



The Methodist Mosaic



Volume 56 Number 2

United Methodist Church of Kent - A Place to Grow

February 2014

Dear Friends,

Recently in our church office we have been completing our 2013 “annual report” – a comprehensive report about the past year which we make to the East Ohio Conference. While the annual report consists of a lot of statistics, some of those statistics tell an inspiring story! Highlights include:

Our church gave more than \$162,000 for missions. This is the sixth year in a row that we have given more than \$150,000 to mission work, and the first year we topped \$160,000. Our support went to a broad range of projects on the local, state, national, and world levels. We again exceeded our “apportionments” –giving targets that come to us from our annual conference – by paying 101% of our total apportionments. Our church members also engaged in many forms of hands-on mission work. Church membership and attendance continue to gradually climb. Total membership now stands at 1123 – up 10 from last year. Average worship attendance in 2013 – which included our three Sunday services plus our Wednesday night youth worship service -- was 427. Since 1995 – during a time when membership and attendance have declined in most Ohio churches – our membership has increased by more than 10%, and our average worship attendance has increased by more than 30%.

We now have 68 “small groups” in our church – including groups for spiritual growth (Disciple, youth groups, Sunday School classes, etc.), groups for service (Tuesday work group, Quilt ministry, intercessory prayer group, numerous committees and service teams), musical groups (our many choirs), mission groups (gleaning ministry, mission work teams, etc.), and groups that combine spiritual growth, fellowship, and mission (UMW circles). More than 600 people in our church are involved in some sort of small group. There is opportunity for everyone!

Our “Turn Up the Heat” campaign concluded, having reached a good part of the goal of raising funds for church boilers and paying off the building debt. We launched a two-year “Bicentennial Campaign,” with the goal that by the end of our bicentennial year – 2015 – we will have: 1) replaced the church boilers, 2) paid off the debt on our recent building expansion, and 3) renovated the church rest rooms. As of the beginning of 2014, our financial position in this campaign is as follows:

We have \$80,870 in cash on hand toward the \$100,000 boiler system. Our Trustees are getting bids and expect to have the new system installed in the late spring. The current boilers really struggled during the deep freeze (my office temperature was 57 degrees – thick sweater time!), but they are hanging in there. Thanks to Walt Strawman for teasing a final year out of them!

We owe \$95,000 on the building debt, down from the original \$1.4 million

We are beginning plans for rest room renovations, expected to cost about \$15,000 per rest room. We are starting with the disastrous rest rooms in the campus ministry wing. Toward the Bicentennial Campaign, we currently have \$170,300 pledged, toward the two-year goal of \$250,000.

Overall, our church has a very positive and vibrant spirit, as together we engage in worship, spiritual growth, stewardship, and mission. I look forward to sharing with you as we continue to grow in faith together!

In His Service,
Dr. David Palmer

Kent UMW Circles Schedule February Meetings

"*A Call for a Time Such as This*" is the 2014 theme of the Kent United Methodist Women's Circles. The February meetings are as follows:

The Miriam Circle meeting is 9 AM on February 5th in Pierson Hall. A program on "*Making Valentine Cards*" will be presented by Sandra Andrews. Devotions and a mission moment will be led by Carol Taylor. Co-hostesses are Barbara Farrell and Christine Pryor.

Mary Reed Circle holds its meeting at 1 PM on Wednesday, February 5th in the Church Parlor. Rev. Douglas Denton, Minister of Pastoral Care, will present a program on "*Visitation Do's and Don'ts*". Devotions and the mission moment will be presented by Jane Hornyak who will also serve as hostess assisted by Phyllis Neel and Judy Hayden.

Rebecca Circle meets at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, February 5th in Pierson Hall with Sherry Vanderneut serving as hostess and Carole Stokes and Janice Anderson co-hosting. Judy Smith will lead devotions and Judith Nedel will share a mission moment. The program entitled "*Finding Faith in China*" is being presented by Beth Jordan.

