

Kedron United Methodist Church



Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open doors The people of The United Methodist Church

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The Kedron Connection

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Sometimes I get confused with the current abbreviations for phrases. I know a few: BFF (best friend forever); LOL (laugh out loud); BTW (by the way); e.g., (exempli gratia=for example); and, ASAP (as soon as possible; I've been using that one for a long time). I also have been made aware of several others that I don't want to mention in this note. They are either vulgar, insensitive, or offensive. And then, there are host of others that I have to look up. (There's a list on the internet.)

We've always used abbreviations. I imagine there were as many in the Franklin Roosevelt days as there are today; but most of them have fallen out of use. Some of the archaic ones include: CAA (Civil Aeronautics Administration); CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps); and the WPA (Works Progress Administration). Of course, some are still in use (e.g., TVA, the Tennessee Valley Administration, for which my grandfather worked from its inception until his retirement).

The Church has not been exempt from using abbreviations. I'm sure you have learned by now that I am interested in the origins of words and phrases. None are more important to me than the words, phrases, and abbreviations of the 2,000-year history of the Church. Consider, e.g., UMC (United Methodist Church); and WWJD (What would Jesus Do?). There is one that is probably misunderstood today that I'd like to mention, especially since the Advent and Christmas seasons will be here before we know it. The abbreviation is XMAS. I have heard many misinformed pastors and members of congregations mistakenly say, "Don't X Jesus out of Christmas." While the sentiment is true and a much needed reminder in today's ever increasingly secular culture, XMAS

does not mean “X-ing Jesus out of Christmas.” (I just read an article on the internet how many people are getting away from church—and even religion in general.)

XMAS is an old abbreviations used by the Church. In ancient manuscripts of the New Testament and of Christian writings, it was common for scribes to use “X” as an abbreviation for “Christ.” (“X” is the first letter in the Greek word for “Christ.” It is represented as a “ch” in English.) The “mas” part in XMAS comes from the Old English for *Missa*, a word in Latin meaning “dismissal.” Eventually, the word became “Mass,” and was used to describe Holy Communion when the birth of Christ was observed. That’s where the term, “Christmas” comes from. The abbreviation, “Xmas,” then became associated with the growing observance of the birth of Jesus, first mentioned as early as the third century, A.D. So, when using “XMAS,” it’s important to remember that it is not something to remove Christ from Christmas, or to lessen the importance of the event in which God offered salvation to the world. It was simply a way in which ancient scribes transcribed the title of the event in which the birth of Christ was observed.

As a reminder: at Bible Study on most Wednesday nights at Lock’s Memorial UMC, I often explain little mysteries like this. My approach is, “Little Known Things About the Best Known Book.” If you want to know more, consider coming to Bible Study. It’s open to all, and there are always great snacks!

Michael O’Bannon, Pastor



Administrative Council

Our council will meet on **October 16th, 2023**
At 1pm.

Fellowship Supper

There will be **NO** Fellowship Supper this month
due to Homecoming on Sept. 17th

Men's Breakfast

September 2nd., 2023 at 8 AM

Bucket Offering

Our September Bucket offering taken on Sunday
morning worship will be donated to: **Food Bank**

Food Bank

You may bring food donations for the local food bank
on the 1st and 2nd Sundays of the month. Place the
donations on the pew in the narthex. The food will be
delivered to the food bank. The Suggested item for
September is **pasta**. All non-perishable food is
accepted and appreciated.

Happy Birthday

Deborah Kedell	Sept. 2nd
Reba Jackson	Sept. 2nd
Micayla Hickman	Sept. 20th
David Lee	Sept. 28th

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

Anniversaries

No Anniversaries this month

September Calendar

September 2nd	Men's Breakfast 8:00 am
Sept. 3rd	Sunday School 8:45 am Worship Service 9:30 am
Sept. 4th	Labor Day
Sept. 10th	Sunday School 8:45 AM Worship Service 9:30 am Grandparents Day
Sept. 13th	Bible Study Locke's UMC 6:30pm
Sept. 15th	Crusty Veterans Band 6:30pm
Sept 17th	Worship Service 11:00 am Homecoming...note time change..Meal and fellowship to follow worship service
Sept 20th	Bible Study Locke's UMC 6:30pm
Sept 23rd	1st Day of Fall
Sept. 24th	Sunday School 8:45 am Worship Service 9:30 am
Sept. 25th	Laity Club
Sept. 27th	Bible Study Locke's UMC 6:30pm

October 2023 newsletter info due to Dee Rouse by
September 26th 615-574-9320 or
ddrouse10@gmail.com

Resources Available

Resources for various kinds of help/support for you or
someone you know that might benefit from counseling
and/or spiritual support are listed below:

Insight Counseling Center, Murfreesboro
615-383-2115 for in person or online/phone
counseling.

Upper Room Prayer Ministry **615-340-7200**

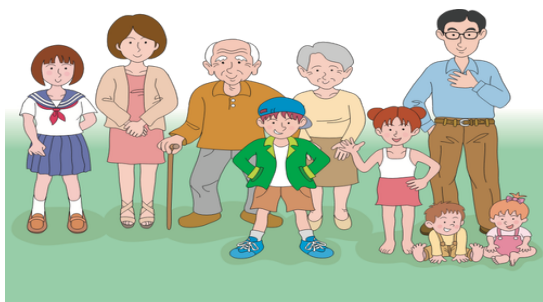
Talkspace.com Online/phone counseling

Methodist News Source

www.umnews.org
Stones River District Office
P.O. Box 12191
Murfreesboro, TN 37129



September 4th 2023



Happy Grandparents Day Sept. 10th



1st day of Fall September 23rd



Kedron United Methodist Church hosted Laity Club on August 28th, around 45 people attended. Again, we did not fail...the best food around!!