

# KUMC CONNECTIONS

March 2016 Newsletter

BRINGING GLORY TO GOD, AND IMPACTING LIVES THROUGH  
WORSHIP, SHARING, SERVICE AND PRAYER.



This Lenten season we have sermon series on “Holy Vessels – broken... yet made whole”. We are learning about sea glasses and how it can be applied to our Lenten discipline of God making everyone new in our lives. Sea glass refers to salt water glass, and the glass slowly dissolves in salt water, which gives sea glass a satin-like patina, while it does not dissolve in fresh water.

A jar of broken glass is an odd decoration. One could argue it's a jar of rubbish and would be akin to keeping a jar of discarded, colorful candy wrappers in your living room or a bowl of discarded pop-tops in the bathroom (the ones that are so hazardous when you blow out a flip-flop). Yet there is something about this glass that has been sanded, shaped and buffed by the ocean and something about the effort it took to collect it that makes it acceptable as a way to beautify our homes.

I wonder if the hunt for sea glass might be a symbol of our own search for the divine. When Jesus spoke about the Reign of God, he compared it to treasure hidden in a field and yet hidden. It is not always obvious, and many people might walk by without noticing the Holy that is sitting in the midst of the common moments of life. Yet if we are open to it, we might find there are moments every day in which we could step back like Jacob and say, "Surely the Lord is in this place."

I sometimes wonder if we are like God's sea glass. My understanding of the divine is that God is always seeking us first, before we have the impulse to seek or be sought. I can imagine God looking at us, people who often deem each other of little worth and of little use. God looks at us with all our imperfections and mistakes of the past and sees beauty, something (or someone) worth preserving. I imagine God bending down and smiling in joy at the discovery of another precious piece.

So as we celebrate Easter this year, may we come acknowledge his work of softening our sharp edges of imperfections and mistakes in our lives. That we may become new souls for Christ, and rise with him this Easter with newness in life.

So as the summer draws to a close here on Kaneville, I encourage you take some beach time and look for some sea glass. Enjoy the thrill of the hunt and the satisfaction of finding a good piece. And as you do, take time to marvel at the Holy that is around you. Take time to wonder at the God who cares for the seas, for you and even for the broken glass, and brokenness of ourselves.

Happy Easter to you all!  
Rev Avani Christian

*Avani Christian*

## KUMC March Mission of the Month

Elburn Food Pantry

We will collect FOOD or PAPER ITEMS and CASH DONATIONS. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ELBURN FOOD PANTRY.



### Peacemakers

Hey Kids! Peacemakers will celebrate Easter at their March Peacemakers meeting. Join us for crafts, Easter Trivia and Candy Bar Bingo. See you

**Wednesday, March 9, 6-7:30 pm.**  
**Bring a friend!**

### Lenten Project

We need your spare change (dollars too!). The Sunday school Lenten Project this year is **Child Fund**. The KUMC Sunday School has sponsored Child Fund children for over 24 years. We are currently sponsoring a little boy from Africa. The money we raise will help pay our sponsorship, which is about \$350 per year. Look for information about Child Fund and our child on the bulletin board in the Sunday school area.

### 2016 MISSION PROJECTS

March: Elburn Food Pantry – Provides grocery items for area families in need

April: Child Fund – Adopt a Child

May: Care Packages for currently serving Service Men/Women

June: JFON – Justice for our Neighbors – Immigration legal services

July: Feed My Starving Children – Providing nutritious meals for starving children in over 70 countries.

