

MOUNTAIN ECHOES

MARCH 2026

183rd Edition



Virginia weather on 3/12/26; blossoms on the trees and snow on the Peak. Photo courtesy of Facebook and Carol Seekford

KEEZLETOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. T. Joel Robinette, Pastor

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John 1:1-5 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life,^[a] and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

View Worship Online: view the livestream of the 11:00 AM worship live on Keezletown UMC YouTube Channel at 10:45 a.m. or a link on the Keezletown United Methodist Facebook page. If you would like to give a tithe online, please visit this link: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=6261418> . Let us know you worshipped by filling out the KUMC Virtual Connection link: <https://forms.gle/YdbvYW93MjZEGrL38>. Thanks and be blessed.

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## **OUR PASTOR CHATS**

Holy Week and Easter Season will be here soon. Holy Week spans Palm Sunday when Jesus entered Jerusalem to Holy Saturday with Jesus buried in a borrowed tomb. Easter begins with the resurrection of Jesus and continues for a fifty day season to Pentecost. These times take up a lot of room in the Gospels: Mark chapters 11 – 16; Matthew chapters 21 – 28; Luke chapters 19 – 24; and John chapters 12 – 21. They also take up a lot of time in the calendar each year. In Holy Week we see the great love of God for us in Jesus Christ. In Easter and the resurrection of Jesus and Jesus spending forty days with the disciples we see that sin, evil, and death do not have the final word, but God has resurrection life ahead in Jesus all the way to eternal life. Here is a short list of how the calendar falls this year: Holy Week: Sunday March 29 – Saturday April 4. Palm Sunday: March 29; Maunday Thursday: April 2; Good Friday: April 3; Holy Saturday, April 4; Easter Season: 50 Days; Easter Day: April 5; Day of Ascension: May 14; Pentecost: May 24. May God bless us with resurrection hope and life in Jesus as we enter Holy Week and Easter Season this year.

*Pastor Joel*

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**NEW BABY:** Congratulations to Robert and Charlotte Hardy on the birth of Zaraielle Rose Hardy on Jan 26<sup>th</sup>. She weighed 6 lbs and 10 oz. She was welcomed by her two older sisters, Carmella and Jade, grandmother Barrett Bowman, and great grandmother Patti Bowman. Welcome to the family, little one.



**WORDS OF WISDOM FROM EVALYN:** I always appreciate the amount of work (and joy) it takes to make this newsletter happen! We all go through struggles as expected and unexpected times happen. Since January ten people I have connections with have passed away. Two were very hard for me. Lots of sobbing tears helped to wash away some of the grief, but finding a path to help their close family members gave me purpose with my own experience. I thank God for showing me how to help and giving me the strength to serve. Lots of love, Evalyn Keepin the Faith for Jim . Don't postpone JOY!

### **\*\*\*FEBRUARY EVENTS THAT HAPPENED\*\*\***

**United Methodist Men** met on Feb 15<sup>th</sup> for Breakfast by Karen Mooney with egg-cheese-sausage biscuits, peach cobbler, bananas, and grapes. Prayers for others was led by Pastor Joel. The District UMM Rally hosted by Manor Memorial UMC in New Market will be Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.; carpool will meet at 5:30 p.m. We will serve a spaghetti supper for the Lent Supper

and Service on Wednesday, Mar 4th at 6:30 p.m. Linda Liskey is planning to make the spaghetti sauce. We will serve a Pancake Supper fundraiser on Saturday, Mar 21st at 5:00 p.m. Funds raised will go to Weekday Religious Education. Scott reported that he serviced the church lawn mower so it is ready for Spring. Mike Summers plans to get prices and details on getting mulch for the flower beds to be spread before Easter. We will plan a work day at the next meeting. The meeting was brief to allow time to wash potatoes for the Valentine's Day Potato Bar after worship. Next meeting: Sunday, Mar 15th at 8:00 a.m.

**LAZARUS, COME OUT!** "Raising Lazarus: A Resurrection Sign" was the message from Pastor Joel on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>, taken from John 11:1-16, 28-

57. Raising Lazarus is a Resurrection Sign, a foretaste of the death defeating, life giving Jesus. Jesus' death is near and clear, and the disciples don't want to believe or hear it.

