

MOuNTaiN ECHoeS

SEPTEMBER 2026

189th Edition

"God please give me a sign that I am doing okay"

God:



(Courtesy of Facebook)

KEEZLETOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. T. Joel Robinette, Pastor

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I thought it was too late, but God whispered...we don't use the same clock. (Christian Humor)

KUMC has a new Webpage at KeezletownUMC.com to allow those searching for a Church family to get to know us better. It includes a monthly calendar of all events happening, as well as the Mountain Echoes newsletter for the month. If you would like to start reading the newsletter on line, instead of receiving a paper copy, please e-mail your request to kumcshared@gmail.com or call 540-269-8531 and leave a message, or talk to Diana Davis.

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**

Christians are connected. Paul wrote to the various, different, and divided Christians in Romans 12:4 “For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another” (NRSV). We are connected to Jesus and we are connected to every other Christian as part of the body of Christ and connected to everyone as Jesus shares grace and love with everyone. One of the ways we talk about the United Methodist Church is as “the connection.” In the UMC we do not have independent congregations, but a connectional system where we share property, clergy, ministry, and support. Sometimes our connection is most visible in holy conferencing like charge conference, district conference, annual conference, and general conference when we join together for worship, ministry, prayer, mission, and support with other United Methodists in our local area or from around the world. In August 2026 I was asked by our District Superintendent Kyungsuk Cho to serve the sacrament of Holy Communion monthly at Mount Zion UMC near Massanutten because they had lay supply Judith Nandikove serving the congregation and she was not authorized to lead the sacraments. Mt. Zion has a 9:00 AM worship and I went for the first time to serve communion and worship with them August 9. Judith Nandikove is an international student at Eastern Mennonite and with changing immigration policy she is not able to serve as a pastor either paid or unpaid. We can be praying for our connection with Judith Nandikove and the congregations she was serving John Wesley UMC and Mount Zion UMC in this time of transition. When I learned about that transition I offered to preach and help with worship monthly when I was there to help with Holy Communion. I got to preach there the first time September 13. When we see other Christians needing help let us remember our connection and share the gifts and graces we have to build each other up in Christ. I am very thankful for the connection we share in Jesus Christ.

*Pastor Joel*

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Once a wise doctor told his patient, “The best medicine is love”. The patient replied, “But what if it doesn't work?” He wisely replied, “Increase the dosage.”  
(Anon)

### **\*\*\*AUGUST EVENTS THAT HAPPENED\*\*\***

**UNITED METHODIST MEN** met at 8:00 a.m., Aug 16<sup>th</sup> for their breakfast meeting. Nine men were present. Breakfast by Carol and Scott Dillard included biscuits and gravy, eggs, watermelon, cantaloupe, coffee, and tea. Pastor Joel gave the opening prayer and prayer for those in need. Wendell gave thanks for 60 years of marriage and shared that the secret of marriage is like Dory from Finding Nemo with “Just keep swimming.” He said if you focus only on the challenge, you may give up. John Young provided the devotion “Less Is More” from Our Daily Bread. Often we need less talking and more listening. He shared how Ananias was a witness for Jesus to Paul in Acts. He reminded us to plant seeds remembering we don’t always see results immediately. Minutes and Treasurer’s reports from July meeting were approved. Len Williams noted the need to increase membership and reach out. Pastor Joel had posters/flyers available for the UMM Rally Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> KUMC and encouraged sharing them as a way to invite people to come. Scott shared there are RSVPs for the UMM Rally from Manor Memorial UMC (10), McGaheysville UMC (4), and Mt. Hermon UMC (1). The Virginia Conference United Methodist Men Spiritual Retreat will be Sept 18th-19th at Massanetta Springs Resort. Those signed up to attend: Wendell Cochran, Scott Dillard, Joel Robinette, and John Young. United Methodist Men Sunday at KUMC will be Oct 11th and Tom DeVore has agreed to preach. We discussed hosting with the UWIF a Christmas Dinner at KUMC on Saturday, Dec 12th at 4:00 PM. Scott will check on that date and time with the UWIF. Mike Summers gave an update on the parking lot cracks, and is experimenting with a method of repair using sand as a base and using a blacktop filler and sealer on top. Mike asked for time to experiment with a method that will be successful before scheduling work days for people to aid in the repair work. Scott Dillard noted a new hydrangea for the church garden may be a nice addition and he is trying to kill a red bud tree stump that tries to keep sending up shoots. Next meeting: Sept 20th at 8:00 AM; devotions by Wendell and breakfast TBD.

