

MOUNTAIN ECHOES

MARCH 2025

171st Edition



More daylight—Spring is here—let's dance!

KEEZLETOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. T. Joel Robinette, Pastor

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I'm ready for the rest of this week! I have my umbrella, my flip flops, my mittens, my suntan lotion, my winter coat, my sunglasses, my thermals, my iced tea and my hot chocolate! (From Funny Thoughts and Jokes)

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**

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## **OUR PASTOR CHATS**

At Lent Suppers and Services I have been sharing about a letter Martin Luther wrote in 1535 to his barber, Master Peter Beskendorf. Peter had asked Martin how to pray and Martin wrote him a letter which has come to be called "A Simple Way to Pray." In the letter Martin writes good ways to pray and he focuses on praying The Lord's Prayer, The Ten Commandments, and The Creed. I have been praying those three daily during Lent and it has been a blessing to me. When we pray "Our Father..." we join with Christians and saints who pray how Jesus taught us to pray. When we pray The Ten Commandments are formed in directions for how to be God's people who have been freed from the tyranny of slavery and oppression backed by empire. When we pray The Creed we put on our faith with other Christians that forms us for living in the light of God's grace. Saint Rich Mullins sang of the creed, "I did not make it, no it is making me." I like that for how we did not make up the creeds and what we believe, they are a gift from God, and they make us and form us for faith and life in Jesus. There are copies of "A Simple Way to Pray" at KUMC and I have emailed it out, too. I challenge us to pray The Lord's Prayer, The Ten Commandments, and The Creed during Lent as one way to let prayer and the grace form and make us disciples of Jesus Christ. Let us pray!

*Pastor Joel*

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### **\*\*\*FEBRUARY EVENTS THAT HAPPENED\*\*\***

**"The Message of Jesus" Bible Study** met on Feb 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Sermon on the Mount and its' implications today. We determined that we all need to let our light shine to others.

**IS YOUR HEART CHANGING?** Continuing in Exodus, Pastor Joel spoke during the worship service on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> about "Changing Hearts". A lot was changing, especially hearts, as the plagues continued in Egypt. We wonder why it took them so long and God kept going. God is working with human hearts and it can take a long time to soften hard hearts. Moses and Aaron were changing too; they could see God working to free the Hebrews. God was bringing these plagues, not to wipe out all of Egypt, but to show His

power and glory. God is reaching out to us—are we ready to accept what He is giving? At the beginning of the plagues no one is listening, but people start listening when they see God's favor on the Hebrews. Hope is not in Pharaoh, or oppression, but in worshipping the One and Only God, who gives them a future. Assisting in today's service were Wendell leading, Chris on the piano, Joel leading the children's time with a story about capturing monkeys, and Jenny giving a report on the Backpack project.

**BACKPACK PROJECT:** Jenny reported that this project has been continuing since she brought it to the Church family in 2011. Some years we have helped as many as 70 children, most of the time in the 30 range. We have given special Christmas boxes, and gave fresh fruit when it has been donated. The ladies that shop for the items are very diligent with their spending, and try to keep a variety of items to give the children. At this time, we have funds to finish this school year, but please keep in mind that August will be here before we know it, and your donations to restock the Backpack room will be greatly appreciated. If you wish to purchase items to donate, suggestions would be peanut butter, individual cereals, ramen noodles, mac & cheese packages, canned vegetables, individual fruit or pudding cups, snacks, oatmeal, breakfast bars, tuna fish cans, or Vienna sausages. If you have any questions before you purchase, please talk with Ginny Joseph or Becky Ryman and they can advise you. Thank you for your continuing support of this very caring project.

**PLAGUES SCRIPTURE COMES TO LIFE:** On Sunday, Feb 16<sup>th</sup> and Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, during the reading of the scriptures, the words came to life. On the 16<sup>th</sup>, Jim and Carol told us of Moses's staff turning into a snake; all the water turning to blood, and as Jim needed a drink and poured the water into the glass it turned red; frogs everywhere, even in the pews, as we heard them croaking; gnats swarming and Carol wiping her nose; then the flies swarming with the sound that only flies can make. Linda and Joe read on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, with Joe as Pharaoh with his crown. They reminded us of the killing of the livestock, the boils on everyone, the hail that destroyed everything, the wind and the locust that ate all that was left, and the darkness for three days. With each plague, Pharaoh's heart was hardened and we heard it clunk as Joe smacked his own chest. If possible, please visit the YouTube worship service for each of these Sundays and watch the words of Scripture come to life. Thank you, Jim, Carol, Linda, and Joe.