Lazarus had died. Jesus needed the disciples to see Him bring him back to life. It was the fourth day—Lazarus was stinking dead. Jesus cried, then said "Lazarus, come out",

and Lazarus came out of the cave to the amazement of all. Jesus set him free and he was free indeed. Jesus gave life and gives life for all who believe. Assisting in the service today were the Worship Team, and Pastor Joel spoke to the children about how Jesus changed during Transfiguration.



**CELEBRATING VALENTINE'S DAY:** The United Methodist Men provided a wonderful



Potato Bar Lunch after worship for the fifty in attendance on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. Freshly baked potatoes with all the fixin's were available, as well as dessert and drinks. There were even leftovers for those who

wanted potatoes for later in the week. Sherry took Valentine pictures for those who wanted them. Thank you, UMM, for the great meal and the wonderful fellowship, not to mention the leftovers.



**Juanita Marie Sheffer**, 94, of Wilmington, North Carolina, passed away on Feb 17<sup>th</sup>. She was



*married to Hollis Sheffer for 66 years. Juanita was also preceded in death by her beloved daughter, Susie McGlaughlin; her son-in-law, John McGlaughlin; one brother; and four sisters. She is survived by her grandson, Chad*

*McGlaughlin and his wife, Jill; her granddaughter, Leslie Pellegrin and her husband, Ben; and five cherished great-grandchildren: Grady and Marley McGlaughlin, and Reese, Hunter, and Cooper Pellegrin. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews, and her beloved dog, Molly. She will be remembered for her love of family, her resilience, and the steady devotion she showed to those around her throughout her long and meaningful life. A memorial service may be held at a later date.*

**ASH WEDNESDAY, LENT BEGINS:** Approximately sixty-five Church families from KUMC, St Jacob's and Trinity Lutheran, and other churches met on Wednesday, Feb 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall at KUMC for Ash Wednesday. The UWIF served a meal of chili, cornbread, and desserts for the meal before the service. Pastors Joel Robinette and Don Hawks led various parts of the service. Pastor Joel gave the message "Observe a Holy Lent" in which he said: Observing a holy Lent is part of the liturgy from the United Methodist Book of Worship for Ash Wednesday and calls us to spiritual disciplines like self-examination, repentance, prayer, fasting, self-denial, reading and meditating on God's Holy Word, attending corporate worship and the sacrament of Holy Communion. Spiritual disciplines are not initiation rites, but they are our everyday practices as Christians following the ways of Jesus our Lord. We may examine ourselves in Lent and see how our lives line up with following Jesus or where we are out of step. This is a holy time, forty holy days in which Christians around the world are continuing, resuming, or just beginning whole life living in Jesus Christ. It is a forty day return to life in Jesus our all in all. As the Imposition of the Ashes were done by both Pastors, Diana led the singing of "Precious Name" and "My Jesus, I Love Thee".



**WASTE OF PERFUME OR DEVOTION TO JESUS?** Pastor Joel used John 12:1-11, the story of Mary washing Jesus' feet with perfume for his message, "The Anointing of Jesus", on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> during worship. Six days before the Crucifixion, the feet washing with oil happened at Mary's house during a meal get together of friends and disciples. Mary did not have water, but used a pound of very expensive perfume to wash the feet of Jesus; then she dried them with her hair. The fragrance filled the house. Judas was aghast, but Jesus knew and told them that she was preparing him for things to come. Christ means anointed one. Mary anointed Jesus as King and for His burial. Mary is a model disciple. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent; don't wait to be a disciple who pours out praises for Jesus and serves others. Assisting today were Chris on the piano; Pastor Joel talking to the children about anointing with oil; and Wendell reading Scripture.

**LUNCH BUNCH** met on Feb 25<sup>th</sup> at the Galley with four ladies attending. Along with the good food, we enjoyed the fellowship, the laughter, and the good conversation. Please feel free to join us.

**THE SECOND LENT SERVICE** was held on Feb 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., with approximately fifty in attendance enjoying a smorgasbord of delicious food in the potluck meal. Ann Royer, on the piano, accompanied us as we sang "As the Deer Runs to the River" and "Blest Are They". Rev Deb Washer of the McGaheysville United Methodist Church, the speaker for the evening, reminded us that sin starts as a seed in our soul and grows, if not looked after and prayed about. Pastor Joel and Pastor Don helped with other parts of the service.



