

MOuNTaiN ECHoeS

AUGUST 2022

140th Edition



(Photo by "I Love Flowers and Birds" as posted on Facebook and "Farm Sunrise" by Barrett Bowman)

Keezletown United Methodist Church

Rev. T. Joel Robinette, Pastor

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In a society that has you counting money, pounds, calories, and steps,
be a rebel and count your blessings instead. (Lisa Heckman)

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

By God the grace of God, it is small groups that have often done me the most good in my discipleship with Jesus Christ. Sunday school, group Bible study, youth group, FCA, campus ministry Care Group, pastor small groups, and more have been places I got practice in asking questions about God and the Bible, praying, caring for others, planning and doing mission together. Individual practices like prayer and Bible reading have been good for me as well, but God has built my faith most in life together shared with others in faith like in small groups. It is hard to get to prickliest controversies or personal brokenness in a large worship service, but with a few there is space to apply the grace of God in scripture, prayer, and community. In large gathering there is not usually time to hear the glory of what Jesus has done in each person, but with a few there is time to share the goodness of what God has done. I always find such encouragement to hear what God is doing in the lives of others. Acts 2 gives this description of very early Christian life together in Jerusalem: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42, NRSV). Acts 2 goes on to say disciples met regularly at the temple (large group) and in homes (smaller groups). A joy for me after the easing of COVID restrictions has been a return to small groups, especially in person, which is how I am most comfortable. Through small groups, God continues to challenge and grow me beyond my comfort levels more towards Christ's love, body, ways, and cross. I am looking forward to being in a small group this Fall. May God bless small group ministry in the Church around the world and at Keezletown UMC, that we may experience life in Jesus Christ together.

Pastor Joel

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*****JULY EVENTS THAT HAPPENED*****

JULY HAPPY BIRTHDAYS



Triton is 2



H B'day Steve



Happy 25 Kenna



H B'day Kathy



HB Damon/Barrett

AVACARE was served a meal on July 8th of Chicken enchiladas, tossed salad, and Raspberry roll ups for dessert, by Sharon and Karen. Thank you to all who donated.

MISSION VOLUNTEERING: Carol Sacra, and her sister Gwen, spent the weekend of July 9th at Luray High School for a Remote Area Medical Clinic, a nonprofit provider of free medical clinics for those in need at no charge since 1984, with clinics weekly across the USA and abroad. Licensed professionals provided dental services, vision services, and general and women's health exams. Gwen and Carol, along with 80 other volunteers, helped unload the tractor trailer of equipment and supplies, set up exam rooms, assisted with registrations and learned many other

duties. The weekend events are amazingly organized, and proved a wonderful service to the local community. They are excited to be a part of this team and have plans to participate in upcoming clinics this fall.

RELAY TEAM SERVES MEAL: On July 16th, seven team members and helpers fed nineteen members and guests of the Dayton High School class of 1956, the last class of DHS before it became part of Turner Ashby High School. Two of those members are Marian Suter and Al Liskey. A delicious meal was enjoyed by all. Many thanks to those who helped.

UNITED METHODIST MEN MET on Sunday, July 17th, for their monthly gathering. A wonderful breakfast was prepared by Joe Liskey, with all 12 men and 2 ladies in attendance enjoying the meal. Thank you, Joe. After breakfast and a time of good fellowship Scott Dodrill led us in our devotional time. The theme of his devotion was "Encouragement", how this is the fuel of hope not just to win the race, but together. Chairperson, Scott Dillard, then had prayer that called the morning meeting into session. The meeting began with approval of the minutes of our last meeting as presented by Dale Dodrill and a treasury report from Scott Dodrill. Some general items of discussion presented during our meeting time were: A mission project in our church family; Chicken Bar-b-que; Mission Central mission work; Completing a mowing list for remainder of year; Whether to have a catfish dinner in fall; Requesting helpers for Noland Suter's memorial service; and Serving the Cross Keys Ruritans on August 4th. The ladies in attendance then took over to lead the group in making cards for our armed services members. This activity took a little time, but was full of good laughs and fellowship. The men are proud to say that we completed 120 cards in our time together. Our next meeting will be Sunday August 20th and we invite anyone who wishes to join us for our time together to honor, praise, and spread God's love and word to others.

