

KUMC *Connections*

January 2016 Newsletter//Kaneville United Methodist Church
"Bringing Glory to God, and impacting lives through Worship, Sharing, Service and Prayer."

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!
2 Corinthians 5:17*

I hope that everyone has had a wonderful Christmas and New Year holiday. The New Year is a time for us to think about the previous year and its blessings. I know that 2014 brought many happiness and also sorrow. Many times we make resolutions in looking back to 2014. New Year's Eve is traditionally a time that we make resolutions for the New Year. January is our first look at the promises that we made to ourselves and contemplate what we need to do to make them a reality in our lives. Sometimes our resolutions will be new activities but sometimes they will be the end of an activity.

Sometimes it is good that we look at what needs to be pruned in our lives. Pruning is especially important for those areas that have not been fruitful or have been superseded by other activities. It is important for us to come to the realization that we cannot do everything. We also cannot be all things to all people. We need to make choices in life. Hopefully those choices will be made with a consideration of what is truly important in our lives. The start of the New Year offers us an opportunity to start over or to find elements of our lives that need a fresh start. It's good news that we can have a new beginning at any age and it's good news that we need many new beginnings, and many opportunities for new beginnings over the course of a lifetime. In the middle of winter, with Christmas behind us, we are past the winter solstice and the longest night. We move into Epiphany, the "season of light".

One challenge for our new beginnings is that we often want the end result as soon as possible and don't like to sit and wait in the newness. We want to rush ahead- we want immediate results and the thought of having to wait without any guarantee that the outcome will be what we had hoped for is unsettling.

So what if, this year, instead of setting our own agendas, we listened for God's guidance? What if, instead of tightening our grip on life, we let go and trusted God a little bit more? What if, like the Magi, we were bold and did not set on our own resolutions but instead set out, following the star to the place that we are most in need of, the place where God is?

This January also signaled beginning of the 3rd year of my ministry at KUMC, and I am happy to be able to share that time with you. I hope you know how much I have enjoyed my ministry with you and how much I love each of you. I look forward to the time that we will have together in this New Year, and it is my prayer that the new year will bring you happiness through a deeper relationship with our Lord. I pray that our new year will bring peace on earth and good will to all people.

Happy New Year !!

Grace and peace,

Christian

Rev Avani Christian

pastoravani@yahoo.com

630-696-7817

KUMC CONNECTIONS | Faith in Action

January Mission of the Month

Please help support the Northern Illinois Foodbank with a monetary donation. Volunteering at their facility in Geneva is a great experience. Please contact Myra Ottoson if you are interested in volunteering. If there is an interest, I will schedule a time slot. Contact Myra at ottopilot@att.net or 630-849-5678

NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK

Feeding Our Hungry Neighbors | Volunteer. Donate. Get Involved.

WWW.SOLVEHUNGERTODAY.ORG

KUMC CONNECTIONS | KUMC News

Upcoming Events & Meetings at KUMC

Ad Council Meeting: Tuesday, January 13th @ 7pm

Mission Trip to Chattham: January 21st-24th. If you are still interested in participating please contact Pastor Avani! Pastor@kanevilleumc.org

Rich Rubietta Musical Worship Service: Sunday, January 25th.

Aurora Cluster Pulpit Exchange: Sunday, February 8th. Please welcome Rev. Debora Tinsley Taylor from Fourth Street UMC.

KUMC CONNECTIONS KUMC News



Mark your Calendar for the 16th **Annual Women's Retreat**
"Garden Getaway".

It will be held Jan 16-18, 2015 at Wesley Woods in Williams Bay, Wi.
If you're interested in helping plan this wonderful weekend then
please call Diane Hance at 815-991-9488.



We'd love to have you join us for 1 night, 2 nights or just for Saturday. It is a great way to refresh yourself after a busy Christmas season. There is the peace and quiet of staying in a home on beautiful Lake Geneva, fellowship with God and friends, laughter, sharing, inspirational program, rest and time to "Be Still". A few squeaky stairs but lots of charm with a cozy fireplace to warm us after enjoying a little time outside. Mark your calendar and plan to come spend some time at the lake – in the middle of winter we will enjoy a "Garden Getaway" to start the New Year.

See Signup Sheet on Page 6!

Thank You!

Many thanks to all who helped with the Children's Christmas Program, "***The Sweetest Story Ever Told***", especially Carol Flanders (music and costumes) and Dan Alfrey (accompaniment & sound). Thanks also to the Youth class narrators and all the kids who performed special music. You were fantastic!

Peacemakers

Peacemakers will ring in the New Year on January 14! We will be talking about resolutions, playing games and celebrating New Life in the New Year! We will meet at the church from 6-7:30. Friends are always welcome!!!



Holiday Spirit

Thank you to all who donated gifts and warm hats, scarves, socks and gloves to Holiday Spirit. KUMC provided Christmas for an area family this year with 3 children. It was my great privilege to meet each of the 49 families that received help through Holiday Spirit. The generosity of this church community continues to be truly inspiring. Thank you for putting "feet" on your faith!

Check It Out!

Looking for a good page turner? Check out Alton Gansky's Finder's Fee in the KUMC library.... A terrifying phone call sweeps rich and powerful businesswoman Judith Find into a desperate search for a kidnapped boy. If she involves the authorities, the child will die...and Judith's darkest secret will be revealed to the world. Judith is teamed with a mysterious stranger with a carefully guarded secret of his own. But is Luke Becker an unwilling ally or an agent of the kidnapper? As Judith and Luke's mutual distrust wars against a growing attraction, the life a small boy hangs in the balance. A boy unlike any other Judith has ever met. A boy who will help Judith discover a faith and a life she has never imagined. But freeing him could cost her everything. Her career. Her reputation. And very possibly her life.



