

MOUNTAIN ECHOES

NOVEMBER 2023

155th Edition



KEEZLETOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. T. Joel Robinette, Pastor

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We are all precious in the sight of the Lord—He may shake His head a lot, but we are still precious.

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

Advent is coming and begins December 3 and continues through Christmas Eve. Advent is a Christian season of waiting, expecting, and longing for the coming of Jesus in Christ's birth, how Jesus comes today, and how Jesus will come again and make all things new. I want to share briefly three recent times some people in our church stepped out to try something in faith while waiting, expecting, and longing for the grace of Jesus to show up. Some of us gathered candy and decorations to have a KUMC Pumpkin Patch as part of Rockingham Parks and Recreation Trunk or Treat at Rockingham Park on October 28. We handed out candy and cards about KUMC with the hallowed "The Lord's Prayer" to about 750 children. I heard one woman asking Jenny Dillard about our congregation and Jenny shared where we were and she would be welcome. One of my children were observing that exchange and afterwards said, "I can't believe that worked!" When we go out in our community you never can quite predict how God will move to connect us in grace. The Keezletown United Methodist Men invited other local UMM groups to a spaghetti supper to raise funds for a lighting project for the Camp Overlook Dining Hall. It was a great night for the UMM groups to get together which hasn't happened for several years. Camp Director Christina Gibbs shared about Overlook and the anticipated needed funds were raised that evening for the project and there was great fellowship all around. Judy Coffman asked me back at the end of September if we would have any WOW (Witnessing on Wednesdays) services in October. It had been on my mind but thought it was probably too late to put anything together. I wasn't ready to move forward but Judy was! She told me the United Women in Faith were ready to serve a meal so for me to just tell them when. It turned out that St. Paul UMC could join us and we were so blessed to hear testimonies from Rev. Sue MacTavish and our very own Denise Sites and share in food, fellowship, singing, and prayer. We raised funds for The Lord Provides and Elkton Area United Services and raised our connection to one another in God's grace. Advent is one of those seasons that as we look to Jesus coming to the world, we step out in faith be a part of what Jesus is doing. What do you see that Jesus is up to right now? How could you join with others to welcome the ways Jesus is coming and connecting us in the love of God? Perhaps by the time Christmas comes you will be able to look back and see one of the ways that Jesus has come. *Pastor Joel*

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

UMM SUNDAY: We again celebrate the men of KUMC, in pictures, as they led us on Oct 15th during the worship service, with Scott and Pastor Joel leading, Joe reading scripture, Ken giving the message, and beautiful male voices praising God by singing “How Great Thou Art”. Great job, men of KUMC.



WOW Dinner - we were pleased to have so many folks turn out for the October WOW dinner on Oct 18th at 6:30 p.m. Joining us were special guests from St Paul’s UMC to hear Rev Sue McTavish’s encouraging talk about her journey to becoming the minister at St Pauls. Pastor Joel provided the leadership and the music for the evening as we sang. The United Women of Faith of KUMC provided a wonderful baked potato bar with all the fixins’ and a table full of desserts. A free will offering was taken for “The Lord Provides”. A good evening of fellowship and food was had by all.



WEAVE FOR A CURE BASKETS: Thanks to the eight ladies that participated in Weave for a Cure on Oct 19th and Oct 26th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and a big thank you to Jim Dillard for making and donating the bases. We raised \$235.00 for Relay for Life. I enjoyed teaching you all. Lynn



EPAPHRODITUS, THE MESSENGER: On Sunday, Oct 22nd, Pastor Joel spoke from Philippians 2:19-30, the Philippians ministering to Paul in prison, with a message entitled “Sending and Receiving Timothy and Epaphroditus”. This scripture is about travel plans and when and where to go. It reminds us how God’s grace is and how it works thru us. It takes shape thru creation and puts the image of God in us. Then it comes in the human form of Jesus. Paul is supported by the people of Philippi thru Epaphroditus, thru supplies, grace, and prayers. When we pour love into others, we never know where or how far that grace will go. Paul, Timothy, Epaphroditus, although all different, religious and racial, are all brought together by the grace of God. Witnesses bring the gift of grace they have received from other Christians who have shared with them. We can share that God goes with us all the time. Pastor Joel was assisted by Cathy leading, and Diana on the organ and giving the Children’s message about Georgie and prayer time.

