

MOuNTaiN ECHoeS

MARCH 2024

159th Edition



***You have to believe the buds will blow,
believe in the grass in days of snow.
That's the reason a bird can sing,
on his darkest day, because he believes in spring.***
(from You Have to Believe in Happiness by Douglas Malloch)

From the 1999 Journal of Mary E. Harris (1911-2016)

KEEZLETOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. T. Joel Robinette, Pastor

1456 Indian Trail Road

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Keezletown VA 22832

Pastor's Cell: 540-908-9482

Pastor's email: joel_robinette@hotmail.com

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

Keezletown UMC website: www.keezletownumc.com

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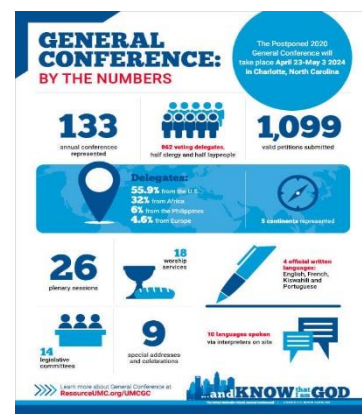
Three men, three crosses, one hill. One man cursed, one man prayed, one man promised.
One died condemned, one died forgiven, one died innocent. One died in sin, one died to sin,
one died for sin. One was held by death, one was released by death, one conquered death.
One lost life, one gained life, one was life. Thank you, Jesus for your sacrifice and Praise God
we have eternal life!
(From The Laughing Christian)

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 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

The 2024 General Conference of the United Methodist Church will meet in Charlotte, North Carolina April 23 – May 3, 2024. This gathering usually happens every four years but has not met since 2019 due to COVID. Around 900 delegates from the United States, Africa, Europe, and the Philippines will gather for worship, prayer, fellowship, electing leaders, and legislating changes to *The Book of Discipline* and *The Book of Resolutions*. The legislative work of General Conference usually gets the most attention. Our Virginia Annual Conference has provided good resources and videos for learning about the upcoming conference and you can access those materials at <https://vaumc.org/gc2024/>. Below are just some of the items that will be considered at the upcoming General Conference. (1) significant reductions in General Church Budget (43 percent possible); (2) a plan for Regionalization and allowing for a future global *Book of Discipline*; (3) increasing the mandatory retirement age from 72 for clergy; (4) revised social principles (some human sexuality issues included); (5) increasing the number of bishops in Africa where the church has been growing and reducing number of bishops in US (US disaffiliation and membership decline); (6) acts of apology and repentance for sexual abuse in the church; (7) acts of apology and repentance for the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1893; (8) a petition to add “gender” to forms for nondiscrimination to the *Discipline*; (9) petitions for extending or expanding paths for disaffiliation like 2019 – 2023 such as allowing whole conferences to disaffiliate; (10) change to clergy retirement benefits from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan; (11) consideration of document “Sent in Love: A United Methodist Understanding of Church”; (12) considering full communion with the Episcopal Church in the USA. The Upper Room has prepared a daily devotional *A Guide to Prayer for the United Methodist Church General Conference* and there are printouts available at KUMC. Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson and 22 delegates from our Virginia Annual Conference will attend, so let us keep them in prayer for the work, worship, and witness ahead: Lindsey Freeman (clergy); Warren Harper (laity); Meredith McNabb (clergy); Martha Stokes (laity); Rob



Vaughn (clergy); Shirley Cauffman (laity); Rhonda VanDyke (clergy); Alison Malloy (laity); Mark Ogren (clergy); Marshall Bailey (laity); Grace Han (clergy); Jill Gaynor (laity); Beth Givens (clergy); Mark Elder (laity); Jason Stanley (clergy); Karen McElfish (laity); Kirk Nave (clergy); Andrew Kissell (laity); Jonathan Page (clergy); Kim Johnson (laity); Jeff Mickle (clergy); and Debbie Call (laity).

