

*The Kedron Connection*

**Kedron United Methodist Church**  
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*September 2017*

*Issue 8*

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Galatians 5:13

"You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only don't let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge your selfish impulses, but serve each other in love. All the Law has been fulfilled in a single statement: LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF. But if you bite and devour each other, be careful that you don't get eaten up by each other!"

I say this is a church theme for September! Summer is over and teachers, coaches, employers, and government lay down the Law! Get to work!

At least as the church...we start with love in our relations with each other. And that love comes from a new freedom from Laws that often CAN substitute for love(!). Paul was saying as much. Laws often imply "force." Love is demonstrated in care and persuasion and example, rather than force. Of course, there are people bound to abuse both freedom and life given by God. Laws are the "backup" in the absence of love. Laws at their finest try to insure justice, peace, and keep power out of the hands of just a few.

It's noteworthy to point out that our Homecoming on September 17 is also the date that our US Constitution was signed in 1787. We had won our freedom from England. No longer under the "thumb of unjust British rule," we had a new freedom that needed some guidance. As citizens we look to the Constitution and its constant interpretation. So we can find ways to ensure "liberty and justice for all."

You can see some similarities in Paul's call to freedom in Christ and the need to give guidance in love for that freedom! Herein we look to our Bible and we seek to study and interpret so to find the Way to "abundant life" (John 10:10).

So when we gather on September 17th as brothers and sisters in Christ let us be reminded we best learn our freedom in Christ by example, study, and interpretation.

Look around you to all those whose servant love sets an example to follow, appreciate your own discipline in Bible study, and give thanks for those who help in interpreting the words of scripture so that they become the Living Word within you!

All this we WILL celebrate at Homecoming! Invite your neighbor! Be there in freedom and love!

Pastor Barry

## Men's Breakfast

The September Men's Breakfast will be Saturday, September 2. Breakfast will be served at 7:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Men, come join us.

## Fellowship Supper

There will be no September First-Wednesday Fellowship Supper. Plan to be with us on Wednesday, October 4 at 6:30 p.m. for our next Fellowship Supper

## Choir Notes

Let's practice Sunday, September 10 immediately following worship service. We will prepare for Homecoming.

## 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 Wednesday, September 20 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. If you would like to donate to the group's fund to give Study Bibles as gifts, see Dot Pressley or Lytle.

## Laity Meeting

The Rutherford County Laity Fellowship will meet on Monday, September 25 at Bethel UMC, 4286 Sulphur Springs Road, Murfreesboro. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. with dinner.

## Bucket Offerings

In September our bucket offerings at Sunday morning worship will be donated to the local food bank. This Nourish Food Bank serves the Smyrna and LaVergne area.

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

## Kedron Homecoming (Note Times)

Our annual Homecoming is the third Sunday in September. This year that will be September 17. **The time changes are for Sunday, September 17 only: Sunday School 10:15 a.m., Worship Service 11:00 a.m.** Following Worship Service there will be a covered-dish lunch.

## Food Bank

You may bring food donations for the Nourish 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 September is oatmeal. All non-perishable foods are accepted and appreciated.

## Eclipse Party

Thank you to all who helped with our Eclipse Party on August 21. We had many visitors from our community and beyond, as far away as Washington, D.C. Lots of thanks were spoken for our planning and hospitality.

## Thank You

Thanks to all who worked when we hosted the Rutherford County Laity Fellowship on August 28. There were many expressions of appreciation for the program and the food.

## Who Said This?

"... Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" --NRSV  
(hint – The Gospel According to Mark)

## Happy Birthday to:

Deborah Kedell	Sept. 2
Reba Lee Jackson	Sept. 5
Micayla Hickman	Sept. 20
John Lee	Sept. 24
Alicia Hernandez	Sept. 27
David Lee	Sept. 28

## Happy Anniversary to:

John & Naomi Lee	Sept. 16
Keith & Geri Lee	Sept. 26

## Listening to the Silence

Macrina Wiederkehr in her book Seven Sacred Pauses says this about silence:

Silence is like a river of grace inviting us to leap, unafraid into its beckoning depths. It is dark and mysterious in the waters of grace. Yet in the silent darkness we are given new eyes. In the heart of the divine we can see more clearly who we are. We are renewed and cleansed in this river of silence. There are those among you who fear the Great Silence. It is a foreign land to you.

Sometimes it is good to leap into the unknown. Practice leaping.

Can we do that? Can we pause long enough in our busy lives to leap into the great silence?

Can we let the wind, earthquake, and fire of our busyness lapse away, that we might spend at least a few moments in the silent presence of God?