All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism. (Anon)

EVEN RUSTY NAILS WILL DO: Worship service began July 17th with Chris, healed and back at the piano, playing the Gathering music: "The Bible Tells Me So", "My God and I", "The Love of God", and "Faith of Our Fathers". The bell rang and she played "Blessed Redeemer" as Leah Siler Carried in the Light of Christ. Ken Thomas, assisting today, gave the Greeting, the Opening Prayer, and asked all to Pass the Peace, followed by the singing of "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" and "Spirit Song". Neil came to read the morning Epistle lesson from 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, to each is given, and James 4:6-10, God gives grace. Lay Speaker Dale Dodrill filled in for Pastor Joel who is on vacation, with a message entitled "A Magnet and Nails". There are two definitions for the Church: one is a building for Christian worship and the second is a body or assembly of Worshippers. The Church is receive the Holy Spirit and are are. God has given us each and a magnet to illustrate His some bent, some new, some shiny, some old, some rusty. WE are all different. Each



you and me and us together. We representatives of God wherever we different abilities. I have some nails Church. Some nails are straight,

nail has a beginning, an end, and a purpose. Nails hold things together. God has no favorites. Jesus is a magnet, for the fishermen, the woman who touched His hem, the thief on the cross. Some people don't want Jesus, but Jesus accepts all. We grow thru fellowship, being with each other, smiling, reading and studying the word, becoming little magnets for Jesus. Doing, brings us closer to God. Even a nail that goes thru fire can draw to the magnet, Jesus and His love. Life is hard, but Jesus is the helper beyond imagination. A song by Bradley Walker says in the time that you gave me did I give, love, and do? Do we do as a Church all we can do in the time He has given us? The magnet is Jesus. We, the nails, attached to Him, are the Church sharing His love by being someone no one else can be. The hymn, "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore" was then sung, followed by Ken leading the Time of Prayer and the Lord's Prayer. Michele then gave a witness (article that follows), followed by Ken leading the Offertory Prayer, the Doxology, and the Benediction, as Leah Carried out the Light of Christ and Chris played "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord". **ARE YOU DOING ALL YOU CAN DO IN THE TIME YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN?**

A CARD IN THE MAILBOX: Michele Dodrill asked how we liked getting bills and junk mail, then how we liked getting cards. How about if we knew someone that was overseas in the military? Dale got me started on making cards a few years back and I recruited a few more ladies. The first year, we sent 672 cards to be distributed; last year we sent 300. This year, I have set a goal. The United Methodist Women assembled 75 cards at their April meeting. The United Methodist Men assembled 120 cards at their meeting this morning. That's 284 total so far with the deadline being October 9th. Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 14th from 2:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. when we as a church family will be assembling cards for the troops. No experience is needed; everything is provided; you can do five minutes, one hour, or the whole time. If you want to make cards on your own, please contact me for restrictions. The ability to make cards can be good therapy, and it never hurts to send an encouraging word.

"Life is an echo. What you send out, comes back. What you sow, you reap. What you give, you get. What you see in others, exists in you. Remember, life is an echo. It always gets back to you. So give goodness." --Zig Ziglar

PASTOR JOEL ON VACATION: Pastor Joel has been enjoying some well deserved and needed vacation with his family at Hungry Mother State Park from July 17th-24th. We pray that he has been renewed, encouraged, unburdened, and refreshed in spirit, and that the comfort and peace of knowing he is doing what God has asked him to do will guide him as he returns to lead his church family,

KINGSWAY MINISTRY was served a meal on July 18th of Ham and cheese sandwiches, chips, and brownies, by Sharon and Karen. Thank you to all who donated.

CELEBRATING A MAN OF FAITH, REMEMBERING NOLAND SUTER: On July 23rd, friends, family,