**CHILL-N-CHAT** met on Thursday, Feb 26<sup>th</sup> with seven ladies present. We collated and stuffed the February Newsletters, while we chatted and enjoyed each others' company. Thank you, ladies, for helping get this done. Many hands make easy work. You are welcome to come join us any Thursday that we meet.

## **FAMILY FUN PICTURES**



*Rainbow Day*



*On JV Team*



*Was this yesterday? Triton's 1<sup>st</sup> wings*



*Nick is 16*

## **JUST FOR GIGGLES:**

What do cats eat for breakfast? **Mice Krispies**

How do trains eat? **They choo-choo**

What do you call a moose with no name? **Anonymoose**

What do you call a person that chops up cereal? **A cereal killer**

## **WAYS TO GIVE AND HELP OTHERS**

**Gathering Non-Perishable Food items:** Drop off items at KUMC for our local food pantry. Non-perishable foods and hygiene items are welcome. Items are distributed through Massanutten Presbyterian Church for residents of Keezletown, Penn Laird, and McGaheysville. The pantry is open 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays from 10 – 11 AM and 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays from 7 – 8 PM.

**Serving Meals to Kingsway Prison Ministry:** Karen Mooney is leading preparing a meal twice each month for this ministry. Please contact her if you can help or donate.

**US Disaster Response:** For United States disaster relief designate your gift to “UMCOR US Disaster Response: Advance #901670.” For international disasters please designate your gift to “UMCOR International Disaster Response: Advance #982450.”

**Mission Central Equipment for Caring:** The medical equipment loaner closet loans out and receive donations of (1) durable medical equipment like hospital beds, wheelchairs, walkers, canes, bedside commodes, etc. and (2) disposable supplies like adult diapers, briefs, and wound care items. It is open Mondays 5 – 7 PM and Thursdays 9 - 11 AM. The location is Mt. Tabor UMC in Lacey Spring.

**Mission Central Children’s Clothes Closet:** gives and receives donations of children’s clothes including winter coats and shoes from sizes infant to 18 years old. New underwear, socks, and undergarments are also received. It is open 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month from 10 AM – 1 PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month from 4 – 7 PM; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month from 4 – 7 PM.

**KUMC Backpack Project:** We will provide weekend food for students in need at Cub Run Elementary School this year. To sponsor students checks can be made to “KUMC Backpack Project” and given to Jenny Dillard. Packing bags is OFTEN Mondays at 11:15 AM but sometimes at other times and help is always welcome.

## **BIBLE STUDY:**

**John: The Gospel of Light and Life:** Read through the Gospel of John and learn about its major teachings about Jesus Christ. The study book is by United Methodist pastor Adam Hamilton and will be six weeks long. The study will be Mondays at 10:00 AM (beginning March 16th) and Tuesdays at 7:00 PM (beginning March 17th). There are books available for regular print \$15 or large print \$20. Sign up in the narthex or with Pastor Joel

**Sunday School Classes** includes Preschool – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Class; Grades 2 – 5 Elementary School Class; Middle and High School Youth Class; An adult class *Disciples of Christ*; An adult class taught by Chris Cole using *Adult Bible Studies* materials. Join in a Sunday School Class on Sunday mornings at 9:45 AM..

**Steve Suter** began a new Substack "**The Bible Reader**" . You can read it online at <https://thebiblereader.substack.com>

**The Bible in a Year:** Keezletown UMC has a Bible reading plan for reading the entire Bible in a year. This plan has four chapters of Bible reading each day: two chapters reading through the Bible; one chapter from Psalms, wisdom, poetry, or instructional materials; and one chapter from the Gospels or Acts. If you do this reading plan you will actually read through the Gospels and Acts three times during the 365 days. Printouts available at KUMC or online at [www.keezletownumc.com](http://www.keezletownumc.com).

## **A Disciple’s Path: Gifts**

A Disciple’s Path is a once-a-month class for new comers and new members at KUMC. Learn about Gifts: Financial Generosity, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 3 – 5 PM. Sign up with Pastor Joel and bring a Bible along and books for the study if you already have them. If you don’t have books yet, you’ll get *A Disciple’s Path Reader* and *A Disciple’s Path Workbook* at that session.

