

# Kilbourne United Methodist Church News

*Empowered by God's Spirit, our mission is to invite everyone to join us in following Jesus, as we love, teach and serve.*

December 2015

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## *Peace on Earth*

Sometimes it is hard for me to understand the possibility of peace on Earth. As we move towards Advent this year, we are faced once again with violence and hate. In the last few weeks, random violence has held the attention of the news and many of us. There is the hate-filled attacks in Paris left over a 120 people dead. Beirut suffered an attack 1 day before Paris when two suicide bombers killed more than 40 people. There is still a stream of Syrian refugees that are flooding other countries due to the rampant violence at home.

Peace is also not just the absence of violence. Peace's official definition is a freedom from disturbances or quiet and tranquility. We are even further from this true meaning of peace. Individuals here in the United States and around the world lack peace when their lives are ruled by poverty, hunger, racial injustices, sexual discrimination or harassment, and more. Peace it seems is a luxury not afforded many people in the world today.

So where is this peace on Earth? Where is God this Advent as our world is seemingly devoured by forces of evil? God I believe is present and active despite all of this. God is with the victims of violence and all their loved ones. God is with those who are the lowest of the low. I firmly believe that God stands with those lacking peace, feels their pain and seeks to provide hope.

God is also within each of us. Emmanuel means "God with Us" and that is a powerful truth in this world. We each contain a spark of Christ within us and are called to bring the peace that our world is missing. If we do not think the world is as it should be, then it is our job as Christians to work for change.

We cannot of course do it all. We would be exhausted faster than we would make a difference. Yet, we can each do something. This Advent let us stop lamenting the lack of peace and do something to bring it about. Let us find what it is that God has called us to and begin doing the hard, but powerful work of the Holy Spirit.

I do not know in what ways God, Emmanuel, seeks to use each of you. I do know that God is with you and has a plan for you. Advent is a time of preparation— let us prepare to follow Emmanuel wherever we are led. Let us answer this call from God with the same affirming faith of Joseph, Mary, the shepherds and others but deciding not to be afraid and to listen to the voice of God.



Pastor Beth

## CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2015 from 10:00AM – 4:00PM

The Christmas craft show is almost here! We have over twenty vendors and this is sure to be a day to get some holiday shopping done. There will be aprons, jams, wood work, crochet/knit items, Tupperware, and so much more!

In order to make this day a success, we need some help from the congregation. There is a list to sign up to provide food for the day. On December 5th, we could use help in the kitchen or with hospitality. Having someone to greet people can make a big difference in how people perceive us!

Don't forget to tell your friends! Let's make this a success for all our vendors and also our church.

Email the church at [kumcl@frontier.com](mailto:kumcl@frontier.com) if you are able to volunteer some of your time or if you are interested in other ways you can help.



## Longest Night Service

For many people, the approaching Christmas holiday does not bring with it the joy and happiness that is advertised on television or in greeting cards. They may be facing a holiday after the death of a loved one or after a divorce. Perhaps they have been unable to have a child, or have suffered through an emotional trauma. Or perhaps they feel pressured and overwhelmed by holiday preparations.

We are introducing a new service this holiday season that recognizes these emotions that many of us feel and try to hide during the holiday seasons. This service seeks to honor both the birth of Christ and the hardships we have faced.

All are invited to attend. Service will be on Dec 21st at 7:00PM.

## Advent Bible Study

Advent Bible Studies are in full swing for the season but it's not too late to join if you would like. If you miss a class feel free to make it up by attending another group for that lesson. A calendar of when each lesson is covered is posted in the fellowship hall and available in the sanctuary.

Dates that Advent Bible Study Meets:

Sunday 9:15 AM: 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20, 12/27

Sunday 6:30PM: 11/22, 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20

Wednesday 6:00PM: 11/18, 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/30

Thursday 1:00PM: 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10, 12/17



## Give The Gift of Water this Year

Kilbourne UMC will be donating this year's Christmas Eve offering to help build a well in a community around the globe. The lack of fresh water poses more than just an inconvenience for families that have to walk miles to get water; it is also a health problem. Countless are sickened, weakened or killed from contaminated water each year. By donating to this cause we are in fact provided life-giving water on the eve of when we all received the ultimate life-giving gift.