2nd WOW Dinner—on Oct 25th, we again joined with members of St Paul’s UMC to enjoy a potluck meal with chicken provided by Karen Mooney, lots of laughter and fellowship, and an inspiring message by our own Denise Sites, who talked about growing up in Keezletown, leaving, coming back, fighting with God, and eventually letting God in again, and now knowing the joy and caring of the KUMC family. Pastor Joel again led the music, and the free will offering was taken for “Elkton Area United Services”. Both services this year were thought provoking, and KUMC was able to extend the love of Jesus to others.



TRUNK OR TREAT: The Crossroads Fall Festival at Rockingham Park was a wonderful event on Oct 28th from 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. serving 800-1,000 kids. KUMC was happy to share in fellowship with our community as we participated in celebrating with our “Pumpkin Patch Trunk”. Thank you to everyone who donated candy, fodder, a tent, plastic pumpkins, hay bales, other treats, and time. Can’t help but wonder if it will be 80 degrees next year? Thank you, Jenn Robinette, for your leadership.



FOR A CHUCKLE

When the fitness trainer asked me what kind of a squat I was used to doing, I replied "Diddly".

Mirrors don't lie—I'm just glad they don't laugh!

By replacing potato chips with grapefruit, did you know you could lose 90% of the joy you have in your life?

Caitlin Antes, granddaughter of Lorette Eklund, ran in the Marine Corps Marathon Oct 29th and finished her half marathon. Drema, her mother, joined her for moral support. Congrats, Caitlin, and well done.



WHO ARE YOU CONFIDENT IN? Pastor Joel spoke on "Christ Confidence" for the worship message on Oct 29th, using Philippians 3:1-11. Paul says "finally, rejoice in the Lord". Even the prisoners and guards were starting to believe. In Philippi, most folks were Gentiles, and became the first Christians. The Jewish Christians living there wanted the Gentile Christians to change and conform to their beliefs. Paul says beware when Christians try to conform you to feeling comfortable. What will our confidences be in: a church name, church dress, our family, our ancestors, church practices and rituals, our works/actions? Paul says do not trust in the flesh. We are to find our confidence in the joy and grace of Jesus Christ, open to everyone. Chris assisted on the piano today; and Pastor Joel gave the Children's story using Psalm 150:6.

WE APPRECIATE YOU, PASTOR JOEL! During the Sunday morning worship



service on Oct 29th, Jenny recognized Pastor Joel for "putting himself in the offering plate" and offering himself for us over and over and over again with his ministry, his faithfulness, his leadership, his integrity, his kindness, his thoughtfulness, his availability, his resilience, all during some trying times. A love offering, along with a little something for the Pastor's wife, some cookies, and a handmade basket by Lynn were presented to an emotional Pastor Joel. We are so blessed to have you and Jenn in our lives.

BACKPACK PROGRAM GROWING: Lynette Guilliams came, with Connor, to give an update of the Backpack Program for Ginny Joseph during the worship service on Oct 29th. Cub Run has a new director of the Backpack program and he is excited about what is being done. Backpacking began early this year with the first ones going out the second week of school. We are at present serving 33 children, but adding new ones each week. At present, funds are good thru December, with folks watching for bargains, and Joe providing fresh fruit and bags. She then showed a sample of what is sent in the bags. With the holidays coming up, if you see something that would make the bags special, please buy or let Lynette or Ginny know. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Backpacking is done on Monday mornings at 11:15 a.m. if you would like to see what is involved and/or help.

Harvest Party was held on Sunday, Oct 29th, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Keezletown Ruritan Park, with the annual hayride thru and around Keezletown, thanks to Bob, Randy, and Frank. Returning to the park, folks could enjoy hot soups and chili, hot dogs, fried potato chips, French fries, fried pickles, and fried peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, thanks to Joe and his crew of helpers. After eating and fellowshiping, Lynn led a cake walk, where you could win homemade donations of cakes or desserts. God granted a lovely day and lots of Church and community folks turning out to enjoy His creation and each other.



