

KENT HAPPENINGS

Volume 40, Issue 1

A Publication of Kent Memorial Lutheran Church, Sunrise Beach, MO.

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January 2024



Overlooking the Lake of the Ozarks

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church

184 Sunset Hill Drive
Sunrise Beach, MO 65079

~ 1951—2024 ~

~ The Reverend Edward L. Foster, Pastor ~

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Tracy Garrett Secretary, Newsletter, Website
Joyce Wanamaker Organist/Pianist
Margo Strothmann Organist/Pianist, Choir Accompanist
Vanessa Hebrank..... Pianist
Tracey Atzeni Pianist
Tracy Garrett Vocal Choir Director,
Coordinator of Worship & Artistic Ministry
Katie Heaford Handbell Choir Director
Linda Williams Prayer Chain Chairperson
Sam Foster, Dan Garrett (coordinator), Larry Fair, Gail Kruse, Al
Mohling, Michael Wagner, Mike Ward Sound Technicians

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2024 COUNCIL MEMBERS
Committee Assignments

Jim Melody President
Kathy Fair Long Range Planning
Michael Wagner Vice President; Stewardship
Carol Hansen Recording Secretary, Christian Education
Wendy Blomberg..... Evangelism
Sheryl Boos Social Ministry
Bob Karls..... Property
Jim Melody Social Ministry
Katherine Lacroix Long Range Planning/Scholarship
Al Mohling..... Finance
Mike Ward Mutual Ministry
Steve Atzeni
Ruth Osterbur.....

Council Appointed Positions

Gail Kruse..... Treasurer
Jane Maher Financial Secretary

DECEMBER SCRIPTURE LESSONS

January 7 ~ Baptism of Our Lord

First Reading..... Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm Psalm 29
Second Reading Acts 19:1-7
Gospel Reading Mark 1:4-11

January 14 ~ 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading..... Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8-15a
Gospel Reading Mark 1:1-8

January 21 ~ 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading..... Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm Psalm 62:5-12
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Gospel Reading Mark 1:14-20

January 28 ~ 4th Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading..... Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm Psalm 111
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Gospel Reading Mark 1:21-28

GENERAL FUND COUNTERS FOR JANUARY

01/07 Marsha Gust, Vanessa Hebrank
01/14 Bill Work, Bob Karls
01/21 Wendy Blomberg, Joyce Wanamaker
01/28 Kathy Fair, Carol Hansen

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024

Email your news Office@KentMemorial.com.

This Little Light

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. Isaiah 9:2

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. John 1:1-5

In many congregations (including ours) on Christmas Eve one of the meaningful parts of the Candlelight Service is the lighting of the Advent Candle. That lighting of the Advent Candle signifies the coming of the light of Christ into the world. We then pass that light to everyone in attendance, each with their own small candle (or glow stick), so that the light of Jesus can radiate from all of us.

On Good Friday, in particular at the Good Friday Tenebrae service, many congregations extinguish the Christ Candle, reminding worshipers that for those few days, that light of Jesus had been extinguished as well. Only to be rekindled early on Easter morning, proclaiming the wonderful news that the light of Jesus was resurrected, and that the darkness did not overcome it.

The analogy of light and darkness has been an important part of our understanding of God and what God is doing in our world, and the symbolism of the Christ Candle has, in turn, been a powerful reminder that Jesus is the light of the world, who shines in the darkness and lights our way through life. Indeed, Jesus commands us to be light for the world as well, “to let our light shine, so that others may see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven.”

During these seasons of Christmas, Epiphany, Lent and Easter, light and darkness are a recurring theme, and we will play with that theme throughout these seasons. Starting on Epiphany, we will have extra candles on the altar that will remind us of the light that shines in the darkness and radiates from our lives out into the world.

How has Jesus been a light to your path? How has his light enlightened and inspired you? How has Jesus pushed back for you, the darkness and evil that surrounds us?

How can you let your light shine? How can you let Jesus' light shine from your life? How can we together be a lamp shining the light of Christ into the darkness of the world around us?

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
The light shines from all of you! May the light of God shine from all of us
in this new year.

God bless you all.