August: KCCC – Childcare Center Scholarships

September: Operation Christmas Child

October: Conley Outreach – Good Samaritan Fund

November: Blanket Sunday – Church World Services and African Wells

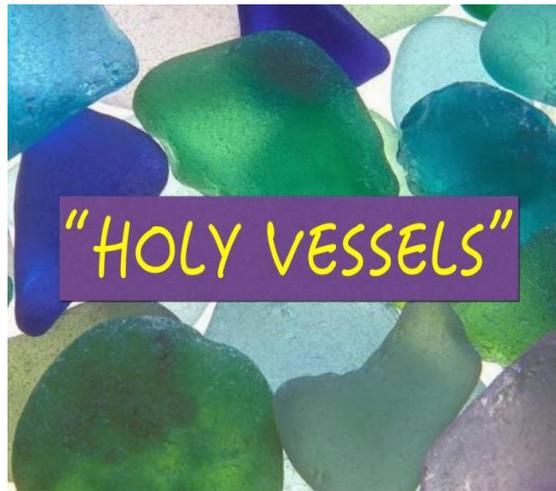
December: Gifts of Love & Holiday Spirit – Families of need in our church or community

**The Mission committee has chosen the above missions to support for 2016.**

**Information regarding these missions is on the bulletin board in the fellowship area of the church. Thank you, in advance, for supporting the missions.**

## “Holy Vessels: Healing and Wholeness”

*The journey to Easter is more about learning and preparing to “live the Easter life” – living as if death has no hold on us. Each of us is created a precious vessel of God’s love. Each of us has experienced hurt in some way, bringing a sense of brokenness. To move toward healing is to offer the gift of live and wholeness (or wholi-ness), not only for ourselves but also for others as we come to see each person as a Holy Vessel and as we come to desire that wholeness for all of creation. This Easter experience the wholeness.*



March 6<sup>TH</sup> 2016 Different Pictures & Restoration

March 13<sup>th</sup> 2016 KUMC Youth service

March 20<sup>th</sup> 2016 Holy Holy Holy (Palm Sunday)

March 24<sup>th</sup> 2016 Maundy Thursday 7pm

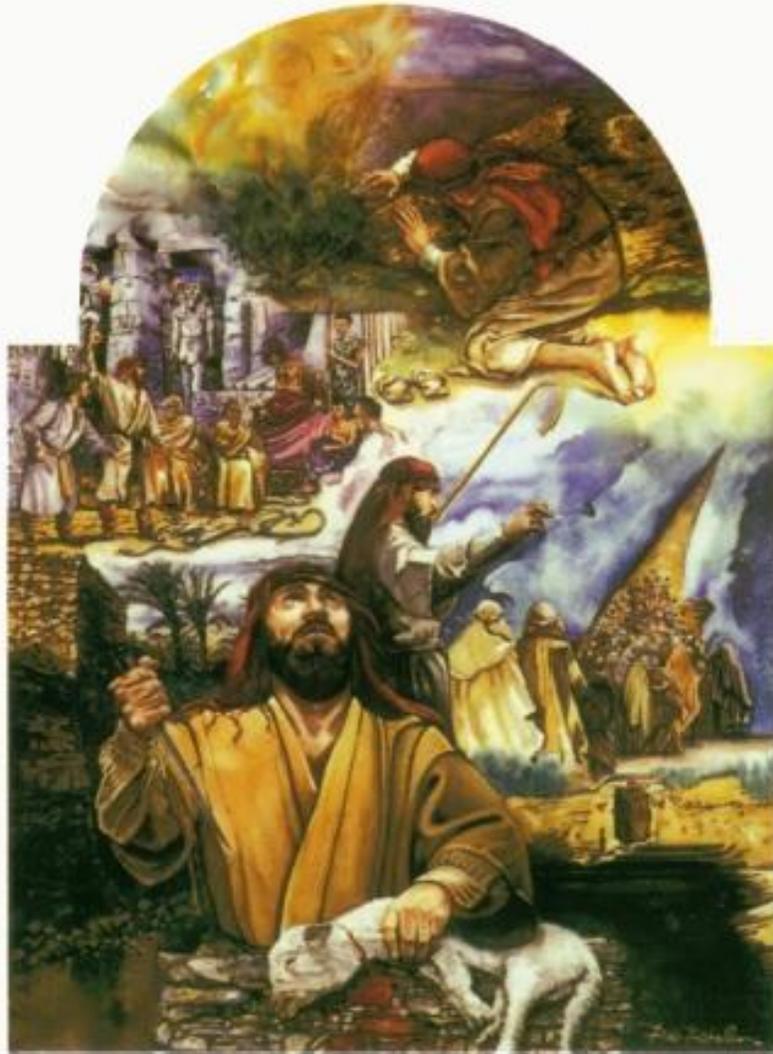
March 25<sup>th</sup> 2016 Good Friday 7pm

March 27<sup>th</sup> 2016 Easter SonRise Service 7:30am

Easter Service 9:30am

(Easter Cantata)

We hope that you would join in celebration of journey of healing and wholeness this Easter Season.



