

Mountain Echoes

OCTOBER 2021

130th Edition



Keezletown United Methodist Church

Rev. T. Joel Robinette, Pastor

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GOD'S GRACE KEEPS PACE WITH WHAT WE FACE!!

EDITORIAL COMMENT:

HE'S NOT SUPERMAN...BUT HE IS A SUPER PASTOR. For those of you who may think the Pastor only sits and writes sermons, visits a few people, and preaches on Sunday mornings, here are the last 11 days of Sept for Pastor Joel. On 9/21, he led the Charge conference in Front Royal; on 9/22 he was on his way to lead a funeral service for Billie Smith (whom he did not know but was asked by Kygers, only to learn that they were kin to Wayne Ryman); at the funeral he learned that Wayne Ryman had died and went to the family; on 9/25 he performed the Shifflett/Martin wedding; on 9/26 he learned that Wally Simmers, and Maynard Sites had died and visited the families; he preached the Sunday service, then went to visit with the families, and attended the visitation for Wayne; on 9/27 he led Wayne's funeral; on 9/28 he led the KUMC charge conference; on 9/29 he went to Wally's visitation; on 9/30 he led Wally's funeral, and went to Maynard's visitation; and on 10/1 he led Maynard's funeral. As hard as it was on the church family to lose three of their own, the emotional toil taken on Pastor Joel had to be immeasurable, and yet, he still greeted everyone on Sunday morning with a smile. God bless you, Pastor Joel, and may God give you strength and renewal to continue caring for your flock. October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Pray for our Pastor and all ministers every day.

OUR PASTOR CHATS

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:1-3, NRSV) There were three Keezletown UMC members who died at the end of September: Wayne Ryman, Wally Simmers, and Maynard "Pop" Sites. There were three funerals in one week: Monday, Thursday, and Friday. There were three meals at Keezletown UMC for grieving families and friends: fried chicken, mac n' cheese, macaroni salad, potato salad, seven-layer salad, green beans, slaw, rolls, sweet tea, cookies, brownies, and more. Geraldine is an octogenarian and helps lead the Meals Ministry at KUMC which regularly helps with funeral meals. I called Geraldine several times that week to see if the Meals Ministry and Geraldine could help with each meal. Every time Geraldine said, "We can do it." Geraldine called volunteers, helped with the menu, was usually the first to arrive to help with the meal, and one of the last to leave. That is a quite a heavy load. After the first meal, I asked Geraldine, "How are you feeling?" "I'm tired," Geraldine replied. When I asked Geraldine other times that week, I got the same answer. I understood. I was tired, too. I was amazed again and again at Geraldine's faith and sharing the love of Jesus that week. Not only by Geraldine's, but everyone who helped the Meals Ministry. Again and again people replied that the church could make room, provide food, and share grace. Jesus' words above from John 14 promise that God has plenty of room for us. Not only room, but that Jesus prepares a place for you and me. Jesus not only prepares a place, but will even take us right to God's house, kingdom, and eternal life so that we do not have to fear or be afraid. Let us rejoice in how

God has room and makes room for Wayne, Wally, and Pop through salvation in Jesus Christ. God has made room for every sinner to repent and be forgiven. Jesus has come to seek out everyone lost and take us home. The Holy Spirit fills us with the presence of God and empowers us to live in faith in the church and the world. May we find joy in this making room grace of God, believe in Jesus and follow the ways of Christ's love, and make plenty of room for others to experience the mercy of God. Jesus' words above are a promise. As God made room for us in the earth, Jesus also makes room for us in the Father's house. There are many rooms. God is not running out of space. We can believe in Jesus and Jesus will lead the way with the grace, forgiveness, and hope of God. There is a great hope we share in the midst of our grief, that Jesus has made room for all to know the salvation and mercy of God in the giving of his life on the cross and the resurrection from the tomb. Geraldine kept on calling for help, making plans to serve, and served alongside others.

Pastor Joel

Happy Birthdays and Anniversaries from Sept 18th thru Oct 16th :



Happy Birthday to: Leigha Dillard; Michael Taylor; Frank Baker; Andrew Coffman; Jared Martin; David Miller; Allison Hawkins; Joseph Botkin Jr; Neil Sacra; Haiden Dillard; Ryan Welsh; James Cole; Cheryl Foley; Sarah Crisman; Randy Clatterbuck; Mick Heishman; Marie Siler Hardin; Ellen Layman; Morgan Baker Bishop; Patti Bowman; Joel Robinette; Peggy Smith; Phillip Carr; and Steve & Beth Morris (15); Scott & Michele Dodrill (29); Michael & Faith Stanley (6); Justin & Kristin Roach (7); Darryl & Tanya Eppard (43); Jim & Carol Dillard (53); Kevin & Holly Mason (7); Bob & Susan Threewitts (44); and Matthew & Amber Coffman (10).