From the Wisdom of Maxine on Thanksgiving:

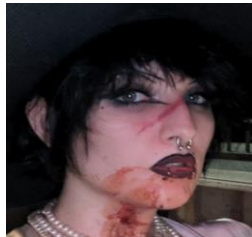
This year we're having a stress-free Thanksgiving dinner. I stuffed the turkey with Prozac.

If my relatives wanted me to be truly thankful, they'd do all the cooking.

My secret to great stuffing is letting someone else make it.

As the Thanksgiving season approaches, remember: All it takes is one undercooked turkey, and you'll be the "dinner rolls" and "soda" person for life.

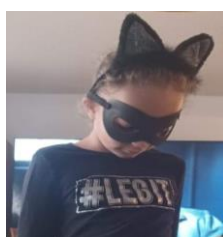
HALLOWEENERS



Halloween Maggie



Elf Leslie



Jazzy cat



Barbara's treat



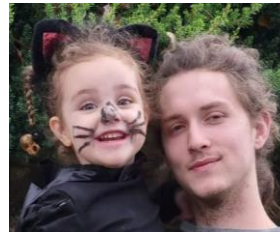
Ronald Alex U



MPC Trick or treaters



Morgan's treats



Harper and Caleb



Pirate Connor

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.

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.

FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Halloween Allyse



Date night



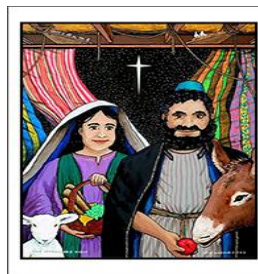
Molly & Ryan



Out to lunch



Alex U



Alternative Gift Christmas Cards

These cards have artwork by Rev. Jim Harris and are available through the Society of Saint Andrew. One card costs \$15 and provides about 300 servings and one poster costs \$35 and provides about 700 servings. You could order a card or cards as gifts in honor of people you send them to for Christmas and share some great artwork and the gift of food. To order visit <https://endhunger.org/acc>

*****NOVEMBER EVENTS THAT HAPPENED*****

Janice Lee (Armentrout) Smith, 78, of Harrisonburg, passed away Nov 1st. She was a past member of the Keezletown community and longtime friend of KUMC. She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Robert, as well as a daughter, Teresa Circle (Keith), of Patriot, Ohio; four grandchildren, Justin Darrow, Jessica Jones, James Hall III and Mallory Hall; and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Vicki Hinegardner; and a sister, June Wise. A springtime memorial service will be held at a later date. Rest in Peace.

Mt Crawford Ruritans served: four ladies of the UWF served 21 folks on Nov 1st at the Mt Crawford Ruritan hall, a delicious meal of lasagna, salad, french bread, cake/brownie/ice cream dessert, and tea. Thank you to those who donated and helped.

United Women in Faith met Nov 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the church social hall with twelve members present. Judy called the meeting to order and Pastor Joel led the opening prayer. Judy gave the World Thank Offering program. Sherry made a motion for us to give a donation to the UMM for their Agape Hill project at Camp Overlook as our Mission of the Month. Judy announced that Wes Ford has agreed to make the wreaths to decorate the church with at Christmas. We will be decorating Thursday, Nov 30th at 10:00 a.m. Sherry gave an update on the Angel names for the Salvation Army; she had accepted ten names; all gifts need to be back to the church by Nov 26th. Sherry then listed the upcoming meals and events: Dec 2nd, we serve the Wayland Women dinner; Dec 2nd is Tree Lighting at Ruritan Park (we are to provide soup and sandwiches, which we will make earlier that day); Dec 7th is our Christmas meal and meeting, with the UMM serving us, meet at 6:00 p.m. and eat at 6:30 p.m.; Dec 10th is UMM Christmas dinner at Camp Overlook; Dec 16th we serve Vision of Hope WHAM group for lunch; Dec 16th is the Christmas Program from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., with hymns refreshments; Dec 24th is Jesus Birthday party during Sunday School; Dec 24th Christmas Eve service is at 8:00 p.m. along with the Baby Shower for Jesus; and Jan 2nd, we serve Keezletown Ruritans. Becky made a suggestion that we contact nursing homes to find out who does not have visitors at Christmas, and what they might need, and that we purchase for a few. Ann Ford has graciously donated 25 jars of jelly for the Gift Bags in Dec. A discussion followed as to goodies for the Dec gift bags. Chris read from the prayer calendar and eleven cards were signed. Our next meeting is Dec 7th at 6:00 p.m.

