



Kernstown

United Methodist Church | 3239 Valley Pike, Winchester, VA 22602-5303

540-667-7298 | www.kernstownumc.org

Rev. Dr. Victor Gomez pastor@kernstownumc.org or 540-662-2432



August & September 2025

From the Pastor

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God not the result of works, so that no one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9 (NRSV)

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to Kernstown UMC family. It is such a blessing to be the pastor of this church. I am spending time getting to know you all as well as the ministries. I believe that a church that is active in mission is a vital church and Kernstown United Methodist Church is experiencing vitality by sharing God's love, not only within our walls, but beyond. May God continue to bless us!

Several years ago, I lived in Atlanta, and I became a baseball fan; and, of course, my favorite team became the Atlanta Braves. I went to several games, especially when the Yankees came to town, and cheered for my team. It was like the whole city came to support their Atlanta team. As I remember those games I attended, I thought of a story once shared with me about baseball that uses a metaphor I want to share with you today. It is a great illustration of grace.

Freddy and the Lord stood by to observe a baseball game. The Lord's team was playing the Evil's team. The Lord's team was at bat, the score was tied zero to zero, and it was the bottom of the 9th inning with two outs. They continued to watch as a batter stepped up to the plate named 'Love.' Love swung at the first pitch and hit a single, because "Love never fails." The next batter was named 'Faith,' who also got a single because Faith works with Love. The next batter up was named 'Godly Wisdom.' Evil wound up and threw the first pitch. Godly Wisdom looked it over and let it pass: Ball one. Three more pitches and Godly Wisdom walked because he never swings at what evil throws.

The bases were now loaded with full house. The Lord then turned to Freddy and told him He was now going to bring in His star player. Up to the plate stepped 'Grace.' Freddy said, "He sure doesn't look like much!" Evil's whole team relaxed when they saw Grace, thinking he had won the game. Evil wound up and fired his first pitch. To the shock of everyone, Grace hit the ball harder than anyone had ever seen! But evil was not worried; his center fielder let very few get by. He went up for the ball, but it went right through his glove, hit him on the head and sent him crashing into the ground; the roaring crowds went wild as the ball continued over the fence . . . for a home run!

The Lord's team won! The Lord then asked Freddy if he knew why Love, Faith and Godly Wisdom could get on base but could not win the game. Freddy answered that he did not know why. The Lord explained, "If your love, faith and wisdom had won the game, you would think you had done it by yourself. Love, Faith and Godly Wisdom will get you on base but only My Grace can get you Home." Grace is a gift from God, and it is available to each one of us. When we participate of Holy Communion each Sunday, we experience God's grace. We hit a home run when we are reminded of the gift we received in Jesus. Where we are in Christian fellowship and where we are looking forward for, the best is yet to come. May we continue to experience God's amazing grace.

In God's Service,
Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez



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BE AWARE~Email Scam Alert

Make sure that the email address from Pastor or the Office includes

@kernstownumc.org.

Do not respond to suspicious emails requesting gift cards from **Pastor** with a different email address than

pastor@kernstownumc.org.

We will never solicit thru emails nor request gift cards .

June Financial Information

Received	\$ 44,185.14
Needed	\$ 32,736.65
Difference	\$ 11,448.49

If you would like to request a meeting or a visit from Pastor Victor, please let him know. Call 540-662-2432 or email pastor@kernstownumc.org; or you can call the church office 540-667-7298. Note, these are land lines cannot receive texts.

Care & Connect
Doris Miller, Chair

Our mission is keeping people in our congregation safe and connected to God and each other. Through fellowship, food, visiting, health ministry, and sharing information about our lives, we believe the Holy Spirit moves throughout our congregation and community.

Care & Connect Meeting -We meet every other month at 10 am in the fellowship hall. Our next meeting is Tuesday, September 16. All church members are welcome to attend.

Prayer & Care - You are welcome to join our pastor and group on Wednesdays at 11:00 am in the fellowship hall as we pray for our congregation and the needs of our members. Complete the yellow attendance cards in the pew racks each Sunday for attendance and list any prayer requests that you may have.

Prayer Chain KneeMail – Contact Cathy Lichvar via cell 540-664-7280, email prayer@kernstownumc.org or from the web kernstownumc.org/prayer-request. Contact her or call the church office with info on any immediate need for prayer, such as admission to hospital, deaths of loved ones, etc.

Fellowship times together-

- Coffee/Teatime with breakfast snacks in the fellowship hall at the Coffee Bar from 10-10:20 on August 3, 10, 24, 31 and September 7, 14, and 28.
- KUMC Picnic & Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 17, after worship service in fellowship hall. Care and Connect will provide hot dogs, fried chicken, ice cream, toppings, and drinks. Bring your favorite picnic dish to share.
- Coffee Social on September 21 after worship service in fellowship hall. Care and Connect will provide fruit, crackers and cheese, cookies, etc.

