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# Kent News

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Volume 26 - Issue 1

Kent's Web Page: [www.kentmemorial.com](http://www.kentmemorial.com)

January 2010

Click the following link to open the January 2010 Kent Calendar → [www.kentmemorial.com/kentnews/2010-01\\_Cal.pdf](http://www.kentmemorial.com/kentnews/2010-01_Cal.pdf)

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As we begin the new year 2010 may the grace our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Kent Memorial is a divided congregation going into the new year; so divided that we can't even worship together under the same roof. As a pastor of the church this is very unsettling to me. The one danger which threatened the Philippian church, founded by St. Paul, was the danger of disunity. That is the danger of every healthy church. It is when our beliefs really matter to us that we are bound to go up against each other. The greater our enthusiasm the greater danger we may collide. St. Paul powerfully impresses upon his friends that they are the recipients of his encouragement and love, members of an extraordinary fellowship created by the Spirit of God, and objects of God's love and compassion. Consequently they are obliged to pay attention to God's appeal through him to strive for harmony. Paul is not looking for uniformity of opinion here. He does not ask that the Philippians all think alike. Rather he asks that they strive for an inner attitude for each other that is full of love. In such a climate unity thrives.

One thing that we have in common is the one thing that should unite us. The fact that we are all one in Christ should keep us in unity with one another. Our Christian love for one another should bond us together no matter what divides us. The fact that we share in the Holy Spirit should unite us. The Holy Spirit binds us to God and to one another. It is the Spirit who reveals to us what God wishes us to do. It is the Spirit who enables us to live the life of love.

I always come back to Luther's explanation to the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed.: I believe that I cannot by my own understanding or effort believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him; but the Holy Spirit has called me through the GOSPEL, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it united with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. The Holy Spirit gathers us together through the GOSPEL of God's love. We should not divide what the Spirit unites.

That's one reason I am an ELCA Pastor. It is an inclusive church not an exclusive church. In the gospels, whenever someone drew a line to exclude someone, Jesus was always on the other side including them. Jesus always had a word of judgment against those who would judge others. According to Paul's letter to the Philippians God's goal is to have everyone confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

I believe there are places in the world where Jesus can and already does, in other denominations use gay and lesbian people to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord. At the same time I believe there are places, like Kent Memorial, where that would not work., and the ELCA knows that, too. That's why the ELCA has agreed with Kent. (Bishop's letter following.) That's why, even if I did not agree with the social statement, I would not leave the ELCA. I came to Kent as an ELCA pastor to proclaim the Word of God through the Holy Scriptures and especially Christ crucified and risen for us. The Bible does what God wants it to do - it drives us to Jesus Christ through who we are saved.

"Love one another as I have loved you," said Jesus. Then trust God to work in the power of that love.

I love all of you in Christ and pray that we can be united in our witness to His love in our community and in all the world.

In Christ,  
Pastor Dave

P.S. I encourage you to attend the 3 meetings the council has set up to listen to Bishop Mansholt and leaders of the Central States Synod on Sunday, January 10 at 3:00 pm

- Pastor Mark Chavez from Lutheran Core on Sunday, January 24 after the worship service.

- Pastor Bill Sullivan from LCMC on Monday, January 25 at 6:00 pm. Coffee and cookies will served when Bishop Mansholt comes. A potluck with Lutheran Core and a light supper with LCMC.

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*Our Mission Statement: To Share Jesus With All !*

**STAFF**

David R.Beese ..... Pastor  
 Pat Dau ..... Office Secretary, & News Letter Editor  
 Kathleen Marco ..... Organist  
 Joyce Wanamaker..... Assistant Organist  
 Jan Ellis ..... Vocal & Hand Bell Choirs Director  
 Dorothy Englestad, & Bill Ferretti .....  
 ..... Parish Ministry Associates  
 Brad Brumm .....Sunday School Director  
 Gail Kruse..... Kent Kids  
 Helen Garagnani .....Prayer Chain Chairperson  
 Lester Clark, John Bolton,  
 Ken Gerardy, & James O'Neal..... Sound Technicians  
 Don Brohm ..... WEB Master  
[www.kentmemorial.com](http://www.kentmemorial.com)

