Beloved of God,

When I began my tenure as your new pastor the summer of 2017, our dear Barb Donaho organized what she called “Time with Amy” gatherings. I met with many of you, in your own homes, to begin to get to know you and for you to get to know me. As your pastor, I was particularly interested in getting to know you as people of faith, striving to follow Jesus in a world that doesn’t make it very easy. So, I thought it only fair that I share with you my own faith story. Some may recall the spiritual autobiography that I passed out and shared with everyone who attended a “Time with Amy” gathering. I remember feeling quite vulnerable doing so but knowing that it was the most important thing I could do to lay the foundation for a healthy, solid, authentic ministry with and among you. How could I ever expect you to embark on a journey of faith with me if you had no information about my own spiritual path?

We all have struggles. We have all experienced pain. At some point in our lives we have all been mired in doubt or anger or grief. The scriptures may not make sense to us let alone comfort us. Some among us may not even believe in God, let alone Jesus Christ, but here you are, in some way and for some reason a part of this congregation—and we praise God for your presence. We have many questions and far fewer answers. Faith doesn’t come easily. It’s one of those abstract, intangible, nebulous concepts—we throw the word around—but it can mean so many things and depending on who you are that meaning will be different.

Your “faith story” or “journey of faith” can only come out of your own lived experience. Tradition certainly informs it: If you went to church, where did you grow up going to church? What are the earliest lessons you were taught about God and Jesus Christ? How were you introduced to the Bible and its stories? Family also informs faith formation, and is often a part of that tradition: What was your childhood experience of faith? What was your religious (or non-religious) upbringing? Culture and ethnicity inform it, emerging from our racial, socio-economic, and gender identities, etc. Relationships inform our faith: From whom did we learn the most about who God is? Who have our conversation partners been when it comes to spirituality and the sacred? Exposure to the wider world informs our faith: Where have we traveled? What have we witnessed? How have our interactions with “the Other” impacted our understanding of who God is?

In the end, our faith—or lack thereof—is formed out of our own lived experience. And no one experience is like another. Every story is unique and worthy of being told. We can all learn from one another—this is our richest resource of faith formation—if we are willing to share. I could
not be more eager or excited to hear our faith stories. I hope you will participate in our StoryCorps project throughout Lent as we focus on our Faith Journeys, both Christ’s and our own. There is no right or wrong. There is no story any more important or meaningful than another. Created in the very image of God, our stories are sacred. Our lives are sacred texts. This Lent, let us open ourselves to the sharing of our one-of-a-kind sacred stories as we enter the Passion story of Jesus our friend and Lord.

With love and encouragement,
Pastor Amy

Welcome New Members!

Jordan Jones

Jordan is 29 years old and grew up in Ravenna, GO RAVENS! He now resides in Kent and works as a Bailiff for Portage County. The reason he was drawn to this church was because it was a Christian church. As soon as Jordan stepped through our church doors, he said we were all so friendly. Jordan says the church is so welcoming and that he is glad they chose this church to get married in. He loves technology and basketball. A lot of Jordan’s childhood consisted of basketball and considers it a staple of his life. He helps coach the freshman basketball team of Ravenna. Jordan grew up in the church and is confident the UCC is going to help him grow in his spiritual journey. He looks forward to meeting everyone and getting involved in ministries.

Sara Shoemaker

Sara is 28 and works as a juvenile probation officer for Portage County. She's from the Youngstown area, but currently resides in Kent. She graduated from Youngstown State University in 2014. Sara is getting married at our church here on Oct. 3, 2020. Sara said she picked our church because of the inclusivity. She said it’s not something you see from churches often and equality and kindness are so important to her. Sara enjoys working out, reading, relaxing, and spending time with family and friends as they are the most important people in her life. She really looks forward to becoming a member of Kent UCC and can’t wait to continue meeting everyone!

Kathryn Mahon

Kathryn grew up in several different places being a "Navy brat." She was born in Rhode Island, and lived on Orange Park, Florida, Fairfax, Virginia, Puerto Rico, Summerville, South Carolina, Sigonella, Sicily, and Brunswick, Maine. She came to Kent UCC because of the reputation of the church and her son, Wil's involvement in Scouts. She loves the openness and teachings of
our church. Kathryn also appreciates the focus on social justice and the environment. Kathryn works in public relations at Akron Children's Hospital. She started her career in politics but when that got to be too much of an emotional drain, she moved into non-profit PR/Marketing/Fundraising. She loves her job and the mission of the hospital. Her hobbies include movies and hiking. Kathryn loves being outdoors if it isn't too cold.