**WHO IS HE?** “Jesus the I AM” was the message from Pastor Joel for the Aug 16<sup>th</sup> worship service, from John 8:31-39. Jesus calls himself the I AM. It is the name for God in the Old Testament and shows His unity with God. God spoke to Moses as I AM. The Hebrews were afraid of the Pharaoh. The I AM delivered them from slavery to the promised land. Jesus the I AM comes so we can live in the fullness of God. We are not slaves, but I AM can free us. From what? From sin. Jesus can set us free to be the Children of God. Jesus is bringing us grace. Assisting with the service today were Wendell leading, Cheryl reading Scripture, Pastor Joel leading Children’s Time, and the Worship Team providing and leading the music.

**BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING:** Pastor Joel asked all present who were returning to school, or working at a school, or driving a bus to come forward on Aug 16<sup>th</sup> to bless them before school started on the Aug 20<sup>th</sup>.



**MCCC BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES** were dedicated during the Aug 16<sup>th</sup> worship service and taken to MCCC before school began. They included 34 backpacks; 70 spiral notebooks; 11 composition notebooks; 24 folders; 77 pencil pouches; 653 pencils; 23 pens; 429 erasers; 9 rulers; 2 protractors; 4 high lighter; 2 water color paint sets; 8 bold markers; 4 thin markers; 12 colored pencils; 109 crayons; 45 scissors; 21 glue sticks; 4 glue bottles; 55 sharpeners; 1 chalk; 6 post it notes; 2 packets of loose leaf paper; and 1 calculator.



Thank you very much to all who contributed to the needs of children returning to school.

**Chill & Chat** met at 11:00 AM in the Social Hall on Aug 20<sup>th</sup>. Five ladies and Pastor Joel helped prepare the room for the 60<sup>th</sup> Celebration for Wendell and Faye Cochran on Saturday, Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>. Many hands made easy work. Join us anytime.

## **SCHOOL STARTED AUGUST 20TH**

### **GROWING UP TOO FAST AND BACK TO SCHOOL IN 2026**

The church family is proud and happy to recognize our children and grandchildren, our nieces and nephews, as they begin another school year.

Not in school yet (?): Jade Bahle, Rylynn Bishop, Ramilia (Remi) Davis, Ramira (Mira) Davis, Zarielle Hardy, Henry Martin, Owen Summers, Madison Wamsley

Kindergarten:

First: Carmella Bahle, Triton Bishop

Second:

Third: Lily Sacra

Fourth: Connor Guilliams

Fifth: Waylon Conley, Adalida Crisman; Nolan Mason, Sam Ramsey

Sixth: Cora Combs, Cooper Pellegrin, Ben Wamsley

Seventh: Winston Mitchell

Eighth: Sara Cole

Ninth (Freshman): James Cole, Andrea Crisman, Austyn Crisman, Carson Guilliams, Nora Grace Jarrels, Leah Siler; Jacob Welsh

Tenth (Sophomore): Caleb Combs

Eleventh (Junior): Harrison Bowman, Lydia Kelley, Cami Martin; Nicholas Mitchell; Parker Young

Twelfth (Senior): Haiden Dillard, Connor Miller, Brayden Morris, Chloe Robinette, Rebecca Sprague, Alli Underwood; Joseph Welsh

College Freshmen: Hannah Bowman, Cali Martin, Mason Pusey, Kate Ramsey

College Sophomore: Macie Heishman, Alex Mansfield, Marley McGlaughlin, Hunter Pellegrin, Noah Robinette, Ryan Sprague, Lataya Wigginton

College Junior: Eli Bowman, Kahlyn Smith

College Senior: Joe Johnson Jr, Grady McGlaughlin, Reese Pellegrin, Carson Pusey

**SENIORS PARKING SPOTS**, Haiden, Alex, and Chloe. Lookin' good.



**60 YEARS OF MARRIAGE:** On Aug 20<sup>th</sup>, Wendell and Faye Cochran celebrated being married 60 years. On Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>, we celebrated with them, their family and friends, at a gathering in the Social hall from 2:00-5:00 p.m. The Church family helped in providing food and drinks, while their children provided a beautiful cake and desserts. Wendell's Mother, Florence, was able to come and enjoy the festivities, and Sharon and Karen sang her favorite song to her. There were lots of memories and lots of laughter. Congratulations, Wendell and Faye.