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**2010 COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Committee Assignments**

Jennifer Bolton ..... President  
 Michael Wagner ..... Vice President; Worship & Music  
 Bob Harger ..... Christian Education  
 Jerry Husbands ..... Evangelism  
 Ken Gerardy .....  
 ..... Finance, Ministry Fund, & Building Fund Treasurer  
 Don Peterson ..... Long Range Planning  
 Jim Kennedy..... Property  
 Melba Bangert..... Social Ministry  
 Chuck Wanamaker..... Social Ministry  
 LeeAnne Brumm .....Stewardship  
 Virgil Norris .....Stewardship  
 Diane Ziehl ..... Youth

**Council Appointed Positions**

Stacey O'Neal .....Recording Secretary  
 Gail Kruse..... Treasurer  
 Jean Killion ..... Financial Secretary  
 Barbara Patterson ... Building Fund Financial Secretary

**FEBRUARY  
 NEWSLETTER ARTICLE  
 DEADLINE  
 Friday, January 22**

*Leave your articles in the Newsletter  
 box in the office, or e-mail your news  
 to [office@kentmemorial.com](mailto:office@kentmemorial.com)*

**KENT MEMORIAL LUTHERAN  
 CARE CORE COORDINATOR  
 FOR JANUARY  
 Susan Olson , 374-5315**

**JANUARY SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

**January 3 — Second Sunday of Christmas**

1st Reading..... Jeremiah 31:7-14  
 The Psalm ..... 147:12-20  
 2nd Reading..... Ephesians 3-14  
 The Gospel..... John 1; (1-9) 10-18

**January 10 — Baptism of Our Lord**

1st Reading..... Isaiah 62:1-5  
 The Psalm..... Psalm 29  
 2nd Reading..... Acts 8:14-17  
 The Gospel..... Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

**January 17— Second Sunday after Epiphany**

1st Reading ..... Isaiah 62:1-5  
 The Psalm..... Psalm 36:5-10  
 2nd Reading ..... 1 Corinthians 12:1-11  
 The Gospel..... John 2:1-11

**January 24—Third Sunday after Epiphany**

1st Reading ..... Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6, 8-10  
 The Psalm..... Psalm 19  
 2nd Reading ..... 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a  
 The Gospel..... Luke 4:14-21

**WORSHIP LEADERS IN JANUARY**

**8:00 AM**

Acolytes .....  
 Altar Guild.....  
 Lector ..... Pat Dau  
 Greeters..... 01/10 Gerry & Linda Williams  
 Ushers ..... 01/03 Kimberlings;  
 ..... 01/10 Bob Kueker & Allen Kimberling  
 ..... 01/17 Phil & Rosie Keeney  
 Coffee Fellowship..... 01/03 Gerry & Linda Williams  
 Sound Technicians.....01/03, 01/17, 01/31 Lester Clark  
 ..... 01/10 & 01/24 Ken Gerardy

**10:30 AM**

Altar Guild.....  
 Lector .....  
 Greeters.....  
 Ushers ..... 01/10 Wayne & Eunice Langton  
 Coffee Fellowship..... 01/03 Bob & Janet Harger  
 Sound Technicians..... 01/03, 01/17, 01/31 John O'Neal  
 ..... 01/10 & 01/24 John Bolton

**GENERAL FUND COUNTERS FOR JANUARY**

1/03 Michael Wagner, Toni Wagner  
 1/10 Linda Kimberling, Ken Gerardy  
 1/17 Jim Kennedy, Gerry Williams  
 1/24 Don Peterson, Gloria Peterson  
 01/31 Ken Gerardy, Merv Moeller



The following members and friends were in need of God's healing touch this past month

Jeremy, James & Andrea Brown  
 Scott & Cyndy Kamin  
 Norma Estes  
 Don Brohm  
 Charline Stringer  
 Makayla Markus  
 Debbie Billing  
 Courtnee Else  
 Darleen Mueller  
 Rich Binder  
 Lee Dau  
 Dick Kirchner  
 Leanne Bunger  
 Dennis Fuehring  
 Edward Brown