Please consider donating generously to this ministry. Perhaps you could even ask for one less gift from a loved one and ask that they give that money to the well instead! Donations can be handed in in advance for those who may be traveling but please clearly mark it is for the well.

## Visioning Meeting

On November 15th, over 20 of our members stayed following the Harvest Meal to begin the work of discerning God's vision for KUMC. God's vision for us is a unique and clear call to the work that we should be doing in this world for God's Kingdom. Discerning God's vision, not our own, is a slow process but it will bear amazing fruit when we grasp it.

Amongst other things, we spoke about what makes us unique. Here are just a few of the ideas that were shared: That we seek to serve and genuinely care about Kilbourne, OH, we have a unique understanding of the table and food ministries, we are like a family and we work with practical things.

Please pray this Advent for our community's discernment of God's vision.

## Children's Christmas Play

Calling all children! We will be having our children's Christmas play during Sunday morning service on Dec 13th. Practice will be held following service on Nov 22, Nov 29 and Dec 6. until 1:00PM. On Dec 6th children are invited to stay until 2:30 for a party and activities while their parents can enjoy a quiet lunch, go shopping or just crash at home!

All children are invited to participate in this fun play!

And adults— make sure you come out to see this fun event on December 13th and support our children in the ministries!

### Interesting Facts

*Giving the ultimate gift: over 100million copies of the Bible are bought or given away every year according to "The Economist."*

*Every year Lego produces over 4 billion mini-figures (over 20 billion total blocks).*

# Bell ringing with the Salvation Army



Many of us are aware of the red kettle campaign by the Salvation Army. Money raised goes to help countless individuals and families in this area and around the country.

We have a great opportunity to help this call. We are looking for bell ringers for Saturday December 12 from 10AM to 8PM at the Kroger on Houk Rd in Delaware. We need people to sign up for 2 hour slots. The Salvation Army encourages you to have fun with it– so bring your music, your fun hats or just your smile!

Many in our congregation expressed their interest in one day service projects and this is one! So sign up with your friends, your family or by yourself. Either way it is bound to be a fun time. Sign up at church!

## Youth Group

The youth in November purchased the items for 7 boxes for Operation Christmas Child. It was a fun afternoon!



On December 12, the youth will be participating in bell ringing for the Salvation Army and then go to the Wildlights at the Columbus Zoo. All youth and their friends are invited. Please RSVP to Jessica Tolliver so that we can coordinate rides. Also, if you have not filled out a waiver form for your child or their friends please do so. It can be found on our website, [www.kilbourneumc.com](http://www.kilbourneumc.com), under Info Center.

Save the Date: Jan 9 is Winter Jam!



### Prayers

Please remember in your prayers: Monica Gray and her family, Louise Ziegler, Dottie Dawson, Wanda Kurtz (Elaine Germann’s mother), Joyce Clark, Gordon Walker, Allison Bunting, McCord family, Sarah Collins, Seth Bendle, Charles Sheets, Emily Thomas, Ann Carper, Joyce Caudill, Barney Evans, Syrian refugees, Beirut and Paris citizens, our church and those impacted by war and violence.



**Men’s  
Breakfast**

Come and enjoy men’s fellowship on Saturday December 19 at 8:00AM. This is a delicious meal and the conversation!

All men are welcome.



## Party at the Parsonage

Being in community as a congregation means many things. One thing that it means is enjoying each other's company and spending time in fellowship.

With that in mind, Pastor Beth and Felix would like to invite you to a holiday party at the parsonage. There will be three dates to choose from since the parsonage cannot hold everyone at once (and there are only so many places to sit!) On Tuesday Dec 8 and Thursday Dec 10 dinner will be served at 6:00PM-ish. On Wednesday Dec 9, for those who do not like to travel at night, lunch will be served around noon.

Sign up's will be available in church or you can email Pastor Beth. Sign up with your friends and family or pick a random one and see who shows up! Each time will include at least one gluten-free and one vegetarian option. If you have dietary needs besides those, just let Pastor Beth know. There is no set agenda unless you count a Christmas game!

