

KENT HAPPENINGS

Volume 41, Issue 1

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

www.KentMemorial.com

January 2025



Overlooking the Lake of the Ozarks

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church

184 Sunset Hill Drive
Sunrise Beach, MO 65079

~ 1951—2025 ~

~ The Reverend Edward L. Foster, Pastor ~

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|----------|--|
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A PUBLICATION OF
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184 Sunset Hill Drive
Sunrise Beach, Missouri 65079
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STAFF

The Rev. Ed Foster Pastor
Tracy Garrett Secretary, Newsletter, Website
Joyce Wanamaker Organist/Pianist
Vanessa Hebrank..... Pianist
Tracey Atzeni Organist/Pianist, Choir Accompanist
Tracy GarrettVocal Choir Director,
Coordinator of Worship & Artistic Ministry
Toni Wagner..... 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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2025 COUNCIL MEMBERS
Committee Assignments

Jim Mellody President, Social Ministry
Michael Wagner Vice President; Stewardship
Kathy Fair Long Range Planning
Carol HansenRecording Secretary, Christian Education
Wendy Blomberg..... Evangelism
Sheryl Boos Social Ministry
Bob Karls Property
..... Long Range Planning/Scholarship
Al Mohling..... Finance
Mike Ward Mutual Ministry
Steve Atzeni Mutual Ministry
Ruth Osterbur Worship & Music
Susan Clark.....

Council Appointed Positions

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

JANUARY SCRIPTURE LESSONS

January 5 ~ 2nd Sunday of Christmas

First Reading..... Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm Psalm 147:12-20
Second Reading Ephesians 1:3-15
Gospel Reading John 1:1-18

January 12 ~ Baptism of Our Lord

First Reading..... Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm Psalm 29
Second Reading Acts 8:14-17
Gospel Reading Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 19 ~ 3rd Sunday of Advent

First Reading..... Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm Psalm 36:5-10
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
Gospel Reading John 2:1-11

January 26 ~ 4th Sunday of Advent

First Reading..... Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm Psalm 19
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Gospel Reading Luke 4:14-21

GENERAL FUND COUNTERS FOR JANUARY

01/05 Bill Work, Bob Karls
01/12 Wendy Blomberg, Joyce Wanamaker
01/19 Kathy Fair, Carol Hanson
01/26 Vanessa Hebrank, Joan Wilken

A New Beginning

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. John 1:16-17.

A new year has begun. 2024 is now just history and 2025 awaits us. The beginning of a new year has always been a hopeful time for me, filled with the promise of a new beginning and hopes that new beginning will be a good one. It isn't entirely rational I suppose, January 1st is just an arbitrary day on the calendar and other than remembering to write 2025 on my checks not much has really changed with the world or our situation in the world. And yet, as the old year passes away and a new year begins, I still find myself hopeful.

There is grace in that, I think. Indeed, by God's grace everyday is truly a new beginning. We are forgiven. Our former sins and failings have passed away, and we are free to live new and better lives.

2025 is a new beginning. How might we make this year a better year? How might we better live out our faith? How might our community be a better place for everyone who lives here? How can God's will for our world become real?

2024 was surely a trying year. Everything from war to natural disasters, horrific crimes and continuing division have caused such pain and suffering for so many. There is much fear in our world, much sadness and anger. But the gracious promise of God is that pain and suffering will not last forever, that something better is coming. May we be a part of that something better. May 2025 be a year of peace and reconciliation, a year of mercy and kindness and love. May 2025 truly be a new beginning. May it be filled with grace upon grace.

Happy New Year,
God bless you all!
Pastor Ed

STEWARDSHIP CDRNER

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

RESTED and RENEWED

We've just come through the busyness of Advent and the Christmas season and we have a new year ahead of us to look forward to. Now is a good time for us to remember to take some time for ourselves. It is an opportune time to be a good steward to yourself. So, please take some time to relax, meditate and take care of yourselves, so that we can all be rested and renewed to Share Jesus with All in 2025.

Peace and Blessings for the New Year!
Michael Wagner

CHURCH CDUNCIL

Unapproved Minutes for November 19

In Attendance- Pastor Ed, Carol Hansen, Kathy Fair, Gail Kruse, Wendy Blomberg, Sheryl Boos, Jim Mellody, Michael Wagner, Mike Ward, Kathrine Lacroix, Steve Atzeni, Bob Karls and Al Mohling

Absent- Ruth Osterbur

Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm by President Jim Mellody

Dwelling in the Word: Jim Mellody opened with prayer.

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

Treasures Report-

Pastor's Report- Pastor Ed reported "Jesus Loves You, the Bible tells us so."

Committee Reports- Social Ministry reported all gift were delivered. Due to Council Christmas party no other reports were discussed. Please see the bulletin for details.