Pastor Joel

FEBRUARY EVENTS THAT HAPPENED

CONGRATULATIONS to Kathryn Threewitts Pusey who received her Masters Degree in Business Administration on Feb 5th from Liberty University. Way to go, Kathryn!

Winona Jane Dellinger Morris, 73, passed away on Monday, Feb 12th. Winona attended Keezletown Elementary and Montevideo High School and was the daughter of the late Clarence and Reba Dellinger. Surviving are three sons, Michael Morris of Hinton, Larry Morris of Craigsville and Clayton Morris of Harrisonburg; eight grandchildren; four brothers, William Dellinger of NC, John Dellinger of Natural Bridge, Donnie Dellinger of Keezletown, and Ronnie Dellinger of Mathias, WV. A graveside service was held at 2 pm, Friday, Feb 16th at the Keezletown Cemetery with her brothers, Ronnie and John Dellinger, officiating.

"Gospel of Mark" Bible Study was completed on Monday, Feb 19th



and Tuesday, Feb 20th. Each group decided to go out to eat to celebrate. The Monday study went to Macados for lunch after the final session, and the Tuesday study went to Fajita Factory at Valley Mall for dinner before their final session.



2ND WEDNESDAY OF LENT: Pastor Joel opened the service tonight, Wednesday, Feb 21st, with prayer and the sixty plus in attendance from KUMC, St Jacobs Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, and friends, dined on a potato bar, with the fixins', provided by the KUMC United Women in Faith. Ann Royer led the music tonight as we sang "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" and "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross". Rev Brett Isernhagen, from the Mt Crawford United Methodist Church, talked about celebrating our repentance during Lent. How did you prepare for Lent, he asked? Ash Wednesday prepares us. Shrove Tuesday is celebrated by eating pancakes, for forgiveness. Mardi Gras removes temptation from our homes. We can approach repentance with confidence if we believe in God. You have been invited into the Holy Place with God by and thru the blood of Jesus. Pastor Joel closed the service with prayer and invited all to stay and enjoy s'mores prepared by the UWF.



WE ARE ALL FAMILY: Pastor Joel spoke on "Who Is My Mother, Who Is My Brother" during worship on Feb 25th, using Mark 3:19b-35. Whoever does the will of God is my Mother, Brother, and Sister, Jesus said. He was at Peter's house and the

people had crowded in around Him. Jesus's Mother, brothers, and sisters had come to take Him back home because people were saying He was out of His mind, but they could not get to Him. When told they were there, He said "Who is my Mother, who is my brother?" Jesus continued to preach; He did not need anyone to defend or protect Him. We do not save God; God saves us. The Family of God is those who do the will of God. Jesus wants us to recognize ourselves and others as His brothers and sisters. As Christians, when we pray The Lord's Prayer, we say "Our Father". Faith in Christ and doing the will of God, will make us all family. Assisting today were Cathy leading, Carol reading scripture, and Diana on the organ and telling the Children a story about what attire to wear to Church.

3rd WEDNESDAY OF LENT: The United Methodist Men prepared a spaghetti and salad dinner for the sixty plus in attendance from KUMC, St Jacobs Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, Vision of Hope, and friends, as we celebrated on Feb 28th. Ann Royer led the music as we sang "As the Deer Runs to the River" and "Beneath the Cross of Jesus". Rev Amy Pannell, from the Weyers Cave UMC, the guest speaker, spoke to us about being "Invited". She talked about the gospel of Mark and how many times we are invited, how Jesus calls us "His beloved". We are invited to share in the glory of His kingdom as we share in the sorrow of His death and the joy of His resurrection during the Lent and Easter celebrations. He calls to all of us, "My Beloved, You are Invited". Pastor Joel closed the service with prayer.



FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Best Buds



Rylynn/Triton



Happy 19 Joe Jr



Jeanine & Alli



HBD Whitney

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.

BIBLE STUDY:

Sunday School Classes includes 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.

The Bible in a Year: Keezletown UMC 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.

