

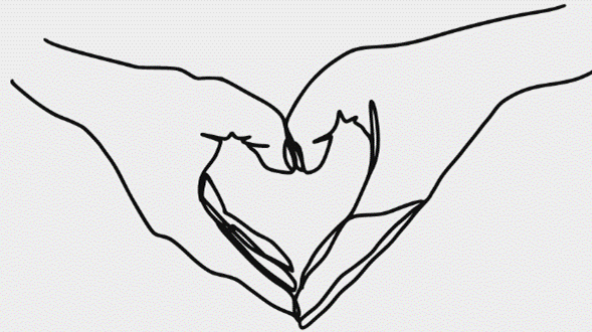


THE METHODIST MOSAIC

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

July, 2024



LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

Miller Community House

Throughout the month of July, you are invited to donate items to support the ongoing work of Miller Community House, which provides emergency shelter and supportive services to individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis. The current shelter includes five large bedrooms and common areas, including a living room, dining room, kitchen, laundry room, playroom, and a patio and playground. Food and basic personal items are provided for those who need them.

The mission of Miller Community House (MCH) is to improve the quality of life for residents by providing a shelter that cultivates mutual respect and dignity, including advocacy, comprehensive case management, connection to public benefits, access to food, hygiene, safe and clean housing, and referrals to area resources and collaborative agencies. MCH is a trauma-informed shelter, which means that they welcome all clients and work diligently to keep them housed at MCH until permanent housing can be accessed. MCH is very proud to serve our neighbors, oftentimes individuals whom no one else will serve, and to watch them thrive in their own communities.

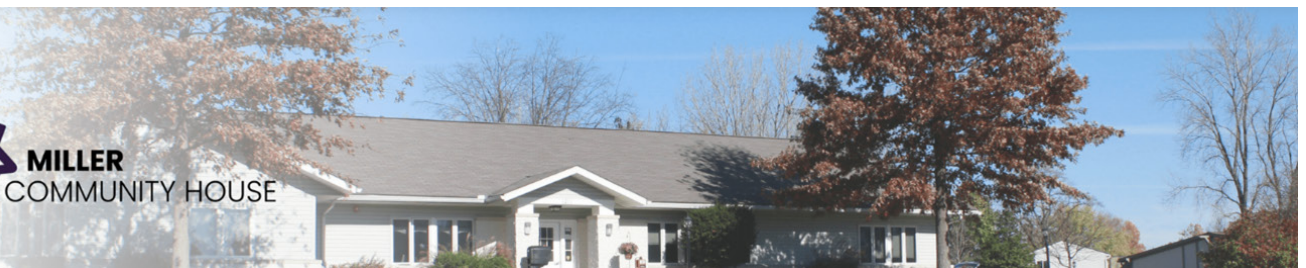
Please support the residents of Miller Community House during the month of July by donating paper products and some cleaning supplies that cannot be purchased with SNAP (“food stamp”) benefits:

- toilet paper
- tissues
- paper towels
- spray bottles of Lysol or Clorox

Donated items can be placed in the collection bin in the atrium. Thank you for your generous support!



MILLER
COMMUNITY HOUSE



Youth Ministry News

July 2024

JULY ACOLYTES	
JULY 7	Alex Alderson
JULY 14	Savannah Stephan
JULY 21	Alvin Fields
JULY 28	Sienna Heeman

As I sit in my office here in late June we are preparing for our churches VBS followed two days later by our youth's 24th trip to the mountain. On occasion I have people ask "What is the Mountain TOP experience?" or maybe "what is Mountain TOP like" The technical answer the answer to that question might sound something like this:

The camp communities depending on the camp size are broken down into several Youth Renewal Groups (YRGs), made up of six or seven youth and adults, who serve families in 13 different Tennessee counties.

Whether the project includes building a porch, painting a room, or repairing a fence, the service is founded in Christian compassion. The summer staff plan and coordinate all projects as well as provide materials. All projects are considered minor home repair or maintenance projects. Adults that participate have a camper role equal to that of the youth.

