

MOUNTAIN ECHOES

AUGUST 2024

164th Edition



KEEZLETOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. T. Joel Robinette, Pastor

1456 Indian Trail Road

Church phone: 540-269-8531

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

<>

<>

<>

DON'T JUDGE THE CHURCH YOU ARE IN BY THE SIZE OF THE MEMBERSHIP, RATHER, JUDGE IT BY THE POWER OF GOD WORKING IN IT.

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

Get in a small group for growing in your faith and life in Jesus Christ and so you may help others grow, too. We as a congregation of Christians will only grow in our faith as we do it together. When Adam was with God, in the garden, with much good work to do, and the tree of life to eat from; God surveyed the situation and said, "It is not good for the human to be alone" (Genesis 2:18). So, God made him a helper. In life as a Christian, it is not good to be alone. One of God's great gifts to us is the church. Jesus sent out disciples two by two, not alone. Early Christians, "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42 NRSV). The Teacher (Qoheleth) wrote: *Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.* (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 NRSV) One of the traits of early Methodists was joining in classes for sharing their faith, growing in faith, accountability to Christ, and prayers—they did it together. I have been blessed to be in Christian small groups as long as I can remember. Each step along the way from childhood, to hearing the call God placed on my life, to being a teenager, to considering career and direction, to university, to dating, to marriage, to seminary training for ministry, to being a pastor, having children—in the struggles, griefs, questions, joys, and changes—there were always people in my life who knew what was going on in my life, encouraging me, sharing Jesus with me, praying for me. Keezletown United Methodist Church has opportunities for small group like Sunday School, Bible Study, United Methodist Men, United Women in Faith, and more. I would encourage you to join a small group at KUMC so we may grow in God's grace together. There may be good ecumenical small groups beyond KUMC where you could join in as well in school, work, or community—there are Christians everywhere who may share together the grace of God. The Sunday School Kickoff will be Sunday, September 8, 2024 at 9:45 AM which would be a great time to join a Sunday School class or get ready for another small group this Fall. If you are in a good small group, I would encourage you to keep sharing in God's grace there. If you have not found a small group, I would encourage you to join one.

Pastor Joel

JULY EVENTS THAT HAPPENED

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS



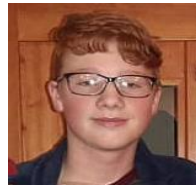
Triton is 4



Steve



Kathy



Damon



Barrett



Murphy

Pre-School Sunday School Class Needed: There is interest for a pre-school through Kindergarten Sunday School class at KUMC. There are children to invite, teaching materials available, and a classroom. A teacher or teachers are needed and a second adult to lead the class. If God lays this mission on your heart, please talk to Cathy Sites Chouiniere.

United Methodist Men met on July 21st at 8:30 a.m. for a breakfast meeting, with devotions by Ken. Pastor Joel will do a mailing to invite men of and connected to the Church to the next meeting, a Vito's pizza night here at the Church on Aug 29th at 6:00 p.m. The UMM will sponsor a Church picnic at the Ruritan Park after worship on September 29th and provide Barbeque Chicken, with those attending bringing sides. A free-will offering Potato Bar luncheon will be after worship on Oct 13th, UMM Sunday, and Rev Victor Gomez will be speaking. A Garage clean-out day is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept 3rd at 6:00 p.m.

YOU CAN'T PUSH A CAMEL THROUGH THE EYE OF A NEEDLE: Pastor Joel led us in worship on Sunday, June 21st by using Mark 10:17-31, the rich man asking about getting into heaven. His sermon was entitled "A Man With Much and Disciples Who Gave It All". A man came to Jesus who had lots of stuff and asked Him what he had to do to inherit eternal life and live with God. Jesus loved him and told him to go and sell all you have and give it to the poor and follow me. He has no name—it could be each of us. The man was sad and went home to his stuff. John Wesley encouraged all to go to the poor and help them. The Kingdom of God is the sharing of the good things in life and raising people in the Grace of God. Our possessions take our time and energy. What is impossible for people, is possible with God. It's hard to hold onto Jesus when our hands are full of stuff. Assisting with the service were Chris at the piano, Len leading, and Susan reading Scripture. Pastor Joel led the children's time and talked about how rules are important.



