



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

The Kedron Connection

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Issue 1

From Our Pastor

Proverbs 22:6
II Timothy 2:15
RAISE UP.....STUDY

One of our 2019 aspirations at Kedron is to offer a more structured (but also fun) opportunity for our youth to experience group learning about the Christian Faith. Worship is at the heart of "absorbing" and living into our faith but without growing in "stature and wisdom" we tend to get stuck in one place for too long with routine and complacency as Christians. This might apply double to youth who have not had ongoing Sunday School or Youth meetings to build upon what worship offers.

So, we hope to set sail in January with at least monthly get togethers in Faith Formation. We will use some curriculum designed for Confirmation classes but very adaptable to our wide range of youth ages and church experience.

I, Rev Rob, and several parents and invested Kedron and District adults will help offer our youth both Biblical, theological content as well as give models and opportunities for youth to do mission and service. In the process, the adults will learn and grow in the Faith as well!

We hope to kick this off around our January Saturday Night Family Night. Everyone is welcome for a very brief orientation, but we hope to meet with the youth as a group and get a sense of the next few months of study and activities related to Faith Formation. Watch for more detail in the bulletins. Pray to support this youth endeavor and pray to offer your own faith experience and gifts in leadership and talent!

Let us all be engaged in 2019 in getting on the Ship of Faith, the Soul Train, the Satellite of Christian Love, and into the School of Rock (Jesus The Rock) with our youth! Ideas and visions are welcomed! Blessings in learning more about Bible, Church, God and All God's People in 2019!

Pastor Barry

Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast will be Saturday, January 5. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. This will be a time of good fellowship and good food.

Fellowship Supper

There will not be a First-Wednesday Supper January or February. Plan to be with us when the suppers resume in March.

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.

Bucket Offerings

In January our bucket offerings at Sunday morning worship will be donated to our local food bank.

Happy Birthday to:

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

Food Bank

You may bring food donations for the local 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 our local food bank. The suggested item for January is peanut butter. All non-perishable foods are accepted and appreciated.

Laity Meeting

The Rutherford County Laity Fellowship is scheduled to meet on January 28 at the MTSU Wesley Foundation, 216 College Heights St., Murfreesboro. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

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

Administrative Council Meeting

Our first 2019 Administrative Council meeting will be January 20. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. New members of the Council and committees will begin service on January 1.

Thank You

Many thanks to all who helped with our Advent and Christmas activities. The Advent moments were very beautiful; the Christmas program written and directed by Delann Dunbar, the program's participants, the costumes, the choir music, Pastor Barry's words, the time of snacks and fellowship and cards were all very meaningful.

Who said this?

"By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

-NRSV

(hint – Book of Luke)

Recipe for a Happy New Year

Take 12 whole months. Clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, hate, and jealousy. Make them just as fresh and clean as possible. Now cut each month into 28, 30, or 31 different parts, but don't make up the whole batch at once. Prepare it one day at a time out of these ingredients.

Mix well into each day one part of faith, one part of patience one part of courage, and one part of work. Add to each day one part of hope, faithfulness, generosity, and kindness. Blend with one part prayer, one part meditation, and one good deed. Season the whole with a dash of good spirits, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play, and a cupful of good humor.

Pour all of this into a vessel of love. Cook thoroughly over radiant joy, garnish with a smile, and serve with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness. You're bound to have a happy new year.

Another Road

Putting the Christmas decorations away is never as much fun as putting them up. The mood of excitement and anticipation may be gone. What was a joy in December becomes just another chore in January.

More importantly, what happens after the decorations are put away? Does life return to normal? Does the spirit of Christmas get packed away in a box along with the lights and the ornaments, or does it stay to transform you and guide you throughout the new year?

The year begins with the feast of the Epiphany celebrating the arrival of the magi – foreigners who came to worship the Christ child. We are familiar with the exotic gifts they bring and the fact that they follow a star which leads them to Bethlehem. Yet their return journey is no less important.

Matthew 2:12 tells us that “having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.” After our annual encounter with the infant Messiah at Christmas time, we have a choice: return to life, normal and unchanged, letting Christmas be just another festival. Or, like the magi, we can return by another road. We can move forward as different people, setting out on a new path of discipleship, guided by the one who came to change the world.

-Logos Productions

January Calendar

Saturday, January 5:

8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

Sunday, January 6:

Epiphany of the Lord

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, January 8:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, January 13:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, January 15:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

January 18-25 Week of Prayer for
Christian Unity

Sunday, January 20:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

1:00 p.m. Administrative Council

Tuesday, January 22:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, January 27:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

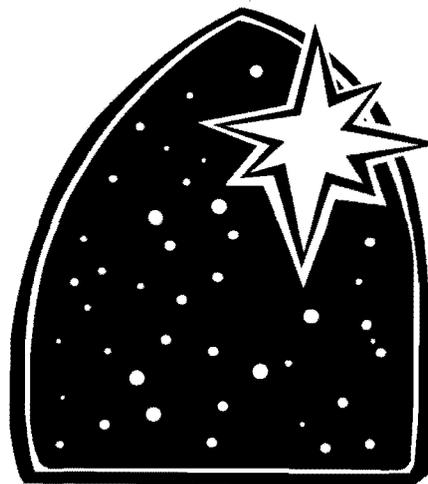
9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. February newsletter

information due [REDACTED]

Tuesday, January 29:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study



SEASON OF EPIPHANY

Follow the Star

Help the wise men find Jesus.