Each evening, the community gathers for dinner, a time of sharing about their day's experiences, and worship. They spend time examining how their experiences were an outreach of their faith, and how they met the different needs of the families they served. It is a time of worship that allows youth to reflect upon how their service that day helped them to grow in their relationship with Christ. The Mountain T.O.P. experience not only provides the opportunity to be in service to others, but more importantly, it provides the opportunity to understand "why" we are in service.

However; a more personal answer to either one of these questions is not so easily put into words, but I do know that in the 34 trips I've made to the mountain, each one has been the same and each one has been very unique. Words can't describe the feelings one gets from living for a week in the slow pace of the Southern Tennessee mountain life, smiles and waves from the mountain people, pecan pie, sweet tea, biscuits and gravy and pulled pork sandwiches. It is equally uneasy to express the feeling comes from living for a week in Christian community, putting the needs of others first and setting an example and living your life the way that Jesus intended for us to live. Equally hard to express is the closeness you feel to God while on the mountain, daily devotions and yet we still get to work by nine and nightly worship services that never seem to grow old. Family style meals that start with grace and end with prayers for the community and a work day that begins and ends in prayer give you a unique perspective on what it really means to live as a Christian.

"What is the Mountain TOP experience?" It's all these things and so much more. When our team returns, we will be sharing our experience at all three services on June 30th. On that day, I look forward to sharing even more with testimonies from those who went to "change lives" and wound up changed themselves.

Shalom,
Rick<><

Summer Sunday School News

Our Sunday School program will continue over the summer months during the 9:30 hour only. Children ages 4 through sixth grade are welcome to meet in room 204 of the education wing for Bible lessons and crafts. The toddler room and cry room will continue to be available for age appropriate children during both hours.

A great big **THANK YOU**, to all the people who helped with Vacation Bible School this year! From sharing your time and talents to donating supplies, you are all truly a blessing to the many children who come and spend the week with us. Without you our VBS would have never been a success!

Rick Stout, Director of Christian Education
Chelsea Alderson, Director of Children's Ministry

Interns being sought

Starting late summer/early next fall our church will again be supporting a ministry intern. The internship will focus on youth ministry, Christian education 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.



Take Me Out to the Ballgame!

*Akron RubberDucks vs.
Harrisburg Senators*

*Sunday, August 25 at 1:05 pm
at Canal Park*

Invite friends and neighbors and bring the whole family for an afternoon of baseball and fellowship at Canal Park as the Akron RubberDucks take on the Harrisburg Senators. Tickets are \$12 each, payable to "UMCK," and the deadline to reserve your ticket is Monday, August 19 (or whenever we run out of tickets). For more information and to reserve your tickets, contact Pastor Nathan (nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org).

Upcoming Book Discussions

Rough Sleepers: Dr. Jim O'Connell's Urgent Mission to Bring Healing to Homeless People
by Tracy Kidder

**Tuesday, August 6, at 7 pm in the
Conference Room**

When Jim O'Connell graduated from Harvard Medical School and was nearing the end of his residency at Massachusetts General Hospital, the chief of medicine made a proposal: Would he defer a prestigious fellowship and spend a year helping to create an organization to bring health care to homeless citizens? That proposal turned into O'Connell's life's calling. In *Rough Sleepers*, Tracy Kidder travels with O'Connell as he navigates the city, offering medical care, socks, soup, empathy, humor, and friendship to some of the city's most vulnerable citizens—the "rough sleepers" who sleep on the streets. Along the way, he shows how one person can make a difference by creating a community of care.

The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World
by Dalai Lama XIV, Desmond Tutu, and
Douglas Abrams

**Tuesday, September 3, at 7 pm in the
Conference Room**

Nobel Peace Prize Laureates His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu have survived more than fifty years of exile and the soul-crushing violence of oppression. Yet, despite their hardships—or, as they would say, because of them—they have been two of the most joyful people on the planet. In April 2015, Archbishop Tutu traveled to the Dalai Lama's home to celebrate His Holiness' eightieth birthday and to create a gift for others, offering some of their hard-won, practical wisdom about living with joy in the face of life's inevitable suffering.

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.