## September Calendar

Saturday, September 2:

7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

Sunday, September 3:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

1:00 p.m. Committee on Lay Leadership

Tuesday, September 5:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, September 10:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

After Worship Choir Practice

Tuesday, September 12:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, September 17

Homecoming Sunday:

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Choir Practice

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

After Worship Covered-dish Lunch

Tuesday, September 19:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, September 20:

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

Sunday, September 24:

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

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

Email: [lf\\_fraley@prodigy.net](mailto:lf_fraley@prodigy.net)

or phone: 615-459-2618.

Monday, September 25:

6:30 p.m. Laity Fellowship

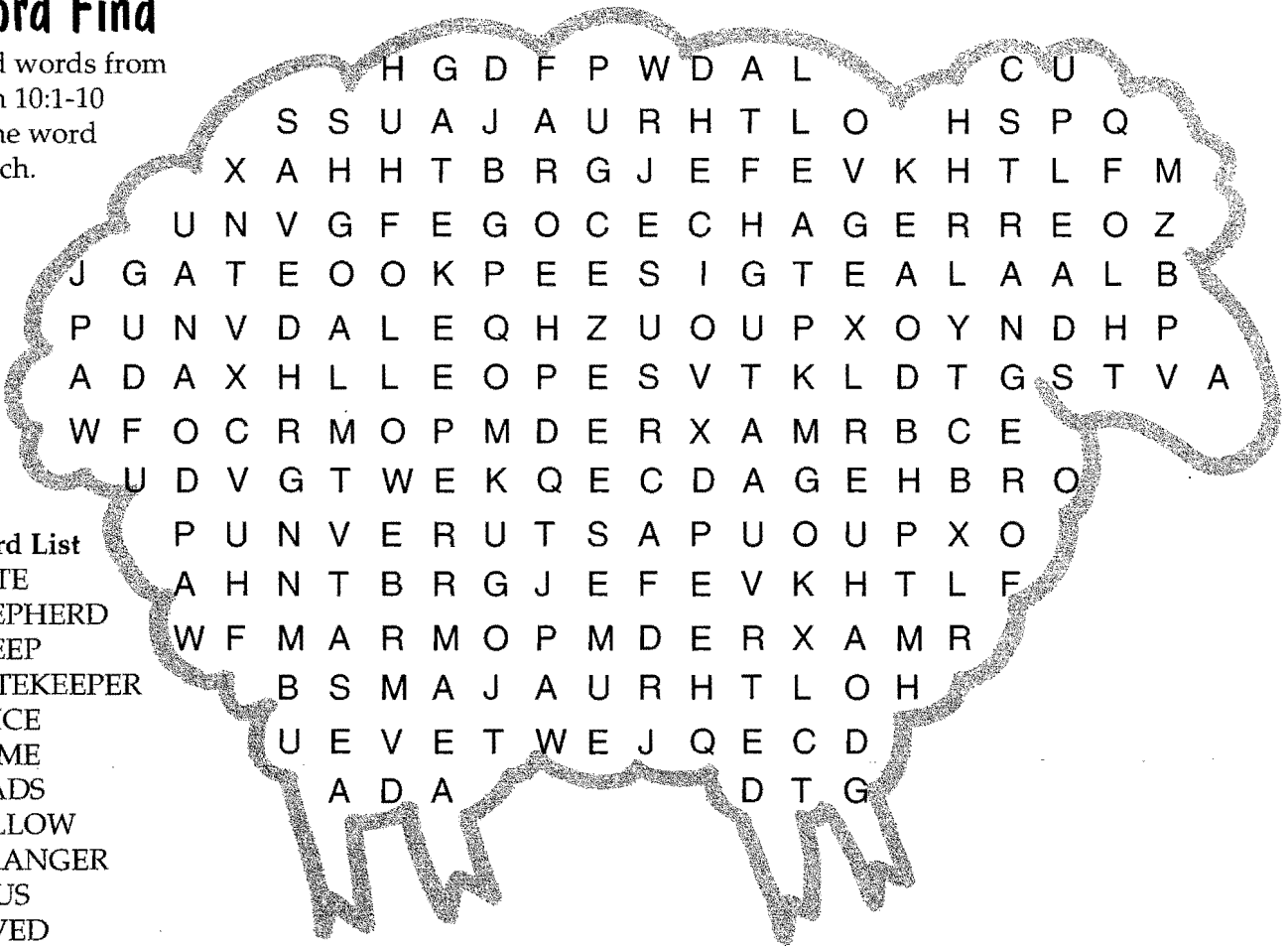
Bethel UMC

Tuesday, September 26:

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

# Word Find

Find words from  
John 10:1-10  
in the word  
search.



## Word List

- GATE
- SHEPHERD
- SHEEP
- GATEKEEPER
- VOICE
- NAME
- LEADS
- FOLLOW
- STRANGER
- JESUS
- SAVED
- PASTURE