***** SEPTEMBER EVENTS THAT HAPPENED*****



Weave for a Cure was held Sept 9th and Sept 16th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. with four ladies participating. Ann Ford, Stacey Shifflett, Carol Dillard, and Carolyn Baker, were all led by Lynn Siler as they made the beautiful baskets shown as a Relay Fundraiser.

Parking Lot Resealed and New Pattern Coming: The KUMC parking lot was resealed on Sept 14th. There will be a new parking space pattern painted soon for handicapped parking spaces and for those who need to park close. Please continue to park in that area if you need to park close due to handicap or mobility issues.

CHOOSE YOUR WORDS CAREFULLY! On this, United Methodist Men's Sunday, Sept 19th, Chris played "Oh, I Know the Lord's Laid His Hands on Me", "Over my Head", "O Freedom", "Guide My Feet", and "I've Just Come from the Fountain" as we gathered and the bell rang. Scott Dillard carried in the Light of Christ as Chris played "From the Rising of the Sun". Dale Dodrill gave the morning greeting and talked about what the UMM had been able to accomplish even during the pandemic, then opened the service with prayer. Our first hymn was "Wonderful Words of Life"; followed by a wonderful 13 men's choir singing "Great is Thy Faithfulness" and "Rise Up, O Men of God" to a round of applause and "do it again soon". Scott Dillard read the Gospel lesson from Hebrews 4:12-13, the two-edged sword. "The Word of God" was the title of Ken Thomas's message

which began, "What is the Word of God?" We have heard it is sharper than a double-edged sword expose by a burglar, police asked 38's". Words



that can slice us heart and soul wide open and everything. Nothing is hidden. A lady, awakened shouted Acts: 2:38. The burglar froze and when him why, he said "she said she had an axe and two are powerful. Our God is too great to be described,

so Jesus is called the word (see John 1:1-2). God spoke thru the prophets and Jesus with a message: the word of God is love. God is love and love is God. Love one another. Only love can get us thru all the upheaval of today's world. A preacher sold his horse, telling the buyer that to go say "praise the Lord" and "amen" to stop. The man climbed on and said "praise the Lord" three times, and after galloping a good distance he noticed a cliff. Thinking very hard, he finally remembered and said "Amen", with the horse stopping a foot from the edge. He brushed his brow and said "Praise the Lord". Words are powerful. The hymn "Thy Words are a Lamp Unto My Feet" followed the message. Jim Dillard gave the morning prayer and the Lord's prayer, followed by a dedication of the Video Camera System by Scott Sprague (who thanked all who had helped to make the church's dream possible) and Pastor Joel. Neil Sacra came to lead the offertory prayer and the Benediction. Scott Dillard carried out the Light of Christ as Chris played "Rise Up, O Men of God". **DON'T LET YOUR WORDS BE A SWORD, BUT LOVE.**

UNITED METHODIST MEN: On Sunday, Sept 19th the Methodist Men met for breakfast, devotions, and a meeting. A wonderful breakfast was prepared by Scott and Dale Dodrill; thanks gentlemen. A nice devotion was delivered by Brother Jim Dillard. After the completion of breakfast and devotion, the group proceeded to the meeting portion with the following items being discussed: last meeting minutes; Treasurer's report; how to go about cleaning up the area around the Clothes Closet center; yearly Christmas meal; and election of new officers. Starting in 2022 the officers will be Chairman Scott Dillard, Co-chair Neil Sacra, Treasure Scott Dodrill, and Reporter Dale Dodrill. Also, this was Men's Sunday, where the group led the worship service. Thanks go out to all men who participated in the service and especially Ken Thomas for delivering the morning message. Our next gathering will be on Sunday, Oct 17th at 8:00 a.m.

A WEDDING CELEBRATION: With the backdrop of the Peak, in an outdoors wedding at Cross Keys Barn, on September 25th, Corey Shifflett and Christina Martin were married by Pastor Joel. Parents are Stacey and Rob Shifflett and grandparents are David and Mary Nankivell. Congrats and best wishes.

AWWWWW! The little girl with curly red hair came up to my ice cream truck. I would like an orange popsicle, she said. Of course, I said, and handed her the popsicle. All I have to pay with is this pretty blue rock I found, she said, as she looked at me with big brown eyes. I am now the proud owner of a pretty blue rock.

