

MOuNTaiN ECHoeS

AUGUST 2023

152nd Edition



(Copied from Facebook—only God can make a tree like this)

KEEZLETOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. T. Joel Robinette, Pastor

1456 Indian Trail Road

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Pastor's email: joel_robinette@hotmail.com

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

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"Wrestle for respect, control, wealth, security, and love. Try to wrestle those things from your spouse or family or neighbors or enemies, and someone will lose, and victory will be fleeting, vanity, or chasing after the wind. But wrestle with God, like Jacob did, and God will bless you, guide you, and stay with you and make you a blessing to your family and families of the world."

Pastor Joel

View Worship Online: view the livestream of the 11:00 AM worship on facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/keezletownumc/live>. After the service is completed it will be uploaded to YouTube and Facebook

ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE: To give through the church website, click on <https://tithe.ly/give?c=6261418> and use the **Tithely Giving App**, Download the Tithely App from the [App Store](#) (iPhone) or [Google Play Store](#) (Android), select your church, create an account, and add your credit/debit card or ACH/banking info. Once your account has been created, you won't need to enter your personal or payment information. Just enter your PIN and give! A reminder, you can set your gift up as recurring. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email us back and we'd be happy to assist you further! Thank you for your generosity and partnering with us to build the kingdom. **If you wish to continue giving by check, the address is: KUMC, 1456 Indian Trail Rd, Keezletown VA 22832**

OUR PASTOR CHATS

I was sitting in the back row of a group assembled for Easter pageant practice when I was a teenager. We were waiting in silence for someone to share a word from God. I thought the Holy Spirit gave me words to share, but I was not certain. So, I kept my mouth shut and waited. After a few minutes of still wondering if I really did have words from God to share with the group, the pastor said, "Joel Robinette, God has given you the words to share, so share!" I was amazed! I stood up and shared what I thought God gave me so the group could receive it and weigh it. I am thankful God gave me additional encouragement to share from the pastor or we might still be sitting there waiting for what God had already given. Thank you for everyone who joined in with us at KUMC in Wrestling with God for 40 Days in Prayer from July 16 – August 24, 2023. It has been a blessing to join together to pray for God's blessing and direction for the congregation at this time and how we may make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and the world. Some of the questions we considered were these questions from Bishop William Willimon: Where is the hope for our congregation? Lord, what are your plans for us now? How can our congregation discover what Christ is up to in our neighborhood and how can we hitch on to what Christ is doing? What part of your mission, Jesus, have you assigned to our congregation? How can we stop doing some of the things we have been doing so we can start doing some of the things God wants us to do? What are some appropriate goals and mission strategies for us in this moment? What sort of pastoral leadership is required now to keep up with Christ as he strides into his future? Since we have had forty days to hold onto God in prayer, next faithful steps will be to (1) share, (2) listen, and (3) respond. There will be stations at Keezletown UMC to share what you have been hearing from God to the above questions from August 27 – September 10, 2023. If you will not be able to come to a station in-person during that period, please send Pastor Joel what you have been hearing from God and it will get added. During this time, please also take time to read and listen to what people have been receiving from God at the stations so we may discern how to respond to what Jesus is doing at this time. May God give us courage and faith to share, listen, and respond. If God has shared with you words for our congregation as we wrestled with God, won't you please not keep us waiting? Share what God has shared with you.

Pastor Joel

Collecting items for the Spotswood Hygiene Closet during the month of September:

Shampoo (M/W) & Conditioner; Shampoo & Conditioner for Curly/Ethnic Hair; Curl Creme & Spray/Gel for Curls; Soap/Body Wash (M/W); Deodorant (M/W); Razors (M/W); Shaving Cream (M/W); Lotion; Hair Brushes/Hair Bands; Cotton Balls/Q-Tips; Toothpaste; Contact Solution; Tampons (all sizes); Sanitary pads; Laundry Detergent (sm boxes); Blankets (twin/full) - Ollies 9.99-12.99, Roses 12.99; Backpacks - Ollies 18" - 7.99. Or you may give me the money and I will shop for you. Thanks, Sherry

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS



Happy 3 Triton Happy 50 Steve Happy Bd Barrett Cooper is 8 Happy Bd Damon Waylon is 7

