



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.  
The people of The United Methodist Church\*

### *The Kedron Connection*

**Kedron United Methodist Church**  
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**Volume 16**

**January 2017**

**Issue 1**

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### *From Our Pastor*

Revelation 21:1-5 "Behold, I make all things new."

"Something old, something new something borrowed, something blue." Is that saying for new brides only? Is it something we take with us each New Year? At least the old and the new part of that limerick!

We can't escape the past and we both long for and shun the new. God is the Eternal Now. Whatever has been and however important it has been, God is all about creating new people in Christ and transforming a world all too often repeating mistakes from the past. Those who fail to learn from the past are doomed to repeat the past.

Most preachers would love to see and hear these new "things" in 2017:

- "Hey, it's my turn to sit in the front pew!"
- "I was so enthralled I never noticed your sermon went 15 minutes longer!"
- "I love it when we sing hymns I've never heard before!"
- "Personally, I find witnessing more enjoyable than watching the Titans or even playing golf!"

But, God is oddly quite patient and is willing to work a lifetime to see something "New" bloom in a person's faith walk. So, at the very least be OPEN to God's working something new into your life in 2017. Why, it could appear as soon as.....January!

Have a Happy New Year and a Blessed One for sure!

Pastor Barry

## **Epiphany Sunday**

January 1 is Epiphany Sunday. In remembrance of gifts being brought to the Christ Child, we will bring baby gifts or cash donations to morning worship. These will be given to Miriam's Promise. This group supported by the United Methodist Church in our area is a crisis pregnancy agency and adoption agency

## **Fellowship Supper**

Our First-Wednesday covered-dish fellowship supper will be January 4. We will begin at 6:30 p.m.

## **Men's Breakfast**

The First-Saturday men's breakfast will be January 7. Breakfast will be served at 7:00 a.m.

## **Handwork Ministry**

The Handwork Ministry meets the third Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. to knit and crochet. The group will meet on January 18 at the home of Ernestine Clark, 2414 Gauphin Lane, Smyrna.

## **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. If you would like to contribute to the fund, please see Dot Pressley or Lytle Hodge.

## **Laity Fellowship**

The site for Rutherford County Laity Fellowship January meeting will be announced. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a meal. Kedron will host the group again in August.

## **Bucket Offerings**

In offerings placed in the buckets at Sunday morning worship will be donated to the Smyrna-LaVergne Food Bank.

## **Administrative Council**

Our Administrative Council will meet on Sunday, January 15 at 1:00 p.m. Our new church officers begin their service on January 1.

## **Food Bank**

You may bring food donations for the Smyrna/LaVergne Food Bank to the church the first and second Sundays of the month. Place the food items on the pew in the narthex. The food will be delivered to the Food Bank. The suggested item for January is canned soup. All non-perishable foods are accepted and appreciated. The need is great.

## **Who Said This?**

"When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy."

--NRSV

(hint - book of Matthew)

**Matthew 1:21** spoken by an angel of the Lord was the quotation in the December newsletter.

## **Happy Birthday to:**

Katelyn Patterson	January 11
Shannon Stacey	January 11
Myron Palmer	January 15
Lynn Lee	January 22
Shana Stacey	January 24

## **Outreach**

In December Kedron contributed \$250.00 to the Sixty-Avenue Church in Nashville to help with the Last-Minute Toy Store. We also contributed \$250.00 to the Department of Human Services in Rutherford County to help children, \$250.00 to Child Advocacy Group. We purchased \$100.00 from the Kroger Food Angel Tree.

## **Thank You**

Thanks to all who helped with our Advent and Christmas activities. Thanks to all who attended.

