2)				
3)				
4)				
5)				
6)				

Important Notes:

- A separate page may be used in addition to this application if more room is needed - put your name at the top of page -
- The scholarship may be split and distributed among multiple recipients; recipient(s) to write & submit thanks to Mosaic -
- If you will receive a full-ride (tuition, fee, books, room & board) scholarship, then do not apply/accept this award - If you do not attend the first semester after high school or withdraw, immediately notify Janus Circle and return award - Boy Scouts is considered a Part B activity

The Janus Scholarship is designed to recognize student members of the Kent United Methodist Church for their active involvement in our church and service to the community who plan to pursue post-secondary education the following school year. An endowment has been established by the Janus Circle to fund this scholarship in recognition of students with that commitment to our church and community.

REVISED 3/15/2022

A Note from New Spirit

By now, you might have heard about this wonderful opportunity that New Spirit has this coming December! This past December, New Spirit collaborated with musicians from all around the area to sing Joseph Martin's "A Weary World Rejoices." This was a wonderful blend of familiar text and new music to present the Christmas story for our first Sunday of Advent. Fast forward a couple of months, and the composer and representatives from his company came across our livestream recording of the music, and they reached out to me to invite New Spirit to perform this same piece of music in December 2024 with a professional orchestra as well as other choirs from around the country on the stage of Carnegie Hall in New York City!

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for each of us in New Spirit, as well as a chance for us to meet new musicians, and enjoy music and fellowship with other church choirs from around the country. New Spirit is excited to travel to New York City this coming December to bring our music from the United Methodist Church of Kent to a world stage.

As excited as we are to have such a wonderful opportunity, this trip does come with a cost. Including the travel and bus expenses, meal cost, and singer's expenses, we have a bit of fundraising to do.

New Spirit will be hosting lunch after the 10:30 service on Sunday, May 5, the cost is by donation. There will be silent auction prizes, along with music performed by the group that is going to Carnegie Hall in December! I hope you will join us after the 10:30 service on Sunday, May 5 for food, fellowship, and fundraising! New Spirit is so thankful for your support and generosity along our journey!

Blessings,
Nik Stackpole

2024 Janus Scholarship Announcement Apply Now

Janus Circle announces that we are now accepting applications for our Scholarship! The Janus Circle Scholarship was established in 2014 to recognize student members of the United Methodist Church of Kent, Ohio for their active involvement in our church and service to the community and who plan to pursue post-secondary education the following school year.

The Janus Scholarship is awarded to high school seniors who have demonstrated an exceptional level of service in the church during their teen years. The application calls for a listing of all the points of a student's involvement; however, there are no GPA requirements or essay! In addition, any college or other educational pursuit is eligible!

Applications are available from the church office or may be completed on-line on the UMC of Kent website. More details are also available on the website. Applications may be mailed or delivered in person to the Kent UMC office to the attention of Adam Alderson, post-marked or received in person by April 30th.

The award recipient(s) will be announced at Senior Recognition Sunday and it is possible for the award to be shared among multiple recipients.

Through this scholarship, the Janus Circle offers support and recognition to the youth members who demonstrate their commitment and service to our church and community. For more information, please contact Sally Dean at 330-283-6999.

Donations to the Janus Scholarship Endowment Fund are welcome; please mark your envelope Janus Circle Scholarship Fund! Good luck seniors!

Join UMCK at "Clean Up Kent" Saturday, April 20, 9 am – 11 am

Together, as a congregation, we will join Main Street Kent for their spring "Clean Up Kent" event on Saturday, April 20. (If you purchased a UMC of Kent shirt last fall, this is a great opportunity to wear it.) We'll meet at the gazebo (corner of West Main Street and Franklin Avenue) at 8:45 am, and then sign up for a section to downtown to clean up by removing trash, etc. If you are able to join us, please RSVP to Pastor Nathan (nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org) by the end of the day on Thursday, April 18.