Taylor Pheifer  
 Jackie Porter  
 Cindy Hogman  
 Butch Matthys  
 Ashley Sweeney  
 Ashley Morgan-  
 Morgan  
 Don Carter  
 Kimberly Brunkhorst  
 Larry Akers  
 Jerry Killion  
 Gertrude Grongoff  
 Kelly Jo Poretta  
 Marilyn Shoemaker  
 Betty Wiley  
 Susie Rawlings  
 Skip Allison  
 Morgan McGurk

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our annual Cookie/Candy Sale a success. Our net proceeds from the sale were \$1,236 which equates to about 247 pounds of cookies and candy. Matching funds of \$995 from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans makes our contribution to the nursing scholarship fund at Lake Regional Hospital a total of \$2,231!—**Joyce Wanamaker, Cooke Sale Chairperson**

My family received a \$20.00 gift certificate for Sav-A-Lot for Thanksgiving. We really appreciate it! We have 4 children. (name withheld for reasons of privacy)

Thank you for your help. It means a lot to us. Merry Christmas. (name withheld for reasons of privacy)

Thank you very much for the cards, calls, prayers and visits I received after my hip replacement surgery. I appreciate your love and concern. **Lee Dau**

We would like to thank everyone for the prayers, gifts, cards, visits and calls during Dick's surgery. The knees are doing great, but we still need your prayers to help with his fight against cancer. Pastor Dave, thanks for the visit and prayers. We have such a caring congregation. Thanks again. **Dick & Shirley Kirchner**

Thank you from the **Evangelism Committee** to those who brought guests recently:

- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Jan & Helmut Lacas       | James & Stacey O'Neal |
| Sherry & Rick Ott        | Don & Georgia Cline   |
| Denise Irwin             | Bob & Janet Kuecker   |
| Charles & Ingrid Niemann | Mike & Judy Ward      |
| Gary & Carolyn Wiles     | Dave & Cindy Curchy   |
| Sheryl Boos              |                       |



Sympathy and Christian Hope is extended to...

Family and friends of Shirley Parsley

**Thank you....**

Community Blood Center of the Ozarks hosts a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at the Blood Center in Springfield as a "thank you" to its many volunteers who work so hard to help save lives. On Dec 9, 8 of our Thriver volunteers went to this lovely luncheon and afterward had a tour of the Center. It was especially gratifying to see what happens to the blood donations after they leave one of our blood drives here in Sunrise Beach. The blood is typed, tested and processed and sent on to one of the 37 hospitals in Southern MO and Northern Arkansas within 24 hours of arriving at the Center. CBCO provides 100% of the blood used at Lake Regional Hospital in Osage Beach. The Thrivers would like to pass on the CBCO "thank you" to all who help with the drive and all who donate their blood. You are all heroes! — **Kent Thrivers**

Local Visitors

- Glen Graham and Shirley Brown  
 Ed Brown & Nina O'Brian  
 Ilse Fuller  
 Diana Davis  
 Ron & Shiela Spry  
 Sheri Knott  
 Sue Beattie  
 Bob & Vernie Yates (former members to rejoin)  
 Curtis and Diane Reams

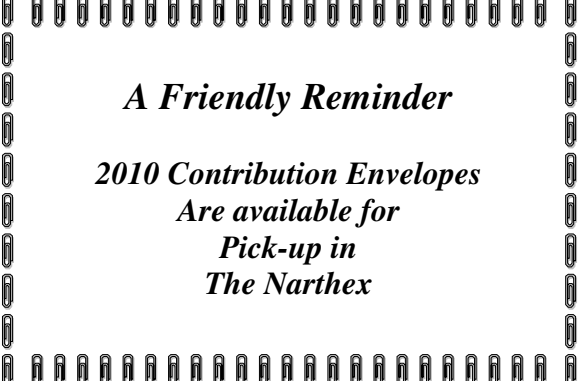
**THE STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

|                                     |         |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Offerings and Income for November   | 12,497  |
| Budget Needs Each Month             | 16,480  |
| Offerings and Income—January—Nov.   | 154,304 |
| Budget Needs—January—November       | 181,665 |
| Average Attendance for November 160 |         |

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
FAITHFUL ATTENDANCE  
AND YOUR GIFTS !**

