



THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 66 Number 5

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

May, 2024



LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

East Ohio Annual Conference Mission Collection

Throughout the month of May, you are invited to donate items for “Home Care Kits” to be given to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center during this June’s session of the annual conference. Together, with United Methodists throughout our East Ohio Conference, we will provide these life-changing items to be given to people who need them, both globally and locally. You can donate entire kits or individual items. During Fellowship Hour on Sunday, June 2 (after the 10:30 am worship service in Pierson Hall), we will assemble kits to prepare them for delivery. Please give specifically the items and sizes requested:

Home Care Kits

- liquid household cleaner—56-80 oz. total (no spray bottles)
- dish soap—42-64 oz.
- liquid laundry detergent—100-150 oz. total
- 1 scrub brush—with or without handle
- 1 five-gallon round bucket with resealable lid

View a video that shows these items and kits at www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xi9fXfCiXHk

MIDWEST
disaster relief • education



MISSION
health • micro business

SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT
around the world and around the corner

Youth Ministry News

May 2024

MAY ACOLYTES	
MAY 5	Joseph Lepp
MAY 12	Audrey Hinkle
MAY 19	Alex Alderson
MAY 26	Savannah Stephan

One of the highlights of the youth calendar is our church is “Youth Sunday.” It’s the one Sunday when the youth of our church lead us in the major portions of worship. I’d like to say thank you to all the youth who helped out whether you gave the announcements, read scripture, delivered the message, acted in the skits Sang a solo, or were a part of ZAMARingers your efforts are greatly appreciated, and Youth Sunday could not have happened without you. Everyone’s hard work and dedication to delivering a spirit-filled worship service was very evident on this day.

Our congregation will be recognizing graduates during the worship on Sunday, May 19 at 10:00AM. (Please note this special time as there will be only one service on that Sunday.) We will also be presenting gifts to the seniors as an expression of our congratulations and best wishes for their future. In preparation for this event, we ask that all graduates submit a senior portrait and a statement indicating their plans for next fall so that we can include this information as a part of our worship on that day. Please forward a digital copy of your portrait to rickstout@kentmethodist.org by Monday, May 13. Our church’s seniors include:

- Andrew Curtin
- Beau Harper
- Ben Ina
- Jeremiah Lepp
- Tyler Morris
- Dylan Schmidt

I am sure I speak for our entire church when I extend congratulations to you upon your upcoming graduation from high school. I pray that God will continue to bless and guide you as you take new directions in life.

Finally, on June 2 our Mountain TOP mission team will completed its training session in preparation for our trip on June 22. We are very excited to be sending 14 to the mountain to serve the people of the Cumberland Plateau. I look forward to sharing our experiences upon our return. Please pray for our group as they prepare for another exciting yet challenging trip.

Shalom,
Rick<><

MAY YOUTH CALENDAR	
SATURDAY 4	Confirmation
SUNDAY 5	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 12	Mother’s Day No Youth Activities
MONDAY 13	Senior Pictures Due
SUNDAY 19	Senior Sunday Confirmation Sunday

Mission Trip News

The members of our Youth Mission Team would like to say thank you to all those who supported our mission trip to Mountain T.O.P. through the purchase of a symbolic brick. Thanks to you we are well on our way to meeting our goal. If you have not had an opportunity to donate but would still like to please feel free to drop a check in the collection basket and marking the envelope "Brick Sale." Be sure to look for pictures from our trip in the September issue of the Mosaic.

Summer Camp

Our United Methodist Church has a broad range of summer camp opportunities available for young people in Kindergarten (currently) through high school. You can find full information at <https://www.eocumc.com/camps/>. You can also get financial help through our church! Our church offers a "campership" that will pay one half of the tier one pricing for one week of camp for any church member. Please be in touch with Lynnette at lynnette@kentmethodist.org for details about obtaining a campership. Additionally, there are District camperships available for persons who need extra financial assistance. Camp is a wonderful way for young people to grow in faith, in God's great out-of-doors!

