

Community United Methodist Church of Kenilworth
455 Boulevard, Kenilworth, New Jersey 07033
Church phone: 908-276-1956
Pastor Roeline Ramirez 973-282-6237
Rev. Heme Ares, Pastor Emeritus
Pastor Don Knott, Retired Elder
Rev. Dr. Baktha Kumar, Counseling Pastor



The Circuit Rider

October 2024 Newsletter

Community United Methodist Church of Kenilworth
A Faith Community Ignited by God's Love

OCTOBER 2024 EVENTS

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES, 10:30 a.m.

Adult and Youth Sunday School after Sunday worship

Pastor Don's Bible Study on Facebook Live, Fridays at 9:00 a.m.

Treasure Shop open Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Prayer Meetings via Zoom every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

October 6, 2024 World Communion Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

October 6, 2024 Blessings of the Animals during worship

October 9, 2024 United Methodist Women, 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

October 17, 2024 Community Food Pantry, 4:00 p.m.

October 25, 2024 3M's (Music, Movements, & Meditations
in person and via Zoom, 7:00 (Zoom ID 201 699 6704)

October 27, 2024 3F's (Faith, Family, & Fun), Music & Meal
with Dan Crisci, 5:00 p.m.

October 30, 2024 Circuit Rider, 11:00 a.m. at Fellowship Hall

October is a Laity and Pastor's Appreciation Month



Pastor's Page



"Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."
Isaiah 43:7 ESV

My Beloved Church Family and Friends,

How are you? I hope to connect with you more and share some stories. I remember our first year here in the US. My daughter, who was four years old then, cried over a tree when she saw all the leaves were gone. Back in the Philippines, we do not have a fall season, so seeing this happen was new to her, and she empathized with it. Furthermore, she rejoiced with the tree when spring came and leaves and flowers started to bloom.

As human beings, we are created in God's image to have empathy towards others and be joyful with their rightful victories. These qualities are what bind us together as a community, and together, we are called to bring glory to God through our deeds, works, and relationships.

God is calling all ages, from infant to the oldest, all whom God created. Acknowledging that God is our Creator will help us to follow God's voice and teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ through the empowerment of The Holy Spirit. This October, continue to join us in worship as we explore our innate characteristics that created in us. Let us explore the chapter 10 of the Gospel according to Mark to learn some characteristics we are created for. I am looking forward to the joy of spiritual growth and giving glory to God with you all.

Remember, you are created for God's glory.

- C – crafted with intricacy by God's hands
- R – resilient because of God's power
- E – empowered by the Holy Spirit
- A – affectionate and altruistic towards others
- T – transformed to do and speak good things
- E – even-tempered, knowing God is near
- D – designed uniquely for God's glory

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Roeline "Wee" Ramirez



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Grace Kosnick
- 3 Lucianna Restrepo
- 6 Cristine Capio
- 9 Ginny Johnston
- 12 Justin Thomas
- 14 Betsy Dela Cruz
- 19 Gerri Keller
- 21 Elise Holkar
- 22 Gigi Blanco
- 23 Amy Duelly
- 26 Bobby Caffrey
- 27 Luke Forti
- 28 Jamie Nester
- 29 Ben Kolloori



“May your birthday be the start of a year filled with new opportunities, accomplishments, and endless joy. Happy Birthday!”

Nothing is nicer than
having someone who...
Appreciates you in the
smallest things,
Accepts you in times
of hardship,
Comforts you when
you're troubled,
Loves you no matter
what, and is simply
Happy for having you
in their life.

GOD SIGHTINGS

From UPPER ROOM, July/August 2023

After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper.
~I Kings 19:22 (NIV)

When I was in college, I went to Mexico on a mission trip. Every evening after working at different building sites, teaching vacation Bible school, and interacting with the local community, our group would gather for worship. We took some time to share what we called “God Sightings.” Where did we see God that day? How did we see God show up in the interactions we had? We were encouraged to share even the smallest experience.

As people started to share, it would spark memories for other people. We looked for ways God was showing up in small moments, and we always found God.

Often we look for God to move in mighty ways. We look for the parting of the sea, but we forget that so many times, God shows up for the simple moments, guiding our steps each day. In each small need that is met, we are reminded that God is with us in something as simple as a sunrise or a smile from a stranger.

When we take the time to be aware of all that God is doing, we will see God more often. Each time we see God in the world is an opportunity to offer praise and to connect with our loving Creator.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

God is present in the big and
small moments of my life.

Prayer: Dear God, help us to see you in the small, ordinary moments of our lives. Amen.

