

# MOUNTAIN ECHOES

JUNE 2022

138th Edition



Beautiful & rare, the Radiata Pecteilis is a wonderful orchid found only in China, Japan, Korea and Russia .

## Keezletown United Methodist Church

Rev. T. Joel Robinette, Pastor

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*"I hope there are days when your coffee tastes like magic, your playlist makes you dance, strangers make you smile, and the night sky touches your soul. I hope you fall in love with being alive again." (Attitude of Gratitude)*

## OUR PASTOR CHATS

Greetings from the 240<sup>th</sup> Session of the Virginia Annual Conference which is meeting in Hampton, Virginia June 16-18, 2022. Jenn Robinette is our lay member and Joel Robinette our clergy member of annual conference this year. The conference is not over yet, but here are some highlights so far: The District Initiative passed which will change the number of districts in our conference from 16 to 8. Our Harrisonburg District will combine with the Winchester District and has been renamed The Shenandoah River District. Over the next year or so we will see changes to our district structure and staffing to reflect the coming together of our two districts. Rev. Victor Gómez will continue to lead us as our district superintendent during this transition. Following approval of 8 districts, the conference worked to ensure that the number of youth and young adult members of the annual conference would not be reduced by amending our conference standing rules. We had a Service of Remembrance for members who died during the last year including Rev. Wilton B. Thomas (former Keezletown EUB pastor), Rev. Gayle Thornberry (Harrisonburg District Clergy), Rev. Ed Wilkins (Harrisonburg District Clergy Retired), Rev. Don Shull (Harrisonburg District Clergy Retired), and Sharon Harris (spouse of Rev. Hugh Harris, former Keezletown Methodist pastor). During the sermon Rev. Grace Han said, "...it is precisely in our most difficult moments in the shadows of the darkest valleys that God is with us." We had a retirement service and some active clergy who you may know who retired are Rev. Clarence Brown, Jr. (celebrated preacher and leader), Rev. David Burch (Vision of Hope UMC), Rev. B. Failes, Jr. (first UMC pastor Joel served under), Rev. Lorenzo Hill ("Mercy!"), Rev. John Lock (served on Harrisonburg District), Rev. Bass Mitchell (served on Harrisonburg District), Rev. Valerie Ritter (Emmaus and served on Harrisonburg District), Rev. Sherry Waddell (Emmaus and served on Harrisonburg District, and Rev. Bob Weeks (Verona UMC). 42 pastors all told who served a combined total 1,144.5 years of service in the Virginia Annual Conference. Rev. Clarence Brown encouraged the church not to "major in the minors and minor in the majors" of internal squabbles in the church, but instead to do the things that "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." During the mission service we took up the offering for the Virginia Annual Conference. It was reported on how many Kits for Conference had been collected so far which was 18,560 kits valued at \$298,724. Rev. RJ Jun preached on the importance of teamwork, coordination, and partnerships in mission and serving. He shared an African proverb that says, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." RJ encouraged us to go together in mission with one another. At the service for ordering of ministry: 1 person was ordained deacon; 7 were ordained as elders; 3 were commissioned provisional deacons, 15 were commissioned provisional elders including Rev. Sarah Bailey (Clover Hill UMC), and 23 were licensed as local pastors including from the Harrisonburg District Shawn Cook, Blaine Thomas, and Eddie Steele. Bishop Sharma Lewis said in her sermon, "Beloved, I believe that everyone is called by God. I believe that God has a calling on individuals, ministries, and churches...when we hear God's call and respond appropriately—there will be no limit to what God can and will do through God's people." There are two new congregations in the conference that will launch July 1, 2022. There are 9 congregations that will close and 3 that will disaffiliate from the UMC. Bishop Lewis has formed Team Jeremiah and a Church Disaffiliation Team to assist churches that desire to disaffiliate from the UMC. There are some questions that will go to the Judicial Council of the UMC from our conference related to the process of how complaints against clergy are handled. Judicial Council meets periodically through the year so it will be some months before hearing back. Some highlights this year included meeting in person with about 2,500 members from our conference. Two housing ministries were highlighted that provide affordable and safe housing apartments in Northern Virginia and the other in various parts of Virginia (based in Roanoke) providing about 5,000 units.

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**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.

