



# THE METHODIST MOSAIC

Volume 68 Number 5

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

May, 2026



**Day of Pentecost**  
**United Worship Service (10 am)**  
**followed by Volunteer Appreciation Lunch**  
*Sunday, May 24*

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.

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. Our youth group will help plan and lead the worship service. 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.

After worship, as a small expression of thanks from our staff to our many generous volunteers, all are encouraged to join us in Pierson Hall for a “volunteer appreciation lunch.” Join us as we celebrate the many gifts shared by all the wonderful members of our community: gifts of teaching, serving, cooking, cleaning, reading, leading, greeting, and so many others without which our ministries would not be possible.

# Youth Ministry News

## May 2026

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. This year Youth Sunday will be on May 24 which is Pentecost. On this special day we will feature performances highlighting the many gifts of the members of our youth program. ZAMARingers will play, we will recognize our senior and have a message delivered by her. This service will also highlight many of our gifted choirs and recognizing teachers and other volunteers in our community (please see the included article about our May 24 worship).

As mentioned above, our congregation will also be recognizing graduates during the worship on Sunday, May 24 at 10:00AM. (Please note this special time as there will be only one service on that Sunday.) This year our sole senior is Allison Hinkle who will be attending Ohio University in the fall. Go Bobcats!

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 direction in your life.

Finally, on May 31 our Mountain TOP mission team will complete its training session in preparation for our trip on June 20.

We are very excited to be sending 14 to the mountain to serve the people of the Cumberland Plateau on this, our 26th year of service. 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	
SUNDAY 3	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 10	Mother's Day <b>NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES</b>
SUNDAY 17	6-7 ZAMARingers 7-8:30 Youth Fellowship
SUNDAY 24	<b>NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES</b>
SUNDAY 31	Mt. TOP Training

### Janus Circle Scholarship

Janus Circle announces that we are now accepting applications for our Scholarship. The Janus Circle Scholarship was established in 2014 to recognize graduating 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. Contact Sally Dean at [sallydean64@gmail.com](mailto:sallydean64@gmail.com) for an application and more information. Applications are due by: May 13, 2026.

### Mission Trip News

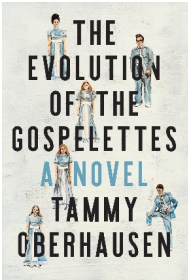
The members of our Youth Mission Team would like to say thank you to all those who supported our mission trip to Mountain T.O.P. through the purchase of a symbolic brick. Thanks to you we are well on our way to meeting our goal. If you have not had an opportunity to donate but would still like to please 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.

## Upcoming Book Discussions

### ***The Evolution of the Gopelettes: A Novel***

*by Tammy Oberhausen*

***Tuesday, May 12, at 7 pm in the Conference Room***

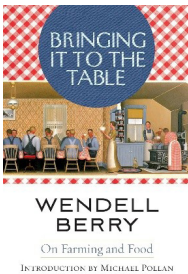


The Evolution of the Gopelettes follows a family in from the 1970s into the 2000s as they transform from a group of old-time gospel singers to performers on a televangelist program to founding members of a megachurch. Through one family's story, we get a glimpse of the changing landscape of some Christian movements in the United States. This book is not currently available in local library systems, but Pastor Nathan has six copies available for interested persons to borrow and read. Please contact Pastor Nathan to pick up a book at your convenience.

### ***Bringing It to the Table: On Farming and Food***

*by Wendell Berry*

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



For seven decades, Wendell Berry has embodied mindful eating through his land practices and his writing. "Eating is an agricultural act," he writes. We are all players in the food economy. Drawn from Berry's writing over thirty years, this collection of essays is essential reading for anyone who cares about what they eat and how eating connects us with God's creation.

### **Sunday Afternoon Walk**

***Sunday, May 3, 4 pm***

***UMCK Woods***

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 on the north side of our building (between Pierson Hall and the woods) and then walk through our woods together.

