

Glade Weekly News

September 1 - 7, 2025



**Glade
Church**
faith · diversity · justice

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

First Reading and Psalm: Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Alternate First Reading and Psalm: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 1

Second Reading: Philemon 1:1-21

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

Word for the Week

Stand
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A Word from Pastor Kelly

According to CNN:

Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson signed an executive order Saturday laying out initial plans for how the city will try to resist President Donald Trump’s planned immigration crackdown in the coming days.

“We may see militarized immigration enforcement. We may also see National Guard troops. We may even see active duty military and armed vehicles in our streets. We have not called for this. Our people have not asked for this, but nevertheless, we find ourselves having to respond to this,” Johnson said before signing the executive order on Saturday.

The mayor’s order “affirms” that Chicago police will not “collaborate with federal agents on joint law enforcement patrols, arrest operations, or other law enforcement duties including civil immigration enforcement.”

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/08/30/politics/chicago-mayor-signs-order-aimed-at-resisting-trumps-planned-immigration-crackdown>

I applaud Chicago and any other city or state taking a stand against injustice from our country’s current administration. While it’s a shame that bravery against such tyranny is still necessary, I am proud of Chicago’s mayor for his efforts to stand for justice and equality.

What a lot of citizens fail to understand is that if one part of our population is in distress, it is not that group’s problem alone. The threat is very real to all of us who are not in the majority. Our undocumented neighbors may be the ones feeling the full brunt of prejudice at the moment, but once our leaders have had their way with them, they will come after other minorities next.

We must stand strong, and not just for our own sakes down the line. We must stand like those now in Chicago and in LA just a few weeks ago. We must protect our neighbors because it is the right thing to do. It is the very thing that the Christ called us to do in his ministry. In Matthew 25:34-40, Jesus said,

“Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.”

“Then those who are righteous will reply to him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’

“Then the king will reply to them, ‘I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.’

Pastor Kelly Bryant

Office Day Next Week: Tuesday September 9th. Kelly isn't listing hours to not place limits on their availability to you. Please contact them to schedule a meeting 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=Q3E4Rk95d2llZGtONlVqSDcrMm1xdzO9/#_success

Weekly Post-Service Fellowship

Please sign up to bring refreshments for our weekly post-service fellowship time. The signup sheet is posted outside the sanctuary or you can contact Sandra Bryant at kstbryant@gmail.com to sign up.

Laundry Love

Sunday September 7 from 2-4 PM and Thursday September 11 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](#)

Food Pantry

We are now collecting donations on Sundays to supplement the Community Food Pantry which is housed on the outside porch at UKirk Campus Ministry. The pantry is self-serve and open 24 hours a day, so there are no restrictions on who may receive support. There is a refrigerator/freezer on the porch at UKirk for perishable items and a cupboard for shelf-stable items. Fresh foods tend to go quickly, especially fruits, vegetables, dairy and meats.

Place non-perishable donations in the grocery cart in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings and they will be delivered to the pantry. Perishable donations brought on Sundays should be placed in the refrigerator in the Red Room. Please let Pat Summerville or Pastor Kelly know if you bring perishable donations so they can be delivered after service.

If you have fresh or frozen items during the week, you may deliver those yourself. You are welcome to prepare meals (please label with ingredients) or deliver extras from your garden and leave them in the refrigerator. UKirk Campus Ministry is located at 305 Washington Street in Blacksburg. The food pantry is on the back porch and can be accessed from the parking lot behind the building off Clay Street.

Our first delivery to the Community Food Pantry at UKirk on 8/31/25



Volunteer to Water Trees

If you are local to Blacksburg and are willing to stop by the church occasionally to water trees, we need your help! Talk to David Taylor on Sunday or email him at David.taylor1@verizon.net for more info.

Volunteers are needed for Kids Church and Youth Group

There are leader slots available for youth, kids, and nursery. Youth Group is on the first and third Sundays of each month and Kids Church is on the second and fourth Sundays of each month during worship service. See Katie Morris to sign up to help serve our children.

UCC Get Out the Vote Effort in VA



The Justice and Witness Action Network-VA of the Central Atlantic Conference is participating with the Center for Common Ground in a postcard-writing campaign to increase Black voter turnout in Virginia's statewide election on 11/4/25 by writing to each of the 900,000+ registered Black voters in the Commonwealth. Glade Church has received 50 postcards, stamps, voter addresses and scripts to participate in this effort. The cards need to be mailed between September 15 and October 20. If you would like to write a few postcards, please contact Sandra Bryant at kstbryant@gmail.com.

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=KzhRWlJiQTkzWWRIYTNUrkdPaUNqUT09>

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 September is *Everything is Tuberculosis* by John Green. Contact Rebecca Herman at rherman@gilesk12.net for more information.

Glade Community Group on Facebook

We have a private community group on Facebook! If you're active on Facebook and would like to join, contact Sandra Bryant at kstbryant@gmail.com to get connected.

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