

KENT



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE
An Open and Affirming, Accessible to All Congregation

A Message from Our Senior Pastor, Rev. Amy Gopp



Beloved of God,

In this Eastertide season, we are practicing resurrection!

Our Mental Health Ministry and WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supporting, and Engaged) Team is faithfully working toward achieving our goal to become a WISE congregation for those living with mental health and addiction challenges and their families—so they feel welcomed, supported, valued, and included in the life, leadership and work of our congregation. The vision to become an official WISE congregation is one of the mission priorities of our Strategic Plan. Although the pandemic slowed down this process, we will realize this goal this year! We encourage all of you to participate in the Wednesday evening sessions on Mental Health and Addiction Recovery on Wednesday evenings from 7 – 8:30pm. These conversations are rich! The intention of the WISE Team is to engage with the whole congregation as we begin to draft a WISE Covenant for Kent UCC. We sincerely hope that your voices will be a part of crafting the language and commitments for this covenant. There is not one of us who has not been impacted by mental health challenges and/or addiction. Destigmatizing our dis-ease and sharing our full humanity openly and honestly is part of becoming WISE, and part of being a church family. And one significant way we practice resurrection.

The Green Team is also working toward its strategic objective to lead Kent UCC to become a “Green Church” committed to and living out creative justice in our theology, worship, and congregational life and practices. For example, did you know that even the palms we ordered and used for Palm Sunday were fair trade eco-palms? Have you seen our compost bin in the back of the church? Every choice matters! Again this year the Green Team helped craft a meaningful and inspiring Creation Care service in honor of Earth Day. Inclusive of concrete ways we can all better care for our planet home, as well as the theological and biblical grounding for doing so have been lifted up throughout the past year. We hope the trees delivered to your doorsteps last Earth Day have taken root and the “better practices for a new earth” demonstrated in this year’s worship service will inspire you to take seriously our first

calling as people of faith—to *serve* God’s Creation. Doing our part to rescue our planet home is certainly an act of hope and yet another way we are practicing resurrection!

Our Social Justice and Advocacy Ministry is also living out its goals from our Strategic Plan to guide Kent UCC to becoming an unabashedly anti-racist and pro-reconciling church. With ongoing book studies, film discussions, anti-racism trainings, and many of the members of the committee joining local anti-racism initiatives in Kent and across Portage County, they are serving as bold witnesses for us all. We are committed to forming even deeper partnerships with the Portage County NAACP, the Kent Interfaith Alliance for Racial Reconciliation, the Black United Students at KSU and other local groups so we, together, can provide our congregation and community with resources and tools to serve others and make the world a more equitable and loving place. As we watched the verdict of the Derek Chauvin trial, we applauded each time we heard the word “guilty”—aware that justice has not yet been achieved, but that this police officer was held accountable for his white supremacist and inhumane actions. To practice resurrection is to continue our public and prophetic witness for justice for *all* of God’s children.

Last, we celebrate the dedication of the Habitat for Humanity house built by Kent UCC and 10 other local churches!! A project begun in August 2019, what a joy and blessing to watch the Hummel-Tucker family receive the keys to their new home! Not only have we helped to house a family, but we were also a part of an ecumenical endeavor to demonstrate what the love of Christ looks like when people come together in common service and purpose. Huge thanks to our Outreach Ministry for leading the way. Participating in this Apostles’ Build with Habitat of Portage County is yet one more way we have truly practiced resurrection—even in a pandemic!

As we look forward to seeing one another in person with warmer weather, more of us getting fully vaccinated, and the pandemic beginning at last to wane, I encourage you to celebrate the incredible, life-changing ways YOU, Kent UCC, are doing justice, embracing faithful love, and walking humbly with God—even in extraordinary times like these. We are an Easter people, and we are practicing resurrection. Hallelujah!

Your partner in the gospel,
Pastor Amy

Moderator’s Message – Jeff Roeger

Inclusion-Participation-Ideas-Communicating-Understanding-Energy(Qi)-Healing-Witnessing...Living Through Our Mission...

As a follower of Jesus Christ and in serving Christ’s Church I am inspired by touching on one or more of these each month.