Janus Circle meets at 9:15 AM on February 9th in Pierson Hall. The program topic is "*Prioritize*" and the hostess is Nancy Lewis.

SCOUT SUNDAY AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST – FEB. 2

Scout Sunday, an annual Sunday when we celebrate Scouting, will be recognized in our church on Feb. 2. Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will attend in uniform, there will be a special recognition of our Scouts during the announcement time, and Boy Scouts from our Troop 252 will have leadership roles in the service. Our Scouts will have a **Pancake brunch** in Pierson Hall starting at 9:00 a.m. and continuing until 1:00 p.m., so that people from all three worship services can come. There is a freewill offering at each table; proceeds support our Scout program.

UMW Reading Program

Attention United Methodist Women: I am happy to announce that we will be adding five new books to the Church Library for 2014 soon. Members of Miriam Circle will get the first look at "The Dressmaker of Khair Khana" by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon (Education for Mission.) They will be discussing the book at their March meeting.

The other books for 2014 are "Grace and Grit" by Lilly Ledbetter (Leadership Development,) "Small Things with Great Love" By Margot Starbuck (Nurturing for Community,) "A Place at the Table" by Chris Seay (Social Action,) and "Strong Was Her Faith" by J. Ellsworth Kalas (Spiritual Growth.) Books for the last four years also apply for credit for the UMW Reading Program.

I encourage those of you who like to read to take part in the Reading Program as an opportunity to enrich your life and deepen your faith. There are often new adventures between the pages of books. Other Circles can choose to share the reading of a book for discussion or small groups of two or three can share a book and discuss how it might have touched your life or brought you new understanding. You can also share with other women around the country online by logging on at www.umwonline.org/groups/readingprogram/.

If you have any questions about the UMW Reading Program please give me a call at 330-678-5858.

Happy reading,
Judith Nedel, Program Resources Secretary

Gleaning Ministry

Our gleaning team last year distributed 14,674 pounds of potatoes and 4866 pounds of sweet corn to food cupboards and hot meal programs throughout Portage County. Deliveries were made to Kent Social Services, Center of Hope, Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, King Kennedy Center, and Skeels-Matthews Center. Gleaning was done primarily at the Pochedly farm in Mantua.

If you would like to be a part of our gleaning ministry, you can contact Dave and Sherry Vanderneut at sdvneut@aol.com.

*EAST OHIO CONFERENCE UMVIM COMMITTEE
UMVIM LEADER TRAINING*



TEAM LEADER TRAINING

April 26-27, 2014
Blue Rose Mission
Mansfield, OH

Enjoy a weekend of fellowship and conversation while you learn about leading a mission team locally, across the US, and abroad.

Cost is \$35.00 (includes lodging, meals, team leader manual, and background check)

Deadline for registration is April 1.

Arrive by noon for lunch and a tour of the Blue Rose community.

Teams will work on small projects that need special attention and return to the Mission for dinner, training, and conversation.

Sunday will include worship, lunch, more training and discussion.

Closing prayer at 3:00 pm. Bring comfortable work clothes.

For more questions and scholarship information please contact:
Jenni Dodge 800-831-3972 ext 133 or dodgej@eocumc.com

Registration for East Ohio Conference UMVIM Leader Training

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CHURCH _____ EMAIL _____

REGISTERING FOR

Sat/Sun April 26-27 Blue Rose Mission

SEND THIS FORM AND \$35.00 REGISTRATION FEE MADE PAYABLE TO:

**East Ohio Conference FUND 9633
ATTN: Jenni Dodge
PO Box 76019
Cleveland, OH 44101**

Youth Ministry News- February 2014

For the second year in a row our youth began the year by being in service for others. On January 3rd and 4th members of our youth group traveled to the Saline FUMC in Saline Michigan and completed World Visions "30 Hour Famine" in support of the fight against hunger world-wide. At the time of this writing we don't have a grand total for this event, but look for totals raised in the March issue of the newsletter. Additionally, on January 24th our confirmation class visited the Temple Israel in Akron and participated in their Interfaith Youth Service.