**November 2009 Kent Memorial Lutheran Church  
Building Fund Report**

|                                                          |              |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Bank Balance 11-1-09                                     | \$5,717.22   |
| Deposits, interest, and adjustments in Nov.              | 7,387.55     |
| Payment to Mission Investment                            | 6,000.00     |
| Bank Balance 12-1-09                                     | 5,717.22     |
|                                                          |              |
| Payment to Mission Investment                            | \$6,000.00   |
| Interest Paid                                            | 2,080.02     |
| Principal Paid                                           | \$3,919.98   |
|                                                          |              |
| Balance due on mortgage to<br>Mission Investment 11-1-09 | \$389,669.77 |
| Principal Paid                                           | 3,919.98     |
| Balance due on mortgage 12-1-09                          | \$385,749.79 |

  
**A Friendly Reminder**  
**2010 Contribution Envelopes**  
**Are available for**  
**Pick-up in**  
**The Narthex**

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

**SHARE THE HARVEST  
AND  
COMMUNITY FOR CHRIST**

**All Non-Perishable Food Items:** Canned vegetables, fruit, pancake mix and syrup, etc.

- Laundry Soap / Dish Soap
- Hand Soap / Shampoo
- Toilet Tissue / Paper Towels
- Tooth Paste / Tooth Brushes

*Dollar General and Dollar Junction are good sources for most of these items.*

**SOCIAL MINISTRY**

**Loving Gifts Tree**

We had a Wonderful Christmas Party at our church with the Show Me Christian Youth Homes from Lamonte and Drysdale Farm. There were 60 people at the party, 24 children and 4 house parents, and about 31 members of our congregation. Thanks to the Swansons for buying the Pizza for everyone, and all of the people who brought pop and homemade brownies. Everything was delicious and we sent the leftovers home with the kids.

Santa came and all of the children got their picture taken with Santa. Sheryl Boos was the photographer and she sent photos to all of them. Santa needed an Elf to help him so a big thanks to Dillon O’Neal for being Santa’s little helper. Melba received \$80.00 in donations from members of the congregation and is sending \$40 to each home to use for Christmas.

Citizen’s Against Domestic Violence received presents for 25 children. Thank you to EVERYONE who cared and bought presents for these two groups. The children were an absolute delight and you’ve helped make 49 children’s Christmas much brighter.

**Other Community Needs**

As we begin the New Year, please continue to keep Community for Christ and CADV and their clients in your thoughts and prayers.

**Interested in being part of Kent’s Social Ministry? Please talk with Melba Bangert!**

### **Kent Memorial – Exploring our Options**

Informational Meetings at Kent Memorial:

—Bishop Mansholt will be here on Sunday, January 10th 3 p.m. to discuss our relationship with the Central States Synod and the ELCA. Coffee and cookies will be served.

—Pastor Mark Chavez of Lutheran CORE will be here on Sunday, January 24th 11:30 a.m. There will be a pot luck lunch with the meeting afterwards.

—Pastor Bill Sullivan of LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ) will be here on Monday, January 25th 6 p.m. There will be a light supper with the meeting afterwards.

All are invited to come to these informative meetings.