“This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.” This is the theme that came out of Council when discussing our new lighting project. You will hear more upcoming as the installation is upon our doorstep. One of the definitions of light is, “spiritual illumination by divine truth.” Did you know that, depending on which version of the Bible, light is mentioned 250 - 400 times!

From our congregational meeting in December your loving gifts have raised 3/4 of our \$80,000 goal! Please consider giving to this new light that will transform lives! Having new light in our sanctuary is a great first step in fulfilling our capital campaign and long-term strategic plan. What

great energy has been inspired in this project. Thank you to John Hetrick and the Property Ministry for their great communication so we can understand the importance of having this new lighting in our sanctuary!

Turning to participation, is there anyone who needs a Covid Vaccination? If You are in need of a vaccine please contact me. I am the manager of the Walgreens here in Kent and can provide anyone with a vaccine usually within a week right now. We are predominantly administering the Pfizer vaccine.

Please note my new email address. The "sbcglobal" no longer exists and Rachelle tells me I have had many chances to change it before it left the reservation. Well, I did not listen and in the middle of March my email was just enabled. A lesson learned, listen to your spouse!

Please keep these communication lines wide open and remember that every voice matters and makes a difference in who we are in God's eyes!

Blessings to you all,
Jeff Roeger
jfroeger@sbcglobal.net
330-808-1445

Time Capsule Reminder!



The pile of items for our Time Capsule is growing! Everyone is invited to participate in our time capsule project. What speaks to you about this unique and challenging time in our history? Maybe it's a newspaper article or a photo... or even a mask.

Please save the items for our Kent UCC time capsule. You can leave them in the Blue Box next to the church office doors, mail them to the church or give me a call or email to arrange for pick-up. We will plan to bury a time capsule when we come back together!

Jaime Baughman, Bicentennial Chairperson
Sjbaughman1@gmail.com/330-256-5899

Joys and Concerns – NEW!



Habitat for Humanity recently held a dedication for our Apostle Build home. Since July of 2019 our church invested \$11,700 plus close to 30 volunteers who worked many, many hours to provide a home for the Hummel-Tucker family. Christians working together made this family's dream come true. Photo left: Rev. Anthony Burwell blesses this family and their new home.

Congratulations to Lori and Steve Babbey on the arrival of grandchild number six!

Traci and Colin Earles officially adopted their son, Colton, in April! We celebrate with the Earles family!

It has been nearly a year since we gathered. We want to hear more about what is happening in your lives. The important stuff! This is a space where you can share personal news with your UCC family. A new baby? A relocation? A marriage? Health updates? Please email: tsilveruccmessenger@gmail.com and let me know of those joys and concerns that you would like to share. We want to celebrate with you, and we would also like to pray with you. The best part of Kent United Church of Christ will always be the people who call this "my church".

UPCOMING DATES (DETAILS WITHIN THIS MESSENGER)

- **April 18 – May 2:** "Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Challenge to the Church" facilitated by Sunny Matthews, Sunday afternoons
- **May 4** – Primary Election Day
- **May 8** – Spring Clean-up – hosted by our Property Ministry, rain date May 15
- **May 9** – Mother's Day
- **Wednesday Evenings Through May 12** - Re-Membering the Church: Conversations on Mental Health and Addiction Recovery 7-8:30pm
- **May 19** – American Muslim Film and Discussion 7-8pm
- **May 23** – Strengthen the Church special offering received on Pentecost Sunday
- **May 30** – Confirmation Day

Faith Formation Updates – Rev. Kim Nagy

A month ago The Washington Post released an article titled, "[Church Membership in the U.S. has Fallen Below the Majority for the First Time in Nearly a Century.](#)" It noted that only 47% of Americans formally belong to a church, synagogue, or mosque, and 48% of those polled actually consider religion a very important part of their lives. Articles like this make ministers like me shudder and churches with declining membership shake in their boots. The article cites generational differences as part of this decline, and it reminded me of a webinar I attended a few weeks ago that mentioned churches are currently serving **seven generations**.

You heard that right. Seven.