# REMEMBERING KEEZLETOWN—231 Years



*Memory pictures from Janice Smith, Jim Harris, and Emily Blake.*



**PLANT YOUR SPRING GARDEN:** Three rows of peas: Peace of Mind, Peace of Heart, Peace of Soul; Three rows of squash: Squash indifference, Squash hatred, Squash bullying; Three rows of lettuce: Let us be Kind, Let us be Compassionate, Let us Love One Another. Water with Patience and Cultivate with LOVE.

### **\*\*\* MAY EVENTS THAT HAPPENED\*\*\***

**NEW BABY IN THE EXTENDED FAMILY:** Congratulations to our “adopted” member, Dr.



McNeill Hutson (now “Grandpappy”) and his lovely wife Debbie (now “Bebe”) on the birth of their first granddaughter, Avery Rose, on May 10<sup>th</sup>. She is the daughter of Wes and Rebecca Hutson, who live in Manassas. She weighed in at 7 lbs 9 oz. “Doc” has been a faithful grill master for many years at Relay for Life, and was the dentist to, and a true friend of many of our church family. Congrats and Best Wishes. Enjoy that Blessing, Doc.

**Weave for a Cure** was a fundraiser for Relay For Life on May 12<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, with seven ladies weaving baskets of colors in all shapes and sizes. We were able to raise \$185.00 to help in the fight against cancer. Thank you, Ladies for supporting this fundraiser, for Lynn Siler leading it, and a special thank you to Jim Dillard for making and donating the bases for our baskets.



**UNITED METHODIST MEN:** On Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, the United Methodist Men meet for their monthly breakfast/meeting with 14 men in attendance. We had a few new faces with one being Mr. John Phalen. Mr. Phalen (94) and his wife had been members here at Keezletown years ago. A nice breakfast was prepared by Neil Sacra and Pastor Joel; it and good fellowship was enjoyed by all. Ken Thomas had our morning devotion that encouraged us as men to stand together in brotherhood and solidarity in our following of God’s will and His guidance for us. Chairman Scott Dillard opened the meeting portion of the morning with the reviewing and approval of minutes from our last gathering. Treasurer, Scott Dodrill then gave an up-to-date report for our group along with an overview of other upcoming financial obligations and other possible expenses that may arise. The group then discussed other items on the agenda such as: mowing list, a local mission work opportunity, fund raising possibilities, and work at Mission Central. The group voted to not meet in June with our next gathering schedule for July 17<sup>th</sup> (third Sunday). Again any and everyone interested in coming and being a part of the Men’s group, we welcome you. Since our meeting date, 16 tons of gravel have been delivered to Mission Central. On Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, the men from our Men’s group went to Mission Central to spread this mighty mountain of gravel. Job well done!!!!

**CELEBRATE, REMEMBER, AND FIGHT BACK:** The Annual Service of Hope was held May 15<sup>th</sup> during the Worship service. A poster filled with Remembrance ribbons adorned the front of the Church. Diana Davis began the gathering time by playing “There Shall Be Showers of Blessing”, “Leaning On the Everlasting Arms”, and “My Hope Is Built”. Ryan and Rebecca Sprague carried in the Light of Christ as she played “Whispering Hope” for the prelude. Joe Liskey, Team Captain, gave the morning

greeting and announcements, reminding everyone that Relay for Life is June 4<sup>th</sup> and that we will be celebrating our 21<sup>st</sup> year in helping with the fight. We then read the



