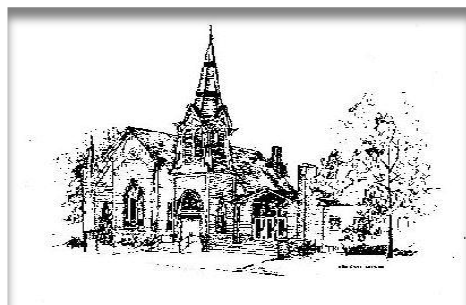


Kaneville
United Methodist Church
Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2012



Sunday Worship is at 8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

Sunday School 9:15 A.M.

Pastor: Rev. Mark Harkness

Secretary: Rozella DePasquale-Myers

Office Phone: 630-557-2353

Lay Speakers: Jim O'Connell & Russ Wendling

If you would like to be removed from this mailing, please contact the church office.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

PASTOR'S PAGE

DROP A NOTE

BIRTHDAYS

CHILDREN'S & YOUTH

PEACEMAKERS

CHILI SUPPER

LENT EVENTS

Ash Wednesday Train Ministry

Bible Study

PRAYER SHAWL

FEBRUARY MISSION

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

FEBRUARY

Email: pastor@kanevilleumc.org

Office Hours for 2012:

Pastor Mark: Monday - Thursday 9:30 am-12:00 pm.

Friday Day Off

Other times by appointment

Secretary: Rozella Monday, Wednesday,

Friday 9:00 am-1pm.

Office: 630-557-2353

Email: kumcoffice@yahoo.com

Newsletter Information and Sunday Bulletin Deadlines

Newsletter items are always welcome; we encourage you to submit your news no later than the **19th of the month**.

Please submit your bulletin items no later than **Wednesday**.

Via, e-mail kumcoffice@yahoo.com, phone 630 557-2353 or you may leave it on the desk of the secretary.

Thank you!

CHANGES

Kaneville United Methodist Church will be sending their newsletter out via e-mail. We are also adding the option to pick up your newsletter in the church's narthex. **If you would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail please email the church at kumcoffice@yahoo.com.**

Funeral/Kitchen Duty for February

Carol Alfrey & Cindy Hiltenbrand

Holy Communion Invitation

We celebrate Holy Communion
the first Sunday of month
during each worship service.

If you are unable to be present at worship,
and would like Communion brought to you.

Please contact the church.

A Word from Pastor Mark

February 2012

Upon my bed at night
I sought him whom my soul loves;
I sought him, but found him not;
I called him, but he gave no
answer.
"I will rise now and go about the city,
in the streets and in the squares;
I will seek him whom my soul loves."
I sought him, but found him not.
The sentinels found me,
as they went about in the city.
"Have you seen him whom my soul
loves?"

Scarcely had I passed them,
when I found him whom my soul
loves.
I held him, and would not let him go
until I brought him into my mother's
house,
and into the chamber of her that
conceived me.
I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
by the gazelles or the wild does:
Do not stir up or awaken love
until it is ready!
Song of Solomon 3:1-5 (NRSV)

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Grace and peace to you in the name of our risen Savior and Lord,
Jesus Christ!

As I look ahead to February, it dawns on me that Susan and I have yet to spend a romantic Valentine's Day together. I've either had church meetings or have been needed for pastoral care each year that we've known one another. Whether we have a romantic Valentine's Day or not, doesn't bother me, (except that I know it would please my wife) because – in marriage especially – romance or encouraging love should not be an *occasion*-al event. The occasions should be sought out – and made by both partners.

However, that's not meant to demean using the occasion of Valentine's Day to claim an opportunity for growing in love. For those of us who struggle to be romantic, set days help facilitate that. Maybe, that's why Valentine's Day is so frequently a day when marriage proposals are extended (and accepted) and weddings are celebrated. As a minister, it's not unusual to get that call to plan a date soon after Valentine's Day.

I believe that marriage is serious business. It is an institution instigated by God so that people might be blessed – some by living in that institution and others by living among those who live faithfully in marriage. I'd like to offer some of my thoughts on marriage. Take them for what they are. As my wife can attest I am not the perfect husband, although I'd like to be.

The Greeting in *A Service of Christian Marriage II* (United Methodist Book of Worship) ends with the words, "It (i.e. marriage) is therefore not to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently,

discreetly, and in the fear of God. Into this holy estate these two persons come now to be joined.” Those words are so true. That’s why as cultural expectations of relationships have changed during the past century, that pastors have begun to require pre-marital counseling. The Church believes that couples should be reverent, and sincerely consider (use discretion and advice) taking the marriage vows in the fear of God (i.e. as an act of obedience).