### ***Our thanks to these members who have provided Poinsettias to help beautify the Sanctuary***

**Altar Guild**—(1) in honor of Pastor and Nancy Beese

**Bob & Sharon Ballard**—(1) in memory of Katherine Ballard, Leonard Jones and Betty Healzer

**Phil & Melba Bangert**—(1) in honor of Jesus' birth

**Brenda Brumm & Mark Carrell**—(1) in memory of Rosemary Moor

**Jim & Evelyn Clements**—(1) in memory of Buren & Lennie Bugg

**Dave & Cindy Curchy**--(1) in memory of Joe Church & Wayne Rodine

**Charlie & Mary Evans**—(1) in memory of our parents

**Stanley Field**—(2) in memory of Kathleen Field D'Anna and in honor of Ruth Somers.

**Dan & Tracy Garrett**—(2) in memory of our grandparents and in honor of our parents

**Floralie Harris**—(1) in honor of Jessica and Jason

**Marcia Heald**—(1) in memory of Paul Heald

**Gary & Teresa Jones**—(1) in memory of Norman O. Brue

**Phil & Rosie Keeney**—(1) in memory of their son David

**Gerald & Jean Killion**—(1) in memory of Muriel Burke and as a gift to Pat and Lee Dau

**Allen & Linda Kimberling**—(2) in memory of our parents and in honor of son & grandchildren

**Carol Knight**—(1) in memory of Gary Wayne Young

**Helmut & Jan Lacas**—(1) in honor of friends and family

**Nancy Larson**—(1) in memory of Ron Larson, Jim Curtis and Joyce Larson

**Packie & Georgia Ann McFarland**—(1) in memory of both of our parents

**Joyce McHenry**—(1) in memory of Ralph McHenry

**Charles and Ingrid Niemann**—(1) in honor of their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 20  
And in honor of Esther Niemann's 97<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 25

**Ingebord Peter**—(1) in memory of Walter Peter

**Joe & Pat Poretta**—(1) in honor of our children & grandchildren

**Tom & Jackie Porter**—(2) in memory of Marge Porter and Norman Bernzen

**Bill & Karen Pragman**—(1) in memory of our parents, Jim Pragman  
and Herb & Eunice Fuehring

**Rich & Margo Strothmann**—(2) in memory of Henry & Rosa Strothmann and  
in honor of Paul & Grace Thrailkill

**Gary & Carolyn Wiles**—(2) in memory of our parents and in honor of our grandchildren

**Rick & Beth Waite**—(1) in memory of Jordan and Sid Vollers and Arnold and Opal Waite

**Judy Ward**—(1) in memory of our family

**WELCA**—(2) in memory of Muriel Burke & Evelyn Palmer

**Linda & Gerry Williams**—(2) in memory of Guy & Helen Williams and Roy & Dorothy Fleenor  
and in honor of Kent Memorial

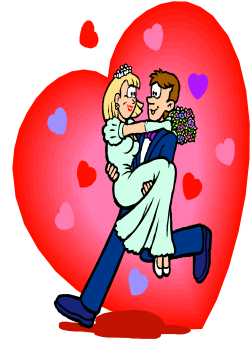
**Vince & Barb Yount**—(1) in memory of Joyce Young & Dennis Droege

**JANUARY BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS**

| <b>Birthdays</b> |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1                | B. Jo Binder        |
| 2                | Richard Binder      |
| 2                | Rich Strothmann     |
| 2                | Dylan O'Neal        |
| 4                | Heidi Bolton        |
| 6                | Sydney Irwin        |
| 7                | Jim Kennedy         |
| 7                | Denise Irwin        |
| 9                | Ann Johnson         |
| 10               | Barbara Gidley      |
| 11               | Mary Marose         |
| 13               | Gene Halvorson      |
| 13               | Keeghan Graham      |
| 13               | Conner Graham       |
| 14               | Tom Newland         |
| 19               | Chantal Enriquez    |
| 20               | Allen Brumm         |
| 21               | Dorothy Englestad   |
| 21               | Jeri Hunter         |
| 26               | Karen Hardwick      |
| 29               | Richard Caden Brown |
| 30               | Ada Terry           |

**Anniversaries**

01/03/2009 Vincin & Barb Yount  
 01/12/1952 Don & Marilyn Hays  
 01/21/1962 Bob & Janet Harger  
 01/26/1985 Jo & Tom Ewers  
 01/27/1967 Eric & Sue Rosenthal  
 01/27/1990 Bob & Lillian Bueker



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**ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION**

**50 years plus:** Don & Marilyn Hays, 58 years

**30 years plus:** Bob & Janet Harger, 48 years  
 Eric & Sue Rosenthal, 43 years

**20 years plus:** Jo & Tom Ewers, 25 years

*If your birthday or anniversary has been left out or isn't correct, please contact the church office so we can make a note of it. Thank you!*



The 2010 Flower Calendar is available in The Fellowship Hall for those who wish to furnish flowers in the coming year.

Sign up for the dates you would like to furnish flowers and if there is a special occasion, please note that on the calendar.

The cost of the flowers is \$18.00 per Sunday. Checks should be made out to the Altar Guild and may be left in their mailbox in the church office.