# MESSIAH<sup>IN THE</sup> PASSOVER

PLACE Kaneville United Methodist Church

DATE Friday, March 18, 2016 TIME 6:30 pm

CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES • 241 EAST 51ST STREET • NEW YORK, NY 10022

Office of Church Ministries & Conferences: P.O. Box 7897, Delray Beach, FL 33482

Canadian Offices: P.O. Box 897, STA B, North York, ON M2K 2R1

Israel Offices: Beit Sar Shalom, Box 637, Kfar Saba, Israel

0604



*Cost \$5.00 each for light dinner. Tickets available through  
Kaneville United Methodist Church.*

*46w742 Main Street Rd, Elburn, IL 60119*

*Cross Streets: Near the intersection of Main Street Rd and Harter Rd*

*Phone: (630) 557-2353*

*[www.kanevilleumc.org](http://www.kanevilleumc.org)*

*Contact Pastor Avani at [pastor@kanevilleumc.org](mailto:pastor@kanevilleumc.org)*



## In Loving Memory

*Judy Angell passed away quietly into the evening hours of Wednesday, February 24, 2016. Visitation will be from 5-8 p.m. Monday, February 29th at KUMC. A funeral to celebrate her life will be held at 11 a.m. at KUMC.*

## Youth Sunday

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 13 as we celebrate our children and youth at the 9:30 worship service. The service will be a celebration of Jesus through song, dance, artwork, drama and scripture! Kids are invited to bring in their artwork, school projects, awards and photos on Sunday, March 6 to be used in the Youth Sunday display in the Fellowship Area. **There will be a Youth Sunday practice on Saturday, March 12, tentatively at 10am.**

## THANK YOU!

Thank you - to all the men and everyone who helped make the 19<sup>th</sup> Chili Supper another successful evening. A lot of good Chili, visiting with friends and good music made it a fun evening.

## KCCC News



We sent a little love this past **Valentine's Day** to our deployed U.S. Troops in the form of cards and a little treat from each of the children at the center as well as some students who attended KCCC and are now in middle school and high school. KCCC has adopted a platoon through [www.adoptaplatoon.org](http://www.adoptaplatoon.org). Our platoon is currently in Iraq and consists of 20 service members, 15 men and 5 women. We also sent a box of Valentine's to a local soldier who graduated from Kaneland. Each of the kids colored and "stickered" up a special Valentine to which we attached a heart shaped sucker. We will also be supporting our adopted platoon through other campaigns in the near future. One campaign is called "**Operation Foot Care Patrol**" where we will be collecting new socks, foot powder, and anything related to maintaining healthy feet. This collection will take place in mid-March. The other is called "**Operation Don't BUG Me!**" where we will collect from our KCCC families and community members items such as sunscreen, bug spray, lip balm, and other items related to keeping the soldiers protected from sun and insects. This campaign will take place in April/May.

For our Spring fundraiser we sold gourmet coffees, cookie dough mixes, and fudge through Java Joe's Fundraising. A great big thank you goes out to Jody Springsteen for taking orders for us at church. If you made a purchase in support of KCCC, we greatly thank you! The money raised will be used to update our classrooms.

A very special THANK YOU goes out to Kaneville United Methodist Church! We were recently the mission of the month and received a very generous donation of \$335. The money donated will be used to provide supplies for the classrooms and groceries for snacks and lunch. We are so blessed to be a part of KUMC!

## Check It Out!

If you missed the KUMC showing of the movie **War Room**, you're in luck! We just added it to our KUMC library along with the **Veggie Tales' version of Noah's Ark**. Check out the top shelf for these and other Christian-themed DVDs.