Shalom,
Pastor Ed



Illustration by Linda Williams

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

01/01 Ron Kornfeind
01/02 Carolyn Garrett
01/04 Ray Lacroix
01/05 Don Wilken
01/10 Barb Gidley
01/16 Liz VanDeVeire
01/12 Judy Bradley
01/19 Chantal Enriquez
01/20 Allen Brumm
01/21 Dorothy Engelstad
Pastor Carl Gauck
Shelly Carolus
01/22 Janay Renken
01/27 Karen Mellody
LaRoy Vinkavich
01/28 John Georg
01/30 Lyla Renken



ANNIVERSARIES

01/03/2009	Vince & Barb Yount	15 years
01/07/1995	Bill & Joy Whitlow	29 years

If your birthday or anniversary isn't listed, please contact the church office so we may include you in our congratulations!

IN NEED OF GDD'S HEALING TOUCH

Cheryl Anderson
Dana Anderson
Michelle Becker
Jessica Birdsong
Cody Blasberg
Marcille Bohling
Judy Bradley
Allan Burke
Cindy Campbell
Shirley Clark
Evelyn Clements
Lance Craft
Duane & Grace Cridland
Jim Kruse
Chuck Cuthbertson
Pat Embich
Mary Beth Fair
Ron Ferguson
Stacey Flect
Dave Fosler
Shane Foster
Ginger Frazier
Al Gann
Ken Gerardy
Carla Glusing
Ruth Goddard & Family
Lyn Golvig
Gary Hansen

Debbie Hanshaw
Linda Harris
Bryan Hastings
Rod Hayes
Joel Hellman
Jacque Higgenbotham
Mike Holmes
CF Huff
Beth Jackson
Teresa Joslin
Linda Kimberling
Ed Krueger
Jim Kruse
Blanche Lacroix
Susan Lingwall
Jim Marco
Debbie McDermott
Dave & Sara Newton
Steve O'Connor
Gene Page
Jennifer Pederson
Doris Peterson
Gloria Peterson
Zach Rezac

Ron Roberts
Marcia Robbins
Dan Rogers
Pat & Shirley Rogers
Dave Shaver
Karen Thompson
Karen Tischnor
Toni Wagner
Bernie Wiegel
Theresa White
Jerry Williams
Larry Wilson
Bill Work



SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Christopher Babcock
Eric Blomberg
Ben Brammeier
Shade Bullock
Dylan Craig
Salathiel (Sal) Caudill
Aaron Davis
Tanner Glodt
Kristine Hubbard



Jason Ites
Jason Judge
Adam Kralina
Matt Lee
Jordan Lindeman
Glenn Maddock
Tristan Morgan
Adam Peterson
Trent Simmons

FINANCE CORNER

INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT	NOVEMBER	OCTOBER	SEPTEMBER
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>
Offerings and Income-Month	\$ 13,819	\$ 21,134	\$ 14,264
Pass-Through Income-Month	\$ 320	\$ 65	\$ 408
TOTAL INCOME-MONTH	\$ 14,139	\$ 21,199	\$ 14,672
Actual Expenses-Month	\$ 15,502	\$ 17,012	\$ 17,079
Pass-Through Expenses-Month	\$ 210	\$ 65	\$ 408
TOTAL EXPENSES-MONTH	\$ 15,712	\$ 17,077	\$ 17,487
TOTAL OVERALL-MONTH	\$ (1,574)	\$ 4,122	\$ (2,815)
Monthly Budget-Expenses	\$ 19,295	\$ 19,295	\$ 19,295
Offerings and Income-Y-T-D	\$ 197,265	\$ 183,447	\$ 162,312
Pass-Through Income-Y-T-D	\$ 5,489	\$ 5,169	\$ 5,104
TOTAL INCOME-Y-T-D	\$ 202,754	\$ 188,615	\$ 167,416
Actual Expenses-Y-T-D	\$ 198,976	\$ 183,474	\$ 166,461
Pass-Through Expenses-Y-T-D	\$ 5,379	\$ 5,169	\$ 5,104
TOTAL EXPENSES-Y-T-D	\$ 204,354	\$ 188,642	\$ 171,565
TOTAL OVERALL-Y-T-D	\$ (1,601)	\$ (27)	\$ (4,149)

FINANCIAL NOTES:

- A. Current Financial Situation** – Kent’s giving position for November and the year has slipped a small amount, but December giving normally has been historically strong. We think that our financial position will be favorable at the end of the year. Our expenses for the first 11 months in total, continue to be under the budget. Thank you to all those who prayerfully give offerings to support Kent’s mission.
- B. Thrivent Action Teams** – Thrivent provides \$250 per project to kick-start a fundraiser, educational event, or service project for Kent or the community. Each qualifying Thrivent member can submit two projects per year for approval by Thrivent. This is an excellent way to provide funds to do projects and not have to use Kent budgeted monies. If you have questions about this, please contact Joyce Wanamaker, Kathy Fair, or Al Mohling.

