

## *The Kedron Connection*

**Kedron United Methodist Church**  
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**Volume 14**

**December 2015**

**Issue 11**

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### *From Our Pastor*

The Christian Season of Advent is soon upon us! This Sunday is the first Sunday of four before Christmas Day. Advertisers, catalogues, and retailers want you NOW to think ONLY Christmas. As Christians we move much more deliberately toward that holy day. Slowly. Maybe too slowly for certain young ones!

Advent is all about preparation and anticipation. Waiting and hoping. If we had lived in the Middle Ages, the emphasis was placed on the wrath of God yet to come and the season was more for repentance like Lent! (Maybe not a bad idea to include such repentance given the state of the "Fallen" world this Fall!). The present tendency, tho, is to promote a second theme, that of joyful anticipation. We will be doing that much more! To paraphrase a saying about poems by William Carlos Williams, M.D., "If it ain't a joy... It ain't Advent!"

Joyful anticipation. Let's plan on that kind of Advent and invite others along for the next four weeks. What neighbor of yours wouldn't like a joy ride! Especially going to see and celebrate a baby born who saves us from Sin and Death!

## **Fellowship Supper**

Our First-Wednesday covered-dish fellowship supper will be December 2. We will begin at 6:30 p.m. Plan to be with us for good fellowship and good food.

## **Men's Breakfast – All Invited**

The congregation is invited to the December men's breakfast on December 5 in the Kedron fellowship hall. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. Come and join us.

## **Choir Practice**

On Sunday, December 13 at 2:00 p.m. the choir will practice. We will use most of our time for Christmas program preparation.

## **Christmas Program Practice**

On Saturday, December 19 at 2:00 p.m. there will be a dress rehearsal for everyone participating in the Christmas program. This practice is for the choir and all other participants.

## **Bible Study**

The Bible Study led by Rev. Travis Perry continues. The group meets at the home of Lytle Hodge on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. The address is 507 Hazelwood Drive, Smyrna. The group has a fund to purchase Study Bibles to be given as gifts. Several have been given including presentations to our children and youth. If you would like to contribute to the fund, please see Dot Pressley or Lytle Hodge.

## **Handwork Ministry**

The Handwork Ministry is not meeting in December. An announcement will be made about the January meeting.

## **Bucket Offerings**

In December offerings placed in the buckets at Sunday morning worship will be used to help fund Kedron's Christmas plans for our children and youth.

## **Christmas Eve Service**

Our joint service with Lock's Memorial UMC will be at Kedron this year. We will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 24.

## **Sunday, December 20 at Kedron**

Our worship service will include our 2015 Christmas program.

Following the worship service, we will share snacks and have a time of fellowship.

## **Christmas Cards for Church Family**

If you want, you may bring your Christmas cards for church family on December 20. They will be distributed during fellowship time. There will be a basket available for receiving the cost of postage saved if you want to contribute that to help fund Christmas gifts for shut-ins or other church outreach.

## **Food Bank**

You may bring food donations for the Smyrna/LaVergne Food Bank to the church the first and second Sundays of the month. They will be delivered to the Food Bank. The suggested item for December is peanut butter. All non-perishable foods are accepted.

## **District Hunger Emphasis**

Thanks to all who contributed to the Murfreesboro District Great Bean Collection. Kedron collected 34 pounds of beans to be given to the Smyrna/LaVergne Food Bank.

## **Advent Study**

The Advent Study hosted by various churches in our area continues. Pastor Barry has the details.

## **Rutherford County Laity Fellowship**

The Rutherford County Laity Fellowship will not meet in December. The January meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Fellowship Church in Murfreesboro.

## Happy Birthday to:

Charles Sprinkle	December 3
Kristy Fraley	December 6
Martha Fraley	December 8
Marc Fraley	December 11
Linda Pagello	December 11
Alfred Rhodes	December 12
Danny Fraley	December 14
Jane Watts	December 24

## Who Said This?

“... you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

--NRSV

(hint – from one of the synoptic gospels)

**Psalm 100** was the Psalm quoted in the November newsletter.

## Christmas Eve Readings

Isaiah 9:2-7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-20

## Christmas Day Readings

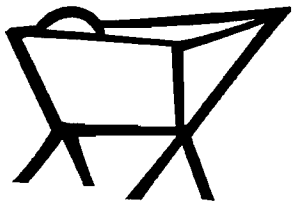
Isaiah 52:7-10  
Psalm 98  
Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12)  
John 1:1-14



## December Calendar

- Tuesday, December 1:  
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- Wednesday, December 2:  
6:30 p.m. Fellowship Supper
- Saturday, December 5:  
8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, All Invited
- Sunday, December 6:  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
8:45 a.m. Sunday School  
9:15 a.m. Choir Practice  
9:30 a.m. Worship Service
- Tuesday, December 8:  
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- Sunday, December 13:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
8:45 a.m. Sunday School  
9:15 a.m. Choir Practice  
9:30 a.m. Worship Service  
2:00 p.m. Choir Practice
- Tuesday, December 15:  
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- Saturday, December 19:  
2:00 p.m. Dress Rehearsal & Choir Practice for Christmas Program
- Sunday, December 20:  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
8:45 a.m. Sunday School  
9:15 a.m. Choir Practice  
9:30 a.m. Worship Service including Christmas Program  
After Worship Service Fellowship Time, Snacks, Cards
- Tuesday, December 22:  
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- Thursday, December 24:  
6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service at Kedron
- Friday, December 25, Christmas Day
- Sunday, December 27:  
8:45 a.m. Sunday School  
9:15 a.m. Choir Practice  
9:30 a.m. Worship Service  
10:30 a.m. January newsletter information due.  
Email: [lf\\_fraley@prodigy.net](mailto:lf_fraley@prodigy.net) or phone 459-2618
- Tuesday, December 29:  
10:00 a.m. Bible Study

# A Child Is Born



Luke 2:7 is part of the Christmas story. Use this code to discover the verse.

A	‡	D	↔	G	⌘	J	=	M	❖	P	▲	S	●	V	:	Y	·
B	■	E	↵	H	+	K	●	N	&	Q	▽	T	→	W	/	Z	=
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Answer  
And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger

