

Glade Weekly News

October 21 - 27, 2024



**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

Jeremiah 31:7-9 — Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22— Hebrews 7:23-28 — Mark 10:46-52

Scripture for the Week

Jeremiah 31:7-9 (Common English Bible)

⁷The Lord proclaims:

Sing joyfully for the people of Jacob;
shout for the leading nation.

Raise your voices with praise and call out:

“The Lord has saved his people,
the remaining few in Israel!”

⁸ I’m going to bring them back from the north:

I will gather them from the ends of the earth.

Among them will be the blind and disabled,
expectant mothers and those in labor;
a great throng will return here.

⁹ With tears of joy they will come;
while they pray, I will bring them back.

I will lead them by quiet streams
and on smooth paths so they don’t stumble.

I will be Israel’s father,
Ephraim will be my oldest child.

Word for the Week

COVENANT
COVENANT



Pastor Kelly’s Comments on the Scripture

Jeremiah is known as the weeping prophet for good reason. His prophecies, because the king and leaders of Israel were neglecting their duties of caring for God’s people in the margins, were full of doom and gloom for the nation of Israel unless they repented. This passage, though, is full of hope and joy!

“The Lord has saved his people . . .” “With tears of joy they will come; while they pray, I will bring them back.” “I lead them by quiet streams and on smooth paths so they don’t stumble.”

After reading this, I would check to make sure I was still reading Jeremiah! Now, this is not to say that the warnings to repent were not necessary. God will, indeed, judge the leaders of Israel for their behavior. But these words tell us that God's judgment, while harsh, has a greater purpose.

God hears the cries of Their people, especially those oppressed and in the margins. And there will come a day when God will restore everything to them that should have been theirs in the first place. God has not forgotten Their covenant with Israel. God remembers all that They promised Their people, and it will come to pass that God will keep Their covenant with those who choose to follow Them.

We do well to remember in today's world, especially when life is hard and we feel like we've been abandoned, that God remembers us. God does not forget Their children. We go through hard times – life is taxing! But God will see us through every step we take as we follow Them on the path given to us.

Kelly Bryant

Office Day Next Week: Monday October 28th 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.

In Other Words

Taken from:

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

By: Elisha A. Hoffman

What a fellowship, what a joy divine
Leaning on the everlasting arms
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine
Leaning on the everlasting arms
What have I to dread, what have I to fear
Leaning on the everlasting arms
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near
Leaning on the everlasting arms

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

Ecclesiastical Council for the Examination of Kelly Bryant for Ordination

On Sunday, November 3rd, the Ecclesiastical Council will interview and vote on Ordination for Kelly during the Shenandoah Association meeting. As the meeting will be held over Zoom, the church would like to invite everyone to return to the building and be present for the interview to show our support for Kelly during the Council meeting. The Association meeting begins at 4 PM and the Ecclesiastical Council is scheduled to begin at 5 PM. Feel free to bring a snack to share!

Click this link to read Kelly's Ordination Paper: [UCC Ordination Paper](#)

Spiritual Formation Class has begun!

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

Next meeting date is Sunday November 3.

Mini Marshmallow Drive EXTENDED!

We've received an extension through the end of October to provide mini marshmallows for the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry Holiday Bag Project. We've pledged to provide 450 bags of 10-ounce mini marshmallows. As of this past Sunday we've collected 400 bags – keep bringing bags of mini marshmallows so we can reach our goal!

Turnip Gleaning on Saturday October 26th!

Glade Church volunteers will glean turnips in Riner on Saturday October 26th. Meet at 1540 Creekside Lane in Riner at 9:30 AM.

For those who have come in previous years, this is the second entrance to the farm. Bring work gloves if you have them, water and wear old clothing. Consider bringing a bag if you want to bring some turnips home with you. Friends are welcome! Contact Katie Morris with questions at katie.lucot@gmail.com



Laundry Love

**Thursday, October 24 from 6-8 PM and Sunday, November 3 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](#)

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=KzhRWlJiQTkzWWRIYTNUdkdPaUNqUTog>

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.

We are doing a series of programs about Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the world of religions. How might the future of AI change the nature of religion—church, synagogue, mosque, temple? How might it impact or even change you?

We began with a brief article and video from the BBC [British Broadcasting Company] that you might find interesting as an introduction to the topic.

God and robots: Will AI transform religion?

BBC, 21 October 2021

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/technology-58983047>

Artificial Intelligence is changing how we interact with everything, from food to healthcare, travel and also religion.

Experts say major global faiths are discussing their relationship with AI, and some are starting to incorporate this technology into their worship. Robot priests can recite prayers, deliver sermons, and even comfort those experiencing a spiritual crisis.

BBC Global Religion reporter Sofia Bettiza has taken a look at whether AI's relationship with religion is just a gimmick, or whether it can truly transform how people experience faith.

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