Loralea Allen

Even though Loralea has always been a believer in Christ, she often put her relationship with him on the back burner and tried to navigate life on her own. However, the past few years have led her through difficult times that only Christ could carry her through. With the guidance of her horse trainers and horse show family, she was strongly encouraged to build her faith and place her needs in God's hands and not her own. A very dear friend of hers, Molly Mains, encouraged her to attend Kent UCC. Loralea was seeking a church that was all welcoming and affirming which is exactly what she found with Kent UCC, Pastor Amy, and our members. It was important for her to be a member of a church that is located in the city that is so close to her heart. Loralea is a Kent State alumni and a clinical mental health counselor and owner of Healing Strides Counseling Services. She is the mother of a wonderful son, Chris, who resides in NYC with her beautiful daughter-in-law, Tiffany. Loralea lives in Brimfield, with her best friend and partner for life, Jeff Kurtz. They have 4 wonderful dogs who let them share their home and couch. She is also blessed to follow her dreams of showing her horse, Dora, at the national level. Loralea looks forward to building her faith while also serving God and making Him rejoice in her accomplishments.

Sandra Roeger

Sandy grew up in Akron. She is a graduate of Muskingum University with a masters degree from the University of Akron. Sandy was married to her husband Bob for 55 years before he passed away in 2019. She is the mother of 3 children; Jeff (Rachelle), Jennifer Caldwell (Darrin), and Melissa Dietz (Chad). They are all graduates of Kent Roosevelt. Sandy has 5 grandchildren. She retired from Bath UCC as an organist and director of music and still works as a pianist for Friends in Harmony and Silver Lake Singers. Sandy has spent many a Sunday since retiring as a substitute organist in different churches in the area. She now lives in Silver Lake Towers in Stow. She has volunteered at radio station WEYE for the legally blind for 27 years, doing three shows every week. Sandy is very happy to be at Kent UCC with her family.
March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1: Lenten soup suppers and programs
March 2-5: Financial Feasibility Study with Jill White, UCC Church Building and Loan Fund
March 6: Islamic Prayers (Khutba) at 1:20 pm at the Islamic Society of Akron and Kent
March 7: Music of Social Justice concert
March 13: United Christian Ministries fundraiser dinner 6 pm at the United Methodist Church
March 15: Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity Apostles Build
March 19: “We’re Still Writing” Writers’ Group meeting
March 20: Temple Israel Shabbat Service at 6:15 pm (Akron)

Lent is upon us!
This year’s Lenten theme, *Entering the Passion of Jesus*, asks us to see ourselves within God’s story as part of our faith journey, which also happens to be the bicentennial theme for March. Faithfully guided by our Diaconate, we are all encouraged to reflect on our own faith journeys and relationship with God. We will be looking closely at Amy Jill-Levine’s book, *Entering the Passion of Jesus* and freeze-framing the events of Holy Week each Sunday during the season of Lent. Amy Jill-Levine, a Jewish New Testament scholar, helps us to picture ourselves in the events of Holy Week.

Beginning with an Ash Wednesday service on February 26, our Lenten season continues with a Sunday morning adult study at 8:45 a.m. and worship. Each Wednesday evening in March and April 1, we will gather from 6-8 p.m. for a soup supper and Lenten program. Childcare will be provided during our program time. Lent concludes with a Maundy Thursday service on April 9, community Good Friday service on April 10, and Easter morning services on April 12.