## **JUST TOO CUTE NOT TO SHARE**



*Snowy cherry tree*



*New Fall tree stand*



*Fresh fishin' worms*



*Too funny—no words*

## **\*\*\*MARCH EVENTS THAT HAPPENED\*\*\***

### **HOW FAR WILL YOU WALK WITH JESUS?**

For worship service on Mar 1<sup>st</sup>, Pastor Joel used the Scripture from John 18:1-27, the story of Jesus' betrayal, for his message entitled "Jesus was betrayed by Judas, denied three times by Peter, closest to Jesus. Judas was knew Jesus as he led them to promising to lay down for just as Jesus had predicted. to confess our failures? If we take us out of Jesus' hands. service today were Ken talking to the Children about Lent; Barrett, Ken, Mike, Sharon, and Karen with the Scripture reading; and Ken, Scott, Ann, Carol, and Jim with Communion. We were blessed to have a rooster at the front of the Church during the whole service—and he never made a peep!



**RURITANS SERVED:** Four ladies from the UWIF served the meal to nineteen Keezletown Ruritans on Monday, Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> at their monthly meeting. They enjoyed pork tenderloin, cheesy potatoes, green beans, rolls, cake/brownies/ice cream, and tea. Thank you to all who donated or helped.

**District United Methodist Men Rally** was held on Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> at Manor Memorial UMC. Thank you all for your part in a great night for fellowship, worship, and sharing about UMM ministries. The photo includes District Superintendent Kyungsuk Cho and the Keezletown United Methodist Men who were in attendance. Left to right: Pastor Joel, DS Cho, Jim Dillard, Scott Dillard, Wendell Cochran, and Leonard Williams.



**The Third Lent Service** was held on Mar 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. with approximately sixty in attendance for the spaghetti, salad, and dessert dinner provided by the United Methodist Men, as well as the

informative message given. Our speaker tonight was Rev Alexis Owens, of RISE, a community of folks serving JMU, EMU, and grace, passionate outreach and people from all walks of life and individuals, can plant the seeds, way we can. Sin seeds will of and prayed about. Assisting as we sang "Step by Step" and "Holy in the Lord". Pastors Joel and Don also gave the greetings, prayers, and benediction.



others, rooted in God's life-changing open-armed acceptance, welcoming faith. She stressed that we, as but we also need to nourish them in any continue to grow unless they are repented tonight with music was the worship team

**United Women in Faith** met on Thursday, Mar 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. in the Church social hall, with fourteen members present. Judy called the meeting to order and the Purpose was recited. She then read "The Teapot Story" about how God is constantly seeing us thru trying situations to mold us into His beautiful creations. Feb minutes and Treasurer's reports were read and approved. Mission of the Month was a donation to complete the flood buckets for conference. Karen reported that available Easter flowers would be lilies, hyacinths, tulips, geraniums, and regal geraniums and will be in the sanctuary on Apr 5<sup>th</sup>. Sherry reported a successful soup/bake sale, selling 129 quarts. Keezletown Ruritans were fed on Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> with 19 in attendance. Apr 5<sup>th</sup> will be another Keezletown Ruritan meal; and the UWIF will coordinate serving the Father's Day breakfast in June. District Prayer Breakfast will be on Mar 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at Braddock St UMC in Winchester. Sharon and Karen are singing and speaking. A motion was made that we give Walmart gift cards to Emily Clatterbuck and Charlotte Hardy for the birth of their babies; and an Amazon gift card to Leigha Dillard for her move to Chicago for her new job. As Chris read the prayer calendar, eleven cards were signed. Judy asked that we think about where we would like to go for our June meeting "Evening Out". Closing with the Lord's Prayer, we adjourned to pack health kits. Next meeting is Thursday, Apr 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. to celebrate the Call to Prayer and Self Denial. Chris and Lorie will be serving the meal.



**District UWIF Prayer Breakfast** was held at Braddock St UMC, at 9 :00 a.m. on Mar 7<sup>th</sup>. Sharon Martin and Karen Mooney were asked to sing and speak to the group.

