

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.

January 2016

Pastor Beth Ortiz
740-524-6041

5591 State Route 521, PO Box 8, Kilbourne, OH 43032
kumc1@frontier.com
www.kilbourneumc.com

Welcoming the Stranger

In Matthew, we are told that whenever we welcome the stranger into our midst we are welcoming Jesus. As we move into 2016, I would like to pause a moment to discuss welcoming visitors into our church.

We have had several visitors lately and I have had the pleasure of speaking to a few of them at length about how they felt welcomed. The feedback was interesting. The one stated that many people greeted him but few actually introduced themselves. A second said everyone who spoke to them was friendly but few people actually spoke to them. So like all things there is good and bad within this feedback. The truth seems to be we are a friendly church but perhaps we have not excelled at welcoming.

As a church, we want to make sure that we are welcoming those who come through our doors. So below are a few suggestions on how each of us can get better at welcoming. Most of the suggestions are from a Lifeway resource and designed specifically for small churches.

1. Demonstrate hospitality: Introduce yourself by first and last name even though they may not remember it. Have a question ready to ask and listen to the answer. Examples might be "Do you live near here?" or "Is this your first time visiting with us?" Invite them to Meet and Greet AND then follow it up by sitting with them. Introduce them to others. If you see them before service, invite them to sit with you.

2. Two minute offensive: We all enjoy catching up with our friends on Sunday morning. Yet that can leave a newcomer out. Spend two minutes before or after service, or during passing of the peace to seek out someone you do not know.

3. Be aware of how guests perceive us: If you see something out of place, straighten it up. If you see something large that you think needs to be corrected speak with the chair of the appropriate committee. If we do not have ushers, find someone or fill in until they show up. If you are sitting by a guest, explain confusing parts of service like the written prayer concerns.

4. Introduce them to me: Or at least make me aware of the visitor as soon as possible. Even after six months I cannot always remember who is a family member visiting, a long term member who has since moved away, or a first time visitor. While I try to greet many people on Sundays, I cannot make it to all. Please let me know when there is a visitor so that I can try to personally greet them as well.

And remember— being a visitor is hard but they come here seeking God. Let's try to help them!

Pastor Beth

CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW

Our 2015 Christmas Craft Show was a tremendous success! God blessed us again this year and we raised \$1269.00 for the church. The day of the show was fantastic! I want to thank all of you here at KUMC for supporting this event.

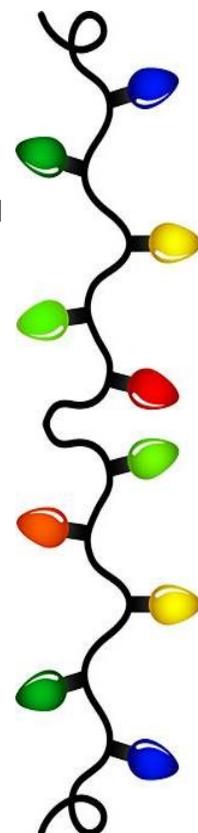
We had more vendors this year than we had in 2014. Thank you to Violet Cummings and others for faithfully handing out information at every possible flea market and craft bazaar. Without vendors we can't do anything so thank you so much to all who were vendors or shared our information with vendors.

Our congregation deserves a big "thank you" as well. All items used for the craft show were donated! We had no out of pocket costs. This is truly amazing. It just shows what can happen when everyone pulls together for a good cause. So thank you to all who donated items or baked cookies. We are blessed to be in a congregation that gives so faithfully.

So many congregation members gave their time and talents all day long. The set-up and clean-up were made simple because everyone pitched in to help and didn't stop till everything was done. What a group of volunteers!

We look forward to our Christmas Craft Show in 2016.

Sarah Collins



Items Needed!

In order to start 2016 off right we are asking for several items to be donated to KUMC. These items will be used for our church in general and also our food pantry. We will have a stock the pantry Sunday on Jan 24th in which we will strive to fill our closet! However, items can be brought at any time.

*For food items please make sure they do not expire for at least six months.

