

Glade Weekly News

January 13-19, 2025



Glade Church, a United Church of Christ (UCC) congregation, is a progressive Christian community—welcoming, compassionate, and joyful—seeking to embrace all people wherever they find themselves in life. We strive to discern God’s still-speaking voice through worship, study, fellowship, and service. We work for God’s peace and social, economic, and ecological justice.

Lectionary Readings for the Week

Isaiah 62:1-5 — Psalm 36:5-10 — 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 — John 2:1-11

Scripture for the Week

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (Common English Bible)

Brothers and sisters, I don’t want you to be ignorant about spiritual gifts.

² You know that when you were Gentiles you were often misled by false gods that can’t even speak.

³ So I want to make it clear to you that no one says, “Jesus is cursed!” when speaking by God’s Spirit, and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ There are different spiritual gifts but the same Spirit;

⁵ and there are different ministries and the same Lord;

⁶ and there are different activities but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.

⁷ A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good.

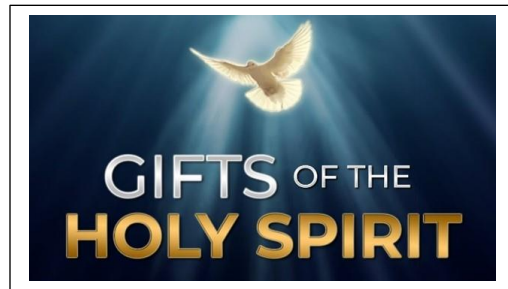
⁸ A word of wisdom is given by the Spirit to one person, a word of knowledge to another according to the same Spirit,

⁹ faith to still another by the same Spirit, gifts of healing to another in the one Spirit,

¹⁰ performance of miracles to another, prophecy to another, the ability to tell spirits apart to another, different kinds of tongues (*ecstatic speech* or *languages*) to another, and the interpretation of the tongues to another.

¹¹ All these things are produced by the one and same Spirit who gives what he wants to each person.

Word for the Week



Pastor Kelly’s Comments on the Scripture

My biggest hindrance to reading the Bible is the fact that I was told from a young age that the Bible was God’s holy word. Every word was said to be divinely inspired and inerrant. Though I have moved past such thinking, adhering to the practice of reading the Bible through the lens of love and feeling free to disagree with parts of it, I think Paul had his heart in the right place and had many wonderful messages in his letters to his churches. However, I do not agree with everything he said or every belief he had.

I want to tell you now that if you have issues with Paul, don't be afraid to read him again and disagree with what doesn't set right. Also keep in mind that Paul has been wildly misunderstood and misinterpreted, so even if you disagree with something he wrote, don't just throw it away, for there may be an explanation that makes sense that you simply haven't come across.

Something that I can agree with Paul about is his list of qualities, of gifts, that are more worthy of seeking out than earthly power or status. In every faith community, members have different gifts, services, and activities that, for the good of all, create and increase wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discernment, speech, and language (12:4-6, 8-10).

The Spirit offers these gifts to different members of every community so that they can grow and answer God's call, serving the needs of their community. We don't choose our own gifts or ministries, but if we are open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, they will come to us "who gives what he wants to each person" (12:11).

Regardless of what sort of faith community we belong to – progressive or conservative – they all come from the same Spirit and the same God. And though progressive and conservative congregations don't agree on a lot, I think that we can all agree that it's never our church, but God's church, and we all need to follow Them to the best of our ability. God will meet us where we are and the Spirit will guide us to where we need to be if only we are open to Them and willing to go where and do what They direct.

Pastor Kelly Bryant

Office Day Next Week: Friday, January 24th. Kelly isn't listing hours to not place limits on their availability to you. Please contact them for a meeting at a time that fits your schedule on office days. Should you need Pastor Kelly, please don't hesitate to contact them.
540-521-9993, bryantkj@gmail.com.

Join us for worship at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday Morning

Attend in-person at 1600 Glade Rd. Blacksburg, or on Zoom at

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88914981619?pwd=Q3E4Rk95d2llZGtONlVqSDcrMm1xdz09/#_success

Spiritual Formation Class and Youth Group meets again on January 19

Spiritual Formation for adults and Youth Group meets on the first and third Sundays of each month.

Next meeting date is Sunday, January 19 at 9:45 AM. We hope you'll join us!

Volunteers are needed for Kids Church and Youth Group

There are leader slots available for youth, kids, and nursery. Session topic info is available on the sign-up link below. Youth Group is on the first and third Sundays of each month at 9:45 AM. Kids Church is on the second and fourth Sundays of each month during worship service. Here is the link to sign up to serve our children: [Kids Church and Youth Group Volunteer Signup](#)

Laundry Love

Sunday, January 19 from 2-4 PM at North Main Laundromat.

Laundry Love has opportunities to volunteer. This is a great way to put "Words" into "Actions" of faith and love. We do this at the laundromat on North Main across from the Y-Thrift Shop. Click below to volunteer!

[VOLUNTEER FOR LAUNDRY LOVE](#)

Help provide an extravagant welcome

We have Greeters posted at the two main entrances to the church to welcome people as they arrive on Sunday mornings. Greeters hand out a bulletin, make sure visitors receive a visitor card to fill out, and answer any questions they may have about the church service and the building. See Sandra Bryant for more information or to sign up to be a Sunday Greeter.

Coffee & Devotion Group Meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10:00 am

This virtual get-together meets at 10 a.m. on Zoom and lasts for about an hour for a time to meet people, share thoughts, hear a brief devotion, and join in prayer. This time of fellowship is open to everyone, it's a time to gather for conversation, devotion and prayer. Come meet some people you may not know.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89240288592?pwd=KzhRWlJiQTkzWWRIYTNUdkdPaUNqUTo9>

Radical Conversations [RadCon] Meets Saturdays at 11:00 am

Radical Conversations meets from 11:00-12:15 each Saturday morning at the church. This is a time for open discussion of a wide range of topics. RadCon is open to any and every interested individual. For the remainder of 2024, the group will meet for social time.

UCC Purpose, Vision, and Mission Statements

Purpose: To love God with all our heart, mind soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves. (From the Gospel of Matthew)

Vision: United in Christ's love, a just world for all.

Mission: United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.



John 17:21 is the scriptural foundation of the United Church of Christ