Health Ministry Mission is to promote Wholistic health and prevent/minimize illness at KUMC and surrounding community. **Parish Nurse:** Doris Miller BSN, RN, Faith Community Nurse, 540-303-3135, email pameric2021@outlook.com

Blood Pressure Checks: 2nd & 4th Sundays in mission rm. after service.

Walk with a DOC (Exercise) – 2nd Wed.'s (Aug. 13 & Sept. 10) at 11 am and 4th Saturdays (Aug. 23 & Sept. 27) at 9 am. Meet at Valley Health Wellness & Fitness Center for a talk by a physician and walk around the lake with others for exercise.

Health Education: The Power of Prayer & Healing 🙏 Health means the state achieved when a person's mind, body, and spirit work as God created them to do. Health practices and habits need to be developed and practiced reducing the risk of illnesses and injuries. These healthy practices include prayer, reading the Bible, attending church/worship, seeing your health care provider, healthy nutrition, regular exercise, controlling anger, hand washing, forgiveness, respect of self and others, nonviolence and love. Studies show that patients that are prayed for (*intercessory prayers*) experience less complications, do better, heal faster, have less pain, receive less antibiotics and diuretics, have fewer visits to the doctor, and spend less time in the hospital when hospitalized. A prayer for healing can be a comforting and hopeful message for someone who is unwell. It expresses faith in a higher power's ability to restore health and well-being. Common themes include asking for strength, comfort, peace, and a speedy recovery. When offering a prayer for healing, it is important to be sincere and to offer words of comfort and hope. You can also offer practical support, such as helping with errands or providing meals. Studies of prayer have been conducted by Harvard's Dr. Herbert Benson. He states that all forms of prayer evoke a relaxation process that decreases stress, soothes the body, and promotes healing.

Reach & Serve
Steve Wells/Lisa Dawson

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project continues thru **August 17.**

Shoeboxes, a list of items needed, and a sign-up to donate items are in the narthex.

United Women in Faith (UWF) Scripture: *Romans 15:13 NRSV May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

UWF Picnic – Sunday, August 10 at Cheryl & Steve Spurr's home (2845 Packer St., Winc., VA) after worship service. Bring a dish to share. Call Cheryl and let her know what you plan to bring.

Meetings: No meeting in August. Next meeting is on September 9 at 10:00 in fellowship hall – Program Election of Officers for 2026 and Pledge Service for Missions 2026.

Reading Program: Report due to the district by August 31. Give Polly Look the list of books that you have read since September 1, 2024, by August 15 for her report.

"Lighting the Path to the Christ Child" Advent Project for local missions - During Sept., we will be collecting donations in memory or honor of someone for \$5 each for lights on the shrubbery outside our sanctuary. Pick up the form on Mission Table in narthex, complete, and enclose cash or check made out to Kernstown United Women in Faith. Place in envelope addressed to Cheryl Spurr (*treasurer*) and place in the container on Mission Table in narthex. The service of lighting the shrubbery will be following worship service on the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 30 with Christmas cookies and hot chocolate or coffee served after the service in the fellowship hall while the names are read. See Doris Miller or Cheryl Spurr with questions.

Recycling Plastic Bottles. Only plastic bottles are accepted for recycling. We cannot accept other plastics at this time. Please place other plastics in the trash. This project is to meet our Social Justice Program's goal for Climate Justice. Place them in the blue recycling container in the fellowship hall.

Cookbooks: We still have cookbooks at \$3 each in the mission room outside the fellowship hall. See Doris Miller or Cheryl Spurr to purchase them.

The Upper Room is in the narthex & are provided by R&S. Doris Miller, UWF Pres.



Worship & Wonder, Lorraine Shelton, Chair

- ◆ Our next meeting is Tuesday, September 9, at 2:00 in the DeMoya Room. All are welcome.
- ◆ Handbells & Choir Practice resume Wed., Aug 27; Questions, see David.

