

The Chimes

It has been a busy week in the office this week. There have been an abnormal number of people coming to the church asking for financial help. I have to admit, I have become cynical and jaded from years of responding to requests like these. I find myself privately doubting the truthfulness of their stories and assuming most people are there to scam us in some way. I have been burned too many times to expect much else.

But today caught even the jaded me off guard. First, I was contacted by a woman in Arkansas. She had a friend in the area who needed help. She did not know anyone in the area. She simply knew that she was United Methodist and United Methodists help people. She asked if she could convince him to come, would we help him find help?

And while we were waiting for him, another man came. He actually was not looking for money but rather needed help finding a phone number. In the midst of his story (which I again admit, I had doubts about), he stopped. He asked if I really believed that God could forgive us. Even if our crimes were bad. Even if we hurt people. Even if we said terrible things about could. Could God forgive us?

I did not know any of these people before today. And experience tells me that I will never see them again. But they came to us, not to scam us or get something for free. But because we represent, to them, hope when there is no hope. Peace when there is no peace. Love when there is no love.

It becomes so easy to see the church, to attend worship, to become so used to all that we experience that we miss the miracle in the midst. Friends, our church is not a building or a gathering. Our church is a beacon in the midst of darkness. Our church is hope for the hopeless. Our church is grace when there is no where else to turn.

Our church is a miracle.

-Pastor Jonathan



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Special points of interest

- I Believe In The Church
- Bell Choir Starting

Pastor's Bible Study

Looking for a chance to dive in deeper? The Pastor's Bible Study, held on Wednesday evenings gives you a chance to connect with a small group that dives deeply into the Bible. No prior experience or work required. Come and participate in the reading together. In September we begin with *Joel*.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We'd love to have your help!

- Greeters
- Ushers
- Communion Stewards



Bell Choir to Resume Rehearsals on September 11

With the end of the county fair, I am looking forward to the first rehearsal of the bell choir for this church season. My name is Cathy Hanover and I will be your new director beginning on Tuesday, September 11. I come to you with more than 30 years of bell ringing experience and have had several opportunities to direct choirs in the past, both adult, teen and children. I enjoy the richness that bells bring to a worship service and the opportunity to bring my best gifts to be used of the Lord. I hope to see many returning ringers as well as any new faces that might like to give ringing a try. If you will, please drop me an email (chanover1@gmail.com) to introduce yourself, tell me which bells you have played in the past and if you would want to move to another position this year. We will work during the month of September for our first offering the last Sunday of October but playing the third Sunday thereafter. I look forward to meeting all of you as we work to bring a "joyful noise" to the Lord!

Children's Ministry News

Thank you to everyone that gave donations and volunteered for Vacation Bible School. We averaged 80 people a day and gave over \$1600 to the family of Landon Hunsaker. This is always such a fun ministry to provide for our community! If you didn't have the chance to help, don't worry! There is always next year! But, why wait until next year, we have several other ways you can get involved with Children's Ministry, right now!

It is said our children are the future of the church. But, it is much more accurate to say our children are our church right now! They are the present and the future! Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children." Mark 10:14. This is the time to nurture their relationship with the Lord so as they grow older their roots with Christ will grow stronger, deeper. And when the rough storms of life come later, they will be able to stand strong in their faith in Jesus Christ. But we need adult volunteers to lead or little ones on this journey through God's Word.

We would like to have a rotational teaching schedule for grades Pre-K, K-6th, Middle School, and High School, as well as a few substitute teachers for these classes. All classes have lesson and materials prepared for you to teach from. Let Christa Quail know if you would be willing to join a monthly rotation or sub for these classes.

Adult volunteers and substitutes are also needed on Wednesday nights, beginning September 12th from 6:30-7:30pm for Kids' Club. This ministry is for children 4-12 years of age. Volunteers would assist in the classroom as needed with activities and games. See Megan Hanover or Christa for more details about this ministry.

These programs rely on volunteers to help guide our children and youth for years to come! Thank you for prayerfully considering to volunteer with these ministries.

PRAYER REQUEST

Karl McNeal
John Wicherson
Marilyn Arn
Bud Winzenried
Erma Boysel
Linda Mabrey
Sharon Heilman
Jane McGee
Karen Yankee
Laura Hamilton
Michelle Sieg
Jim Pruden
Tom Bartels
Jim Black
Linda Wuethrich

happy birthday

September 16th

Donna Cavalier

122 Oak Lane

Kenton

September 25th

Karl McNeal

14849 State Route 68

Kenton

Youth Ministry News

Thank you just doesn't seem like enough for everything this congregation has done. We greatly appreciate your support for our trip to Lakeside this year! This annual trip would not be possible without your generous contributions from financing the trip and offering your prayers and support to driving the bus and our luggage there and back. We certainly couldn't have taken such a large group without your help! We took 32 youth and 10 adults from 6 different churches. It was a wonderful week with life transforming moments, fantastic worship with both the Lakeside band and our very own "Steinover" house-band, spiritual lessons, devotions and a great time away from everyday life with other followers of Christ. But this isn't the end of a great trip. This is just the beginning of a new school year and with that a new community ministry!