We March On! Music of Social Justice Concert March 7
The Cleveland Chamber Choir will join with Kent’s Theodore Roosevelt High School ChoralWorks in “We March On! Music of Social Justice,” a free concert commemorating the 50th anniversary of the tragic events of May 4, 1970 on the campus of Kent State. The program takes place at Kent UCC on Saturday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. The Cleveland Chamber Choir will present music that illumines injustice in the world and memorializes those who are working to make the world a better place. Works featured include Joel Thompson’s shocking The Seven Last Words of the Unarmed and music by British and American composers Ethyl Smyth (Songs of Sunrise), Linda Kachelmeier (Each of Us), and Catherine Dalton (I know a Woman, a nod to the Rosa Parks story). The Chamber Choir will also premiere a new commission by Natsumi Osborn (Oberlin College). For her piece Legacy, Osborn was deeply inspired by the poem of the same name by Megan Neville-Jellen, which draws moving imagery from the Pulitzer Prize-winning iconic photo of Mary Ann Vecchio screaming over the body of Kent State student Jeffrey Miller. A portion of the free-will donations will go towards Women For Women Ohio, in honor and memory of their founder Helen Tremaine Gregory, who also co-founded the Kent Choral Society. Women for Women Ohio is a non-profit focused on supporting the education of girls in Cambodia. Come experience the collective power of this amazing poetry and music sung
by the world-class voices of the Cleveland Chamber Choir. Our Director of Music, Corey Fowler, will be singing and conducting on this concert. www.clevelandchamberchoir.org

**Faith Formation News – Kim Nagy**

“When February rolls around I’ll roll my eyes.” That’s a popular lyric from Relient K, a Christian band I listened to a lot when I was growing up. These words always rang true for me, and they still do today, even though this winter has been fairly mild. I miss the sun! I miss green grass and leaves on trees! I miss going to the lake and sitting for a while to watch the sailboats float across the horizon! When February rolls around I roll my eyes, and by March I’m all together done with the barrenness of winter.

However, Lent reminds me that this barrenness is necessary, and it’s appropriate that this holiest of church seasons guides us through the last dreary days of winter to spring. Not all of our faithful days are green and lush with fruit. Sometimes we find ourselves in the middle of a cold, icy season where we deny that better days will ever come.

This year, I encourage you to join Kent UCC in our Lenten journey together as we embrace the barren days and remember that we do not live them alone. Each Wednesday after Ash Wednesday, from 6-8 p.m., we will gather for a meal and program, hearing stories of faith from many of our church members as we picture ourselves in the Passion Story this Lent.

I’m looking forward to an enriching Lenten season with you this year! To learn about all of the Lenten activities you can be involved in this season, pick up a purple brochure located in the narthex. Blessings on the journey!

**Lenten Midweek Gatherings**

Join us each Wednesday during Lent for a soup and bread meal and a program! The meal begins at 6 p.m. in Van Meter Hall, and afterward we will head upstairs to the chapel for a program. Please bring your own table service and a side or dessert to share.

**Schedule 6-8 p.m.**

6:00 p.m. Gather for meal; table prayers
6:50 p.m. Transition to chapel for program
7:00 p.m. Faith Story Speaker
7:20 p.m. Time for reflection and small groups
7:50 p.m. Closing Circle

**March 4**

Speaker: Kim & Fay Anne Sebaly
Meal: Christian Education and Hospitality & Membership

**March 11**

Speaker: Jen & Josh Case
Meal: Worship & the Arts and Choir/Bell Choir

**March 18**

Speaker: Sophia Hayden
**Meal:** Outreach and Property

**March 25**
**Speaker:** Shana Barker
**Meal:** Stewardship and Marketing & Communications

**April 1**
**Speaker:** Kelley Gifford
**Meal:** Personnel and Women’s Fellowship

**Lenten Adult Education**
Pastor Amy’s “Ushering in the Holy” class will focus on a book study during Lent. From March 1-April 5 they will read and discuss *Entering the Passion of Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine, which explores the events of Passion Week. If you are interested in participating, please secure your own book and join them Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. in the chapel wing. All are warmly invited and welcome!

**Lent Interfaith Opportunities**
Join us for two interfaith opportunities in Lent:

*Friday, March 6 at the Islamic Society of Akron and Kent (152 East Steels Corners Road, Cuyahoga Falls)* Khutba (a sermon and prayer) begins at 1:20 p.m., and an Imam will speak with us afterward about Islam.

*Friday, March 20 at Temple Israel (91 Springside Drive, Akron)* Shabbat service begins at 6 p.m., and fellowship will follow the service.

These interfaith opportunities follow our bicentennial theme for March, “Faithful Journeys.” It gives us the opportunity to learn about the faithful journeys of others in our midst. They also give us the awareness of how we might partner with our faith siblings in a time when Jews and Muslims are being targeted for their faith in America.

