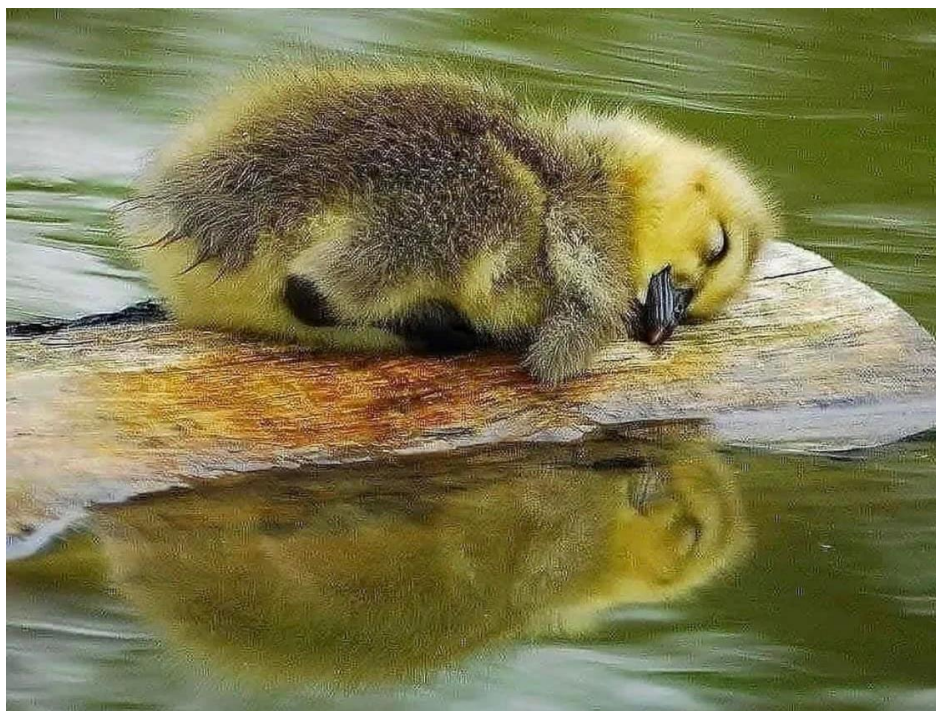


MOuNTaiN ECHoeS

JULY 2022

139th Edition



*"In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, LORD, make me dwell in safety." Psalm 4:8
Only God can give us the peace that allows us to truly rest. (From Scripture by Picture)*

Keezletown United Methodist Church

Rev. T. Joel Robinette, Pastor

1456 Indian Trail Road

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Pastor's office hours: Monday & Wednesday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Keezletown UMC website: www.keezletownumc.com

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The House of Grace is: Prevenient: come up on the porch and sit and chat. Justifying: come thru the door and enter into grace. Sanctifying: sit awhile and I'll tell you what we can do together. Perfecting: live with me and we will show the world what grace and love are; I have prepared a room for you.

View Worship Online: The best way to view the livestream of the 11:00 AM worship is to go to: <https://www.facebook.com/keezletownumc/live> or to watch live on the Keezletown UMC YouTube channel. After the service is completed it will be uploaded to YouTube and Facebook.

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OUR PASTOR CHATS

Last month I wrote from the Virginia Annual Conference but we were not quite finished. In addition to what I wrote last month, here are some more highlights from the 2022 Virginia Annual Conference which was June 16th – 18th in Hampton, VA: Rev Tom Berlin was approved to be an episcopal candidate endorsed by our conference, meaning he could be elected a bishop at the next Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in Fall 2022. Tom is a gifted communicator, has been the pastor of several congregations in our conference, been a General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference delegate many times, and has written several books based on some of his sermon series. Three congregations disaffiliated from the United Methodist Church this year at our conference and more are expected to do so. Bishop Sharma Lewis has formed Team Jeremiah to assist congregations looking for answers about why congregations are disaffiliating and what is the disaffiliation process. Online at <https://vaumc.org> are resources from Team Jeremiah including two webinars which share a lot of information. During our Saturday session there was a motion to redirect some funds from the budget to children and youth programming in our conference. While that request was too late to be considered as part of the budget people began pledging funds so that \$66,200 total was pledged and our own district superintendent pledged \$1,500 from our district, so we may get a chance to help with that in the future. The last count I have seen for the Virginia Annual Conference Offering was \$122,000 which will benefit several ministries like our Partnerships of Hope and the Doctor of Ministry Program at Wesley Theological Seminary for Military Chaplains to benefit their ministry. Thank you to everyone who gave to the VAC offering this year. It was such a blessing to see people from our conference I have not seen in person for several years. It is inspiring to see people willing to serve in their local church and beyond for the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ. When I am at annual conference I really wish we had more time. Yes, a longer conference! More time for the great worship, inspiring preaching, challenging Bible study, learning about ways to be in mission and how people have been reaching out, and time to hear the ideas, prayers, challenges, and convictions of people in our annual conference. Fortunately, the connection of our annual conference goes beyond one weekend in June. Our Virginia Annual Conference is 1,146 churches with 308,490 members, and 1,895 clergy. May Christ connect us to one another in in our shared mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