**DO YOU WANT TO GO THRU THE GATE?** From John 10:1-10, Pastor Joel spoke on "I Am the Gate" for his message at the Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> worship service. "I am the gate" said Jesus. Gates and doors can be locked, may be selective as to who enters, or can be a plain gate at your house. Imagine Israel with the sheep gathered in sheep pens, with no gate, only the shepherd standing or lying in the gate area, guarding the sheep. He led them in the night into the pen and out again in the morning to graze. Jesus is the gate of refuge, the gate of life. Jesus is always at our gates, defending, and protecting. Assisting today were Leonard leading, Pastor Joel talking to the children about Jesus leading His sheep, Josh reading Scripture, and Chris on the piano.

**Lunch Bunch** met at Village Inn on Aug 26<sup>th</sup>. Four ladies enjoyed a wonderful buffet and good conversation. You are welcome to join us.

**ICE CREAM MAKING:** At 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug 26<sup>th</sup>, the Church men met in the garage with the ice, salt, and freezers, and the Church ladies met in the kitchen to make the ice cream mix. There were also ladies in the social hall making labels for the cups of ice cream after they were processed. We made 11 different kinds and boxed 355 cups of ice cream for the social on Saturday, the 29<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all who came out and helped or donated.

**CHILL-N-CHAT** met on Aug 27<sup>th</sup> with five ladies present to help fold and stuff the newsletters for mailing. Thank you, ladies for your help.

**SPRC Committee** met on Aug 27<sup>th</sup>. As part of our meeting, we recognized and showed appreciation for our wonderful Lay Speakers - Ken, Wendell, Len, and Pastor Joel too, just for good measure. We read Ephesians 6:10-18 which talks about putting on the full armor of God. Hopefully the "Armor All" they were given will serve as a reminder to them when they use it to put on the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shoes of the gospel of peace, the helmet of salvation, and to carry the shield of faith and the sword of the spirit always. Gentlemen, thank you for standing firm, for preparing diligently, and for leading us deeper into God's truth. Your service strengthens our church and glorifies our Lord! SPRC Chair, Jenny Dillard



**I SCREAM, YOU SCREAM, WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM:** And boy was it good and refreshing on Saturday night, Aug 29<sup>th</sup>, for the Annual Community Ice Cream Social when more than sixty church and community folks turned out to try it and then stayed and fellowshiped. We enjoyed eleven flavors: banana, butter pecan, cherry nut, chocolate peanut butter, mint chocolate chip, peach, pineapple, raspberry, strawberry, vanilla, and tutti-frutti (a mixture of peach and strawberry), as well as toppings if you wanted. Many folks had the opportunity to try more than one flavor and some took some home. A free-will offering of \$1090 was collected for the backpack program. Thank you to all who donated, volunteered, and came out to have an "ice cream evening".





**SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF:** On August 30th we had our Sunday School Kickoff. Our classes gathered in the social hall all together to enjoy a light breakfast of donuts, muffins, and fruit, and have some time to fellowship with one another. Each teacher shared briefly about what their classes were currently studying. Pastor Joel shared information about small group sharing and the formation of Grace Groups. We had the opportunity at our tables to share in the practice of how a Grace Group could function and it was a wonderful time of sharing by everyone. Some of our classes are exploring ways to incorporate small group sharing, perhaps once a month, as part of their Sunday School time. We are also looking at ways to additionally bring all of our classes together for different times of fellowship and sharing in the upcoming months. If you aren't currently involved in a Sunday School class or small group, then please know you are invited and would be welcomed to join in on the fun, learning, and support that come with being part of what is experienced there. Jenny Dillard



**THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD:** For worship on Aug 30<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Joel delivered the message “I Am the Good Shepherd” from John 10:11-41. Whenever Jesus says “I AM”, we are learning what Jesus is all about and why He came to earth. He is the good Shepherd who leads His own. They recognize His voice and follow Him to green pastures, good paths, still waters, rest, peace, and food. He is protecting us. He will seek the lost, just as the shepherd seeks any that stray from His loving care. Assisting in today’s service were John reading Scripture, and Diana on the organ and talking to the children about Eeyore and friendship.