Affirmation of Faith (as written by 2001 KUMC team members), followed by the singing of “Count Your Blessings”. Carol Dillard came to thank everyone for praying for her during her cancer battle, before leading the Time of Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer. Kendra Dodrill then read the Epistle Lesson from 1 Peter 1:3-6, our inheritance. Scott Dillard gave the morning message entitled “The Power of Hope”. He began with “God is Good”, to which he heard, “All the Time”, and continued “All the Time”, “God is Good”. He giggled and said he was glad we remembered. He had previewed his message with a friend who told him it was full of peace and the love of God, meaning the peace that passes all understanding, and the love of God because it lasts forever. What does Hope mean to us? The Loss of Hope has an enormous effect on our lives. Hope is hard to define, too big to be expressed, like love. I love Coke slurpees, and I love God—two very different loves. Hope is like that; we hope for no rain when the grass needs mowing, but when with a friend, we tell them not to lose Hope. Hope is not a desire, wish, or thought, but from deeper in our soul—a trust, an affirmation, an inner peace, and an assurance that in the future, the best is yet to come. It is essential to our existence. At 17, I battled cancer at UVA, but my Doctor told me that I played an important role in the help or hindrance of being cured—positivity and Hope would give me a 98% cure rate; giving up, would not. The connection between Hope and one’s survival is essential. He then told the story of three men who were shot down in war and survived on a raft in the ocean for 47 days. The one who gave up hope, died, but the other two were rescued and held in a POW camp, but still held on to Hope. I believe we as Christians have the source of Hope—Jesus Christ’s resurrection and inheritance. Hope is trust that lets us know the future holds the best yet to come. Christ has given us new birth and Hope for all. The Best is yet to come. The Church Family then sang “God Will Take Care of You”, followed by E.L. Davis reading a poem by Kevin Nowak about Caregivers entitled “Remind You”. Jenny Dillard came to sing the song we’ve sang every year, “What a Wonderful Day”. Michele Dodrill, Coordinator of the Celebration Sunday, came to give the reasons we Relay, sharing the stories of Asher and Natalie, reading the Honor and Memory Names, and presenting the Video of those fighting and those who have been Heavenly healed. She then gave the Offertory Prayer; we sang the Doxology; and then sang “It Is Well With My Soul” as the closing hymn. Dale Dodrill came to give the Benediction and Ryan and Becca carried out the Light of Christ as Diana played “He Hideth My Soul” as the postlude. **CELEBRATE, REMEMBER, DON’T GIVE UP HOPE.**

**MCCCC MISSION COMPLETED:** On May 19<sup>th</sup>, five men from the United Methodist Men, one operator



with a steer loader, 18 ½ tons of gravel, and 2 ½ hours of hard work made for a job well done and completed for Mission Central around their new shed. Thank you, UMM, for your time, labor,



sharing, and caring. A large “Thank You” to all who donated to buy

the gravels, and to Joe Liskey for his leadership.

**SERVING KINGSWAY:** Sharon and Karen served ham and cheese sandwiches and chicken salad sandwiches, potato chips, potato salad, and homemade cookies, to approximately 18 at the monthly meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Please talk to Karen if you wish to help.

**REMEMBERING SUSIE:** On May 21<sup>st</sup>, the Church family and friends gathered for a Service of Death and Resurrection for "Susie" Susan Ann Sheffer McGlaughlin at KUMC. Carol Sacra presented the gathering music and Pastor Joel gave the Word of Grace and Greeting. We all sang "Amazing Grace" and Pastor Joel gave a prayer, followed by scriptures from Ecclesiastes, Psalms, Matthew, and 2 Corinthians. He then delivered a message entitled "The Susie and Jesus Yoke", which spoke about her love for her Lord, her family, her friends, and all she met, and how she walked with Jesus every day. Leslie, Reese, Cooper, Jill, and many others then shared what knowing her meant to them. Mike Davis sang "I Can Only Imagine", before the Commendation from Pastor Joel, the Prayer of Thanksgiving, the Lord's Prayer, and the Blessing Dismissal. The family stated on Facebook, "shared from the heart everything we so loved about her and will miss going forward. We will forever have a hole in our hearts but will carry Susie/Mom/Nana with us in spirit and love." And so will all of us who knew and loved her. RIP Susie.



**PROJECT COMPLETED:** Several men of the UMM graciously gave of their time and labor to help build a wooden ramp for one of our community members the week of May 21st. Many thanks for all the donations given to help with this project, and for the caring of the UMM.

### **LAUGH TIME:**

*It's not fair that only roosters get to start the day screaming.*

*If 2020 had been a drink, it would have been a colonoscopy prep.*

*The black eyed peas can sing us a tune, but the chick peas can only hummus one.*

*Home is where the dog hair and cat hair stick to everything but them.*

**WOULD YOU LET ME IN YOUR FRONT DOOR?** On the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, the gathering music included "Nothing But the Blood of Jesus", "Standing on the Promises", and "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me", and the bell rang. Diana then played "He Touched Me" for the prelude, as Brayden and Haiden carried in the Light of Christ. Ken Thomas assisted today, and gave the Welcome and Announcements. Verse One of "Amazing Grace" was the Call to Worship, before we Passed the Peace, then sang "Grace Greater Than Our Sin", followed by the choir presenting "O Blessed Spring". Haiden read the Epistle Lesson from Ephesians 2:1-10, God's gift of grace. Pastor Joel began his message with Christ Is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed! Grace is God's free gift to us, with God moving towards us first. If prevenient grace is the porch welcoming us in, justifying grace is the door. As justifying in typing lines up the edges, grace lines us up right from sin,