**"The Message of Jesus" Bible Study:** this session, Feb 24<sup>th</sup>, focused on studying the Parables of Jesus and how He used them to get His point across. We talked about the Prodigal Son, the Faith of a Mustard Seed, and the Praying of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector.

**LUNCH BUNCH** met on Wednesday, Feb 26<sup>th</sup> at El Charo's in Harrisonburg. The five ladies in attendance had a wonderful meal and lots of laughter talking about animals getting into our homes, or being outside of our homes, and what we did or did not do about them.

*Dear Mother Nature, get back on your meds, have a glass of wine, and start thinking warm happy thoughts. (FS/Mermaid Musings)*

## REMEMBERING AND SMILING



2015 Becca/Diana



2010 Leigha/Haiden



2007 Eli/Hannah



Christmas Program 2012

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays from 10 – 11 AM and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month from 10 AM – 1 PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month from 4 – 7 PM; and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.keezletownumc.com).

**NEW BIBLE STUDY:** This five-week study written by Rev. Adam Hamilton is titled “Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times.” We all struggle with



some fears and anxiety and this resource will help us face fears with hope, examine fears with facts, attack anxieties with action, and release our cares to God. This study will meet on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. from April 21st – May 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. and on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. from April 22nd – May 20<sup>th</sup>. Study books are \$15. Please sign up in the narthex or with Pastor Joel.

## **FAMILY FUN PICTURES**



*Joe Jr is 20*



*Barrett*



*Austyn/Andrea 13*



*Driving herself*



*Rylynn/Morgan*



*Happy BD Nick*

## **FOOD GIGGLES AND A SMILE:**

*Ate a whole box of Thin Mints—didn't get any thinner—I don't think they work!*

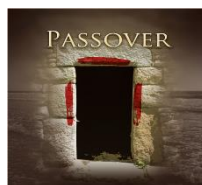
*My new diet trend is to wear winter gloves to make it harder to eat. I call it inter-mitten fasting.*

*I heard the more colorful your salad is, the better it is for you, so I switched croutons for M&M's,*

## **\*\*\*MARCH EVENTS THAT HAPPENED\*\*\***

*"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold, when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade." (Charles Dickens)*

THE BLOOD SOAKED DOOR JAMBS: Today's message on Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> continued the Exodus study, as Pastor Joel spoke from Exodus 11:1-12-42, with a message entitled "The First Passover". This is it! The first great salvation story. At the first Passover God raised up Israel from slavery. Passover started with a feast, guests, and rules to follow deliverance. Passover was a time, the door jambs were of the first born of Egypt died changed. He commanded the Passover with His disciples before His death. We gather, eat, and worship Communion today to celebrate the blood of the Lamb that was shed to save us. Assisting in the service today were Ken leading and telling the children about Jericho; Sharon, Karen, Jim, and Carol assisting with Communion; Scott, Jenny, Haiden, and Joe reading Scripture; and Diana on the organ.



to life with God as their leader. a killed lamb, a dress code, certain before their freedom, God's promise of shared meal with others, and at that painted with the blood of the lamb. All that night, and Pharoah's heart was Israelites to leave. Jesus celebrated

**REMEMBERING THE PAST:** With the extraordinary readings of the Scripture lessons the last few weeks while we were studying Exodus in the worship services, it was only apropos that this picture be shown again of Pastor Joel with his staff from seven years ago.



**Congratulations to Allyse Dillard**, who, on Mar 2<sup>nd</sup>, ran her first 26.2 mile marathon in the Newport News One City Marathon, after having trained with her best friend. Way to go, Allyse.