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!



Group picture is by Karen Bennett, from our April 14 walk at Shaw Woods.

Sunday Afternoon Walk

May 5 at 4 pm, Dix Park

We are blessed locally with multiple park systems that provide abundant opportunities to enjoy and appreciate God's creation, both outside and in each other. All are welcome to join us for our next Sunday afternoon walk on May 5. We will meet in the parking lot at Dix Park (7318 State Route 44, Ravenna) at 4 pm and then walk the trails together. Invite a friend or neighbor, and if you plan to be with us, please RSVP to Pastor Nathan (nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org) by the end of the day on Thursday, May 2.

Serving Our Neighbors at the Lord's Lunch

Saturday, May 18
Trinity Lutheran Church

On Saturday, May 18, all are welcome to join us in serving a meal at the Lord's Lunch, in the Fellowship Hall of Trinity Lutheran Church here in Kent. More details will be provided as we get closer to the day. If you are interested in participating, please contact Pastor Nathan (nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org).

Save the Dates: Trash and Treasure Sale

August 22-24

The dates have been set for this year's Trash and Treasure Sale. With a big "thank you" to Carol Pozuc and the excellent team of committed volunteers, please mark your calendars with the following dates:

- Donations of items will be received beginning the evening of August 13 through August 20.
- The sale will run from the evening of August 22 through August 24.

A Message from the Finance Director

I would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all our church family for their patience and understanding during our recent software transition. We understand that transitions can sometimes be challenging, and we appreciate your willingness to adapt and navigate through any temporary frustrations. Your patience has been instrumental in allowing us to smoothly implement the new software membership system, which will ultimately enhance our efficiency and improve our services for everyone involved. Did you know that with your new account in Servant Keeper, you can log in and see your contributions? As we work through updating our information, we appreciate your assistance in assuring we have the current information. Your support during this transition period has been invaluable, and we are truly grateful for your continued cooperation. Thank you for your patience, understanding, and ongoing commitment to our church.

Lynnette Begue-Lavery, Finance Director

Upcoming Book Discussions

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.

God's Word on Human Sexuality: It's Not What Many Think!
by David A. Palmer

Tuesday, June 11 at 7 pm in the Conference Room

Various Christian traditions hold different attitudes regarding the inclusion of LGBTQ+ persons. Biblical verses are often quoted, but these are often "slogonized" and stripped of their context. In this book, Dr. Palmer reintroduces the historical and linguistic context of these verses so that readers can come to informed conclusions about what God is truly saying and how Christians can authentically live out the spirit of God's Word.

Day of Pentecost Sunday, May 19

The Day of Pentecost is the fiftieth and final day of the Easter season and the third of the three great festivals that give shape to the Christian year (alongside Christmas and Easter). On the Day of Pentecost, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to the church as told through the story in Acts 2.

This year, on Pentecost, we also will receive our Confirmation students into membership in our congregation and celebrate graduating high school seniors. So we can all participate in this great day of celebration together, we will have **only one worship service, at 10 am in the Sanctuary**. Music will be provided by our organist, multiple choirs, and the worship band. **In celebration of the fiery gift of the Holy Spirit, all are encouraged to wear red or some other “fire-inspired” color (e.g. yellow or orange) as we worship together.**



Ascension of the Lord Sunday Sunday, May 12

The fortieth day of Easter is remembered and celebrated as the Ascension of the Lord, recalling the story of Jesus’ ascension as told in Luke 24 and Acts 1. Because this day always falls on a Thursday, we celebrate the event in worship the following Sunday, this year on May 12. Please join us in worship at 8:30 am, 9:30 am, or 10:30 am as we celebrate Christ’s ongoing presence and commission in our lives.