*****JUNE EVENTS THAT HAPPENED*****

DONUTS FOR DADS CELEBRATION: On Father's Day, June 19th, six church ladies hosted a reception at 9:45 p.m. in the social hall for the Dads and men of the Church. Men, women, and children attended and dined on baked ham/cheese biscuits, a variety of regular and mini muffins, cinnamon rolls and fruit skewers, coffee and tea. They were also given cards with small colored fish on the front with a gold fish hook at the top (which could be used as a bookmark or tie pin). The inside said, "Jesus said, Come unto me and I will make you fishers of men." Thank you to all who participated and helped.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY AND JUNETEENTH: Worship today, June 19th began with Diana playing "My Jesus, I Love Thee", "I Love to Tell the Story", and "Joy to the World" as the gathering music. The bell rang and Ryan carried in the Light of Christ as Diana played "How Great Thou Art". Cathy Sites assisted Pastor Joel today and gave the

greeting, led the Opening Prayer, asked all to Pass the Peace, and announced the 1st hymn, “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”. Diana played “What a Wonderful World” as the Special music. Cathy read the Epistle lesson from 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24, rejoice and pray, and Pastor Joel came to give his message entitled “Sanctifying Grace”. Happy Father’s Day, he began. Prevenient grace goes before us like the front porch; justifying grace is like the door inviting us in by accepting God’s salvation; sanctifying grace is not done with us yet. Sanctification, sanctifying grace is making us holy to do the things God does, to love like Jesus does. Not holy like so precious that we sit on a shelf and do nothing, but holy like being under construction, along with everyone else, living together in the way God calls us to do, giving grace to all. Juneteenth celebrates the Emancipation Proclamation for freeing the slaves. Just as the slaves struggled for freedom, we still see brokenness in our own country and in our religion. We need sanctifying grace everyday renewing us. When I became a Dad, I didn’t know anything and was carrying my first baby and stuck my finger in his mouth and loved it. I’ve had to use prevenient grace many times with both of my children when I didn’t know what to do. Open your life and your heart to God’s sanctifying grace. Allow Him to help you thru the changes in life so you can become more like Jesus. The hymn “Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus” followed the message. Jim Dillard then gave a witness (see next article) and a Prayer for Fathers. Cathy led the Time of Prayer Together and the Lord’s Prayer. Pastor Joel introduced and blessed one of the new Pastors coming to the district and gave the offertory prayer, followed by the Doxology. Our final hymn was “Victory in Jesus”. Ryan carried out the Light of Christ as Diana played “Joy to the World” as many sang along as they departed. **COME IN AND PARTAKE OF GRACE.**

A FATHER SPEAKS: Jim Dillard came to witness on Father’s Day, June 19th. He started by stating that the best message he had put on the Church sign by the road in all the years he’d been doing it was: “Any man can father a child, but it takes a man to be a Dad”. King Solomon tells us to train a child. Fatherhood is a lifelong commitment. Babies are gifts, but difficulties come. At six, I decided to run away from home, but my sister found me, and Dad had a willow switch waiting for me when we returned. Yes, it did hurt me more than him and it was the only time I got spanked. Dad always had an answer, until I was thirteen, then he knew nothing. After graduating, the military called, and I went to Vietnam. Once back, changes came: I married Carol, had two boys, and a house payment. When we get too big for our britches and try to lead God, instead of following, changes come. I salute you Fathers, for all you do, and would remind you that the greatest gift, if you are blessed, is to have grandchildren. Happy Father’s Day.

KENDRA LEADS AT BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE: The week of June 19th, Kendra Dodrill and twenty-three amazing leaders led the Summer SOAR sessions for first-year students at BC. They worked hard, played hard, and most importantly, had fun doing all of it. Way to go, Kendra.



“PSALMS: EPIC OF EDEN” STUDY: Our 8th and last session for this study was held on June 20th at 10:00 a.m. with two ladies present and Pastor Joel leading. Today’s session focused on “Jesus and the Psalms” and compared Psalm 2 and 22 to the life and death of Jesus, as well as relating back to many

Old Testament scriptures. Psalms allows us to scream out our frustrations, lament over things that have happened, and give great praise and honor to God for all He has done, and continues to do.

PASTOR JOEL GETS HIS ORANGE BELT: On June 20th, after years of bringing his daughter to karate, taking part in our Father's Train Free month each year, (minus the past few COVID years,) Next Level Martial Arts of Harrisonburg promoted Mr. Joel to advanced orange belt! It's been an honor seeing you over the years, having great conversations about Star Wars, the Ip-Man films and music. It's been great teaching and helping Chloe as well. Thank you for always being a great student the past month! You deserve that belt, Sir. NLMA leaders



ANOTHER BLESSING: I saw this picture posted by Lynette on June 20th and it made my heart smile—it was entitled "Waiting for the Storm". There he lays, content to know that he's safe inside his house, with his flashlight in his hand, ready for the dark...secure enough to fall asleep as the storm rages around him. We all need to know that we have the assurance of that kind of security when we hold Jesus in our hearts, just as he holds his flashlight. The darkness can never hurt us, and the storms will pass, but we will be safe in Jesus' arms. Thank you, Connor, for the reminder.