There is the Greatest Generation (born 1901-27), the Silent Generation (born 1928-45), Baby Boomers (born 1946-64), Generation X (born 1965-80), Millennials (born 1981-97), Generation Z (born 1998-2010), and Generation Alpha - or iGen (born 2011-25). Wow. Seven generations with seven different value systems to serve in one place. Just thinking about it makes my head spin, but it also gives me great hope because as we return to in-person church activities, we have the power to make church look different, and more relatable, to the younger generations who have been notoriously leaving the church in droves.

Stick with me here. In addition to passing the offering plate for the Baby Boomers who take great pride in offering their physical checks, it's also important to set up a text-to-give platform for the Alphas who have never written a check and probably never seen a checkbook. In addition to a few printed bulletins for the Silent Generation who value physically touching something, let's keep the online bulletins for the Millennials who are desperate to cut down on paper waste. In addition to offering only in-person worship for those who value showing up each Sunday, let's keep live-streaming worship for the Greatest Generation who are less mobile and Generation X though Alpha Gen who are busier than ever on Sunday mornings. Intergenerational faith formation takes on a whole new meaning!

Yes, formal church membership is down, but church is looking more different than ever before, and we have a great opportunity to live into that change in 2021 and beyond.

Christian Education

COVID-19 has pushed us to think outside the box in many facets over the last year, and Easter was no exception! To offer a COVID-friendly Easter egg hunt this year, ten families from church placed baskets of fun items on their front porch so children from our church (and some grandchildren of church members!) could enjoy an Easter-related activity. About 15 children participated, picking up fun items such as bubbles, goldfish, stickers, and treats. In addition, parts of the Easter story and a resurrection scene that could be colored were at each stop. Thank you to the porch hosts, the families who participated, and to Eileen West, who came up with this Easter alternative!



Resource of the Month: First Lady of Ohio Fran DeWine has partnered with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to provide one age-appropriate book per month to all children under the age

of five at no cost to the family. The books are very high quality and come with reading tips for parents on the inside cover. You can find more information on the website!

<https://ohioimaginationlibrary.org/>

J-Walkers (Middle School Ministry)

Two of our J-Walkers, Natalie and Noah, met in the church parking lot on April 11 to write encouraging notes to our college students and pack small care packages for them as finals season approaches. This was the first time J-Walkers has been able to meet in person in over a year, and it was a very talkative reunion!

They also met on April 25 for a short hike.

Our final J-Walkers gathering will be Sunday, May 23 from 12-1 p.m., and we will invite 5th graders to join us as we welcome them into the group for the coming school year. We'll join together for a goodbye ritual for our 8th graders, who will be moving up to United Youth Force in the Fall.

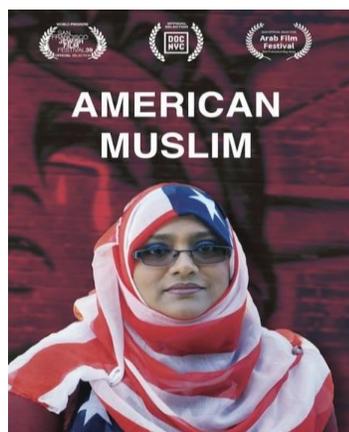
To stay updated on J-Walkers activities, get on the email list by contacting Pastor Kim. You can also join the J-Walkers Remind 101 group to receive text updates by texting @jwalkers2 to 81010.

United Youth Force (High School Ministry)

The United Youth Force has been focused on justice work even though they haven't been meeting in person most weeks. This month, they finished their read of *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah and talked about apartheid in South Africa. They also watched the documentary "I Am Greta" via a watch party on Hulu about Greta Thunberg's quest to demand we change our way of living to help save the planet. As usual, a core group met on the third Sunday to pack meals for the community and hand them out.

United Christian Ministries (KSU College Ministry)

Keep United Christian Ministries - and *all* our Kent UCC college students - in your prayers as they enter finals season and prepare for summer transitions.