relationships, and the world. When Jesus came to earth, He welcomed sinners, He healed, and found the lost, and brought them all to justifying grace. Can we justify ourselves? Adam sinned and hid, then blamed God and Eve; then Eve blamed the serpent. I didn't do it and I'll never do it again. Saying it doesn't undo what we did. God asks us to look to Him for behavior in life. We don't have to clean up our lives to turn to God; we can't erase or mend or make right the things we've done. We can all leave our guilt and sin at the foot of Jesus's cross, the door, the way. We can be the front door through which people see and know God's justifying grace. It's the door to life and grace, living with God. The hymn "Christ Beside Me" followed the message. Ken came to lead the Time of Prayer and the Lord's Prayer, with Pastor Joel leading the Offertory Prayer and Doxology. The closing hymn was "Blessed Assurance" as Brayden and Haiden carried out the Light of Christ. Ken gave the benediction and Diana closed the service with "Amazing Grace" as the postlude. **THE DOOR OF JUSTIFYING GRACE IS NEVER LOCKED.**

"PSALMS: EPIC OF EDEN" STUDY: Our 5<sup>th</sup> session was held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. with five ladies present and Pastor Joel leading. Sandra Richter spoke during the video about "The Poetry of Psalms", showing the different types of poetry and how poetry, rather than prose, can bring about the feelings within us as to how we relate to God and others.

**SERVED OPEN DOORS:** On Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, Lynn Siler and Scott Dodrill coordinated the serving of a potato bar supper to 61 appreciative people at Open Doors. Thank you to all who donated in any way.

**AND HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN.** May 29<sup>th</sup> was Ascension Sunday as we gathered to Carol playing "This Is My Country", "This Is My Song", and "Let There Be Peace on Earth", before the bell rang, and she played "Ye Nations, Praise the Lord" as the prelude, as Carson Guillems and Nora Grace Jarrels carried in the Light of Christ. Ken Thomas, filling in for an ailing Pastor Joel, greeted everyone and led the Call to Worship, the singing of verse 1 of "Come, Christians, Join to Sing". We all joined in the Passing of the Peace, followed by singing "I Love to Tell the Story". The choir then surprised everyone by singing "Amazing Grace" to a different tune. Ken read the Gospel lesson from John 13:31-35, love one another. His message was entitled "A New Commandment". We celebrated Mother's Day a few weeks back—is there any greater love than a Mother's? Yes, John 3:16—God's love. This new commandment needs to be remembered as the United Methodist Church begins to divide. Jesus is very clear in His message that our political correctness, moral purity, and knowledge that everyone knows we are a Christian, is not what He had in mind. It is our loving acts of service and sacrifice showing our love for God and others. Four kinds of love are in the Bible: between relatives, between friends, between lovers, and agape—the unconditional love of God, pure love. Love everyone, not the sin, but the sinner. We wonder when we watch the news—where is the love? Neighbors helping neighbors, strangers helping strangers—there is the love. Good battles evil every day, but God will end the war when Jesus comes. While we wait for the coming, let us love one another. As we face the battles and dangers in life, we do not battle alone—God always goes with us. We then



sang “Let There Be Peace on Earth”, followed by the reading of names of family members and friends who gave their lives in war. Ken then led the Morning prayer, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Offertory Prayer, followed by the doxology and the singing of the closing hymn, “Crown Him With Many Crowns”. He then gave the Benediction as Carson and Nora Grace carried out the Light of Christ and Carol played “For the Healing of the Nations”. **LOVE ONE ANOTHER.**

**Memorial Day, Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, will be the most expensive holiday on the calendar. Every hot dog, every burger, every spin around the lake, or drink with friends and family...is a debt...purchased by others. This is not about all who’ve served...that day comes in the fall. This one is in honor of those who paid in life and blood; whose Moms never saw them again, whose Dads wept in private, whose wives raised kids alone, and whose kids only remembered them from pictures. This isn’t simply a day off. This is a day to remember—that others paid for every free breath you ever get to take. Freedom. Thank you for your sacrifice; we remember and are grateful.**

### **FAMILY FUN PICTURES**



*Skydiving      Leslie & Ben      Happy BD Bruce      A Weekend away      Happy 5<sup>th</sup>      Charlotte's Bd*

### **\*\*JUNE EVENTS THAT HAPPENED\*\***

**“BACK IN THE SADDLE KICKIN’ CANCER” RELAY FOR LIFE:** June 4<sup>th</sup>, the



Keezletown United Marchers for a Cure team met for their 21<sup>st</sup> time to Celebrate, Remember, and Fight Back for the American Cancer Society’s fight against cancer at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds.