### **Order UMCK Pride T-Shirts**

***Last day to order is May 11***

In preparation for our congregation's presence at Pride events this summer (Cleveland—June 6; Kent—June 12-14; Canton—June 13; Akron—August 22), we are once again opening orders for UMCK Pride T-Shirts. To order, you can sign up on the table in the atrium or contact Marjorie Zeager directly at [m-zeager@live.com](mailto:m-zeager@live.com). Exact pricing will depend on the number of shirts ordered but is anticipated to be \$27 per shirt. The last day to order is May 11. Thank you for your participation in communicating God's love among our neighbors!





## Miracle Sunday: May 17

Join with United Methodists around the world to raise up new generations of clergy leaders through a one-time worldwide offering

In the United States, 71% of United Methodist clergy hold a theological master's degree, supported by robust denominational funding and healthy seminary endowments. Outside the United States—in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines—fewer than 5% of clergy have access to such education and preparation for ministry. This disparity is not about calling or competence; it is about access. The UMC is growing in these regions, yet too many barriers prevent quality theological education that could transform communities around the globe.

On Sunday, May 17, we will participate with United Methodists around the world in a “Miracle Sunday” one-time worldwide offering to strengthen access to theological education through the establishment of a permanent endowment. The vision is bold: to endow 500 theological scholarships annually in perpetuity. Please prayerfully consider your support, and then make your donation online or through the offering plate by designating your gift, “Miracle Sunday.”

Thank you for your participation in this work of faith to provide future leaders in The UMC with the tools and resources they need to impact lives and communities for generations to come.

### **Missionary Visit: Sarah Mae Gabuyo**

*Wednesday, May 6, 7 pm  
Pierson Hall*

On Wednesday evening, May 6, at 7 pm, all are welcome to join us in Pierson Hall for a presentation by and conversation with Sarah Mae Gabuyo, a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of our United Methodist Church.



Originally from Manila and raised in The UMC and the Italian Methodist Church in Milan, Sarah brings a rich cultural background to ministry. She is an ordained elder in the Wisconsin Annual Conference and currently serves as pastor of the English-speaking congregation of the Methodist Evangelical Churches in Italy, based in Rome. Passionate about intergenerational and cross-cultural ministries, Sarah is committed to making disciples for Jesus Christ and witnessing transformation of the world as she warmly welcomes others to join her on her faith journey and to experience God's love.

This will be a great opportunity for us to experience the worldwide outreach of our United Methodist connection and to consider ongoing partnership with a global missionary.



## **VBS is returning to the Kent UMC!**

### ***Announcing Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS!***

At Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS, your students will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they find their strength in God. They will become Challengers and discover how with God, they can do all things.

After a high-energy Opening Assembly time, the Challengers make their way to the Bible Story Station. Interactive Bible lessons reveal each Lift Lesson to equip your Challengers for an active life with God. Your Challengers will also discover our Mountain Motto (Bible memory verse), which will remain with them in their faith long after VBS. The students will expand on what they've discovered by making their own art projects at the Craft Station, singing new songs at the Music Station, exploring the wonders of God's creation at the Science Station, playing games at the Recreation Station, and enjoying tasty treats at the Snack Station. Along the way, the Challengers will hear about our mission project as they respond to God's call for action!

Snowball Mountain Challenge is scheduled to be in Pierson Hall July 13-16 from 6-8pm. This VBS is open to all kids who have just finished PreK through rising 6th graders.