JULY EVENTS THAT HAPPENED

LEIGHA RECOGNIZED: My apologies for not including this before, but on **June 6th**, in the Daily News Record, an article entitled “Bridgewater College Recognizes Excellence in Chemistry” had a picture of our own **Leigha Dillard** with the following: Leigha Dillard was presented the Garland L Reed Chemistry Award that recognizes the best chemistry project conducted during the year at the college. Dillard, a sophomore biochemistry major from Keezletown is a member of TriBeta and is a tutor on campus for students in general chemistry and biology. After graduation, she plans to gain further experience in her major and is interested in residing and teaching abroad. **WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU LEIGHA!**



BOY SCOUT TROOP 1—BROADWAY:



At Scout Camp at T Brady Saunders in Maidens, Virginia, all of our boys achieved so much during camp, earning loads of Merit Badges and advancements! We brought home Honor Patrol and Honor Troop awards from the Heart of Virginia Council! Here are some of the fantastic Merit Badges we earned: American Heritage, Archery, Art, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communication, Engineering, Environmental Science, Fishing, Kayaking, Leatherworking, Mining in Society, Moviemaking, Nature, Nuclear Science, Oceanography, Photography, Pioneering, Reading, Robotics, Signs Signals & Codes, Small Boat Sailing, Soil and Water Conservation, Space Exploration, Swimming, and Wilderness Survival! We made amazing memories

together! Let's give a big shout-out to all our Scouts for making this journey truly unforgettable! This scout troop includes our own **Ryan Sprague**, and the Scout Master is our own **Scott Sprague**.

DO YOU FAVOR SOMEONE ? During the **July 16th** worship, Pastor Joel spoke on “God’s Surprising Favor”, from Genesis 25:19-34, the passage where Jacob is born. The next few sermons will be about Jacob, with emphasis on God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, His surprising favor, and their reactions. Jacob wrestled with God, as we are wrestling in prayer for 40 days. God blessed Abraham and all his ancestors, including us, so that we may bless others. Isaac prayed for children. After twenty years, Rebekah becomes pregnant with twins. The babies fought in the womb and she was told they would fight all their lives. Esau was firstborn and would receive the birthright. God told Rebekah that Esau would serve Jacob, the second born. Rebekah favored Jacob. Who is God calling us to raise up who might feel like they are in second place? Assisting Pastor Joel today were Cathy, and Chris, with music. The children’s message by Pastor Joel talked about Jesus blessing the little children.

GOD KEEPS HIS COVENANT: Continuing with the Jacob wrestles with God theme, Pastor Joel spoke on “The Covenant Keeping God” from Genesis 28:10-22, for worship on **July 23rd**. Jacob wrestled with God, he wouldn’t let go from home because Esau Isaac into giving Jacob the him, and slept on a rock. God ladder or stairway with angels climb up, but God came to him with him. God promised to needed. Jacob makes an altar God’s promises. Assisting with the service today were Leonard, and Diana, with music. The children’s message by Diana talked about healing a crumpled heart.



FEUDS AND FAITH: Pastor Joel continued with his Wrestling With God series during the **July 30th** worship service by speaking on “Family Feuds and the Faithfulness of God”. The scriptural background was from Genesis 29”15-35, the marriages of Jacob. Wrestle for respect, control, wealth, security, and love. Try to wrestle those things from your spouse or family or neighbors or enemies, and someone will lose, and victory will be fleeting, vanity, or chasing after the wind. But wrestle with God, like Jacob did, and God will bless you, guide you, and stay with you and make you a blessing to your family and families of the world. Jacob always wanted to get the better of the situation. He wanted Rachel, worked seven years for her, only to be tricked into marrying Leah. He then worked another seven years for Rachel, whom he loved. But Leah bore him children, and Rachel could not. He even turned to the maid-servants of both of them to have more children. Finally after Rachel cried out to God, he allowed her to



bear children for Jacob. God continued to bless Jacob, even thru the struggles. Pastor Joel used empty and full water bottles and pitchers of water to illustrate as he told the Jacob story. Today's children's message by Pastor Joel was about "Mustard Seeds". Pastor Joel was assisted by Chris with music.

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SOUND: Yes, there it was—the cooing of a baby, the talking right in the middle of the sermon, the little baby noises that make us all smile, a little round innocent face looking back over the pews, and smiling at Great Grandpa Frank sitting there next to her as Great Grandma Carolyn held her. If we were all smiling and listening for her voice, how much Our Father must have been smiling at His creation in His house. Thank you, **Rylynn**, for being there, and warming our hearts during worship on July 30th.



