



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

*The Kedron Connection*

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*From Our Pastor*

My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus, the Lord of glory, with partiality. For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, "You sit in a good place," and say to the poor man, "You stand there," or, "Sit here at my footstool," have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?

James 2:1-4

It's the season of invitation! Of course, all times and places for the worshipping fellowship are for inviting any and all to worship, to fellowship, and to faithful living unto the Lord. But, we often think of Fall as a time to welcome people new to our schools and communities to our congregation. A time to remind those who have been absent to "come on back!" And Homecoming in a few weeks is seen as a peak moment to extend the invitation.

And that being the case, I have yet to hear back from Peyton Manning.....or from Dolly Parton.....or any number of "celebrities" I hope would come to visit. Of course, it would help if I actually sent out an invitation instead of dreaming about it!

But why Peyton and Dolly? Is this the thinking of a pastor hoping for a crowd based on the appearance of the famous?! Do I hear a sniff of partiality creeping in? Would I give them a favored seat at our fellowship meal if they walked in?

Exactly the sharp point of James. We are now to treat people differently from worldly standards now that we are CHURCH! Indeed, Peyton and Dolly ARE welcome, but so are the down-and-out people, the poor, the needy, the less than famous, those with less earthly means.

Let's keep that in mind as we invite people to our congregation. Invite anyone whose paths you cross, anyone looking for a fellowship table in which to break bread together! The family of God is a broad and diverse group of people! Open doors, open hearts, open minds indeed!

Pastor Barry

## Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast will be Saturday, September 7. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

## No September Fellowship Supper

There will be no First-Wednesday Fellowship Supper in September. Our Homecoming lunch will be our covered-dish meal of the month.

## Youth

Our Youth Faith Formation study group is active. There are several participants. Watch for news of their activities. We are grateful for our children and youth, their leaders, and all who have worked with and supported them and their adult leaders.

## Bible Study

The Bible Study led by Rev. Travis Perry continues. The group meets at his home on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. The address is 1215 Ledbury Dr., Smyrna.

## Bucket Offerings

In September our bucket offerings at Sunday morning worship will be donated to the Good Shepherd Home in Murfreesboro. This center houses children who have been removed from bad home situations.

## 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 September is oatmeal. All non-perishable foods are accepted and appreciated.

## Laity

The Rutherford County Laity Fellowship will meet on September 23 at 6:30 p.m. beginning with dinner. The meeting will be at Bethel UMC, 4286 Sulphur Springs Road, Murfreesboro.

## Homecoming

Kedron's annual homecoming will be September 15. For that Sunday only

**Worship Service will be at 11:00 a.m.**

Following Worship Service there will be a covered-dish lunch. If you have any Kedron artifacts such as pictures you would like to place in our display, please let Pastor Barry know what you will bring.

## Happy Birthday to:

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

## Happy Anniversary to:

Keith and Geri Lee	Sept. 26
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## Thanks

Thanks to all who helped us host the Rutherford County Laity Fellowship on August 26. Many of our guests expressed appreciation for our meal, our program and our hospitality.

## Thank You

Thank you to those who worked to repair the light outside the fellowship hall before the Laity meeting on August 26. This will be enjoyed long after the meeting. Also thank you to those who trimmed the tree beside the fellowship hall.

## Who said this?

"I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, his greatness is unsearchable."

NRSV

(hint book of Psalms)

**Jude vs. 24** was the August newsletter quotation.





**“You don’t double click  
anything, son. It’s a Bible.”**

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*“Let the word of Christ dwell in  
you richly” (Colossians 3:16 ESV).*