NEW BIBLE STUDY CLASS: "The Third Day" Study is a six-week study, focusing on the experiences of several people around Jesus during his final days, their despair at losing him, and the surprise and joy that awaits them in the Resurrection. The study materials are by Tom Berlin and books are \$14. The study will be on Mondays at 10:00 a.m., beginning Apr 29th or on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., beginning Apr 30th. Sign up in the narthex or with Pastor Joel.

FOR A CHUCKLE

Coffee could be described as freshly brewed magical morning psychotic rage stabilizer.

Communicating with some people is like trying to explain to them what color the number four smells like.

They had a hard time burying the man who invented Tupperware. They couldn't find a lid to fit his coffin.

Just before I die, I am going to swallow a bag of popcorn kernels. My cremation is going to be epic!

*****MARCH EVENTS THAT HAPPENED*****

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF PASTOR'S WIFE MONTH AND OUR VERY OWN SPECIAL LADY, JENN ROBINETTE:

The Pastor's Wife Christian Poetry (author anon)

There is one person in our Church who knows our Pastor's life?

Who weeps and smiles and prays with Him, and that's the Pastor's wife!

The crowd has seen him in his strength, while bearing God's Sharp Sword
 As underneath God's banner's folds, He faced the devil's horde.
 But deep within her heart she knows that scarce an hour before
 She helped him pray the glory down behind the closet door!
 She heard him groaning in his soul when bitter raged the strife.
 As, hand in hand she knelt with him, for she's the Pastor's Wife.
 You tell your tales of Preachers brave, who marched across the world?
 And changed the course of history by burning words they hurled
 And I will tell how back of each, some woman lived her life,
 Who wept with him, and smiled with him, She was the Pastor's Wife!

ARE YOU BEARING YOUR CROSS? Pastor Joel led the worship service for Mar 3rd with a message from Mark entitled "Take Up the Cross and Follow Jesus". In Mark, Jesus shares three times that He is the Messiah, and of His upcoming Passion, Death, and Resurrection. He asked the disciples who they said He was. Peter replied "the Messiah", the correct answer, but with the wrong definition. When Peter heard about the cross, he rebuked Jesus, who, in turn, rebuked him. Do we limit who we think Jesus is or would we continue to follow and find out the total picture? Will we also take up our cross to carry? Jesus carries the cross to forgive all for their sin. Our cross is to bring the good news of Jesus and His salvation to all. Assisting in the service today were Chris on the piano, Ken leading, and Steve Suter reading scripture. Pastor Joel passed out sample candy during the Children's Time to illustrate that we are samples of Jesus to share.

Marjorie (Margie) Jean Howard Vlasits, 76, of Keezletown, died peacefully on Sunday, March 3rd, at her home, after battling multiple myeloma for 19 years. She is survived by a sister, Mary Frances Howard, and brothers, Paul A Howard (Maggie) and William R Howard (Stephanie). She was married to Guy Vlasits for 55 years and they have three children: Jeanine Underwood (Donnie), Stacy Vlasits (Jennifer), and Julie Westfall (Michael), in addition to 11 foster children, as well as her grandchildren: Sabrina Sonifrank (Benny), Tanner Westfall, Antonia Underwood, Alex Underwood, Martin Vlasits, Sasha Vlasits, and her great grandson "Ben" Sonifrank IV. A celebration of Life is planned for Saturday, April 27th from 2-4 p.m. at the Kline's Mill Barn in Linville. Rest in Peace, Margie, you fought a courageous battle.



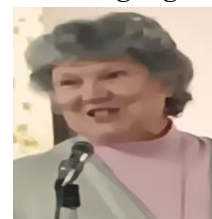
Excitement in Keezletown at 1:00 a.m. Mar 3rd, Saturday night, at Virginia Mitchell's house. A truck turned onto Longbow Road with fire shooting out of it. It stopped ten feet from her children's bedroom window. The fire company was called and eventually put out the fire, but the truck was a total loss. The owner told Virginia he had just bought the truck. She told him he needed to take it back.