## **FAMILY FUN PICTURES**



*Kendra is 23*



*Gotcha Day 9/13*



*Happy BD Abby*



*Len is 88*



*The season begins*

## **\*\*\*SEPTEMBER EVENTS THAT HAPPENED\*\*\***

**UNITED METHODIST MEN’S FIRST LOW COUNTRY BOIL:** The Keezletown United Methodist Men hosted a rally on Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>, for men across the Shenandoah River District, with more than 40 people attending. Men came from around the district including Manor Memorial in New Market, McGaheysville, John Wesley, Asbury, Mountain Valley, St James, and Luray. Also attending David Collins, president of the Virginia Conference United Methodist Men, Bob Longworth, Virginia Conference UMM Vice President for Membership, Rev Richard Bensinger, Pastor at Bridgewater and District UMM coordinator, and Rev Chad Hrbek, Camp Overlook director. A highlight of the evening was a “low country boil” dinner, organized and prepared by Joe Liskey and a crew of helpers from Keezletown UMC. The dinner included shrimp, sausage, potatoes, and corn, served low country family style on brown paper in the middle of the tables. Dessert was homemade ice cream and cookies. John Young gave a presentation about the JMU Suitcase Clinic, a unique project that delivers medical care and medications to homeless individuals living in shelters in Harrisonburg. Instead of requiring people to come to a clinic, which can be difficult for people living in shelters, the program sends providers to the homeless shelters around the city. The name “Suitcase Clinic” came because originally all the services the clinic provided would fit into a suitcase. A freewill offering at the rally collected \$205 for the clinic. If you wish to donate, you can follow this link:

<https://www.jmu.edu/iihhs/suitcase/give.shtml>. Thank you to all who participated in any way.



**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN** met Thursday, Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. in the Church social hall, with nine members and one guest present. Judy called the meeting to order and gave the opening prayer. We recited the UWIF Purpose. Diana read the July minutes, and gave the Treasurer's report, which were both approved. Mission of the month was to UMCOR for US disasters. The Christmas dinner will be on Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, with gathering at 4:00 p.m. and dinner at 5:00 p.m. The United Methodist Men will be preparing the meal, and we will provide the appetizers, punch, and desserts. Please remember to gather your items for the Bingo games part of the evening. Sherry reported we will serve the Keezletown Ruritans on Monday, Sept 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. We will also be preparing for the Italian feast after worship on UWIF Sunday, Sept 20<sup>th</sup>. We have agreed to serve the first WOW service on Oct 7<sup>th</sup>. We will serve the Mt Crawford Ruritans on Nov 4<sup>th</sup>. Four ladies will be attending the District Prayer breakfast on Saturday, Sept 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the

Mountain Valley United Methodist Church. We planned for UWIF Sunday on Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, with Sherry delivering the message about the Missions of KUMC. Sharon reminded us that we are doing Love Bags in October. Five cards were signed. We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting is Oct 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

**DO YOU WANT JESUS TO WASH YOUR FEET?** Pastor Joel spoke on "Jesus Washed Feet" from John 13:1-38 during the Worship service on Sept 6<sup>th</sup>, Communion Sunday. Jesus washed feet, in His last days, serving, sharing, and loving to the end, even Judas's feet. What would you do if you had Godlike powers? Would you buy stuff, make people listen, or nothing at all. We have magnificent powers and gifts from God. Three things to remember: do no harm; do good; stay in love with God. The power of Jesus comes in serving and loving others. Assisting in the service today were Chris at the piano; Ken leading and talking with the children about Labor Day; and Bob, Susan, Ken, Diana, and Jenny helping serve Communion.