EarthKeepers Application Opens on June 1

United Methodist Global Ministries’ EarthKeepers is a training program that equips US-based United Methodists to launch and grow environmental projects in their local communities. Topics include eco-theology, antiracism, community organizing, and project planning. During the training, all participants plan and begin implementing a project. Applications for the October 3-6 training open on June 1. Learn more about EarthKeepers training at <https://creationcare.umcmmission.org/events/138565>.

Order Your Geraniums

You are invited to donate geraniums to beautify the church sanctuary for Memorial Day Sunday, May 26. We will be particularly honoring loved ones who have served or are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces. Those names will be displayed on the screen on that Sunday and posted on the website. These flowers will then be planted here at the church to beautify our grounds for summer. Please complete the information below (**please print** to avoid any errors), and return it to the church office. All checks must be made payable to the United Methodist Church of Kent and marked “Geraniums” in the memo line. Please return money with the form by **Wednesday, May 22**.



I/WE WISH TO PURCHASE _____ PLANT(S) AT \$10.00 EACH

IN MEMORY OF: _____

OR
IN HONOR OF: _____

BRANCH OF SERVICE IF VETERAN: _____

GIVEN BY: _____

New Member Class: A Disciple's Path

Mondays, June 3, 10, 17; July 1

Conference Room

A Disciple's Path is a four-week study based on a Wesleyan (or "Methodist") practice of discipleship that explores what it means to grow in our relationship with God through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. This study is perfect for those who are new to our congregation, who are interested in learning about membership in The United Methodist Church, or who want to deepen their relationship with Christ and the church. At the conclusion of these four weeks, those who are interested in becoming professing members of the UMC of Kent will be invited to do so.

For more information or to express your interest in participating, please contact Pastor Nathan (nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org).

SPECIAL SUNDAY

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

“When the forces of extremism become so overwhelming that they depress the hope of the people, the prophetic voice and mission is to connect words and actions in ways that build restorative hope, so a Movement for restorative justice can arise.”

—WILLIAM J. BARBER II

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church

Peace with Justice Sunday

Sunday, May 26

Our scriptures consistently prioritize working toward peace with justice as a core practice of our faith. God calls us to challenge unjust leaders and to serve as advocates for justice and peace for all creation. The “Peace with Justice Sunday” special offering is an opportunity to put our faith into action by investing in servant leadership, community building, and ministries of shalom. Half of our gifts stay with local ministries in the East Ohio Conference, and the other half support the work of the church globally.

There is power in our collective action and shared commitment to peace with justice. Our offerings, however big or small, can transform lives and build a more just and compassionate world. Please prayerfully consider your participation in this special offering on May 26, and please prayerfully consider also opportunities to advocate passionately and work tirelessly toward the peaceable kingdom God dreams for all creation.

Organ Day, May 19

Have you ever wondered what all it takes to play the grand organ in our Sanctuary, or what happens behind the scenes to create such wonderful music? You are invited to Organ Day, on Sunday, May 19 at 3:00pm in the Sanctuary! Organ Day is a celebration that will immerse you in the majestic world of the pipe organ. This event offers a rare opportunity for enthusiasts and newcomers alike to experience the inner workings and resounding beauty of this magnificent instrument.

Throughout the program, you are invited to engage with the organ in a variety of ways. Guided tours will provide an up-close look at the intricate mechanism behind the instrument's powerful sound, from the sprawling array of pipes to the rhythmic hum of the blower. Experienced organists share insights into the artistry of playing this complex instrument, demonstrating techniques and answering questions along the way. For those eager to try their hand at the keys, the console invites you, offering a chance to unleash your creativity and feel the swell of music beneath your fingertips.

In addition to the hands-on experiences, Organ Day offers a range of interactive activities and entertainment. You can test your knowledge with games and puzzles inspired by the history and mechanics of the organ, providing both education and amusement. As the program draws to a close, we will gather to share refreshments and conversation, forging connections and memories inspired by our shared enjoyment and appreciation of this timeless instrument. Organ Day is not merely an event; it is a celebration of the rich tradition and enduring allure of the pipe organ, inviting all who attend to join in its symphony of sound and spirit.