Worship Planning met on June 21st at 6:30 p.m., with Pastor Joel, Chris, and Diana attending. All are welcome to come to this meeting and help plan the Worship services.

OUTSIDE AT THE HOUSE OF GRACE. What a beautiful sunny Sunday morning



June 26th as we met at the Keezletown Ruritan Pavilion for our annual Outdoor Worship service and meal.

"Casual Clergy", Pastor Joel, and "Video Man", Scott Sprague, gave those who could not attend a

chance to enjoy the service. Pastor Joel gave the greeting and announcements as the breeze ruffled the tablecloths.



A responsive prayer was read, then all were asked to Pass the Peace. Jenny and Scott Dillard, with his guitar, then led the singing of "Love Lifted Me", "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus", and "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder". Neil came to read the Scripture from 1 John 4:7-21, love one another. Pastor Joel spoke on "Perfecting Grace" and began with, God's grace is like a house, entering and living in it. Today we will learn about "Perfecting Grace". Prevenient grace is the porch, justifying grace is the door, sanctifying grace is going into the house. Perfecting Grace is God's love perfected in us. We cannot be sinless. We cannot pray enough, labor enough, witness enough, know enough. We will always have infirmities and temptations. Perfecting Grace is the freedom and power to love perfectly, sacrificially, our family, our enemies, just as God loves. The love of God is

humble, it serves, it lifts up the lonely, it gives grace to the poor, it gives kind words to those needing encouragement. Perfecting Grace is ongoing and continues to transform us all our lives. God's grace is always with us. The House of Grace is: Prevenient: come up on the porch and sit and chat. Justifying: come thru the door and enter into grace. Sanctifying: sit awhile and I'll tell you what we can do together. Perfecting: live with me and we will show the world what grace and love are. Following the message was the Morning prayer, the Lord's Prayer, the Offertory Prayer, and the Doxology. Pastor Joel used 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, 28 as the Benediction and gave the blessing over the food. Everyone then enjoyed good food, good fellowship, and good fun in God's warmth of sunshine and love. **COME TO MY HOUSE OF GRACE—THERE IS A ROOM WAITING AND READY FOR YOU.**

GRACE—GOD'S RICHES AT CHRIST'S EXPENSE.

MORE BLESSINGS: In case you did not watch the video of the Outdoor Worship service on Sunday, June 26th, you missed Corey and Lynette sharing a kiss; Neil stealing (by accident of course) Pastor Joel's bulletin; Connie giving a witness; Jenny sharing that CRES is sending all of their Lost & Found items through her (4 times already) to MCCCC; and a wonderful success report and thank you from Ginny on the Backpack Program. **GOD IS GOOD.**

SCOTT ON A MISSION: Our own **Scott Dillard**, along with a dedicated Random



Fingerprints team, went to the beautiful Lodestar Mountain Inn in Smoke Hole, West Virginia, the week of June 27th to help build dorms at property owned by Steve Wingfield for the upcoming university "gap year" students. He did a lot of carpentry work, and leaned on the Lord for strength and hope that "his old back"



would hang in there! It did. He not only helped construct a future dormitory, but built rich, incredible relationships woven together to last forever. Thanks

Summer Overlook Campers: Jr Day Trekkers, **Adalida Crisman** and **Nolan Mason** attended the week of June 27th; ChrisKids, **Austyn Crisman**, **Nora Jarrells**, and **Andrea Crisman** attended the week of June 26th. Attending the week of July 7th will be **Cora Combs** as a Jr Day Trekker, **Caleb Combs** the week of July 24th as a ChrisKid, and **Connor Miller** as a Night Flight on July 24th. What HAPPY faces. Summer camp is FUN!



SUMMER FUNNIES

Do you know why bicycles can't stand up? They're too tired.

Do you know trees poop? That's where #2 pencils come from.

Do you know why cows wear bells (cowbells)? Cause their horns don't work.

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.

Serving Meals to Kingsway Prison Ministry and to AVACARE: Karen Mooney is leading preparing a meal each month for these ministries. Please contact her if you can help or donate.

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., and 3rd Tuesdays of each month 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.

FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Lookin' good



Maw Maw



A trip to Klines



Best Friends



Happy B-day



Allen resting

UPCOMING/ONGOING STUDIES:

TWO WAYS TO READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR:

Bishop Sharma Lewis has once again challenged us to read the Bible, using The **2022 One Year Bible reading plan** which can be found at <http://vaumc.org>. The plan has daily readings from Jan 1st – Dec 31st, with about 2 chapters from the Old Testament, some verses from the New Testament, some verses from Psalms, and some verses from Proverbs. Copies of the plan are available in the narthex.