**LUNCH BUNCH:** six church family met at Vito's on Port Road at 11:30 a.m. on Sept 9<sup>th</sup> to enjoy good Italian food and great conversation. Think about joining us.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL** met on Sept 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the Church social hall with eleven members present. Susan called the meeting to order and Pastor Joel opened with prayer. Diana read the July minutes. Chris gave the Treasurer's report. Jenny thanked everyone for the successful Vacation Bible School and outdoor worship. Sherry reported for the UWIF: they made Love Bags in July; served the Mt Crawford Ruritans on Aug 5<sup>th</sup>; hosted the annual picnic on Aug 6<sup>th</sup>; prepared the meal for the Ramona Crowe memorial on Aug 15<sup>th</sup>; assisted with the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration for the Cochran's on Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>; serving Keezletown Ruritans on Sept 14<sup>th</sup>; attending Prayer Breakfast on Sept 12<sup>th</sup>; leading worship for UWIF Sunday on Sept 20<sup>th</sup> and preparing meal to follow; making Love Bags in Oct; serving the WOW dinner on Oct 7<sup>th</sup>; serving the Mt Crawford Ruritans on Oct 4<sup>th</sup>; and assisting with the Christmas Dinner on Dec 12<sup>th</sup>. Scott reported for the UMM: helped prepare the meal for the VBS Outdoor Worship service; had a successful Men's Rally and Low Boil with 41 attending; attending a Conference at Massanetta Springs on Sept 18-19<sup>th</sup>; and Oct 11<sup>th</sup> will be UMM Sunday. Trustees: Sharon reported that Scott will install new LED lights; Jim is going to paint the Sanctuary doors; Mike is working on a solution to the cracks in the parking lot. Mission/Outreach: Sherry gave out a sheet listing all of the missions done by the church family from July 9<sup>th</sup> through Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, which included 34 different meetings, events, or celebrations. Membership reported the death of Ramona Crowe. SPRC: Jenny reported the recognizing of our Lay Speakers, Ken, Len, Wendell, and Pastor Joel at their meeting on Aug 27<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Joel gave his report citing that he will be helping Mt Zion while they have no Pastor, by providing Communion and some preaching as their services are at 9:00 a.m. Charge Conference will be Nov 21<sup>st</sup> at Vision of Hope UMC. He then presented calendars thru Dec 2027 with dates of events and asked that we add other events. Please have

all budget requests to Joe Liskey before the Sept 16<sup>th</sup> Budget meeting. WOW services will be the four Wednesday evenings in Oct at 6:00 p.m. Jenn has arranged for KUMC to participate in Trunk or Treat at Rockingham Park on Oct 24<sup>th</sup>. The Harvest Party will be Sunday, Oct 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at the Ruritan Park. Sunday School will have a pancake breakfast and Grace Groups together on Sunday, Nov 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 a.m. Susan advised that Relay for Life is on May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Recreation Center at Rockingham Park and she is heading up Team Crowe. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. New meeting date is Nov 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. (Please note time change.)

**CHILL-N-CHAT** met on Sept 10<sup>th</sup> in the Church social hall with 7 ladies and Pastor Joel present. Good conversation and laughter were had by all. You are welcome to come.

### **“Remembering 9/11 — Honoring Through Unity**



The best way to honor those we lost on 9/11 is to be the people we were on 9/12 — compassionate, united, and proud to stand together as Americans. That day changed us forever, but the morning after reminded us who we truly are: neighbors helping neighbors, strangers offering comfort, and a nation bound by shared strength and heart. Let's carry that spirit forward — not just today, but every day. We remember. We stand together. We remain strong.” (Richard Solomon)

**NEW BABY:** Eleanor Mae Krauss was born on Sept 11<sup>th</sup> weighing 8 lbs 10 oz to Andrew and Whitney Johnson Krauss. Grandparents are Joe and Melissa Johnson and Great grandparents are Gary and Barbara Heatwole. Congratulations and best wishes from the KUMC family.



**UWIF DISTRICT PRAYER BREAKFAST** was held on Sept 12<sup>th</sup> at Mountain Valley United Methodist Church at 9:00 a.m. with four ladies attending from KUMC. After a wonderful breakfast, the thirty plus in attendance received an inspiring message by Amanda Garber entitled “Keep On Showing Up!”

