

The Kedron Connection

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Issue 11

From Our Pastor

For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. – 1 Corinthians 15:22 RSV

Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell are spoken of as The Four Last Things. They tend to be interpreted chronologically, since life is more easily expressed in notions of time.

Rev Robert Capon, though, imagines these Last Things as being similar to the layers of an onion. There will be tears as we peel away the layers.

The tears that surround Death and Judgment are obvious: the former tells us we are mortal; the latter reminds us that our lives will be seen in all their goodness and badness. And Hell makes us weep as it reminds us of separation and isolation.

But crying over Heaven?! Well, who hasn't cried for joy? At the center of the onion, and all of our life, is the heart of all Creation, the Christ, the Alpha and the Omega, who makes us weep for joy. Only in Christ will all be made eternally alive, every sin forgiven, and every tear finally wiped away.

Doesn't it make your eyes water?!!

Prayer: O loving and forgiving God, may our tears flow freely in this world, but disappear completely in your New Creation. May we trust that all the Saints are rejoicing and are at perfect peace with eyes clear and full of praise and wonder!

Men's Breakfast

The monthly First-Saturday men's breakfast will be November 1 in the Kedron fellowship hall. Breakfast will be served at 7:00 a.m. Men, please join us.

Choir Notes

We will have choir practice Saturday, November 1 at 10:00 a.m. We will discuss other possible practice times as we prepare for Christmas. We will continue to meet at 9:15 on Sunday mornings and briefly after worship services for practice. Would you like to sing with us? We would be happy to have you. Come and sing joyful Christmas music with us.

Charge Conference

Our annual Charge Conference will be November 12. We will meet at Lock's Memorial UMC at 7:00 p.m. Anyone in our congregation may attend.

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.

Handwork Ministry

The Handwork Ministry usually meets the third Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. to knit and crochet. The group has decided to take a break. They will begin meeting again in February.

Bucket Offerings

In November, the offerings placed in the buckets at Sunday morning worship will be contributed to the Fisher House in Murfreesboro.

Rutherford Co. Laity Fellowship

This group will meet on November 17 at the Wesley Foundation serving Middle Tennessee State University. The address is 216 College Heights Street, Murfreesboro. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. with dinner.

Fellowship Supper

Our First-Wednesday fellowship supper will be November 5. We will begin at 6:30 p.m. This will be an opportunity to enjoy good food and fellowship.

Baby Shower

We are invited to a baby shower for Miranda and B. L. Rhodes. The shower will be immediately following the fellowship supper on November 5.

Five Week Sunday Study

Pastor Barry is attending the study centered on The Journey by Adam Hamilton. There are four weeks remaining in the study. The group meets at various United Methodist churches at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings. Pastor Barry is available to carpool if someone would like to join him.

Food Bank

You may bring food 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 items for November are spaghetti and spaghetti sauce. The need is great. All non-perishable foods are accepted and appreciated.

Happy Birthday to:

Gaylord Dorn	November 12
B. L. Rhodes	November 12
Mary Lee Vanderkooi	November 16
Margaret Perry	November 17
Ruth Kitchen	November 19
Mildred Gentry	November 28

Happy Anniversary to:

Loren & Mary Lee Vanderkooi	November 2
Danny & Martha Fraley	November 16

Proverbs 3:3 written by Solomon was the quotation in the October newsletter.

Christmas at Beersheba

Activities include: special Christmas music, Christmas lunch, singing of Christmas carols, spirit filled worship service.

Date options are: Dec. 2, Dec. 4, Dec. 5, Dec. 9, Dec. 11. The gatherings are 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Contact Tracey Karl at 615-327-1177 to register soon as space is limited. The cost is \$15.00 for each person.

Where is this found in The Psalms?

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

--NRSV

On the lighter side...

A Sacristan, wanting to inform the congregation that their priest had recovered from his illness, posted the following notice on the announcement board:

GOD IS GOOD
THE VICAR IS BETTER

From a church newsletter:

The Vestry Meeting on Thursday will begin with prayer.

A young vicar called on a parishioner celebrating his 99th birthday. Ending the visit, the vicar said, “I hope to see you again on your 100th.” The elderly gentleman replied, “I see no reason why you shouldn’t young man. You look healthy enough to me.”

— *The Anglican Digest*, Lent 2005

November Calendar

Saturday, November 1:

7:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, November 2:

Daylight Saving Time ends

All Saints Sunday

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, November 4:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study at

Lytle Hodge’s home

Wednesday, November 5:

6:30 p.m. Fellowship Supper

Baby Shower for Miranda &

B. L. Rhodes

Sunday, November 9:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, November 11:

Veterans Day

10:00 a.m. Bible Study at

Lytle Hodge’s home

Wednesday, November 12:

7:00 p.m. Charge Conference at Lock’s

Sunday, November 16:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, November 18:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study at

Lytle Hodge’s home

Sunday, November 23:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Choir Practice

10:30 a.m. November newsletter

information due.

Email: lf_fraley@prodigy.net

or phone 459-2618

Tuesday, November 25:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study at

Lytle Hodge’s home

Thursday, November 27:

Thanksgiving Day

Sunday, November 30:

First Sunday of Advent

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Choir Practice

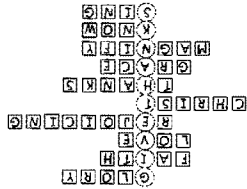
Bible Word Search

Using an NRSV Bible, look up the verse beside each row of boxes and find a word that fits. The letters in the circles spell today's mystery words.

MYSTERY WORDS

Throughout the year we

for all that God does for us.



Revelation 7:12	○	□	□	□	Y				
	□	A	○	□	□	Colossians 2:7			
	□	□	○	E	□	1 Corinthians 13:1			
Nehemiah 12:27	□	○	□	□	□	C	□	□	□
	□	H	□	□	□	○	Romans 1:8		
Psalms 100:4	□	○	□	□	K	□			
	□	R	○	□	□	1 Corinthians 1:4			
Psalms 69:30	□	A	○	□	□	□			
	□	□	○	□	□	W			
Psalms 147:7	□	○	I	□	□				

Thanks-doing

The French word for *thanksgiving* is *Fête d'actions de grace* or literally, "feast of thanks actions." When we give thanks, as well as celebrating all that we have received, what can we *do* to show our gratitude to God? Not just one day, but all year long? How can our thanks-giving become thanks-doing?

Advent – a time to prepare

What if you were given eight hours to chop down an enormous tree? If you're like most people, you probably would grab your axe and swing furiously with all your might for eight hours straight. Abraham Lincoln said he would do something different. He said, "If I had eight hours to chop down a tree, I'd spend six of the eight hours sharpening my axe."

A dull axe demands much strength; a sharp axe saves strength. Lincoln was not referring merely to axes and trees, however, but to preparation in every area of life.

Advent is our axe sharpening time, a time to pray, meditate, and prepare for the commemoration of the greatest event in the history of the world. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

– Illustration Sourcebank III