Old Business-

New Business- Council held Election of Officers. Al Mohling made a motion for Jim Mellody to remain as President for a second term. Wendy Blomberg seconded the motion and all approved. Bob Karls made a motion for Michael Wagner to serve a second term as Vice President. The motion was seconded by Wendy Blomberg and all approved. Appointment of Treasurer and Secretary- Jim Mellody made a motion for Gail Kruse to remain as Treasurer and Carol Hansen to remain as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Wendy Blomberg and all approved.

Correspondence-

We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting: January 21, 2025 at 6 pm. Devotion- Steve Atzeni ?

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Hansen, Recording Secretary

Women of the ELCA

WELCA MINUTES December 3, 2024

The December meeting was our annual Christmas Party with 23 in attendance and 2 guests. There were 35 members of the Lighthouse Group from Hurricane Deck School that entertained us with a program, "The Leader in Me" and Christmas Carols. We had a hot chocolate bar, and enjoyed a lunch of Soup, Salad and Dessert. The Christmas Stocking Offering was taken up and will be used to purchase items for global families on matching Tuesday. We also collected canned good for Ivy Bend Food Pantry. Happy Birthday was sung to Pastor Ed, Jane Maher and Marianne Howley.

Members made beaded bracelets and earrings to take home.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Evans, secretary.

Did You Know...

Did you know...that the newly formed 75th Anniversary committee will be meeting for the first time in January 2025? While we won't celebrate our anniversary until 2026, we thought it best to get a jump start on planning the celebration. We need to decide lots of things - the when, where, (the "why" is kinda obvious), how and who.

When: we need to set a date (or dates) to celebrate

Where: the sanctuary is probably the obvious response to this one but what other options might be suggested?

How: what do we want to do to celebrate this milestone event? Will it be just a single event or will there be several events over the course of the year where we recognize different components of our congregation history? Will there be any interest in creating something(s) that will help us remember this significant event in our church life?

Who: Who will we invite to celebrate with us??

As this newsletter is being prepared, the date of our first Anniversary Committee meeting has not yet been set but "soon and very soon....." Contact the church office or Kathy Fair if you want in on the fun.

JANUARY 2025

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|--|---|--|--|
| | | | OFFICE |
| 5 10am Worship w/Comm. 11am Fellowship | 6 | 7 9:30am Altar Guild 10am Undecorate the Church 10am WELCA-Crafts 11am WELCA Meeting | |
| 12 8:30am Choir 9am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Sunday School 10am Worship w/Comm. 11am Fellowship 11am Handbells | 13 9:30am Social Ministry WESTSIDE SR. | 14 | 3pm Grief Sup 6pm Evening I <input type="text"/> |
| 19 8:30am Choir 9am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Sunday School 10am Worship w/Comm. 11am Fellowship 11am Handbells | 20 | 21 6pm Church Council | 6pm Evening I |
| 26 8:30am Choir 9am Adult Sunday School 9:15am Sunday School 10am Worship w/Comm. 11am Fellowship 11am Handbells | 27 | 28 | 6pm Evening I |

| WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------|----------|
| 1 OFFICE CLOSED | 2 10am Men's Bible Study 6pm Lake Jazz Band | 3 | 4 |
| 8 | 9 10am Men's Bible Study | 10 | 11 |
| 15 Support Group g Bible Study | 16 10am Men's Bible Study 6pm Lake Jazz Band | 17 | 18 |
| WESTSIDE SENIOR CENTER | | | |
| 22 g Bible Study | 23 10am Men's Bible Study | 24 | 25 |
| 29 g Bible Study | 30 10am Men's Bible Study | 31 | 1 |

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

Julie Anderson
Evan Beaupre
Michelle Becker
Jessica Birdsong
Marcille Bohling
Donald Brumm
Cindy Campbell & family
Stacy Carey
Mary Ann Carter
Sal Caudill
Shirley Clark
Evelyn Clements
Kelly Covey
Chuck Cuthbertson
Ryan Dillman
Pat Embich
Ron Ferguson
Stan Field
Stacey Fleck
Al Gann
Maria Garrick
Ken Gerardy
Jim Gilbert
Carla Glusing
Ruth Goddard & family
Marsha Gust
Trudy Hamilton
Gary Hansen

Bryan Hastings
Kevin Hayes
Jeanne Hines
Cindy Holm
Mike Holmes
CF Huff
Steve Hughes
Wayne Jackson
Doug Jones
Teresa Joslin
Linda Kimberling
Kirk
Ed Krueger
Blanche Lacroix
Tamara McClain
Art McCray
Kirk McLaughlin
Linda Moore
Kenny Mullins
Gene Page
Patrick Parkhurst
Jennifer Pederson
Hannah Phillips
Joe Poretta