United Methodist Men hosted a fellowship dinner on Saturday, Nov 4th at the church. A spaghetti dinner was served with bread, salad, and dessert. Following the meal, we had a time of worship through song, with Mary Nankivell sharing an inspiring recitation "I'm drinking from my saucer because my cup overflows" and heard a message from Kristina Gibbs, our Camp Overlook Director. A free will offering was collected to raise funds for the project to install new LED lighting of the dining hall at Camp Overlook's Agape Hill. We were very excited to find that we had \$1075 in donations and had other pledges that should help us reach our goal of \$1500!! There was beautiful singing with several local United Methodist Men groups gathering for the first time together in several years and good fellowship. Thanks for all the help and donations for the delicious spaghetti supper. **GOD IS GOOD.**

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME RETURNS—FALL BACK ONE HOUR ON NOV 5th: Things NEVER said about DST change: Oh boy, a week of waking up early because kids and pets can't tell time. You know, the hour I gained, I was planning on going to the gym, but I overslept. Darn. Oh boy, the clock in my car will finally be correct. You mean I have to reset all the clocks when the only one I use is on my phone. Hello Darkness, my old friend. Soon you'll be here at 4:00 p.m.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY: Pastor Joel led us in worship on All Saints Sunday, Nov 5th, with a recognition of the Saints that had gone to heaven since last Nov 2022 until now, and Communion. He used Philippians 3:12-21 to speak on “Pressing on in Christ”. Paul was pressing on in Christ, boasting in what he had done, his list of sufferings and trials he went thru, how he had not attained the goal of sharing in Christ’s suffering. He uses running a race for a prize, pressing on to the finish. What drove him to press on? Because Jesus made him His own. What did Jesus go thru so you could be saved? Paul tells that the more we share Christ, the more we gain. Assisting with the service were Diana on the piano and giving the Children’s story about being silent and listening for God to talk, Ken as leader, Jim reading scripture, and Jenny and Scott singing “Deep, Deep Love” as special music.

SHOEBOXES AND CEREAL BOXES: On Sunday, Nov 5th, Lynn reminded everyone about the shoebox collection this month for Operation Christmas Child by celebrating it’s 30th birthday, beginning with 11,000 boxes in 1993, and sending over 11 million this year. Pastor Joel gave a special blessing over the collected cereal and breakfast foods for the 2023 World Cereals collection on the altar for the MPC Food Pantry. The total box score was: Cereal Boxes: 56; Individual Cereal Packages: 60; Dry Milk Packages: 10; Cans of Food: 32. The Rangers, who won the World Series, was also leading in the collection. Thank you to all who donated foods, and to all who will be donating shoeboxes.



ANGEL TREE: Sherry Summers Salvation Army Angel Tree. Anyone off the part of the tag that has the the bottom of that part of the tag is only the child's name - this part is not wrap the items in the Gift dedicated on Sunday, Nov 26th. All the Salvation Army by Dec 1st.



gathered ten names for the wanting to take part should tear child's info, sizes & wish list. At another perforated part that has to be taped to the Gift Bag. Do Bag. All the Gift Bags will be the Gift Bags will be delivered to

Keezletown UMC Care Closet Donations 2023 Delivered

9 - Shampoo M/W; 5 – Conditioner; 3 - Ethnic/Curly Hair Products; 14 - Soap Men; 8 - Body Wash M; 23 - Soap W; 1 - Body Wash W; 1 - Shaving Cream; 10 – Razors; 8 - Deodorant M; 19 - Deodorant W; 3 - Hair Brushes; 1- Hair Band; 13 – Combs; 10 – Picks; 2 - Cotton Balls; 3 - Q-Tips ; 4 – Lotion; 2- Cocoa Butter; 1 - Nail Clipper; 25 - Emery Boards; 2 - Contact Solution; 14 – Toothpaste; 13 – Toothbrushes; 10 - Dental Floss; 4 - Hand Sanitizer; 23 – Mask; 1 – Tampons; 5 - Sanitary Napkins; 3 - Feminine Wipes; 2 - Twin Blankets; 45 - Fleece Throws; 3 - Crochet Throws; 3 – Boxers; 10 - W Undies; 7 - M Socks; 19 - W Socks ; 4 – Backpacks; and 2

- Laundry Detergent. Mike Summers delivered the Spotswood High School Cares / Hygiene Closet items the week of Nov 5th and they were very appreciative. Thanks to everyone who gave.