ARE YOU A STUMBLING BLOCK? On the last Sunday of Sept, Sept 26th, we gathered as Diana played “Anywhere With Jesus”, “Tell It to Jesus”, and “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”, and the bell rang. Ryan carried in the Light of Christ as Diana played “I Must Tell Jesus” for the prelude. Pastor Joel greeted all in attendance and via video and gave the opening prayer, followed by the Church family singing “Wonderful Words of Life”. All were invited to join the choir in singing “You Are the Seed”. Diana read the Gospel lesson from Mark 9:38-50, the casting out of demons and stumbling blocks. “Don’t Stop Jesus Growing in Somebody” was the title of Pastor Joel’s message this morning. Marks’ stories about little ones confuse us by thinking about who would be little ones. Are they children, those who don’t belong, or those objectionable ones? Who does God want to save? How can we understand? The doors of KUMC make a big noise when they shut to let those inside know when anyone comes in. Who is coming in to possibly take their first steps toward Jesus? Will we respond and help them. When the disciples saw someone casting out demons and tried to stop him, Jesus responded, do not stop him, thus allowing us to work for Jesus. The grace of Jesus is free to all. We need to be encouragers. Don’t be a stumbling block for little ones seeking Jesus. “He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought” was sung after the message, and followed by the Morning prayer and Lord’s prayer, led by Pastor Joel. Donna Tinsley, from MCCCC, then came to speak about Undie Sunday, Oct 10th. She thanked KUMC for their generosity that God provides thru the KUMC Church family. They are now serving 600 families; have given out 32,000 diapers this year; and that good quality clothing help children fit in. She then told three stories of sadness and blessing in three families the Closet has helped. Some clients donate back, help translate, and help sign up new clients. What she has learned is that people just want healthy, happy children and KUMC’s generous giving helps them do that. Pastor Joel then gave the offertory prayer and the closing Benediction using “A Prayer of Francis of Assisi”. Ryan carried out the Light of Christ, as Diana played “Jesus Saves”. **JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE ONES.**

“MISS MABLE”: On September 26th, 2021, Jim Harris presented a devotional in the Upper Room and wishes to share it with all who did not get a chance to read it. Read Matthew 19:13-15. The scripture is “Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old that will not turn from it.” Proverbs 22:6. “After nearly 70 years I still have a clear memory of the nursery class in my childhood church. Miss Mable made the Bible stories come alive for us. She let us help tell the story as we placed felt-backed cutout figures of Bible characters on a board covered with flannel. When she told us the story of Noah and the ark, we loved deciding where to place the lions and donkeys and other animals on the ark. I am eternally grateful to Miss Mable for patient, loving instruction. But her love for each of us was even more important and helped us begin to understand the unconditional love of God. When I was struggling with my faith as a young adult, I remembered the love of Miss Mable and the other people in that church. On a return visit, I was warmly welcomed. My life was transformed by seeing the gospel lived out in others’ lives. Prayer: Thank you, Lord, for children. Guide those who teach them with your love

and grace. Help us to encourage and support others who lead children in learning about Jesus. Amen.”

CHARGE CONFERENCE: KUMC held its’ annual Charge Conference on Sept 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the Church social hall via zoom with the district. Seven church members attended and Pastor Joel presided over the Keezletown meeting. Dist Supt Dr Victor Gomez gave the Welcome and Gathering and the Opening Prayer, followed by a short Meditation entitled “Your Will Be Done” taken from a passage in Jeremiah that means we are to reach out with love and good news. Decisions need to be made by seeking God’s will. We must relinquish control and follow Him. He then showed a video with falling plates, shattering into pieces, and then being reassembled, showing that we are each different, with different pieces, broken and shattered, but that Jesus came to save and that His love can put us back together. We then sang “There is Power in the Blood”. Each charge was then dismissed to their own conference. Pastor Joel welcomed all present and Dale via zoom. Diana Davis was approved as Secretary for the meeting, and all were asked to sign the attendance sheet before leaving. Lay Leadership Nominations were approved. The following Lay Speakers were all approved: Steve Morris; B J Smith; Ken Thomas; Len Williams; Mac Coffman; and Dale Dodrill; Rev David Nankivell was recognized as a retired minister who assists KUMC when needed. We were asked to pray for those considering becoming a Minister. Under Clergy Compensation, the Pastor’s salary was approved; the Pastor’s Accounts Reimbursable was approved; and the Pastor’s housing parsonage allowance was approved. Lay leader, Steve Morris, spoke about KUMC’s mission and moving forward, stating that God has remained the same through the pandemic and the mission of the church is still the same and needs to move forward. We have new ways to worship with online services provided by Scott Sprague, as well as in person worship. Sunday School has been reinstated with modifications. Missions for the year included a free spaghetti meal drive thru; Operation Christmas Child; the Backpack program; the food bank; Relay for Life; SHS Hygiene kits; CRES kits; Baby kits for MCCCC; and RAM clinic assistance. Moving forward, we will need to find new ways to share Jesus by using the will of God. “The church is not four walls, but the hearts of the people within it.” Under the Pastor’s report, the deaths of Wally Simmers and Maynard Sites were added, and the wedding of Corey and Christy Shifflett was added. Pastor Joel adjourned the meeting with prayer.

FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Armentrout/Carr family



Carmella toofies



Traveling again



Chloe karate



Making cards

3-year-old, Reese: "Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name. Amen."

ONGOING AND UPCOMING STUDIES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Began Sept 5th and will go thru Nov 22nd (12 sessions) from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. All ages are welcome to join Max Lucado's study of "Unshakeable Hope". Please contact Beth Morris (jmorgansmom@gmail.com), or just come sit in and listen.

