

# Kaneville United Methodist Church

## Newsletter February 2024

Dear Ones in Christ  
By Pastor Nancy Blade

Most of my emails to you start with the salutation to “Dear Ones.” I’m not sure how that got started. Did I come across it in a reading? Maybe it was in a letter I received. It seemed appropriate for addressing you and saying how much I adore you. And so, it stuck.

On Sunday, February 4, it was announced that I will be moving to Oak Park this summer. As of July 1, 2024, I will be appointed to Euclid Avenue UMC, a strong justice focused, diverse church near Chicago. I hear a calling from God to move my ministry in this direction. I have known this for a while but was given the appointment in Kaneville to heal and to live into my single parent life. “They will love you, Nancy,” said the District Superintendent. And in so many ways you have.

The blessing for me in Kaneville was that you also needed me to take you through the pandemic shutdown and recover your investment in the community. With this purpose we focused on safety and then rebuilding the ministry. This past year with the 175 th monthly activities we became aware of a new church identity for Kaneville UMC, one that blends the past with the present, and one that has lived into a ministry that is sustainable and energizing.

I missed the Chili Supper in 2023, due to a spiritual renewal retreat, but I will not miss this year’s March 9 men’s event. After this I will have participated in everything that makes the Kaneville congregation great: Mother-Daughter banquet, VBS, tractor blessing, ice cream social, chili cookoff, funeral visitations with 400 people, Beef Supper (indoor and drive thru), a Christmas parsonage open house in 2019, live nativities, palm parades, a table at the Kaneville Fest, mission support, Community Christmas program, cookie walk (not sustainable) and cookie decorating (very doable), the Women’s retreats and the Women’s Christmas party, replacing windows and siding with Tom, the Child Care Center events, and the list goes on and on.

I won’t miss walking across an ice rink to get to my office or the spotty internet service. And you won’t miss my unsingable hymn choices or my barking dogs. As in any relationship there are ups and downs. We have adjusted to each other, we have learned from each other, and we hope for the best future for each other. We are Dear Ones for each other.

Now we have five months to finish our work. The Administrative Council is preparing a narrative explanation of our stewardship. They will also be filling in some empty seats on a few key committees. The Bishop's Cabinet is working on finding the 69th pastor for the Kaneville Church and we will be onboarding this person after Easter. We will have the church in good shape for the next phase of ministry in Kaneville. By the grace of God, you will live into the plans God has for you.

Dear Ones, may the love of God sustain you every day in every way.

## Worship for February & March



In Lent we will look at key Events in Jesus' last week which transform us into loyal disciples. They involve a towel and basin, a rooster, a gavel, dice, a crown of thorns, palm branches, a chalice, iron spikes, and breakfast with the Master. If you choose to take this journey, see it all the way through. There is no half way with God.

### 1. ASHES AND A MOVIE

Ash Wednesday, February 14: "Last Days in the Desert" Before Jesus begins his ministry he spends 40 days in the desert. We know little about these days other than the battle for Jesus' soul with the devil himself. Rodrigo Garcia's amazing interpretation of Jesus' struggle in the desert is about shaping his ministry and his relationship with the Father. The Transformative moment in this film is when he looks back over the desert during his crucifixion. Rated PG13 and 1 hour and 39 minutes long, the movie will start after 7 pm Ashes by the Fire.

### 2. SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday, February 18 – Transformative Event #1: Jesus Washes Us

Sunday, February 25 – Transformative Event #2: Our Hubris Called Out

Sunday, March 3 – Transformative Event #3: Juxtaposition of Powers

Sunday, March 10– Transformative Event #4: Playing Games with Salvation

Sunday, March 17 – Transformative Event #5: Jesus Is Objectified and Assaulted

Sunday, March 24 – Transformative Event #6: Seeing Jesus as King

### 3. HOLY WEEK EVENING EVENTS

Worship on Holy Thursday, March 28 – Transformative Events #7 & #8: The Lord's Supper and the Death of Jesus

Movie on Good Friday, March 29, 7pm: "Bible Collection: Jesus" A movie about the life, work, death, and resurrection of Jesus as we know it from the Bible. Jeremy Sisto's interpretation of Jesus and Jaqueline Bisset's Mary the mother of Jesus make this 1 hour and 49-minute film a work of art. The final scene transforms our understanding of the resurrection.