~Tynea Lewis (Pennsylvania, USA)

GOD'S GIFT OF LAUGHTER

From *More Holy Humor* by Cal and Rose Samra

1. While there is much terror and sordid ugliness in the world, there is also a steam of health, cascading like a clear mountain rivulet of melted snow through human experience. This stream is the flow of wholesome, spontaneous laughter - God's gift for refreshing and renewing our souls. A life lived with little laughter is like land devoid of springs, streams, lakes, or ground water; there are some things such a life cannot grow. We cannot take ourselves seriously if we cannot occasionally take ourselves lightly. Laughter is an affirmation of God's final triumph over the worst that can befall us.

~From Small Wonders, a book written in 1969 by Rev. Dr. Harold E. Kohn, minister-emeritus of the First Congregational Church, Charlevoix, Michigan

2. "If you lose the power to laugh, you lose the power to think." *~Victor Borge*

3. "A sense of humor may be the most important thing to wear when you go out in public." *~Dianna Booker*

4. "Laughter loves company even more than misery loves company." *~Jim Pelley, Sacramento, California*

5. "An onion makes people cry, but there has never been a vegetable invented to make people laugh." *~Will Rogers*

6. "Among those whom I like or admire, I can find no common denominator; but among those whom I love, I can - all of them make me laugh." *~W. H. Auden*

7. "I believe we're on earth to delight each other, make each other laugh, and to infuse

each other with His joy. Why not? What've we got better to do?" *~Burt Rosenberg, Messianic comedian, Silver Spring, Maryland*

8. "Humor is today's antidote to hate, fear, and prime causes that trigger hostility and violence." *~Charles Chaplin*

9. "President Calvin Coolidge was pretty tight-lipped and never smiles much. Somebody bet me that I couldn't make the President laugh. Well, when we were introduced I said to him, 'I'm sorry. I didn't get the name.' And by golly, Coolidge laughed." *~Will Rogers*

10. "Blessed is the soul that never forgets nor lets go of the Child Jesus. More blessed still that soul which ever meditates on the Grown Jesus. But most blessed is the soul that ever contemplates the Immense Jesus. Scripture says, 'The son of Abraham grew and became very great.' Isaac means laughter. And so, my brothers, let the Son of God grow in thee, for He is formed in thee. Let Him become immense in thee and from thee, and may He become to thee a great smile and exultation and perfect joy which no man can take from thee."

~From Isaac De LeToile, 12th Century Cistercian monk

WELCOME, OCTOBER

*May this blessing of change
bring you an abundance of
joy, love, peace, good health, and
happiness for the month ahead and
ALWAYS.*

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women met on September 11th, 2024 in Fellowship Hall. The meeting opened with a prayer and scriptures from I Peter 3:3-4. The program was entitled "Three Women: Rebekah, Miriam, Deborah" from the book, Women of the Bible. Lunch and fellowship followed.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 9th at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. All women are invited. Please bring a bag lunch; Robin Tarullo will be our hostess.

COMMUNITY CARE FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry served 18 families from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 17th, 2024 providing both food and non-food items, and distributed 8 Pet Smart Gift Cards to those who have pets. Thank you to all who helped up by providing boxes of cereal for the above distribution date. We appreciate your generosity.

Our next distribution date will be on Thursday, October 17th, 2024 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

THE TREASURE SHOP

The Treasure Shop is open on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We welcome all who come to shop and we thank all those who have donated so many different items. Visitors can find something new every Saturday.

It is always a pleasure to see you at our Treasure Shop.

ROSE AND THE WEED

Why can't people be like plants? I don't mean grow in the ground, I mean co-exist. That beautiful rose bush has no problem with that dandelion to her right, but we, the human, would pull that dandelion out because of what it looks like. The grass seed blue grass tall has no problem with the weed next door, yet we humans spray it dead, eliminating that ugly weed.

This is our deed. What's sad is we do this with out fellow man. Some hat the black, some hate the brown, some hat the tan, some hate the white man. Some hate the LGBT because of who they love and all they want to do is be free.

Some hate you if you are a Jew, they curse the Muslims, too. The Christians are accused of being too white and the Atheist some believe should have no rights.

Can we not take a lesson from the rose bush and the weed and live in peace and harmony?

To all my sisters and brothers throughout our great land, may happiness and love follow you throughout your life, hand to hand.