JENN STEPS OUT WITH TREPIDATION AND FAITH: Our own Pastor's wife, **Jenn**, is not one to be in the limelight, but prefers to help in the background. Sunday, **July 30th**, she made her way nervously to the pulpit to step out in faith and give a report from Virginia Annual Conference, which she attended as a delegate. It was very different, June 14th to 17th, she began. The Saturday session was a zoom session and she said, "Honestly, I can't tell you what went on". But after that day, the worship, the Bible study, and the fellowship with others in the evening was wonderful, uplifting, and loving. We attended an ice cream social and a missions' dinner. The ladies' session was challenging with hard questions to be answered. Two of them have stuck with me: 1. How do visitors feel when they enter and leave? And 2. Do they feel lonelier when they leave than when they came in? We all need to pray and think about how much we love on others. Good job, Jenn!

FAMILY FUN PICTURES



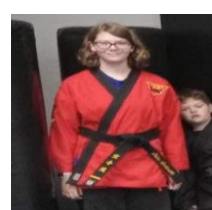
Date night



Rylynn



Beach chillin'



Promotion nite



Our Don H

THANK YOU FOR SENDING ME TO CAMP: The week of June 25th, Caleb Combs and Austyn Crisman attended Noah's Seals camp, while Andrea Crisman attended ChrisKids Camp. The week of July 2nd, Asher Deets attended Adventure Quest Camp. The week of July 10th, Cora Combs and Adalida Crisman attended Jr Day Trekker camp. The week of July 17th, Nolan Mason attended Jr Day Trekker camp. The week of July 23rd, Andrea Crisman attended Noah's Seals camp, Austyn Crisman attended ChrisKids camp, and Conner Miller attended Night Flights camp. Here are their stories:

I had a Blast at camp! We went to the falls. We even had a lake wale named Wally! We journeyed through the Old Testament. We made the tower Babel. Thank you Church. Love, **Austyn**

1st week: I Loved camp and journeying through the old testament. Thank you Sharon Martin and Tanya Eppard. At first I did not know who Tanya Eppard 3 weeks later I found out. Thank you again you letter

put a smile on my face. I loved sleeping in the Ark. I made a lot of new friends. In the lake was amazing.

Andrea

2nd week was really fun. When I got to camp I was in cabin 2 then a girl with Astma came and she needed a bottom bunk but there were no bottom bunks. So it took up two hours to sort that out then. We had to move to cabin 3 because the A C was broken. It was fun minus all the mishaps, 3 water snakes 2 snapping turtles and a paurtreid in a peartree. Thank you KUMC for paying camp. Love, **Andrea**

I had a good time at camp. The best pat was the lake. We salw Jonh and the whale. We built the tower of Babel. I had soo much fun. Thank you for sending me to camp. (heart sign) **Adalida**

Austyn, Andrea, and Adalida are the children of Wes and Sarah Crisman and grandchildren of Joe and Linda Liskey.



From **Cora**: Thank you for sending me to camp. I liked it a whole lot. I have been to day camp before. I liked building the box wall (Story of Jericho.)I also liked pretending to carry the ten commandments. The lake was fun, but it stormed sometimes. I would like to stay in a cabin next year. It was really awesome.

From **Caleb**: Camp was awesome. It was probably one of my favorite things this summer. My counselor Carter was really funny. We played lots of games and I enjoyed the water activities. We talked about prayer and being a follower of Christ like the guys in the old testament. I liked the story about Goliath and how brave David was because he believed God was with him. I love being at camp and I am glad the church helps me go each year. It is so fun and it's good to be with others kids that believe in God.

Cora and Caleb Combs are the children of Brent and Mary Combs and the grandchildren of Joe and Linda Liskey.

Last month I went to Camp Overlook. I had a fun time learning about the Lord and the lake. Thank you for sending me to camp. **Nolan** Mason

Nolan is the son of Kevin and Holly Mason and the grandson of Neil and Carol Sacra.

My name is **Conner** and I did Night Flights at Camp Overlook. We had a great time. Some of my favorite things we did were play games like capture the flag and gladiator ball. We also learned about the Old testament. The pastor dressed up as Moses and acted out the story of Moses and the 40 year walk. Another one of my favorite parts was the Thursday service where everyone went into the chapel and did communion. Afterwards we lit candles and you could pray, listen to music, or sit and talk with friends. The night flight campers went to bed every night at 2 am and woke up at 10 am. We got a special snack every night and played games. I liked seeing some of my friends that attended last year. Thank you for helping to send me to camp.