**IT WAS THE BIG BANG!** On Saturday evening, Mar 7<sup>th</sup>, we were all sitting around resting, watching TV, and trying to get ready for the time change, when suddenly we all had the "bajeebers" scared out of us with an extremely loud "KABOOM"—then nothing. For those of us who had not already jumped out of our chairs, we got up, went to the door, tried to see something, anything, sniffed the air, and listened for sirens. Nothing. Just nothing. We did find out, however, on Sunday morning that a son of one of the

neighbors was celebrating his birthday by shooting at targets that “blow up”—DUH! We all had a good laugh and rejoiced that no one or nothing was hurt, except our “bajeebers”!

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME:** For some people this is the only time that their phone, computer, microwave, and car clock are the right time. Too bad their bodies and their brains can't change as easily.

**WHO WILL YOU HAND HIM TO?** On the third Sunday in Lent on Mar 8th for Worship, Pastor Joel spoke from Jon 18:28-19:16, the story of Jesus being brought to Pilate. The message title was “Pilate Handing Jesus Over”. Jesus was handed over in the morning to Pilate by the religious leaders so He could be killed. Pilate wanted to give Him back; he wanted no rebellious activities during the Jewish holidays. Jesus was a hot potato, handed over to be whipped, crowned, and eventually crucified. Jesus shared with Pilate the salvation of God. Pilate's power, our power, all power comes from God. Pilate offered the people Jesus or Barrabas; they chose Barrabas. Jesus was beaten and made to carry His cross to His death, the only way we could know salvation, forgiveness, and the Love of God. Assisting today were Chris at the piano, Pastor Joel telling the Children about St Patrick, and John Young reading Scripture.

**Keezletown Light Commission** held their annual meeting on Mar 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the KUMC Social Hall with ten community members present. Scott called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. The Treasurer's report was given and approved. Thanks was given for a large donation given by the Estate of one of the community members. Officers agreed to serve another year and a new director was appointed in lieu of one of the director's passing. The next meeting will be Mar 14, 2027 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.

**LUNCH BUNCH** met at El Charo on East Market St for a good time of fellowship, good food, and conversation. There were four ladies in attendance.

**The Fourth Lent Service** was held on Mar 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. with approximately 60 folks attending from KUMC, Trinity and St Jacob's Lutheran Churches, and other family and friends. They enjoyed fried chicken provided by Karen Mooney and a wonderful buffet of sides and desserts from everyone else that came. Pastor Joel and Barrett Bowman led us in singing “I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing” and “Knowing You”. Rev Dan Bassett, a longtime friend of KUMC, and pastor of Bethel United Church of Christ spoke to the group about “Holy Metaphors”, using Ephesians 5:8-14. He spoke about Light—Jesus is the light of the world; Walk in the light and be a witness; Children of God walk with Jesus; Be Fruitful—give and enjoy the spiritual fruits; Expose/Reprove—call it what it is; Sleeper—don't be ignorant or spiritually dead; and Awake—live, help others, and be kind. Be imitators of Jesus. He then all of us in the singing of “This Little Light of Mine”. Pastor Don and Pastor Joel led the opening and closing prayers.

**ADMINISTRATIVE CHURCH COUNCIL** met on Wednesday, Mar 11<sup>th</sup> after the Lent Service in the Church social hall with nine members present. Susan called the meeting to order and Pastor Joel opened with prayer. Diana read the January minutes, and Chris gave the Treasurer's report, which were both approved. United Women in Faith packed 27 health kits at our Mar meeting; will collect hygiene kits in Mar; and served the Keezletown Ruritans in Mar, and will again in April. The Feb Soup/Bake sale was a success, selling 129 quarts of vegetable soup and baked goods. United Methodist Men held a Valentine's Day potato bar after worship; attended the District Rally; and will be mulching the church beds before Easter. Trustees reported there is an issue with the little toilet in the bathroom adjacent to the nursery. Missions reported Souper Bowl Sunday collection was a success with 167 pounds of food being delivered to MPC. Pastor Joel advised that Vacation Bible School would be July 21st-23rd and the Outdoor Worship Service to recognize VBS would be July 26<sup>th</sup> at the Ruritan Pavilion. He will be on vacation April 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>.

**JESUS CRUCIFIED:** On the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent, Mar 15<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Joel spoke from John 19:16-30, the dividing of His garments. His message was entitled "Jesus Crucified". The hyssop branch was used to spread the blood of the lamb on the door jambs before Passover. When Jesus said "I am thirsty", a hyssop branch was used to give Him sour wine. John is helping us connect the Passover Lamb and the Lamb of God. Johns show us Jesus as human and our rejection. We crucified the God made flesh.