THE WAY STUDY: travel to Israel walking in Jesus' footsteps, from Jan 3rd to Feb 14th, led by Adam Hamilton.

ENTERING THE PASSION OF JESUS STUDY: Jesus' final days, led by Amy-Jill Levine from Feb 28th to Apr 11th.

When a flashlight grows dim or quits working, do you just throw it away? Of course not. You change the batteries. When a person messes up or finds themselves in a dark place, do you cast them aside? Of course not! You help them change their batteries. Some need AA...attention and affection; some need AAA...attention, affection, and acceptance; some need C...compassion; some need D...direction. And if they still don't seem to shine...simply sit with them quietly and share your light.
(From Grace and Mercy)

***** OCTOBER EVENTS THAT HAPPENED *****

"AND HE TOOK THEM UP IN HIS ARMS". Today, Oct 3rd is World Communion Sunday. As we gathered, Carol played "Give Me Strength O Lord" and "Autumn Song", and the bell rang. Sweet little Nora Grace carried in the Light of Christ as Carol played "In Autumn". Ken Thomas, assisting Pastor Joel, gave the greeting, and opening prayer, after which we sang "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus". Nora Grace, along with Grandpa Neil, came again to read the Gospel lesson from Mark 10:13-16, Jesus blessing the little children. Jesus keeps stressing the importance of "Receiving Little Ones", the title of today's message. Pastor Joel continued with those who accept little ones, accept Jesus, and receive God. Children were not important, the least, the bottom of the heap, but Jesus told the disciples to stop and let them come to Him. If we cannot receive little ones, we cannot receive the Kingdom of God. Throughout the Bible, the least are raised to bring God's hope, deliverance, and new life, to sinners, the fisherman, the broken, the tax collectors, the forsaken,



the slaves. Jesus became a refugee, a humble baby, one of the little ones. Pastor Joel was asked to conduct a funeral for a lady he had never met, but God showed him that the family was also a part of Wayne Ryman's family, who died that very day. May our eyes be opened to serving the little ones when we are asked. The choir and church family then joined in singing "Let Us Offer to the Father". Steve Morris, Lay Leader, then spoke, reflecting on the Charge Conference, about KUMC's mission and moving forward, stating that God has remained the same through the pandemic and the mission of the church is still the same and needs to move forward, even if out of our comfort zone. We have new ways to worship with online services provided by Scott Sprague, as well as in person worship. Sunday School has been reinstated with modifications.

Missions for the year included a free spaghetti meal drive thru; Operation Christmas Child; the Backpack program; the food bank; Relay for Life; SHS Hygiene kits; CRES kits; Baby kits for MCCCC; and RAM clinic assistance. It has been a tough year, but moving forward will be amazing as we explore new ways to continue our mission, focusing on love and the will of God. “The church is not four walls, but the hearts of the people within it.” We need to focus on the quality of our encounters, not the quantity. Ken led the Morning prayer, the offertory prayer, and the Church family sang “Let Us Break Bread Together”. Pastor Joel then gave the Invitation, the Confession and Pardon, the Great Thanksgiving, and the Lord’s Prayer, before we partook of the Bread and the Cup. Ken gave the Benediction, as Nora Grace carried out the Light of Christ and Carol played the postlude. **LET US SERVE THE LITTLE ONES WITH QUALITY AND LOVE.**

UMW DISTRICT MEETING: On Oct 7th, Cheryl, Chris, Carolyn, Sherry, Karen and Pastor Joel attended the Harrisonburg District UMW’s 48th Annual Meeting at Otterbein UMC. District President, Barbara Phillips, called the meeting to order with announcements and reciting of the Purpose. District Treasurer, Joy Utberg lit a candle to burn for 36 minutes in honor of the \$1,309.50 collected. Emily Bender of Church Wide Services presented a program about resettlement of refugees coming to our area by providing housing with food and furnishings, clothing, health screenings and programs, employment services, registering children for school, cultural orientation and immigration services. She spoke on ways the community could get involved by volunteering or making donations. After the program there was a short meditation and the “Hymn of Promise” was sung. Those members who had passed away during the year were remembered. Minutes were read, the 2022 budget was presented and the offering was blessed. Awards were presented and KUMC received Living Into Our Purpose Gold Unit and achieved Five Channels of Mission Giving. Chris Cole received a Reading Program Award for completing 17 books. Under new business, our own Sherry Summers, District Nominations Chair, announced the appointment of the new District Treasurer, Mary Jane Rawley, who was installed by District Secretary, Sharon Harold. The meeting was then adjourned.