Pastor Joel has also made a reading plan for KUMC called "**The Bible in a Year**". One thing about this plan is it can be started any day, featuring 4 chapters a day, with 2 chapters reading through the Bible beginning in Genesis, 1 chapter from a song, poetry, wisdom, or instruction book of the Bible like Psalms, and 1 chapter from the Gospels or Acts, allowing you to actually read through the Gospels and

Acts three times in 365 days. "The Bible in a Year" is available in print at KUMC and online at the KUMC website www.keezletownumc.com.

MORE SUMMER FUNNIES

When a short person waves at you, is it a micro wave?

What do you call a retired Terminator? An Ex-terminator.

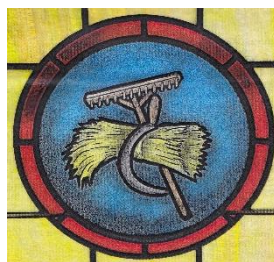
What insects are on the moon? Lunar ticks.

If you just wet your hair in the shower and looked at the shampoo bottle that says for dry hair, can you use it?

If your camel has no humps, is his name Humphrey?

JULY EVENTS THAT HAPPENED

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NEAR: Entering the Church in the sprinkling rain on July 3rd, we heard the lovely sounds of "In the Garden", "Sweet Hour of Prayer", and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" as we gathered to worship. The bell rang, and Leah Siler brought in the Light of Christ as Carol played a jubilant rendition of "A Patriotic Quotation" followed by a round of applause. Pastor Joel gave the greeting, announcements, and read the Opening Prayer with the Church family, followed by the Church family singing "America the Beautiful". Neil came to read the Gospel lesson from Luke 10:1-11, 16-20, "The Mission of the Seventy", which was the title of Pastor Joel's message. Pastor only writer that talks about people and share God's window in the back of the rake, and the grain. Jesus but the workers are few. laborers, hands that will



Joel began by saying that Luke is the the 70 or 72 that Jesus sent to care for grace. Look at the stained glass church, the one with the sickle, the tells them that the harvest is plentiful, Needs are ready today—we need share. Rockingham County is

growing; CRES now has 700 students; there are 77 different languages in Harrisonburg alone; 8% of people live in poverty. People are coming and need to hear about Jesus. Curiously, some early writing say 70, some say 72, were sent. In Numbers 11, Moses takes 70 leaders and God gives them leadership ability and fills them with the Spirit. Two, Eldad and Medad, were prophesying, and Moses included them in the blessing and prayed that all people could witness. Jesus sent the 70 out with only the good news of God to share. Circuit riders came to Keezletown in 1791 with a horse, a Bible, and a hymnal. Jesus sent him here for us. The 70 were welcomed and stayed and witnessed that the kingdom of God is near and returned with joy. The harvest is ready, the laborers are few, we are the laborers, will we go? The Affirmation of Faith of Canada was read, before we sang "This Is My Song". Pastor Joel then led the Morning prayer, the invitation to Communion, the Confession and Pardon, and Passing the Peace. Carol Sacra then came forward and was given a blessing for her (and her sister, Gail) Mission Work at the Luray RAM Clinic for the next weekend. The Offertory Prayer and Doxology preceded the Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer. Carol and Jim Dillard, Bob and Susie Hill, and Becky Ryman and Pastor Joel led the Giving the Bread

and Cup. We closed the service by singing “We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”; Pastor Joel gave the Benediction “Get outta here!”; and Leah carried out the Light of Christ as Carol played the Postlude, “Ye Nations, Praise the Lord”. **THE HARVEST IS RIPE; THE LABORERS ARE FEW.**

Another Blessing: today, July 3rd, as I watched the church famiy come forward to receive the bread and wine, I noticed Haiden stopped and got another bread and cup, after she had partaken. She walked past me and I knew...that beautiful heart was taking it to her Dad, who was video taping the service. How sweet is that? What love; what a blessing.

INDEPENDENCE DAY July 4TH—Happy Birthday, America. 246 years old!

MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Carrs and Josh on vacation



Jacob is 10



Jim & Karen



Adalida is 6



Happy 17th

YOUNGS GO OUT WEST: From **Jennifer Young:** Got back really early Thursday morning from our trip out west the week of the Fourth of July. Gorgeous wedding, the most beautiful bride, great times, fun had by all. Got to be with family that we haven't seen in years ❤️. John and I got a little couple time and Parker got to be with his cousins! We saw a moose! Actually two on two separate days in two separate states. This was quite an event for me after never having seen one even after spending time in Maine, Alaska and Canada! Also saw tons of antelope and elk. Also mule deer, prairie dogs, bunnies and what I thought were baby prairie dogs, the ranger told me were actually called Wyoming squirrels! Saw a golden eagle, too! As well as the Continental Divide (I'm such a geek and was so excited about this)! The Overland Trail and where it connected to the Oregon Trail. Went all around Laramie and to Medicine Bow, soaked in natural hot springs in Saratoga, WY, dive bar in Centennial, Estes Park CO and Rocky Mountain National Park all the way up to the tundra at over 12,000 feet, Cheyenne and saw the state capital while returning wedding linens and Vedauwoo before making the long trip home. Just awesome all around!