Marriage should honor God and be truthful. Couples who choose not to do enter marriage with that sense can seek out a civil wedding. But if they do choose (I hope they will) to wed in the Church as a sign of their commitment to God, they should be honest about it. [It’s more than a pet-peeve of mine when I hear of couples being married by a friend who was “ordained” on-line. Not only is it disingenuous, but I sense in that on-line “ordination” a mocking of religion.] I also believe couples should engage in pre-marital counseling. Not because I (or any pastor) am so wise, but to be sure they are entering marriage having considered many of the things that the freshness of love tends to make us over-look.

To that end, I ask couples why they want to be married in the Church. I have to ask myself if the relationship is one that God would bless. (e.g. Did this relationship begin as an adulterous affair that destroyed another marriage?) For couples who’ve had failed marriages, the time in preparation can help establish new patterns of relating with one another toward a successful marriage.

Although I don’t give a lot of must do’s in my advice for couples, I do have a couple. First, pray for each other (that includes praying that you will be a good spouse FOR them) each day. Second, keep a “date night” each week with no excuses. Don’t even let children of any age come before that one-on-one time together. One of the best gifts we can give children is two parents who love them and love each other.

In the end – love is more than a feeling. It’s action! When vowing to love one another “for better or for worse...”, it’s a promise to do love to the other without expecting (even though hoping) for reciprocation. Let us love one another with the same passion that God loves us.

Your Brother in Christ,



Rev. Mark Harkness, OSL

DROP A NOTE TO OUR SERVICEMEN

Please remember our servicemen in your thoughts and prayers. If you would like to send a care package or note of appreciation and love.

Robert Laford, SPC
326 Gulkana Ave.
Unit C, JBER-R
Alaska, 99505

PV 2 FLANDERS, JESSE D.
A CO. 2-18 IN.
CMR 405 BOX#4741
APO AE 09034

PFC Kahl, Charles
1-320 FAR
6932 Desert Storm Ave.
Fort Campbell, KY 42223

College Students

If you know of a college student that would like to receive notes or care packages from us please let Rozella know at 630 557-2353 or kumcoffice@yahoo.com.

PRAYER CHAIN

If you participate in the current phone prayer chain please remember to continue down the list until you reach someone.



Lenten Season Events

ASH WEDNESDAY MINISTRY THIS TRAIN IS BOUND FOR GLORY...

The Aurora Cluster of United Methodist Churches will be ministering to train commuters on Ash Wednesday. On the morning of Ash Wednesday, we will make the imposition of ashes available at area train stations. Kaneville UMC will do so at the Elburn station. If you are interested in assisting with this ministry, please contact Pastor Mark.

Bible Study

Pastor Mark will be leading a Bible study on the Book of Genesis on Monday nights at 7:00 pm beginning on Feb. 27. He also will offer a New Member Class on Sunday Feb. 26, Mar 4, and Mar 11, at 3:00 pm. Those interested in joining the church can contact him at 630 557-2353, or 630 557-0018. E-mail pastor@kanevilleumc.org or mark.harkness@gmail.com.

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

Will be at Bethany of Fox Valley UMC Feb. 22nd @ 7pm.
2200 Ridge Avenue Aurora, IL 60504 (630) 851-8010



Prayer Shawl Ministry

CHANGE!!!! Our next meeting will be **February 7th, 1st Tuesday**. This change is only for February, due to Valentine's Day. We will meet again in March on the 13th, the 2nd Tuesday. We will be in the room behind the chancel.

All people who knit or crochet, or would like to learn are invited to come to our monthly prayer shawl ministry. We have all levels of experience from beginners to years of experience. You don't need to be an expert - the patterns are very simple. Maybe you've always wanted to learn to knit or crochet - this would be a great opportunity. We will be happy to help you learn. If you know of a person that would enjoy this ministry, invite them to come.

Please contact Susan Harkness at susanharkness1987@gmail.com or 630-557-0018 if you do not have email for any questions. Invite friends too!!! Let me know if there are any new people you are inviting and I will make up a welcome packet. To learn more about this ministry, check it out at www.shawlministry.com or www.lionbrand.com/shawlstories/html

FEBRUARY'S MISSION

Help support the Elburn Food Pantry with a "Souper Bowl" canned soup collection. Bring in canned soup during the month and put on your favorite super bowl team's side. All soup collected will be donated to the Elburn Food Pantry. You may also place any cash donations for the food pantry in the missions envelopes located in the pews (please put in offering plate). May the best team win!



15TH ANNUAL KUMC MEN'S CLUB **CHILI SUPPER**

Feb. 25, 2012 from 5-7:30 p.m.

At the Kaneville United Methodist Church
basement.

Chili from Mild to Wild!

Free Will Offering.

Live Country Blue Grass Music by:
The Good Old Boys Gospel Singers.



Come and enjoy a fun evening!

Kaneville UMC

46 W 764 Main St. Kaneville, IL 60144

(630) 557-2353

www.kanevilleumc.org

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!!