Salvation for us was born all carrying the cross. Four clothing—His tunic they prophecy). They were His Jesus gave His mother a new



the way to Golgotha by Jesus soldiers divided Jesus' gambled for (to fulfill the gifts to them. At the cross, son, and His beloved friend a

new mother. God gives us good gifts, even in His death. His last words are victorious—"It is finished". Assisting with the service today were the worship team of Karen, Sharon, and Barrett; Chris and the choir; Ken reading Scripture; and Pastor Joel talking to the children about crosses in the church. Chad Hrbek of Camp Overlook was a guest today and gave a brief speech about summer camp and what improvements have been made and are planned.

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**COLLECTING IN MARCH:** Feminine Conference Kit items: 1 (1) gallon zip lock bag; 1 pkg 42ct unscented flushable wipes; 1 pkg travel pack of Wet Wipes (20ct); 3-4 gal bathroom trash bags; 10 unscented Ultra-Thin Super Long Sanitary Napkins; 5 unscented Super Tampons; 5 unscented Regular Tampons; 2 (2oz) hand sanitizer; 1 bar of soap; and 6 laundry sheets.

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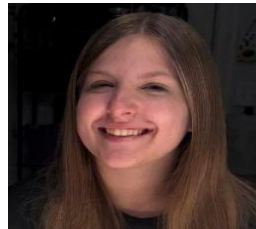
## \*\*\*MARCH EVENTS IN NEXT ISSUE\*\*\*

- Mar 15 United Methodist Men, 8:00 a.m.  
Mar 16 "John: The Gospel of Light and Life" study 10:00 a.m.  
Backpack Project Packing, 11:00 a.m.  
Mar 17 Worship Music Practice, 6:00 p.m.  
"John: The Gospel of Light and Life" study 7:00 p.m.  
Mar 18 **Lent Supper and Service, 6:30 p.m.**  
Choir practice after Lent service  
Mar 19 Chill & Chat, 11:00 a.m.  
Weave for a Cure, 7:00 p.m.  
Mar 21 **UMM Pancake Supper, 5:00 p.m.**  
Mar 22 **Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.**  
**Worship, 11:00 a.m.; Message: "Jesus Dead and Buried" from John 19:31-42**  
Mar 23 "John: The Gospel of Light and Life" study 10:00 a.m.  
Backpack Project Packing, 11:00 a.m.  
Mar 24 Worship Music Practice, 6:00 p.m.  
"John: The Gospel of Light and Life" study 7:00 p.m.  
Mar 25 **Lunch Bunch at 11:15 a.m.**  
**Lent Supper & Service, 6:30 p.m.**  
Mar 26 Chill & Chat, 11:00 a.m.  
Weave for a Cure, 7:00 p.m.  
Mar 29 **Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.**  
**Worship, 11:00 a.m.; PALM SUNDAY; Message: "The Triumphal Entry" from John 12:11-19**  
Mar 30 "John: The Gospel of Light and Life" study 10:00 a.m.  
Backpack Project Packing, 11:00 a.m.  
Mar 31 Worship Music Practice, 6:00 p.m.  
"John: The Gospel of Light and Life" study 7:00 p.m.

## **MORE FAMILY FUN PICTURES**



*The Crisman twins are fourteen*



*Happy Bday Donnie*



*Leonard's daffodils*

## \*\*\*APRIL EVENTS HAPPENING\*\*\*

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- |       |                 |        |                  |
|-------|-----------------|--------|------------------|
| Apr 1 | Kevin Summers   | Apr 17 | Henry Martin     |
| Apr 3 | Christine Cole  | Apr 18 | Matthew Holliday |
| Apr 5 | Jacob Stanley   | Apr 19 | Jan Shafer       |
| Apr 6 | Marshall Liskey | Apr 20 | Mary Jane Propst |

|        |                  |        |                |
|--------|------------------|--------|----------------|
| Apr 7  | Karen Mooney     | Apr 23 | Sara Ann Cole  |
| Apr 7  | Sharon Martin    | Apr 23 | Lily Sacra     |
| Apr 7  | Cory Guilliams   | Apr 24 | Randy Sites    |
| Apr 8  | Marcus Hall      | Apr 25 | John Foley     |
| Apr 8  | Jaden Hall       | Apr 27 | Bob Threewitts |
| Apr 14 | Benjamin Wamsley |        |                |
| Apr 15 | Parker Young     |        |                |
| Apr 16 | Kristen Roach    |        |                |

