

Glade Weekly News

June 9 - 15, 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

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31— Psalm 8 — Romans 5:1-5 — John 16:12-15

Word for the Week

RESIST
KE2121



A Message from Pastor Kelly

The National Guard was recently sent into California to assist ICE in mass deportations. Now, the Marines are being sent to silence protesters.

The church was born to resist such crushing injustice. The church is supposed to be following the teachings of Jesus, a man who told the people that they were the beloved of God. He told the leaders that their treatment of the people was wrong. He thumbed his nose at the status quo and said that a societal hierarchy was the antithesis of God's kingdom.

Jesus worked in the margins for the entirety of his ministry. He fed the hungry. He gave hope and compassion to the poor. He made them see that the hated Samaritans were their siblings under God.

The protests in California are becoming more intense and confrontational. And while all protesters wish for nothing more than peaceful demonstrations, there are times when even the most peaceful protester may crack and pour out their righteous anger. We are all only human.

Jesus did not condone violence, but even he reached his breaking point when he entered the Temple, God's house, and saw leaders making lavish amounts of money in God's name. In Matthew 21:12-13 and John 2:15-17 we read where Jesus, the epitome of a gentle, compassionate man, flipped the tables in the Temple. His frustrations of seeing oppressors keeping their immoral practices going, continuing to reap their ill-gotten gains from people who could scarcely afford to put food on the table, and continuing to ignore pleas for mercy, got the better of him.

The people in the time of Jesus were being oppressed by the government AND the religious leaders who did the bidding of Rome. Today, immigrants and every other minority in America are being oppressed by the government and right-wing evangelical leaders who work to put these people in office in the name of Jesus.

Supporting oppression is not the place of the church any more than it was the place of the temple back then. The church is meant to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, the peacemaker who stayed in "good trouble." It is time for us to rise up, children of God, to defend the defenseless, to be a voice for the voiceless, and to be a sanctuary to all who are weary and feel beaten. It is time for us to remind the world what the love of God can do in the name of Jesus. It is time to resist!

Pastor Kelly Bryant

Office Day Next Week: Monday June 16th. 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 outside of these days, 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 on Hiatus

Spiritual Formation for adults is on hiatus for the summer and will resume in the Fall.

Baptism Service – Sunday June 29th

On Sunday June 29th at 11:30 AM we will have a special Baptism Service at New River Junction Campground. The campground is located at 2591 Big Falls Road, Blacksburg. Please note that the service will begin later than usual as the campground doesn't open until 11 AM. We will need a few volunteers to bring water and snacks for after the service. Contact Pastor Kelly if you would like to be baptized (or re-baptized) or to volunteer to bring snacks or water.

Pulaski Pride 2025



We had a great time connecting with the community at Pulaski Pride on Saturday June 7!

Laundry Love

Sunday June 15 from 2-4 PM and Thursday June 26 from 6-8 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](#)

Volunteers are needed for Church Cleaning

Gladers, we really need folks to help clean up the church. We have cleaning sheets in the hallway for everything we need cleaned. Please mark sections complete when done. If you need the key code to get into the church, please contact David Taylor David.taylor1@verizon.net or call (276)266-4637

Volunteers are needed for the Nursery

Youth Group and Kids Church are on hiatus over the summer; however, volunteers are needed to help in the Nursery during Sunday service. Here is the link to sign up to serve our children:

[Nursery Volunteer Signup](#)

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.

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=KzhRWlJiQTkzWWRlYTNUZkdPaUNqUT09>

Women's Book Group Meets Third Mondays at 7 PM

The Women's Book Group meets on the third Monday of each month at 7 PM in person and on Zoom for a discussion of the current book. The book for June is "The Serviceberry – Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World" by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Contact Rebecca Herman at rherman@gilesk12.net for more information.

2025 Summer Solstice Fest – Saturday June 21



Glade Church will have a booth at the 2025 Summer Solstice Fest this year. The event will be on Saturday June 21 starting at 11 AM in Downtown Blacksburg. Contact Pastor Kelly if you are interested in volunteering to take a shift in the booth at any time during the day.

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