Footrace

A Parent's Prayer for the New Year

"In a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize. Run in such a way as to get the prize."

1 Corinthians 9:24

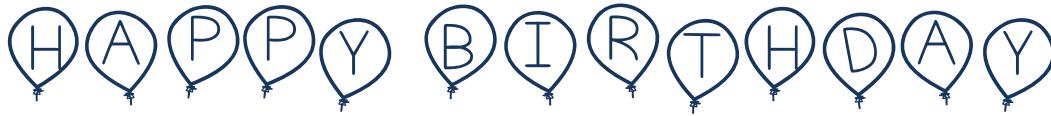
Lord,

You know very well that my children are in a contest today. In this race, however, speed doesn't count for much, and trophies won't be handed out for a long time.

The stands are mostly filled with witnesses from another world (1 Timothy 6:12). But you are there, cheering all of my children. And it is You, alone, Lord, who gives them confidence and keeps their feet from slipping (Proverbs 3:23).

Give my children faith and strength to continue the contest of life each day. Help them to run their race well, to throw off and set aside anything—bad habits, temptations, laziness—that might get in their way (Hebrews 12:1). Help them live in such a way that they win!

May my children realize that knowing You is the only prize in life that matters. Everything else is like garbage (Philippians 3:8). Today help all of us in our family to compete for You with every fiber of our being! Amen



- January 2 Ed Dembowski
- January 3 Carol Alfrey
- January 4 Eric Voytas, Carol Miller
- January 5 Len Heinberg
- January 5 Mary Niceley
- January 5 Julie Kettelkamp
- January 10 Colleen Christensen
- January 10 Pat Purcell
- January 11 Dan Kahl
- January 11 Ben Ratliff
- January 13 Luanne Ferguson
- January 14 David Sigmund, Michael Sigmund
- January 16 Mariann O'Connell, Katee Werline
- January 21 Ken Andersen
- January 22 Dana Gould
- January 24 Nanette Maecker
- January 26 Andrea Purcell
- January 27 Dave Ferguson, Janet Runty
- January 29 Sam Vanatta



**Contact Katee (office@kanevilleumc.org)
with any corrections/additions to the list!**



Kaneville United Methodist Church 16th Annual Women's Retreat

Looking for time away from the busyness of life?
Time to "stop and smell the roses" as you relax with friends,
share laughter and stories and spend time with God?
Then, please join us at our Annual Women's Retreat.
At "Garden Getaway", you'll find a lovely spot to slow down and
walk with God at a leisurely pace.

- When:** January 16-18, 2015
- Where:** Wesley Woods in Williams Bay, WI.
- What to expect:** Friendship – good memories - fun – laughter - encouragement & hope
spiritual growth - good food - meaningful moments - meditation & quiet time.
- Choose:** Between a one or two night stay. Or join us only on Saturday.
- Cost:** One night = \$60.00, Two nights = \$80.00, Saturday during the day only = \$25.00
(We will have all meals at our home on the lake and participants will be asked to furnish an item for snacking, Friday supper, Saturday breakfast or Saturday lunch.)
- Bring:** Bibles
Winter clothes & boots for walking outside – as we spend quiet time in God's glorious winter wonderland.
Bedding/sleeping bags, pillow, towels & toiletries
Food item *Note: Coffee, tea, lemonade and water are provided.*
- Check-in:** begins at 3:00 pm. Friday with supper at 6:30 pm. Saturday morning's program begins at 9 am with breakfast starting at 7am.
- Questions:** Call: Diane Hance 815-991-9488
- Mail Form:** Diane Hance – Women's Retreat
320 Somonauk St., Apt A - Sycamore, IL 60178

KUMC Women's Retreat - "Garden Getaway" – January 16-18, 2015

Name: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____

Make checks payable to: Kaneville U.M. Women

Registration form due by January 4, 2015 *Registration fee is transferable but not refundable
Scholarships are available, please speak with Carol Flanders at 630-557-2766

KUMC CONNECTIONS | January Calendar

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

				1	2	3 Men's Prayer 7am Women's Fellowship 9am
4 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service	5	6	7	8	9	10 Men's Prayer 7am
11 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service	12	13 Ad Council Meeting 7pm	14 Peacemakers 6pm	15	16 Women's Retreat	17 Men's Prayer 7am Women's Retreat
18 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service Women's Retreat	19	20	21 Mission Trip to Chatham	22 Mission Trip to Chatham	23 Mission Trip to Chatham	24 Men's Prayer 7am Mission Trip to Chatham
25 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am <i>Worship Service</i> Rich Rubietta Musical Worship Service	26	27	28	29	30	31 Men's Prayer 7am

Contact Us!

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Pastor: **Rev. Avani
Christian**

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pastoravani@yahoo.com
Office: 630-557-2353
Parsonage:
630-557-0018
Cell: 630-696-7817
**Office Hours for
2014:**
Pastor: Monday-
Thursday 10:00 a.m.-
3:00pm,
Other times by
appointment
Office: 630-557-2353
Office Email:
office@kanevilleumc.org

Note from the Secretary:

Please contact the secretary with any events going on in the church. She will let you know if the space is available on that date to avoid conflicts and record it on the calendar. Thank you!

Newsletter items are always welcome; anything geared to-wards spirituality, thank you's, important events, devotion-als, etc. We encourage you to submit your news no later than the **15th of the month**. The newsletter will be sent out near the first of each month.

Please submit your bulletin items for Sundays, via email, no later than **Wednesday**.

E-mail: office@kanevilleumc.org
Hours: Tuesdays 9am-2pm
Thursdays 3pm-5pm

This newsletter is created by human hands directing Technology, if you notice any errors kindly let us know. We will be happy to make any corrections!

Kaneville United Methodist Church
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