FOR A CHUCKLE

Making space in the freezer sounds better than saying I just finished off a quart of ice cream.

My friend Jack can talk to vegetables—yeah, Jack and the beans talk.

Penguins produce an oil that helps their feathers retain more body heat. So basically, the oily bird gets the warm.

FAMILY FUN PICTURES



At College Day at JMU and the football game

Our Webman Don

Sanctuary ceiling

Words from District Supt Rev Dr Victor Gomez: John Wesley's last words were exactly that: "The best of all is, God is with us." I am reminded of God's amazing grace and I am reminded of the presence of God without ceasing. I know that I will face struggles throughout my life. I know that I worry, but most important, I know that God is with me, all the time. God is best, and God has promised to be with you even in the worst moments of life. God's presence is not the guarantee that worse will not come, but that God's best for you will never leave. **GOD** is with **you**. No matter what.

Blue Ridge CASA for Children announced on Nov 9th, their newest Board member, Nathaniel Riddle! Nate is the Executive Director of Open Doors, Inc. in Harrisonburg. When asked why he wanted to serve on the Board, Nate said, "I am honored for this opportunity to serve alongside the great team at Blue Ridge CASA, advancing the mission of advocating for children in our communities. I understand the importance of childhood experiences and their role in one's future. CASAs are a beacon of hope in unfortunate times. I look forward to supporting the incredible staff and dedicated advocates while expanding our impact in the valley." Proud of you, Nate.



Open Doors Shelter Needs Drivers: Open Doors is seeking volunteers to drive guests to and from hosts within Rockingham County. Our partners at Montezuma CoB, Dayton UMC and Massanutten Presbyterian have been generous to volunteer their vehicles, again, for the thermal season, and to provide several volunteers. However, we are still in need of volunteers to lighten the load! Prospects will be asked to submit: (1) Copy of Driver's License; and (2) 5-year record from the DMV. Our team will review these documents and follow up with the individual directly. If you would like to fill out an online application, please talk to Joel Robinette for access to the application.

No matter how far you have walked away from God, the return trip is only one step. (The Salty Saint)

A Tribute to My Brother, Hugh Harris, who went to heaven on Nov 11th: My oldest brother, Hugh



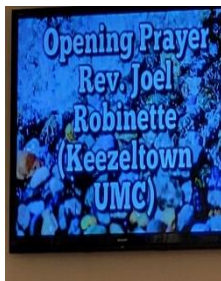
Townsend Harris, and I were born in Cincinnati, Ohio. I am younger by more than 11 years, and between us was our brother, Paul, and our sister, Merle (known to us as "Sissy"). Because Paul and Sissy had special needs (Paul had cerebral palsy and Sis had a heart defect) several times a year we'd make a trek East to Johns Hopkins Hospital (for Paul) and the MCV (for Sis). These trips were taken on US 33, and we would stay at the Village Inn, near Harrisonburg. Mom and dad fell in love with the Shenandoah Valley, and he bought a view of the Massanutten Mountain on a hill