Conner Miller is the son of Courtney and Tyler Sacra and the grandson of Neil and Carol Sacra.

Hi everyone, I'm **Asher Deets** and I can't be present but I'd like to share my experience at Camp Overlook with everyone. This year at camp we explored the story of the Old Testament. My cabin didn't get to attend morning watch most of the week as we were doing activities including caving, high ropes, and canoeing. But the story this year moved me. It was my fourth year attending camp, my first year back since 3 years. My younger self never really realized how special it is. But as a young man, who's matured, grown in many ways, and accepted the Bible as my guide through life, it was different this year. We learned about the creation of the earth, the ark, David and Goliath, Daniel and the lion, the burning bush, Joseph, and many more. But something that stands out was the worship service on Thursday. On Thursday we had a worship service. The chaplain spoke and when the lights dimmed and during a moment of prayer, you could see lightning outside and hear thunder. Pastor Josh then welcomed those to come forward in a time for prayer. People were slow to go up to the altar. But after some went, a lot went. There were tears, sobs, and many other emotional sounds. The feeling in the chapel at that time—there are no words to describe it—it felt like a direct connection to the Lord. I myself went to the altar, down on my knees and prayed. I prayed for my mother, for my sister, for my family, for my church, for my friends, for myself. I cried and that's when my counselor Mikah came and laid a hand on my shoulder and prayed for me. At the moment I felt whole. I felt the Holy Spirit fulfilling me. I then prayed for Mikah. I prayed that he continues his work at the camp. Because being a counselor there is much more than just a title. It's a role model, it's being a future for the kids that go to camp. They do a lot for kids there. At that time I realized something, I'll be returning to camp next year, but as a counselor to share my testimony. Thank you for listening. —Asher Deets

From me: (**Mary Liskey Combs**): Camp Overlook was a huge part of my childhood and I still feel at home when I take the kids. The buildings still have the same decor and smell of my pre-teen years and I know that the ministry/ curriculum remains somewhat the same as well. The songs that are sung all week resonate against the walls and pendants that were created many years ago. Those songs have the same meaning now as they did years ago when the overhead projectors were in use. Yes, camp has gone through some growing pains. YES, the church has also felt the pains of change. But one thing remains pure, Christ's love is still alive in the mountains. My children have felt this "movement" for several years because of KUMCs generosity. Brent and I are thankful to have a faith community that is still willing to provide this ministry for youth. It is so hard for youth to find a common ground in the world but I believe that the camps in our area are providing this "holy space" for kids/ youth to grow and explore with others. Thank you again for your ongoing support of this ministry. It has molded so many of us and continues to do so.

WAYS TO GIVE AND HELP OTHERS

Gathering Non-Perishable Food items: Drop off items at KUMC for our local food pantry. Non-perishable foods and hygiene items are welcome. Items are distributed through Massanutten Presbyterian Church for residents of Keezletown, Penn Laird, and McGaheysville. The pantry is open 2nd Mondays from 10 – 11 AM and 2nd Thursdays from 7 – 8 PM.

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 Equipment for Caring: The medical equipment loaner closet loans out and receive donations of (1) durable medical equipment like hospital beds, wheelchairs, walkers, canes, bedside commodes, etc. and (2) disposable supplies like adult diapers, briefs, and wound

care items. It is open Mondays 5 – 7 PM and Thursdays 9 - 11 AM. The location is Mt. Tabor UMC in Lacey Spring.

Mission Central Children's Clothes Closet: gives and receives donations of children's clothes including winter coats and shoes from sizes infant to 15 years old. New underwear, socks, and undergarments are also received. It is open 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 10 AM – 1 PM; 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 4 – 7 PM; and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 4 – 7 PM.

UPCOMING/ONGOING STUDIES:

NEW BIBLE STUDY COMING IN SEPTEMBER: Romans Study: Study the book of Romans this fall on Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. or Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning September 11th and 12th. The study is written by Ben Witherington, III and books are \$15. Sign up with Pastor Joel or in the narthex.