**MARRIAGE:** Caitlyn Antes and David Nelson were wed at the Brandermill Country Club in Richmond VA on Sept 12<sup>th</sup>. Parents are Drema Antes and Chad Antes, and Virginia Nelson. Grandparents are Loretta Eklund, Douglas Norcross, and Larry Antes. Best Wishes from your family at KUMC.



**WE DON'T KNOW THE WAY.** For Worship service on Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Joel spoke on "I Am The Way, The Truth, and The Light" from John 14. This is Jesus saying He is connected to God and how to follow. John 14 is Jesus's farewell speech. The disciples do not understand what is happening. "Do not let your hearts be troubled, I am making a home for you", Jesus said. Thomas says, "We don't know where you are going and how can we know these things?" Jesus says, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life", so you can get to the Father and He can get to you by showing you thru deeds the actions of God for all His children. Jesus is our way to God. He gives us the Holy Spirit to carry on for Him and to bring others to Him. Assisting in the service were Len leading, Pastor Joel talking to the children about being Rooted in Jesus, and the Worship Team of Pastor Joel, Karen, Sharon, Barrett, and Sherry leading the music.

**WORSHIP PLANNING** met at Vitos in Penn Laird on Sept 14<sup>th</sup> at noon for lunch and planning for the worship services. Pastor Joel, Chris, and Diana attended. Anyone is welcome to attend.

**UWIF** served the meal to the Keezletown Ruritans at their Sept monthly meeting on Sept 14<sup>th</sup>. The meal included Barbeque, corn, green beans, dessert, and tea. Four ladies assisted Sherry in the preparation and service. Thank you to all who donated or helped.

### **\*\*\*SEPTEMBER EVENTS IN NEXT ISSUE\*\*\***

- |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sep 15    | Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM<br>Love Boldly study, 7:00 PM                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Sep 16    | Choir Practice, 6:30 PM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Sep 17    | Chill & Chat, 11:00 AM<br>Serve Kingsway Meal                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Sep 18-19 | UMM Retreat at Massanetta Springs.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Sep 20    | United Methodist Men, 8:00 AM<br>Sunday School, 9:45 AM<br>Worship, 11:00 AM<br>United Women in Faith Sunday; Message: "Oh Lord, Is There Anything We Can Do?" Sherry Summers from Proverbs 31:10; Galatians 6:2; Mark 10:45; and Philipians 2:1-2<br>A Disciple's Path, 3:00 PM |
| Sep 21    | Love Boldly study, 10:00 AM<br>Backpacking, 11:00 AM                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Sep 22    | Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM<br>Love Boldly study, 7:00 PM                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Sep 23    | Lunch Bunch at Wood Grill at 11:30 AM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

Sep 24 Choir Practice, 6:30 PM  
 Chill & Chat, 11:00 AM  
 Sep 27 Sunday School, 9:45 AM  
 Worship, 11:00 AM  
 Message: "I Am the True Vine" from John 15:1-17  
 Sep 28 Love Boldly study, 10:00 AM  
 Backpacking, 11:00 AM  
 Sep 29 Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM  
 Love Boldly study, 7:00 PM  
 Sep 30 Choir Practice, 6:30 PM  
 Mission and Outreach Meeting, 7:00 PM

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### \*\*\*OCTOBER EVENTS HAPPENING\*\*\*

#### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

|        |                   |        |                    |
|--------|-------------------|--------|--------------------|
| Oct 1  | Neil Sacra        | Oct 10 | Peggy Smith        |
| Oct 1  | Haiden Dillard    | Oct 15 | Phillip Carr       |
| Oct 3  | James Cole        | Oct 18 | Toni Underwood     |
| Oct 4  | Sarah Crisman     | Oct 19 | Cathy Miles        |
| Oct 4  | Cheryl Foley      | Oct 19 | Hannah Bowman      |
| Oct 5  | Randy Clatterbuck | Oct 22 | Mike Summers       |
| Oct 8  | Marie Hardin      | Oct 22 | Charles Stanley    |
| Oct 9  | Morgan Bishop     | Oct 26 | Cheryl Dillard     |
| Oct 10 | Patti Bowman      | Oct 29 | Connie Hawley      |
| Oct 10 | Brenda Hoke       | Oct 30 | Sherry Summers     |
| Oct 10 | Joel Robinette    | Oct 30 | Jenny Coffman Reed |
|        |                   | Oct 31 | Ryan Pusey         |

#### OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

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|              |                             |          |
|--------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| Oct 3, 1992  | Scott & Michelle Dodrill    | 34 years |
| Oct 3, 2015  | Michael & Faith Stanley     | 11 years |
| Oct 4, 2014  | Justin & Kristin Roach      | 12 years |
| Oct 6, 1979  | Carl & Marjorie Zimmermann  | 47 years |
| Oct 7, 1978  | Darryl & Tanya Eppard       | 48 years |
| Oct 8, 2022  | Chris and Lauren Threewitts | 4 years  |
| Oct 12, 1968 | Jim & Carol Dillard         | 58 years |
| Oct 12, 2014 | Kevin & Holly Mason         | 12 years |
| Oct 15, 1977 | Bob & Susan Threewitts      | 49 years |
| Oct 19, 2019 | Adam & Kelly Ford           | 7 years  |
| Oct 19, 2024 | Michael and Hayley Shroyer  | 2 years  |
| Oct 21, 2006 | Eric & Annika Dean          | 20 years |
| Oct 21, 2017 | Matt & Luran Holliday       | 9 years  |
| Oct 23, 2004 | Brandon & Ginny Bowman      | 22 years |
| Oct 23, 2010 | Stephen & Kristine Welsh    | 16 years |
| Oct 31, 1998 | Bob & Susie Hill            | 28 years |
| Oct 31, 2021 | Travis & Joanna Martin      | 5 years  |

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



**Carl and Marjorie Zimmermann for 47 years on Oct 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Darryl and Tanya Eppard for 48 years on Oct 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Bob and Susan Threewitts for 49 years on Oct 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Jim and Carol Dillard for 58 years on Oct 12<sup>th</sup>**

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

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### **OCTOBER EVENTS CALENDAR**

- |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct 1  | United Women in Faith, 11:00 AM                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Oct 4  | Small Group Leaders' Gathering, 8:45 AM<br>Sunday School, 9:45 AM<br>Worship, 11:00 AM; Message: "Sharing in Jesus' Persecutions" from John 15:18—16:11, 16-33                                       |
| Oct 5  | Love Boldly study, 10:00 AM<br>Backpack Packing, 11:00 AM                                                                                                                                            |
| Oct 6  | Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM<br>Love Boldly study, 7:00 PM                                                                                                                                        |
| Oct 7  | WOW Supper & Service, 6:30 PM<br>Choir Practice, 7:30 PM                                                                                                                                             |
| Oct 8  | Chill & Chat, 11:00 AM in Church social hall<br>Serve Kingsway Ministry                                                                                                                              |
| Oct 11 | Sunday School, 9:45 AM<br>Worship, 11:00 AM; Message for United Methodist Men's Sunday by Tom DeVore                                                                                                 |
| Oct 12 | Love Boldly study, 10:00 AM<br>Backpack Packing, 11:00 AM<br>Worship Planning, Noon at Vito's                                                                                                        |
| Oct 13 | Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM<br>Love Boldly study, 7:00 PM                                                                                                                                        |
| Oct 14 | Lunch Bunch at Santa Fe, 11:30 AM<br>WOW Supper & Service, 6:30 PM                                                                                                                                   |
| Oct 15 | Chill & Chat, 11:00 AM in Church social hall<br>Serve Kingsway Meal                                                                                                                                  |
| Oct 16 | Newsletter items due                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Oct 18 | United Methodist Men, 8:00 AM<br>Sunday School, 9:45 AM<br>Worship, 11:00 AM; Message: "A New Path" Ken Thomas from Matthew 25:13-30<br>2026 KUMC World Cereals Begins<br>A Disciple's Path, 3:00 PM |
| Oct 19 | Love Boldly study, 10:00 AM<br>Study Lunch Out, 11:15 AM<br>Backpacking, Time TBD                                                                                                                    |

Oct 20      **Study Dinner Out, 5:30 PM**  
              Love Boldly study, 7:00 PM

Oct. 21      **WOW Supper & Service, 6:30 PM**  
              Choir Practice, 7:30 PM