Joe Liskey, Team Captain, had constructed a metal horse which Caleb Combs his grandson, rode around most of the night sharing with the crowd. Set-up started before lunch with the car grill and the tents, and festivities began at 2:00 p.m. The always anticipated Auction started at 3:00 p.m. along with live music from Eric Comer. At 5:00 p.m. after many ribeye sandwiches, hot dogs, and grilled mushrooms from our grill had been sold, the opening ceremonies began and the Survivors, Caregivers, and teams walked their laps around the track. From 6:00-8:00 p.m. many ate, mingled, rested, and talked, while the Backroad Hitchhikers provided music. From 8:00-9:00 p.m. there was a Cake Walk and a Kiss the Goat game. At 9:00 p.m., the auction stopped, and the Luminaria ceremony to celebrate and remember those fighting, those who have won, and those who have lost their battle to cancer took place. This is always a beautiful, but heart touching part of



the celebration. From 10:00-11:00 p.m., a Mission game, a Womanless Beauty



Contest, and the Closing ceremonies took place. Michele met up with a “Pink Piggie” from one of the Bank teams, while many were intrigued looking at our horse as they passed the campsite. A special “Thank You” to Doc Hutson for again coming out,



manning the grill, and being an integral part of the team. It was good to see him again. To those of us who came out, it was a beautiful day, good for watching, eating, chatting, and celebrating. Thank you, Joe, for your commitment and leadership. As of this writing of this article, the team had collected a little over \$7500.00. That’s kickin’ something!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHURCH—PENTECOST SUNDAY:** As we gathered on June



5<sup>th</sup>, Pentecost in all our red attire and the red geraniums adorned the front of the church, Carol played “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me” and “The Church in the Wildwood”. The bell rang as Scott Dillard brought in the Light of Christ and Carol played “Praise Him, Praise Him”. Dale Dodrill assisted today, gave the welcome, spoke on what Pentecost was, led the Opening Prayer “Day of Pentecost”, and the Call to Worship as we sang “Sweet, Sweet Spirit”. The Church family then sang “Take Time to be

Holy”, followed by the choir presenting “Fill Me Now”. Neil came to read the Gospel lesson from Luke 24:44-53, Jesus appears to His disciples. Pastor Joel’s message was entitled “To All Nations”, which began with him saying “I had Covid and I was missing out on things, Church, grass mowing, and the kids’ end of the year things”. Jesus tells the disciples they will be given a mission to be witnesses to tell all nations about Jesus with the Holy Spirit from on high filling them, but they had to wait. There are 17.000 different groups in the world—do they know Jesus? Christianity is the largest religious group in the world; 63% of the believers in the United States are Christians. The need is great to know God. When we are given our mission, we wait where we are, to be filled with the Spirit at His timing. BJ Smith preaches at three churches in Elkton every other Sunday and other churches now call and ask him to come and he says yes. He goes forth with the Holy Spirit, relying on God for the message. We all need to do this—go forth with the Holy Spirit into the world—to all nations. Pastor Joel then read a poem about waiting written by Paul Harris, a beloved member of our church for many years. Jesus invites us to wait for the Holy Spirit and to show the grace and salvation of Jesus Christ to all. The singing of “Breathe on Me, Breath of God” followed the message. BJ Smith came to give a witness and then was blessed for Christian Service (see next article). Dale came to lead the Affirmation of Faith, the Prayer Time, and the Lord’s Prayer. Pastor Joel gave the Communion invitation, led the Confession and Pardon, and asked all to



Pass the Peace. Sherry Summers then came to give a Conference kit report (see article below). Pastor Joel then led the Dedication of the kits, and prayer for the Virginia Annual Conference offering taken today, and the



regular offering, followed by the Doxology. BJ assisted Pastor Joel in leading the Great Thanksgiving. BJ and Kelly, and Michele and Dale administered the Giving of the Bread and Cup, after which we sang “Spirit of the Living God”. Dale gave the benediction, as Scott carried out the Light of Christ and Carol played the postlude. **WAIT FOR YOUR MISSION, THEN GO IN FAITH.**

