



# THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 67 Number 7

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

July, 2025



## LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

### **Nonperishable Food for Kent Social Services**

Throughout the month of July, you are invited to donate nonperishable food items to be donated to Kent Social Services (KSS). Originally established in 1920, KSS has a long history of serving the residents of Kent. In the late 1990s, Sister Jordan Haddad began the hot meal program and operated it out of a rotation of donated spaces in Kent. Today, KSS serves more than 20,000 hot meals per year and provides more than 100,000 pounds of groceries to households in need from their location on South Water Street while building support networks among our neighbors. Thank you for your generous support of this vital ministry in our community. Donations may be placed in our donation box in the atrium.

### **United Worship Services with Kent UCC**

*Sundays, July 20 and 27*

This summer, we are bringing back an old tradition of worshipping together with our siblings at Kent UCC. On Sunday, July 20, our two congregations will worship together at 10 am in the Sanctuary of Kent UCC (1400 East Main Street). On Sunday, July 27, our two congregations will worship together at 10 am in our Sanctuary. Please join us as we celebrate God's presence and our shared mission to love God and love our neighbors well.

### **An Evening Together at the Ballpark: Akron RubberDucks vs. Erie SeaWolves**

*Saturday, August 2, at 7:05 pm  
Canal Park, Akron*



Invite friends and neighbors and bring the whole family for an evening of baseball and fellowship at Canal Park as the Akron RubberDucks take on the Erie SeaWolves. Tickets are \$15 each, payable to "UMCK," and the deadline to reserve your ticket is Monday, July 28 (or whenever we run out of tickets). For more information or to reserve your tickets, please contact Pastor Nathan ([nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org](mailto:nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org)).

## 2025 East Ohio Annual Conference

*June 12 – 14, College of Wooster*



The 56th session of the East Ohio Annual Conference met from Thursday, June 12, through Saturday, June 14, with 289 clergy and 312 laity gathered on the College of Wooster campus. Roger Stiller, Mike Stiller, and Claire Bank were members of this year's annual conference from our congregation.

During each of the three days of Annual Conference 2025, Rev. Dr. Ahyun Lee, associate professor of Pastoral Theology, Care, and Psychotherapy at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, led a Bible study titled, "Rise Up and Go: Soul Care Amid Trauma and Despair," focusing on the theme scripture for annual conference: Mark 5:35-43. Each day began with a worship service, including an opening worship service, a Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion, and a Service of Licensing, Commissioning, Ordination, and Retirement.

A delegation of clergy and lay leaders traveled with Bishop Seong-Bok Kim from Korea to be present for the session of our annual conference. Bishop Jung and Bishop Kim celebrated the connectedness of The United Methodist Church and the Korean Methodist Church by signing an Ohio-Korea Covenant of Ministry Partnership, which will aim to foster mutual understanding and respect and facilitate opportunities for shared ministry among our conferences.

Bishop Jung is in his first year as resident bishop of the Ohio Episcopal Area, comprised of both the East Ohio and West Ohio Conferences. Leaders from both conferences are members of an Ohio Episcopal Area Task Team which provided a report on their continuing exploration of the possibility of a new, unified annual conference for all of Ohio at some point, perhaps as soon as 2028.

An Annual Conference Offering was received, with donations supporting the creation of a new Mary Scranton Memorial Mission Center, named for Mary Scranton, who left Cleveland, Ohio to become one of the first Methodist missionaries in Korea; the United Methodist Committee on Relief Global Migration fund, which provides food and legal aid and transportation services for vulnerable migrants and refugees; and the Bishop's Discretionary Fundy, which enables Bishop Jung to support critical ministry needs throughout the East Ohio Conference and beyond.

The annual conference also supported five proposed resolutions:

- "United Methodist Immigration Ministries of Ohio" supports forming an Ohio site of the Immigration Law and Justice Network (a similar resolution was supported by the West Ohio Conference at its session this year).
- "Identifying and Opposing Apartheid in the Holy Land" recommends that the U.S. government condition U.S. funding to Israel upon Israel's willingness to dismantle its apartheid system and urges all United Methodist clergy and laity to listen to the voices of Palestinians, including through the study of Palestinian Christians' 2020 document, "Cry for Hope: A Call for Decisive Action."
- "What Are We Called to Do?" asks each member of an East Ohio congregation to reflect on our personal role in response to the life and message of Jesus.
- "Opposition to Proposed SNAP Cuts and Their Detrimental Impact on Food Security and State Budgets" and "Opposition to Proposed Medicaid Cuts and Their Detrimental Impact on Healthcare Access and Economic Well-Being" both encourage United Methodists to be aware of the negative impacts of possible cuts to SNAP and Medicaid funding and to advocate with elected officials.