Oct. 22      **Chill & Chat, 11:00 AM in Church social hall**

Oct. 24      **Trunk R Treat at Rockingham Park, 4 – 7 PM**

Oct 25      **Sunday School, 9:45 AM**  
              **Worship, 11:00 AM; Message: "Jesus' Prayer for All Who Believe" from John 17:1-26**  
              2026 KUMC World Cereals Final  
              **Harvest Party at Keezletown Ruritan Park, 2:00 PM**

Oct 26      **The Holy Spirit study, 10:00 AM**  
              Backpacking, 11:00 AM

Oct 27      **Worship Music Practice, 6:00 PM**  
              The Holy Spirit study, 7:00 PM

Oct 28      **Lunch Bunch at Dumpling House 11:30 AM**  
              **WOW Supper & Service, 6:30 PM**

Oct 29      **Chill & Chat, 11:00 AM in Church social hall**

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**United Women in Faith** Meeting is Thursday, Oct 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 AM at KUMC.

**WOW Services:** Oct. 7: UWIF Providing Supper, Worship Music Team

Oct. 14: Rick Hasler (Manor Memorial UMC)

Oct. 21: UMM Spaghetti Supper, Bill Braddy (Mount Hermon UMC)

Oct. 28: Karen Mooney Fried Chicken (bring sides/desserts), John Young (KUMC)

**CHOIRS: The Choir and Worship Team** are asking you to consider joining them to sing or play during worship. The Choir will meet Oct 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 PM after the WOW services in October. The Worship Team practices on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM. Check the calendar.

**Sentara RMH** is hosting a drive thru flu clinic Saturday, Oct 10<sup>th</sup> for adults ages 18 and older.

**WRE's Fall Benefit Auction** Saturday, Oct 17<sup>th</sup> Shady Oak Hall next to Weavers Mennonite Church, with the auction starting at 10:00 am, with delicious homemade food available. A bake sale will be held on Friday, Oct 16<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00-7:00 PM

**United Methodist Men** Breakfast Meeting is Sunday, Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 AM.

**2026 KUMC World Cereals** collection Oct 18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>. Bring breakfast items.

**A Disciples' Path** will meet Oct 19<sup>th</sup> from 3-5<sup>th</sup> PM, focusing on practice of prayer.

**KUMC Trunk R Treat at Rockingham Park** on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 4 – 7 PM. Our theme will be Pokemon "Jesus Catch 'Em All"; expecting 700 children. If you would like to help, please talk to Jennifer Robinette.

**Harvest Party** at Keezletown Ruritan Park Oct 25th with 2 PM hayride, food and fun.

**"The Holy Spirit" Study** by Adam Hamilton begins on Oct 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM and Oct 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM, a five-week study to help believers understand and experience the Holy Spirit's presence and power in their daily walk with Christ.

**Charge Conference** will be Saturday Nov 21<sup>st</sup> at 10 AM at Vision of Hope UMC.

**Shenandoah River District Conference** will be Saturday, Dec 5th from 10:00 AM – Noon.

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## **MY PERSONAL NOTE**

This week, Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, three years ago, my life was forever changed. The world kept going, doing its' thing, while I tried to muddle through an existence without the one person in my life that kept me going. I knew God was with me that day, just as He had been every day that I watched my soul mate get closer to going home and knowing there was nothing I could do. God knew what was happening and He knew I had the strength to do it. I just had to keep on believing that He was there with me and would hold me up each time the grief returned. If you are struggling, remember what He said: "I will never leave you nor forsake you". And if you believe, He will keep that promise. I know. I could not go one more day without Him walking with me. Especially this month, this week, Saturday. Grief is not being able to say "I Love You" to the one who is gone. Say it anyway. Shout it. Cry it. Pray it. True love never dies. And the love of God never leaves you.

*Diana*

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### **Editor's Note**

**The Oct deadline for article or picture submissions is Oct 16th.** My e-mail is [AntDyna@comcast.net](mailto:AntDyna@comcast.net). I hope that you enjoy reading the newsletter as much as I enjoy preparing it for you. God bless you.

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LORD, empty me of me...so I can be filled with you. Amen  
(Anon)