**"The Message of Jesus" Bible Study** on Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> and Mar 4<sup>th</sup> listed and explained the seven "I Am" statements in John. I Am: the Bread of Life, the Light of the World, the Gate of the Sheep, the Good Shepherd, the Resurrection and the Life, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and the True Vine.

**KEEZLETOWN RURITANS FED:** Four UWif ladies served the meal at the Keezletown Ruritan meeting on Mar 3<sup>rd</sup>, consisting of Meatloaf, Macaroni & Cheese, Green Beans, Apples, Rolls, Dessert, and Tea. Thank you to all who donated or participated.

**ASH WEDNESDAY BEGINS LENT SERVICES:** Approximately 70 people met in the social hall on Wednesday, Mar 5<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m., for the Ash Wednesday service to begin Lent. Scott Dillard welcomed everyone and gave the opening prayer and blessing. The United Methodist Men served spaghetti, salad, bread, and desserts for our meal before the service. Rev Karen Church filled in for ailing Pastor Joel and led the Greeting, Prayer, and Gospel lesson. We then read a responsive reading using the Ten Commandments, followed by the Nicene Creed. She gave a Thanksgiving prayer over the Ashes, and did the imposition to each attendee, as part of the KUMC choir, accompanied by Chris Cole, sang "Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes" and "Take Time to be Holy". A responsive Prayer of Confession, the Pardon, and the Lord's Prayer, preceded the blessing and dismissal.



**The United Women in Faith** met Mar 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Church social hall with 14 members present. Judy called the meeting to order, opened with prayer, and led the UWif Purpose. Feb minutes and the Treasurer's report were read and approved. Mission of the month was split between Heart Haven and Open Doors. Karen will be having order blanks for Easter flowers in the next few weeks for the Easter flowers on Apr 20<sup>th</sup>. Sherry reported we will be serving the Keezletown Ruritans on Apr 7<sup>th</sup> with chicken, apples, green beans, and hashbrown casserole; and the Mt Crawford Ruritans in May. Judy thanked everyone for their help in a successful soup and bake sale. Our Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting will be the Call to Prayer and Self Denial, with a meal provided before the meeting at 6:30 p.m. On Apr 9<sup>th</sup>, we will serve a taco bar for the last Lent service. A list was passed for the Mar 12<sup>th</sup> Lent service for the sides, as Karen is providing chicken. Chris read from the prayer calendar and fourteen cards were signed. Judy closed the meeting with an Irish blessing, before we assembled Health kits. Next meeting is April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

### MORE FOOD GIGGLES AND A SMILE:

If you mean by "crunches" the sound that bacon makes when you eat it, then yes, I do "crunches"!

A taco is a beef love letter in a corn envelope that you mail to your stomach.

Onion rings are vegetable donuts.

Wanna know why we eat chocolate; 'cause our bodies don't make it, so we have to take it as a supplement!

**SO PROUD!** On Mar 8<sup>th</sup>, Jennifer Young posted: "So proud of Parker!!! He wrote a whole album of songs and had his friends collaborate with him on vocals, banjo, piano and violin at a gorgeous recording studio in Mt Solon! Fragments of Tomorrow Sill and Glade Live Sessions can be found on Spotify." Way to go, Parker!

**LOVE IS:** Filling in for an ailing Pastor Joel, Ken Thomas delivered a "Jesus Loves You" message for worship on Mar 9<sup>th</sup> from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:4-7. He said I got the call, thought I had a reserved sermon, and ended up at 2:00 a.m., when the clocks were moving an hour ahead, writing a sermon this morning. A friend had called me about doing the message at the Celebration of Life for Bill, my friend. There I saw love in all that gathered to mourn and celebrate. Love is Jesus, who shows us God. God is love said the Apostle John. It is who God is—He cannot be unloving. We are to love one another. We believe in God's love, but how often do we show others. Loving people is difficult. God's love transmits thru us to others thru our words and our actions. Joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, God's love is expressed in all of these. Love is not just an emotion, but a decision to show God's love. Love one another as Jesus loves you. Assisting today were Leonard leading, Chris on the piano, and Diana telling the Children about a God moment that showed love.