above Keezletown that also had a small house. I was almost 3 when we moved, and Hugh had just turned 14. I was excited about the adventure of a new yard and lots of apple trees, while Hugh was grumpy and angry and wanted to go "home". It wasn't long before the wonderful people of Keezletown won us over and we, including Hugh, settled in. Keezletown Methodist Church already had a young man attending who had cerebral palsy, (Don Clatterback) so they knew just what to do for Paul and for our folks. Hugh got involved in 4H and raised rabbits and a calf. Hugh was on the Montevideo High School football team and helped with a club that fought forest fires. Our Mennonite neighbors hired Hugh to help them harvest hay and help out in other ways on their farms. When he'd bring a girl he was dating to church and then home for lunch, they'd sit on the couch holding hands (and sometimes smooching behind the Sunday paper) and I'd constantly interrupt them with my antics, which were intended to entertain the girl and irritate Hugh and it worked! Years later I asked mom why she let me get away with it, and she said because that way she didn't need to keep an eye on them! His senior year he began participating in the National Guard and after graduation he joined the Army instead of going to college. He served three years in the US and France during the height of the Cold War. Ironically, he died on Veterans Day. Hugh was so good to his little brothers, and he was especially attentive to Paul, writing to him, sending him cards and souvenirs. It was during that time that Hugh felt called to be a minister. When I heard that news, I was mad because two years earlier, at the age of 8, I had felt called to be a minister. Even at 10 years of age I knew that people would assume I was following in my big brother's footsteps. Hugh's path into the ordained ministry followed a straight trajectory: after the army he went to Bridgewater College and then to Wesley Seminary. I struggled with my call, ran from God, and began to doubt that I could hack college and seminary. Hugh wrote regularly, encouraging me to follow my call and assuring me that God would see me through all the challenges involved. And he was right. I treasure these and many other memories of my brother Hugh. I especially appreciate how close we became after we both retired. Hugh has been an inspiration, and help to me over the years, and I am grateful to God for his life, his faith and his love. Were there people who assumed that I had gone into the ministry because Hugh had? Yes, a few. More frequently people would ask us if our father was a preacher, and we would each, in our own way, answer that he was not a preacher, but he that sure could preach to us! One last thing I want to share about Hugh: When Paul died in 1979 from pneumonia, Al Horten (at that time the editor of the Virginia Advocate) asked us to write an article about Paul's life. While working on that Hugh felt inspired to do a painting of Paul in heaven. In his painting the disabled, wheelchair-bound Paul is standing behind his wheelchair, pushing it. Our brother Paul, in death, was no longer bound by his medical condition. And now, neither is my brother Hugh. By Jim Harris, November 16, 2023

SETTLE YOUR CONFLICT: "Stand Together In Christ" was the topic of Pastor Joel's message during the Nov 12th worship service. Paul describes a unifier, a yoked-fellow, who will help him. Philippi was having conflicts. We know about conflict. Why is there conflict among Christians? Because we are still growing in grace and trying to live in His way—forgiving, serving, rejoicing. Would we get caught up in taking the sides of people or taking up Jesus's cross for others? Paul tells us to be of the same mind in the Lord. You walk together toward the place of peace. Assisting today were Chris at the

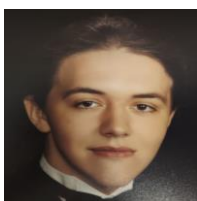
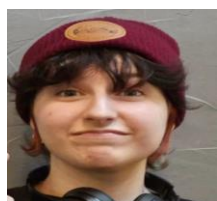
piano, Cathy leading, Carol reading scripture, and Pastor Joel giving the children's story about filters.

Keezletown UMC Charge Conference: We had our charge conference at Bridgewater UMC with about 25 other congregations on Sunday, Nov 12th at 2:00 p.m. Chris Cole, Sharon Martin, Karen Mooney, Joel Robinette, Becky Ryman, and Ken Thomas attended from KUMC. Some of us went to El Charro in Bridgewater for lunch first, which is a short walk across the street from Bridgewater UMC. The charge conference will be a new format this year with all the churches on our Shenandoah River District joining together at four locations simultaneously for charge conferences. We will be gathering, worshipping, and praying alongside representatives from about a quarter of the churches share the opening prayer station where people could voted on clergy approval of lay servants to remember those from the last year. Cathy Sites certified lay servant for the was our presider and she did an excellent job of leading a time of worship and conducting the business of the conference. A highlight was getting to visit with people from neighboring congregations. Following the conference a few of us stopped by Smiley's Ice Cream in Bridgewater for a treat before heading back home.



on our district. Pastor Joel got to for the conference and assist at a remember their baptisms. We compensation, church leadership, and lay speakers, and took time our congregations who died in Chouiniere was approved to be a first time. Rev Mary Dadisman

FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Happy 55th Happy 15th Alex Eli all grown up Fireman Triton Crismon girls H Bday Jenny

FOR A CHUCKLE

It's getting really bad when they have to include on the children's clothing label: "Remove child before washing".