Thanks for helping to add fresh flower beauty to our worship area.



**CURRENTLY IN CARE FACILITIES**

Laurie Knolls & Care Center  
 610 Highway O  
 P O Box 1068  
 Laurie, MO 65038  
 Phone: 374-8263

Esther Bryan  
 Don Carter  
 Mary Gordon  
 Sam Palmer  
 Harvey Rasmussen  
 Lucille Theleman

If you know of others who are not listed here, please contact the church office so they may be included in this list.



Look for the **New Stuff** links  
to the latest posts:

**RECENT UPDATES  
TO THE KENT WEB  
SITE?**

**NOTE:** Effective 12/17/09; To avoid duplication, future copies of Kent Council Minutes, WELCA Newsletters, and the Kent Staff & Council lists will no longer be posted individually on this WEB site. These documents will still be available online each month in the online version of the **KENT NEWS**.

- [KENT CONSTITUTION UPDATED TO INCLUDE 12/9/09 CLARIFICATION TO CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS REGARDING MINISTRY FUND COMMITTEE](#)
- [November 17, 2009 Council Minutes - Posted 12/16/09](#)  
**note: future council minutes will not be posted SEPARATELY, but will STILL be available online each month in the KENT NEWS.**

And probably before you receive your newsletter via US Postal Service, this newsletter will have already been on the website.

Don Brohm continues to be our ‘Grand Pooba’ Webmaster. Is there some kind of a ceremonial robe for that? *Thanks, Don, for your faithful service in providing Kent with such a useful website!*

**Directory Update**

There are updated **Members & Friends Directories** available on the table in The Gathering Room. Please pick up a copy or two for your home, work and/or car.

An updated directory is always online at [www.kentmemorial.com](http://www.kentmemorial.com)

It is in PDF format so you can print it from your computer if you wish. It is password Protected. If you do not know the password, call the office for this information.



**REMEMBER THOSE  
SERVING IN THE MILITARY  
IN PRAYER**

Glenn Maddock  
Benjamin Kyle Jones  
Tom Gidley  
Will Pierce  
Tony Kiefer  
Shawn Moorhead  
Dustin McCormick  
Michael Rudolph  
Brandon Gronhoff  
Gregory Bird  
Brian Fitzgerald  
David DeJarnette  
Bret Jefferson  
Timothy Price

John Waddell  
Blake Richardson  
Kyle Towles  
John Kuenzi  
Mark Woodfin  
Sam D. Ellis  
Joseph W. Ellis  
Travis Ervin  
J. R. Frakes  
Joalene & Joe Grissel, Jr.  
Bryan Wright  
Aaron Davis  
Jason Ites  
Cameron Keaton



**MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE  
STUDY SCHEDULE**

January 7 Stan  
January 14 Gerry  
January 21 Bob  
January 28 Bud



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**KENT MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 17, 2009**

*NOTE: Council Minutes appear a month late in the Kent News, for example, these November Council Minutes are published in the January Kent News. This is so the typed November minutes can be reviewed and approved at the December meeting before they are published.*

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Jennifer Bolton, Council President. Devotions were led by Kathy Spaulding.

**Members Present:** Pastor Dave, Michael Wagner, Jim Kennedy, Don Peterson, Jennifer Bolton, Charles Niemann, Virgil Norris, LeeAnne Brumm, Chuck Wanamaker, Melba Bangert, Diane Ziehl, Ken Gerardy, Kathy Spaulding, and Bob Harger.

The minutes from the last monthly Church Council meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup> were approved as presented. And the minutes from the special council meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup> were also approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** The committee reviewed line items on the balance sheet. Jennifer had talked to Ken Mueller of the property committee and received his OK to move the \$746 that is left in the outdoor worship fund to the general funds since this project has been completed.

**Building Fund Report:** Ken Gerardy presented the report. The mortgage balance on the building as of 11/01/09 is \$389,669.77.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Dave announced that the Community Thanksgiving Service will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Lake West Christian Academy on Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>. The offering from the service is designated to the Westlake Ministerial Alliance. Volunteers are needed for Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center. Wednesday evening Advent services will be starting on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at Kent, and this year's theme will be "Love finds a voice in Bethlehem." As in years past, there will be a short service on Wednesday evenings and a meal afterwards. Kent Memorial will be welcoming seven new members on Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. They are Carol Knight, Mike & Judy Ward and Dave & Cindy Curchy. Jim & Pat Larson will be associate members. Karen Pragman and Pat Dau are heading up a Grief Support Group, and there have been approximately five people participating in the group. This ministry might expand out into the community. Dale & Rosalie Freelove resigned their membership from Kent Memorial in October.