**BJ WITNESSES AND IS BLESSED:** On June 5<sup>th</sup>, BJ Smith gave a witness during worship to let his “home” church know that he has been asked by the Blue Ridge Charge, consisting of three churches, Hensleys, Mt Pleasant, and Furnace, to continue on as Assistant Pastor through June of 2023, preaching the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, to which he gratefully said yes. They have become in the time that he has been assisting there like his second “home” and he loves the people there. He has also been contacted by a few other churches to possibly fill in for them some Sundays. He said how grateful he was for the way KUMC has helped him through the reference books, the encouragement, and the prayers. Pastor Joel then gave An Order for Commitment to Christian Service Dedication and Blessing over BJ and Kelly. God bless you, BJ and Kelly.



**CONFERENCE KIT REPORT:** On June 5<sup>th</sup>, during worship, Sherry Summers came to give the Conference kit report for kits collected thru May 29<sup>th</sup>. Looking at a very full altar, she reported that we had collected 14 Cleaning bucket kits, 55 School kits, and 64 Hygiene kits, for a total of 133 kits, the most in quite a while. She expressed her gratitude for all who had donated to this amazing number of kits. Pastor Joel then had the Church family give Sherry a round of applause for all of her hard work, time, and labor in advising, sorting, gathering, and packing (along with others), but mostly, leading this great mission. Great job, Sherry and Church family.



**“PSALMS: EPIC OF EDEN” STUDY:** Our 6<sup>th</sup> session was held on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. with four ladies present and Pastor Joel leading. Today’s session focused on Shepherds, who they were, what they did, and how important they were in the Bible, the differences between sheep and goats, how Jesus is our Great Shepherd, and how we can shepherd others. Psalm 23 was discussed, along with many other Old and New Testament references to shepherds.

**EVENING GET TOGETHER:** Seventeen UMW ladies and four guests enjoyed an evening of good food, lots of laughter, and relaxing fellowship on June 7<sup>th</sup> at Ciro’s Italian Eatery in Elkton as our June meeting and “Evening Out Together”. Our server, Dalton was exceptional and not only waited on us with patience, but even took a lot of good-natured kidding. A few items of business were mentioned, but the night was mostly for relaxation, good food, and enjoying our Christian Sisters. One side of the very long table is shown in the pictures, courtesy of Sherry.



### LAUGH TIME:

It's amazing how much exercise and extra fries sound alike.

Nachos are just tacos that can't get their act together.

What do you call a rabbit with fleas? Bugs bunny

What kind of Dr is Dr Pepper? A Fizzician

**THREE IN ONE:** Trinity Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> worship began with Diana playing “The Church’s One Foundation”, “Rescue the Perishing”, and “God of Grace and God of Glory” as the gathering music. The bell rang, and Ryan carried in the Light of Christ as Diana played “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”. Cathy Sites assisted Pastor Joel and gave the Greeting and Opening Prayer, followed by the Passing of the Peace before we sang “Standing on the Promises”. Diana then played “The Lord’s Prayer” as the special music. Brayden came to read the Epistle Lesson from Romans 5:1-5, grace, before Pastor Joel began his message, “Trinity Grace”. Welcome and congratulations graduates for your accomplishments and today we give thanks for those who have helped them along the way. Praise God for those who cared and helped to bring us to this point. Last year Kendra shared Psalm 23:4 (walking thru the valley you are with me) and Leigha shared Jeremiah 29:11 (I have plans for your future) when they graduated. Through suffering God has a plan for our future with hope. God lifts us up. We worship the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—three in one—the Trinity, one God in three persons. Some forms; some think there are three their functions, such as creation. forgive and save; they give Trinity 2-4 says grace helps us to stand by pours out the Holy Spirit into each of us to live in the grace of the Trinity. We all then sang the “Gloria Patri”—“Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.” The next hymn was “I Need Thee Every Hour”. Pastor Joel then read the names of the graduates and gave a blessing over Alissa (see next article). Cathy led Our Time of Prayer, the Lord’s Prayer, the Offertory Prayer, and the Doxology. The closing hymn was “Be Thou My Vision” as Ryan carried out the Light of Christ and Diana played “Rescue the Perishing” as the postlude. **FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT—FULL OF GRACE.**





**RECOGNIZING OUR GRADUATES:** During the worship service on June 12<sup>th</sup>, we recognized three of our graduates: **Damon Daff**, from SHS, who is working locally. His scripture verse was



Proverbs 16:3, commit your work. **Alissa Dodrill**, from Bridgewater College with a BS, now working in Social work in child welfare. Her Scripture verse was Isaiah 6:8, here I am—send me. **Haylee Hawley**, from SHS, who will attend UVA. Pastor



Joel then gave a prayer of thanksgiving and blessing for all the graduates. Other graduates within

the extended Church family were: **Ryan Welsh** from JMU; and **Cari Martin, Aiden Roach, Creed Combs**, and **William Painter** from High School. Congratulations to all the graduates.