Keezletown Ruritans Served: four ladies of the UWF served the monthly meeting on Mar 4th. Twenty-three folks enjoyed a meal of Pork Tenderloin, Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Rolls, Tea, Sheet Cakes, and Ice Cream. Thank you to all who donated and helped.

4th Wednesday in Lent: Pastor Joel opened the gathering with prayer before the sixty plus folks from KUMC, St Jacobs and Trinity Lutheran Church, and guests,



enjoyed delicious chicken tetrazzini, salad, and ice cream, provided by the Dillard families. Scott and Jenny then led us in singing “Weave”, and “Sanctuary”, before Rev Debbie Powell of the Elkton United Methodist Church gave the message. She talked about how God created a pet for Adam and Eve, a loyal, fun, attentive pet that He named “Dog” or God



backwards. After a while, they were bored and He created Cat, who became the supreme master of the house. With much laughter, she led our thinking to becoming more like the dog, loyal to God and obeying His wishes, then to becoming the aloof cat, who only concentrates on what makes them happy. Be a dog and love on others. Pastor Joel closed with prayer.

INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION PANEL DISCUSSION AND LUNCH: Pastor Joel and 7 women and men of KUMC attended the Interfaith Association of Harrisonburg-Rockingham that met on Mar 7th from Noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Bridgewater United Methodist Church for a catered lunch by the Bridgewater UWF, and a panel discussion. Rev Matthew Bucher of Immanuel Mennonite Church in Harrisonburg served as moderator for the discussion by representatives of Jewish, Islamic, and Christian traditions, followed by a Q&A period. All attending thought it was an informative discussion.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH met Mar 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Church social hall with 12 members, Pastor Joel, and 2 guests present. Judy called the meeting to order, and Cheryl led the devotions. Diana read the Feb minutes, and Cheryl gave the Treasurer’s report, which were both approved. Mission of the Month was a donation to Rise Against Hunger. Karen reported that programs are still needed for Sept and Oct. 44 flowers have been ordered for Easter, and will be placed in the church on Good Friday. Sherry reported that 4 ladies helped feed 23 Keezletown Ruritans at their meeting on Mar 4th. We will also serve them in April. We will be serving the Mt Crawford Ruritans on May 1st. Judy thanked the 19 folks that helped with the Soup sale, for which we’ve had many compliments, and have been requested to do it more than once a year. The potato bar for Lent also was a success. Sherry advised that we are collecting for Health kits in March; in April, we will do flood buckets; and in May, hygiene kits, as well as adult diapers for MCCC Care Closet. Carolyn advised that she had given Linda Riddle 19 hats for Open Doors. A new Christmas tree for the social hall has been donated. During Sept or Oct, we will make new Chrismon ornaments. Items for 25 Spring Shut-in bags will be collected and assembled at the April meeting, with an emphasis on snacks. Chris read the prayer calendar, and 15 cards were signed. Judy closed the meeting with prayer. Our

next meeting is the Call to Prayer and Self Denial meeting on April 4th, at 6:00 p.m. with a meal prepared by Chris. All are welcome to attend.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME QUOTES:

Yes! It's Daylight Saving Time. The clock in my car will finally be correct!

Don't forget to adjust all the clocks you never look at because you have a phone!

"I love Daylight Saving Time!", says No one ever.

THE LITTLE ONES, THE LAST ONES, THE LEAST ONES: On this 4th Sunday in Lent, Mar 10th, Pastor Joel gave the message "Welcoming Jesus in Little Ones" from Mark 9:30-50. Jesus shared that the way to welcome God is to welcome little ones, and to reject them is to reject God. The little ones, the last ones, the least ones. God delivered the Hebrew slaves; the first disciples were the least of them. The blessing "may you be

covered in the dust of your rabbi", encourages us to daily walk with Jesus. He moves into our homes and our lives. The disciples were arguing over who was the greatest. We disagree on who is the greatest all the time. Are we in dust range of Jesus? Children were of low estate, like foot washers, but Jesus lifted up the little ones. Who are the little ones today? When you welcome the little ones, Jesus says you welcome Him. Assisting today were Barrett, Karen and Sharon, who helped with the music, and Sharon, who read scripture. Pastor Joel provided the Children's Time with a balloon illustration of what makes you greater than someone else.