WELCOME HOME, JIMMY. Children’s Sabbath, Oct 10th, was a celebration of children, “Undie Sunday”, and Jim Harris returning to KUMC to speak. The service began as Diana played “Kum Ba Yah”, “Marching to Zion”, “Onward Christian Soldiers” and “There Is a Fountain Filled With Blood” as the gathering music, and the bell rang. Ryan Sprague carried in the Light of Christ as Diana played “I’ll Go Where You Want Me to Go” as the prelude, and then Pastor Joel gave the greeting, and opening prayer. Ryan Sprague, as Special Music, presented with a swollen lip from a bee sting, and a three fingered guitar presentation because of a jammed finger, a lovely rendition of “Wide, Wide River to Cross”. Now that’s dedication. “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”, one of Jim’s favorite hymns, led the service, followed by the choir presenting “O Young and Fearless Prophet”. Brayden Morris, via video, read the Gospel lesson from Luke 4:14-30, Jesus proclaiming in the Synagogue to fulfill the Scriptures. “He Done Gone from Preachin’ to Meddlin” was the title of Jim’s message that began “I’m glad to be home”. Did you hear when Jesus was meddlin’ in the Scriptures? Jim asked. People around Jesus assumed that He would become a carpenter, like his father. He came back to

Nazareth after the people of Nazareth had heard of His miracle doings. Jesus read the Isaiah scroll where it talked of the fulfillment of the Scripture. When He told them He was the fulfillment, they wanted proof—show us miracles. In His displeasure with their unbelief, He began to remind them of how God had used the Gentiles and others and was showing grace to them, showing salvation for all. They did not want to share God. They became so angry, they took Him to a cliff to throw Him off, but with one look, they parted and He walked away from them. Jim then told one of his made up stories about Keezletown and Mr. and Mrs. Lucas. Mrs. Lucas found a kitten to keep her happy from her empty nest, but it climbed a tree and Mr. Lucas, in his attempt to get it out, flung it thru the air into Keezletown. They could not find it. On Sunday morning they came to Church, ice cold to one another and everyone noticed. Rev Tussey, in an effort to break the ice, called for a witness. Little old sad, Mrs. Koogler, with her cane, came to the front with a joyful smile, and told how she had been praying and on Thursday night, on the way in from taking down laundry, a kitten flew into her basket. God is good, she



said. Jim then went on to talk about how parents need to let go, to raise children that love God, and to pray for them. He spoke of the many folks that influenced and prayed for him as he grew up: Miss Mable Arementrout; Louise Wilfong; Bill Fisher; Linda Liskey; Allene Clatterbuck; and his brother Paul. They all meddled in his life. The

church has the right to meddle in the lives of its' children. KUMC is a hero for Jim; for combining; for tearing down the old and building the new church; for all the activities and missions the church is involved in. We are a church of grace and we need to continue to be a people of grace. Pray for others. Welcome others. It will make a difference. "Be Thou My Vision" was the second hymn the church family sang, followed by Haiden Dillard leading a Children's Litany Time of Prayer, and Carson Guilliams leading the Lord's Prayer. Dawn Kern, from MCCCC, then spoke (see next article). Pastor Joel gave a blessing over the Undies gathered, along with the offertory prayer, and Chloe Robinette came to give the benediction. As Ryan carried out the Light of Christ, Diana played "Revive Us Again". **MEDDLIN' WITH GRACE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

SPEAKING FOR MCCCC: Dawn Kern came to KUMC on Oct 10th, "Undie Sunday" to thank KUMC for our support of MCCCC and its' mission. We have lots of clothes, she said, but also lots of families with needs. She told the story of how the Clothes Closet began at McGaheysville, then to Cedar Grove, then to MCCCC, and how the Equipment for Caring center came to be. In 2018, they served 287 families with 832 children; in 2021 already they have served 608 families with 1600 children. Please continue to give clothes and volunteer if you can. You can show the love of Jesus thru socks and underwear.

UNDIE SUNDAY IS A GREAT SUCCESS! PRAISE THE LORD! Wow! Wow! Wow! Lotsa little behinds and feet are gonna stay warm because KUMC is such a caring and giving church family. On Undie Sunday, Oct 10th, the altar rail was covered with underwear, socks, and a few surprise items. The final count came to Mens underwear sizes 28-38, 60 pair; Boys underwear sizes 6-20, 158 pair; Womens underwear size 7,

9 pair; Girls underwear sizes 2T-16, 290 pair; Boys socks, 6 pair; Girls Bralettes Med 32, 3; Girls Socks, 18 pair; Crocheted hats, 13; and checks for MCCCC totaling \$230.00. Indeed, we have been blessed to be a blessing. Thank you for sharing that blessing with others.

MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Old Friends



Jacob & Joseph



At the Pumpkin patch



Ben/Leslie's Babies



WAYS TO GIVE AND HELP OTHERS

Church Giving: The best way to share your tithes and offerings with KUMC at this time is checks through the mail. Your giving is very appreciated! KUMC, 1456 Indian Trail Rd, Keezletown VA 22832

Gathering Non-Perishable Food items: Our local food pantry at Massanutten Presbyterian Church is still taking donations to serve people in Keezletown, Penn Laird, and McGaheysville. Items can be dropped off at KUMC.

Clothing for Mission Central: being collected in basket in narthex.

