



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 19

May 2020

Issue 5

From Our Pastor

Genesis 6-8
Numbers 14
Matthew 4:1,2

It has certainly been a period of numbers hasn't it? The month of April was all about keeping count of pandemic numbers and the charts and graphs indicating illness and economics. This will continue.

Our scriptures listed did not shy away from keeping count. 40 years wandering in wilderness for the Israelites, 150 days on a boat with 8 people and lots of animals, and then Jesus' 40 days fasting, praying, and being tempted in the desert. Which one of these seems closest to your experience the last 30 days!? Regardless of the rough time involved the Bible says, "they came through it."

We are likely still looking at another stretch of time under the cloud of this worldwide lethal virus. But, changes are coming in most every area of life. Some return to normalcy but many changes toward many things different. It is too early to say how "church" will look in say 40 days or 4 months. Hopefully, much the same as we long for past times of joyful worship and fellowship and mission, but with new ways of being present with each other still to be determined.

Yet again, the scriptural promise is: WE PASS THROUGH THESE WATERS WITH THE HELP OF GOD. Stay connected while these waiting days are upon us. Be the church wherever you are! Reach out and be held by God's hand as God holds everyone's hand.

God bless everyone in this season of waiting! Hold on together! Rejoice in the promises expressed in God's gift of Springtime

Pastor Barry

From Our Bishop

“... the most compassionate and caring approach for our return to public worship should always consider those who are most vulnerable among us. ... I have determined it is in the best interest of our churches and faith communities for public worship and congregational gatherings to remain suspended through May 31.”

Bishop McAlilly

Information from Pastor Barry

+ As public safety concerns continue our worship will be primarily on-line in May. We do hope to “live stream” or pre-record some worship services from our sanctuary if the technology can be arranged. Watch for updates.

+ Take note of various food bank collection centers in our community as needs continue. As you begin to emerge “outside” once again consider dropping off a bag of groceries during May. If I or other church members can assist you in this, please contact me and I will arrange for pickup and distribution of your food gifts to the various food banks.

+ Our participation in Project Transformation, the summer reading and activity program, during June/July will take on a different look through collecting food and activity baskets for children. Details to follow and be in prayer as the team and partner churches plan for a meaningful summer with children in need of reading and community support.

+ Remember our Tennessee Annual Conference has been rescheduled to September 18 and 19 at Brentwood UMC.

+ I have been collecting lists of books and/or movies, TV shows or series, or other religious services you have listened to or watched. I will share these with the congregations as you share them with me. I have watched old Westerns, as well as old Steve Martin and James Bond movies, and old TV series eg Frazier and Columbo. I have been re-reading the book of Acts, a wonderful look at a church growing in the diverse culture of the first century. Also the Book of Revelation is being read more for the symbolic images and message of hope than for looking just for End Time timelines. I am also re-reading Bro. Perry’s autobiography Wandering Star. I have also watched some religious programming eg old Billy Graham crusades, World Outreach Church, EWTN (Catholic) and numerous services by other Stones River District Methodist colleagues finding their way with on-line worship and devotionals. I also discovered that Oral Roberts’ son Richard still has a TV program.

Please share as you can with what’s been helpful and enjoyable in print and on TV to you during these “stay at home” days!

Happy Birthday to:

Rev. Travis Perry	May 8
Lynne Lee	May 12
Fay Fraley	May 19
Wayne Lee	May 20
Teresa Palmer	May 22
Jeanne Neville	May 27
Linda Lee	May 30
Doug Rouse	May 31

Happy Anniversary to:

Marc and Kristy Fraley May 30

Congratulations Graduates:

Jayden Fraley
Cheatham County High School
Micayla Hickman
Stewarts Creek High School
Coleman Stacey
Middle TN Christian School

Which Psalm?

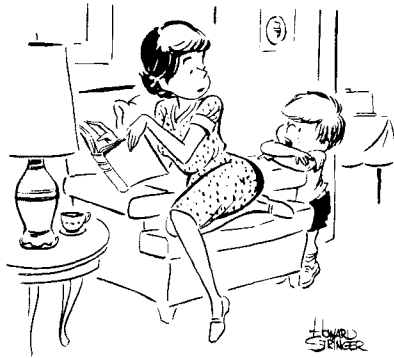
"Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path."

-NRSV

Food Bank

The suggested item in May for the Kedron food bank donation is peanut butter. If you want to donate, bring this the first time we meet at Kedron.

The April newsletter quote was Matthew 28:5-6 spoken by an angel of the Lord.



"TH' DEVIL TOLD ME TO SNEAK A PIECE OF CAKE, BUT
JESUS SAID TO ASK YOU BECAUSE HE'S SURE YOU'LL
LET ME HAVE A PIECE."

Bucket Offerings

In May, the bucket collections at Sunday morning Worship Service would have been donated to our local food bank. It is suggested that you put your offerings in a container and bring the offering the first Sunday we again meet at Kedron.

Tithes and Offerings

If you want, send your check to our Treasurer Naomi Lee, 5098 Rocky Fork Road, Smyrna, TN 37167

My name is...

A teacher had just given her second-grade class a lesson on magnets. Now came the question session, and she asked a little boy, "My name starts with an M and I pick up things. What am I?" The boy replied instantly, "A Mother."

- *Illustrations Unlimited*, edited by James S. Hewett ©1988. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved.

Make a Card for Mom



Fold a piece of heavy paper in half. On the inside – write a poem or just tell Mom how much you love her. On the front – decorate with a picture or a design. You can use ribbon, lace, buttons, sequins, beads, fabric or any trimmings. Markers or crayons can be used as well.