### **APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

|              |                               |          |
|--------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Apr 10, 2004 | David & Kathryn Propst Miller | 22 years |
| Apr 15, 1994 | Scott & Jenny Dillard         | 32 years |
| Apr 23, 1964 | Kennis & Carolyn Armentrout   | 62 years |
| Apr 23, 2016 | John & Jennifer Young         | 10 years |
| Apr 26, 1996 | Randy & Jan Sites             | 30 years |

**CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OR MORE:** CONGRATULATIONS to church family couples that have been married 40 or more years in April:



Kennis and Carolyn Armentrout on Apr 23<sup>rd</sup> for 62 years

Best wishes from your KUMC family. May you have many more.

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### **APRIL EVENTS CALENDAR**

|           |                                                                                              |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Apr 1     | Choir Practice 6:30 PM                                                                       |
| Apr 2     | Maunday Thursday Service at St. Jacob's Lutheran, 6:30 PM                                    |
| Apr 3     | Good Friday Service at Trinity Lutheran, 6:30 PM                                             |
| Apr 5     | Easter Sunrise Service at Keezletown Cemetery, 7:00 AM                                       |
|           | Easter Sunrise Breakfast, 7:30 AM                                                            |
|           | NO Sunday School; Worship, 11:00 AM; Message: "Empty Grave and Risen Lord" from John 20:1-18 |
| Apr 6 - 9 | Vacation for Pastor Joel                                                                     |
| Apr 6     | Backpack Project Packing, 11:00 AM                                                           |
|           | UWIF serve Keezletown Ruritans                                                               |
| Apr 8     | Lunch Bunch at Appleby's; Carpool 11:15 AM                                                   |
| Apr 9     | UWiF Call to Prayer and Self-Denial Dinner, 6:30 PM                                          |
| Apr 12    | Small Group Leaders' Gathering, 8:45 AM                                                      |
|           | Sunday School, 9:45 AM                                                                       |
|           | Worship, 11:00 AM; Message by Barrett Bowman                                                 |
| Apr 13    | John Study, 10:00 AM                                                                         |
|           | Backpack Project Packing, 11:00 AM                                                           |
|           | Worship Planning at Vito's at Noon                                                           |
| Apr 14    | Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM                                                              |
|           | John Study, 7:00 PM                                                                          |
| Apr 15    | Choir Practice 6:30 PM                                                                       |
| Apr 16    | Chill & Chat, 11:00 AM                                                                       |
|           | Weave for a Cure                                                                             |

Apr 18 Newsletter items due  
 Apr 19 United Methodist Men, 8:00 AM  
 Sunday School, 9:45 AM  
 Worship, 11:00 AM; Message: "Seeing and Believing" from John 20:19-29  
 A Disciple's Path: Gifts, 3 – 5 PM  
 Apr 20 John study, 10:00 AM  
 Backpack Project Packing, 11:00 AM  
 Apr 21 Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM  
 John study, 7:00 PM  
 Apr 22 Lunch Bunch at Cici's Pizza; carpool at 11:15 AM  
 Apr 23 Chill & Chat, 11:00 AM  
 Weave for a Cure  
 Apr 26 Sunday School, 9:45 AM  
 Worship, 11:00 AM; Message: "Big Catch" from John 21:1-14  
 Apr 27 John study, 10:00 AM  
 Backpack Project Packing, 11:00 AM  
 Apr 28 Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM  
 John study, 7:00 PM  
 Apr 29 Choir Practice 6:30 PM  
 Apr 30 Chill & Chat, 11:00 AM  
 Staff-Parish Relations Meeting, 6:30 PM

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**EASTER WEEK EVENTS:**

**Maunday Thursday Service:** Holy Week Maunday Thursday Service will be at St. Jacob's Lutheran Church on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Good Friday Service:** Holy Week Good Friday Service will be at Trinity Lutheran Church on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast:** Easter is April 5<sup>th</sup>. Easter Sunrise Service will be at 7:00 a.m. in the Keezletown Cemetery followed by the Easter Sunrise Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. in the social hall with a freewill offering for Relay for Life. If you would like to help with breakfast please talk to Lynn Siler or Joe Liskey. No Sunday school on Easter Day. Easter Worship Service will be at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