February 1	Elizabeth Besco
February 3	Melanie Henne
February 6	Ben Paulus
February 8	Ben Voytas
February 8	Ed Baldrige
February 10	Vanessa Gould
February 11	Kiara Barrett
February 12	Tiffany Ratliff
February 15	Marge Miller
February 16	Erin Kettlekamp
February 16	Ruth Lawson
February 17	Susan Long
February 18	Diane Hance
February 20	Pastor Mark
February 22	Kathy Long
February 23	Stu Buck
February 25	Corrine Kainz
February 26	Shirley Erdoisa
February 28	Jack Kettlekamp

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!

February 7	Dave & Lynette Werdin
February 10	Jim & Sue O'Connell
February 16	Lee & Rose Mell
February 23	Tim & Sharon Werrline

Contact Rozella @ 630 557-2353 with changes/additions to this list.



KUMC Children & Youth Ministries

Youth Sunday

The KUMC children and youth will lead worship on **Sunday, February 12** at the 10:30 service. The service will include a Youth Praise Band, skits, and lots of special music. We will also recognize Peacemakers that have worked through their first level toward knighthood. Fellowship Hour will be hosted by the Sunday school and will feature a **display of our kids' talents**. All kids, preschool through high school, are invited to bring in 3-6 samples of their artwork, writing, or a school project to share with the congregation.

Bring your child's art and other work to the church on **Sunday, February 5**. Please put their name on each item (on the back is fine). We will make labels for each piece on display. Items can be picked up the following Sunday, February 19.

Lenten Project

Ash Wednesday is February 22, which signals the beginning of Lent. The Sunday school Lenten Project this year the kids will be collecting non-perishables, personal hygiene, cleaning supplies and paper goods for the Elburn Food Pantry. We will again be challenging the kids to collect their weight in donations.

Children & Youth Council

The Children & Youth Ministry Council will meet **Monday, February 6** from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Alfrey's. We will be planning our activities for the rest of the Sunday school year, checking in with the youth groups and nursery, and discussing VBS.

Who Loves You?

We will be making Valentines for shut-ins and other special friends on **February 5th** during the Sunday school hour. If you know of someone who could use a glittered greeting, please leave their contact information in the KUMC office.

Peacemaker Winter Picnic!

Hey Kids! Beat the winter blahs at the February Peacemakers Picnic! Bring a friend and join the fun. We'll eat hotdogs, make a winter craft, and play some awesome games, including some old favorites like "icy marbles", sock snowball wars with a medieval knight theme twist! Mark your calendar TODAY for **Tuesday, February 21st 6-7:30 pm. Bring a friend!**

Mark Your Calendar

- 2/5 Make Valentines/Bring displays
- 2/6 Children/Youth Council Meeting 6:30
- 2/10 Youth Sunday Rehearsal (TBA)
- 2/11 Youth Sunday 10:30 Service
- 2/21 Peacemakers Winter Picnic 6pm



February Acolytes

- 2/5/12: Sophie Ottoson & Eva Ottoson
- 2/12/12: Allison Dunlop & Alyssa Ekstrom
- 2/19/12: Owen & Hayden Ragatz
- 2/26/12: Kyla & Grant Baldrige

Attendance Awards

Congratulations to the following students who had **perfect attendance** in December:

Ethan Ryan
Alyssa Ryan
Dean Baldrige
Addison Vanatta
Grant Baldrige
Kyla Baldrige
Wyatt Harvell

Eva Ottoson
Thor Ottoson
Mariann O'Connell
Sophie Ottoson
Kaitlyn Wendling
Anna Wendling
Matt Alfrey

The 2nd-5th class captured the coveted attendance gorilla with nearly perfect attendance in December!

YOUTH GROUP

Mark your calendars now for the winter Lock-in on March 9. Watch for more information in next month's newsletter, and in e-mail. The lock-in is for all Middle School and High School youth.



OUR STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Did you notice that there was no stewardship campaign last autumn? Did you wonder why that was?

The Finance Committee didn't forget about stewardship. Rather, the committee decided to postpone the annual stewardship campaign until February, in order to separate the campaign from the church budget season.

When the stewardship campaign comes at the same time when the church is putting together its budget, it's easy to consider the two together. The unintended consequence is that – for many of us – the suggestion to reconsider our current level of giving and to grow in our generosity to the biblical standard of tithing tends to get tied in with the church's need to receive. However, as those responding to God's grace, our giving should reflect our appreciation for God's promises.

This year, our stewardship campaign will begin in Lent. The intention is that we each consider our giving as the spiritual practice that it is. We will receive commitment cards shortly before Easter.

Many of us become intimidated when we're asked to consider giving more, because the challenge of tithing or what we think we really should give seems to be great. This year's stewardship campaign is a "1 to 5 Campaign."

You'll be hearing more about the campaign in the next few weeks. A quick summary of the program is that each giving unit will be asked to consider increasing its regular gift by \$1 to \$5 per week. We'll be considering how such a modest change can really make a difference in our ministry as a church and in our individual spiritual lives.