**"PSALMS: EPIC OF EDEN" STUDY:** Our 7<sup>th</sup> session was held on June 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. with four ladies present and Pastor Joel leading. This session was all about "Lament" and how the writers of the Psalms were not afraid to let God know when they were unhappy. As they wrote, they would start with a Praise and thanks, then cry out their lament and fear, then close with words of hope and trust. Do not be afraid to talk to God and tell Him what is on your mind and in our heart.

## MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



*Proud Momma Michele Got ONE! Too much fishin' Happy B'Day 2022 Baseball New addition*

## \*\*\* JUNE EVENTS IN NEXT ISSUE\*\*\*

16-18 VA Annual Conf in Hampton

19 FATHER'S DAY—Donuts for Dads at 9:45 a.m.

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Sanctifying Grace" from 1 Thes 5:12-24

20 Last "Psalms: Epic of Eden" study 10:00 a.m.

21 FIRST DAY OF SUMMER

Worship Planning meeting at 6:30 p.m.

26 Outdoor Worship Service at the Ruritan Pavilion at 11:00 a.m. with Message: "Perfecting Grace" from 1 John 4:7-21; with meal to follow: hamburgers, hot dogs provided; please bring side dishes, desserts, drinks, chairs

27 Missions Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

## WAYS TO GIVE AND HELP OTHER

**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:** Karen Mooney is leading preparing a meal each month for this ministry. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00p.m., and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**Prayers for United Methodists in Ukraine and Russia:** There are United Methodist Churches and ministries in both Ukraine and Russia. Bishop Eduard Khegay is a UMC bishop who serves Belarus, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Russia, and Ukraine. As we pray, let us remember those United Methodists, other Christians, and all who have been caught up in this conflict that the peace of Christ may come.

## **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 31<sup>st</sup>, 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](http://www.keezletownumc.com).

**Sunday School Classes:** Middle and High School Class taking summer break; Adult class taught by Mac Coffman studying Encouragement; Adult class taught by Chris Cole using *Adult Bible Studies* materials.

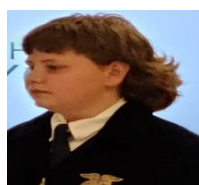
## **MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES**



7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> dance



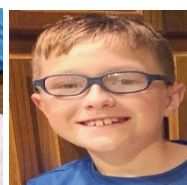
Happy 18<sup>th</sup>



Happy 13 Joseph Puseys and Ramona



HB 93<sup>rd</sup>



Carson 10 bday

### \*\*\* JULY EVENTS HAPPENING\*\*\*

#### **JULY BIRTHDAYS**

July 1	Lee Threewitts	July 24	Diana Davis
July 2	Becky Ramsey	July 25	Audrey Cox
July 3	Becky Crown	July 27	Makenna Eppard
July 5	Caleb Hall	July 28	Misty Botkin
July 6	Patsy Smith	July 29	Steve Morris
July 11	Kelcey Seaman	July 29	Kathy Armentrout
July 11	Dale Dodrill	July 29	Barrett Bowman
July 11	Michael Stanley	July 29	Damon Daff
July 14	Chad Higgs	July 30	Cooper Pellegrin
July 16	Rebecca Sprague	July 30	Jacob Hall
July 17	Allen Martin		
July 20	Triton Lane Bishop		

#### **JULY ANNIVERSARIES**

July 4, 1990	John & Cheryl Foley	32 years
July 4, 1992	Mike & Cecilia Hawkins	30 years
July 5, 1993	Randy & Janet Clatterbuck	29 years
July 13, 2002	Charlie & Stephanie Liskey	20 years
July 19, 1986	Steve & Marie Suter	36 years
July 20, 1996	David & Jenny Reed	26 years
July 20, 1963	Bruce & Barbara Hoover	59 years
July 24, 2021	Brian & Ann Marie Zylich	1 year
July 26, 1999	Marvin & Sandra McCray	23 years

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



**Bruce and Barbara Hoover for 59 years on July 20th**  
Best wishes from your KUMC family. May you have many more.

#### **JULY EVENTS CALENDAR**

**InMotion Summer Praise Dance:** InMotion Summer Praise Dance will return to Keezletown UMC on Sunday, July 10th during the 11:00 a.m. worship and present the mini-ballet "The Names of God." One of the dancers will be our very own Becca Sprague.