The Bible in a Year: KUMC has a Bible reading plan for reading the entire Bible in a year. This plan has four chapters of Bible reading each day: two chapters reading through the Bible; one chapter from Psalms, wisdom, poetry, or instructional materials; and one chapter from the Gospels or Acts. If you do this reading plan you will actually read through the Gospels and Acts three times during the 365 days. Printouts available at KUMC or online at www.keezletownumc.com.

Sunday School Classes include 0 – 2-year-olds – Nursery; 3-year-olds – Kindergarten Class; Grades 1 – 5 Elementary School Class; Middle and High School Class; An adult class; An adult class taught by Chris Cole using *Adult Bible Studies* materials.

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

OFFICIALLY RETIRED: After 13 years of working at a job he truly enjoyed, Randy Clatterbuck, officially retired on August 1st as the Director of the Orange County Solid Waste Landfill. Before that he worked for Augusta County for 5 years. He is now driving a feed truck part-time a few days a week to Pennsylvania. Randy, it's time to sit back and enjoy life and get that grill going. Congratulations and Best Wishes!



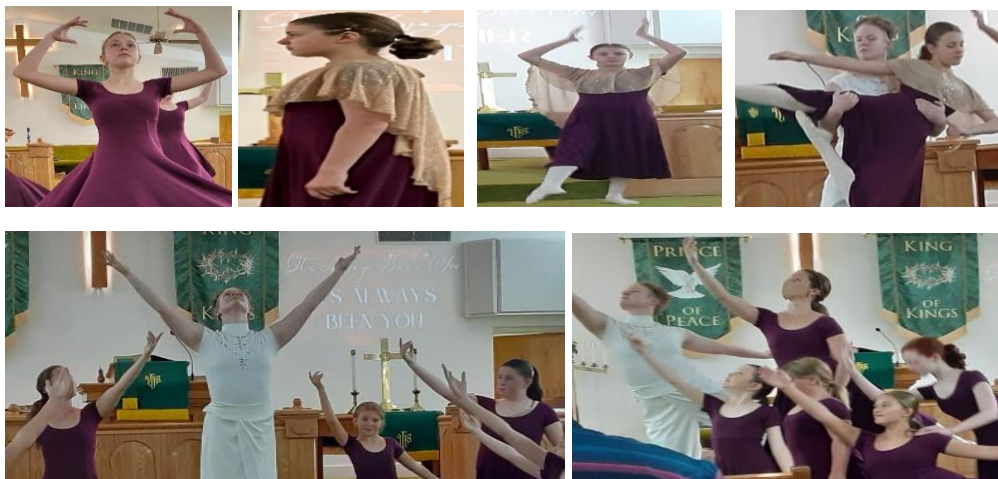
MT CRAWFORD RURITANS SERVED: On Wednesday, Aug 2nd, four ladies from the UWF served the Mt Crawford Ruritans meal at their monthly meeting. They enjoyed Chicken, Hashbrown Casserole, Baked Beans, Rolls, Sheet Cake, Ice Cream & Tea. Thank you to all who donated or helped.

NOT JUST A PICNIC: On August 3rd, the UWF held their annual picnic. We prayed for the rain, and it came all day, but so did we. And when everyone had gathered, there were forty members and guests of the Church family under the pavilion and the tents at Judy Coffman's home. And we thanked God for the rain, and for Judy being the gracious host, and for those that we mentioned that were ill or recovering, and we prayed for the food, and we prayed for each other, and how wonderful it was to gather together. With a bounty of food, folks started making their way thru the line and there was still plenty left when we finished. If you listened you could hear some serious

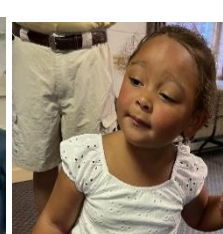
discussion, but mostly what you heard was laughter, and lots of smiles. God brought the rain to heal the earth that day, but He brought all of us together to heal each other with love. Thank you, Judy, for being His helper.

I WILL NOT LET YOU GO! Today, **August 6th**'s message came from Genesis 32:22-31, where Jacob wrestled with God. Pastor Joel's message was entitled "God Who Wrestles With Us". One thing we see is a God who comes down and wrestles. Jesus came to get His feet dirty, healed the sick, wrestled with and taught the unbelievers. We are wrestling as a church for forty days with God as to how we are to be better disciples. Jacob struggled with Esau his whole life. Since Esau was coming with 400 men to kill him, he sent his family on and stays, only to wrestle all through the night with God. People are brought into our lives to bless us or for us to bless them. Jacob held on until God touched his hip and made him limp, a sign for the rest of his life that he wrestled with God, yet God blessed him. He met Esau, with God, and was reconciled. Assisting Pastor Joel today was Diana on the piano.