To learn more, call Chelsea or Rick in the church office or send an email to [rickstout@kentmethodist.org](mailto:rickstout@kentmethodist.org). To register please scan the QR code or visit this link: <https://events.kentmethodist.org/vbs-2026>





## Composting: Recycling the Natural Way

On Sunday, April 19, the Green Team assembled a three-section compost bin which is located on the north side of our parking lot, near the edge of the woods (to the right of the stairway that leads into the woods). While this bin is intended primarily for food scraps from our kitchen, you are invited to compost with us, too! Please deposit your compostable items at your convenience, but please be sure to use the bin indicated and to add only those items as indicated here:

### What to add

- egg shells
- uncooked or cooked fruit and vegetable scraps
- sawdust (from untreated wood)
- shredded newspaper (not glossy)
- cardboard rolls
- nut shells
- bread and grains
- coffee grounds and paper filters

### What NOT to add

- dairy products and eggs
- fats, grease, or oils (including greasy or oily food)
- meat, bones, or seafood scraps
- stickers from fruits or vegetables
- plastic, glass, or metal
- pet waste
- yard trimmings treated with chemical pesticides

## Solar Project Update

The installation of solar panels on our roofs began with the delivery of those panels on Monday, April 20. It is anticipated that the total project will be completed in three to four weeks. Once completed, they are projected to produce 192,771 kwh of energy per year, representing 105% of our recent annual electricity usage. By producing this energy through solar rather than fossil fuels, we will reduce CO2 emissions by 170 metric tons per year. This is equivalent to greenhouse gas emissions from:

- 39.6 gasoline-powered passenger vehicles driven for one year;
- 2.2 tanker trucks' worth of gasoline; or
- 393 barrels of oil.

Funding for this project is being provided from our unrestricted general endowment with electricity savings applied to repayment over time. Under provisions of the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act, we will be eligible to receive direct payment to cover 30% of the total project cost plus an additional 20% under state and local provisions. While we are not planning a capital campaign to help fund this project, if you would like to invest in solar energy locally by donating beyond your regular tithes and offerings, please mark your donation, "solar project." Thank you for your participation in this work of faith, living as loving neighbors in the community of God's creation.



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 31*

The United Methodist Church has a historic commitment to peace and justice. In response to the Gospel, our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as peacemakers in resolving conflicts, both locally and globally. On Peace with Justice Sunday, we renew our commitment to participate in transforming the world and challenging injustice by calling on our leaders and elected officials to prioritize policies that support communities and reflect God’s economy of abundance and grace. Your offerings designated “Peace with Justice Sunday” will help to foster programs that respond to God’s call for a faithful, just, disarmed, and secure world for all, investing in servant leadership, community building, and ministries of peace with justice. Please prayerfully consider your contributions on May 31, and thank you for your generosity.

### Pastor Nathan on Renewal Leave in July

In our United Methodist Church, clergy are encouraged to make an extended “renewal leave” of one to six months during every four- to six-year period. The specific details or schedule of a renewal leave can look different for each pastor, but the intent is a planned time to move outside the normal rhythms of pastoral ministry in order to make space to notice and be grounded in God’s renewing grace. This summer, Pastor Nathan has received the approval and support of our Staff Parish Relations Committee and District Superintendent to be on renewal leave for four weeks: July 2 – July 29. More details regarding this time away will be shared in upcoming communications, but please contact Pastor Nathan ([nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org](mailto:nathanhowe@kentmethodist.org)) with any questions.

### Ascension of the Lord Sunday

*Sunday, May 17*

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 17. 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.

