



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

The Kedron Connection

Kedron United Methodist Church
6650 Kedron Church Road Smyrna, TN 37167
Phone: (615) 223-7858

Website: www.kedronumc.org
Facebook: Kedron UMC

Reverend Barry Culbertson, Pastor
Phone: (931) 217-8841 **Email: pastor-barry@KedronUMC.org**

Volume 20 *March 2021* *Issue 3*

From Our Pastor

Romans 12:6- "We have different gifts, according to the Grace given us."

As we enter the Forty Days of Lent on the path to the celebration of Easter, we are encouraged to repent. Change in some way we are asked. Besides the traditional "giving up something," I would encourage people to repent of NOT using the various gifts each has been given! I would say step out in faith and renew your various gifts and talents (perhaps unused for awhile) during Lent.

Arts and crafts? Cooking that special dish? Music and song? Woodcraft? Jewelry? Handcrafts of sewing, knitting, needlepoint? Art work in painting or drawing? Photography? Sending cards and letters? Love of sports and games? Communication with others? Building things? Poetry and other writings?

I encourage each one to consider "repenting" of "hiding your light under a bushel!" Consider this Lent as an opportunity to re-share things you enjoy and have a gift for.

Thus, I share with you a poem. It came to me one night after the big snow fall last week. I hadn't written a poem in a long time.
Good or bad in poetic terms, I share it with you. Hope something about it is a gift to you after all this wintry weather and as we enter Lent.

SNOW BIRDS 2021

From our wide kitchen window,
You can see their approach,
Like those Navy aces drifting in
Upon the football field long aircraft carriers.

No training necessary, just skilled aviators
From their first jump out of the nest.
In any weather.
Cross winds, down drafts bother not.

Birds of all branches of avian service:
Starlings, Chickadees, Holy red Cardinals,
Brash Mockingbirds, Sparrows!

Bought seed spread on the deck rails,
The deck where under more pleasant conditions, less snow,
We higher mammals would engage Nature
During warmer cycles. Outdoor dining.

"Oh sit there! Pull up a chair! Oh look!
Bluejays, Dove couples! How wonderful!"
"Iced tea? Pass the biscuits please.
Leave some crumbs for our feathered friends"

And the airborne attendants do seem
To wait their turn,
Whether under hot or cold conditions!
Landing, selecting seed or crumb,
Then ascending to higher ground
In the trees.
Urgent, but patient to a degree under the
Circumstances.

Makes one wonder why we, human or bird,
Don't all head further South
For less harsh dining out. Less struggle.

Must be the assured local Promise that
Seasons do change.
The air becomes more temperate,
Tables are once again set by the Creator
And by us the other allies of those daunting
Aerial, winged survivors of Nature
Red in tooth and claw
And blue cold.

Happy Birthday to:

Mary Ellen Vance	March 4
Tanner Stacey	March 5
Rev. Barry Culbertson	March 27
Carol Dorn	March 31
Chaplain Rob Dunbar	March 31

Happy Anniversary to:

Doug and Dee Rouse	March 14
Gaylord and Carol Dorn	March 19

Bucket Offerings

In March, the bucket collections at Sunday morning worship will be donated to Miriam's Promise. The United Methodist Church supports this crisis pregnancy and adoption ministry.

Food Bank

You may bring food donations for the local food bank on the first and second 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 March is peanut butter.

All non-perishable foods are accepted and appreciated. The need is great.

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

March Calendar

Friday, March 5	World Day of Prayer
Sunday, March 7	3 rd Sunday in Lent
8:45 a.m.	Sunday School
9:30 a.m.	Worship Service
Sunday, March 14	4 th Sunday in Lent
Daylight Saving Time Begins	
8:45 a.m.	Sunday School
9:30 a.m.	Worship Service
Sunday, March 21	5 th Sunday in Lent
8:45 a.m.	Sunday School
9:30 a.m.	Worship Service
10:30 a.m.	April 2021 newsletter info due call Fay

Sunday, March 28

Palm/Passion Sunday

8:45 a.m.

Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Worship Service

Holy Week March 28-April 3

The Season of Lent

Lent is the 40 days from Ash Wednesday until Easter, not counting Sundays. The symbolism of 40 days parallels the time that the Gospels tell us Jesus spent in the wilderness. Traditionally it was a time for people to prepare for baptism at Easter.

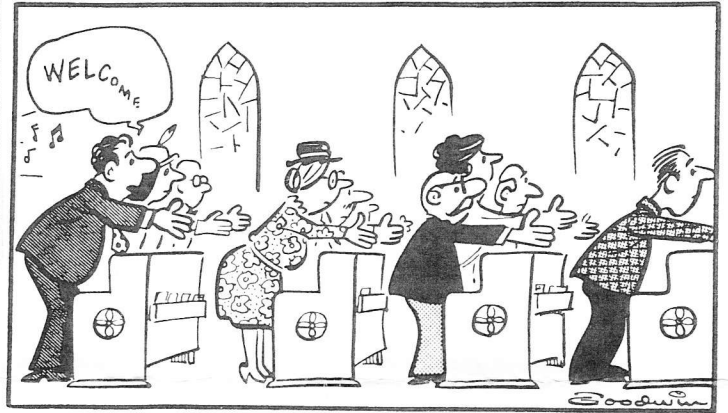
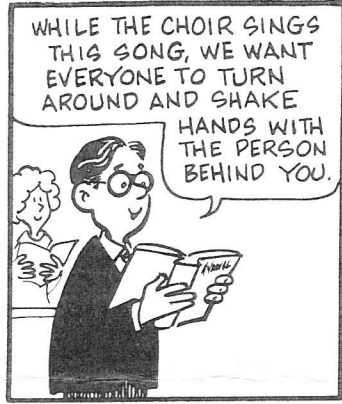
Lent has become a season of self-reflection and repentance for Christians.

Where are these words found?

"Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield. Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name."

-NRSV (hint between Psalm 30 & 40)

2 Corinthians 13:13 was the quotation in the February newsletter.



Dove of Peace

Here is a symbol of peace.
Connect the dots.