INMOTION SUMMER PRAISE DANCE: During worship on **August 6th**, the nine member InMotion Summer Praise Dance Team presented a beautiful ballet, entitled "It's Always Been You". The first dance told the story of Esther, with "Born for This" by Mandisa as the accompaniment, with our very own **Rebecca Sprague** dancing the part of Esther, which touched many hearts in the church family. The second dance portrayed Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego, with "Guardian Angels" by Audiomachine as the music. Orange and red scarves were used as the flames. Daniel in the Lion's Den was the third dance, where we saw lion's manes and claws, and Jesus entering the den. The fourth dance, Peter Walks on Water, was accompanied by Needtobreathe singing "Walking on Water", and the very effective use of blue and white fans with streamers as the water. Closing out the performance was two dances, "It's Always Been You" by Phil Wickman, and "Thank God I Do" by Lauren Daigle. The confidence and composure of these young ladies as they danced with their hearts, as well as the facial expressions of especially the young lady that portrayed Jesus, touched many hearts that morning. Thank you, Young Ladies, for your hard work and willingness to share God's love.



CHURCH/COMMUNITY ICE CREAM SOCIAL was held on a hot Saturday evening, **August 12th** at 7:00 p.m. Folks started making homemade Ice Cream, in the freezers, in the garage, between 4-4:30 p.m. at the church and were provided a Pizza Dinner for helping. The ice was provided by Camp Overlook. Their hard work paid off with ten different flavors including: Banana, Mint Chocolate Chip, Peach, Cherry Nut, Chocolate, Pineapple, Cookies and Cream, Raspberry, Strawberry, and Lemon. Jenn Robinette also provided gluten free ice cream. The Mission/Events Committee would like to thank all who donated, participated, ate, and enjoyed the first of hopefully more Church/Community events.



COME! COME! EVERYBODY WORSHIP! On Sunday, **August 13th**, Pastor Joel spoke on “Ready for God” from Genesis 35:1-15, God renaming Jacob Israel. Jacob was ready for God after many encounters. They buried their idols, bathed, put on new clothes, and moved, to worship the Lord. Are we ready for the Lord? We have wrestled here at KUMC for 40 days in prayer. Though surrounded, God spoke to Jacob, telling him that He was not Jacob’s last resort, but was with him always, everywhere, seeking him and blessing him. When we look back, we can see where He has been with us. Are we ready to accept Him and let Him walk with us? We then participated in and partook of Holy Communion and the breaking of the bread and sharing of the wine. Assisting in today’s service was Chris at the piano, and Barrett doing the Children’s Time, talking about washing feet and being a servant.



SEAN TRAVELS TO COSTA RICA: Sean Zylich, grandson of Chris Cole, and member of the religious based Chi Alpha Organization at Virginia Tech came on **August 13th** to tell us about his mission trip to Costa Rica. The twenty-one member group started out in Calle de la Amargua and stayed where the college young people met. They traveled to Somos Comunidad, a people oriented community center, where they spoke with small groups. At the Iglesia Renecer, an Assembly of God church, they were welcomed in a children’s service. They also visited the University of Costa Rica at San Jose, where they met with life groups, and at TEC Cartago, and Engineering School. In three weeks, they visited six campuses, going on prayer walks, and talking with the people. They also visited the Basilica of Our Lady of the Angels, the Volcar Poca, a volcano, many waterfalls, and a wildlife sanctuary. Their last night there, they went up the mountain and prayed over the city. Sean asks they we pray for the people of Costa Rica. Thank you Sean, for your service and for sharing.



UNDIE SUNDAY: Linda Liskey came to the podium and said “Happy Undie Sunday, Jesus People” on August 13th. We all laughed, but she continued that we must be “Jesus People” because of the generosity in our giving for the children of MCCC. On Wednesday and Thursday of that week she helped with 101 families, 240 children, and the distribution of 6075 diapers, as well as wonderful donated school supplies by the KUMC UWF and the Bridgewater Church. No matter what you donated, everything was appreciated. You are truly “Jesus People”.