**Luncheon After Worship:** July 10th, the UMM will be providing a BBQ chicken with the fixins meal after worship. Please stay and enjoy food and fellowship. Free will offering.

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE JULY 23<sup>RD</sup>:** It's hard to realize that it will soon be 6 months since Noland died. We are having a Celebration of Life Service for him on Saturday, July 23rd at 11:00 a.m. at the Keezletown UM Church followed by a light lunch in the social hall, where you are invited to share your stories and memories of him. Casual dress is fine.



**PASTOR JOEL WILL BE ON VACATION JULY 17<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>TH</sup> (Rev Dave Nankivell will be on call as needed, at 540-298-6049)**

- 3      **Small Group Leaders Gathering 8:45 a.m. in Social Hall**  
         **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**
- 7      **UMW meeting at 7:00 p.m.**
- 10     **Sunday School 9:45 a.m**  
         **Worship 11:00 a.m.; InMotion Summer Praise Dance Mini-Ballet "The Names of God" and**  
         **Message: "Name of the Faithful" from Luke 10:25-37**  
         **UMM Chicken BBQ 12:15 p.m.**
- 12     **Staff Parish Relations meet @ 6:30 p.m**
- 13     **Administrative Council Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.**
- 15     **Newsletter items due**
- 16     **Toby Propst Memorial Service at Keezletown Cemetery, 2 PM**
- 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**
- 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**

## **DALE'S CORNER by Dale Dodrill**

In the tenth chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus is both the Shepherd and the gate of the sheep. Jesus calls Himself a Good Shepherd because He provides guidance, care and security in the lives of all those who seek Him. He knows and cares about each of us. Out in the country, there were structures called sheepfolds to keep and protect the sheep at night. They had no gate like those in towns and villages. Once the sheep were inside, the Shepherd laid down at the opening, He became the gate. The Bible often compares people to sheep. Just as the sheep learn to trust their Shepherd, we can choose to do the

same. When we go through trials, knowing the Good Shepherd (Jesus), has our best interests at heart, makes a real difference. All we need to do is focus on Jesus, as our gate, who watches our coming in and going out.

## **THANK YOU**

Keezletown United Methodist Church: With deepest gratitude for your commitment to serve, I thank you on behalf of Open Doors and the people we serve. Many thanks, Ashley Robinson, **Open Doors**

Thank you for being the blessing you are to all who know you. Thank you so much for letting us use your church. May God bless you all. On Eagles Wings Church

## **THE CHURCH FAMILY IS PROUD**

**Kendra Dodrill** and **Leigha Dillard** have been named to Bridgewater College's 2022 Spring Dean's List

**Parker Young** has completed his first year of Middle school with all A's for the whole year! Wow—Congratulations, Parker, job well done.

**Use Caution in Handicap Parking Area:** The new paint in the handicap parking area has a slickness to it, especially when damp or wet. Please use caution near those painted lines. A clear grip coating will be applied in the future. Please take care.

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## **MY PERSONAL NOTE:**

Everything is a struggle today—did you ever wake up feeling like that? Even the simplest things don't want to work right. I used to say I got up on the wrong side of the bed, but that was my attitude, not my whole body. I know God has a plan for me. Period. And I guess in that plan are some days that...well...are just not going to be...the best. There is one thing I know, for sure...that He has helped me through 100% of my bad days, or not so good days, or grumpy days, or struggle days, and that He will help me through this one. If you need a little salve for your soul, just remember He's been there every day, and He will be there forever. Hallelujah. *Diana*

## **Editor's Note**

**The July deadline for submissions is July 15th.** My home number is 269-8511 or e-mail me at [AntDyna@comcast.net](mailto: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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He healed the one who arrested Him, served  
the one who betrayed Him, and loved the world  
who crucified Him. That's my Jesus.

(Faithster)