Chill-N-Chat met on Monday, June 22nd with nine ladies, and a puppy. We enjoyed folding and stuffing the newsletters for mailing, having coffee and cake, and interesting conversation. There is always a chair waiting for you.

PROUD JENNIFER: So proud of my boy!! Parker started his first day of his internship at the National Resources Conservation Services with the USDA after golf practice on Tuesday, July 23rd. Yesterday he did a full day from 7:45 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and traveled to farms all over the region. He looked so handsome but is not a fan of me posting pictures too much. He is learning

a ton and gaining great experience! My grandfather worked for the USDA years ago and I know he is smiling down.

BOBWHITES RETURN! From Cory Guilliams on July 25th: Northern Bobwhite Quail in Keezletown!!! This evening, for the first time in over 20 years, I was able to carry on a conversation with a Northern Bobwhite Quail! Over the past month, we have been hearing 1-2 quail calling near our house from time-to-time. To me, this has been a BIG DEAL considering these birds are extremely uncommon these days in most of their native range. When I got home from work tonight, I walked over to our side yard and whistled their call. Almost immediately, one responded back. After a couple of back and forth whistles/calls, a quail flew out of a brushy area on our neighbor's fence line down the hill into another brushy area. That is when I recorded a video. The hair on the back of my neck stood up the whole time we were whistling and calling back and forth. I ended up having a second conversation with the same quail a little later this evening.



11U CHAMPIONS: Carson Guilliams is a member of the 11U baseball team that went undefeated on the weekend of July 27th to become the Summer States Shenandoah Valley Athletics 11U Champions! They fought hard and earned this win!! Cory and Lynette are so proud of these boys for hanging tough after one heck of a season. Congrats, Carson, and boys!



SEEK FORGIVENESS, THEN FORGIVE: We were pleased to have the InMotion Summer Praise Dance Team with us to help with the worship today, Sunday, June 28th (see next article). Pastor Joel presented the message “Joseph and God’s Grace to Preserve Life” from Scripture passages found in Genesis 37 through 50. We see God’s grace in today’s story about Joseph, a story of violence, jealousy, favoritism, hatred, grief, and forgiveness. Joseph’s brothers sold him into slavery in Egypt and pretended he was killed. He served in a household there and found favor with those around him and with God. He was falsely accused and put in prison, where his ability to interpret dreams brought him to the Pharaoh, who was so impressed that he gave him great responsibilities for keeping all the people from starving. With his power, he was able to see his brothers and his father and save them from the famine. God raised him to save others. Even after Jacob’s death, the brothers were still afraid and sought Joseph’s forgiveness, which he gladly gave to them. Genesis closes with reconciliation; Jesus on the cross cried out for God’s forgiveness for all and reconciliation. Seek forgiveness, but remember to forgive. A time of Examination of Conscience, Confession, and Prayers for Forgiveness followed the presentation by the dance team. Assisting today were Sherry reading Scripture, and Diana on the organ.

INMOTION SUMMER PRAISE DANCE TEAM PERFORMS: During the worship service on July 28th, the dance team performed “Joseph”, led by Becca Sprague and Abigail Miller. Others dancers were Ginny Natale, Hailey Morris, Sophia Quach, Kendall Ruliffson,

Miriam Farrell, Wrenn Mapstone, Lilliana Miller, and Ansley Leach. Their dances told



the story of Joseph receiving the “Coat of Many Colors”, “Joseph’s Dream”, how the brothers got rid of Joseph “In the Pit” and then sold him into “Potiphar’s House”, where he was falsely accused



and put in prison. His “Prison Prayer” and “Pharaoh’s Dreams”,



which he interpreted, led him to save Egypt and his own family, allowing “Forgiveness”. The team is directed by Alaina Pfeiffer and Grace Towns. It was wonderful to see our (still very own) Becca Sprague dance with the maturity and grace that comes

in doing something you love. Her body and her facial expressions told the story of the pain and the love that God used to allow Joseph, and us, to share God’s love with all. Great job, ladies.

CHILL-N-CHAT met on Monday, July 29th at 10:00 a.m. with seven ladies and one youth attending. We enjoyed coffee and fresh donuts, as well as thought-provoking reassurances that God is with us when we are tired, physically, mentally, and spiritually. We’ve saved a chair for you!