American Muslim Film and Discussion with Filmmaker Adam Zucker

Join us Wednesday, May 19 from 7-8 p.m. for a discussion of the film, *American Muslim: A Film About Being Muslim in the Age of Trump*, with filmmaker Adam Zucker on Zoom. The film follows several Muslim individuals and families around as they live under the Muslim Ban. We are looking forward to hosting Adam Zucker for this discussion during the Muslim season of Ramadan. To find out more about the film, check out www.americanmuslimfilm.com. To sign up to receive the link for the film and participate in the discussion, reach out to Pastor Kim, or follow the link [HERE](#).

Upcoming Adult Education Opportunities

Re-Membering the Church: Conversations on Mental Health and Addiction Recovery

Facilitated by: The Mental Health Ministry

Wednesday evenings 7-8:30 p.m.

April 7-May 12

Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Challenge to the Church

Facilitated by: Sunny Matthews

Sunday afternoons 2-3:30 p.m.

April 18-May 2

American Muslim Film Discussion

Facilitated by: Filmmaker Adam Zucker and Pastor Kim

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

7-8 p.m.

Discover the "Mystery Members" later in this Messenger!
Which mystery KUCC member is behind each door?



Behind Door Number 1...

They were a high school volleyball official for a few years.

They enjoy sports and have played golf with members of our church.

They love being a volunteer. They volunteered in our church office and at Kent Social Services prior to the pandemic.

Behind Door Number 2...

They have been dancing for 12 years.

Their favorite food is waffles.

They love participating in musical theater.

Behind Door Number 3...

They used to race motorcycles.

They are missing half of a left thumb.

They are a musical Jack-of-all-trades-and-master-of-none!

Green Team Update – Julie Wallace

Food for Thought

We hope you enjoyed the Creation Care service on April 25. Our Green Team consists of church members who are deeply thoughtful about the state of our environment and steps we can take to be part of the healing.

Here is something every one of us can do to help with every bite we take:

Be mindful of how the food got to your plate and the processes it took to get it there.

Almost half of greenhouse emissions come from our food system through deforestation, bad agricultural practices, food waste and soil damage and loss.

Buying locally grown, organic produce and pasture-raised meats not only benefits the health of the planet, but your personal health, as well.

Often, we think the higher cost of organics or pasture-raised meats are not worth the extra dollars. But the truth is, the high costs of healthcare are usually reversed when you choose a lifestyle of healthier, locally produced food. Factory farms grow basically three crops: corn, soy and wheat. The soil is depleted from chemical use; animals are fed these crops instead of grazing on grass; the government spends millions of dollars in subsidizing these crops. Worse, the damage to the earth from these poor practices is costing us billions each year from weather-related damages caused by global warming.

Take action through your food choices!

Your buying habits influence what grocers stock on their shelves. It's supply and demand. If you choose locally grown, organic produce or grass-fed meats and dairy products only, that is what the stores will stock.

When you support local farmers by shopping at Farmers Markets and purchasing locally grown products in grocery stores, you are helping to support a more sustainable system of farming.

The health of the planet goes hand in hand with the health of its inhabitants.

Here are steps you can take:

- 1) Stop buying fast food. Period. It's bad for you and bad for the environment.
- 2) Shop the perimeter of the grocery with produce, meat and dairy as your primary purchases.
- 3) Read labels! If you don't know the ingredients or recognize them as a chemical flavor enhancers, dyes, preservatives, etc., leave that item on the shelf.
- 4) Buy locally as much as possible.

- 5) Grow some of your own food. Even a small plot can yield a good amount of nourishment.
- 6) Cook great meals at home. You control the recipes and the ingredients.
- 7) Share your food. Singles often complain they can't cook because recipes make too much. Cook up a batch of food and make it a habit to share with others.
- 8) Before you eat, give thanks not only to God, but to the hands that labored to get that sustenance to you.

Hospitality and Membership Update – Eileen West and Gayle Wall

Our Name That Tune: Decades Edition game night was a success. We appreciate the 30 plus members and friends who joined us for a fun evening of musical memories. Our DJ “Spin Master” Scott Baughman and host “Hipster” Harold Hight facilitated a musical gaming atmosphere. Many smiles, laughs, and muted sing-a-longs were visible on the zoom. Congratulations to our top scorers: Debbie and John Schinker (Prospective members ☺), Pastor Amy and Frederic, and Kim Redman. Bragging rights to these folks who knew their songs and the artists!! Stay tuned for future gatherings...