It's getting bad when the lady at the yard sale wants to buy the angry little gnome standing in the corner, and it's the yard sale ladies kid.

*****NOVEMBER EVENTS IN NEXT ISSUE*****

- 19 **United Methodist Men meet at 8:00 a.m.**
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.; THANKSGIVING SUNDAY
Worship at 11:00 a.m. UMM SUNDAY with Message: "Thanks for the Gifts of Christ" from
Philippians 4:10-23
Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Due
- 20 **Romans Study at 10:00 a.m.**
Backpacking at 11:15 a.m.

- 21 Romans Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 26 Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.; CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY
Worship at 11:00 a.m. with Message: TBA
- 27 Romans Study at 10:00 a.m.
Backpacking at 11:15 a.m.
- 28 Romans Study at 7:00 p.m.

How To Cook A Turkey: Go buy a turkey. Take a drink of wine. Put the turkey in the oven. Take another 2 drinks of wine. Set the degree at 375 ovens. Take 3 more wines of drink. Turk the bastey. Wine another bottle of get. Ponder the meat thermometer. Glass yourself a pour of wine. Bake the wine for 4 hours. Take the oven out of the turkey. Floor the turkey up off of the pick. Turk the carvey. Get yourself another vottle of bine. Tet the sable and pour yourself a glass of turkey. Bless the dinner and pass out. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

***** DECEMBER EVENTS HAPPENING*****

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dec 3	Beth Morris	Dec 14	Chrisley Simmers
Dec 4	Eric Dean	Dec 16	Josh Werner
Dec 4	Carol Dillard	Dec 16	Annalie Crisman
Dec 4	Aaron Dillard	Dec 18	Brian Summers
Dec 5	Joshua Heishman	Dec 18	Michele Dodrill
Dec 5	Kennis D Armentrout	Dec 20	Mary Nankivell
Dec 6	Ginny Joseph	Dec 24	Joe Liskey
Dec 7	Wes Ford	Dec 26	Jennifer Robinette
Dec 11	Janet Clatterbuck	Dec 30	Stephen Welsh
Dec 11	Brayden Morris	Dec 31	Cooper Liskey
Dec 14	Averei Reedy		

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dec 3, 2022	Josh and Alissa Wanger	1 year
Dec 9, 1989	Steve & Gena Dove Shortell	34 years
Dec 17, 1988	Dave & Jackie Werner	35 years
Dec 23, 1950	John & Virginia Phalen	73 years
Dec 26, 1976	Joe & Linda Liskey	47 years

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



Joe & Linda Liskey for 47 years on Dec 26th
John & Virginia Phalen for 73 years on Dec 23rd

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

DECEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

Christmas Tree Lighting: There will be a Christmas Tree Lighting Saturday, Dec 2nd from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Keezletown Ruritan Hall. And KUMC has been asked to participate again this

year. This is a good way to reach out to our neighbors! Soup & Sandwich Supper – 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Event includes Sharon & Karen singing, Santa, Children’s Crafts and Christmas Caroling.

UWF Christmas Dinner: United Women in Faith will meet Dec 7th at 6:00 p.m. for their annual Christmas Dinner/ Meeting, with the United Methodist Men preparing the meal. The evening will include special music provided by Sharon, Karen and Pastor Joel. There will be games to enjoy and a time for singing favorite Christmas carols. We invite you to join us.

Christmas Program: Karen Mooney is coordinating a Christmas Program for Saturday, Dec 16th, at 6:30 p.m., with music, readings, singing, and refreshments.

Christmas Eve Service: will be Sunday, Dec 24th at 8:00 p.m. with carols, readings, candle lighting, communion, and A Baby Shower for Jesus.