co-workers, prayer partners, and church family met to celebrate the life of Robert Noland Suter, or GranGran to his family. Dale Dodrill gave the welcome and read two of Noland's favorite scriptures, the 23rd Psalm, and Ephesians 4:1-6, be humble and gentle and love others. An acapella performance of "In the Garden" was then given by Karen Mooney and Sharon Martin. Dale began the Moments of Reflection by talking about how Noland always lived the fruits of the spirit. Kelli Sprague told of his love for Camp Overlook and the Emmaus programs, and how he took the time to notice those in the background and to thank them. Tim Long spoke of his loyalty of 53 years to the Keezletown Ruritan Club, his gravy making, and his secret oyster recipe. Scott Dillard and Randy Churchill, two members of the Corner Booth boys, a prayer group that Noland started 15 years ago, talked about his quiet nature. He didn't speak much, but you'd better listen when he did. He not only talked the talk, he walked the walk, and let everyone know that they deserved respect. Karen and Sharon then led the singing of "Amazing Grace". The touching Family Eulogy was given by Steve Suter. He said his Dad loved to serve with others. Letters the family has found all talk about what a kind man he was. His love and his support constantly showed in his service. He loved gospel quartets, big band music, photography, gardening, water battles with the grandchildren, time with the family, giving surprises, and laughter until he cried. He was a listener, the one last in line, and he prayed for others all the time. His only regret was that he didn't have more time for his family. When asked what he would say to people that talked about what a good man he was, he simply said "It's all grace". Accept the grace Jesus offers and live like Noland. Steve closed with "Thank you Dad for showing Christ to your family and everyone who knew you." Three others came to briefly share, before Karen and Sharon led the singing of "How Great Thou Art", and Steve closing with a blessing. A bounteous luncheon was served in the social hall by the Church family, the Ruritan Club, and the Etta Carper Armentrout family to allow more time for sharing, fellowship, and remembering. If you ever had the chance to meet Noland, you came away blessed by his humbleness and his caring. There is no doubt that when Jesus took his hand, he said "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, come home". RIP, Noland, you are and will be missed.

CULINARY WHIZ OR CHOPPED: "Going to seminary is, I think, a lot like going to culinary school - you learn the basic foundations, some cool party tricks, and by the end you can prepare a gourmet meal. Pastoring, however, is waking up every day to a new episode of Chopped, where the ingredients are completely random and you're expected to do something with whatever you're handed while everyone watches and provides running commentary, and occasionally something explodes". From The Rev. Sara Juist

IN THE "OH NO" MOMENT: July 24th worship began with Diana playing "I Walk With the King", "The Beautiful Garden of Prayer", and "Does Jesus Care" as the gathering music before the bell rang. The prelude was "Keep On Believing" as Brayden

carried in the Light of Christ. Neil Sacra led the service for Pastor Joel and gave the Greeting and led the Opening Prayer and the Passing of the Peace. Our first hymn was “Sweet Hour of Prayer”, followed by Diana playing “Solitude” as the Special Music. A responsive reading from Psalm 139:1-4, God knows us, and the Epistle lesson from Romans 8:26-27, the Spirit intercedes, were read by Neil. Leonard Williams gave the message today entitled “Do You Find It Hard to Pray Sometimes?” and that was his first question. He continued with, I am a firm believer in prayer, but there are times it is difficult to pray. Psalm 39:1-4 tells us that God knows our every thought, and in Romans, that the Holy Spirit will speak to God for us when we can’t. There are two kinds of speechlessness. The first is the WOW! moment when you’ve won Publishers Clearing House, and the second is the OH NO! when the doctor says it’s cancer. Oh



do you do when you have an Oh NO—it should drive you to the Lord in prayer even though it’s hard to find the words. The Spirit intercedes when we can’t talk. God knows the desires and intentions of our hearts. What a wonderful God that hears our stumbling, wandering prayers. Troubles come. How do you deal with them? Nobody likes bad times, but He will use them to better our lives. Moses, Joseph, and Paul are all Biblical examples that God used. The KUMC mission statement is to make disciples. God chose us to bear fruit and to go forth and witness. Our second hymn was “Kum Ba Yah”, followed by Neil leading the Morning Prayer, the Lord’s Prayer, the Offertory Prayer, and the Doxology. Our closing hymn was “Near to the Heart of God” before Neil gave the Benediction, and Diana played “Only Believe” as the postlude. **EVEN IN THE “OH NO” MOMENTS, GOD HEARS.**

WORSHIP PLANNING met on July 26th at 6:30 p.m. in the social hall. Pastor Joel, Chris, and Diana planned for the month of August. All are welcome to help.

IF GOD ASKED, WHO WOULD YOU MARRY? Chris began Worship service this morning, July 31st, with “At the Cross”, “My Hope is Built”, and “There’s Within My Heart a Melody” as the gathering music, followed by the ringing of the bell, and Brayden carrying in the Light of Christ, as she played “His Eye is On the Sparrow” as the prelude. Leonard Williams assisted today and gave the greeting and Opening Prayer and inviting all to Pass the Peace, after which we sang “God of Grace and God of Glory”. Diana Davis read the Old Testament Lesson from Hosea 1:1-11, God uses Hosea. Pastor Joel’s message was entitled “Marry Who?” and he began by saying how good it felt to be back from vacation—that everyone should take a vacation—everyone should take the Sabbath off—we are not just work or what we do. We need time to enjoy God’s creation and each other. Thank you to all who continued to show grace and God’s love during the two Sundays and the Memorial Service while he was gone. KUMC is truly blessed. Dale Dodrill spoke; he is gifted speaker who always uses props. God uses him. Hosea doesn’t just speak, but lives his life to show God’s love for Israel. The Bible is full of people showing what the Kingdom of God is and is not. The people of God are His best visual aids. God sent Hosea to marry a prostitute, Gomer. They had three children. She