Educate & Equip Acting chair Ric Dunkle

Watch the bulletin for Encounter dates in September

THE GOOD SAMARITAN BIBLE WORD SEARCH**Word Bank**

All thy heart
Among thieves
Eternal life
Jericho
Jesus
Kingdom of God
Lawyer stood up
Levite
Lord thy God
Luke Ten
Many prophets
Master
Saw him
The other side
Thou shalt live
Thou shalt love
Thy strength
Took care
To the host
What shall I do
When I come
Who the son is
Will repay thee
Wounded him
Leftover letters form
mystery answer
(2 words)

S T E H P O R P Y N A M E S O
 T H T W S E E P S H O R E D D
 H O R O I T T U R E A V I O E
 Y U A U N I S D D C E L G E D
 S S E N O V A O K I L Y H F I
 T H H D S E M O H A H T E I S
 R A Y E E L O T H T Y S M L R
 E L H D H T G S D A N O O L E
 N T T H T N T R P J E H C A H
 G L L I O A O E S E T E I N T
 T O L M H L R Y A S E H N R O
 H V A W W L Y W W U K T E E E
 E E V I L T L A H S U O H T H
 O H C I R E J L I M L T W E T
 C W W D O G F O M O D G N I K



Welcome Barbara Mallory, she joined our Kernstown family on July 20, 2025 by transfer. If you are interested in learning more about Kernstown UMC, please reach out to Pastor Victor or the office.

Beth & Gary Heaton wish to thank the congregation for the privilege of serving with you, and for the outpouring of hospitality and joy shared at our retirement.

**From the Office**

Email Updates: The church sends out one or two emails a week. If you are not currently receiving these and would like to, please let the office know. It includes a pastor's message, calendar, and Sunday prayer requests.

Directory Address Updates: Addresses & contact info for your directory binder are printed every 3-4 months and are located in the narthex. Please pick up a blue copy in the narthex under the coat rack and also check your info.

**August Birthdays**

Lindsey Thornley	01
Shawn Weagley	01
Patsy Homer	02
Michael Morgan II	02
Becky Reedy	02
Julie Staggers	02
Lori McKinney	03
Anthony Ritenour	03
Gavin Sanders	04
Suzanne Wilkins	04
Alyssa Greene	06
Paul Morris	07
Katelynn Homer	08
Wallace McKinney	08
Luke Henshaw	09
Jennifer Wilhelm	09
Ginny Morris	10
Judy Hilderbrand	11
Judy Smith	11
Helen Baylis	12
Karen Wells	12
David Carper	13
Lee Folger	13
Ronald Homer	13
Emma Shipp	14
Gina Elder	16
Christine Franklin	18
Nancy Mango	18
Joshua Minor	18
Gregory Bloxom	19
Jeffrey Bloxom	19
James Gibbs	20
Randall Creswell	21
Will Rodgers	21
Judy Toth	21
Bill Yowell	21
Glenda Gale	22
Tina Weagley	22
Jean Ann Ayers	23
James Homer	23
Melinda Landrum	24
Eddie McDonald	24
Arthur Shelby	24
Robert Augustine	25
Jacalyn Spitznogle	25
Martin Collins	26
Matthew Morgan	26
Lauren Ricketts	26
Seth Anton	28
Robbie Gordon	29
Kamryn Charles	31
Cherilyn Kelchner	31

**September Birthdays**

Crystal Minor	01
Danny Aube	02
Nicklaus Fincham	02
George Ritter	02
Norma Wilson	03
Vicky Maphis	04
Stephen Ricketts	04
Peter Mango	05
Bret Ay	06
Barb Mosser	06
Lindsey Rickard	06
Jeffrey Affolder	07
Steven Aube	12
Bridget Bailey	12
Kimberly DeHaven	14
Stacey Pitzer	14
Kaden Baker	15
Bryan Renner	15
Joshua Rott	15
Sarah Steele	17
Patricia Dye	20
Georgia Poe	20
Jeanne Newlin	21
Janie Slater	21
Clinton Ritter III	21
Paulette Zottig	21
Marcy Cormier	22
Timothy Stump	22
Audrey Dorton	24
Jessenia Gomez	24
Norene Spitznogle	24
Leslie Harding	25
Douglas Seabright	25
Lisa Dawson	26
Tina Minter	27
Mary Anton	28
Edward Jackman	29
Jodi McKay	29
David Chapman	30
Arthur Ridder	30



Birthday or anniversary missing? Call the office so we may update the church database.

August & Sept. Anniversaries	Date	# Years
Steve & Jennifer Wilhelm	08/12	25
Kenny & Lynn Martin, Jr.	08/16	22
Pam & Jim Franklin	08/22	32
Lisa & James Manuel	08/25	35
Fred & Marie Cheshire	08/31	29
Christopher & Katie Hill	09/01	24
Peggy & Ray Gillich	09/06	28
David Worthington & Julie Staggers	09/20	22

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Worship at 10:30

www.kernstownumc.org | facebook.com/kernstownumc/

Pam Brannon, Admin. Asst./Communications Coordinator

David Landrum, *Dir. Music*; Charles Harless, *Pastor Emeritus*

Ric Dunkle, *Lay Ldr.*, Cathy Lichvar, *Treas.*; Doris Miller, *Parish Nurse*

NON-PROFIT

U.S. POSTAGE

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PERMIT NO. 66

Winchester, VA

Church Purpose Statement. .