Stewardship Update – Karen Carmany

Wow! I continue to be amazed how our committees and members of Kent UCC have maintained the mission work of our church through such challenging times. We have adapted and moved forward to continue our stewardship of community and world. Challenges and changes will continue to present themselves. We need the full participation of all church members to achieve our mission. If you are not able to actively participate/serve, please consider an additional donation of funds to support our Kent UCC. Thank You.

Chee what?? Qigong!!

(chee - gung) Kent UCC offers a weekly class in Chinese Qigong every Friday at 10am via Zoom. We talk, breathe, move, etc. for about 45 minutes. No special clothing or equipment necessary, be comfortable. You might want a chair and water - that's it. If you would like to participate or just know more, call or e-mail Harold Hight @ 330-203-5684 hightfam4@sbcglobal.net. He will send you a zoom link.



Outreach Update – Donna Hess

Our commitment to the United Church of Christ Ministry's special mission offerings continues to be strong. Our total offering for One Great Hour of Sharing was \$1,153. The next offering will be Strengthen the Church on Sunday, May 23rd. "The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities. As God calls our

congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.” The Habitat Apostle’s Build held the dedication ceremony on April 24th. Kent UCC played a major role in the success of this project by contributing financially and by sending numerous volunteers to various build dates. Linnea and Pat Ray were an integral part of the success of this project by organizing both our financial support and our volunteers.

Outreach is happy to announce a commitment to the King-Kennedy Community Center, especially their new gymnasium which will be built this summer. Frank Hairston met with us and shared the history of this center and the surrounding neighbors. The Center was built in 1978 near the McElrath Park neighborhood in Ravenna. At that time, McElrath was ranked as one of the most underprivileged areas in the entire country. The impetus to build this community center came from local leaders who had been inspired by Martin Luther King’s words. The intention, when it was built, was to have a place for the community to gather and to receive services as well as provide a gym as a place for recreation. Somehow the gym was never built, but now, 43 years later, via federal grants and local funds, the gym is finally happening. But there are still many needs for equipment, supplies, and staff. Outreach has committed \$1500 each year for three years as well as a commitment to hold a fundraiser dinner sometime this fall (or whenever the church opens again) in conjunction with the Social Justice committee. All the proceeds from this fundraiser would go to the King Kennedy Center.

We continue to focus on being the church and impacting lives right here in our own neighborhoods.

Property Ministry Update – John Hetrick

Here are updates on recent activities:

- **Sanctuary Lighting Project-** Met with Speelman Electric contractor 3/25/21 to review lighting replacement logistics and details. Equipment shipment to occur 4/16/21. Contractor estimates 1-2 week for installation. Property Ministry will assist with moving pews if needed.
In addition to the internal \$40,000 committed for this \$75,000 lighting project, we have received member donations of \$22,574.10 to date.
The Finance Ministry is prepared to seek a line of credit to cover any underfunded expenses associated with this project.
- **Defibrillator Replacement-** Our two 20-year-old AEDs are in need of new batteries and are technically outdated. Kent Fire Department has recommended the LIFEPAK CR Plus unit [and CR 2 model] as it is compatible with their AED equipment. Thanks for the two donations to cover the cost of the replacement AEDs.
- **Furnace Room Wastewater Leak:** A 65 year old sewer line cleanout began leaking and was repaired by Kline & Kavali.
- **Water Line backflow check valve:** The annual backflow test of our water line failed inspection by Kline & Kavali, resulting in the replacement of the backcheck assembly.



Spring Cleanup: You are welcome to participate at the annual Spring Cleanup on Saturday, May. 8, at 8:30AM-noon. We will gather at the picnic table next to the lower main entrance. All activities will be outdoors and will involve trimming trees, hedges, mulching and culling unwanted vegetation. Please bring any tools appropriate for the cleanup as our tool supply is limited.

***Also remember to bring your mask and social distance. Thank you and hope to see you there. Rain date is Saturday, May 15.