For General Use:

Paper towels
Tissues
Small paper plates
Trashbags

For Our Food Pantry:

Canned Corn
Chicken Noodle and Tomato Soup
Peanut Butter
Canned Fruit and non-perishable snacks like pudding
Tuna
Ramen Noodles
Pork-N-Beans
Breakfast Bars (Nutri grain, pop tarts, etc.)
Spaghetti Sauce (we currently have enough pasta)



Youth Group



Attention all Youth: Youth Jam is just around the corner on January 9th!! Join us for the concert that keeps people singing and talking throughout the year. The concert starts at 5:45PM but we will be leaving earlier in order to get great seats for this event. Friends and parents are welcomed. This is an event that all ages enjoy! More details coming soon—contact Jessica Veppert to RSVP!

Give The Gift of Water this Year



Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Matthew 25: 37, 40

This year Kilbourne UMC received \$2541.00 to help provide access to clean water. Thank you to all who generously gave. We have given a drink to the thirsty in the name of Jesus Christ. There is no better gift we could have given this year.

Please
Pray
for...



Prayers

Please remember in your prayers: Louise Ziegler, Dottie Dawson, Seth Bendle,

Emily Thomas, Ann Carper, Joyce Caudill, Barney Evans, families that are grieving, our church and those needing a touch from God.

Men's Breakfast

Come and enjoy men's fellowship on Saturday January 16 at 8:00AM. This is a delicious meal and the conversation is good too!

All men are welcome.



Ministry Wrap Up

Just a few notes about ministries that occurred in December.

- More than 25 members participated in our Advent Bible Study .
- The Good Samaritan fund donated a gas card to a family in need.
- We raised over \$1200 for the church with the craft show.
- We raised over \$2500 with our offering to provide safe water for others.
- 12 individuals rang the bell for Salvation Army on Dec 12. Our kettle collected \$734.24 in under 10 hrs! The Salvation Army in Central Ohio raised \$584,640.10 this year through the Kettle Campaign.
- Men's Breakfast Team invited all to their Saturday morning breakfast and we spent a morning enjoying cheer before the last minute holiday rush.
- Several families accessed our food pantry.
- Over 40 members enjoyed fellowship at the parsonage parties.
- We enjoyed the annual Children's Christmas Play and Choir Cantata.
- We honored the coming of Christ with our Longest Night Service and Christmas Eve Service.

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

Interesting Facts

45% of Americans usually make New Year's resolutions. 38% never do. Only 8% are normally successful in reaching their resolution but those that explicitly make a resolution are 10 times more likely to achieve it.

Spring Craft Show Meeting

On January 10th we will have a planning meeting for the Spring Craft show following morning worship. All are invited to attend. We will be discussing dates, vendors, and reflecting on the Dec craft show.

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.

Happy Anniversary



24-David & Linda Veppert

Thank You!

Pastor Beth and Felix would like to thank all those who sent cards, gave gifts or helped with the love offering. We feel blessed to be part of this community.

3-Adam Moore

6-Sarah Collins

8-Jane Horn

12-Elaine Humes

15-Jordan Clark

17-Felix Ortiz

17-Chuck Kiefer

17-Josh Bendle

18-Elaine Germann



22-Diane Millhoan

27-Barney Evans

27-Linda Sheets

28-Dan Clark

29-Max Jordan

30-Ed Kern

Visioning Meetings

In January we will continue our work in discovering God’s vision for KUMC. We will have a series of small group meetings to discuss our personal desires for our communities and our understanding of what God is calling us to.

Any one who is part of KUMC regardless of age, membership, participation in the first visioning meeting or any other factor, is invited to participate in one of these meetings. Sign ups will be available in church. Each meeting will have no more than 10 people to ensure all voices are heard.

January Calendar

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

Jan 6-Choir	7:00p	Jan 16-Men’s Breakfast	8:00a
Jan 7-Bible Study	1:00p	Jan 18- Worship Committee	7:00p
Jan 9- Youth Jam		Jan 19-Admin Council	7:00p
Jan 11-Trustees	7:00p	Jan 20-Choir	7:00p
Jan 12-SPRC	7:00p	Jan 21-Young @ Heart	11:30a
Jan 13-Choir	7:00p	Jan 21-Bible Study	1:00p
Jan 14-Bible Study	1:00p	Jan 27-Choir	7:00p
Jan 14-Missions	7:00p	Jan 28-Bible Study	1:00p

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