Kenton First UMC Youth Group will continue to meet on Sunday nights from 5:30-8:00 pm and Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 pm for Middle School ages. But, in addition to those meetings, we will join with Walnut Grove UMC, Grace UMC and Epworth UMC to plan monthly meetings of the Hardin County Collective (HCC) Youth Group. This youth group is for students 7th-12th grade. We had 40 youth attend our HCC kick-off on August 19th at Camp Common Ground. The next event for HCC Youth Group will be a Video Scavenger Hunt on Sunday, Sept 16th from 3:00-7:00 pm at the Hardin County Fairgrounds. We hope to see you there and bring a friend!



Serving God By Serving Others

Preschool News

Proverbs 15:33 "The fear of the LORD is instruction in wisdom, and humility comes before honor."

Above all academics I pray that our preschoolers are being taught to love the Lord in humbleness. Preschool has started once again and please pray with me that a little seed can be planted in these little lives for Jesus.

Our three year old morning class still has openings available but our four year old afternoon class is a full class. Much of last week and this week was just introduction and seeing many old faces and getting to know the new students as well. We will be off for the fair and jump right back into school on September 10th starting off with learning letters, numbers, colors, shapes and more.

I'm so thankful to have Lacey Watkins back with us this year after having baby Trace at the end of preschool last year. She is such a help and asset to the preschool.

This will be my fourth year here at First United Methodist Christian Preschool. I have enjoyed every minute of it ! I thank the church for its support of the preschool. We would not be here without you ! May God bless.

Administrator, Lisa Thomsen



Church Picnic



Sunday, September 23rd
12:30-3:00 pm @ Boy Scout Lake

Bring a covered dish to share!
Drinks and tableware provided!



Dear Church Family,

Jim and I thank you for your support and prayers. We have received many calls, cards, and food. Thank you for everything. We appreciate the beautiful prayer shawl and the prayers that were include with it. Thank you Pastor and Christa for your visit and prayers.

With God's help and many more weeks of therapy, we hope to both be able to join you on Sunday. A special thank you to Edison and Ruth for their special poems and words of encouragement. We are blessed to be part of such a loving church family.

Love, Sandy and Jim Pruden

Dear Friends at Kenton First United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for your generous gift to Love INC. We are averaging around 65-75 requests for assistance per month. While we are unable to fulfill them all, we do help many folks in our community with many different needs. Thank you for helping us help others. Blessings to all of you!

Sue Alger, Director, Love INC.

Thank you for continuing to support my growth and development. I appreciate all the prayers and support he church has given me. You have truly made a difference in my life, and I'm deeply grateful for the scholarship to help with the cost of getting my Computer Engineering degree.

Thanks again, Ryan Oberlitner

Hi, thank you to the wonderful young men who performed some outside work for me last Wednesday. They were hard working and very polite. David Roy was a good leader. Also, they all prayed with me when I finished for the day.

Thankful, Sandy Herman

Church Family,

Thanks for the phone calls and texts and the many prayers, cards, and visits.

Many blessings, Tom and Jackie Bartels

I Believe In The Church

Bishop Gregory Palmer will come to Kenton First United Methodist Church on October 8, 2018 as part of his "I Believe in the Church" tour. The bishop will preach as part of a wonderful night of worship and testimony. Bishop Palmer is a powerful preacher, and we highly encourage you to make this event. Dinner is provided at 6pm, and the bishop's program will begin at 7pm. Registration (to guarantee dinner and printed materials) is required. Visit <https://www.westohioumc.org/conference/webform/i-believe-church-registration-kenton-first-umc> to register.



Attendance and Offering

**First United
Methodist Church**
234 N. Main Street
Kenton, Ohio
419.673.3205
office@kentonfirst.org
Rev. Jonathan
Hanover

	9:00	11:00	Offering
August 5	68	90	\$9056.74
August 12	56	93	\$4840.60
August 19	65	87	\$4250.00
August 26	63	87	\$5142.64

September 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1 11:00 AA
2 9:00 Worship 10:00 SS 11:00 Worship	3 Office Closed— Labor Day 7:30 AA	4 9:30 Knitters 6:30 Boy Scouts	5	6 7:30 AA	7 Office Closed	8 11:00 AA
9 9:00 Worship 10:00 SS 11:00 Worship	10 6:00 Girl Scouts 6:30 Trustees 7:30 AA	11 4:00 NOC 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Bell Choir	12 6:30 Kids Club 6:30 Middle School Youth 6:30 Bible Study	13 6:30 Choir 7:30 AA	14 Office Closed	15 11:00 AA
16 9:00 Worship 10:00 SS 11:00 Worship	17 6:30 Children's Ministry 7:30 AA	18 9:30 Knitters 5:30 SPR 6:30 Bell Choir 6:30 Boy Scouts	19 6:30 Kids Club 6:30 Middle School Youth 6:30 Bible Study	20 6:30 Choir 7:30 AA	21 Office Closed	22 11:00 AA
23/30 9:00 Worship 10:00 SS 11:00 Worship	24 6:30 Lead Team 7:30 AA	25 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Bell Choir	26 6:30 Kids Club 6:30 Middle School Youth 6:30 Bible Study	27 6:30 Choir 7:30 AA	28 Office Closed	29 11:00 AA