# May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Regular Sunday Schedule 4 pm Walk in the UMCK Woods	4 7 pm Small Group/Conference Room 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/ Palmer Gym	5 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 6 pm Girl Scouts/PH 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7 pm Book Discussion/Conference Room 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Rm 7-9 pm Basketball/Palmer Gym	6 7 pm Small Groups/Rms 207 and 208 7 pm Missionary Visit/ Pierson Hall	7 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room	1 8	2 9
10 Regular Sunday Schedule	11 7 pm Small Group/Conference Room 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/ Palmer Gym	12 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 6 pm Community Connections Team/Conf. Room 7 pm Book Discussion/Conference Room 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Rm 7-9 pm Basketball/Palmer Gym	13 6:30 pm UWF Board/Conference Room 7 pm Small Groups/Rms 207 and 208	14 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 1 pm Grief Support Group/Parlor 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room	15	16
17 Regular Sunday Schedule	18 7 pm Small Group/Conference Room 6 pm Garden Club/PH 7 pm Worship Band Rehearsal/ Palmer Gym	19 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 7 pm Trustees/Conf. Rm 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Rm 7-9 pm Basketball/Palmer Gym	20 7 pm Small Groups/Rms 207 and 208 6:15 pm UWF Board Mtg/Conference Room	21 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 12 pm Lion's Lunch/PH 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room	22 11 am-5 pm Red Cross Blood Drive/Palmer Gym	23
24 Unified Worship: 10 am in the Sanctuary Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon: 11:30 am in Pierson Hall	25 <b>Memorial Day Office Closed</b>	26 8:30 am Tuesday Morning Work Group 12 pm Rotary Lunch/PH 6 pm Girl Scouts/PH 7 pm New Spirit/Choir Rm 7-9 pm Basketball/Palmer Gym 7 pm Church Council/ Rm 200	27 7 pm Small Groups/Rms 207 and 208 7 pm Music Committee/Conference Room	28 7 am Men's Discussion Group/Bob Evans 1 pm Grief Support Group/Parlor 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room	29	30
31 Regular Sunday Schedule						

**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



**Our sympathies to:**

- Family and friends of Barry Beer

USHERS AND GREETERS	
Date	8:30/10:30
MAY 3	2
MAY 10	3
MAY 17	4
MAY 24	5
MAY 31	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.	

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

Janice Anderson, Sandra Andrews, Betty Johnson, Dorothy Johnson, Beth Stepanski

MAY FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS	
MAY 3	Melody Neumiller and Kathi Smith
MAY 10	Needed
MAY 17	Needed
MAY 24	Volunteer Appreciation
MAY 31	Needed

**Fellowship Hour—Help Needed**

If you would like to host fellowship hour, you can sign up at [www.kentmethodist.org/volunteer/](http://www.kentmethodist.org/volunteer/) 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.

MAY LAY READERS	
MAY 3	Karen Bennett
MAY 10	Lori Foldessy
MAY 17	Jennifer Wilson
MAY 24	Youth
MAY 31	Pat Baldwin

10:30 A/V SCHEDULE	
Camera	
MAY 3	Tom Lundberg
MAY 10	Andrew Alderson
MAY 17	TBA
MAY 24	TBA
MAY 31	TBA

10:30 A/V SCHEDULE	
Proclaim/Sound	
MAY 3	Adam Stephens
MAY 10	Tom Lundberg
MAY 17	Desmeal Leigh
MAY 24	Andrew Alderson
MAY 31	Bill Childers

**Thank You Notes**

Thank you for the beautiful Easter lily that Sue Maxwell delivered to our home. Also, Thanks to Rev. Machovec for all of your visits to Gary at Mulberry Gardens.

Sue and Gary Harvey

It is long past time for our family to give the Kent UMC congregation a big THANK YOU. Thank you for the many and continued prayers for our daughter, Christy, as she continues to battle cancer—Christy is an example of the power of prayer and God's unending grace and steadfast love. Almost 3 years of the battle, 22 chemo infusions, yet she still has hope. Prayer has been a source of comfort. Thank you all. With the power of our Lord, prayer works.

Al and Margaret Siegfried and family



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**The United Methodist  
Church of Kent  
PO Box 646  
Kent, OH 44240**

**Church Office:  
330-673-5879  
Website:**

**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 April 23**

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.—Acts 2:4

### Worship Calendar

Date	Week	Scripture	Special Event
May 3	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; I Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14	Communion, <i>Chancel Ringers</i> , 4 pm Walk in the UMCK woods
May 10	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; I Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21	<i>New Spirit</i>
May 17	Ascension of the Lord Sunday	Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53	Miracle Sunday
May 24	Day of Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; I Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 7:37-39	Unified 10 AM Service in the Sanctuary, Youth Sunday, <i>ZAMARingers</i>
May 31	Trinity Sunday	Genesis 1:1-2.4a; Psalm 8; II Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20	Peace with Justice Sunday, <i>New Spirit</i>



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