As busy as January was, February is always a busy month in the lives of our youth. Rehearsals have begun for this year's Youth Sunday, to be held on March 9. This year's theme being "Salvation and forgiveness by faith" was taken from 2 Corinthians 5:17. Our team of 36 is set for our mission trip to Mountain T.O.P. and plans are underway to raise the necessary funds. Our annual brick sale will be Sunday, February 23rd and planning for this year's Time and Talent auction is underway. Additionally, we are planning to have a "Presidents Day" party at the Sky Max on Monday, February 17th. I hope everyone will plan to take part in one or all of these exciting events.

Shalom,
Rick <><

DID YOU KNOW?

Youth group meets Wednesdays, between 7 and 8:30 in **THE PIT**.

No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver and purple.

Our 2013 Mountain TOP mission team will be holding its annual "Brick Sale" to raise support for this year's trip on Sunday evening February 23rd

Mission Trip News

Buy a Brick in Support of our Mission Trip



For our 15th summer the youth will be again traveling to Mountain T.O.P. located in Alton, Tennessee to be in ministry with the people of the Cumberland Mountain Plateau. Grundy County where we will be working is the poorest county per capita in the entire United States, and our youth group will be traveling there to do minor home repair and make a difference in the lives of the people living "on the mountain." Our Annual telethon brick sale will be Sunday Night, February 23. When the youth call please prayerfully consider supporting their efforts to share the love of Jesus to those who so desperately need it.

FEBRUARY YOUTH CALENDAR

- | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | confirmation 9:30-3 Haven of Rest |
| 5 | 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship |
| 12 | 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship |
| 17 | Sky Max (Presidents Day) |
| 19 | 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship |
| 23 | Brick Sale 4-6 |
| 26 | 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship |

EXCITING VBS NEWS:



During the past few months our churches Christian Education department has been in discussions with the United Methodist Publishing House regarding possibly becoming a test church for future VBS programs. Today I am excited to announce that our church has been selected to be a part of this exciting opportunity. What this means is during this summer our church will test and evaluate the curriculum to be used nation-wide during the summer of 2015 and it means we need plenty of flexible helpers to ensure our VBS week is just as fantastic as it has always been. If you'd like to be involved in this amazing opportunity please contact Rick Stout at the church and we will be sure you're included in this amazing adventure!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

The Education Committee is in the process of evaluating our current Sunday School program and would like to ask that all members of our church complete a survey regarding the preceptions you currently have regarding our Sunday School. If you could please fill out this short survey and return it to Rick Stout, Director of Christian Education we would greatly appreciate hearing from you.

ADULT RETREAT 2014

All adults in the church family are invited to participate in the Adult Retreat. It will occur on March 14 – 16 at the Berlin Grande Hotel in Berlin, Ohio – the heart of Amish Country. We meet for dinner Friday night and wrap up with breakfast and a worship service led by Dr. Palmer on Sunday morning. We will have a special Saturday evening dinner at “The Farm at Walnut Creek” in Sugarcreek, Ohio. The activities of the weekend are yet to be planned but we always have a good time including some free time to enjoy the area. The total cost will be about \$250.00 (double occupancy and singles are welcome) plus meals on your own Friday night and Saturday noon. The hotel gives us a fine conference room for our meetings and has a great Breakfast Buffet. To participate make out a deposit check for \$20.00 to the church marked “Adult Retreat Deposit” and give it to Roger Stiller or put it in the offering plate. For more info call Roger at 330-297-8933.



WILL MY CHILD HAVE FAITH?

Young people in our society are pulled by many influences. Will they grow to be people of faith, with sound moral character and meaningful purpose in life? Their chance of doing so is enormously enhanced when they gain a spiritual foundation in church! Our Sunday School provides a dynamic program of Christian education for children of all ages. Make sure your child is a part!

