



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

The Kedron Connection

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From Our Pastor

Romans 16:1-16

This section of Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome (and circulated amongst other churches) is often dreaded by Liturgists who get up to read scripture during worship! There are some 25 plus Greek and Hebrew names of people eg Asyncritus, Nereus, Aristobulus! So hard to read and pronounce. Maybe some hearers would also bebored.

But once you read (and get past the difficult to pronounce names) you can sense how great was Paul's joy at knowing and working with these Christians. These are "friends and co-workers" he delights in!

I just read through this passage again but I went out of my way and began to just randomly substitute names from the church I grew up in, First UMC, Pennington Gap, VA. And friends from that time that are still friends today and still fellow Christians. Then I read it again and substituted names of Kedron folks! Try it! You will be amazed at how many you get in this list and how absolutely many more you could add if you read time and time again!

We are so blessed and made happy now (and over a lifetime) by the ones who loved us early on in church, worked beside us in church, home, and community, and laughed, cried, and walked with us through good and bad times.

No less than Paul the Apostle celebrates the day in, day out church life we share together and the totality of our life year after year.

So when you struggle to study the difficult to understand teachings of Romans at time, take a break and skip to Romans 16 and put your family and friends names in there in place of Aristobulus and the like! You will be glad you did.....and I think will make you smile! And certainly easier to say "John, Mary, Sue, Bill and the rest than it is to go "all Greek and Hebrew!"

Try it!

Peace and Blessings in the twilight of August Summer!

Pastor Barry

Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast will be Saturday, August 3. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

No August Fellowship Supper

There will be no First-Wednesday Fellowship Supper in August. Our hosting the Rutherford County Laity will be our Supper of the month.

Youth

Our Youth Faith Formation study group is active. There are several participants. Watch for news of their activities. We are grateful for our children and youth, their leaders, and all who have worked with and supported them and their adult leaders.

Bible Study

The Bible Study led by Rev. Travis Perry continues. The group meets at his home on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. The address is 1215 Ledbury Dr., Smyrna.

Bucket Offerings

In August our bucket offerings at Sunday morning worship will be donated to the Salvation Army. This donation will be used to purchase backpacks and school supplies for students.

Food Bank

You may bring food donations for the local food bank on the first and second Sundays of the month. Place the donations on the pew in the narthex. The food will be delivered to the food bank. The suggested item for August is baby food. All non-perishable foods are accepted and appreciated.

Project Transformation

An intern for Project Transformation spoke to us during worship service on July 14. She was working in Woodbury. It was interesting to learn more about this work with children.

Our Administrative Council had earlier voted to make a cash contribution to the project.

Laity

The Rutherford County Laity Fellowship will meet at Kedron on August 26. Each month this group of laity meets at a different United Methodist church in the county.

The meeting begins with dinner provided by the host church. The laity members pay for their meal. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

We hope that everyone who can will help us provide the food. The meat will be furnished. We need Kedron people to bring vegetables, salads, breads and desserts. The church will be open at 5:30 p.m. with someone there to receive the food.

After dinner there will be a program. Pastor Barry is planning our program.

Creek Peak

The Smyrna Parks representative reported that there were 37 and 31 at the last two events of 2019. Staff were very complimentary of our creek critters and our hospitality in giving them access. Well done Kedron!

Whose Letter Has This Benediction?

"Now to him who is able to keep you from falling, and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with rejoicing, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen."

NRSV

(hint book of Jude)

Job 36:5 spoken by Elihu was the July Newsletter quotation.

Happy Birthday to:

Sunya Sprinkle	August 4
Aiden Sarkan	August 13
Naomi Lee	August 23
Tom Root	August 25

Happy Anniversary to:

Shannon & Shana Stacey	Aug. 5
Revs. Barry & LeNoir Culbertson	Aug. 7
Larry & Fay Fraley	Aug. 16
Frank & Linda Pagello	Aug. 24

The church's mission

Jesus sends us into the world, as the Father sent him into the world. . . . In other words our mission is to be modeled on his. Indeed all authentic mission is incarnational mission. It demands identification without loss of identity. It means entering other people's worlds as he entered ours, though without compromising our Christian convictions, values, or standards.

– John Stott, *The Contemporary Christian*,
Christianity Today, February 2005.



August Calendar

Saturday, August 3:

8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

Sunday, August 4:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday August 6:

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, August 11:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, August 13:

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, August 18:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, August 20:

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, August 25:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. September newsletter

information due. Email:

lf_fraley@prodigy.net

or phone: 615-459-2618.

Monday, August 26:

Kedron hosts Rutherford County Laity.

5:30 p.m. Church open

6:30 p.m. Dinner served

Followed by program

and business meeting

Tuesday, August 27:

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

Peacemaking

In our world there is always trouble between nations. In Romans 14:19 there are wise words about peace. Unscramble these words to learn what this verse is.

ELT SU ENTH EUSRUP AWHT SAMEK

ORF PACEE DAN TAULUM DINGBLUIUP

What can you do to have peace in your life? Think of those around you. Are there disagreements and troubles sometimes? What can you do to have fewer arguments and problems?