- 2 UWF Serve Wayland Women dinner at 6:00 p.m.; prep between 2-2:30 p.m.
Tree lighting Ceremony at Ruritan park from 4:30-6:30 p.m
- 3 Small Group Leaders Gathering at 8:45 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship at 11:00 a.m. with Communion; First Sunday of Advent; Hanging of the Greens;
Message: "The Beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ" from Mark 1:1-8
- 4 Backpacking at 9:00 a.m.
Romans study, 10:00 a.m.
Study Group Lunch at Vito's, 11:30 a.m.
- 5 Romans study, 7:00 p.m.
- 7 UWF meet at 6:00 p.m. for Christmas meal at 6:30 p.m. with the UMM serving
- 10 Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship at 11:00 a.m.: 2nd Sunday of Advent; Message: "The Kingdom of God Has Come Near" from Mark 1:9-15
UMM Christmas dinner at Blessings Lodge at 4:30 p.m., eat at 5:00 p.m.
- 11 Backpacking at 11:00 a.m.
- 12 Romans study, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 KUMC Relay serves Farm Bureau Meal
- 15 Newsletter items due
- 16 UWF serve Vision of Hope WHAM group for lunch at noon; prep will begin between 9:30-10:00 a.m.
Christmas Program from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., with hymns and refreshments
"Walk to the Manger" at Camp Overlook - 6:30 pm.- 9:00 p.m.
- 17 United Methodist Men meet at 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship at 11:00 a.m.; 3rd Sunday of Advent with Message: "Jesus Called Fisherfolk to Discipleship" from Mark 1:16-20
- 18 Backpacking at 11:00 a.m.
- 22 1st Day of WINTER
- 24 Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.-- Jesus' Birthday Party during Sunday School

Worship at 11:00 a.m.; 4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve with message: "The Authority of Jesus" from Mark 1:21-34

Christmas Eve service at 8:00 p.m. with message: "The Birth of Jesus" from Luke 2:1-20, along with the Baby Shower for Jesus

31 Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; First Sunday after Christmas

Worship at 11:00 a.m. with Message by Lay Servant Len Williams

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Don't forget to start collecting your items for the Baby Shower for Jesus on Dec 24th.

THREE NEW TRADITIONS TO CONSIDER FOR CHRISTMAS

NEW CHRISTMAS TRADITION: Beginning Dec 1st, read one chapter of Luke in the Bible each evening. There are 24 chapters. On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus's Life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we Celebrate!!

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR: Each day add an item to a box. On Christmas Eve donate the contents to the food bank: Dec 1—box of cereal; Dec 2—peanut butter; Dec 3—stuffing mix; Dec 4—boxed potatoes; Dec 5—macaroni and cheese; Dec 6—canned fruit; Dec 7—canned tomatoes; Dec 8—canned tuna; Dec 9—dessert mix; Dec 10—canned applesauce; Dec 11—canned sweet potatoes; Dec 12—cranberry sauce; Dec 13—canned beans; Dec 14—box of crackers; Dec 15—package of rice; Dec 16—package of oatmeal; Dec 17—package of pasta; Dec 18—spaghetti sauce; Dec 19—chicken noodle soup; Dec 20—tomato soup; Dec 21—canned corn; Dec 22—canned mixed vegetables; Dec 23—canned carrots; Dec 24—canned green beans. (From Passionatepnnypincher.com)

ELF ON THE SHELF ALTERNATIVE: Mary, Joseph, and the donkey travel around the house until Christmas Eve when they reach a nativity stable. Then on Christmas Day, Jesus appears in the manger! The Wise Men travel around for a while before they make it to Jesus' house.

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ONE LAST CHUCKLE: If you carry a pebble with you to throw at people singing Christmas songs in October, then it's called a jingle bell rock.

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.

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MY PERSONAL NOTE:

I have always given credit to the Father for my ability to play the piano, and to enjoy sharing this talent with others. During the last two months, I have felt the urge to try playing the organ. With trepidation, but still feeling the nudge of God within my soul, I have experimented, practiced, and actually played the Church organ for worship. And I was pleasantly surprised when, not only I, but, other people really enjoyed it. I don't know why I was surprised. If God says do it, there is a reason. Thank you, Father, for reminding me that even when I think I'm doing all I can for you, there is always room to glorify you more, if I listen, and step out in faith. *Diana*

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Editor's Note

The Dec deadline for submissions is Dec15th . 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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