KEEZLETOWN LIGHT COMMISSION: met on Sunday, Mar 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the Church social hall. After the opening prayer, Darryl read last years minutes and Diana gave the Treasurer's report. We were successful in getting all bills paid and maintaining an adequate balance to continue paying for the street lights. We invite all who are interested in how the street lights are paid for to contact either Scott Dillard or Diana Davis with questions. Next meeting is March 2025. If you see a street light out, please contact Scott Dillard at 540-810-0903.

5th WEDNESDAY IN LENT: Pastor Joel welcomed the 70+ folks at 6:30 p.m. on Mar 13th to enjoy a delicious soup and sandwich meal provided by



the St Jacobs and Trinity Lutheran Churches.

We joyfully sang "Love Lifted Me" and 'Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" as Diana played



the piano. Rev Kathleen Overby Webster inspired us with a

message from Luke 1, the story of Gabriel telling Mary of the birth of Jesus, and Mary's acceptance. Mary decided to walk in faith. March 25th is the

enunciation (proclamation) of the Lord. God brings new life to Elizabeth and Mary. With blessings, God sends curses: Mary's reputation, the ride to Bethlehem, the birth alone, living as a refugee in Egypt, mourning the losses of the other babies killed, the lost Jesus in the temple, how Jesus denied earthly people, to watch His execution and burial. Where is God right now asking if we will be part of His work, and what will we answer? Pastor Joel closed with prayer.

Administrative Council met in the Church library on Mar 13th after the Lent Service with 10 members present. United Women in Faith reported a successful soup sale; delivery of 25 shut-in gifts in Feb and spring gifts to be delivered in April; having served two meals; and will be hosting "Evening Together" in May. United Methodist Men reported an upcoming pancake supper on Mar 16th; monthly meeting Mar 17th; and that the light project at Camp Overlook is half way completed. For Trustees, Mike reported on the difference the new furnace has made. He also advised that the Church has hail damage on the roof, which Randy had checked, and it will need replacement of shingles, flashing, and window flashing. We have about 5 more years on the roof now and are getting quotes. Also, Noah was recognized for cleaning up and maintaining the garden as a school project. Sherry reported for missions that we had a successful Souper Bowl collection; that the hat project continues to find needs; that we will collect for health kits in March, Flood buckets in April, and Feminine hygiene kits in May, as well as male hygiene for the Care Closet. Special recognition was given to Becky Ryman for her service in the hat projects and also for her "stepping up" in the Backpack project. A Community Easter Egg hunt was discussed. Sherry and Jenny will be working on doing something during the Children's Time on Easter morning. A suggestion was made to give the Freewill donations at the Easter morning breakfast to John Nday for his egg project. Jenn reported that we have 11 different devices watching the Sunday morning services; that the Online tithing is working; and that Chloe is also learning to process the service. Jenn was then recognized and thanked for her hard work in making the video process available for Sundays and other events. In Pastor Joel's report, he noted the death of Rosalie Harmon; the marriage of Gene and Carolyn Shockey; leading two Bible studies; the Lent Services; a Confirmation class; Rise Against Hunger; and preparing for Easter week. He also advised that John Nday has been given a new position. Pastor Joel still has three weeks of vacation before the end of June. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Next meeting is May 8th at 7:30 p.m.

GREEN PANCAKES: The United Methodist Men held their annual St Patrick's Day Pancake Supper on Mar 16th at 5:30 p.m. Along with green and regular pancakes, they served sausage patties, sausage gravy, scrambled eggs, baked apples, and tea and coffee. God was gracious in that, although there was not a large turnout, the Freewill offering was blessed. Both Camp Overlook and WRE will be receiving a nice donation. The men would like to thank all who came out and donated.