*Dear Church Family, Thank you for demonstrating your care for many local families and their children! The **Undie Sunday campaign** was a terrific success! Totals include: 181 pairs of "boxers" for young men and boys, and 358 pairs of "ropa interior" (underwear) for young women and girls. Plus 128 pairs of socks and 488 diapers were donated! Thank you for your generosity! Blessings on your willingness to provide for others in our community through Mission Central Children's Clothes Closet. **Linda***

FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Parker Aug Co Fair



Morris and Bishop at the races



Evalyn train traveling

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

- 20 **United Methodist Men meet @ 8:00 a.m.**
 Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.
 Worship @ 11:00 a.m.: Message "Sharing God's Blessings" from Genesis 46:1-7, 26-27; 47:7-10; 48:8-21
 Blessing of the Backpacks
- 23 **BACK TO SCHOOL**
- 27 **Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.**
 Worship @ 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Get in the Offering Plate" Romans 12:1-8

BLESSINGS FOR RETURN TO SCHOOL: Deuteronomy 32:2 (NIV) Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants.

GROWING UP TOO FAST AND BACK TO SCHOOL IN 2023

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, Madison Wamsley

Kindergarten:

First: Connor Guilliams

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

Third: Cora Combs, Cooper Pellegrin, Ben Wamsley

Fourth:

Fifth: Sara Cole

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

Seventh: Caleb Combs

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

Ninth (Freshman): Haiden Dillard, Connor Miller, Brayden Morris, Chloe Robinette, Rebecca Sprague, Alli Underwood; Joseph Welsh

Tenth (Sophomore): Hannah Bowman, Cali Martin, Mason Pusey, Kate Ramsey

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

Twelfth (Senior): Eli Bowman, Kahlyn Smith

College Freshmen: Gabe Deets, Joe Johnson Jr, Grady McGlaughlin, Reese Pellegrin, Carson Pusey

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

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

College Senior: Cady Martin

From Chris Dodson, at SHS: Parents: School is almost starting and I want to ask you a favor, sit down with your child for 5 minutes and explain that they may see, chubby, skinny, black, white or hispanic. Autistic, etc. There's nothing wrong with wearing the same shoes 🦶🦶 every day. Explain to them that a used backpack 🎒 carries the same dreams as a new one. Please teach them not to exclude anyone for "being different" or not having the same possibilities as another. Explain to them that teasing hurts... and that school is for going to LEARN, NOT to compete ❤️ You and I are worth the same!!!! Education starts at home. Also, remind them that EACH child is a special and unique gift from God. Everyone wants to be loved and treated equally.

FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Kennis R/Chester



Student Coord



Pellegrins in Canada



Silly selfie



Readin' a good book

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

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 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 9 Mary Combs
 Sept 9 Julie Zylich
 Sept 9 Sean Zylich
 Sept 11 Kristine Welsh
 Sept 11 Tammy Layman
 Sept 11 Jordan Shoemaker
 Sept 11 Susie Hill

Sept 18 Leigha Dillard
 Sept 20 Michael Taylor
 Sept 21 Frank Baker
 Sept 23 Andrew Coffman
 Sept 25 Jared Martin
 Sept 26 Allison Hawkins
 Sept 26 David Miller
 Sept 29 Joseph Botkin Jr

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sept 9, 2006	Mark & Becky Ramsey	17 years
Sept 13, 2003	Ryan & Kathryn Pusey	20 years
Sept 25, 2021	Corey & Christina Shifflett	2 years
Sept 30, 2006	Steve & Beth Morris	17 years

SEPTEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR



Choir Organizing Meeting: Chris Cole wants you for the KUMC Choir. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, September 6th at 7:00 p.m. for welcoming new and previous people to the KUMC Choir, figuring out the best times to practice for people, and more. Lift up your voice and sing.

Worship at the Park and United Methodist Men Picnic: We will worship outside at the Keezletown Ruritan Park on Sunday, **September 10th** at 11:00 a.m. Following the service will be a picnic with hotdogs and beverages provided by the Keezletown United Methodist Men. Please bring other food and desserts to share. No Sunday school on September 10th.



Sunday School Kick-Off: Fall Sunday school classes will kick-off on Sunday, **September 17th** with donuts and coffee at 9:45 a.m. in the social hall before going to classes. Join in a class for Bible study, prayer, and small group community.

District UWF Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday, **September 16th** at 9:00 a.m. at Luray UMC. Register with Judy Coffman by Sept. 9th to attend.

