

The Kedron Connection

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From Our Pastor

“Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.”
Proverbs 19:21 (NIV)

“Man proposes, God disposes.” Thomas A. Kempis – The Imitation of Christ

I just made a doctor’s appointment. Or rather I rescheduled from May back to next week! I suspect at least 90% of you reading this have a health care provider appointment within the next 6 months! Or certainly you have a personal calendar with places to be and things to do. Vacation? Spring Break kids?! That trip to see family out of town?

For us who love our church life together (or are at least mildly interested!) there are many events to look forward to in spring and our next season of the Christian Year we call Lent. March is packed! Look at the newsletter calendar! Life together! We plan and then engage in discipleship and mission.

However...the Christian is always prayerfully reminding oneself that life ahead is unknown. Each bend in the road may reveal the unexpected. A sudden alarming call. A challenging moment. A detour down the unfamiliar. Some for better...some not so much.

The person of faith says “God is with me. I am up to anything.” Of course, that being “up to anything” is a matter of degree! An opportunistic cold is not the same thing as winding up in the Emergency Room! The rain will fall on the righteous and the unrighteous alike. The sun also rises then sets on all for both light and darkness.

But, knowing this is most helpful for being led by God in each day rather than believing we are in control of our lives. One’s daily prayers always encourage us to trust God and then step out in faith for whatever life holds for us.

As we enter into Lent, as the days lengthen in light, let us plan for the discipline and joy of Christian opportunities of service and fellowship, but always mindful that whatever may come, we are traveling in God’s “ark, the Church” and we shall arrive at Home safe and sound!

See you on the road this month on our way together to Easter!

Blessings,
Pastor Barry

Ash Wednesday

Our Ash Wednesday Service will be at Kedron at 7:00 p.m. on March 1. This is a joint service with Lock's Memorial UMC.

Men's Breakfast

The First-Saturday men's breakfast will be March 4. Breakfast will be served at 7:00 a.m.

Fellowship Supper

Our March covered-dish fellowship supper will be **Wednesday, March 8**. This is the second Wednesday of the month rather than the first Wednesday, as March 1 is Ash Wednesday. We will return to the first Wednesday in April. We will begin at 6:30 p.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 March 15 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.

Choir Notes

We are practicing for Easter. We will announce the practice schedule soon. Would you like to sing with us? We would be happy to have you

Laity Fellowship

The Rutherford County Laity Fellowship will meet on March 27 at Smyrna First UMC, 301 Sam Davis Road. The meeting will begin with dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Happy Birthday to:

Mary Ellen Vance	March 4
Tanner Stacey	March 5
Frank Pagello	March 25
Rev. Barry Culbertson	March 27
Carol Dorn	March 31

Happy Anniversary to:

Doug & Dee Rouse	March 14
Travis & Margaret Perry	March 16
Gaylord & Carol Dorn	March 19
James & Jeanne Neville	March 26

Bucket Offerings

In March offerings placed in the buckets at Sunday morning worship will be donated to the Smyrna/LaVergne Assistance Coalition. This group helps people who need assistance paying for utilities and other living expenses, but not food.

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 March is sugar-free foods. All non-perishable foods are accepted.

Lenten Study

A Lenten Study with Concord, Eagleville, and St. Paul United Methodist Churches will begin On March 5 at Eagleville UMC. The time will probably be 6:00 p.m. The location will rotate. This is a six-week study.

Pastor Barry is scheduled to be the presenter on March 12. The study will use a book by Adam Hamilton. Contact Pastor Barry if you are interested in attending.

1 Corinthians 13:13 written by Paul was the quotation in the February newsletter.

Who Said This?

“Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his presence continually.”

--NRSV

(hint – book of 1 Chronicles)

The Season of Lent

Lent is the 40 days from Ash Wednesday until Easter, not counting Sundays. The Sundays are not included because each Sunday is, in its own way, a celebration of the resurrection. Thus, officially, the Sundays are counted as Sundays “in” Lent rather than “of” Lent. The symbolism of 40 days parallels the time that the Gospels tell us Jesus spent in the wilderness. This is a season of self-reflection and repentance for all Christians.

Listen for Lent

How hard it is to listen, really listen. It’s a habit, a ministry, a way of life. But it needs cultivation.

Listen to your children. If the conversation is a steady lecture, no wonder they quit listening.

Listen to your spouse. Find out what’s really on each other’s mind.

Listen to an elderly person. Let him or her talk about the past; it can be fascinating.

Listen to your pastor. Focus your whole attention on the sermon.

Listen to music. Listen to the words of the hymns and anthems, an opera, a good recording or the sounds of a symphony

Listen to the sounds of nature. The birds have a language.

Listening is a humbling, learning experience.

Listen for God.

--Betty Rowland



March Calendar

Wednesday, March 1:

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

Friday, March 3: World Day of Prayer

Saturday, March 4:

7:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast

Sunday, March 5:

1st Sunday in Lent

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

1:30 p.m. Native American Resource Day
Blackman UMC until 4:30 p.m.

Evening Lenten Study begins at Eagleville
UMC, then different church each Sunday

Tuesday, March 7:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, March 8:

6:30 p.m. Fellowship Supper

Sunday, March 12:

2nd Sunday in Lent

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, March 14:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, March 15:

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

Sunday, March 19:

3rd Sunday in Lent

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, March 21:

10:00a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, March 26: One Great Hour of Sharing

4th Sunday in Lent

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

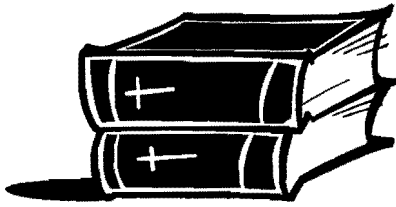
10:30 a.m. April newsletter
information due.

Monday, March 27:

6:30 p.m. Laity at Smyrna UMC

Tuesday, March 28:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study



Books, Books, Books!

Find the books of the New Testament in this word find puzzle. (For books with more than one part, such as 1 and 2 Timothy, you will find Timothy listed only once.)

- | | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Matthew | 1 Timothy |
| Mark | 2 Timothy |
| Luke | Titus |
| John | Philemon |
| Acts | Hebrews |
| Romans | James |
| 1 Corinthians | 1 Peter |
| 2 Corinthians | 2 Peter |
| Galatians | 1 John |
| Ephesians | 2 John |
| Philippians | 3 John |
| Colossians | Jude |
| 1 Thessalonians | Revelation |
| 2 Thessalonians | |

A M T R A B U X C S T C V B Y T D U W V C E
 F X A D U G W N H O J Y H E V X I Z Y W J F
 X K G T A Z L Y Z H R B T I M O T H Y S M C
 N D P E T E R I O Z S I E J P R A K N N Q F
 G E R L Y H T O M I T S N H E M T A B A I U
 V P J N W C E A K U C X O T Y E I L Z I P M
 A H H E B R E W S B A N E Q H S K C D N O R
 D E P S E G Q B N E C P T R S I R U F O S G
 U S H T D A V I A U E N H O J W A V L L J X
 K I W Y F L Z X M L J F L I Y A M N G A Z M
 H A N B G A I B O C A O A H L D J O S S B P
 S N A I H T N I R O C E H C D I C E I S D F
 E S Q J K I E R F G D S K N G L P T H E L U
 V G M H J A W H I U N O M E L I H P Z H I J
 K Y I M J N H O J Z L N J A N M K B I T J C
 D N L E P S O K F O M P G O L M Q H N A R I
 T H E S S A L O N I A N S E M A J P N K N T
 L R U Q M N S O S N O I T A L E V E R N V S