From “It’s A Southern Thing” we find Southern ways to describe this Summer heat: “It’s hotter’n Satan’s house cat”. “It’s hot enough to roast a lizard”. “It’s hotter’n the hinges on the gates of Hell”. And everyone’s favorite...“It ain’t the heat it’s the humidity”.

Keezletown United Methodist Women met on July 7th at 7:00 p.m. with fifteen members and Pastor Joel in attendance. Diana gave a devotion about laughter. Mission of the Month was a donation to Cambini. We are serving the Mt Crawford Ruritans on August 3rd. Collections for the hygiene closet will start in the near future. The group assisted 8 children with Camp Overlook Scholarships. Cheryl attended the President's meeting in May and determined that our group is in line with all the other groups. Feeding of the Noland Suter celebration on July 23rd is being led by Etta Armentrout, Carol Dillard, and Geraldine Armentrout. The Cross Keys/Mill Creek Ruritan club have asked if anyone from our group would assist in their Fair booth during Fair week from 4:00-8:00 p.m.—two ladies volunteered. UMW Sunday is September 18th. Sixteen names were given for Patriotic gifts; cards were signed and gifts were assembled after the meeting. Sharon and Karen, with others, will deliver them. Candle burning was done for one minute in honor of the officers. A pledge to mission was sent, along with a Special Mission Recognition, a Mission Giving Card, and a Gift in memory, all in accordance with the LIOP which we will complete at the August meeting. Officers for the new year, beginning September 2022, and with a two-year limit, will be: President, Judy Coffman; Vice-President, Ann Ford; Secretary, Diana Davis; Asst Secretary, Michele Dodrill; Treasurer, Cheryl Carr; Treasurer Advisor, Kathy Armentrout; Food & Kits Chairperson, Sherry Summers. Karen reminded everyone that she is feeding Kingsway Prison Ministry on July 21st, if you wish to help. She is also beginning a program to feed members at AVACARE once a month. Cards for the gift bags, and a sympathy card was signed, before Pastor Joel closed the meeting with prayer. Next meeting is a picnic on August 4th at Judy Coffman's home at 6:30 p.m.

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR: We gathered today, July 10th, to Diana playing “We Have an Anchor”, “Faith Is the Victory”, and “I Know Whom I Have Believed”, before the Ringing of the Bell. She then played “I Must Tell Jesus” as the prelude, and Cathy Sites gave the greetings and the opening prayer. After Passing the Peace, we all sang “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”. Tanya Eppard read the Gospel lesson from Luke 10:25-37, “who is my neighbor?” Pastor Joel spoke on “Name of the Faithful” and began with a Thank you to the InMotion Summer Praise Dance Team for presenting “The Names of God” later in the service. When we hear the names of God, think about how God shows His names and what they have come to mean thru His actions and love. In Luke today, we hear a scribe or lawyer asking Jesus questions. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your strength, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself was Jesus' reply. To do this we must love as God does, meaning love everyone. Who is my neighbor?, asks the lawyer.

story. A Priest, a Levite, and but only the Samaritan thought—how will this an Inn and took care of him.



the Samaritan loved his neighbor and as God loves us all. We then sang “Love the Lord Your God”, followed by the Mini-ballet “The Names of God” (see article below). Cathy led the Time of Prayer and the Lord's Prayer; Pastor Joel led the Offertory Prayer and Doxology; and we all sang “There's Something About That Name”. Cathy then gave the

Jesus tells him the Good Samaritan a Samaritan pass by an injured person, helps. The Priest and Levite may have affect me? The Samaritan took him to Jesus tells the lawyer to love others as

Benediction and Diana played “Glory Be to the Father” as the postlude. A BBQ chicken luncheon followed worship (see below). **I AM WHO I AM.**

INMOTION SUMMER PRAISE DANCE: During worship service on July 10th, the fourteen members of InMotion Praise Dance, including our very own **Becca Sprague**, presented “Speak the Name”, a dance presentation exploring the many names of God. Music included “Speak the Name”, “What Love Really Means”, “Breath & Life”, “Name of Jesus”, “Names of God”, and “In Jesus Name”. Many thanks to Alaina Pfeiffer, the director, and to these lovely young ladies in presenting a touching presentation of God’s name in dance.



It was also told to me that Becca did about half of the beautiful choreography. What a beautiful talent being used for God’s work. We are very proud of you, Becca.