Book Group – Kathy Robinson

For the month of May, the church book group will be reading *The Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford, who uses his own family's Chinese background to tell this story

The time is 1986, and Henry Lee, a Chinese American, is standing outside the Panama Hotel. The Panama was once the gateway to Japantown in Seattle. Now its new owner has found in the basement the belongings of Japanese families who were sent to internment camps during WW II. As a Japanese parasol is unfurled, Henry remembers his camp friend Keiko, her family, their experiences, and the promises to each other that they had once made.

We will zoom 'discuss' on Saturday May 15 at 7PM. A link will be sent prior. For more information, call or email Kathy Robinson.

Adult Small Groups

We have several other small groups that are a great way to build meaningful relationships and have fun! Given the virus outbreak, our groups generally will not meet in person, although some are meeting via Zoom. Please contact Kathy Robinson about Square One Zoom meetings on the first Saturday of each month. Don Bubenzer is your contact for Bagels and Books Zoom meetings Thursday mornings. We will all be so glad when it's safe to resume our gatherings!

Stephen Ministry – Sue Otterson



So that we stay fresh in our training to more effectively care for those who need it, continuing education is a part of our Stephen Ministry group meetings. At this time, both of our groups are reading and studying *Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life: 7 Gateways to Spiritual Growth* by Jane Marie Thibault. Several of us are also participating in the Re-Membering the Church class led by the WISE team.

We wish to be ready to walk alongside any who need a caring touch in their life. Please reach out to me or Pastor Amy if you would like a Stephen Minister to help you smooth out a rough time.

W.I.S.E. Team – Jackie Peck and Mary Homer

To actively participate in the process of forming our own W.I.S.E. covenant, plan to attend the Wednesday series, “Re-Membering the Church.” Sessions will be offered Wednesday evenings, through May 12 at 7 pm. Attend any or all sessions on zoom. Register [here](#).

Go Live the Resurrection by Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

Did you know that psychiatric medications have the power to raise the dead? I am a witness! It is my testimony that we can find new life with the help of anti-depressants, hospitalizations, and outpatient treatment. I am here to glorify God, rising from the tomb of trauma through the power of ongoing therapy.

Resurrection comes to us in the form of recovery and treatment for mental health conditions. This is the good news: there is help and hope for people living with mental health challenges and illness. As the Church, we can proclaim the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ: there is no shame in being who we are, no matter what our mental health status might be on any given day, because we are created in the image of God and God loves us.

People living with mental health challenges and their loved ones are Easter People. We are people who have been through the valley of the shadow of depression. We have carried the cross of mental illness. We have laid in the silent tomb of suicide loss. And, by God’s grace, we rise from the grave of despair and into a hope-filled new day.

Our world is hurting emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually. It is the Church’s mission to respond to the world’s profound pain with ministries of healing, wholeness, and love. The Spirit calls the Church to embody the resurrection power of God by creating communities of welcome, inclusion, support, and engagement for people with mental health challenges. Working together, we can dismantle the stigma and shame of mental illness.

I continue to give thanks to God for the UCC Mental Health Network’s ministries, showing us all how to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health, providing support and training for faith communities. Blessings to you, dear Easter people of God. Be the WISE people of God. Go live the resurrection.

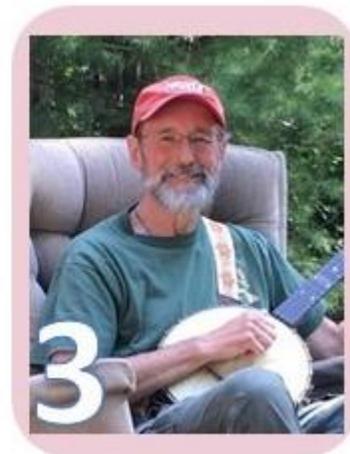
Reprinted from the UCC Mental Health Network

<https://www.mhn-ucc.org/2021/04/05/go-live-the-resurrection-by-rev-dr-sarah-lund/>

The Blue Box!

Did you know we have a blue box outside our front office doors? It’s large enough to accommodate a great many things. Currently, it’s holding devotional materials and the 2020 KUCC Annual Report. Would you like a copy? Stop by and pick one up!

Mystery Solved!