Written by Walter Sosnosky, 2019

PRAYER REQUESTS:

(Let's pray for you. Let us pray for one another)

FOR COMFORT: Victims of School shootings, affected families of calamities, *Family of Rev. John Bickerstaff (Pastor of Kenilworth in 1979) for the passing of his wife Mary.*

FOR SAFE PREGNANCY: Samantha M., Rozhelle M., Chandni Jacob, & **all women who carry a baby in their womb**

FOR HEALING & STRENGTH: Lori Strubble, Miriam S., Robert W., Jun Viuya, Greg (son-in-law of Mary Oels), Armando Bernardo, Barbara., Jen, Boyet J., Brenda G., Beverly A's Brother, Charles, Eileen, Edna R., Ofelia., Raissa S., Amy J., Theresa, Bryan., Pastor Don, Elba, Sal, Pat, Al B., Amie J., Gareth A (brother of Cind P.), Jason, Erik Lim, Terri, Bob W., John Karlovitch, Lori S, Gerliz Anne M., Bill, Judy, Amie J., Bobot, Rev. Kumar

FOR PEACE: Countries having political instabilities and war

FOR GUIDANCE & PROVISION: Marienella's family, Elvie., Teresita & Juan Manuel (Relative of Luisa R.), Abuela B., Drew & Gracielle R. & baby Kaia, Jackie, Vercillie F., Analyn, Robin. T, Mary Oels, Mary Ellen, Cathy, Dee K., Elaine Puma & her husband., Betsy DC & her parents, Bob W & Karen, A. Restrepo Fam, Fuquay Fam, Opacity Fam, Nunez Fam, Silva Fam., Yen & Will, Viuya Fam, Janielle & Gerald, Adrian M, Reden & Gloria C., Jane R., Ms. Toni, Kathleen E., Levine fam, Janet H. & Mom Grace, Drew & Gracielle R., Mary Rogers, Faith S., Mr. Tony S & Fam, Caffrey fam, Ptr Heme Ares & Norma Fam, Rachel R. Fam., James & Sharon S., Dale S., Luz A., Luisa & Lucianna R., Wilson Fam, Francis Fam, Vallez Fam, Jeremias Fam, Freda Fam, Crissi & Johnston Fam, Cindy P., Phil L., Marty K., Stephanie P., Pagan Fam., Kollory Fam., Abigail., Rich W., Duely Fam., Ramirez Fam., Salvador Fam., Stephen N., Peterson Fam., Linda Sosa Fam., Jessie R., Edit Fam., Fabian & Nattali

FOR WISDOM in LEADERSHIP: Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Pastor Roeline, Ignite UMC Leaders, GNJ Annual Conference staff, pastors, deacons, leaders, Kenilworth Mayor Linda and Council members, Men & Women in service. Government officers and staff. School teachers and staff.

SPECIAL INTENTION FOR THIS MONTH: Sick elderlies and their caregivers, emotional healing for broken families, and calmness for individuals having severe anxiety. Ignite Youth Conference in Wildwood, NJ.

FOR PRAYER CONCERNS AND PASTORAL CARE, PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR ROELINE


Text message: 973-282-6237

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email: ramirezroeline@gmail.com

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3F'S- Faith, Family, & Fun

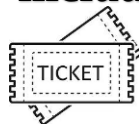
 Music & Meal with Mr. Dan Crisci
October 27, 2024 @ 5pm
455 Blvd., Kenilworth, NJ 07033



Get ready for an extraordinary evening with **Dan Crisci**, a gifted pianist and composer celebrated for his captivating, serene, and jazzy melodies. Whether performing solo or collaborating with other musicians, Dan's music is sure to fascinate and uplift. With over 20 years of experience as the Triad Arts Ensemble Choir accompanist and five albums recorded, including three showcasing his original compositions, Dan's innate talent is guaranteed to touch your soul. Take the chance to experience Dan's music with your loved ones. Immerse yourself in the stories behind his compositions while relishing a delightful evening of musical bliss!

Ticket price: \$25

Includes Entertainment & Dinner



The proceeds will support Ignite UMC's ministries and help make the church more accessible.

OCTOBER QUOTES

1. "There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings, as now in October." ~Nathaniel Hawthorne

2. "Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall." ~F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

3. "I have been younger in fall than in all the months of spring." ~W. S. Merwin

4. "It must be October, the trees are falling away and showing their true colors." ~Charmaine J. Forde

5. "In the entire circle of the year there are no days so delightful as those of a fine October - no days so calm, so tenderly solemn, and with such a reverent meekness in the air." ~Alexander Smith

6. "October is the opal month of the year. It is the month of glory, of ripeness. It is the picture-month." ~Henry Ward Beecher

7. **Hello October**
One of the best things you
Can do for yourself is
Taking time to learn and grow.
Once you give yourself patience, you
Become your best friend. And the
Empathy, self-kindness and
Resilience are what you need to grow.