RETIREMENT: Rev Tommy Herndon, former District Supt for the Harrisonburg District, has announced his retirement as the Vice President at the Virginia United Methodist Foundation, effective July 31, 2024. He joined the Foundation in 2018, after serving the UMC for 45 years. Cards to him and Carolyn may be sent to 9201 Pornello Lane, Glen Allen VA 23060.



FAMILY FUN PICTURES



At the beach



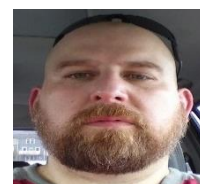
Becky’s babies



Our Susie



Carson



Workout tired

CAMPERS THANKS:

A word of gratitude for our KUMC family: The kids once again enjoyed a week at Overlook due to your generosity. Both kids participated in a week long camp. Cora had a successful first year as a Chriskid. She enjoyed the wedding party (especially the water into wine trick) as well as swimming in the lake. She successfully passed her swim test and felt quite proud. Caleb enjoyed year 4 at Overlook and participated in Survivor Camp. He enjoyed "glamping" and cooking outside. He also enjoyed "diving" deeper into the New Testament stories. Thanks again for supporting the camp experience. Continue to pray for this ministry and for the joy it brings to young followers! Mary Combs

Dear Church: I Loved camp. Thank you. Alxlya was my counselor. Love, Adalida Crisman

TO MAKE YOU GIGGLE:

Remember when you could exercise for an hour thinking nothing of it. Now it's exercise just getting out of bed.

If you ate Rice Krispies when you were little, it explains why now you snap, crackle, and pop!

Coffee, because good days never start with a spinach smoothie!

New diet program—crunches twice a day—Captain in the morning and Nestle in the afternoon.

There's a new GPS for Seniors...it tells us how to get there, and why we went!

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 18 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 taught by Cathy Sites; 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 STUDY STARTING: “The Lord's Prayer” study by Rev Adam Hamilton will be a seven week study meeting either Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. beginning Sept 9th or Tuesday

evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning Sept 10th. Books are \$12 (regular print) or \$15 (large print). Please sign up in the narthex or tell Pastor Joel.

41 IS COMING

For anyone out there fighting whatever your fighting keep going....day 41 is coming. In the Bible, it rained for 40 days and 40 nights.

Day 41 came and the rain stopped.

Moses committed murder & hid in the desert for 40 years.

Year 41 came, and God called him to help rescue Israel.

Moses went up on the mountain for 40 days.

On day 41, he received the Ten Commandments.

The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for 40 years.

Year 41, they walked into the Promised Land.

Goliath taunted Israel for 40 days.

Day 41 came, and David slew him.

Jonah preached a message of repentance to Ninevah for 40 days.

On day 41, God stopped His plan to destroy them.

Jesus fasted and was tempted for 40 days.

Day 41, and the devil fled.

After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples for 40 days.

On day 41, He ascended into Heaven.

All this to say...don't quit. The rain will stop, the giant will fall, and you will enter your "promised land." Don't give up at 40.

41 is coming. By Chris Dodson

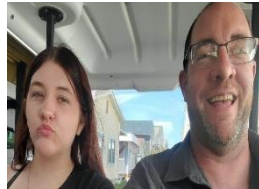
MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



B-day fun



July Xmas BRC



New golf cart



In Randyland



At the beach

AUGUST EVENTS THAT HAPPENED

UWF CHURCH PICNIC: It was a humid evening, with a stir of a breeze, on August 1st at 6:00 p.m., when approximately thirty folks met at Judy Coffman's pavilion to share in fellowship and food. With plenty of drinks, lots of chicken, and a wonderful array of side dishes and desserts, we all gathered around the tables and enjoyed the company of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you to Judy for her hard work and hospitality, and to all who came out and shared God's beautiful evening, good food, and the love of the Church family.