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7:30 New Spirit Rehearsal/Choir Room	2 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 5 pm Drama Kids/Palmer Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	3 6 pm Lenten Potluck/ Pierson Hall 7 pm Special Presentation/ Sanctuary	4 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary	5	6 9:30 am Confirmation Class/Conference Room
7 Regular Schedule	8 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Covenant Bible Study/Room 200 7:30 New Spirit Rehearsal/Choir Room	9 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 5 pm Drama Kids/Palmer Gym 7 pm Book Discussion/ Conference Room 7 pm Gifts, Memorials, and Investments Comm/ Conference Room 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	10 7 pm Finance Committee/ Conference Room	11 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary	12 11 am-5 pm Red Cross Blood Drive/Gym	13
14 Regular Schedule 4 pm Walk at Shaw Woods	15 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Covenant Bible Study/Room 200 7:30 New Spirit Rehearsal/Choir Room	16 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 5 pm Drama Kids/Palmer Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	17	18 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary	19	20
21 Regular Schedule	22 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Covenant Bible Study/Room 200 7:30 New Spirit Rehearsal/Choir Room	23 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 5 pm Drama Kids/Palmer Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	24	25 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary	26	27
28 Regular Schedule	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
April 7	1	1
April 14	2	2
April 21	3	3
April 28	4	4

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.



neighbor

Our sympathies to:

- Family and friends of Carl Bauer
- Dave Gynn on the death of his brother-in-law, Bruce Fisher
- Roger and Donna Stiller on the death of their

Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Krista Clavecilla

Expanding our Visitation Ministry

In our recent Spiritual Gifts Inventory, several folks expressed an interest in being involved in our Visitation ministry. We invite anyone who's interested in being involved in our visitation ministry. On Sunday, April 28 at noon, we'll have a meeting of anyone interested in participating in this ministry. Join us and discover how you can share in this exciting and meaningful ministry. Contact Bob Machovec for more information at bobmachovec@kentmethodist.org or by phone at 330-673-5879, ext. 124.

Blood Pressure Checks to Resume

Prior to the pandemic, one of the ministries the church offered was regular blood pressure checks. Several folks have asked about this ministry, and we would like to offer this again. We are in the process of developing a team of volunteers who would be willing to help take blood pressures. If you have a nursing or medical background and would like to be part of this ministry team, please let us know. Please contact Bob Machovec either through email (Bobmachovec@kentmethodist.org) or phone (330-673-5879, ext 124 or 234-282-6009). Thank you for your interest in this ministry and we look forward to offering this soon.

10:30 CAMERA SCHEDULE

APRIL 7	Eric Wertz
APRIL 14	Andrew Alderson
APRIL 21	Andrew Alderson
APRIL 28	Eric Wertz

APRIL LAY READERS

APRIL 7	Edgar Kooijman
APRIL 14	Karen Bennett
APRIL 21	Alex Seed
APRIL 28	Tom Emerick

Thank You Notes

Thank you for allowing us to use your church for Dr. Marlene Dorshey's funeral. You and your staff treated us with kindness, and we are forever grateful to you! Have a very blessed day!

Rev. Pamela Slayton and the members of Spelman Chapel A.M.E. Church

Dear church family,

Thank you so much for your cards and calls and support during Dave's recent surgery and his recovery. It was uplifting to hear from so many of you. And then I had some problems, and more cards came! We were delighted to see Pastor Bob Machovec appear at the hospital two times as well as texts to see how we were doing!

Thanks to Patti Yensel for bringing us the flowers from the church—daisies, my very favorite flower. Thanks to whomever donated them for the church service. And thanks to Cara and Pastor Nathan who kept up with us too.

Blessings to all of you for your prayers— Dave and Pat Gynn

I would like to thank my church family for all the prayers, visits and the lovely flowers. Thank you especially to Rev. Howe and Rev. Machovec for their visits.

Margie Stahl



Apply
Postage
Here

**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**

**Chelsea Alderson
Director of Children's Ministries**

Mailing Label Here

Mailed March 27

When I am afraid, I will put my trust in You.
Psalm 56:3

Worship Calendar

Date	Week	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
April 7	Second Sunday of Easter	Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31	Rev. Nathan Howe	Communion
April 14	Third Sunday of Easter	Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; John 3:16-24; Luke 24:36b-48	Rev. Nathan Howe	Native American Ministries Sunday
April 21	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 26; John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18	Rev. Nathan Howe	Festival of God's Creation
April 28	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8	Rev. Nathan Howe	



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