Salvation Army Meal: Ann and Wes Ford have still been coordinating and providing a monthly supper for the Salvation Army Shelter. If you would like to help with preparing a meal and dropping it off at the shelter please contact Ann and Wes.

US Disaster Response: For United States disaster relief designate your gift to "UMCOR US Disaster Response: Advance #901670." For international disasters please designate your gift to "UMCOR International Disaster Response: Advance #982450."

Mission Central Children's Clothing Closet is open on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00p.m., and the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with all volunteers wearing masks and appropriate social distancing. Contact Artie Frederick at 540-208-7669 to help.

Mission Central Medical Equipment for Caring Closet is open Mondays 9-11 AM and Thursdays 5-7 PM, wearing masks and maintaining social distancing. If you would like to help, please call Delores Reid 540-383-6112.

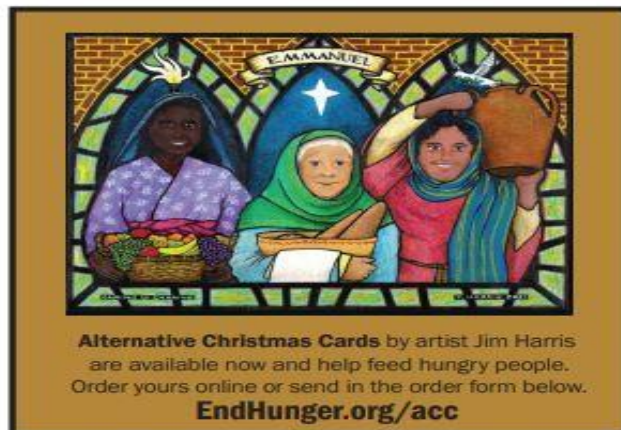
ITEMS BEING REQUESTED TO ASSIST THOSE IN NEED:

Baby Shower for Jesus: We will have another Baby Shower for Jesus on Christmas Eve. This year we are asking for newborn kits which will be shared in our community through The Mission Central Children's Clothing Closet. You don't have to wait for Christmas to assemble and give newborn kits as newborns come all year long. Please fill kits with all new items.

Requested items: NB size disposable diapers; 2 receiving blankets; one large blanket; 2 cloth diapers; one baby wash/shampoo; one 0-3 month onesie; one 0-3 month sleeper; 6 feminine pads; one soft toy; one reusable bag. Additional items that could be included: 6 nursing pads; rash cream; stretch mark cream; changing pad; nasal aspirator; baby nail clippers; brush/comb.

KUMC Backpack Project is packing weekend food bags for 17 children at Cub Run Elementary School, so far. If you would like to help with shopping for food, please contact Lynette Guilliams. If you would like to help pack food bags please come help on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM. If you would like to give you may designate your gift to "KUMC Backpack Project." \$125 will sponsor a schoolchild with weekend food during the school year. Let us all be in prayer for the children receiving food, Cub Run Elementary, and the KUMC Backpack Project.

JIM HARRIS ART CARDS AND THE SOCIETY OF ST ANDREW: From Rev Jim Harris: please announce that once again the Society of St. Andrew Alternative Christmas Card features my art. This year the painting is titled, "Sharing is Caring". As I was picturing the little community of Bethlehem I was picturing a place not unlike Keezletown, a place where it would soon be



Alternative Christmas Card
Minimum donation gift for each card is \$15
Do not send cash through mail.
Donations tax deductible as allowed by law.

Make check payable to "Society of St. Andrew" or
Charge my: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx
Account # _____ Exp. Date _____
Signature _____ CVV _____
PLEASE PRINT Total enclosed or charged: \$ _____

Your Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Day Phone _____
Email _____

☐ Send _____ cards TO ME for personalizing and mailing.
☐ SoSA to send out cards on my behalf.
Note: Use a separate sheet to list additional names, addresses and what name you would like signed at the bottom of the card (who the card is from).

In honor of _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Sign this card: _____

Orders must be received by Dec. 3 to ensure delivery before Christmas. We will make every attempt to expedite late orders.

**Mail to: Society of St. Andrew, 3383 Sweet Hollow Road.,
Big Island, Virginia 24526**

(KOC-HL)

known if a baby had been born to travelers in a stable - or a garage. And there is no doubt that caring women from the church would reach out to that family to see how they could help. Here's the official artist statement: " This is not meant to be "The Three Wise Women," though they are wise. More importantly, they are caring. As I imagine it, the news of a baby being born in a stable quickly spread throughout the small village of Bethlehem, and along with it came gossip, speculation and suspicion. These three women saw a need and decided to fill it. Because of their life experiences and familiarity with being poor or distrusted they wanted to help this young family. One brought a jar of fresh water, having no idea that baby Jesus would grow to give others "living water". Another brought fresh baked bread and clean strips of cloth for swaddling the baby who would one day say, "I am the bread of life". And the third one brought a basket of fruit especially overflowing with grapes for the one who would come to say, "I am the vine..." They could not know that thirty years later Jesus would kneel and wash his disciples' feet with water, then share in the Passover meal using the bread and the wine as reminders of his sacrifice that was to take place on the cross. They only knew there was a need and they wanted to fill it. This is why we give to the Society of

St. Andrew. There is a need, and we can help. When we truly care about the needs of others, we naturally share what we can to help them, no matter who they are or why they are needy. I am extremely grateful to the Society of St. Andrew for allowing me to give my art for this great cause." (Must receive orders by Dec 3rd.)

MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Happy 15th Happy 13 Haiden Triton/Pumpkin patch Connor last game Happy Bd Patti

POST-COVID RE-ENTRY GROUP: A new team called “PRG” has been formed at KUMC to apply new guidelines from the VA Annual Conference to our local church. If you would like to be part of this new PRG team please contact Pastor Joel, Sherry Summers or Sharon Martin.

***** OCTOBER EVENTS IN NEXT ISSUE*****

- 17 **United Methodist Men's Breakfast and Meeting at 8:00 a.m.**
 “Unshakeable Hope” study 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.
 Worship 11:00 a.m.; Laity Sunday; Message by Dale Dodrill, “The Fifth Sparrow”
 from Luke 4:14-30
- 18 **Last Passion Play study 10:00 a.m.**
- 23 **Choir Practice 9:30 a.m.**
- 24 **“Unshakeable Hope” study 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.**
 Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: “From Silencing to Calling” from Mark 10:46-52
- 31 **“Unshakeable Hope” study 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.**
 Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: “From First to Second” from Mark 12:28-34
 Harvest Party in the afternoon

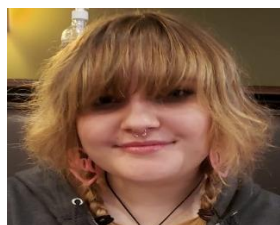
HARVEST PARTY: Come join the fun at our annual KUMC Harvest Party on Sunday, Oct 31st. The hayride will leave from the Ruritan parking lot at 2:00 p.m. There will be lots of deep-fried treats, soups, and hot dogs to enjoy. Feel free to bring cakes or pies to share at the cake walk. Please invite family and friends. Come as you feel comfortable.

All Saints Sunday Pictures and Names

All Saints Sunday will be Nov 7th and there will be time to name saints who have died and now have eternal life in Jesus Christ. Please submit pictures and names of people you would like remembered this year to Pastor Joel by Nov 1st.

You want to know how to fall asleep in a chair: Be older...and sit down.
Why is it that every time I think about eating less, I hear this strange
laughing coming from my tummy?
Some days you are a mechanic—you put a rear end in a recliner!

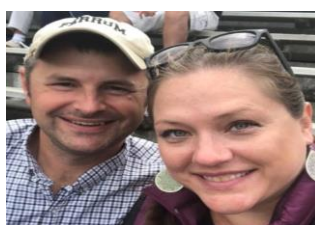
MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Happy 18th Toni



Happy BDay Hannah



At Ferrum



Happy 1st Anniversary

***** NOVEMBER EVENTS HAPPENING*****

NOV 6TH DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS—SET CLOCKS BACK

Do You Wanna Build a Snowman as a Relay Fundraiser?

Weave for a Cure is planning a weaving event to Weave a Snowman basket, Nov 11th & 18th from 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the church social hall. If you are interested in building a snowman basket please let Lynn Siler know @ 560-9061. Cost \$45.00.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Let's help send Shoebox Gifts and the Gospel to the ends of the Earth. It's that time of the year with Christmas is just around the corner. If you can fill a box or more with toys, hygiene items, school supplies, etc., to send to a child for Christmas and share God's love, it would be appreciated. Bring them to church and they will go to the collection site on Nov 21st after church. Any questions, need help or a shopper, see Lynn Siler.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov 3	Faith Stanley	Nov 19	Jim Mooney
Nov 4	Alli Underwood	Nov 21	Phyllis Liskey
Nov 7	Kelly Smith	Nov 21	Laura Wamsley
Nov 8	Daryl Armentrout	Nov 22	Jenny Dillard
Nov 8	Nolan Mason	Nov 22	Janet Clements
Nov 9	Lee Siler	Nov 23	Marie Suter
Nov 12	David Cole	Nov 25	Richard Higgs
Nov 13	Evalyn Campbell	Nov 26	Geraldine Armentrout
Nov 17	Steve Shortell	Nov 26	Alissa Dodrill
Nov 18	Luke Dillard	Nov 28	Sarah Coffman
Nov 19	Marian Suter	Nov 28	Kathryn Miller

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Nov 6, 1993	Steve & Lori Zylich	28 years
Nov 7, 2009	Lee & Amanda Siler	12 years
Nov 13, 2010	Jim & Karen Mooney	11 years
Nov 23, 1968	Gary & Barbara Heatwole	53 years

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OR MORE: CONGRATULATIONS to church family couples that have been married 40 or more years in November:



Gary & Barbara Heatwole for 53 years on Nov 23rd

Best wishes from your KUMC family. May you have many more.