Patsy Ann Smith, longtime KUMC and community member, and friend to many, passed away on Sunday, Aug 4th at Life Care Center in New Market. In 1958 she married Joseph Smith, who preceded her in death, along with brothers Kenneth, Roger, and Butch. She is survived by son, Joseph Lee Smith Jr, and Carol, granddaughter, Megan Shepard and Charlie, and sisters, Peggy Clary and Tim, and Lois Huffer, along with many nieces and nephews. Patsy was a caregiver at Shafer's Nursing Home, a custodian and lunch monitor at Peak View Elementary School, and enjoyed her cats, puzzles, and NASCAR racing. She was active member of the KUMC Women of Faith for many years and helped with many events. A Celebration of Life was held on Thursday, Aug 8th at Kyger Funeral Home with Pastor Joel Robinette officiating. RIP, Patsy.



ARE YOU A PRODIGAL CHILD? We were blessed to have Lay Servant Wendell Cochran give the message “The Prodigal Child” on Sunday, August 4th during worship. Do you remember your dreams? Do you have a recurring one? In mine, I am lost in a hotel searching for the ballroom. I start to panic. I’ve called the prodigal son, the prodigal child, because I believe he could relate to any of us. I don’t want to focus on the older brother or the father, but the prodigal child. The eldest brother in that time received all of the inheritance. The prodigal child asked for and took his share, left and squandered it all in wild living. He ended up feeding pigs and wanting to eat their feed. We all get lost and search for a better life. God was with the prodigal child in the pigpen, just as He is with us in every situation we are in. He led him to come home, to acceptance, forgiveness, and love. We need to search for and help lead the “prodigals” home. Assisting today were Ken leading the service, Diana on the organ, Karen reading the scripture, and Denise leading the Children’s Time talking about going back to school.

CHILL-N-CHAT met on Monday, August 5th at 10:00 a.m. with six ladies and Pastor Joel joining us. We chatted over coffee, cake, and cookies about church activities, even suggesting WOW services, a new “Lunch Bunch” meeting in place of Chill-N-Chat for the non-Bible study season, and starting Friday night game nights. Sherry was pleased to have some new suggestions for the Mission committee. Pastor Joel talked about a number of suggestions for

the new Bible Study beginning September 7th. You still have three more sessions to come and enjoy the fellowship—we'll still have a chair waiting for you.

MT CRAWFORD RURITANS SERVED: On Wednesday, Aug 7th, four ladies from the UWF served the Mt Crawford Ruritans a delicious meal of Pork Tenderloin w/ Mushroom Gravy, Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Sheet Cake/Brownies & Ice Cream, and Tea. Thank you to all who generously donated.

HIDDEN AUTHORITY: On Sunday, August 11th, Pastor Joel spoke from Mark 11:27-12:12, with a message entitled “The Hidden Authority of Jesus”. In this Gospel story, we hear about a hiddenness in the authority of Jesus. The scribes asked Jesus where He got the authority to do the things He was doing. He had no priestly robes, no crown, no army, no badge. The people marveled at His authority. He could teach, heal, reveal the Scriptures, overcome unclean spirits, create, forgive sins, and share His authority with others. It is not human authority—it is God’s good news authority. God living in us is Jesus sharing His authority with us to share His love with others. Following the message today, we participated in the Great Thanksgiving and Communion. Assisting Pastor Joel were Wendell, Ken, and Carol. Also, assisting today were Wendell leading the service, Chris at the piano, and Josh reading Scripture. Pastor Joel led Children’s Time and talked about listening.

CHILL-N-CHAT met on Monday, August 12th at 10:00 a.m. with eight ladies. Pastor Joel joined in for a few minutes, but Jenn Robinette was able to join us after therapy and chatted for a while. We enjoyed fresh monkey bread and zucchini muffins, and lots of good conversation and laughter. We'll keep a chair for you.

RECOGNIZED: This evening, August 13th, the Keezletown Babe Ruth league was honored by Senator Mark Obenshain when he presented them with a Virginia State Flag that was flown over the capitol in recognition of the amazing All Star performances by multiple baseball and softball teams this summer. Thank you, Senator Obenshain. Go KTown!!