leaves and becomes a slave and he buys her back. This is an image of God's love for Israel. He offers us the fullness of all He has. He never gives up on us. He gives us grace and love. "Grace Greater Than Our Sin" was sung after the message. Leonard then led the Time of Prayer and the Lord's Prayer. Sherry Summers gave a witness (see next item) about the school supplies collection. Leonard gave the offertory prayer, we sang the Doxology, then "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" as the last hymn. Leonard gave the benediction, as Brayden carried out the Light of Christ, and Chris played "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" as the prelude. **CAN GOD USE YOU?**

IT'S TIME TO HELP THE SCHOOL KIDS. Sherry Summers reminded us during the July 31st worship service, that school openings are just around the corner and that there are many needs. The "Stuff the Bus" bus is now in the narthex and a list of needed items was in today's bulletin. Only seven items are needed for the UMCOR School kits, but the SHS Care Closet items is more extensive and allows buying for both men and women, and different ethnicities. SHS also needs backpacks and throw blankets. We have been so supportive in the past and she encouraged all to open their hearts and to give to these needs. A listing of the needs follows.

BEGINNING SCHOOL NEEDS:
UMCOR SCHOOL KIT SUPPLIES

1 pkg - Loose Leaf Paper (wide/college rule); 3 - Single Subject Spiral Notebooks; 6 - Pencils (unsharpened); 1 - Pencil Sharpener; 1 - 2" Eraser; 1 pr - Scissors (blunt nose); 1 box - 24 count Crayons; 1 - 12" Ruler

SPOTSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL BACKPACKS

Adult Size Backpack (black/gray) - Gabe's \$14.99

SPOTSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL CARE CLOSET/HYGIENE NEEDS:

Shampoo (M/W); Conditioner; Shampoo for Curly/Ethnic Hair; Conditioner for Curly/Ethnic Hair; Curl Creme or Spray; Gel for Curls; Soap (M/W); Body Wash (M/W); Deodorant (M/W); Razors (M/W); Shaving Cream; Lotion; Hair Brushes; Hair Bands; Cotton Balls; Q-Tips; Toothpaste; Contact Solution; Hand Sanitizer; Tampons (all sizes); Sanitary Napkins (all sizes); Laundry Detergent (sm boxes of powder); Blankets (fleece throws are useful)

FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Jared and Allyse Driving a tractor Living the life Evalyn in NC mts Carmella Hayley is 24

Speak in such a way that others love to listen to you. Listen in such a way that others want to speak to you. (Anon)

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: 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 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.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.

COOKING TIPS (HAHA)

Making angel food cake can be hard when you have to beat the 12 eggs separately. I had to borrow a few bowls from the neighbor.

If the recipe says put the mixture in a bowl and beat it, it does not mean you leave the house.

Just because the recipe says wash thoroughly before cooking does not mean you need a bath.

If the recipe says serve without dressing, it really doesn't mean you should cook without any clothes on.

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.

NEW STUDY COMING IN SEPT: "Twelve Women of the Bible Study"

Come learn about some women from the Bible and how we can live in God on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. beginning September 12th. The study guide is \$11 and there will be 12 sessions of the study. Sign up with Pastor Joel or in the narthex. Learn about Eve, Rebekah, Leah, Hannah, Abigail, Gomer, Mary the Mother of Jesus, Mary Magdalene, Mary of Bethany, Martha, The Woman at the Well, and The Syrophoenician Woman, from study writers Lysa Terkeurst, Elisa Morgan, Jeanne Stevens, Amena Brown, Naomi Zacharias, and Jonalyn Fincher.

*****AUGUST EVENTS THAT HAPPENED*****

FEEDING RURITANS: Three ladies from the UMW served a well-received meal of tacos, sheet cake and brownies, ice cream and tea to the meeting of the Mt Crawford Ruritans on August 3rd. Thank you to all who donated.

UMM SERVE RURITANS: On August 4th, our men's group served the 48 members of the Cross Keys Ruritans smoked pork tenderloin, mac and cheese, baked apples, coleslaw and ice cream and brownies for dessert. It was great to be in service to our neighbors and a blessing to be in fellowship with each other.