**Keezletown Light Commission** met on Mar 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Social Hall for their Annual Meeting. With six members present, Scott opened and led the meeting with prayer. Minutes from the 2024 meeting were read and the Treasurer's report was given. Thanks were given for two very generous donations that will greatly help the Commission. Officers and directors were elected and it was noted that all lights are burning. March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at KUMC will be the next meeting date.

**TALENTED ARTIST:** Jeanine Underwood posted on Mar 9<sup>th</sup>: "So proud of this kiddo! Alex's work is displayed at the Arts Council of the Valley in downtown Harrisonburg. Snow Cherubs inspired by Raffael's Cherubs. You should totally go check out the exhibit of Rockingham County Public School k-12 art student works!"



**"The Message of Jesus" Bible Study** held on Mar 10<sup>th</sup> focused on Jesus' teachings in the last week of his life and his last seven words from the cross. Each Gospel has about 25 percent or more addressing the last week of Jesus before his death and his teaching and words in that time leading up to the cross.

**SECOND LENT SERVICE** was held on Wednesday, Mar 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., with approximately 60 in attendance. Pastor Joel blessed the gathering and the fried chicken provided by Karen Mooney, and the potluck sides by everyone else. Ann Royer played "I'd Rather Have Jesus" and we all sang "The Old Rugged Cross." Pastor Joel then shared about Martin Luther's "A Simple Way to Pray" and we practiced praying The Lord's Prayer and The Ten Commandments, before Pastor Joel gave the blessing and dismissal.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING** was held Mar 12<sup>th</sup> after the Lent Meal in the church library, with ten members present. Susan called the meeting to order and Pastor Joel opened with prayer. Chris gave the treasurer's report. All bills are taken care of and one month's apportionments are paid. We discussed several ideas for fundraising in the future. Sherry, Susan and Cheryl gave a report for the UWIF for serving the Whetzel Birthday meal, soup sale, and feeding the Keezletown Ruritans. Ken reported that the UMM are planning the pancake supper for Mar 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mike reported the trustees had replaced the water heater at the parsonage in Oct and were making plans to repair the kitchen ceiling once the meals and Easter are over. He expressed his thanks to Joel and Jenn for being such good stewards for the parsonage. Sherry reported for missions that the Souper Bowl collection was a great success, and that Conference Kits are being collected. Carolyn and Joel reported for membership that the church has two new members, Chloe Hayden Robinette and Haiden Gray Dillard who were confirmed and joined as a professing member on Jan 12<sup>th</sup>. Jenny reported for SPRC that they have met with Pastor Joel and he will be staying another year. Pastor Joel made a motion that Jenn serve as the Lay Delegate to Conference, which was seconded and approved. Vacation Bible School will be held July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>, and Jenny will be the coordinator. Rev. Victor Gomez is stepping down and we will have a new DS in July, Rev Kyungsuk Cho. Maundy Thursday services will be held at Trinity, and Good Friday services will be held at St. Jacobs. There will be an Easter Sunrise service with breakfast to follow by small group leaders. There will be no Sunday School on Easter. In other business it was mentioned that KUMC does have a Relay team being led by Lynn Siler. Relay will be held May 3<sup>rd</sup> and the theme this year is "Carnival for a Cure". Chad Hrbek, Director of Camp Overlook, will sponsor one camp scholarship this summer in exchange for us feeding the winter campers at our potato bar. The meeting was closed by reciting the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

**Juanita Nesselrodt Burtner**, 89, longtime member of the Keezletown community, passed on Mar 13<sup>th</sup>. She was married to Lowell Burtner, until his death, and they raised five children on their Keezletown farm. Surviving our James Burtner, Julie B Kane, Virginia B Haywood, and Michael Burtner, as well as five grandchildren. William, her oldest son, also preceded her in death. She was always known as the "Cake Lady", the "Hat Lady", the "Flower Lady", and "friend". Rest In Peace.