FOR A CHUCKLE

My teacher said "Don't worry about spelling. In the future there will always be autocorrect." For that I'm eternally grapefruit!

I had a thought; then I had a second thought, and they bounced off each other; and now I don't remember either one, and, oddly enough, it's probably a good thing. I dusted once. It came back. I'm not falling for that again. The girl standing in the pastry shop looking at all the goodies says "What do you have with no fat and no sugar?" The counter person replied "Napkins".

MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Denise and Cathy Dillards in Puerto Rico Happy 18 Eli Happy BD Barbara Happy BD Leslie

HAPPY 3-16 DAY: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16

ST PATRICK'S DAY, MARCH 17th: An Irish blessing; "May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields."

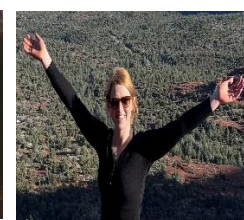
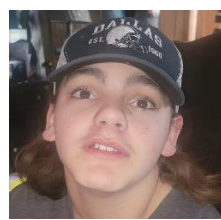
ARE YOU A SERVANT? On this, the 5th Sunday of Lent, Mar 17th, Pastor Joel spoke from Mark 10:32-52 with a message entitled "The Servant of All". Jesus is the servant of all. Mark tries to tell us by showing how blind the disciples were and in the story of blind Bartimaeus. James and John want to sit on either side of Jesus in His glory; the other disciples got upset. Jesus tells them that in order to become what He is, they must pour out God's love, to serve, to be the servant of all. They continue to be blind to who He really is. Are we blind to Jesus and why He came? Bartimaeus cried out with the right words, expecting mercy, and was told to be quiet, yet kept crying out for mercy, until Jesus heard and answered him. We cannot be a servant until we receive healing from the Great Servant for whatever is holding us back from serving Jesus and what He would have us do. If you are a Bartimaeus, Jesus is here to serve and save you. Assisting today was Diana at the organ, reading Scripture, and leading the Children's Time by talking about "You Are a Whosoever". Packaging of the meals for Rise Against Hunger followed the service.

*****MARCH EVENTS IN NEXT ISSUE*****

- 17 Rise Against Hunger packaging at 12:30 p.m.
- 18 "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" Study at 10:00 a.m.
- Backpack Packing at 11:00 a.m.

- 19 "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" Study at 7:00 p.m.
SPRING BEGINS
- 20 Lent Service at 6:30 p.m. with Fried Chicken and bring sides; desserts by Trinity ECLA;
Terrie Childress speaker; music by Sharon and Karen
- 21 Serve Kingsway Meal
- 22-23 Camp Overlook Confirmation Retreat
- 23 UWF Evening Together
- 24 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship at 11:00 a.m. Palm Sunday; Message: 'The Kingdom on a Donkey's Back' from
Mark 11:1-11
- 25 "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" Study at 10:00 a.m.
Backpack Packing at 11:00 a.m.
- 26 "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 28 Maunday Thursday Service at St Jacob's Lutheran Church
- 29 Good Friday Service at Trinity Lutheran Church
- 31 Easter Sunrise Service at Keezletown Cemetery with Breakfast in social hall to follow
Sunday School, 9:45 AM
Worship at 11:00 a.m.: Easter Sunday; "Jesus Has Been Raised and You Will See Him"
from Mark 16:1-8 (9-20)

MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



Bruce /Barbara Happy BD Jennifer Winston & Nick Happy 14th Nick Allyse traveling

AN IRISH BLESSING: May the light always find you on a dreary day. When you need to be home, may you find your way. May you always have courage to take a chance, and never find frogs in your underpants.