ANOTHER GREAT WEEK FOR THE GUILLIAMS AT THE ROCKINGHAM COUNTY FAIR



Carson @ Fair



“Homer”



Working @ Fair



Boys w/“Bart”



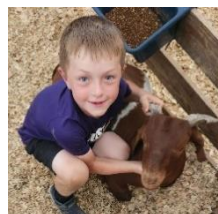
Connor & “Homer”



“Bart” and “Homer”



Carson showing



Connor & “Bart”



Winners

SO PROUD OF CARSON GUILLIAMS: Lynette and I are very proud of Carson for successfully finishing his 3rd 4-H Market Goat Project. He had two excellent goats this year, Bart and Homer, that placed 4th and 12th in their classes respectively at the Rockingham County Fair this past week. Carson worked very hard with these goats this summer and developed and implemented a feeding plan that helped them to gain weight well. Like last summer, Carson also worked with his goats all while playing league and travel baseball. Part of his project was to market the goats to potential buyers and to have them bid on them at the Market Animal Sale on Friday at the fair. Carson drafted letters to several local businesses, friends, and neighbors and went out to meet with many of them asking them to consider bidding on his goats. Carson



even drafted and sent a letter to Governor Glenn Youngkin asking him to consider bidding on his goats. With the help of a friend, the Governor received his letter. On Thursday evening at the fair, Carson was able to meet with the Governor and First Lady. They both told him that they had received and read his letter, citing what he had wrote in it and that they were very impressed. He was very excited about this. In the end, Carson's goats sold very well at the Market Animal Sale. Lynette and I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who helped to make Carson's 3rd Market Goat Project a big success. He could not have been as successful as he was without all of the help, encouragement and advice. Thank you to his goat breeders, feed suppliers, 4-H leaders, fair officials, bidders, buyers, and everyone else who helped on his and so many other 4-H and FFA Market Animal projects in the area. Lynette and I can't say it enough: we truly are blessed to be able live and raise our children in such a wonderful community that supports the youth the way it does. This year there were 711 Market Animals sold at the Rockingham County fair that brought in \$1,162,000 for the youth and their projects. Thanks, Cory.

AND THE TURTLES ARE HERE: For those of you who did not know why Virginia Mitchell's family had a little box over the edge of the road at their mailbox in the front yard for a while—well, a Momma turtle laid her eggs there, and they have been keeping careful watch that no one harms them. Today, August 17th, they have little turtles. Thank you, Virginia and family, for watching out for even God's smallest creatures.



TO MAKE YOU GIGGLE AGAIN:

I replaced my rooster with a duck. Now I wake up at the quack of dawn.

Today we are having Himalayan rabbit stew for dinner. We found him a layin' in the road.

Is a hen who can count her own eggs a mathmachicken?

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

GROWING UP TOO FAST AND BACK TO SCHOOL IN 2024 (Begins 8-20)

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, Owen Summers, Madison Wamsley

Kindergarten:

First: Lily Sacra
 Second: Connor Guilliams
 Third: Waylon Conley, Adalida Crisman, Nolan Mason, Sam Ramsey
 Fourth: Cora Combs, Cooper Pellegrin, Ben Wamsley
 Fifth: Winston Mitchell
 Sixth: Sara Cole
 Seventh: James Cole, Andrea Crisman, Austyn Crisman, Carson Guilliams, Nora Grace Jarrels, Leah Siler, Jacob Welsh
 Eighth: Caleb Combs
 Ninth (Freshman): Harrison Bowman, Lydia Kelley, Cami Martin, Nicholas Mitchell, Parker Young
 Tenth (Sophomore): Haiden Dillard, Connor Miller, Brayden Morris, Chloe Robinette, Rebecca Sprague, Alli Underwood, Joseph Welsh
 Eleventh (Junior): Hannah Bowman, Cali Martin, Mason Pusey, Kate Ramsey
 Twelfth (Senior): Macie Heishman, Alex Mansfield, Marley McGlaughlin, Abigail Mitchell, Hunter Pellegrin, Noah Robinette, Ryan Sprague, Lataya Wigginton
 College Freshmen: Eli Bowman, Kahlyn Smith
 College Sophomore: Joe Johnson Jr, Grady McGlaughlin, Reese Pellegrin, Carson Pusey
 College Junior: Creed Combs, Haylee Hawley, Cari Martin, Haylee Mitchell, William Painter, Aiden Roach
 College Senior: Annalee Crisman, Leigha Dillard, Kendra Dodrill, Jaden Hall

MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES



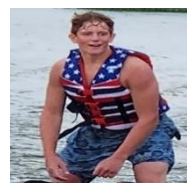
Waylon is 8



Cheyenne/Girls



Gary Heatwole family



On Lake Anna



At the beach

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

- 18 **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**
Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Unexpected Answers from Jesus" from Mark 12:13-34
Back to School Blessing in Worship
- 19 **Chill-N-Chat at 10:00 p.m.**
- 20 **School begins in Rockingham County**
- 24 **Loom Hat Making Workshop at 11:00 a.m.**
Ice Cream Social
- 25 **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**
Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Looking at Things Differently with Jesus" from Mark 12:35-44

- 26 Chill-N-Chat at 10:00 p.m.
- 29 United Methodist Men meet at 6:00 p.m.

Paraphrased Cowboy Words of Wisdom: Never kick a fresh cow pile on a hot day. Always drink upstream from the cattle. The quickest way to double your money is to fold it in half and put it back in your pocket. Never miss a good chance to close your mouth before speaking. When arguing with others, especially a woman, there are two theories, and neither one works. And last, but not least, never squat down when you are wearing your spurs.

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

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sept 1	Scott Sprague	Sept 11	Susie Hill
Sept 1	Bob Hill	Sept 13	Cheryl Carr
Sept 1	Tom Smith	Sept 13	Harrison Bowman
Sept 2	Brandon Bowman	Sept 15	Sandra McCray
Sept 2	Ginny Bowman	Sept 17	Amanda Siler
Sept 2	Travis Martin	Sept 17	Mason Pusey
Sept 3	David Clements	Sept 17	Emily Carr
Sept 3	Leonard Williams	Sept 17	Jan Sites
Sept 7	Nora Grace Jarrels	Sept 18	Leigha Dillard
Sept 9	Mary Combs	Sept 20	Michael Taylor
Sept 9	Julie Zylich	Sept 23	Andrew Coffman
Sept 9	Sean Zylich	Sept 25	Jared Martin
Sept 11	Kristine Welsh	Sept 26	David Miller
Sept 11	Tammy Layman	Sept 26	Allison Hawkins
Sept 11	Jordan Shoemaker	Sept 29	Joseph Botkin Jr

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sept 9, 2006	Mark & Becky Ramsey	18 years
Sept 13, 2003	Ryan & Kathryn Pusey	21 years
Sept 25, 2021	Corey & Christina Shifflett	3 years
Sept 30, 2006	Steve & Beth Morris	18 years

=====

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

- 1 [Small Group Leaders Gathering at 8:45 a.m.](#)
[Sunday School 9:45 a.m.](#)
[Worship at 11:00 a.m. with Communion; Message: "Asking for Signs and the Call to Watch" from Mark 13:1-37](#)
- 2 **LABOR DAY**
- 3 [Simple Accountability Structure Meeting, at 6:00 p.m.](#)
- 4 **UMM Clean out the garage day at 6:00 p.m.**
[Choir practice at 6:30 p.m.](#)
- 5 [UWF meet 7:00 p.m.](#)
- 8 [Sunday School KICKOFF at 9:45 a.m. ; GRANDPARENTS DAY](#)
[Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message: "In Remembrance of Her" from Mark 14:1-11](#)
[Choir Returns](#)

- 9 Worship planning at 9:00 a.m.
 "The Lord's Prayer" Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
 Backpacking at 11:00 p.m.
 UWF Serve Keezletown Ruritan Club
- 10 Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM
 "The Lord's Prayer" Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 11 Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- 12 Lunch Bunch at 11:30 a.m.
- 13 Newsletter items due
- 14 UWF Prayer Breakfast at Dayton UMC, 9:00 AM
- 15 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. ; United Women in Faith Sunday
 Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message by Cathy Sites Chouiniere
- 16 "The Lord's Prayer" Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
 Backpacking at 11:00 p.m.
- 17 Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM
 "The Lord's Prayer" Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Choir practice at 6:30 p.m.
- 19 Serve Kingsway Ministries Meal
- 21 Shenandoah River District Lay Servant Academy will be held 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., at Strasburg UMC.
- 22 FIRST DAY OF FALL
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message: "The Bread and Cup" from Mark 14:12-25
- 23 "The Lord's Prayer" Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
 Backpacking at 11:00 p.m.
- 24 Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM
 "The Lord's Prayer" Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 25 Lunch Bunch at 11:30 a.m.
- 29 NO Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Worship at 11:00 a.m. at Keezletown Ruritan Park Pavilion; Message: "Jesus Giving Hope to
 Deserters, Betrayers, and Deniers" from Mark 14:26-72
 Church picnic after worship at Ruritan Park; UMM providing BBQ Chicken
- 30 "The Lord's Prayer" Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
 Backpacking at 11:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, THANK YOU'S, AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