AND THE RAIN STAYED AWAY: The United Methodist Women held their annual August picnic at the home of Judy Coffman on Thursday, August 4th at 6:30 p.m., with fifteen members attending, along with three guests, and four gentlemen. What fun it was to have the men attend too. They helped create quite a bit of laughter during the evening and seemed to fully enjoy themselves. Along with the chicken that was provided by the UMW, there were stuffed peppers and a variety of salads, baked beans, baked mac/cheese, deviled eggs, and chips and dip. The dessert table was just as full and looked just as yummy. Since this was our evening for fellowship, we kept the business meeting short by completing the LIOP to be sent, and discussing the upcoming Women's Sunday in September. Many thanks to Judy for providing the place, the ladies for providing the food, the men for helping with the laughter, and God, for providing a lovely evening. Our next meeting is September 1st at 7:00 p.m. at the Church.



HEAVEN WILL NOT BE FILLED WITH PERFECT PEOPLE, BUT IT WILL BE FILLED WITH FORGIVEN ONES!
(Joshua Lutz)

YOU CAN BE A LEADER TOO. The melodies of "Sabbath Echoes", "Hope", and "Sunday" welcomed us to worship service on August 7th, as Carol played the gathering

music. The bell rang, Brayden brought in the Light of Christ, and the prelude was “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”. Mac Coffman assisted today, giving the welcome and announcements, and sharing the opening prayer. Pastor Joel then gave a Conference Report (see next item). The singing of “Rejoice the Lord is King” preceded the reading of the Scripture by Neil Sacra from Judges 2:16-18, Judges delivered the people, and Judges 3:7-11, the Lord saved Israel. “Othniel, Ehud, and Shamgar: When Leaders Change” was the title of Pastor Joel’s message that began with “leaders change”. Two churches began in Keezletown, one in 1791, one in 1800, and since that time they have had more than 221 pastors in their history. Since 1988, when Don Hawks was here, most have served at least seven years. God raises up human leaders to direct and deliver. Jesus gave us human leaders to help us walk thru faith. When important leaders change, think about how they’ve helped you grow so that you can share with others. In Judges, the people forget God, take up idols, bring defeat, and oppression, then cry out for deliverance, which God gave. It was a repeating cycle. Othniel was the first good example, filled with the Holy Spirit to empower him. He brought the people back to faithfulness, only to have them turn away again. Ehud was given a word from God. He became an assassin that killed the opposing king, but did not raise anyone up to God. Shamgar was a believer who God raised up to deliver the people from the Philistines. When God calls us up—what gift will He give you to deliver the oppressed? When God is in it, there is great joy in Christian leadership. Mac led the reading of the Niocene Creed, before we sang “I Come with Joy”, followed by the Morning Prayer. Pastor Joel then gave the Invitation to Communion, led the Confession and Pardon, and asked all to Pass the Peace. Mac led the offertory prayer and the Doxology. Pastor Joel led the Great Thanksgiving, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Partaking of the Bread and Wine. Our closing hymn was “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” before Mac gave the benediction, Brayden carried out the Light of Christ, and Carol ended the service with the postlude “Spirit of the Living God”. **YOU TOO CAN BE A LEADER, WITH GOD’S HELP.**

VA ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT: Pastor Joel thanked everyone for allowing he and Jenn to be the delegates to the June 16th-18th Annual Conference this year. There were 1,146 churches represented. They enjoyed great preaching, passionate worship, singing and dancing, training for Laity, Bible study, ordaining clergy, and many other ways to help in ministry. There were 18,650 kits given, and an offering of \$122,000 given. The 2023 budget was approved at \$27,730,000. Twelve churches closed and three disaffiliated. Team Jeremiah was set up to help on an October 29th Zoom meeting to help the disaffiliation process. There was a protest seeking Judicial Council of the handling of clergy complaint procedures. This was resolved. Statewide districts have been reduced from 16 to 8. We are now part of the Shenandoah River District, with 158 congregations, with Dr. Gomez still remaining District Superintendent. Thank you again for allowing Jenn and me to go; if you have any questions, please ask Jenn.

WE'RE ENGAGED: Hayley Johnson has had a busy last few weeks. From completing a second AmeriCorps term, to turning 24 as she hiked the whole dang way (90+ miles) around Mount Rainier in Ashford Washington, to THEN being asked to marry her best friend and biggest supporter, Michael Shroyer, on August 13th. Congrats and Best Wishes from your Virginia Church family.



MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Luke a beachin'



Vacation family fun



Stanley boys



On vacation



Jacob lost tooth

AND A WOMAN JUDGE LEADS: Worship service began on August 14th with Chris playing “King of Kings”, “The God of Abraham Praise”, “O God in Heaven”, and “He is Jehovah” for the gathering music. As the bell rang, Brayden brought in the Light of Christ, and Chris played “Canta, Debora, Canta!” for the prelude. Cathy Sites, assisting today, gave the greeting and announcements, and the Call to Worship, a responsive reading from 1 Thessalonians 5, and asked all to Pass the Peace, followed by the singing of “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”. Sherry Summers read the difficult Old Testament scripture from Judges 4:1-10. Pastor Joel’s message was entitled “Deborah: Glory Shared” and he began by saying that the last few messages have focused on leadership. God asks us to do ministry together. Small groups are the beginnings for opportunities. When it comes to leadership, God will work with us, like Deborah. Israel fell apart and did their own things, ‘til they became oppressed. God raises a judge to deliver them. King Jaban had great strength and Israel was divided. Don’t settle for “this is just the way it is”, for with God all things are possible. God brought Deborah and the Israelites the victory and peace. If God speaks, we need to listen. Jesus did not tell the disciples to be consultants, but to go out and do. Deborah went when sent. KUMC needs people to get up and join as participants and leaders in small groups. There is a small group form in the bulletin and online. You can fill this out and submit it so we can build up people thru participation in small groups. Join us and embrace the beauty of learning about God through fellowship. The hymn, “I’m Gonna’ Live So God Can Use Me” was sung before Cathy led the Morning Prayer, the Lord’s Prayer, the Offertory Prayer, and the Doxology. The closing hymn was “They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love”, followed by Cathy using Thessalonians 5 as the Benediction and Brayden carrying out the Light of Christ. Chris played “Shalom To You” as the postlude. **IF GOD SPEAKS, WE NEED TO LISTEN.**

“In this life a decent lawyer will know about the law, but a good lawyer knows the judge! As a Christian, I will not just know about my lawyer, I will know him, and know that He is on good terms with the Judge!” Steve Saufley

IT'S CARD MAKING TIME: A big **THANK YOU** to those who came on Sunday, August 14th, to help add smiles to cards to send overseas to our military. Fifteen members of our church family cut out images, glued, taped, sorted, colored – a little bit of everything! We completed 177 cards that afternoon, giving us a total of 461 cards so far. There is still time to complete cards before the deadline of October 9th, so if you're interested in adding to the total, let me know and I'll get you a few supplies. Michele



TWO MORE GROUPS SERVED: Karen and Sharon served the AVACARE group earlier this month, and 18-20 folks that attended the Kingsway Ministry Bible study on August 18th. They enjoyed items donated from the UMW after their feeding of the Ruritans, including taco fixings, tortillas chips and red velvet cake. Thank you to the UMW and all who donated.

AND THEN IT WAS FAIR TIME: During the week on August 14th-20th, some of our KUMC folks spent time at the fair, some exhibiting, some helping, some having fun. Here are a few pictures and items we heard about. **Carson Guilliams** showed his goats, "Mac" and "Cheese" and placed 5th for his first time trying. **Karen Mooney** and **Sherry Summers** helped out in the Cross Keys/Mill Creek food booth. **Cory Guilliams** and sons helped out in the Keezletown Burger Barn. **Ryan Sprague** helped in the Broadway/Timberville food booth. **Joseph and Jacob Welsh** showed in pigs, sheep, goats, and beef. **Leonard Williams** entered flowers in the rose, phlox, and hydrangea categories and won four ribbons, two blue, one red, one white. Not bad for the 1st time entering. And **Michele Dodrill** had lots of fun on Senior Day assisting the residents of Bridgewater Retirement Village as they took in all the fair had to offer, even wearing her special headband just for them. Many others helped, I'm sure that we didn't hear about, so my apologies for not listing them. Hope everyone had fun at the fair.



And Corey Guilliams says Thanks: Carson just successfully completed his first 4-H Market Goat Project. Lynette and I want to say THANK YOU!! to the all of people who helped his project be a big success! From the breeders who helped pick goats from their herds for him, to all of the folks that gave advice on how to feed and care for them, to those who helped fit them to show, to those who helped care for them when they didn't feel good, to those who gave him positive encouragement, and to the many bidders and the buyers at the Market Animal Sale at the fair, DOZENS of people helped with his project. While this was Carson's project, the whole family participated at times and we all learned a lot and had a good time.