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***** APRIL EVENTS HAPPENING*****

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Apr 1	Kevin Summers	Apr 15	Ryan Heishman
Apr 3	Christine Cole	Apr 16	Kristen Roach
Apr 5	Jacob Stanley	Apr 17	Henry Martin
Apr 6	Gary Knupp Sr	Apr 18	Matthew Holliday
Apr 6	Marshall Liskey	Apr 19	Jan Shafer
Apr 7	Karen Mooney	Apr 20	Mary Jane Propst

Apr 7	Sharon Martin	Apr 23	Jamie Werner
Apr 7	Cory Guilliams	Apr 23	Sara Ann Cole
Apr 8	Marcus Hall	Apr 23	Juanita Sheffer
Apr 8	Justen Cox	Apr 23	Lily Sacra
Apr 10	Jaden Hall	Apr 24	Randy Sites
Apr 10	Hunter Pellegrin	Apr 25	John Foley
Apr 14	Benjamin Wamsley	Apr 27	Bob Threewitts

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Apr 10, 2004	David & Kathryn Propst Miller	20 years
Apr 15, 1994	Scott & Jenny Dillard	30 years
Apr 23, 1964	Kennis & Carolyn Armentrout	60 years
Apr 23, 2016	John & Jennifer Young	8 years
Apr 26, 1996	Randy & Jan Sites	28 years

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



Kennis & Carolyn Armentrout for 60 years on Apr 23rd
Best wishes from your KUMC family. May you have many more.

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APRIL CALENDAR

- 1 **APRIL FOOLS DAY**
 "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith: Study at 10:00 a.m.
 Backpack Packing at 11:00 a.m.
 UWF Serve Keezletown Ruritans
- 2 "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 5 UWF meet at 6:00 p.m. for Call To Prayer and Self Denial meal and meeting
- 7 Small Group Leaders Gathering at 8:45 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Worship at 11:00 a.m. with Communion; Message: "The Sower and Soils" from Mark 4:1-10
- 8 Worship Planning meeting at 9:00 a.m.
 "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith: Study at 10:00 a.m.
 Backpack Packing at 11:00 a.m.
- 9 Worship Music Practice at 6:00 p.m.
 "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 10 Choir practice at 6:30 p.m.
- 14 UMM Breakfast Meeting 8:00 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Lamp, Measuer, Seeds, and the Kingdom of God" from Mark 4:21-34
- 15 "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith: Study at 10:00 a.m.
 Backpack Packing at 11:00 a.m.
- 16 Worship Music Practice at 6:00 p.m.

- "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 17 Revival at St Paul UMC in Elkton at 7:00 p.m.
- 18 **Serve Kingsway Meal**
Revival at St Paul UMC in Elkton at 7:00 p.m.
- 18-21 Men's Walk to Emmaus at Overlook
- 19 Newsletter items due
- 21 **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**
Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Storms and the Peace of Jesus" from Mark 4:35-5:20
- 22 Last "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith: Study at 10:00 a.m."
Backpack Packing at 11:00 a.m.
- 23 Last "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 23-May 3 2024 General Conference in Charlotte NC
- 24 **Choir practice at 6:30 p.m.**
- 25-28 Women's Walk to Emmaus at Overlook
- 27 **Hat Making Workshop at 11:00 a.m. til**
- 28 **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**
Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Faith for Healing" from Mark 5:21-43
- 29 "The Third Day Study" at 10:00 a.m.
Backpack Packing at 11:00 a.m.
- 30 "The Third Day Study" at 7:00 p.m.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS, THANK YOU'S, AND OTHER:**

**THANK YOU, NOAH ROBINETTE,** for all of your hard work in pulling weeds, mulching, and maintaining the garden area. Job well done!

**RISE AGAINST HUNGER:** Thank you to everyone who helped with packaging meals for Rise Against Hunger on March 17th. We raised \$4,500 and packaged 11,016 meals together with local Girl Scouts, McGaheysville UMC, St. Jacob's ELCA, Trinity ELCA, and other friends. We will learn in the future where these meals will go to alleviate hunger. Full article and pictures will be in the April newsletter.