Visit [www.eocumc.com/eoac25](http://www.eocumc.com/eoac25) for more information about this year's session of the annual conference. A report from three of our members of the annual conference will be provided during worship services on Sunday, July 6.

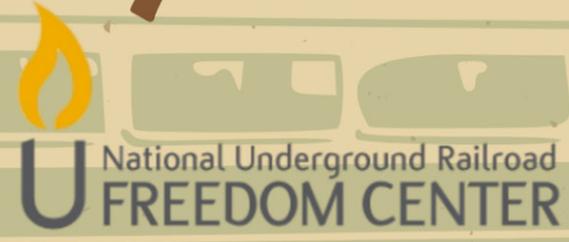
The 57th session of the East Ohio Annual Conference will be held June 11 – 13, 2026, at the College of Wooster.



# Bus Trip



Ohio Episcopal Area  
**Multicultural Ministries**  
 Will Fenton-Jones - Director  
[wiltj@eocumc.com](mailto:wiltj@eocumc.com)



Cincinnati, Ohio

## Saturday, July 12

### Intergenerational Event

- Bus Trip Participants - \$50**  
 (includes sack lunch on bus, admission, and dinner)
- Youth and College Students - \$15**  
 (includes sack lunch on bus, admission and dinner)
- Commuter Participants - \$15** (includes admission and dinner)



SCAN TO REGISTER

### Pickup locations:

- 8:00AM** @ Medina UMC (4747 Foote Rd, Medina, OH)
- 10:00AM** @ West Ohio Conference Office  
 (32 Wesley Blvd, Worthington, OH)



### Welcome to Our Newest Members!

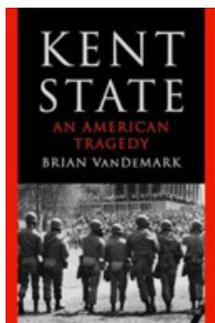
During the past couple months, we have been blessed to participate in the baptism of five individuals (Erica Cofojohn, Maddie Conley, Brenda Hudkins, Gabriel Hudkins, and Megan Hudkins) and welcome twelve new members into the life of our congregation (Erica Cofojohn, Kris Cofojohn, Maddie Conley, Libby Filler, Rose Filler, Zach Filler, Evelyn Goff, Megan Hudkins, Larry Jenkins, Melissa Jenkins, Liam Russell, and Heather Sokol). We hope you will be intentional in meeting and getting to know each of them. We are certainly blessed by their presence and participation among us!

### Bus Trip to the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

#### Saturday, July 12

All are welcome to participate in a United Methodist day at Cincinnati's National Underground Railroad Freedom Center on Saturday, July 12. A bus will travel from Medina to Cincinnati, making a stop in Columbus. You are invited to carpool from our parking lot, leaving at 7 am, or meet at the Medina UMC, leaving at 8 am, or directly at the Freedom Center (arrive by 12:30 pm). After our time at the Freedom Center, we will gather for a meal and conversation at New Vision UMC before making the trip back to Medina (and then Kent). To learn more, view the schedule, and register, please visit <https://eastohio-reg.brtapp.com/UndergroundRailroadMuseum>. If you register and intend to join the carpool from Kent to Medina, please RSVP to Pastor Nathan ([nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org](mailto:nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org)) by the end of the day on Monday, July 7.

## Upcoming Book Discussions



### ***Kent State: An American Tragedy***

*by Brian VanDeMark*

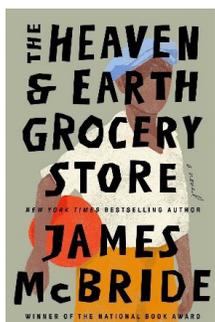
***Tuesday, July 8, at 7 pm in the Conference Room***

More than a half century has passed since Ohio National Guard members opened fire on college students during a war protest here at Kent State University, killing four students and injuring nine others. In this 2024 book, the author provides important context for that tragic event, including a description of our nation's divides over the Vietnam war which echo today's politics and divisions in many ways. "It was a tense, suspicious, and combustible atmosphere that required only a spark to ignite a tragedy," VanDeMark writes. Drawing on new research and interviews—including, for the first time, the perspective of the guardsmen who were on campus that day—VanDeMark provides a thorough reckoning of the tragedy which continues to impact our community and nation.