Carson is already talking about doing a Market Goat Project next year. Lynette and I are so very thankful to live in and to be part of such a wonderfully supportive community. We are blessed indeed!!

MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Visiting In Savannah



Donnie/Comicon



Two beauties



Barrett/kiddos

GROWING UP TOO FAST AND BACK TO SCHOOL IN 2022 ON AUGUST 24TH

The church family is proud and happy to recognize our children and grandchildren, our nieces and nephews, as they begin another school year.

Not in school yet (?): Carmella Bahle, Jade Bahle, Triton Bishop, Henry Martin, Lily Sacra, Owen Summers

Kindergarten: Connor Guilliams

First: Waylon Conley, Adalida Crisman; Nolan Mason, Sam Ramsey

Second: Cora Combs, Cooper Pellegrin, Ben Wamsley

Third:

Fourth: Sara Cole

Fifth: James Cole, Andrea Crisman, Austyn Crisman, Carson Guilliams, Nora Grace Jarrels, Leah Siler; Jacob Welsh

Sixth: Caleb Combs

Seventh: Harrison Bowman, Lydia Kelley, Cami Martin; Parker Young

Eighth: Haiden Dillard, Connor Miller, Brayden Morris, Chloe Robinette, Rebecca Sprague, Alli Underwood; Joseph Welsh

Ninth (Freshman): Hannah Bowman, Cali Martin, Mason Pusey, Kate Ramsey

Tenth (Sophomore): Asher Deets, Macie Heishman, Alex Mansfield, Marley McGlaughlin, Hunter Pellegrin, Noah Robinette, Ryan Sprague, Lataya Wigginton

Eleventh (Junior): Eli Bowman, Kahlyn Smith

Twelfth (Senior): Gabe Deets, Marcus Hall, Joe Johnson Jr, Grady McGlaughlin, Reese Pellegrin, Carson Pusey

College Freshmen: Creed Combs, Haylee Hawley, Cari Martin, William Painter, Aiden Roach

College Sophomore: Annalee Crisman, Leigha Dillard, Kendra Dodrill, Jacob Hall, Jaden Hall

College Junior: Cady Martin

College Senior: Emily Carr, Julie Zylich, Sean Zylich

***** AUGUST EVENTS IN NEXT ISSUE*****

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**

When you're folding the never-ending piles of laundry and you think to yourself, why(?), I could just go naked. Then you remember what you look like naked...and with a big sigh... you keep on folding.

MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



B-day Celebration



Barrett's grandgirls



Happy Bday Cheyenne



Waylon is 6



Crisman girls

***** SEPTEMBER EVENTS HAPPENING*****

Sunday School Kick-Off: A Fall kick-off for Sunday School classes will be September 11th at 9:45 AM. Join in a Sunday School class for growing in faith and as a disciple of Jesus Christ with others. Teachers and assistants to teachers are still needed for children and youth classes. Please talk to Cathy Sites (Sunday School Superintendent) or Tanya Eppard (Nurture & Education Chair) for more information.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sept 1	Scott Sprague	Sept 13	Harrison Bowman
Sept 1	Bob Hill	Sept 13	Cheryl Carr
Sept 1	Tom Smith	Sept 15	Sandra McCray
Sept 2	Brandon Bowman	Sept 16	Jeanne Taylor
Sept 2	Ginny Bowman	Sept 17	Amanda Siler
Sept 2	Travis Martin	Sept 17	Mason Pusey
Sept 3	David Clements	Sept 17	Emily Carr
Sept 3	Leonard Williams	Sept 17	Jan Sites
Sept 7	Nora Grace Jarrels	Sept 18	Leigha Dillard
Sept 9	Mary Combs	Sept 20	Michael Taylor
Sept 9	Julie Zylich	Sept 21	Frank Baker

Sept 9	Sean Zylich	Sept 23	Andrew Coffman
Sept 11	Kristine Welsh	Sept 25	Jared Martin
Sept 11	Tammy Layman	Sept 26	Allison Hawkins
Sept 11	Jordan Shoemaker	Sept 26	David Miller
Sept 11	Susie Hill	Sept 29	Joseph Botkin Jr

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sept 9, 2006	Mark & Becky Ramsey	16 years
Sept 13, 2003	Ryan & Kathryn Pusey	19 years
Sept 25, 2021	Corey & Christina Shifflett	1 year
Sept 30, 2006	Steve & Beth Morris	16 years

SEPTEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

- 1 **UMW meet 7:00 p.m.**
- 3 **Choir Practice 9:30 a.m.**
- 4 **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: "Cost of Discipleship" from Luke 14:25-33
- 5 **LABOR DAY**
- 11 **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; KICKOFF FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL EVENT**
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Value of Sinners" from Luke 15:1-10
GRANDPARENTS DAY
- 12 **"Twelve Women of the Bible" study at 10:00 a.m.**
- 14 **Church Council Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.**
- 15 **Serving Kingsway Ministry**
- 16 **Newsletter items due**
- 17 **Choir Practice 9:30 a.m.**
- 18 **United Methodist Men's Breakfast and Meeting 8:00 a.m.**
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; UNITED METHODIST WOMEN SUNDAY
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Keep On Keeping On" by guest speaker Brenda Robey
- 19 **"Twelve Women of the Bible" study at 10:00 a.m.**
- 20 **Worship Planning meeting at 6:30 p.m.**
- 23 **FIRST DAY OF FALL**
- 25 **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Message: "The Error of Settling for Riches" from Luke 16:19-31
- 26 **"Twelve Women of the Bible" study at 10:00 a.m.**

DALE'S CORNER by Dale Dodrill

Mark 4: 1-9 PARABLE OF THE SOILS I was reading a 1951 Edition of an International Sunday School Lessons by Earl Douglas. This is my summary of the lesson for January 28, 1951. The various types of soil represents different ways in which individuals hear and respond to Jesus' message. This parable has often been called the parable of the sower. However, since the sower represents God, and the emphasis is upon the soils which represents you and me, the title Parable of the Soils is better for me. Jesus said in verse 3, "Listen to this! A farmer went out to scatter seed." v 4 ", some fell by the wayside, the wayside soil represents people who are an indifferent hearer of God's Word and way. It doesn't matter one way or the other. v 5 "And others fell on the rocky ground", the rocky ground is like people who are here today and gone tomorrow. v 7 "And other fell among the thorns", the thorns represent the worldly hearer of God's Word. The seed sprouts, but things of the world creep in and choke out the growth. v 8 "And other fell on the good ground and yielded fruit", the good soil represents the model hearer of God's Word. They hear the Word of God, accept it, live by it in thought and deed. His Word produces a harvest to his glory and to the advancement of His kingdom and the honor of His name.

Special Virginia Annual Conference October 29th: The Virginia Annual Conference will meet online via Zoom for a special session to approve the disaffiliation of congregations from the United Methodist Church who desire to sever their connection to the UMC and have fulfilled requirements for that process. The conference will begin at 9:00 AM, available to view online, and will be streamed at KUMC for those who desire to view it at the church.

THE CHURCH FAMILY REMEMBERS

David Robert “Nank” Nankivell, Jr., son of Rev David R, Sr and Mary Nankivell, passed away August 1st. He is survived by his wife Paula, three sisters, Riki Nankivell, Stacey Shifflett, and Dawn Lantz, a brother Kevin, and many nieces and nephews.

MY PERSONAL NOTE:

IT WAS JUST A HUG! Yes, it was just a hug, but a hug that went viral and blew up the media...everyone was showing it, and watching it. It was the Little League World series and with Tulsa trailing 3-2 in the bottom of the first inning, Pearland pitcher Kaiden Shelton hit Tulsa's Isaiah Jarvis in the side of the head with a pitch. It was shocking to see Jarvis go down as his helmet flew off, and as Jarvis was being attended to Shelton appeared to be upset. By the time Jarvis got back to his feet and made it to first base, Shelton was crying and having a difficult time keeping his composure, so Jarvis left first base and walked over to Shelton and hugged him as an audience watched nationwide on ESPN. And while talking to him, he even gave him a bit of a pep talk, reminding him that he was a good pitcher. At 12 years old, Isaiah made me and many others cry, and still do, when I watch it. Not just a hug...the **AWE INSPIRING POWER OF THE LOVE OF GOD** being shown to the world thru two young boys. Think what this world would be like if we all cared as much as Isaiah about the other person. Guess we'll find out when we get to Heaven. *Diana*

Editor's Note

The September deadline for submissions is Sept 16th . 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.

YOU WANT TO KNOW GRACE AND FORGIVENESS: WHEN PAUL ENTERED THE GATES OF HEAVEN, HE WAS CHEERED ON BY THOSE HE MARTYRED.