**Racism Confirmed as a Public Health Crisis**
The markers of inequality remain constant and racism plays a key role in society’s state of health or dysfunction. Some cities and counties in the U.S. have declared racism as public health crisis. Cities such as Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, and Cleveland recognize that centuries of overt white nationalism and racism impacts mainly people of African descent creating conditions that are severely unhealthy and life-threatening.

“Racism, in other words, isn’t just someone using a racial slur. It’s also the poor schooling in predominantly black and brown neighborhoods, the racial wealth gap, housing discrimination, mass incarceration, police killings of unarmed black and brown people, higher infant mortality rates for people of color, and unequal access to health care. By declaring such racism a public health crisis, Milwaukee County officials are committing to put racial equity at the core of all city procedures, to advocate for policies that improve health in communities of color, and to train their employees on how racism impacts residents.”

In 2020, people are still working towards dismantling structural, systemic, and individual racism. The work of addressing racism is intersectional, and stems from historical unjust business
practices, and policies and laws impacting every aspect of our lives. We have an opportunity during the 2020 election to pay close attention to politicians upholding the status quo by working against justice for all. Restore justice! In 2020 it is critical that you exercise your vote and your voice so that our nation is healthy and equitable for all. Visit the UCC Racial Justice Page for more information on our commitment to ending racism.

-Rev. Dr. Velda Love, Minister for Racial Justice, United Church of Christ

United Christian Ministries Dinner
Have you heard of United Christian Ministries (UCM)? It is Kent State’s only progressive and LGBTQIA+ affirming college ministry. Kent UCC supports UCM in a variety of ways, including attending their spring dinner! Join us Friday, March 13 for an Italian feast at the United Methodist Church at 6 p.m. Students will talk about their experiences on their alternative spring break trips. Tickets cost $25 each and can be purchased from Don Bubenzer, Kim Nagy, or online at myucm.org. Students from UCM will also be present to sell tickets after worship on Sunday, March 8. We hope you’ll join us in supporting “our” college ministry!

Holy Spirits!
On January 31 several adults gathered at Franklin Hotel Bar to discuss the possibility of a casual monthly gathering where theological topics are discussed. This group will be called “Holy Spirits” and will meet regularly at a local establishment after Easter is over. Stay tuned for updates coming soon.

Vacation Bible School Save the Date!
Save the date for this year’s community Vacation Bible School! Kent UCC will host this year’s VBS from July 13-16 (6-8:30 p.m.). Mark your calendars and invite your friends, neighbors, grandchildren, etc! The theme will be “Faithful Journeys: God is with Us Everywhere!” and will focus on immigration and refugees. Our focus verse for the week will be “For I was a stranger and you welcomed me” from Matthew 25. See you then!

Christian Education Ministry – Becky Dunlap
Our Sunday School students formed an impressive assembly line as they decorated the Have a Heart grocery bags used to collect the congregation’s generous donations to the Kent Social Services pantry. At Kent UCC, the giving hearts start with our youngest and continue through all ages! We were happy to help Outreach with this important project.

The children are excited to piggyback on the Lenten theme to picture ourselves in the events in Jesus’ life. Each Sunday during Lent the children will be collecting the top six items needed to help families who find refuge at the Miller House. We will focus on one item each week, but as the children bring the wagon up the aisle each Sunday, any donations from the congregation will be appreciated! Check the bulletin for more information on this project!
Faith formation is more than just planting a seed. At the Kent UCC, our seeds thrive with our nurturing and caring Sunday School teachers (including Kim and Rhuna) who:

- Teach lessons centered on the Bible (rich soil surrounding the seed).
- Allow for in-depth discussion, questioning, even debate (food for the seed to sprout).
- Sing songs and move with the Spirit (water to quench the sprouts).
- Provide love and acceptance (sunlight for the plants to grow and flourish).

Sunday Schools are like plant nurseries, they may look unimpressive at first, but under the soil, miracles are happening.

Outreach News – Terri Silver
Mark your calendars for a Habitat for Humanity spaghetti lunch fundraiser on Sunday, March 15 serving the world’s best spaghetti from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in VanMeter Hall. Bring your friends and family! Cost is $15 per person or $30 for a family. We’re co-sponsoring this lunch with First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kent.