July 2024 – June 2025 Leadership Roster

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 nurturing followers of Jesus Christ who transform the world through love, justice, and service. As we engage in this ministry together, servant leaders among us are called, equipped, and entrusted with the vital task of managing and deploying God's gifts through our congregation toward our mission.

Here at the UMC of Kent, our leadership structure consists of five administrative committees (church council, board of trustees, finance committee, staff parish relations committee, lay leadership committee), a few sub-committees related to finance, and multiple ministry teams (e.g. education, music, fellowship, mission/outreach). Together, these bodies help to guide and nurture our life in ministry and mission with our broader community.

With deep gratitude for God's calling on each of our lives, please visit www.kentmethodist.org/about-us/our-leadership or call the church office for a copy of our current leadership roster. And please keep these persons in your prayers throughout the year as we fulfill God's mission together.

Updated Contact Directories Available

This month, we plan to publish (hard-copy and as PDF) updated contact directories with a list of active participants in our congregation and their contact information. If you would like to receive a PDF by email, please contact the church office (330-673-5879 or info@kentmethodist.org) to let us know. Thank you!

A Message from the Finance Director:

We are deeply thankful for the unwavering support and generosity of our mission supporters. Your commitment to our missions, both locally and abroad, enables us to extend our reach and make a meaningful impact in communities around the world. Your contributions fund crucial initiatives for community mission programs, food banks, and spiritual outreach. One new mission is Love, Love, Love Ministries. This is a ministry founded by a member of our church. She is looking to develop and eventually scale into its own nonprofit. One way in which new startups do this is by partnering with an organization that is already a 501c3 nonprofit. We have agreed to be the fiscal sponsor for this mission whose mission aligns with that of the church. It is a two-part ministry. The primary ministry is to provide companion services to those in nursing facilities. Particularly those suffering from Alzheimer's. The main mission is to share God's love with residents through companionship. The second part is to provide help to young struggling readers, showing God's love and compassion through individual tutoring sessions twice a week. Each session includes phonological awareness activities and explicit instruction in phoneme-grapheme (sound to the letter/letters that make up that sound) correspondence, decoding, encoding, and reading and focusing strategies and encouragement. Your support through the church not only changes lives but also fosters hope and resilience in the face of adversity. We are truly grateful for your partnership in spreading love, compassion, and healing to those in need. If you would like to donate to support this ministry, simply mark your donation "Love Ministry." If you would like an update on your giving, please let me know. You can call 330-673-5879 ext. 111 or email lynette@kentmethodist.org Thank you for standing with us as we continue to fulfill our mission of making the world a better place for all.

In his service,
Lynnette

ISAIAH 40:31 (NIV)



2024 EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

From June 13 to June 15, 316 clergy and 320 laity gathered in the John S. Knight Center in Akron, Ohio for the 55th session of the East Ohio Annual Conference. Worship services included an opening Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion, morning worship services on Friday and Saturday, and a concluding Service of Commissioning, Ordination, and Retirement. During her episcopal address, Bishop Tracy S. Malone celebrated that:

The United Methodist Church no longer has any statements, policies, or othering practices within its polity that discriminates, regulates, or excludes any person or people groups.... The United Methodist Church has gone back to her Wesleyan roots, to her history, to retrieve what was at risk of being left behind, her ability to proclaim and live love.

Among other shared ministries, the EOC celebrated the ongoing work of the Anti-Racism Task Group, financial support of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and the completion of a women's dormitory at Africa University in Zimbabwe. Along with every annual conference across our United Methodist connection, the EOC apologized to victims and survivors of sexual misconduct for the hurt and harm done to them by the church and pledged our ongoing commitment toward healing.

Resolutions—which are statements of opinion of the annual conference—on a number of topics were presented, discussed, and voted on. Those resolutions that were supported included a renewal of commitment to being peacemakers; an encouragement to learn more about the lived experiences of Palestinian persons through resources provided by Kairos Response (www.kairosresponse.org); an encouragement to support the “Yes in God’s Backyard” Act introduced by Senator Sherrod Brown; and a statement of confession for the harm caused by LGBTQ+-exclusive language and practices, a statement of welcome for those who previously surrendered their credentials due to this language to come back into the East Ohio Conference, and a statement of commitment to continue the work of healing this harm.