"Strives to welcome ALL into a loving church family that glorifies God through worship, nurture, and outreach to our neighbors."

August & September Lectionaries

08/03 Hos 11:1-11; Ps 107:1-9, 43; Col 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

08/10 Isa 1:1, 10-20; Ps 50:1-8, 22-23; Heb 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

08/17 Isa 5:1-7; Ps 80:1-2, 8-19; Heb 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56

08/24 Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-6; Heb 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

08/31 Jer 2:4-13; Ps 81:1, 10-16; Heb 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14

09/07 Jer 18:1-11; Ps 139:1-6, 13-18; Philem 1:17-27; Luke 14:25-33

09/14 Jer 4:11-12, 22-28; Ps 14; 1 Tim 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10

09/21 Jer 8:8-9:1; Ps 79:1-9 or Ps 4; 1 Tim 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

09/28 Jer 32:1-3a, 6-15; Ps 91:1-6, 14-16; 1 Tim 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

Kernstown UMC August & partial September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
OCC Collections thru 8/17					1 Bridge	2
3 8 th Sunday after Pentecost 10-10:20 Coffee Time 10:30 Worship 11:30 Finance Meeting	4	5 12-4 Bridge fh 10 ³⁰ Freedge 11 Music Dir hrs 12-4 Bridge fh	6 5 ³⁰ TOPS <i>DeMoya</i> 11 Prayer & Care fh	7 8 ³⁰ TOPS fh	8 11-3 ³⁰ Bridge fh	9 10-12 SU New Clergy Orientation for Pastor, SPPRC Chr & Lay Ldr
10 9 th Sunday after Pentecost 10-10:20 Coffee Time 10:30 Worship 12:00 UWF picnic <i>offsite</i>	11	12 12-4 Bridge fh 10 ³⁰ Freedge 11 Staff Mtg 11 Music Dir hrs	13 5 ³⁰ TOPS <i>DeMoya</i> 11 Prayer & Care fh	14 8 ³⁰ TOPS fh 6 ³⁰ Trustees	15 11-3 ³⁰ Bridge fh	16
17 10 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 Worship 11:30 Picnic Potluck & Ice Cream	18	19 12-4 Bridge fh 10 ³⁰ Freedge 11 Music Dir hrs	20 5 ³⁰ TOPS <i>DeMoya</i> 11 Prayer & Care fh	21 8 ³⁰ TOPS fh	22 11-3 ³⁰ Bridge fh	23
24 11 th Sunday after Pentecost 10-10:20 Coffee Time 10:30 Worship	25	26 12-4 Bridge fh 10 ³⁰ Freedge 11 Music Dir hrs	27 5 ³⁰ TOPS <i>DeMoya</i> 11 Prayer & Care fh 6 Handbells return 7 Choir returns	28 8 ³⁰ TOPS fh	29 11-3 ³⁰ Bridge fh	30
31 11 th Sunday after Pentecost 10-10:20 Coffee Time 10:30 Worship	SEPT 1 Labor Day Office Closed	2 12-4 Bridge fh 10 ³⁰ Freedge 11 Music Dir hrs	3 5 ³⁰ TOPS <i>DeMoya</i> 11 Prayer & Care fh 6 Handbells 7 Choir	4	5 11-3 ³⁰ Bridge fh	6
7 13 th Sunday after Pentecost 10 Encounter 10-10:20 Coffee Time 10:30 Worship	8	9 12-4 Bridge fh 10 ³⁰ Freedge 11 Staff Mtg 11 Music Dir hrs 2 Worship & Wonder	10 5 ³⁰ TOPS <i>DeMoya</i> 11 Prayer & Care fh 6 Handbells 7 Choir	11 8 ³⁰ TOPS fh 4 Church Council 6 ³⁰ Trustees 7 Reach & Serve	12 11-3 ³⁰ Bridge fh	13
14 14 th Sunday after Pentecost 10 Encounter 10-10:20 Coffee Time 10:30 Worship	15 Oct/Nov News- Letter Deadline	16 12-4 Bridge fh 10 Care & Connect 10 ³⁰ Freedge 11 Music Dir hrs	17 5 ³⁰ TOPS <i>DeMoya</i> 11 Prayer & Care fh 6 Handbells 7 Choir	18	19 11-3 ³⁰ Bridge fh	20 10-1 (FPC) Jubilee Kitchen

Check online for up-to-date calendar and full month for September, kernstownumc.org/calendar