LUNCH, LAUGHTER, AND GREAT FELLOWSHIP: Thank you to the United Methodist Men who got up at 5:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 10th to go to the Keezletown Ruritan barbeque pit to make barbequed chicken for lunch at 12:30 p.m. The 50+ that attended enjoyed very good chicken legs and thighs (using a Noland Suter recipe), baked beans, coleslaw, assorted chips and snacks, assorted desserts, and tea and lemonade. Lots of folks even got to take chicken home for later. It was good to hear laughter and fellowship resounding in the social hall again. The men wish to thank all who helped and all who donated to this free will offering meal for upcoming UMM supported missions.

WALLY REMEMBERED

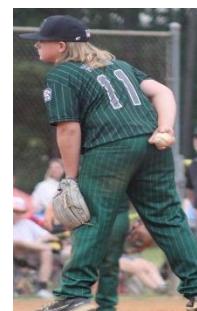


Celebrating Wally’s June 30th Birthday in Heaven with a family picnic on July 10th

PROUD OF BRAYDEN: The Broadway All Star 50/70 intermediate All Star Team Championship, with our own **Brayden Morris**, played at Tuckahoe Little Park July 8th-10th, and made it to the Semi-final game on Monday, the 11th, where they were defeated 2-1, in a hard-fought game, by Fort Hunt, who were undefeated. They played really hard! Our boys may have not come out with the championship but they got the greatest



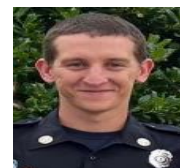
compliment from District 5 President. He was very proud of how they represented themselves over the weekend. Even the catering company expressed how courteous they were. He said he was glad they had continued to play little league this last year. Congratulations, team, and Brayden. We’re very proud of you!



Administrative Council met July 13th at 7:30 p.m. with 11 members present. Susan presided and Pastor Joel opened with a devotional prayer. Appreciation was given to Mike (and Mac Coffman) for the installation of the rails going up the outside ramp. The June 26th Outdoor Worship service was a success with many attending. Ann reported for the UMW that they met in June in Elkton for an enjoyable “Evening Together” with twenty-one ladies present. In the July meeting they elected new officers for 2022-23, and prepared 16 goodie bags for shut-ins. The August meeting will be a picnic at Judy Coffman’s home. Ann also reported that she had taken 165 pairs of socks from the Sock Drive to MCCCC. Joe reported for the UMM that the gravel spreading mission at MCCCC had been completed under budget; the balance was approved to be sent to MCCCC. He also reported a successful chicken BBQ after church on July 10th. Their next meeting is July 17th. Mike reported that the Trustees met on July 5th. They conducted a Parsonage inspection with PPR on July 6th and found eight small items that need to be addressed. Etta Armentrout has accepted a request to also clean the Social hall and kitchen twice a month. Pastor Joel advised that a Mission planning meeting was held to plan projects for 2022-2023. Rise Against Hunger will return in March 2023. He is also interested in working with other District churches to see if we can combine our participation in obtaining funds for the John NDay projects to obtain an irrigation system and incubators. Tanya advised that there are 2 Sunday school classes right now, but that a kick-off Sunday for Sunday school will be held September 11th. Ken reported for SPRC that a wage and benefit report has been submitted to Finance for their approval. They will meet again August 30th and give special recognition to KUMC’s Lay Servants. Joe asked that all budget requests be submitted by September 1st. Tanya is looking into getting a three-day bus trip for the Summer of 2023 to ARK Encounter and Creation Museum in Kentucky. We would need at least fifteen participants. More info will be coming. Pastor Joel suggested that the Church might consider a Homecoming Service in the future. Cathy Sites was approved as the new Sunday School Superintendent. Next meeting will be September 14th at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.

WARM FEET FOR LITTLE KIDS: Ann Ford reported that she had taken 165 pairs of socks from our Sock Collection to MCCCC. WOW! Way to go Church family. That’s a lot of socks and a lot of little warm feet.

NEW FIREFIGHTER: Congratulations to Firefighter **Cameron Bishop** on his graduation from the Central Shenandoah Valley Regional Fire Academy. Cameron is married to Morgan (Baker) and has a son, Triton. Congratulations, Cameron.



MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



3 Little Crismans



At Nats Game



Kim’s grownup boys



The Stanley boys



Visiting Haley in WA

And for some of us, God has blessed us to see 5/5/55, 6/6/66, 7/7/77, 8/8/88, 9/9/99, 10/10/10, 11/11/11, and 2/22/22. Just a little food for thought.