Other fundraisers for the Apostles Build project include a dinner dance at NEOMED on February 28 and a chili dinner and bingo night on March 7. Tickets for the dinner dance are $45/couple (including pasta dinner), and sponsors are Rootstown United Methodist Church and Passion Community Church. The chili and bingo night features dinner from 5-6 p.m. and bingo from 6-7:30. Tickets are $10 for dinner, $10 for bingo, or $17 for both. It will be held at the Rootstown First Congregational UCC.

Thanks for your generous contributions to our annual “Have-a-Heart” Sunday! We delivered 76 "Have-A-Heart" bags to Kent Social Services after church on February 16.

Stewardship News - Karen Carmany
“Enlivened by the grace of Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, Kent United Church of Christ does justice, embraces faithful love, and walks humbly with our God to serve and transform lives, our and the world” (Micah 6:8)

As this article is being completed we are entering the season of Lent lasting from February 26 – April 11, 2020, 40 days representing the time that Jesus spent fasting in the desert. Like Jesus, many of us choose to give up something during Lent as well. Lent serves as a time for self-denial, discipline and reflection. Many folks decide to give up something that is important to them or something they think a lot about such as cell phone usage, a favorite food or drink, social media.

Here’s a thought….How about adding a new spiritual discipline to your routine during Lent...giving of your time, energy, talent, treasure in ways that reflect our Kent UCC Mission Priorities and Core Values.

If you are unsure as to the opportunities for service that abound within our church, Stewardship Committee has created a document with information on service opportunities and persons to contact. We would be happy to share it with you. Please see Karen Carmany for a copy.
Hospitality and Membership Update - Gayle Wall and Eileen West
We would like to welcome Linda Morris and Emily Poulson to our H&M committee. Our group has been busy assembling welcome bags, assisting at new member orientation, and initiating the new yoga class.

Keep your eyes out for guests on Sunday and feel free to give them one of the welcome bags in the Narthex by the Name Tag boxes. **Yes, this is a reminder to pick up and wear your name tag on Sundays 😊** Name tags help newer members and guests with names and faces.

In the works are new visitor cards in the pews, children’s welcome bags, and a survey to jump start a small group initiative. Don’t forget to sign up to be a GREETER on Sunday mornings. This is a valuable and easy volunteer opportunity. Barb Hanniford is the coordinator of greeters.

YOGA has come to Kent UCC!
Are you interested in taking a Yoga class once a week for the amazing price of only $5 per class? The Hospitality and Membership Committee is offering a 6-week Yoga trial class on Monday nights at 6 pm in the chapel starting on Monday February 24 and running through Monday, March 30. (After the first 6 weeks, if interest is high, we will discuss continuing the class, and a new day of the week will be considered.) We ask that each person pay in advance the $30 for all 6 weeks to ensure we can pay Judith our instructor. Judith is able to accommodate all abilities, ages, and physical fitness levels. For example, chair yoga is a modification that will be provided as needed. You can sign up on the sheet outside the church office, call the church office, or let Eileen West or Gayle Wall know you are interested in coming. Please bring your own mat (if possible) and bring a FRIEND, as ALL are welcome and encouraged! Do something positive for yourself in 2020 as Yoga leads you to finding union of mind, body, and breath.

PFLAG Next Meeting March 3
Molly Merryman, Director of Kent State’s Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, will talk on “Gender Trouble: Exploring why Gender Identity is So Contested.” The March 3 meeting is at Kent UCC at 6 p.m. The talk with provide a historical and cultural context to trans and other non-binary gender identities. In addition, video clips of British trans activities from the Queer Britain Museum’s Virtually Queer project will offer a glimpse into some of the struggles and successes of activism from “across the pond.”

"Church" Responders Needed
Are you certified for First Aid, CPR, AED, and/or using a fire extinguisher? Would you like to learn? Kent UCC is looking for anyone who is currently certified and/or willing to be certified in First Aid/First Responder, CPR, AED or fire extinguisher use in the unlikely case there is an emergency during a church event. If you’re interested in participating, please contact Jim Dunlap @ beaches4me3@gmail.com.
Need Help Getting the WORD Out!
Would you like to help or learn more about how the KUCC communicates and markets itself to the congregation and broader community? Then the KUCC Marketing & Communications Committee would love to hear from you! If you're interested in participating or learning more, please contact Scott Baughman @ scbaughman1@gmail.com.