### 4. EASTER SUNDAY (7:30 am and 9:30am) March 31, 2024

#### Women's Retreat: January 26-27-recap



The 22nd Women's Retreat brought together 18 disciples and refreshed their faith. Our theme "Fill Your Cup" provided a metaphor for cleaning, refilling, and overflowing. We loved the Cafe with beverages and the games, especially the relay. Best of all was conversation and laughs around the table. Overall, it was a lived experience of Romans 15:13: "The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing."



#### Women's Ministry

The women's class will be preparing for the retreat "Fill Your Cup" during class for the next few weeks. Please join us in the church library. In February we will start a study on 1 Corinthians from Melissa Spoelstra "Living Love When We Disagree". Books are available now for \$13.

#### KUMC WOMEN, YOU ARE INVITED TO...

##### A Cluster Luncheon w/ United Women in Faith

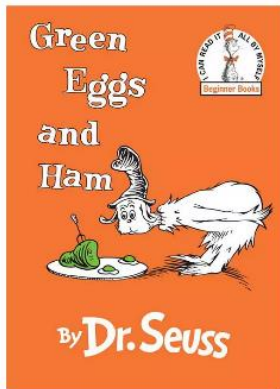
Where: Baker Memorial in St. Charles

When: Saturday, March 9, 2024

What: More info to come!

## Peacemakers

We've been having a blast this winter at Peacemakers! Nine-12 kids have been attending our "vacation day" sessions. Thanks to Peggy Langness, Alana Meyer, Karen Flamand and the KCCC staff for making this program a success!



Our next session is Monday, February 19 from 10-11:30am when we will be focusing on God's love for everyone and watching **Green Eggs and Ham**. Crafts, games and treats too! Bring a friend or two! All KUMC and community kids in kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome!

## Valentines

It's getting close! If you know someone who would like to receive a special handmade Valentine, please let Carol Alfrey know. College kids, military personnel, members who have moved from the area, shut-ins or anyone who needs a smile—we'd love to bless them! Thanks to KCCC and our KIDZONE kids for helping out this year!



## Love Is...

A Parent's Prayer for Valentine's Day

From 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

*"If I speak in the tongues of men and angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal." 1 Corinthians 13:1*

Heavenly Father,

How easy it is for parents to become clanging cymbals in the ears of their kids! I feel that I love my children so much it breaks my heart some days. But You remind me that love is more than emotion. It's possible to discipline, to teach, and even to provide—all without love.

Today I pray that none of my efforts will be wasted because every aspect of my parenting is backed up by the true qualities of love:

When I feel tense and short-tempered, help me to take a deep breath and remember that love is patient (v. 4).

When I am wrapped up in my own to-do-lists, remind me to take time to pay attention and be kind to my children (v. 4)

When I am tempted to compare my kids with other people's kids, help me to remember that genuine love doesn't express itself through envying—or boasting either (v. 4).

When I discipline or reprimand my kids, help me to check my tone of voice and my expression, remembering that love is not rude (v. 5).

When my kids argue, beg, or whine, remind me that love is always slow to anger (v. 5).

When I'm at my wit's end and tempted to give my kids a quick rundown of all the things they've done wrong the past few days to bring me to this point, remind me that love doesn't keep a record of wrongs (v.5).

When I feel twinges of smugness about another parent's failure, remind me that love does not rejoice over bad news but when good news happens (v. 6).

When I'm ready to take a foolish risk with my child's safety because I'm too distracted or too tired to insist on precautions, remind me that love always protects (v. 7).