### ***The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store: A Novel***

*by James McBride*

***Tuesday, August 5, at 7 pm in the Conference Room***

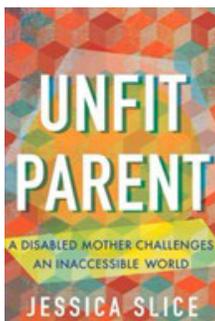


In this novel from 2023, James McBride tells the story of Black and Jewish residents living side by side in the Chicken Hill neighborhood of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, in the 1920s and '30s. As the story unfolds, it becomes clear how much the people of Chicken Hill must struggle to survive and how damaging bigotry, hypocrisy, and deceit can be to a community. When hard truths are unearthed, McBride shows that it is love and community—heaven and earth—that ultimately sustain us.

### ***Unfit Parent: A Disabled Mother Challenges an Inaccessible World***

*by Jessica Slice*

***Tuesday, Sept 2, at 7 pm in the Conference Room***



Jessica Slice became disabled in her late twenties, years before becoming a mother. That experience, she says, prepared her for parenthood. And what she has learned through her experience as a disabled parent are lessons that can guide and support all parents and others who care for children, especially in a time when parents generally report feeling overwhelmed and burned out.

### **Sunday Afternoon Walk**

***Sunday, July 13, 4 pm***  
***Headwaters Trail***  
***(starting from 10480 SR 700,***  
***Garrettsville)***

Enjoy the beauty of God's creation, both outdoors and in each other! Invite a friend or neighbor and join us. All are welcome. We will meet in the parking lot at 10480 SR 700, Garrettsville, at 4 pm, and then walk a portion of the Headwaters Trail. Please join us!

### **Park Meetups!**

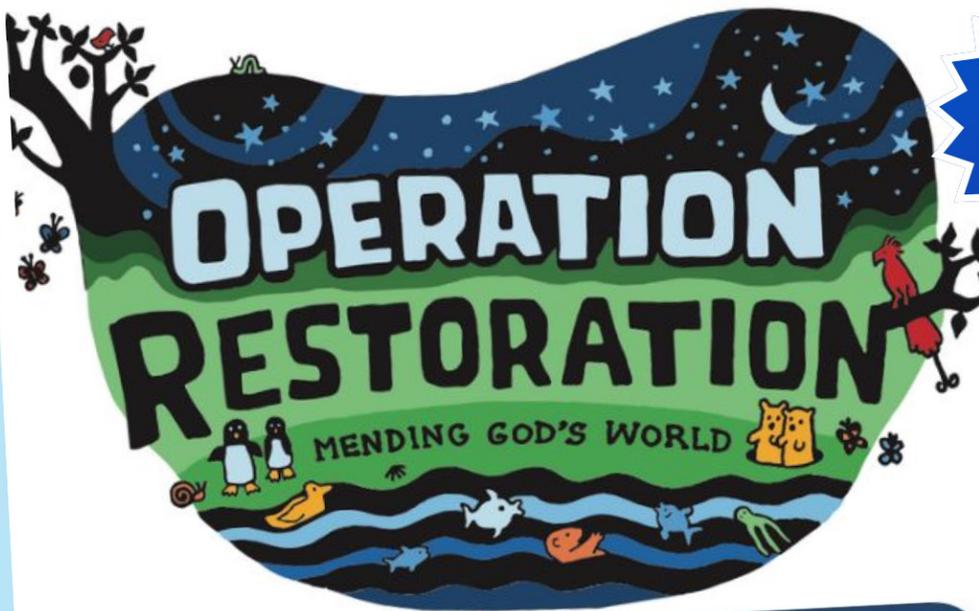
Start your Mondays with a trip to the park! Join us at SKIP Park in Stow this Summer,



Mondays at 10:00am. Starting June 2nd. No RSVP necessary, weather permitting. Watch the Facebook page for cancellations. Email Chelsea Alderson at [chelseaalderson@kentmethodist.org](mailto:chelseaalderson@kentmethodist.org) with questions.

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Free!



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**  
**Kent Community Churches**  
**Vacation Bible School**