Ushers

February 2 - Team 6

February 9 - Team 1

February 16 - Team 2

February 23 - Team 3

If you are unsure of what Team you are on please check the website at www.kentmethodist.org
> Calendar > Service Team Schedule

VIDEOTAPING SCHEDULE

February 2 - Eric Wertz

February 9 - Jack Miller

February 16 - Gary Mote

February 23 - Eric Wertz



February 2 Sharon Coia

February 9 Don Ashton

February 16 Betty Sweet

February 23 April Hinkle

Lay Readers

February 2 - Wanema Flasher

February 9 - Arla Dee McPherson

February 16 - Stan Wearden

February 23 - Sally Hershiser

Hospitalized and Surgeries:

Sam Lewis, Margie Miller, Jessie Kovacs, Peggy Kurtz, Regina Coia, Bryan Coia, Jan Taylor, Dee Dee Childers, Alice Darr, Melanie Tichy



Remember These Members in Their Sorrow **Our Sympathies Go To:**

Family and Friends of Ruth Zeller.

Family and Friends of Robert McGowen.

Family and Friends of Marjorie Tronge.
Betty Rhodes on the death of her brother.

Birth Announcement

Daniel Louis Goff
Born January 21, 2014
Parent Michael and Christine Goff



February Acolyte Schedule

February 2 Brooke Harvey
Garrett DeVries

February 9 Dylan Kamanski
Brannon Jacoby

February 16 Christopher Gavriloff
Andrew Collier

February 23 Molly Fankhauser
Josh Palmer

Thank You Notes

A note of sincere thanks to all those who faithfully prayed for me during my recent hospital stay. Special thanks to Rev. Denton for his visits and phone calls, those who sent cards and to Janus Circle for the lovely poinsettia plant. Your caring and concern meant so much.

Janet Crnkovich

Thank you for helping me celebrate my 90th birthday(1-24-24), on December 29th, in Pierson Hall, at the Coffee Hour, after Church.

Special arrangements were made by our Daughters Susan and Karyn, assisted by Gail and Morgan Closs, and Sue Abbott. Janus Circle delivered the Sanctuary flowers.

It was a memorable day!

Ruthe Loughridge

Dear Friends:

Your generous gift in support of Haven of Rest Ministries is greatly appreciated. The winter months are so difficult for the those we serve. Each gift we receive is used to help bring vital services to homeless and downhearted individuals. Already this winter, we have had many nights with more men than beds in our 100-bed men's dormitory. The overflow sleep on mats. It has not been uncommon for the Mission to sleep more than 220 men, women, and children throughout the Mission's three-building campus. It is still early winter. With the bitter cold, we expect these numbers to stay steady or grow.

Because of your support and the support of other friends of the Haven or Rest, we are able to provide vital services to the destitute and needy in our community. Through your partnership with us, you are helping to meet their physical and spiritual needs.

Sincerely,

Rev. Jeff A. Kaiser
Executive Director

Dear Friend,

Thank you so much for your generosity this holiday season. Your gift has helped to make Thanksgiving and Christmas more joyful for hundreds of

our neighbors in need.

With your support, staff and volunteers at the Center of Hope were able to distribute nearly 1000 holiday food baskets, as well as provide toys for nearly 1000 children. Sharing the food, meals, and gifts that our donors provide make the holidays special for all of us.

May your New Year be filled with hope, peace, and bountiful blessings.

Sincerely,

Anne Marie Mann-Noble

Director, Emergency Outreach Services
Family & Community Services, Inc.

Dear Friends at UMC of Kent,

Thank you for your recent donation through the East Ohio Conference Remittance. Because of your donation, our children and adults in the Care Center and Community Services programs here at Flat Rock, will again know the kindness of people like you.