November Events Calendar

- 1 All Saints Sunday names and pictures due
- 2 Election Day--Vote
- 3 Backpack packing @ 1:00 p.m.
Girl Scouts @ 6:00 p.m.
Staff-Parish Relations Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- 4 UMW meet 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Choir Practice 9:30 a.m.
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS—SET CLOCKS BACK
- 7 "Unshakeable Hope" study 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m. with World Communion; Message: "Beware of Religion for Show" from Mark 12:38-44
- 10 Backpack packing @ 1:00 p.m.
Girl Scouts @ 6:00 p.m.
Church council meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 11 Weave a Snowman for a Cure 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- 13 UMW Looking Ahead Together
- 14 "Unshakeable Hope" study 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message by Barrett Bowman
- 17 Backpack packing @ 1:00 p.m.
Girl Scouts @ 6:00 p.m.
- 18 Weave a Snowman for a Cure 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- 19 Newsletter items due
- 20 Choir practice 9:30 a.m.
Serve Salvation Army
- 21 United Methodist Men's Breakfast and Meeting at 8:00 a.m.
"Unshakeable Hope" study 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Not from Here" from John 18:33-37
Operation Christmas Child boxes due
- 25 THANKSGIVING DAY
- 28 Advent Study @ 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Christmas Branch" from Jeremiah 33:14-16

Linus gives us some good advice: "Never jump into a pile of leaves with a wet sucker."

DALE'S CORNER by Dale Dodrill

God created four seasons for us to enjoy: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

We are blessed with eyes to view each one. The current season is Fall, It's when God paints an awesome picture with His creation, called leaves. The best photograph doesn't capture it like the eye sees it, but they are a reminder of His greatness. As I view His handiwork, I am trying to capture and store these pictures in my mind. I realize, from past experience, that their beauty will last only for a short time. Winter will soon follow, and at my age, it's not my favorite season. However, I believe that God can use my Fall pictures, to comfort me on a cold, windy and snowy day. Today, capture some pictures of the trees to carry you through the cold times.

THANK YOU

Dear KUMC Family, on behalf of my family and Chrisley's family, thank you for your prayers for mom over the past several years and especially the past two months. We all had a rocky ride with her, and we spent many hours by her side, but we wouldn't change that for anything. Thank you for reaching out to us through cards and texts and Facebook messages - it's great to have so much support during this difficult time. A big thank you goes to the Meals Ministry team who fed us after the funeral. It was great to continue to be together after her celebration of life. I ask that you continue to keep us in your prayers as this is a very hard transition for all of us. **Michele**

THE CHURCH FAMILY REMEMBERS



Wayne Allen Ryman, Church member, survived by wife, Rebecca; two sons, Steven Hall and Tia, and Wayne Hall and Veronica; nine grandchildren, Caleb Hall, Jacob Hall, Marcus Hall, Makenzie Hall, Isaiah Cook, Jazzmine Hall, Alexander Hall, Savannah Ryder and Evelyn Ryder, one great-granddaughter, Harper Hall.



Wanda Waltine "Wally" Simmers, Church member, survived by son, Chrisley Simmers and wife Teresa, daughter, Michele Dodrill and husband Scott; grandchildren Alissa Dodrill and Josh Wanger, Kendra Dodrill, and Blayne Simmons; bonus great-grandson, Waylon Evans; brothers, E.R. Brooks (Sue), and Jeff Brooks (Gina); brother-in-law Elliott Boyd; and sister-in-law, Patti Bowman.

Maynard Lee "Pops" Sites, community and KUMC family member, survived by daughters, Catherine Chouiniere and Denise Sites and companion Chandler Brown, and special friends, Marilyn Loker, Tim Harris, and Clayton and Marsha Justice.

Wilton Thomas died on September 30th. He was our pastor at Keezletown Evangelical United Brethren Church in 1951 – 1952 as he was beginning his ministry.

Little boy: when is Jesus coming? Father: I don't know, we are not the planning committee, just the welcoming committee.

MY PERSONAL NOTE:

Sometimes when you're feeling low, and know that you have lots of friends who would listen, but you just don't want to bother them because they have enough problems of their own, and you know a good cry might help, but probably not, and you know it's all just life and it'll pass, but right at that moment, it just makes you feel alone and lonely, and you take a deep breath and draw in the Holy Spirit that's surrounding you without realizing it, and He lifts your hurt, and your loneliness, and your heartache, to God, the Father, and words aren't needed. Now that's a Hallelujah. I pray if you are having one of those days, that God makes it a Hallelujah day. *Diana*

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Editor's Note

The November deadline for submissions is November 19th. My home number is 269-8511 or e-mail me at AntDyna@comcast.net. I hope that you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoy preparing it for you. God bless you all.

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Courtesy Photo of fall tree in Bridgewater by Jim Harris

HAPPY FALL Y'ALL!