Recent Action Team Projects:

Board Games for Hurricane Deck Xmas Store	November 2023
Soup on Sunday	November 2023
Social Ministry Bingo Supplies	September 2023
July 4 Ice Cream Social & Fireworks	July 2023
Water/Gatorade for SBFPD	June 2023
Hurricane Deck School Supplies	June 2023
New Handbell Music & Folders	April 2023
Ladies Spring Luncheon Supplies	March 2023
WELCA Spring Cluster Supplies	March 2023
Seder Meal Supplies	March 2023
Soup on Sunday	November 2022
Social Ministry Bingo Supplies	September 2022
School Supplies	August 2022

- C. Schwab (previously TD Ameritrade) Account** - As you make distributions from your retirement 401Ks, 403Bs, IRAs or other investments, please visit with your financial planner/accountant about the possibility of transferring some of those funds to the Kent Schwab account or Kent checking account. The transfer might be able to be made with no capital gains tax consequence to you. If you have questions about this, please contact Gail Kruse or Al Mohling.

JANUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	1	2 10am WELCA Crafts 11am WELCA Meeting	9am Wo
7 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9am Sunday School 10am Worship with Holy Communion 11am Handbells Rehearsal	8 9:30am Social Ministry	9 9:30am Undecorate the Church Community for Christ	Books I 9am Wo 10am Wors 6pm Evening
14 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9am Sunday School 10am Worship with Holy Communion 11am Handbells Rehearsal	15 6pm Chorale Rehearsal WESTSIDE SR. CTR.	16 6pm Church Council	9am Wo 9:30 a.m. Cf 3pm Grief Su 6pm Evening
21 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9am Sunday School 10am Worship with Holy Communion 11am Handbells Rehearsal	22	23	9am Wo 6pm Evening
28 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9am Sunday School 10am Worship with Holy Communion 11am Handbells Rehearsal	29 6pm Chorale Rehearsal	30 10am-2pm USA Tours Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	9am Wo 6pm Evening

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 Women's Bible Study	4 10am Men's Bible Study 6pm Lake Jazz Band	5	6
10 s Due for Audit Women's Bible Study Worship & Music ing Bible Study	11 10am Men's Bible Study Community for Christ	12	13 Community for Christ
17 Women's Bible Study CFC Board Mtg. Support Group ing Bible Study	18 10am Men's Bible Study 6pm Lake Jazz Band	19	20
WESTSIDE SENIOR CENTER			
24 Women's Bible Study ing Bible Study	25 10am Men's Bible Study	26	27
31 Women's Bible Study ing Bible Study	1 <i>10am Men's Bible Study</i> <i>6pm Lake Jazz Band</i>	2	6

CHURCH CDUNCIL

Unapproved Minutes for December 19, 2023

In Attendance- Pastor Ed, Carol Hansen, Jim Mellody, Kathy Fair, Al Mohling, Wendy Blomberg, Sheryl Boos, Katherine Lacroix, Mike Ward, incoming Council Members Steve Atzeni, Ruth Osterbur and guest Randy Osterbur

Absent- Michael Wagner, Barb Yount, Bill Work, Gail Kruse, Bob Karls

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by President Kathy Fair

Dwelling in the Word: Kathy Fair opened with devotion

Minutes- A motion to approve the November Council meeting minutes was made by Al Mohling, seconded by Wendy Blomberg, all approved.

Treasures Report- Al Mohling presented

Pastor's Report- Pastor Ed reported he has conducted four worship services. He has had three home visits, one shut-in visit and three counseling visits. He attended the meetings of Altar Guild, Christian Education, Endowment Committee, Evangelism, Finance, Mutual Ministry, Social Ministry and Congregational Council. He has attended the Men's Bible Study the Women's Bible study and Wednesday Bible Study. He has participated in Buddy Packs, Greif Support Group, Zero the Hero, WELCA, and the Annual Congregational Meeting. Pastor has noticed the busyness of this holiday season as he has seen many people coming and going, doing the many jobs that need to be done. He wants to remind everyone not to overdo it, take time to enjoy your family, the worship services, luncheons and all the many things you do. These things also really matter and we should feel good about it. Thank you all!