**"The Witness" Musical:** **Becky Armentrout** has invited us to "The Witness" which is a narrated, choral, one-act, biblical musical using Peter's perspective to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The musical will be at Becky's Harrisonburg Baptist Church, Friday, Apr 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Apr 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Apr 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Free admission. We are considering meeting at the church and carpooling. More info may follow.

**Revival at St. Paul UMC, Elkton:** St. Paul UMC in Elkton has invited us to their revival April 17th-19th, (Wednesday through Friday) at 7:00 p.m. each night. Pastor Joel will preach on April 18th. Carpooling is encouraged.

**IN THE MILITARY:** If you would like to write to **Jacob Hall**, his address is: RCT Hall Jacob M.I, 3D RTBN, PLT3008, Co K, Box 16335, Parris Island, SC 29905-6335

**NEW FURNACE:** Joe Liskey shared in worship about the new furnace for the church and cost of \$10,000 taken from church reserves. If you would like to give toward the new furnace, please designate your giving toward "furnace" which will build back those reserves.

**A REQUEST FROM REV DAWN MARIE:** My daughter, **Sarah-Grace** would love for you to pray for her as she continues on her National American Miss (NAM) journey. She is a Virginia State Finalist again this year.

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**KUMC BACKPACK PROJECT:** The KUMC Backpack project is seeking donations! KUMC is currently providing support to 35 students at Cub Run Elementary. Sponsorships are \$125.00 per child. This would support a student for the remainder of the school year and through the start of the next school year. Food prices continue to rise, and supplies are often limited. All levels of support are appreciated! If you like to shop for bargains, please note that **the following list of items are normally used:** **Ramen noodles; Vienna sausages; Peanut butter; Granola bars; Individual cereals; Pop tarts; Snack crackers; Canned soup; Canned vegetables; Rice/Pasta packages; Canned pork and beans; Boxed Mac and cheese; Nutragrain bars; Individual juices; Single applesauce; Single canned fruit; Canned pasta; Single raisins; single puddings.** Fresh fruits are always welcome. If you see something else that you think might be good, we are open to it. You do not have to purchase all 35 items, but any amount will help. Checks should be made out to Keezletown Backpack Project. Any questions can be directed to Ginny Joseph, Becky Ryman, or Lynette Guilliams. Thank you for helping to feed God's little children.

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**AN IRISH BLESSING:** May God grant you always...a sunbeam to warm you, a moonbeam to charm you, a sheltering angel so nothing can harm you. Laughter to cheer you. Faithful friends near you. And whenever you pray, Heaven to hear you.

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**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](mailto:AntDyna@comcast.net), with your request. Please put Newsletter in the subject line.

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**MY PERSONAL NOTE:**

The other day I was at lunch and one of my cousins came in the restaurant. I asked her to join me. She had just buried her Mom. Before that, she had buried her sister, her Father, and her husband, over the years. I knew she knew the "feelings". And we talked, and we talked, and we cried, and we laughed, and both of our hearts were lifted. Jesus was there. Strangely she

wasn't going to come to that restaurant, but something (and we all know who) told her to come. Jesus was there. We both needed to share with someone who "knew", and Jesus put us together. I have found that when I ask Jesus to come near, He always does, maybe not in the form I'm expecting, but in the love and caring that I need in that moment. If you are hurting, ask. He will provide the place, the thing, the person, that you need to show you His love. God bless you all, and Happy Easter.

*Diana*

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#### **Editor's Note**

**The April deadline for submissions is April 19th.** My home number is 540-269-8511 or e-mail me at [AntDyna@comcast.net](mailto:AntDyna@comcast.net). I hope that you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoy preparing it for you. God bless you all.

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**I hope you know that He didn't just die for the beautiful dressed people that sit in church every Sunday and read their Bibles every day. He died for you who cries at night and wakes up too late for church and makes unforgivable mistakes and goes weeks without thanking Him. Don't forget that. (From the Laughing Christian)**

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Mark 16:5-7: "And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you."

***HAPPY EASTER! HE IS RISEN!***