**United Methodist Men** held their breakfast meeting on Mar 16<sup>th</sup> with eight members present. Scott Dillard provided an excellent breakfast casserole and fruit meal. Prayers were lifted for those in need. John Young gave the devotions from "Our Daily Bread" about the body of Christ, how each part is important, its' diversity is a strength and grace to other members, all taken from 1



Corinthians 12:21-26. The Treasurer's report was given and approved. A Potato Bar was held on Feb 15<sup>th</sup> for Valentine's Day. We hosted Camp Overlook Winter Camp and fed the campers at the dinner. We are looking into making this an annual tradition. A discussion about increasing membership followed with suggestions for a fellowship event, such as a baseball game. Wendell will check into this. Scott suggested another pizza evening like the one in 2024. The annual Pancake Supper will be held Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:30 p.m. as a Fundraiser for Weekday Religious Education. We will sponsor a Mother's Day Tea on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 a.m. and provide devotions, food, and entertainment. Next meeting will be Apr 13<sup>th</sup> with breakfast by Wendell and devotions by Ken.

**REMEMBER AND CELEBRATE:** Using Exodus 12:43-13:16, Passover Rules, from Scripture, Pastor Joel gave the message "Celebrating God's Salvation" during worship on Mar 16<sup>th</sup>. At this point in Exodus, the Israelites are right in the middle of getting out. Pharaoh told them to go, and the Egyptians are giving them gold and silver to get rid of them. They are told by God to stop and celebrate—to remember. Remember the Passover, the feast with unleavened bread and the blessing of the firstborn. Remembering is knowing that we belong to God, to live for Him. Remembering allows us to not make up as good a story as God has already done. Passover was for all of God's people, the covenant people, if you had joined, to bring salvation. During Lent, we remember we have a story—Jesus came to awaken our belief and faith, and give us salvation and eternal life. Assisting in the service today with music were the worship team of Pastor Joel, Barrett, Karen, and Sharon. Pastor Joel led the Children's Time with the story of St Patrick.

**Lillie "Lil" B Moses Celebration of Life** was held on Sunday, Mar 16<sup>th</sup> at KUMC at 3:00 p.m. Diana played gathering music on the organ and the family processed in to "Blessed Assurance". Pastor Joel gave the Word of Grace and Greeting, before the congregation sang "Be Thou My Vision" accompanied by Chris on the piano. A prayer preceded the showing of a slide show of Lil's life as Diana played hymns. Pastor Joel read the Scriptures and all joined in in reading Psalm 23. Pastor Rusty Beck, from Lil's home church, spoke of her kindness and hospitality, her work as a Switchboard Operator, her trips with her husband Al, her joy in her grandchildren and family, but especially about her cooking and her giving heart in her card ministry, and that you never saw her without her lipstick on. Others than spoke about Lil, before a poem "Legacy of Love" and Lil's words of advice were read. Pastor Joel then spoke about "A Christmas Miracle" that showed God's grace in getting Lil from her home to here before Christmas so that all of the family could be with her at Christmas. A Prayer of Thanksgiving, and the Lord's Prayer followed. Lil's favorite Christmas carol was "Go Tell It On the Mountain", which was sung before the dismissal, with Chris on the piano. Diana played "God Be With You Til We Meet Again" as the congregation left the service. The Ladies of the Church prepared a scrumptious meal for the family and guests after the service.

## **MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES**



*Birthday girls*



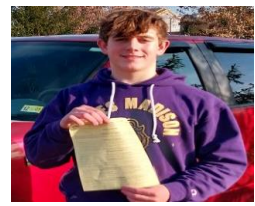
*Bruce & Barbara*



*On vacation*



*March Basketball*



*Got permit 3/12*

### **MORE FOOD GIGGLES AND A SMILE:**

If only vegetables smelled as good as bacon.

You know when you buy a bag of salad and it gets all brown and soggy? Cookies don't do that.

The doctor told me to eat more greens, so I switched to mint ice cream.

Roses are red. Tacos are delicious. I use paper plates, 'cause I hate doing dishes!

I have a condition that keeps me from going on a diet—it's called "hungryitis"!