Let's take time this season to take a breathe and enjoy time together.

## Ministry Wrap Up

### Interesting Facts

*According to [www.realsimple.com](http://www.realsimple.com), the first candy cane dates back to 1670 in Germany. According to holiday lore, a choirmaster distributed sugar sticks bent into the shape of a shepherds' crook to quiet his young singers during Christmas services. Today more than 1.76 billion candy canes are made for the holidays.*

Just a few notes about ministries that occurred in November.

- We enjoyed fellowship at our Harvest Meal
- The Good Samaritan fund donated \$300 to a family in need.
- On October 31st, we fed several families through the Family Promise organization
- The youth sent seven Christmas boxes to children in need.
- The trustees have offered our facilities to a new Daisy/Brownie Girl Scout group forming in Kilbourne.

Thank you to all who helped plan the events and who participated.

### 2015 GOALS Set by the Administrative Council:

Focus on making and nurturing disciples for the Kingdom of God.

Explore the possibility of doing the Healthy Church Initiative.

Grow the youth group by supporting them with our prayers and encouraging their work and continuing to mentor them.

Increase our active average attendance by 10%. The current average is 62.

# December

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Michelle Leasure  Advent Bible Study 6PM  Choir 7p	3  Advent Bible Study 1p	4  Craft Show Set-up 5-8p	5 Show Set-up 8a  Christmas Craft Show 10a-4p
6 Advent Bible Study 9:15a  Advent Bible Study 6:30p	7	8 Xander Donaldson  Party @ the Parsonage 6p	9 Paul & Cindy Parker  Party @ the Parsonage Noon  Advent Bible Study 6PM  Choir 7p	10  Advent Bible Study 1p  Party @ the Parsonage 6p	11	12 Sid Hightower  Dick & Dottie Dawson
13 Katie Frost Schiller Advent Bible Study 9:15a Children's Christmas Program 10:30a  Advent Bible Study 6:30p	14  Trustees 7p	15	16 David Sheets  Advent Bible Study 6PM  Choir 7p	17 Joyce Clark  Advent Bible Study 1p	18 Kathy Caudill	19 Men's Breakfast 8a
20 Advent Bible Study 9:15a  Advent Bible Study 6:30p	21 Chip Matlack  Longest Night Service 7p	22	23	24  Christmas Eve Service 7p	25  Christmas	26
27  Advent Bible Study 9:15a	28	29	30  Advent Bible Study 6PM  Choir 7p	31		

*Happy Anniversary*



9-Paul & Cindy Parker  
 12-Dick & Dottie Dawson  
 23-Fred & Sandy Wicker

2-Michelle Leasure  
 8-Xander Donaldson  
 12-Sid Hightower  
 13-Katie Frost  
 Shiller  
 16-David Sheets  
 17-Joyce Clark



18-Kathy Caudill  
 21-Kenneth (Chip) Matlack



*Save The Dates!*

Dec 5th Christmas Craft Show 10:00AM-4:00PM  
 Dec. 13th Children's Christmas Play 10:30AM  
 Dec 20th Christmas Cantata 10:30AM  
 Dec 21st Longest Night 7:00PM  
 Dec 24th Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00PM

**December Calendar**

*Worship Weekly at 10:30AM on Sunday with Sunday School at 9:30AM*

*See the calendar on page 6 for the full listing of Bible Study Times and Party at the Parsonage Dates*

Dec 2-Choir	7:00p	Dec 16-Choir	7:00p
Dec 3-Bible Study	1:00p	Dec 17- Bible Study	1:00p
Dec 4- Craft Show Set-up	5:00p	Dec 19-Men's Breakfast	8:00a
Dec 5- Christmas Craft Show	10:00a-4:00p	Dec 20-Christmas Cantata	10:30a
Dec 9-Choir	7:00p	Dec 21-Longest Night Service	7:00p
Dec 10-Bible Study	1:00p	Dec 24-Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	7:00p
Dec 13-Children's Christmas Play	10:30a	Dec 30-Choir	7:00p
Dec 14-Trustees	7:00p		

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