JIM HARRIS GIVES THANKS: 1951-1975 A PRE-MINISTRY MEMORY: July 8, 2021:

For the past month I have been sharing memories from my 46 years of ministry and the churches that I was blessed to serve, but none of those memories would have occurred had it not been for my home church, Keezletown United Methodist Church. We moved from Cincinnati to Keezletown in 1951, when I was two-and-a-half years old. Our family consisted of my mom, dad, brother Hugh, sister Merle ("Sissy"), brother Paul, and me. Paul had cerebral palsy (CP) and getting him and his chair into the church building required help, and the men of the church were right there helping to lift him over the steps and into the sanctuary. They were experienced at this since another person with CP, Don Clatterbuck, was already attending there with his family, who lived just down the road from us. My personal earliest memory of Keezletown Methodist (as it was known then) is of Rev. Tussy's old black sedan driving up our dusty dirt and gravel driveway on Sundays after church for a dinner of fried chicken or roast beef. I do not remember the man or his wife, just his car arriving, and that I asked Mom why he came so often. I do not remember her answer, but she told me many times when I was older that feeding the minister was part of his pay. Our fried chicken was good pay, as it was delicious. My earliest memory from the church itself is of the nursery class taught by Miss Mable. I would talk more about that, but this class is the subject of my devotional that will be in the September/October 2021 issue of the Upper Room. Over the years the Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, youth fellowship, Christmas programs, and many, many other things helped to shape my faith and understanding of Christianity. It was at a Methodist Women's program with missionary Kathryn Eye that I became excited about the work being done in churches in other lands. After that meeting Miss Eye wrote to me that God had revealed to her that I would become a pastor, and in 1984 she was present at my ordination as an Elder. Between then and when I was 23, I struggled with my faith, but the people of KUMC were praying for me, even though I had no idea of that at the time. When my job transferred me to Virginia I moved back home and returned to my home church. It was there that many people, including Pastor Bill Fisher, Alleen Clatterbuck, Linda Michael Liskey and others witnessed to their faith in Jesus and led me to surrender fully to the Lord. Soon I was teaching the Junior High Sunday school class, after which I became a Lay Speaker, and then a pastor. About the two images:

when we moved to Methodist and EUB side, separate sometimes exchange denominations merged one church with two churches, which were Keezletown UMC as a



Keezletown, the churches were side by side, separate congregations that would members. Then those in 1968 and there was buildings, until the new 1973, behind the two then torn down. I see place of hope and

promise. It's a wonderful congregation made up of people who sincerely care about others and do more things than a church of their size should be able to do, all because they have a will to do God's work and share God's love. I thank God for our move to Keezletown and the blessing that Keezletown United Methodist Church has been to me.

***** JULY EVENTS IN NEXT ISSUE*****

17 United Methodist Men's Breakfast and Meeting 8:00 a.m.

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: by Lay Speaker Dale Dodrill

- 17-24 Pastor Joel on Vacation
- 18 Serving Kingsway Ministry
- 23 Noland Suter Celebration of Death and Resurrection @ 11:00 a.m. with Ruritans and UMW serving meal after service
- 24 **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Do You Find It Hard to Pray Sometimes?" from Psalm 139:1-4 and Romans 8:26-27 by Lay Servant Len Williams
- 26 **Worship Planning meeting at 6:30 p.m.**
- 31 **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: from Hosea 1:1-11

MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Baseball champs



Happy 20th



Fathers Day



Just a swingin'



Don H in Italy



Yummy popsicle

MORE SUMMER FUNNIES

Wanted to try to cook some alligator...only had a croc pot.

Do you know why a koala is not considered a bear? He doesn't meet the koala-fications.

The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

Where does a bee sit? On it's bee-hind.

If an appetizer is an hors d'oeuvres, is a nap before bedtime a snores d'oeuvres?

***** AUGUST EVENTS HAPPENING*****

Small Group Leaders Gathering: Sunday school leaders and small group leaders are invited to a gathering on Sunday, August 7th at 8:45 a.m. for sharing and support in the social hall.

Mission & Outreach Meeting on Monday, August 8th at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to help with mission planning, please plan to attend.

MERRY CHRISTMAS! No, I'm not totally crazy, but it is Christmas in July. For the past couple of years, our church (with encouragement from Dale Dodrill) has been working with a project called Making Cards for Our Troops. Several years ago, we were signing cards that were being shipped to our troops overseas letting them know that they were being thought about and prayed for. Then, this new project with a different organization came into view. Instead of signing cards and sending to the troops, this organization collects handmade cards and sends them overseas to troops so they can sign and mail them back to their families. This year, I thought it would be good to have more hands involved in making cards. Cheryl and I worked together to prep some cards for the UMW to put together at their meeting in April. More cards are being prepped for the UMM to put together at their July meeting. And now there is an opportunity for others in the

church to make some cards. Everyone is invited to an afternoon of cardmaking fun on Sunday, August 14, from 2:30 – 5:00 in the church social hall. No experience necessary - as long as you can use glue or tape, you will do just fine! We will be working on birthday, thinking of you and Christmas cards. Let's join together and see how many smiles we can make! Michele

