

# Kedron United Methodist Church



*Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open doors The people of The United Methodist Church*

website: [www.kedronumc.org](http://www.kedronumc.org) Facebook: Kedron UMC

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## The Kedron Connection

February 2024

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### A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

*As I write this note, I am preparing to leave for the airport. By the time you receive this, I will have returned. Also, as I write this note, it is during the time our regular worship service has previously been held. Today, worship and Sunday School have been canceled. When I awoke this morning, I had a funny feeling in the pit of my stomach. I am absolutely positive it has everything to do with not being in worship.*

*For years, I have mentioned that I literally woke up in church. As incredible as it sounds, I still have a mental image of looking up from the cradle in the "Cradle Roll Room" at old First Methodist Church in Tusculum, Alabama, and seeing the cut-outs that had been taped there as modest decoration for the infants. It is as vivid an image as I have of anything.*

*When growing up, attendance at church was a given. There was little to no discussion about whether or not to go. For a while, we went to Sunday School every Sunday, but only attended worship every other week. I clearly remember the Sunday my parents made the decision to attend worship every Sunday: it was the Sunday I expected to go home and watch "Tom Terrific" on our black and white television. I was disappointed—and there was no such thing as recording anything! However, in the weeks and months that followed, I came to value the time in worship. My parents would separate me from my sister so there would be no temptation to talk or otherwise disturb those around us. Most of the time, I ended up between my parents.*

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*Both had a very nice voice, especially my mother who, as a child, used to sing on the radio when she and her family lived in El Paso, Texas. As I grew older, I was allowed to sit in the balcony with the other youth—until I was old enough to sing in the adult choir.*

*From those early days until now, worship has been a major part of my life. In fact, worship is one of the cornerstones of my existence—not done out of habit, but out of a need to offer myself to the Living God. Missing worship this morning is somewhat upsetting. For more than 25 years I would not cancel worship. Of course, the churches I pastored were in county seat towns or in Nashville; and the roads were quite passable. I was helped in making this decision one Sunday afternoon while living in a county seat town. I was out driving in the snow and ice and happened to see one of my members driving around. It had been too dangerous for her to get out in the snow when it came time to worship; but, it was not too dangerous to get out and go to the post office to check her post office box!*

*Now, you might ask why I cancelled worship at Kedron and Lock's. While the major roads are o.k., I am aware that the side roads are not safe at all—that plus the fact that the temperature is dangerously low. By the time you read this, the temperature will be higher; but when I got up this morning, my phone app read 0 degrees! Earlier in the week, I made two visits to homes where there was a death. I know what it's like out and around the churches. Your safety is of ultimate importance to me.*

*And so, I look forward to seeing you at worship—and maybe even Sunday School! Both are an excellent time to renew friendships and worship the Living God!*

*Michael D. O'Bannon, Pastor*



### Administrative Council

Our council will meet on **February 4th 2024**  
**At 1pm.(rescheduled from Jan 21st 2024)**

### Fellowship Supper

**No Fellowship supper until March 2024!**

### Men's Breakfast

February 3rd, 2024 at 8 AM.

### Bucket Offering

Our February Bucket offering taken on Sunday morning worship will be donated to: **TBD**

### Food Bank

You may bring food donations for the local food bank on the 1st and 2nd 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 February is **Canned fruit**. All non-perishable food is accepted and appreciated.

### Happy Birthday

Coleman Stacey	Feb. 7th
Diane Bearden	Feb. 7th
Esther Dunbar	Feb. 11th
Loren Vanderkooi	Feb 24th

### Anniversaries

John and Mary Ellen Vance	Feb. 22nd
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### February Calendar

Friday Feb. 2nd      Groundhog Day

Saturday Feb. 3rd      8:00am Men's Breakfast

Sunday Feb. 4th      8:45 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Church Service  
1:00 pm Admin meeting

Sunday Feb. 11th      8:45 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Church Service

Monday Feb. 12th      Presidents Day

Wed. Feb 14th      **Valentines Day**

Sunday Feb. 18th      8:45 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Church Service

Wednesday Feb 21st Bible Study Locke's UMC  
6:30pm

Sunday February 25th      8:45 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Church Service

Monday February 26th      Laity Club

Thursday Feb. 29th      **Leap Year**

March 2024 newsletter info due to Dee Rouse by  
February 26th 615-574-9320 or  
[ddrouse10@gmail.com](mailto:ddrouse10@gmail.com)

### Resources Available

Resources for various kinds of help/support for you or someone you know that might benefit from counseling and/or spiritual support are listed below:

Insight Counseling Center, Murfreesboro  
**615-383-2115** for in person or online/phone counseling.

Upper Room Prayer Ministry **615-340-7200**  
Talkspace.com Online/phone counseling

### Methodist News Source

[www.umnews.org](http://www.umnews.org)

Stones River District Office  
P.O. Box 12191  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

## Winter Storm January 2024



*Happy Valentine's Day*



## Why do we have Leap Year?

*The time it takes for the earth to rotate is  $365 \frac{1}{4}$  days but the calendar year is 365 days, hence once every 4 years to balance this, we have a leap year and an extra day, February 29th.*

*People born on Leap Day are called leaplings or leapers. They usually celebrate their birthdays either on Feb. 28th and March 1st on non Leap year. There have been 4.1 million people born on Feb. 29th.*

*It's a day that legally does not exist.*

*A tradition states that women are allowed to propose to men on this day.*