Committee Reports- Evangelism reported the celebration of Gerry & Linda Williams 60th wedding anniversary went well. Budget & Finance- All Mohling explained the financial reports to council. Scholarship reported they still have not heard from one student and will call the school for follow-up. Thank you notes were shared from Mason Johnson and Joseph Courter and letters of thanks were received from Morgan and Camden County schools. Katherine Lacroix would like to find someone that would be interested in taking over her position on the Scholarship committee. Stewardship will focus on everything we have is a gift from God, and stewardship is our response to these gifts! We will look at the S.T.E.W.A.R.D. acronym, self, time, earth, world, abilities, resources, daily. Property reported the three door refrigerator has a bad fan and the compressor is out. A quote was obtained from CARE, repairs totaled \$2,061.96, and a new refrigerator would run \$7,113.25. It is Property's recommendation to make the repairs. Jim Mellody made a motion to al-

low the Property Committee \$2,500.00 to make necessary repairs. Motion was seconded by Wendy Blomberg and all approved. Social Ministry reported they had a very successful CADV Christmas, 50 gifts were given. They have had 11 requests totaling &1,412.00. Balance was \$5,133.00 November 30 and has paid out over \$980.00 as of December 19. They feel needs are going to increase especially with the cost of electric going up 12%. WELCA reported they had a Christmas party. Please see Committee reports for full details. Thank you ALL who share your time and talents!

Old Business- Resume the search for a new AV tech. Reminder that committee reports are due to Tracy by January 15th.

New Business- Elections of President and Vice President. Sheryl Boos made a motion to nominate Jim Mellody as Council President. Seconded by Wendy Blomberg, all approved. Jim Mellody made a recommendation to have the Vice President position voted on in January. All agreed.

Correspondence- Thank you note from Gail Kruse for the gift card. Thank you from ELCA

Being no other business meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting: January 16, 2024

Devotion-

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Hansen, Recording Secretary

**Faith, Hope and Love Abide,
And the greatest of these is Love!**

Love Abides...
Grief Support Group

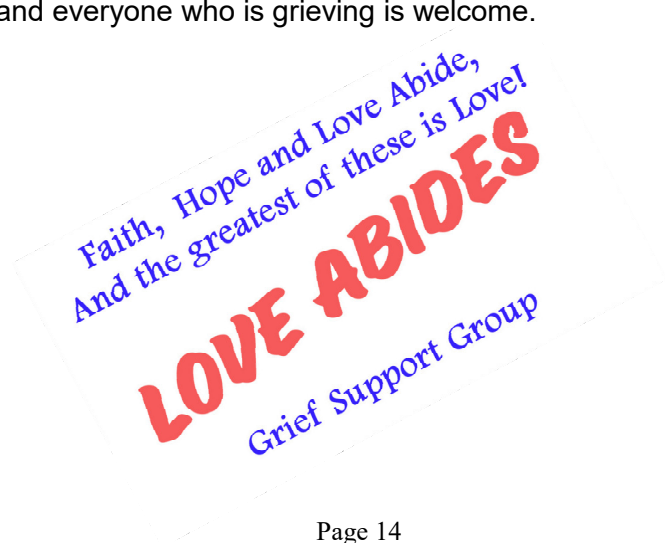
Love is the most precious of God's gifts. Through God's gift of love, God blesses us in every way imaginable. Love brings life. It brings joy. Love gives us support when we are weak, and it gives us courage when we are fearful. Love fills our lives and our hearts with the beloved. But when we lose someone we love, the hole in our lives is also love-shaped.

Learning to live with our grief is something most of us will have to do in our lives to one degree or another and it isn't something most of us have much experience with. To help all of us on our journeys through grief we are going to start a grief support group here at Kent.

Our next gathering will be Wednesday, January 17 at 3:00 pm.

It is a laid back and comfortable time to honor those we are grieving, share ways we can cope with our feelings and the challenges our losses have brought us, and examine what resources our faith and our church family can bring to our experience of loss.

This is a work in progress. Times and locations, even our format are subject to change as we figure out what works best for us, but we have to start somewhere, so we will start on a Thursday afternoon in March. Anyone and everyone who is grieving is welcome.



Did You Know...

that there's still time to pick up your 2024 box of offering envelopes? They're on the table in the Gathering Place.

Have you given any thought about the contents of each box of envelopes? It goes without saying that weekly there's an envelope for "Regular" offering.

What you may not have noticed is that each month there's an envelope marked "Property Fund". And then there are six envelopes marked "Social Service Ministry" and another six marked for "ELCA World Hunger". There are also envelopes for Ash Wednesday and for our weekly mid-week Lenten services, Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunday, and mid-week Advent services.

Each envelope is an opportunity to support the many ministries of Kent. Thank you for sharing your many blessings

Is there something about the life of Kent that you'd like to know? Ask Kathy Fair then keep an eye out for the answer in an upcoming "Did You Know..."

Women of the ELCA

WELCA MINUTES December 5, 2023

The WELCA Christmas Party was held in place of the regular monthly meeting.



Kent's 75th Anniversary is in the not too distant future!
1951 + 75 = 2026

The Long Range Planning committee is going to get the ball rolling of Kent's celebration by asking for your help. What do you remember of anniversary celebrations at the churches you belonged to before coming to Kent? Special guests? Special services? Special projects? Special meals? Memorabilia displays?

Please email your memories to any member of the committee.

Pastor Foster pastored@kentmemorial.com

Bill Work jmww1203@gmail.com

Kathy Fair fairlady365@yahoo.com

Keep your eyes open for celebration planning progress & additional pleas for help.

BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

6:00 p.m.

Led by Pastor Ed

We will resume **January 10**. In the fellowship hall or online (the link will be in the weekly blast).

Women's Bible Study

Meets on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Library.
Led by Linda Williams.

Men's Bible Study

Meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Library.
Led by Bill Work.



STEWARDSHIP CDRNER

Everything we have is a gift from God,
and stewardship is our response to these gifts!

Ahhh, the beginning of a new year! It's been a while since we looked at the S.T.E.W.A.R.D. acronym. So, at this time of new thoughts, goals and resolutions it would be good to revisit the acronym and the meaning behind each letter and how we might strengthen ourselves in these areas in the upcoming year.

S elf - we must take care of ourselves and our personal health

T ime - we must use our time wisely to God's glory

E arth - we must take care of the creation God entrusted us with

W orld - we are called to love one another and care for the needy

A bilities - we are to use the talents God has blessed us with

R esources - yes, we are to use our money and finances to further God's mission

D aily - we must daily pray and dwell in God's word

How might you grow as a S.T.E.W.A.R.D. in 2024?

Peace and Blessings for the New Year!

Michael Wagner

SOCIAL MINISTRY CORNER

*Hearing God's Call
and
Responding in Love...*

Here's how your contributions met some of the need in our community.

November, 2023 (number of needs calls):

Rent - 6

Electric - 2

Well Repair - 1

Water Bill - 1

Gasoline - 1

Total Assistance to our Community this month: \$1,412.35

We Share Jesus with All!

Community For Christ

People Helping People in Need

Outreach Center & Thrift Store

~ COMMUNITY FOR CHRIST PANTRY NEEDS ~

“You give them something to eat.”

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas holiday with family and friends!!!

I want to thank everyone for their donations during the holiday season, not only with food but their monetary donations as well. **THANK YOU!!** The turkeys and hams were given to families in need, we still have a few left, but not for long - New Year's is around the corner.

Our food pantry has been very busy and it's getting hard to keep up for us. Store sales allows us to shop and purchase many food products, however we could use your help with other things. Please remember all of our food, and other products, are given to needy families, elderly & those with disabilities, at no cost.

The first items can not be bought with food stamps & we are down to bare shelves for the following.

For both men & women: Shampoo, Bodywash & Deodorant

Food items needed are: Cereals (hot or cold), Chef Boyardee type canned meals, condiments (catsup, mustard, mayo, salad dressings. etc...) and pasta of any kind.

Again, thank you for all you do for us! ***And I hope and pray everyone has a wonderful blessed Happy New Year!!!***

Karen Mellody
Thrift Store & Outreach Director