## Kedron UMC 2017 Administrative Council

Chairperson: Larry Fraley  
Vice-Chairperson: Mary Lee Vanderkooi  
Recording Secretary: Fay Fraley  
Lay Leader: Wayne Lee  
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Danny Fraley  
Trustee Chairperson: to be elected  
Finance Chairperson: Wayne Lee  
District Steward: Danny Fraley  
Pastor-Parish Relations Chairperson: Linda Lee  
Charge PPR Chairperson: Lock's PPR Chairperson  
Treasurer: Naomi Lee  
Assistant Treasurer: Mary Lee Vanderkooi  
Financial Secretary: Sue Harris/Lynne Lee  
Membership Secretary: Naomi Lee  
Nurture and Membership: Ernestine Clark/Lytle Hodge  
Outreach Ministries: John Vance  
Witness/Evangelism: Dot Pressley  
Church School Superintendent: Jim Pressley  
Church Historian: Miranda Rhodes  
Newsletter: Fay Fraley  
Website: John Vance  
Worship Chairperson: Sue Harris  
Usher Coordinator: Danny Fraley  
Acolyte Coordinator: Ernestine Clark  
Greeter Coordinator: Danny Fraley  
Disaster Response Coordinators: Mike and  
Debbie Harris  
Members at Large: Evelyn Lee, Larry Lee,  
Sunya Sprinkle, Shana Stacey  
Pastor: Rev. Barry Culbertson

## Kedron UMC 2016 Committees

Committee on Lay Leadership:  
Term expires 12-31-17  
Wayne Lee  
Mary Lee Vanderkooi  
Term expires 12-31-18  
Fay Fraley  
Lynn Lee  
Term expires 12-31-19  
David Lee  
Linda Lee  
Pastor (Staff) Relations:  
Term expires 12-31-17  
Miranda Rhodes  
John Vance  
Term expires 12-31-18  
Teresa Palmer  
Tom Root  
Term expires 12-31-19  
Linda Lee  
Lynne Lee  
Trustees:  
Term expires 12-31-17  
John Lee  
John Vance  
Term expires 12-31-18  
Shannon Stacey  
Arnold White  
Term expires 12-31-19  
Sue Harris  
Doug Rouse  
Finance:  
Term expires 12-31-17  
Dot Pressley  
Mary Ellen Vance  
Term expires 12-31-18  
Lytle Hodge  
Wayne Lee  
Term expires 12-31-19  
Travis Perry  
Tom Root

### An epiphany

"I bring thee gold," said the first wise man in the church school nativity play.

"I bring thee myrrh," said the second.

The third wise man paused. Finally, "Here, Frank sent this."

### January Calendar

Sunday, January 1:

Epiphany Sunday

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, January 3:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, January 4:

6:30 p.m. Fellowship Supper

Saturday, January 7:

7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

Sunday, January 8:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, January 10:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, January 15:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

1:00 p.m. Administrative Council

Tuesday, January 17:

10:00a.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, January 18:

10:00 a.m. Handwork Ministry at Ernestine Clark's home

Sunday, January 22:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. February newsletter information due.

Email:lf\_fraley@prodigy.net  
or phone 615-459-2618

Tuesday, January 24:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, January 29:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, January 31:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

## Opposites

Sometimes we do not act the way God wants us to act.

The two columns at right describe actions or behaviors. For each word in the first column, there is an opposite in the second column. Match the opposites by connecting them with a line, then circle the action that reflects how God wants to us to act.

1. Rude
2. Cheerful
3. Generous
4. Mean
5. Resentful
6. Honest
7. Faithful
8. Lazy
9. Humble
10. Bored
11. Flexible
12. Annoyed

- a. Selfish
- b. Disloyal
- c. Forgiving
- d. Respectful
- e. Patient
- f. Stubborn
- g. Grumpy
- h. Interested
- i. Kind
- j. Deceitful
- k. Proudful
- l. Helpful

God bless  
thy year!  
Thy coming in,  
thy going out,  
Thy rest, thy  
traveling about,  
The rough, the  
smooth,  
The bright,  
the drear,  
God bless thy  
year!

*Author unknown*