### **\*\*\*MARCH EVENTS IN NEXT ISSUE\*\*\***

- 17 **St Patrick's Day**  
 "The Message of Jesus" Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. focused on "What does Heaven mean to you?" with lunch at Ciro's in Elkton to follow 12 people  
 Backpacking at 11:00 p.m.
- 18 "The Message of Jesus" Bible Study at 7:00 p.m., with dinner at TBD location at 5:30 p.m.
- 19 Lenten Service and meal at 6:30 p.m.
- 20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING  
 Serve Kingsway Meal
- 22 UMM Annual Pancake Supper 4:30 p.m.
- 23 **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**  
 Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Daily Bread and Water" from Exodus 15:22-17:7
- 24 3/24-28 Spring break  
 Chill & Chat at 11:00 a.m.
- 25 Monday morning Bible study class volunteering at MCCC at 10:00 a.m.  
 TBD Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 26 **Lunch Bunch carpool at 11:15 a.m.**  
 Lenten Service and meal at 6:30 p.m.
- 30 **Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**  
 Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Moses Partnering with People" from Exodus 17:8-18:27
- 31 Backpacking at 10:00 a.m.  
 Chill & Chat at 11:00 a.m.

### MORE FOOD GIGGLES AND A SMILE:

In a span of 11 years 115 people died in weightlifting accidents at the gym. In the same 11 years only 1 person died eating a donut. Make good choices.

Whenever I hear the little voice in my head that says "Eat the chocolate", I always hear a second voice that says, "Do it, eat the chocolate!"

Just when you thought food couldn't call you on your phone...boom...onion rings!

### \*\*\* APRIL EVENTS HAPPENING\*\*\*

#### **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

|        |                  |        |                  |
|--------|------------------|--------|------------------|
| Apr 1  | Kevin Summers    | Apr 15 | Ryan Heishman    |
| Apr 3  | Christine Cole   | Apr 15 | Parker Young     |
| Apr 5  | Jacob Stanley    | Apr 16 | Kristen Roach    |
| Apr 6  | Marshall Liskey  | Apr 17 | Henry Martin     |
| Apr 6  | Gary Knupp Sr    | Apr 18 | Matthew Holliday |
| Apr 7  | Sharon Martin    | Apr 19 | Jan Shafer       |
| Apr 7  | Karen Mooney     | Apr 20 | Mary Jane Propst |
| Apr 7  | Cory Guilliams   | Apr 23 | Jamie Werner     |
| Apr 8  | Justen Cox       | Apr 23 | Sara Ann Cole    |
| Apr 8  | Marcus Hall      | Apr 23 | Juanita Sheffer  |
| Apr 10 | Hunter Pellegrin | Apr 23 | Lily Sacra       |
| Apr 10 | Jaden Hall       | Apr 24 | Randy Sites      |
| Apr 14 | Benjamin Wamsley | Apr 25 | John Foley       |
|        |                  | Apr 27 | Bob Threewitts   |

#### **APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

|              |                               |          |
|--------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Apr 10, 2004 | David & Kathryn Propst Miller | 21 years |
| Apr 15, 1994 | Scott & Jenny Dillard         | 31 years |
| Apr 23, 1964 | Kennis & Carolyn Armentrout   | 61 years |
| Apr 23, 2016 | John & Jennifer Young         | 9 years  |
| Apr 26, 1996 | Randy & Jan Sites             | 29 years |

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



**Kennis & Carolyn Armentrout for 61 years on April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

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

#### **APRIL CALENDAR**

- 1      **Worship Music Practice at 6:00 p.m.**
- 2      **Lenten Service and meal at 6:30 p.m. by St Jacobs Lutheran Church; speaker Ramona Ritchie from Generations Crossing**
- 3      **UWiF Call to Prayer and Self Denial Meal and Meeting at 6:30 p.m.**
- 6      **Small Group Leaders Gathering at 8:45 a.m.**  
**Sunday School 9:45 a.m.**

- Worship at 11:00 a.m. with Communion; Message by Lay Servant Wendell Cochran
- 7 Worship Planning at 9:00 a.m.  
Backpacking at 10:00 a.m.  
Chill & Chat at 11:00 a.m.
- 8 Worship Music Practice at 6:00 p.m.
- 9 Lunch Bunch carpool at 11:15 a.m.  
Lenten Service and meal at 6:30 p.m. UWiF serve tacos; speaker Rev Luke Smith
- 13 UMM Breakfast Meeting and Meal at 8:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message: "There's a New Kind of King in Town" from Luke 19:28-40
- 14 Backpacking at 10:00 a.m.  
Chill & Chat at 11:00 a.m.
- 16 Choir practice at 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Maunday Thursday Service at Trinity Lutheran Church at 6:30 p.m.
- 18 Good Friday Service at St Jacob's Lutheran Church at 6:30 p.m.  
Newsletter items due
- 20 EASTER: Easter Sunrise Service at Cemetery at 7:00 a.m. with Breakfast in Social Hall to follow; NO Sunday School  
Worship at 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Jesus is Risen" from Luke 24:1-12
- 21 Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.  
Backpacking at 11:00 a.m.
- 22 Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 23 Lunch Bunch carpool at 11:15 a.m.
- 24 Serve Kingsway Meal
- 27 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Worship at 11:00 a.m.; SERVICE OF HOPE; Message: "Manna" from Exodus 16:1-36
- 28 Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.  
Backpacking at 11:00 a.m.
- 29 Worship Music Practice at 6:00 p.m.  
Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
- 30 Choir practice at 6:30 p.m.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Chill and Chat:** There will be four weeks of Chill and Chat for fellowship at KUMC on Monday mornings at 11:00 a.m. from Mar 24th – Apr 14th. You may bring your own lunch if you like. For more information please talk to Diana Davis.

**Maunday Thursday Service** will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church during Holy Week on April 17th at 6:30 p.m., with foot washing and Holy Communion.



**Good Friday Service** will be at St. Jacob's Lutheran Church during Holy Week on April 18th at 6:30 p.m. with a Tenebrae Service.

**Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast** will be held April 20th at 7:00 a.m. in the Keezletown Cemetery. Following the service will be an Easter Breakfast at KUMC beginning around 7:30 a.m. More details on breakfast to come! A free will offering will be taken for Relay for Life. No Sunday School for Easter morning. Worship will be at 11:00 a.m.

**SERVICE OF HOPE:** The KUMC Service of Hope will be held during the worship service on Apr 27<sup>th</sup>. All are asked to wear purple that day in remembrance or honor of those who have fought and are fighting cancer. There will be a free will offering taken for the Relay for Life team. Other details for the service are still being planned. See Lynn Siler with questions or suggestions.

**CAMP OVERLOOK:** is planning a **Confirmation Camp** on April 11-12. Rev. Gary Heaton will share about our relationship with God; Rev. Bertina Westley will talk about the Social Principles; and Dwayne Stinson, the Director of Discipleship and Congregational Vitality for the VA Conference, will speak about the Connectional Nature of the Church. More information is on our website. We are also working on **Summer Camp**, which will be 5 weeks of Overnight Camp and 3 weeks of Day Camp, all beginning the week of June 22. All returning Campers should have received a postcard about the different sessions. We have full brochures that we are in the process of distributing. Our theme this year is "The Work of the Holy Spirit."

**A Simple Way to Pray for Lent:** Peter Beskendorf, a barber, asked Martin Luther how to pray. Martin wrote him a letter with "A Simple Way to Pray" which included ways to pray The Lord's Prayer, The Ten Commandments, and The Apostles' Creed. This letter and those resources are available in the narthex to help give you a simple way to pray for Lent or anytime.

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### **MY PERSONAL NOTE**

The days on the calendar are going by quickly, but some of those days are very long and lonely. You eat, you sleep, you go on, but it's not the same—it will never be the same again. You try to think of pleasant thoughts and memories, but they won't come and you are left with tears running down your face to get some peace. Don't let anyone tell you what grief is unless they've been there, and then they still don't know how you are and will handle it. This morning as I sit here looking at his picture and crying, I know it's going to be okay. I hear the voice of God in my head saying "I love you", and when I say "Thank you", He says, "My pleasure", and I giggle. What a mighty God we serve. *Diana*

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**Editor's Note**

**The April deadline for submissions is April 18th.** 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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*One day you'll look back and be Thankful that it went  
God's way and not yours.            -Christian Memes*