Behind Door Number 1... Joan Eshler

They were a high school volleyball official for a few years.
They enjoy sports and have played golf with members of our church.
They love being a volunteer. They volunteered in our church office and at Kent Social Services prior to the pandemic.

Behind Door Number 2... Kathryn Mudrak

They have been dancing for 12 years.
Their favorite food is waffles.
They love participating in musical theater.

Behind Door Number 3... Harold Hight

They used to race motorcycles.
They are missing half of a left thumb.
They are a musical Jack-of-all-trades-and-master-of-none!

Chancel Flower Sign-up For 2021

Though we may not be worshipping any time soon in our sanctuary, a chancel floral arrangement viewed during these times we worship virtually does lift all our spirits and warms our hearts as we hear of a special occasion a member of our congregation is celebrating or help us all remember a loved one! Nancy Bubbenzer continues to coordinate with those who wish to donate a chancel flower arrangement for the month of May and June and the following dates are open:

May 2, 2021
May 9, 2021
May 30, 2021
June 6, 2021
June 20, 2021
June 27, 2021

To save one of these dates to dedicate your chancel floral arrangement, contact Nancy Bubbenzer at 330-678-3436 (H), 330-671-1014 © or email her at nbubbenzer@gmail.com. Nancy will contact you at the beginning of the week to remind you of your flower donation for the upcoming Sunday worship service and the delivery procedures, along with the message you would like printed in the worship bulletin and announced.

A Note from our Treasurer – Sally Saltzman

The church's operating results for March and the Year-to-Date are shown below. While income exceeded the budget for March, we remain below what was forecast for the year. Expenses were over budget for March but are slightly below the Year-to-Date forecasted amount. The Budget Committee will use these quarterly results to reformulate our budget for the remainder of the year.

	Mar Budget	Mar Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Income	33,009	33,609	99,028	88,898
Expense	(34,771)	(35,729)	(104,315)	(102,668)
Over/Under	(1,762)	(2,120)	(5,287)	(13,770)

May Birthdays

01 Rev. Amy Gopp 03 Amanda Haney 05 Jan Rader 06 Sara Braden 07 Tom Myers 11 Calvin Breyley, BJ Lackey 12 Michael Sisson 13 John Bertsch, Allison Hight 16 Bill Arthur 20 Heather Buckley 21 Christy Balan, Sam Moody, Shirley Sellman 24 Richard Werstler 26 Melvin Foreman, Kathy Robinson, Marilyn Sorrick

Sundays in May

May 2: Fifth Sunday of Easter/Immigrant Rights Sunday

Sermon by Pastor Kim

10:00 Worship on Facebook and YouTube

May 9: Sixth Sunday of Easter/Mother's Day

Sermon by Pastor Amy

10:00 Worship on Facebook and YouTube

May 16: Seventh Sunday of Easter/Mental Health Sunday

Sermon by Pastor Amy

10:00 Worship on Facebook and YouTube

May 23: Pentecost

Sermon by Pastor Amy

10:00 Worship on Facebook and YouTube

May 30: Trinity Sunday/Confirmation

Sermon by Pastor Amy

10:00 Worship on Facebook and YouTube

How to Reach Us

Kent UCC | 1400 East Main Street | Kent, OH 44240
Phone: 330.673.9534 | Fax: 330.673.8828
office@KentUCC.org | [Facebook @ KentUnitedChurchOfChrist](#)

Office Hours: Staff are primarily working from home during Covid-19 crisis.
Regular hours are 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Staff Contacts

Rev. Amy C. Gopp
Senior Minister
PastorAmy@KentUCC.org

Corey Fowler
Director of Music
CFowler1@Kent.edu

Rev. Kimberly Nagy
Minister of Faith Formation
KNagy@KentUCC.org

Heather Cronin
Financial Administrator
HCronin@kentucc.org

Leah Davis
Admin. Assistant
LDavis@KentUCC.org

Don Deibler
Custodian
via Office@KentUCC.org

The Messenger is published monthly and circulated online and in print. Articles and other items for publication in this newsletter should be submitted to the church Administrative Assistant by e-mail to: LDavis@kentucc.org. The deadline for the June issue is Friday, May 21 at noon.

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)