Adult Small Groups
Our small group gatherings are a great way to build meaningful relationships and have fun! Consider this an open invitation to join one (or more!) of them!

Women’s Fellowship Groups
Square One holds its annual retreat in March. We’ll meet again April 4—contact Kathy Robinson for more information. New members are most welcome!

The Joy Circle will meet Wednesday, March 11 at 1:00pm in the Lounge. Kim Sebaly will be our guest speaker.

Men’s Breakfasts
You should always eat breakfast… so why not join us on Wednesday mornings, 7:30 to 8:29, for the most important meal of the day seasoned by a brief time of prayer and some good humored sharing in a men’s Christian fellowship? We meet in the back room at Little City Grille, 802 N. Mantua St., Kent. All men are welcome.

Another opportunity for fellowship occurs at the monthly Men’s Breakfast at Mike’s Place in Kent. Join us in the back left corner of Mike’s on the first Saturday of each month promptly at 8 a.m. Contact Ralph Kletzien at (330) 673-3415 for information.

Men Baking Bread
All men who are interested in baking bread are cordially invited to meet on the first and third Tuesdays at 6 p.m. in the church kitchen. If you can attend, please email Bill Peck (wpeck@me.com) or call (330-677-1641) so he can send you the plan. We welcome new bakers to try the group out!

Book Group
The book group will meet next on Saturday, March 21 at a location TBD. The group will be reading The Paragon Hotel. “A richly imagined novel starring two indomitable heroines, The Paragon Hotel at once plumbs the darkest parts of America’s past and the most redemptive facets of humanity. From international-bestselling, multi-award-nominated writer Lyndsay Faye, it’s a masterwork of historical suspense.” Bring your own place setting and a dish to share for potluck. Come for wonderful company, food, and discussion. Check with Kathy Robinson about the location.

Bagels and Books: An Invitation!
Our men’s Bagels and Books discussion group has met each Thursday morning at 7 a.m. at Panera in Chapel Hill for over five years. Currently we are reading Falling
Upward by Fr. Richard Rohr. We invite all men to join us for bagels, maybe oatmeal, and books. Get in touch with Don Bubenzer for more information!

Youth Group News

J-Walkers (Middle School)
On February 9, J-Walkers went to Polar Blast at Boston Mills to go snow tubing. It was a cold but sunny day, and they had a blast! Thank you, Rachelle Roeger, for helping to drive youth! They met at the church on February 23 for fellowship, food, and a short lesson on respect. Any youth in grades 6-8 are welcome to join us! Reach out to Kim Nagy with any questions.

J-Walkers March Activities:
March 8--Sky Zone Outing
March 15--Set Tables for Community Meal
March 22--Lead worship service at Kent Healthcare
April 3-4--Lock-In

United Youth Force (High School)
United Youth Force brought some bright smiles to peoples’ faces this month! On February 9 about ten UYF youth visited Kent Healthcare & Rehab to deliver homemade Valentines. They enjoyed going from room to room to hand them out, even visiting member Lawrence Prichard. The activities director told the youth that some residents don’t get visitors, so this visit was a welcome treat for many.

Thank you to Jonathan Moody and Vanessa Matyja for hosting a super bowl gathering on February 2. Will Moody served as a fantastic host, so much so that the youth enjoyed eating pizza and talking more than watching the game on television! It was a fun evening.

On February 23 many youth and parents came to the church for a mission trip meeting. UYF is greatly looking forward to this summer’s mission trip to Washington, D.C., where they will serve alongside the Steinbruck Center and have the opportunity to lobby on Capitol Hill with Justice and Witness Ministries of the United Church of Christ!
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Your generosity on Souper Bowl Sunday helped UYF raise $955 for their upcoming mission trip where they will serve many people who are food insecure. We are ever-thankful for the ways you support UYF’s endeavors to serve the world.