**Christian Education:** Bob Harger reported that this committee did not have a monthly meeting in October. It was noted that some of the Sunday School classes are smaller than last year. Dorothy's class has been completed. It was well-attended. They discussed the book *Prodigal God*. A second adult class is being considered for next year when Dorothy returns.

**Evangelism:** Kathy Spaulding mentioned that Kent members who have invitees come to our church services will have their names printed in the newsletter and bulletins. Additionally, a short biography of new members will be featured in the newsletter.

**Long Range Planning:** Don Peterson reported that the stained glass window project is progressing as planned. The Church signs at each entrance to Kent have been refurbished and raised to allow more visibility from the highway. The sound room team has made a few requests, and this was reviewed.

**Ministry Fund:** There was no monthly meeting held in October.

**Mutual Ministry:** Jennifer read two e-mails from Nancy Lemke, resigning her position on this committee, as well as from the clown ministry. The Kent Clowns have current commitments for the remainder of the year. The Church Council approved James O'Neal as a new member of this committee if he's willing to serve.

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**Council Minutes 11/17/09 (continued)**

**Property:** Jim Kennedy announced that the project involving permanent hookup to city water for the church and parsonage is nearly complete. Several volunteers took time to clean up the leaves on the church grounds. There was a break-in on Sunday night October 25<sup>th</sup> and the police and insurance company were notified. Nothing seemed to be missing, and the committee is looking into replacing the office door that was damaged and making the downstairs exterior doors more secure.

**Social Ministry:** Melba Bangert reported that the "Loving Gifts Tree" is up and the SMCYH Christmas party will be held in our fellowship hall on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. In October, there were 16 calls for assistance from the community, and the needs and requests for help are continuing to grow. Thanksgiving gifts (grocery gift certificates) will be given to the two food pantries. Volunteers are needed for Salvation Army bell ringing.

**Stewardship:** Virgil Norris reported that there was no monthly meeting. New offering envelopes for 2010 will be available at the beginning of December.

**Worship and Music:** Charles Niemann announced that Gloria Peterson will be the new committee chairperson, and they are looking for one more replacement member. The small organ has been sold. The handbells have been refurbished, and the Handbell Choir will provide prelude music for the Christmas Eve service.

**Youth Ministry:** Diane Ziehl shared information about the new after-school program. There were 16 children who attended the monthly event on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>. This program is really opening doors between the church and the community, and the number of participants is growing each month.

**Partnership for Missional Church (PMC):** Pastor Dave and Melba Bangert reported that there will be a steering committee/council retreat on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> at Kent Memorial. There will also be a cluster meeting in St. Louis on Jan. 15-16.

**Old Business:** There was a reminder that committee's annual reports are due by 01/15/10. All committees need to get new members to replace their outgoing members and to stagger the terms.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding options for Kent Memorial with regard to recent controversy involving the Human Sexuality policy passed at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in August. There are four Lutheran church affiliations, including the ELCA, which are being studied by the Kent Church Council. Members were given information about one of these affiliations..."Lutheran Congregations in Mission For Christ", also known as "LCMC." Council members will evaluate reading material, research website, and watch the DVD.

The ELCA has made a provision for congregations to declare who they will or will not call for rostered ministry. The church council has voted to send this declaration to the ELCA. Following is a copy of the letter:

***Declaration Regarding Rostered Ministry at Kent Memorial Lutheran Church***

November 18, 2009

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Kent Memorial Lutheran Church, as a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, understands that it has the right to call, or refuse to call, as a pastor or rostered lay leader any person who is on the roster of ordained ministers or lay rosters or any candidate approved for those rosters.

