

# Kedron United Methodist Church



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

website: [www.kedronumc.org](http://www.kedronumc.org) Facebook: Kedron UMC

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## *The Kedron Connection*

January 2024      Volume 41      Issue 1

### *A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR*

*In my December sermon, I mentioned the overwhelming lack of enthusiasm following the defeat of the Babylonians by the Persians in 538 B.C., resulting in the release of the people of Jerusalem and Judah from captivity. The Exodus from Egypt about 700 years earlier had a much different response—one that is continually mentioned in Biblical texts.*

*After some reflection, it is ironic that we experience a similar phenomenon in the Church of the 20th Century, and in the present Century. The Sunday after Easter is sometimes referred to as "Low Sunday." The Sunday's following Christmas also experience lower participation. It seems to me that just the opposite should be the case.*

*Easter and Christmas are the two most holy days in the Church's calendar. They represent two of the most important and influential acts of God, probably since the Exodus—and these two celebrations certainly have greater significance. Reason or logic ought to dictate increased participation after the celebration of the two most important world events, at least from a Christian perspective. What's going on?*

*It would be easy to blame the huge commercialization of Easter and Christmas; but it would not explain the general pattern that seems to have been set centuries ago. I, for one, am recharged*

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*after Easter and Christmas. My energy, enthusiasm, and dedication are highest after these two events, both of which have influenced my life in far greater ways than anything else.*

*My continued prayer is that we find the courage and enthusiasm to continue our witness for Christ in the coming days. —Michael O'Bannon, Pastor*

### Administrative Council

Our council will meet on **January 21st, 2024**  
**At 1pm.**

### Fellowship Supper

**No Fellowship supper until March 2024!**

### Men's Breakfast

January 6th, 2024 at 8 AM.

### Bucket Offering

Our January Bucket offering taken on Sunday morning worship will be donated to: **The Journey Home**

### 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 January is **peanut butter**. All non-perishable food is accepted and appreciated.

### Happy Birthday

Shannon Stacey	Jan.. 11th
Lynn Lee	Jan. 22nd
Shana Stacey	Jan 24th

### January Calendar

Saturday Jan 6th 8:00am Men's Breakfast

Sunday Jan 7th, 8:45 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Church Service

Sunday Jan 14th, 8:45 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Church Service

Sunday Jan 21st 8:45 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Church Service,  
1:00 pm Admin Council meeting

Sunday January 28th 8:45 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Church Service

February 2024 newsletter info due to Dee Rouse by  
January 26th 615-574-9320 or  
[ddrouse10@gmail.com](mailto: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.

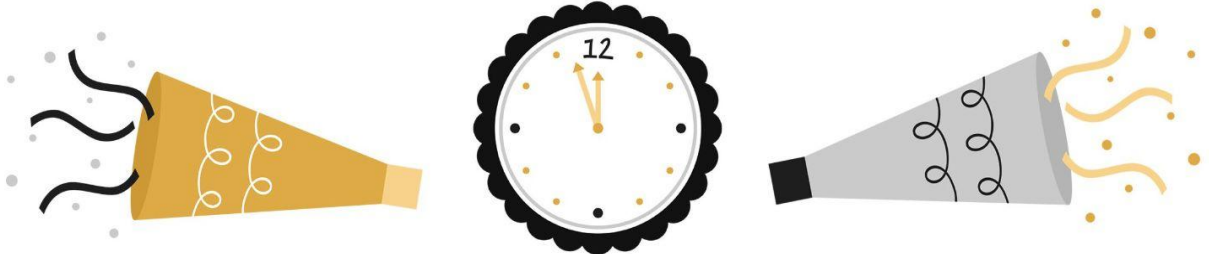
Upper Room Prayer Ministry **615-340-7200**  
Talkspace.com Online/phone counseling

### Methodist News Source

[www.umnews.org](http://www.umnews.org)  
Stones River District Office  
P.O. Box 12191  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129



# HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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

Countdown  
Confetti  
Midnight  
Balloons

Celebration  
Fireworks  
January  
Happy



New Year  
Clock  
Cheers  
Goals

Party Poppers  
Noisemaker  
Resolution  
Sparklers