UYF Upcoming Activities:
- March 1 -- Game Night
- March 8 -- Horseback Riding Experience with Jon Moody
- March 15 -- Community Meal
- March 22 -- Spring Break (NO UYF)
- March 29 -- Cook a meal for Miller House

Chancel Flower Sign-Up Calendar Now Available
For those wishing to donate a chancel flower arrangement to adorn our chancel on Sunday mornings, the 2020 Chancel Flower Sign-up Calendar is now posted on the bulletin board in the narthex next to the stairs. This is a lovely way to recognize a loved one or lift up a special occasion you might be celebrating. You will receive a call from the church office at the beginning of the week to remind you of your flower donation for the Sunday you have selected and ask what message you would like printed in the Sunday bulletin with regard to the celebration or remembrance you wish to honor. As always, you are welcome to take your flower arrangement following the worship service or donate it to the Deacon Ministry for a deacon to give to one of our shut-ins or a member of our congregation presently on their visitation list. Questions? Contact Nancy Bubenzer at 330-678-3436 (H) or 330-671-1014 (C).

ORDER YOUR EASTER FLOWERS THIS MONTH
Celebrate Easter and springtime with purchasing lilies and tulips to adorn our chancel and sanctuary Easter morning and to take home with you following our worship service that day!

Single 6” Lilies, 6” Yellow (small head) Daffodils, and 6” Tulips in an array of colors (Red, Orange, Purple, Yellow, White, Pink) are available for purchase at $7.00/plant. Order forms are available in the church office. All orders must be paid in full and accompanied by an order form that indicates your name and the message (in honor of or in memory of) you would like to have printed in our Easter Sunday worship bulletin. Make checks payable to Kent United Church of Christ. Orders must be placed by no later than Friday, March 27th.
Second Sunday Lunch on Hiatus - Martha Williams
The monthly Fun(d) and Fellowship Lunches, the proceeds from which fund the Community Meal, are on hiatus. We'll still have them from time to time, but not every month. You will still have the opportunity to donate funds for the Community Meal. Look for the basket at Fellowship Hour after church and at the Lenten Dinners this spring.

KSU and YSU Gospel Choirs concert at Kent UCC - CANCELLED
The Kent State University and Youngstown State University Gospel Choirs joint performance concert at Kent UCC on Thursday, April 2 at 7 p.m, has been CANCELLED. We are hoping to reschedule this event in the near future.

Welcome, Marian Croyle!
Ryan and Kathleen Croyle’s baby girl, Marian Clarissa, arrived on Valentine’s Day weighing 6 lbs. 11 oz. Ryan is a former Kent UCC organist who gave an organ recital this fall as part of our Bicentennial celebration. Kathleen sang with our Chancel Choir while she was a graduate student at Kent State. Congratulations, Ryan and Kathleen!

Treasurer's Report - Kay Hansford
February income and expenditures as of February 19, 2020.
$33,024.63 - Income
$17,701.75 - Expenditures
+$15,322.88 - Difference

March Birthdays

Sundays in March
March 1: First Sunday in Lent
Sermon by Pastor Amy
  8:45 Senior Pastor's Class - "Ushering in the Holy" (226)
10:00 Worship in Sanctuary
10:15 Children leave for Church School
11:15 Coffee Hour (VMH)
11:30 Mental Health Ministry (Lounge)
March 8: Second Sunday in Lent
Sermon by Pastor Amy
8:45 Senior Pastor's Class - "Ushering in the Holy" (226)
10:00 Worship in Sanctuary
10:15 Children leave for Church School
6:45 GSNEO #90236 (127)

March 15: Third Sunday in Lent
Sermon by Pastor Amy
8:45 Senior Pastor's Class - "Ushering in the Holy" (226)
10:00 Worship in Sanctuary
10:15 Children leave for Church School
11:15 Green Team Meeting (Lounge)
11:30 Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser for Habitat (VMH)
5:00 Community Outreach Meal (VMH)

March 22: Fourth Sunday in Lent
Sermon by Pastor Amy
8:45 Senior Pastor's Class - "Ushering in the Holy" (226)
10:00 Worship in Sanctuary
10:15 Children leave for Church School
11:15 Coffee Hour (VMH)
6:45 GSNEO #90236 (127)

March 29: Fifth Sunday in Lent
Sermon by Pastor Amy
8:45 Senior Pastor's Class - "Ushering in the Holy" (226)
10:00 Worship in Sanctuary
10:15 Children leave for Church School
11:15 Coffee Hour (VMH)

How to Reach Us
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Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (staff lunch 12 – 1 pm)

Staff Contacts
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OUR MISSION:
Enlivened by the grace of Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, Kent United Church of Christ does justice, embraces faithful love, and walks humbly with our God to serve and transform lives, our community and the world. (Micah 6:8)