



The Kedron Connection

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Volume 13

March 2014

Issue 3

From Our Pastor

We had a very productive visioning meeting last week. I'll summarize a few of the things we discussed and then ask some follow up questions for us to think about in preparation for our next meeting. If you have an interest in being involved in this visioning process, please let me or Wayne Lee or Miranda Rhodes know so that we can find a time that works for as many people as possible. If you are unable to attend whichever date is decided upon but have thoughts to share, please let us know that as well.

concerns (with the visioning process)

- efficacy (we want to make sure we have a vision for ourselves that has a possibility of working)
- managing expectations (we need to know what our resources are—time, money, interest in involvement)
- follow through (we need to plan things that we have desire and commitment to follow through with)

Dreaming big is good, but we also want to be realistic about what we are committed to doing and to be careful about not dreaming up something great that we want someone else to do for us.

Kedron's current identity

- cute little country church
- traditional, simple worship
- family church

These all have positives and negatives. We want to be careful not to box ourselves in—to thinking we can only be one type of church—or to thinking we have to be a particular type of church to be "good". The question is what matters most to us—not what other people are doing or what we assume church must look like.

shifts in mentality that could be helpful

- shifting toward a type of mentality that would allow younger/newer people feel able to be involved
- coming to appreciate the skills we already have in working with older people—and building upon those skills

These are both big shifts that could be very helpful. Depending on what our goals end up being, these could even work well together. These are long term changes that will be difficult and require that we interact with people for mutual fulfillment (not for the sake of gaining in attendance or membership). Creating an environment where different people feel like they can take leadership roles in the church would require letting go of power, control, and many if not most of the current systems at work in the church.

activities we have found helpful or might be interested in trying

- ball games
- concerts
- men's breakfast
- local needs mission (coats, shoes)
- softball
- bowling

- providing meeting space for community groups, school groups, recitals, etc
- busing in people who need transportation to church

possible niches we could have in our community

- advocating for environmental/sustainability issues
- teaching hobby gardening
- working with children (in general and with those lacking particular resources)

I suspect we will add quite a few items to the list of activities and to the list of possible niches. Additionally, one of the big questions we will have to answer in our visioning process is how much of “the way things have always been” we are willing to let go of—and which of those familiar things are most important to us and why. I look forward to our next visioning meeting and to hearing your thoughts between now and then. May we continue to open ourselves to the movement of the Spirit.

Pastor Angela

Food Bank

You may bring donations for the Smyrna/LaVergne Food Bank to the church the first and second Sundays of the month and they will be delivered to the Food Bank. The suggested item for March is tuna. All non-perishable foods are accepted. The need is great and donations are greatly appreciated.

Happy Birthday to:

Mary Ellen Vance	March 4
Tanner Stacey	March 5
Anne Hitch	March 6
Mitch Robinson	March 21
Lucas Pagello	March 22
Frank Pagello	March 25
Carol Dorn	March 31

Happy Anniversary to:

Travis & Margaret Perry	March 16
Gaylord & Carol Dorn	March 19
James & Jeanne Neville	March 26

Who said this?

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

--NRSV (hint, Colossians)

Proverbs 30:5 spoken by Agur was the quote in the February newsletter.

March Calendar

Saturday, March 1:

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
- 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, March 2:

- 8:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, March 4:

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, March 5:

- 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service at Lock's

March Calendar (continued)

Friday, March 7:

World Day of Prayer

Saturday, March 8:

- 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, March 9:

First Sunday in Lent

Daylight Saving Time begins

- 8:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, March 11:

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, March 12:

- 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Supper

Saturday, March 15:

- 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, March 16:

Second Sunday in Lent

- 8:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, March 18:

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, March 19:

- 9:30 a.m. Handwork Ministry at Evelyn Lee's

Saturday, March 22:

- 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, March 23:

Third Sunday in Lent

- 8:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 10:30 a.m. April newsletter information due

Tuesday, March 25:

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Saturday, March 29:

- 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, March 30:

Fourth Sunday in Lent

- 8:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Men's Breakfast

The monthly First-Saturday Men's Breakfast will be on March 1. Breakfast will be served at 7:00 a.m. Men, come join us for what some say is the best breakfast in town.

Fellowship Supper

Our March covered-dish fellowship supper will be **Wednesday, March 12**. We will begin at 6:30 p.m. Come, join us for good fellowship and good food. In April we will return to having the suppers the first Wednesdays of the month. This March change is due to Ash Wednesday.

Handwork Ministry

The Handwork Ministry meets the third Wednesday of the month to knit and crochet. The next meeting will be March 19 at Evelyn Lee's home. We will begin at 9:30 a.m. Please plan to join us if you knit, crochet or want to learn.

Choir Notes

We will continue to meet at 9:15 on Sunday mornings. We plan to practice on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. until Easter Sunday. Our first Saturday practice will be March 1. As the weeks pass, we will adjust this plan if needed. Would you like to join us? We would be happy to welcome you. Lent and Easter music has been selected.

Bible Study

The Bible Study led by Rev. Travis Perry continues. The group is now meeting at the home of Lytle Hodge on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.

Attention Youth! New Class

Linda Lee is leading a new class for our youth ages 10 and older. This is a class to learn about the church and confirmation. The group meets during Sunday morning worship, leaving the sanctuary after the children's chat. This is a great opportunity for our youth.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, The forty days (excluding Sundays) leading to Easter Sunday. Our Ash Wednesday Service will be at Lock's Memorial UMC this year as it was at Kedron in 2013. The service will begin at 6:30 p.m. on March 5.

Bucket Offerings

In March the offerings placed in the buckets carried by the children at Sunday morning worship will be contributed to the Wesley Foundation at Middle Tennessee State University. This United Methodist organization ministers to the university students.

Rutherford County Laity

The Rutherford County Laity Fellowship will meet March 24 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be at Smyrna First UMC. Please remember to bring hygiene items for the Tennessee Rehabilitation Center in Smyrna.

Pancake Breakfast – The group will host a pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 22 at Fellowship UMC in Murfreesboro from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. The money from ticket sales will help fund outreach ministries of the group. Tickets may be purchased from a group member or at the door.

Adult/Older Adult Ministries

Workshop and Luncheon

Sponsored by the Tennessee Conference
Tuesday, March 18 9:30 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

Brentwood UMC in Haney Hall

Details and registration information on the bulletin board in the narthex

Face 2 Face – A New Experience on the "Walk to Emmaus"

Fridays April 25-May 16, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Fellowship UMC

Details and registration information on the bulletin board in the narthex

God Cares

Jesus says that God knows what is happening to every person and thing God has made. Nothing is too small or unimportant for God to love or care about.

Finish this dot-to-dot picture to show that God cares about even very small things.