So often our people have been thought or treated as less than or not good enough. With your donation you have shown them that they are true children of Christ, deserving of all good things that His kingdom has to offer. The gift(s) that you have provided to us will provide smiles and happiness to more than 100 children and adults served by Flat Rock Homes and our ministry.

I pray that you and the members of your church have a blessed New Year!

Yours in Christ,

Amanda Nicol

Director of Development



Christian Education Parent Survey

Sunday School Program

Please answer the following questions to help us evaluate and strength the education program at our church.

My child(ren) currently attend the Sunday School? Yes No

If so, what is his or her current grade level(s). _____

I no longer have children in the Sunday School program.

1. Please list two strengths of the current Sunday School program at our church.

2. Please list two areas in our Sunday School that could be improved.

3. On a scale from 1 – 10, please rate our current Sunday School program.

Very Poor

Exceptional

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Any comments or suggestions _____

February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10am- 1pm Farmers Market in Pierson Hall
2 Communion Regular Sunday Schedule Scout Pancake Breakfast/ PH	3 7:30 New Spirit/Choir Room	4 8:30 am Men's Work Group 12/Noon Rotary/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	5 6pm Yoga/Parlor 7-8:30pm Youth Group/ Pit 8:30-1030pm Praise Band Rehearsal	6 7am Men's Discussion Group/Diggers Rest 12pm Lion Lunch/PH 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	7	8 10am- 1pm Farmers Market in Pierson Hall
9 Regular Sunday Schedule 11:30am Chili Cook-off/ PH	10 7:30 New Spirit/Choir Room	11 8:30 am Men's Work Group 12/Noon Rotary/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	12 6pm Yoga/Parlor 7-8:30pm Youth Group/ Pit 8:30-1030pm Praise Band Rehearsal	13 7am Men's Discussion Group/Diggers Rest 12pm Lion Lunch/PH 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	14	15 10am- 1pm Farmers Market in Pierson Hall
16 Regular Sunday Schedule	17 President's Day Office Closed 7:30 New Spirit/Choir Room	18 8:30 am Men's Work Group 12/Noon Rotary/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	19 6pm Yoga/Parlor 7-8:30pm Youth Group/ Pit 8:30-1030pm Praise Band Rehearsal	20 7am Men's Discussion Group/Diggers Rest 12pm Lion Lunch/PH 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	21	22 10am- 1pm Farmers Market in Pierson Hall
23 Regular Sunday Schedule	24 7:30 New Spirit/Choir Room 6:00pm Garden Club/ in Pierson Hall 6:30pm Trustee Meeting/ Conference Room	25 8:30 am Men's Work Group 12/Noon Rotary/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	26 6pm Yoga/Parlor 7-8:30pm Youth Group/ Pit 8:30-1030pm Praise Band Rehearsal	27 7am Men's Discussion Group/Diggers Rest 12pm Lion Lunch/PH 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	28	



The United Methodist
Church of Kent
P. O. Box 646
Kent, OH. 44240

Church Office:
330-673-5879
Web Site: <http://www.kentmethodist.org>

David Palmer,
Senior Pastor

Douglas Denton,
Minister of Pastoral Care

Rick Stout,
Director of
Christian Education
And
Youth Ministries

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“Real Conversations with God” Sermon Series Continues

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES — 10TH OF EACH MONTH

WORSHIP CALENDAR

SUNDAY	SERMON	SCRIPTURE	PREACHER	SPECIAL EVENT
February 2	“Listening to God”	I Samuel 3: 1-12	Dr. David Palmer	Communion/ Scout Sunday
February 9	“Getting a Conversation Going with God	Luke 5: 15-16	Dr. David Palmer	Children’s Choir/ Covenant Players
February 16	“How Does God Speak?”	I Kings 19: 1-9a	Dr. David Palmer	
February 23	“Keeping the Conversation Going”	I Thessalonians 5: 16-18	Dr. David Palmer	ZAMARingers



Visit our Church Web Site: <http://www.kentmethodist.org>

Visit us
on the Web