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church, in accordance with the 2009 Churchwide Assembly which resolved that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America "make provision in its policies to recognize the conviction of members who believe that this church should not call or roster people in a publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationship," declares that this congregation will not call a pastor or lay rostered leader who is or intends to be in such a same-gender relationship.

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church declares that marriages, civil unions, or blessings of persons in same-gender relationships will not be performed in this church building or authorized by this congregation.

Signed,

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church Council

David R. Beese, Pastor

Jennifer L. Bolton, Council President

**Council Minutes 11/17/09 (continued)**

There was a motion by Virgil Norris, seconded by Jim Kennedy that the Church Council make a recommendation to the congregation at the Annual Meeting Part II on February 8, 2010 that this declaration be added as an amendment to the Kent Memorial Constitution. The motion passed with one no vote.

Pastor Beese will continue Bible Study classes on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Please plan on joining us around the table as we learn more about God's Word. May we continue to pray for God's guidance and for Pastor Beese, each other and for our congregation as we go through this time at Kent Memorial.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Offerings: Church Council voted to designate the Advent offerings to Kent's Social Ministry Committee and the Christmas Eve offering will be split equally between Share the Harvest and Community for Christ.

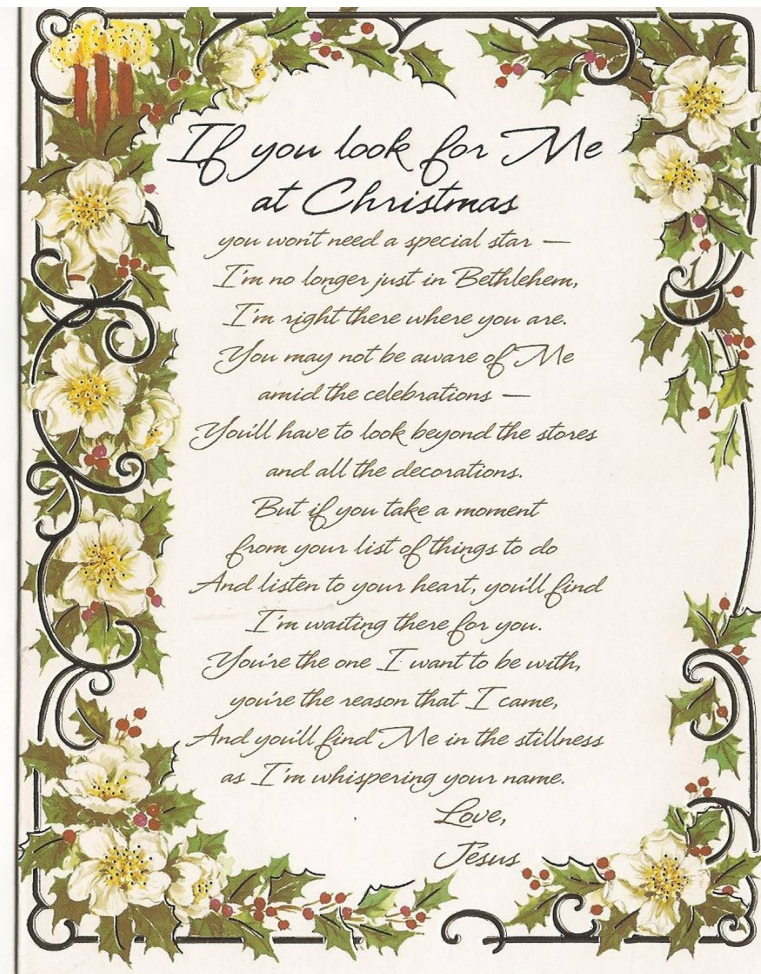
Webmaster: Kent is searching for a new webmaster for the church's website. Don Brohm will be retiring from this position as of 12/31/09. If Kent has to hire a webmaster, Don would like to give a quote to do this.

Absentee Ballots: Council discussed recent requests regarding making absentee ballots for congregational meetings a possibility. It was not approved at this time.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stacey O'Neal,

*At Christmas and every day —*



*From the Lake Regional Newsletter*

*I Believe...*

*That sometimes when I'm angry,  
I have the right to be angry,  
But that doesn't give me  
The right to be cruel.*

**WIT AND WISDOM**

*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*

**—John 13:34-35**