July 28-31, 2025  
6:00-8:00pm  
age 4 through middle school



UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH OF KENT

# July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Palmer Gym	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH	<b>4</b> Office Closed	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Summer Schedule	<b>7</b> 10 am Park Meetup/SKIP Park, Stow 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/ Palmer Gym	<b>8</b> 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 6 pm Community Connections/Conf. Room 7 pm Book Discussion/Conference Room 7-9 pm Basketball/Palmer Gym	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 11 am PCRT Luncheon/Pierson Hall 11 am Coterie 2 Summer Lunch/Parlor	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Summer Schedule 4 pm Walk-Garrettsville	<b>14</b> 10 am Park Meetup/SKIP Park, Stow 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/ Palmer Gym	<b>15</b> 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Palmer Gym	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:30 pm Family Movie Night/Palmer Gym
<b>20</b> Combined worship at Kent UCC	<b>21</b> 10 am Park Meetup/SKIP Park, Stow 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/ Palmer Gym	<b>22</b> 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7 pm Gifts, Memorials, and Investments/Conf. Room 7-9 pm Basketball/Palmer Gym	<b>23</b> 7 pm Finance Committee/Conference Room	<b>24</b> 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 2 pm Mosaic Assembly/Conference Room 7 pm 1945 Film Screening/Palmer Gym 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir/Sanctuary	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9 am-3 pm Red Cross Blood Drive/Palmer Gym
<b>27</b> Summer Schedule	<b>28</b> 10 am Park Meetup/SKIP Park, Stow 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/ Palmer Gym	<b>29</b> 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Palmer Gym	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans	<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	

## Vacation Bible School 6-8 PM

**USHERS AND GREETERS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>8:30/10:30</b>
JULY 6	3
JULY 13	4
JULY 20	5
JULY 27	6

If you are unsure of what team you are on, please call the office at 330-673-5879 x114 or email Cara at caradesko@kentmethodist.org.



**Our sympathies to:**

- Bill Childers on the death of his cousin, Matt Maloney

**Recent Hospitalizations, Surgeries, and Illnesses:**

Ilikai Beer, Greg Collier, Terry Horton, Nancy Lewis, Tom Lundberg, Bob Machovec, Terry Miller, Jan Taylor, Carolyn Tener,, Janelle Wargo

**Fellowship Hour— Help Needed**

If you would like to host fellowship hour, you can sign up at [www.kentmethodist.org/volunteer-opportunities/](http://www.kentmethodist.org/volunteer-opportunities/) or contact the office by phone at 330-673-5879 to schedule a Sunday. No baking is required! All refreshments are provided by the church.

**JULY FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS**

JULY 6	Ginny Smith and John Lewis
JULY 13	Cathy and Kim Stemen
JULY 20	worship at Kent UCC
JULY 27	Emmaus Group

**10:30 CAMERA SCHEDULE**

JULY 6	Eric Wertz
JULY 13	Tom Lundberg
JULY 20	at Kent UCC
JULY 27	Eric Wertz

**JULY LAY READERS**

JULY 6	Krista Clavecilla
JULY 13	Dottie Emerick
JULY 20	at Kent UCC
JULY 27	Pat Baldwin

**JULY ACOLYTES**

JULY 6	Rose Filler
JULY 13	Zach Filler
JULY 20	at Kent UCC
JULY 27	Liam Russell
AUGUST 3	Evelyn Goff

**Eagle Scouts**

Congratulations to Troop 252 and the newest scouts to attain the rank of Eagle Scout: Aiden Ziots and Kenyon Bruzda!

**Thank You Notes**

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the lovely flowers, kind thoughts, and prayers. This has been a most unexpected chapter in my life. With God's grace and your prayers, I am on the mend and hope to be with you soon again.

Sincerely,  
Carolyn Tener

Church Family,

I truly appreciate all your well wishes, cards, and the choir singing Happy Birthday to me for my milestone birthday. Thank you for the beautiful altar flowers and for thinking of me on my special day.

Shirley Beaumont

Dear Rev. Nathan Howe, Marlene and Ed Gomez, and the members of the United Methodist Church of Kent,

Thank you for your recent donation to our Doggie Bag program through the Madonio Animal Trust. It was so generous! 100% of your donation goes to help the animals in Portage County. Our whole family appreciates your support and thanks your for your kindness.

Sincerely,  
Erin, Nancy, Andrew, Chas



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**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 June 26

Registration for *Operation: Restoration* VBS is open now!  
July 28–31

### Worship Calendar

Date	Week	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
July 6	4th Sunday after Pentecost	II Kings 5:1–14; Psalm 30; Galatians 6:1–16; Luke 10:1–11, 16–20	Rev. Nathan Howe	Communion, Report from East Ohio Annual Conference
July 13	5th Sunday after Pentecost	Amos 7:7–17; Psalm 82; Colossians 1:1–14; Luke 10:25–37	Rev. Nathan Howe	
July 20	6th Sunday after Pentecost	Amos 8:1–12; Psalm 52; Colossians 1:15–28; Luke 10:38–42	Rev. Amy Gopp	Joint worship at Kent UCC
July 29	7th Sunday after Pentecost	Hosea 1:2–10; Psalm 85; Colossians 2:6–19; Luke 11:1–13	Rev. Nathan Howe	Joint worship at UMC of Kent



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