It's not too late to grab an inspirational book for the Lenten season. Max Lucado, one of the premier (and readable) Christian authors of our generation, has written two books that are perfect reads as we approach Holy Week.

**No Wonder They Call Him Savior** examines the absolute preeminence of the cross in our Christian identity. "The cross. It rests on the time line of history like a compelling diamond. Its tragedy summons all sufferers. Its absurdity attracts all cynics. Its hope lures all searchers. And according to Paul, the cross is what counts. My, what a piece of wood. History has idolized it and despised it, gold-plated it and burned it, worn and trashed it. History has done everything to it but ignore it. That's the one option that the cross does not offer. No one can ignore it...."

In **Six Hours One Friday**, Lucado encourages readers to face the storms of life with the assurance that Christ's work on the cross has it covered. For two thousand years—six hours, one Friday—Christ has firmly planted in bedrock three solid anchor points that we can all cling to:

Our lives are not futile. Our failures are not fatal. Our deaths are not final.

For the heart scarred with futility, that Friday holds purpose. For the life blackened with failure, that Friday holds forgiveness. And for the soul looking into the tunnel of death, that Friday holds deliverance. Read on and be comforted.

## Praying Beyond Words

*"The Spirit also helps us in our present limitations. For example, we do not know how to pray worthily, but his Spirit within us is actually praying for us in those agonizing longings which cannot find words. He who knows the heart's secrets understands the Spirit's intentions as he prays...for those who love [God]." Romans 8:26-27*

Holy Spirit,

Help me to pray for my children. Talk through me; talk in spite of me. You said I was made for this holy conversation, but I have so many limitations.

My prayers for my children are hindered by impure motives, poor discernment, and long lapses.

Forgive these unworthy prayers, Holy Lord. I do want to pray well for my children. Thank You that Your Word helps to focus my thoughts and desires, revealing to me "the mind of Christ" in so many family matters.

But today I simply say, "Come, Holy Spirit. Pray for me beyond words." You know my concerns about my children; You are one with God's good purposes. I trust You utterly!

How I love You, God! You are near me now, listening even when I stammer and stop. You are not a far-off God, waiting for me to say just the right thing before You act (Acts 17:27-28; Ps. 145:18).

Today, Lord, it is good to pray beyond words. You are in Your holy temple—it is *good* to keep silent before You and wait in quietness and confidence for You to answer (Hab. 2:20; Isa. 30:15).

Amen.

(Taken from Praying the Bible for your Children by David & Heather Kopp)

# KUMC CONNECTIONS | Celebrations!

## Happy Birthday!

March 5	Sean Flamand
March 6	Diane Pierson
March 8	Robert Farley
March 9	Sharon Werrline
March 10	Jim Gehringer, Katheryn Donovan
March 12	Kris Frielink
March 13	Don Angell, Karl Kettelkamp
March 14	Eva Ottoson
March 17	Elizabeth Ladford, Carly Niceley Schoonover
March 18	Brittany Bartholet
March 19	Buzz Miller
March 22	Erica Plumb
March 25	Lisa Vanatta
March 26	Ben Flanders
March 28	Carol Flanders
March 29	Lynette Werdin, Brynley Schrader
March 31	Karen Flamand

# KUMC Connections March 2016 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m.	7	8	9 Peacemakers 6-7:30 pm	10	11	12
13 <u>Daylight Savings</u> Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. <b>Youth Sunday</b>	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day! 	18 "Messiah in the Passover" Presentation 6:30 p.m.	19
20 Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m.	21	22	23	24 Maundy Thursday Service 7pm	25 Good Friday Service 7 pm	26
27 <b>Easter SonRise 7:30 a.m.</b> Sunday School 8:30 am <b>Easter Worship 9:30 a.m.</b>	28	29	30	31		

Contact Us!

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**Office Hours for 2016:**

Monday, Wed., Thursday

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.,

Other times by appointment

Office Email:

office@kanevilleumc.org

Website:

www.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, devotionals, 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

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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