When I am reluctant to let my child take on challenges he seems ready for, remind me to trust You and what You're doing in my child (v. 7).

When I'm discouraged about my child's progress in a certain area, remind me that love always hopes, even in the face of setbacks (v. 7).

When I'm tired and feeling like I just can't parent well, remind me that love never gives up (v. 7).

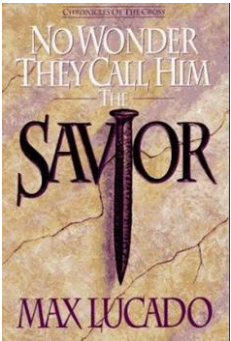
How I thank You, Lord, for the power of love in action. Thank You that if I parent with love and by the power of Your Spirit, I cannot fail (v. 8).

Amen.

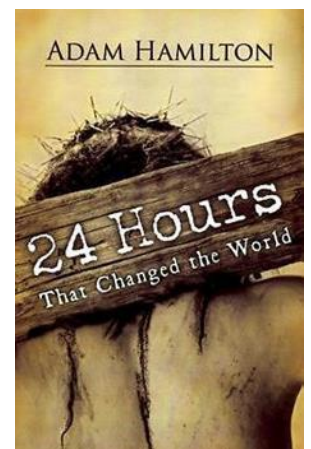
## Check it Out!

Ash Wednesday is February 14. As part of your Lenten discipline, check out these and other featured resources in our KUMC library.

***No Wonder They Call Him the Savior.*** Have you ever wondered what the most important part of the Bible is? Among all the do's and don'ts and shoulds and shouldn'ts, do you know what's absolutely essential? Bestselling author and pastor Max Lucado believes the answer lies at the foot of the cross. Come with Max as he guides you through the drama of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, bringing to life Peter's denial, Pilate's hesitancy, and John's loyalty. ***No Wonder They Call Him the Savior*** will lead you up the hill of mankind's highest hope and remind you why Jesus deserves to be called our Savior. Relive the events leading up to his crucifixion, from the foggy garden of Gethsemane to the incandescent room of the resurrection. Examine this hour in history. Look at the witnesses. Listen to the voices. Observe the one they call the Savior. And, most of all, see if you can find hope in the unlikeliest place: at the cross.



***24 Hours That Changed the World.*** No single event in human history has received more attention than the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. In this Lenten journey, Adam Hamilton guides us through the last twenty-four hours of Jesus' life. Each chapter is designed to help the reader experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death in a way you have never done before. Whether you are a long-time Christian or simply curious about the story of Christ's crucifixion, you are invited to join the author in retracing the last 24 hours of Jesus' life.





## KUMC February Mission: Pan-African Rural Health & Social Services (PRHeSS), Sierra Leone

PRHeSS ministry is dedicated to improving sanitation, providing quality health care services, and promoting human empowerment through social and economic development to restore hope and dignity to rural Africans. In one of the poorest areas of one of the poorest nations on the planet, PRHeSS has brought healthcare and an agricultural program providing sustainable food resources to people who are in dire need. They offer medical care to all, regardless of the ability to pay for these services. They are making a big impact in the rural community of Fallay Wujah in Southern Sierra Leone. The best way to help a population is to invest in the well-being and development of its people. Operating a 30-bed hospital serving 10,000 people, digging three wells to provide clean drinking water, and helping people learn skills to sustain themselves and stimulate the local economy.