**District Training Day:** Our Shenandoah River District is offering a training day Saturday April 25 at 10:00 AM at Bridgewater UMC. Rev. Tim Ward will be the keynote speaker and there will be three workshop options: 1. "Putting It All Into Practice" with Tim Ward; 2. "Full Circle Care to Bless Your Laborers" by Jordan Dillon and Mike Singer from Brotherhood Mutual; and 3. "How the Church Can Reach and Help the Anxious Generation (19 – 30 year olds)" by Rebecca Harrigal. Registration is \$20 and may be completed at <https://www.shenandoahriverdistrict.org/district-training-day/>.

## RELAY FOR LIFE: TEAM KUMC



AUCTION: MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup> 4:00 P.M. WOODMEN LIFE IN DAYTON VA  
RELAY FOR LIFE: MAY 9<sup>TH</sup> 5:00 P.M. ROCKINGHAM CO FAIRGROUNDS  
ANY QUESTIONS, TALK WITH LYNN SILER

**WEAVE FOR A CURE:** Anyone interested in weaving a basket? The 9th weave for a cure



relay fundraiser will be March 19th & 26th in the church social hall. To make the group smaller I will offer the class at 2 times 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. or 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. This first one will be the Jordan with a 8" wooden base and option of handles, cost will be \$65.00. Then



the 10th weave for a cure will be on Thursdays in April and that one will be Footed market at \$50.00. If you want to make the basket or both, please let Lynn Siler ([lsiler78@yahoo.com](mailto:lsiler78@yahoo.com)) know so the supplies can be gathered. Let's have a weaving good time together.

Virginia Annual Conference is June 17th-20<sup>th</sup> at the Atlantic Union Bank Center on the campus of JMU. Calling all Shenandoah Valley folks with gifts for kindness and hospitality. We are searching for over 150 volunteers to help us host our first Shenandoah River District-area Annual Conference this year. We need folks with lots of kindness, knowledge and/or stories of the area to make this an unforgettable experience full of Shenandoah Valley hospitality for all. If you are interested, please indicate your willingness, abilities, and availability. Our District Team will continue working with the Annual Conference Planning Committee to determine what jobs are available and then we will reach out and work with you one-on-one to find a job that suits you. Some areas of help that will be needed are: Help with set up of conference at the Atlantic Union Bank Center in the days before and take down after the event; help with golf carts as they arrive at the center in the days before AC; Registration Table (signing in Laity and Clergy); Ushers (Wednesday through Saturday at noon); Hospitality; Golf carts (driving and assisting persons into the arena); and Tech Desk. The official sign-up sheet is coming soon, but now is the time to be thinking about what you can offer by giving of your gifts and talents!

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## MY PERSONAL NOTE

Today I was eating lunch at one of the local restaurants when a young couple came in with two beautiful little twin blessings. They seated them two tables from me, but I could still hear the parents, each with one beside them, trying to help them decide what to eat and to not throw the crayons (did I mention they were “still carrying” them tiny young ones?), or to eat the crayons. Their meal came as I was finishing mine and I felt the “nudge” (you know, one of those GOD nudges), so I asked the waitress to give me their bill. I got up to leave but went over to the table and told them they had two beautiful blessings and asked how old—they were 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  and they just looked at me and grinned. I then told them their lunch was on me. The man's mouth dropped open and he said “I can't believe you did that, I don't know what to say”. I just looked at his surprise, smiled, and said “pass it on”. He said they would. The joy (there it is Evalyn!) that filled my heart as I drove home only came from listening and doing for that still small voice. Thank you, Father.

*Diana*

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### Editor's Note

**The April deadline for submissions is Apr 18th .** My home number is 540-269-8511 or e-mail me at [AntDyna@comcast.net](mailto:AntDyna@comcast.net). I hope that you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoy preparing it for you. God bless you all.

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*“May the road rise to meet you· May the wind be always at your back· May the sun shine warm upon your face· And rains fall soft upon your fields· And until we meet again, May God hold you in the hollow of His hand·”*

*Irish Blessing*