We hope to see you on Sunday, May 19, in the Sanctuary for a wonderful afternoon of learning and music!

New Spirit Fundraiser

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!

All the best,

Nik Stackpole

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Regular Schedule 12 pm New Spirit Luncheon 4 pm Walk at Dix Park	6 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Covenant Bible Study/Room 200 7:30 New Spirit Rehearsal/Choir Room	7 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 5 pm Drama Kids/Palmer Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	1 1:30 pm Rebecca Circe/ Pierson Hall	2 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary	3	4 9:30 am Confirmation Class/Conference Room
12 Regular Schedule	13 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Covenant Bible Study/Room 200 7:30 New Spirit Rehearsal/Choir Room	14 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 5 pm Drama Kids/Palmer Gym 7 pm Book Discussion/ Conference Room 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	8 6:30 pm UWIF Board Mtg/ Conference Room	9 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary	10	11
19 Confirmation Sunday/ Pentecost 10 AM Service only	20 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Covenant Bible Study/Room 200 7:30 New Spirit Rehearsal/Choir Room	21 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 5 pm Drama Kids/Palmer Gym 7 pm God and Church/ Rm 207 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	15	16 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary	17	18
26 Regular Schedule	27 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Covenant Bible Study/Room 200 7:30 New Spirit Rehearsal/Choir Room	28 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 5 pm Drama Kids/Palmer Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	22 7 pm Staff-Parish Relations Comm./Conference Room	23 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 7 pm Education Comm/ Conference Room 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary	24 11 am - 5 pm Red Cross Blood Drive/Gym	25
26 Regular Schedule	27 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7 pm Covenant Bible Study/Room 200 7:30 New Spirit Rehearsal/Choir Room	28 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 5 pm Drama Kids/Palmer Gym 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	29	30 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary	31	31

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
May 5	5	5
May 12	6	6
May 19	1	1
May 26	2	2

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 Davina Gosnell
- Jeanna Pisegna on the death of her aunt

Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Karen Drotar, Barb Farrell



10:30 CAMERA SCHEDULE

MAY 5	Eric Wertz
MAY 12	Andrew Alderson
MAY 19	TBA
MAY 26	Eric Wertz

Habitat Workday set for May 4

Our final 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.

MAY LAY READERS

MAY 5	Janeen Phillips
MAY 12	Pat Baldwin
MAY 19	Janet Sessions
MAY 26	Krista Clavecilla

MAY FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS

MAY 5	Janice Anderson
MAY 12	Mary Jacoby
MAY 19	Chris Coiner & Deb Grant
MAY 26	Cathy Stemen, Carolyn Tener, Kim Stemenb

Thank You Notes

United Methodist Church of Kent,

Thanks for the nice flowers delivered to us. Jane Hornyak brought the flowers. We enjoyed a nice visit with Jane. Thank you for the flowers and visit.

Karen and Neil Schafer

Dear friends,

Thanks so very much for the Christmas poinsettias graciously delivered by the Deans. They are so thoughtful and kind.

Mike and Joanne Senyek

To the congregation,

I would like to thank everyone for all their prayers visits cards and especially to Pastor Nathan and Pastor Bob for their mini phone calls. Always checking on me. I'm so blessed to have a wonderful church family.

God bless,
Krista Clavecilla.



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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 May 2

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

Worship Calendar

Date	Week	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
May 5	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17	Rev. Bob Machovec	Communion
May 12	Ascension of the Lord Sunday; Festival of the Christian Home	Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53	Rev. Nathan Howe	Mother's Day
May 19	Day of Pentecost; Confirmation Sunday	Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 26; John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18	Rev. Nathan Howe	Communion; Single 10:00 AM Service
May 26	Trinity Sunday; Peace with Justice Sunday	Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17	Rev. Nathan Howe	Memorial Day Weekend



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