**For January's Mission Heifer International our goal was \$500 to purchase a cow for a community. With your generous offering we received over \$600! Thank-you so much!**

### 2023 Missions Review of Giving:

January - Heifer International	\$510
February - Rich Rubietta Abounding Ministries	435
Special collection on that Sunday	338
March - UMCOR	510
April - Tree of Life Ministry	573
May - Child Fund	370
Bishop's Appeal	215
June - Feed My Starving Children	415
July - Echo-Haiti Orphanage	2,379
Goal \$1,840 for 8 solar batteries	
August - Beautiful U Ministry	80

UMCOR	25
September – Elburn Food Pantry	745
Plus collection of items needed (ongoing)	
October – Operation Christmas Child	235
Plus collection of items for boxes	
November – Midwest Mission	420
Purchased loom to make plarn mats	
December – Gifts of Love	365
Plus angel tree items	

**We are a very giving church! Thank-you again for all your generosity! Missions is planning for the 2024 year. If you would like to be on the missions committee, please let Karen Flamand know.**

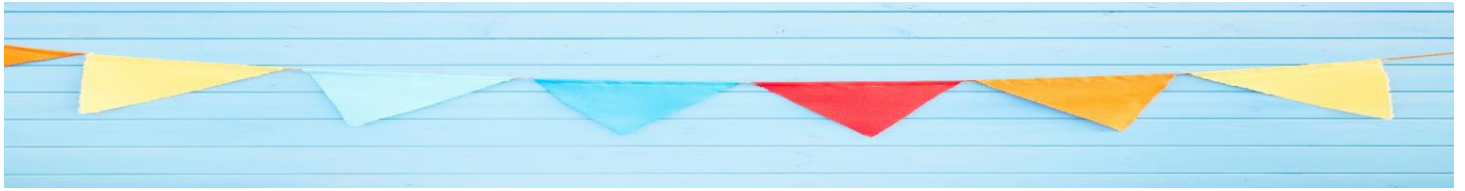
We are still collecting plastic bags to make plarn mats for Midwest Missions. Thank-you Alana Meyer for completing our first mat. The loom will stay set up for anyone who would like to work on this special mission. Maybe a youth group or just friends getting together to do some community service projects.



### **Steeple Fundraiser**

As many of you know we need to repair our steeple. The project will be taken on by the Azemi brothers. Their estimate to replace the cedar shingles is around \$35,000.00. There may be other costs too if they have to replace underlayment or other boards that may be rotted. However, this project cannot start until Spring of 2024. That will give us time to raise these funds. The trustees and Pastor Nancy are hoping to get a lot of these funds by starting the Steeple Fund Project. The finance committee will set up a separate part of our accounts for the steeple project. We will also take amounts from the Memorial & Stairway to Stars funds to help us achieve our goal. There is a thermometer poster out that will keep track of our giving. It's a big project but one that needs to be done. It will keep our building watertight & pest free. Make sure you mark on your donations "Steeple Project" so that they will go directly to this fund. Please help us achieve this goal however you can.





## Celebrations!

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February 1 Elizabeth Besco  
 February 2 Cheryl Keller  
 February 3 Melanie Henne  
 February 8 Ed Baldrige  
 February 12 Tiffany Ratliff  
 February 14 Tim Werrline  
 February 15 Marge Miller  
 February 16 Erin Clementz  
 February 23 Stu Buck  
 February 25 Corrine Kainz  
                   Hudson Shingledecker  
 February 28 Jack Kettelkamp

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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

**SAVE THE DATE!**

*Kaneville UMC 25th Annual*

**CHILI SUPPER**

*From Mild to Wild!*

**SAT. MARCH 9, 2024**  
**5-7:30 pm**  
**at Kaneville UMC**

Freewill \$\$ donation at the door

Featuring music from  
 The Wooden Rockers!

## February 2024

				1	2	3 Men's prayer group 7AM
4 Worship 9:30AM	5	6	7 Praise Band 6:30PM Choir 7:30PM	8	9	10 Men's prayer Group 7AM
11 Worship 9:30AM Super Bowl	12	13	14 Ash Wednesday 7PM movie	15	16	17 Men's prayer Group 7AM
18 Worship 9:30AM	19 Peacemakers 10-11:30AM	20	21 Praise Band 6:30PM Choir 7:30PM	22	23	24 Men's Prayer Group 7AM
25 Worship 9:30AM	26	27	28 Praise Band 6:30PM Choir 7:30PM	29 Leap year		