Lay Servant Training: The Shenandoah River District Lay Servant Academy will be held 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 21 at Strasburg UMC. The theme for the Academy will be "Serving with Grace in the Wesleyan Tradition." We will begin with a worship service led by Conference Lay Leader Martha Stokes. Martha is a wonderful speaker and leader who believes deeply in Lay Servanthood. We will have four classes, plus a preaching review. **Basic Course:** Taught by the Rev. Stephen Creech, pastor at Manor Memorial United Methodist Church in New Market. The book for this course is available at: <https://store.upperroom.org/product/lay-servant-ministries-basic-course-participant-s-book> **Spiritual Gifts:** This course will be taught by Rev. Joseph Clemmons. The book will be <https://store.upperroom.org/product/for-the-common-good>. This is one of the six required courses to become a Certified Lay Speaker. It also will count towards recertification. **United Methodist Polity:** The course gives students insights and understanding into how the United Methodist Church is organized and how decisions are made in the denomination. It will be taught by Martha Stokes, who recently served as a Virginia delegate to the General Conference. This is one of the six required courses to become a Certified Lay Speaker. It also will count towards recertification. The book will be <https://store.upperroom.org/product/the-method-of-our-mission>

Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century: This advanced course will explore how we can create and lead effective ministries for the older members of our congregations and communities. The book for the course will be <https://store.upperroom.org/product/life-together-in-the-united-methodist-connection>. It will count toward recertification as a lay servant or lay speaker. Preaching Review: This is not the required Preaching course. Instead, it is an opportunity for lay speakers (and others) to present a short sermon to a group of experienced pastors, who will offer critiques and constructive criticism. Eventually, we envision that a review such as this will become part of the District Lay Speaker certification process. Rev. Gary Heaton is coordinating this session. Online registration for the classes will begin in early August. Registration will be \$20, with a free will offering for lunch. Contact Wendell Cochran for more details. wendell.cochran@gmail.com or 703 402-9711

LATER UPCOMING EVENTS: **WOW services** being planned for Oct; **Harvest Party** at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday Oct 27th; **Community Thanksgiving Service** at KUMC at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday Nov 24th; **Tree lighting** at Ruritan Park on Dec 7th; and **Christmas Eve Service** on Dec 24th, with Baby Shower for Jesus. Mark your calendars.

SEPTEMBER SHS CARE CLOSET ITEM COLLECTION: Full size blankets - Twin, Full/Q; Full size Backpacks (19"); Socks (M/W); Undies (M/W); Shampo(M/W); Conditioner; Shampoo for Curly/Ethnic Hair; Conditioner for Curly/Ethnic Hair; Curl Creme or Spray; Gel for Curls; Soap (M/W); Body Wash (M/W); Deodorant (M/W); Razors (M/W); Shaving Cream (M/W); Lotion/ Cocoa Butter; Hair Brushes;; Hair Bands/Clips; Cotton Balls; Q-Tips; Toothpaste; Toothbrushes;; Contact Solution; Hand Sanitizer; Tampons (all sizes); Sanitary Napkins (all sizes); and Laundry Detergent (powder/pods). Thank you.

.....
MY PERSONAL NOTE

*"The Lord is my Shepherd"—what more do I need? Except maybe a hug now and then.
Diana*

=====
Editor's Note

The September deadline for submissions is September 13th. 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.

=====
YOUR MOST POWERFUL FAITH TESTIMONY IS GIVEN AFTER YOU WALK OUT OF THE CHURCH DOORS ON SUNDAY MORNING, AND WALK THRU THE WEEK.

DON'T SHINE SO OTHERS CAN SEE YOU. SHINE SO THAT THROUGH YOU, OTHERS CAN SEE HIM." (C.S. LEWIS)