Jodi Redmond
Geri Riley
Ron Roberts
Inge Robbins
Marcia Robbins
Brandon Rodewald
Pat & Shirley Rogers
Michelle Schafer
Dave Shaver
Diane Steingrubey
Karen Thompson
Karen Tischnor
Toni Wagner
Theresa White
Bernie Wiegel
Gil Wilde
Jerry Williams
Larry Wilson



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

| <u>INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT</u> | <u>NOVEMBER</u> | <u>OCTOBER</u> | <u>SEPTEMBER</u> |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | <u>2024</u> | <u>2024</u> | <u>2024</u> |
| Offerings and Income-Month | \$ 20,312 | \$ 14,554 | \$ 16,764 |
| Pass-Through Income-Month | <u>2,375</u> | <u>1,660</u> | <u>145</u> |
| TOTAL INCOME-MONTH | \$ 22,687 | \$ 16,214 | \$ 16,909 |
| Actual Expenses-Month | 14,975 | 17,731 | 16,997 |
| Pass-Through Expenses-Month | <u>2,375</u> | <u>1,660</u> | <u>(101)</u> |
| TOTAL EXPENSES-MONTH | 17,350 | 19,391 | 16,896 |
| TOTAL OVERALL-MONTH | \$ 5,337 | \$ (3,177) | \$ 13 |
| Monthly Budget-Expenses | \$ 19,990 | \$ 19,990 | \$ 19,990 |
| Offerings and Income-Y-T-D | \$ 205,707 | \$ 185,395 | \$ 170,840 |
| Pass-Through Income-Y-T-D | <u>\$ 10,074</u> | <u>\$ 7,699</u> | <u>\$ 6,039</u> |
| TOTAL INCOME-Y-T-D | \$ 215,781 | \$ 193,094 | \$ 176,879 |
| Actual Expenses-Y-T-D | \$ 204,250 | \$ 189,274 | \$ 171,543 |
| Pass-Through Expenses-Y-T-D | <u>\$ 10,074</u> | <u>\$ 7,699</u> | <u>\$ 6,039</u> |
| TOTAL EXPENSES-Y-T-D | \$ 214,324 | \$ 196,973 | \$ 177,582 |
| TOTAL OVERALL-Y-T-D | \$ 1,457 | \$ (3,880) | \$ (703) |

FINANCIAL NOTES:

- A. Current Financial Situation** – Kent’s giving position in November and for the year has strengthened. Giving picked up in November and it is anticipated that December will follow which will allow Kent to finish strong. Kent’s actual expenses for the year through November are again below budget. Thank you to all those who prayerfully give offerings to support Kent’s mission.
- B. Thrivent Designation** –Through Thrivent Choice[®], Thrivent members can contribute to organizations and causes they care about—and influence how Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funding through Choice Dollars[®]. Please consider going into your Thrivent account online and designating Kent as that organization.
- C. 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 or Kathy Fair. Recent Action Team Projects:

Team Projects:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Hurricane Deck School Supplies | June 2024 |
| CFC President Retirement Celebration | February 2024 |
| 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 |

- D. 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.

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, 2024 (number of needs calls):

Rent - 4

Electric - 9

Water - 2

Total Assistance to our Community this month: \$1,556.84

We Share Jesus with All!

COMMUNITY FOR CHRIST PANTRY NEEDS

Anything for holiday meals:

Turkeys

Hams

Stove Top Stuffing

Potatoes (real or boxed)

Canned veggies and fruit

Pie fillings.

Soups

Condiments of any kind like catsup, mustard, mayo and salad dressings.

Bless you for your support of Community for Christ!

Karen Mellody, Director

Social ministry thanks all who contributed to help those in need in 2024.

Unfortunately the number of those in need continues to grow, anyone that has approached Kent has been provided some relief. Continue to keep those in need of prayer and comfort in your hearts.

May GOD's blessings be given to us all. AMEN.

BIBLE STUDY & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

6:00 p.m.

Led by Pastor Ed

Men's Bible Study

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Lead by Bill Work.

Sunday Morning Adult Sunday School

9:00 a.m.

Meets in the fellowship hall.

Resuming January 12

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:15 a.m. Resuming Jan. 12

Led by Diane Ziehl.

**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 have a grief support group here at Kent.

Our next gathering will be Wednesday, January 15 at 3:00 pm.

Anyone and everyone who is grieving is welcome to join in at any time.

NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Beginning January 12
9am

Embark on a journey of discovery in the new year with the adult Sunday School class "What on Earth Am I Here For?". Created by Pastor Rick Warren, it combines videos and discussion taken from his book "The Purpose Driven Life," which sold 35 million copies.

The six-week class will begin on Sunday, January 12 from 9:00 a.m. till 9:45 at the back of the Fellowship Hall. Books will be provided and Gerry Williams will facilitate discussion.