The 56th session of the East Ohio Annual Conference will be held from June 12 to June 14, 2025.

For more information about the conference, including videos of this year’s services and meetings, we encourage you to visit <https://eocumcnews.com/2024/06/17/annual-conference-2024-faith-hope-love/> or www.eocumc.com/eoac24.

July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym 7-8 pm New Member Class/Conf. Rm	2 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	3	4 Office Closed for Independence Day	5	6
7 Summer Schedule	8 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym	9 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	10	11 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans	12	13
14 Summer Schedule 11:30 am Staff-Parish Relations Committee/Conference Room	15 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym	16 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	17	18 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH	19	20
21 Summer Schedule	22 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym	23 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7 pm Gifts, Memorials, Investments/Conf. Rm 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	24 7 pm Finance Comm/Conference Room	25 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans	26	27 9 am-3 pm Red Cross Blood Drive/Gym
28 Summer Schedule	29 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/Gym	30 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7-9 pm Basketball/Gym	31			Summer Sunday Schedule 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

USHERS AND GREETERS

Date	8:30/10:30
July 7	2
July 14	3
July 21	4
July 28	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.

10:30 CAMERA SCHEDULE

JULY 7	Eric Wertz
JULY 14	Eric Wertz
JULY 21	Andrew Alderson
JULY 28	Tom Lundberg

JULY LAY READERS

JULY 7	Krista Clavecilla
JULY 14	Janet Sessions
JULY 21	Dottie Emerick
JULY 28	Tom Emerick



Remember These Members in Their Sorrow

- Family and friends of Millie Phillips
- Brenda Lewis and family on the death of her father
- Dan Filler and family on the death of his father
- Megan Howe and family on the death of her aunt, Nadine Dubowski
- Rose Luttner and family on the death of her brother, Jim Jacobs

Our sympathies to:

Recent Hospitalizations and Surgeries:

Gail Closs, Marlene Hardy-Gomez, Sue Maxwell

JULY FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS

JULY 7	Nik Stackpole
JULY 14	Meghan Harper
JULY 21	Please sign up at kentmethodist.org !
JULY 28	Becky Mulloy

Fellowship Hour— Help Needed

If you would like to host fellowship hour, you can sign up at 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.

CareNotes now available to offer helpful advice and support for a hurting world



Care notes offer inspirational booklets on a variety of topics to help individuals heal mind, body and spirit. Included are booklets covering such topics as: grief support, depression and mental health issues, caregiving, and prayer. CareNotes are written for people dealing with intensely emotional situations who are looking for concise, easy-to-read guidance and support. Please stop to see the display in the Atrium and feel free to take one for yourself or to share with someone else. As stated in the CareNotes website: Take one – and take heart. Give one – and give hope.

Thank You Notes

I want to thank Dot and Tom Emerick for delivering the beautiful flowers after service last week. They really brightened my spirits.

Rose Luttner

Dear United Methodist Church of Kent,

Thank you for the profound impact you have made on student success through your contributions to the LGBTQ+ Center's support and emergency funds. Your generosity allows us to enhance programming, provide support opportunities and expand our outreach to assist students throughout their educational journey.

Kent State's LGBTQ+ Center supports an inclusive environment on all campuses and your donations help this become a reality. Our students' futures are brighter because of you!

Sincerely,

Ken Ditlevson

Director, LGBTQ+ Center



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 June 28

The Lord said to me: I will quietly watch from my own place, like the shimmering heat of sunshine, like a cloud's shade in the harvest heat. Isaiah 18:4

Worship Calendar

Date	Week	Scripture	Preacher	Special Event
July 7	7th Sunday after Pentecost	2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13	Rev. Nathan Howe	Communion
July 14	8th Sunday after Pentecost	2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29	Rev. Bob Machovec	
July 21	9th Sunday after Pentecost	2 Samuel 7:1-14a; Psalm 89:20-37; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56	Rev. Bob Machovec	
July 28	10th Sunday after Pentecost	2 Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21	Rev. Nathan Howe	



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or on Instagram/Twitter @kentmethodist**