Blessing of the Backpacks: Back to school will be here soon. For all students and school staff please bring a backpack, bus keys, spatula, or favorite classroom item for a back to school blessing during Sunday worship August 21st.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Aug 1	Jim Dillard	Aug 20	Jackie Liskey
Aug 4	Susan Threewitts	Aug 23	Brian Zylich
Aug 4	Connor Miller	Aug 24	Abigail Welsh
Aug 6	Hayley Johnson	Aug 25	Elinor Botkin
Aug 6	Adam Ford	Aug 25	Jeb Painter
Aug 7	Carol Sacra	Aug 27	Darryl Eppard
Aug 10	Creed Combs	Aug 28	Carmella Bahle
Aug 12	Samuel Ramsey	Aug 29	Amy Wigington
Aug 13	Erin Werner	Aug 31	Kendra Dodrill
Aug 14	David Reed	Aug 31	Carson Pusey
Aug 16	E.L. Davis		
Aug 18	BJ Smith		

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

August 10, 1991	Aaron & Cheryl Dillard	31 years
August 13, 2004	Brian & Melissa Kelly	18 years
August 14, 2010	Brent & Mary Combs	12 years
August 20, 1961	Dale & Lula Belle Dodrill	61 years

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



Dale & Lula Belle Dodrill for 61 years on August 20th

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

AUGUST EVENTS CALENDAR

- 3 **UMW serve Mt Crawford Ruritans**
- 4 **UMW annual picnic at Judy Coffman's home at 6:30 p.m.**
- 6 **Shenandoah River District Conference at 10:00 a.m.**
- 7 **Small Group Leaders Gathering 8:45 a.m. in Social Hall**
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m. with Communion; Message: "Othniel, Ehud, and Shamgar: When Leaders Change" from Judges 2:16-19; 3:7-11 (from the Judges series)
- 8 **Mission & Outreach meeting at 7:00 p.m.**
- 14 **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**

- Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Deborah: Glory Shared" from Judges 4:1-10 (from the Judges series)
Card making from 2:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. in the social hall
- 18 Serving Kingsway Ministry
- 19 Newsletter items due
- 21 United Methodist Men's Breakfast and Meeting 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Gideon: Mighty in the Lord" from Judges 6:11-18 (from Judges series)
Blessing of the Backpacks during worship
Spotswood High School Backpacks & Hygiene Closet items due
- 22 Bridgewater College classes begin
- 23 Worship Planning meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- 24 Rockingham Co Public Schools and JMU return to school
- 27 Toby Propst Memorial Service at Keezletown Cemetery, 2:00 p.m.
- 28 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Samson: Unfaithful Leader and Faithful God" from Judges 13:1-7 (from Judges series)
- 30 Staff-Parish Relations Committee meet at 6:30 p.m. with special recognition of Lay Servants

DALE'S CORNER by Dale Dodrill

"You are the light of the world, a city set on the hill cannot be hidden." (Matthew 5:14) When Jesus said these words, light came from only a few sources: cooking fires, torches and lamps. Electricity was unknown and years in the future. Maybe, they understood darkness better than we do today. How do we deal with darkness? We can't hide from it, can't vacuum it or hide it. The only way to get rid of darkness is light. In a dark room, a small lighted candle will push back darkness. Today, believers in God are a light in the world. Sometimes you need someone else's light; other times they need yours. What is our light? It's the way we demonstrate God's love daily. It may be an act of kindness, a word of encouragement or appreciation, a smile, a listening ear, a note or card, etc. Keep your light on. When we combine our light, with the light of others, darkness flees.

A LITTLE OLD LADY GIVING THE LORD A MOUTHFUL ABOUT THE HEAT:

Really Lord? This heat! You have got to save me, 'cause I'm a tellin' you right now, if I go to hell, I will not be happy, and you know how I get when I ain't happy. I know you hear me. Can we turn it down a little? Pretty please.

MY PERSONAL NOTE:

Sometimes I fuss to myself about all the things that are going on in my life that I am not happy with. No, I shall not go into them here because I know some of you are thinking, what has she got to complain about? And others are thinking, let me tell her about some things to complain about. Some days life just isn't fair, or nice, or happy; you just want to stay in bed, cover your head, and tell the world to go away. No matter how bad it is, we eventually have to get up (Mother Nature takes care of that!) and that's when we look out the window at the sunshine, and the breeze blowing, and hear the birds chirping, and see the flowers blooming. That's when we check ourselves and say Thank You Father for helping me get up. Jesus knew on the morning of His death, when He got out of bed, what kind of a day it would be, but He still got out of bed and thanked God that He could do what He had to do to save His children. We are not asked to save them, but we are asked to be kind to them—and that includes being kind to ourselves. If you don't feel good, it's OK; unless you have a doctor's appointment, nothing else is in concrete and has to be done. Give yourself a break; have a glass or cup of your favorite beverage; if you can, just relax, or sit on the porch and enjoy the sunshine, the fresh air, the birds chirping, and let the Holy Spirit renew your soul. God gave you today...enjoy it with Him. *Diana*

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Editor's Note

The August deadline for submissions is August 19th. My home number is 540-269-8511 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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**“THE TEST OF CHRISTIANITY IS NOT LOVING
JESUS, IT’S LOVING JUDAS.”**

(GEORGE WOODRUFF)