UWF Young Women's Retreat: This event for women 18 – 40 years old will be **September 15-16, 2023** at Camp Overlook and the speaker will be Rev. Heather Wray. There are registration forms available at the church and scholarships available for attendees. The retreat is \$85. Register by August 31st.

- 3 Small Group Leaders Gathering @ 8:45 a.m.
 Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.
 Worship @ 11:00 a.m. with Communion; Message: "Let the Love of Jesus Guide You" from
 Romans 12:9-21
- 4 LABOR DAY
- 5 Pastor Orientation Charge Conference
- 6 Choir organizational meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
- 7 UWF meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
- 8 Backpack project begins
- 10 No Sunday School; Grandparents Day
 Outside worship @ 11:00 a.m. at the Ruritan Park
 Message: "The Debt of Love" from Romans 13:8-14.
 UMM to serve picnic lunch; bring a dish.
 Hygiene Closet Collection begins
- 11 Worship Planning meeting @ 11:00 a.m.
 Romans study @ 10:00 a.m.
 Backpacking @ 11:15 a.m.
 UWF Serve Keezletown Ruritans @ 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Romans study @ 7:00 p.m.
- 15-16 Wellspring UMC @ KUMC overnight w/apple orchard gleaning on 16th
 UWF Young Women's Retreat @ Overlook
- 16 District UWF Prayer Breakfast at Luray UMC @ 9:00 a.m.
 Lay Servant Training at Strasburg UMC @ 9:00 a.m.
- 17 United Methodist Men meet @ 8:00 a.m.
 Sunday School KICKOFF @ 9:45 a.m.
 Worship @ 11:00 a.m.; United Women in Faith Sunday with Heather Gomez speaking; lunch to
 follow with freewill offering to assist Hawaii
- 18 Romans study @ 10:00 a.m.
 Backpacking @ 11:15 a.m.
- 19 Romans study @ 7:00 p.m.
- 24 Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.
 Worship @ 11:00 a.m.; Message: "To Live Is Christ" from Philippians 1:21-30
 Choir returns
- FIRST DAY OF FALL
- 25 Romans study @ 10:00 a.m.
 Backpacking @ 11:15 a.m.
- 26 Romans study @ 7:00 p.m.

FOLKS TO SIT AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH ARE NEEDED TO WATCH THE DOOR DURING
 WORSHIP—PLEASE SEE DENISE SITES IF YOU CAN HELP.

GOD CAN USE YOUR TALENTS: If you have been blessed with a musical talent such as
 playing an instrument(s), and would be willing to step out in faith and help lead the
 congregational music on a 5th Sunday, we ask that you pray about it and let God lead you to
 volunteering. If you felt led, please see Chris, Pastor Joel, or Diana. Thank you and God Bless.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU: Would you like to say something to the Church family or members
 of KUMC that have touched your life? We would love to hear from you. If you are a Church

member and want to express your gratitude to someone who has helped you, lifted you up, given you joy, and/or shared Jesus with you, please write and let us know. Letters will be published in this newsletter. They may be sent to KUMC or e-mailed to me at AntDyna@comcast.net. Thank you.

E-MAIL OR REGULAR MAIL: I would like to offer to anyone that would like it, the availability of receiving their newsletter via e-mail rather than the Postal Service each month. If you would like to try this, please e-mail me at AntDyna@comcast.net, with your request. Please put Newsletter in the subject line.

BACK TO SCHOOL AND THE ROCKINGHAM COUNTY FAIR WILL ALL BE REPRESENTED IN THE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER. PLEASE HELP ME BY SUBMITTING BACK TO SCHOOL OR FAIR PICTURES, TO ADD TO THE ONES I ALREADY HAVE. THANK YOU.

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MY PERSONAL NOTE:

If you don't read anything else in this newsletter, please, please read the "Thank you for sending me to camp" article. The notes from the campers will warm your heart, make you giggle at some words and spelling, and help you feel good in knowing that those that have gone thru being a camper have been changed, and that you who donated helped just a little with that. With all the things going on in this world, our children and grandchildren need to know that God loves them and that He will be with them always. Camp is helping to reinforce that. God bless the campers, counsellors, parents, grandparents, and all of you who gave to make it happen for these eight young people. They are our future...walking with Jesus. *Diana*

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Editor's Note

The September deadline for submissions is September 15th . 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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If you carry one thing with you today, let it be this: You are brave, you are beautiful, you are strong, you are smart, you are loved. God