~OurMindfulLife.com

8. "I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers." ~L. M. Montgomery

UNEXPECTED LOVE

From UPPER ROOM, March/April 2023

*The human mind may devise many plans,
but it is the purpose of the Lord that
will be established.*

~Proverbs 19:21 (NSRV)

When my husband and I celebrated our fortieth wedding anniversary, we retraced some of our memories with a trip to New York City, where we were married. We stayed at the same hotel, attended the church where we had met and gotten married, and took a carriage ride through Central Park. But one of the most memorable experiences, totally unplanned and spontaneous, was meeting the 99-year-old pianist who still played the piano regularly at the hotel's restaurant. He came over to our table during the meal and said that he wanted to write us a song for our anniversary. And so he did, and he also played "Anniversary Waltz." It has become a new cherished memory that we have added to all our others.

Like that musician, God has a way of surprising us with unplanned and even unimaginable things: the people who came out to greet Jesus as he entered Jerusalem, the disciples who expected the same Passover supper, and those who plotted to kill Jesus because he disagreed with them. But God surprised all of them with an unexpected end to the story of Jesus. God gave them and us a new experience, a new outlook, and a new and eternal life.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

God's love often shows up in
unexpected ways.

Prayer: Dear Lord, help us always to be open and ready for your unexpected plans for us. Amen.

**ADVICE FROM THE PROS -
AND READERS**
From the Old Farmer's 2023 Almanac

Carving a pumpkin for Halloween? Find out how long pumpkins last before rotting, Five tips to make carved pumpkins last longer, and more pumpkin-carving advice.

HOW LONG DO PUMPKINS LAST?

Before carving: Freshly harvested or store-bought pumpkins can last 1 month at room temperature and 2 to 3 months if stored in a cool, dark place.

After carving: Pumpkins only last 3 days to 1 week before rotting, depending on the weather conditions. Why? Pumpkins are 90% water!

5 TIPS TO KEEP YOUR PUMPKIN FROM ROTTING.

1. Before carving, choose a pumpkin with a solid stem and no soft spots on any side (be sure to check the opposite end of the stem!). Find a pumpkin from a farm or local nursery, if possible, as it will be fresher than pumpkins trucked in from far away. Also, do NOT pick up a pumpkin by its stem, which can break easily; the stem continues to feed nutrients to the fruit after cutting it from the vine.

2. Try a surface carving instead of hollowing out the pumpkin or cutting all the way through the rind. A jack o'lantern with more of a surface carving will last longer than one that is cut out all the way through. Try just drawing your design first on the pumpkin's surface and then follow that line, carving beneath the line to dig out a feature.

3. If you are hollowing out the pumpkin, do a very thorough cleaning of the pumpkin's inside, removing not only the seeds, but also

scraping out every strand of pumpkin flesh and gooey moistness to slow down microbial growth.

4. Don't use real candles. As well as obvious safety concerns, burning a candle inside will shorten the pumpkin's life span, as the heat that results can "cook" the pumpkin and reduce its longevity to a matter of hours. Try flameless LED candles instead.

5. Keep the pumpkin cool when not on display if the temperature is still warm outside. Of course, in freezing weather, the pumpkin must be brought inside or it will disintegrate.

6. BONUS: Paint your pumpkin instead of carving it, especially if you want to decorate the home or office earlier in the month.

3 WAYS TO PRESERVE A CARVED PUMPKIN

Another way to help carved pumpkins last longer is to preserve them. Here are suggestions from Almanac readers:

1, Coat the carved parts with Vaseline (petroleum jelly). **WARNING:** Do NOT use real candles alongside Vaseline, which is flammable.

2. After carving, wipe down all surfaces of the pumpkin with a vinegar solution (1 part vinegar to 1 part water) to kill bacteria and fungal spores. You can then spray the pumpkin daily with this solution. If you're only going to apply one treatment, this is the one to choose!

3. Place a packet of silica gel inside the pumpkin to absorb moisture.





I AM LIKE A PUMPKIN

God picks me from the
patch,
brings me in, and
washes all the dirt off
of me.

Then he cuts off the
top and scoops out all
the yucky stuff.

He removes the seeds of
doubt, hate, greed,
etc.,

and then He carves
me a new smiling face
and puts His light
inside of me to shine
for all the world
to see.

**“Jesus tells us not to worry
(Matthew 6:25). There must be
a way for us not to worry, because Jesus never
tells us to do something that not impossible.”**

From The Answer to Anxiety by Joyce Meyer

ON THIS DAY

Mend a quarrel.
Search out a forgotten friend.
Dismiss a suspicion and replace it with trust.
Write a letter to someone who misses you.
Encourage a youth who has lost faith.
Keep a promise.
Forget an old grudge.
Examine your demands on others and vow to
reduce them.
Fight for a principle.
Express your gratitude.
Overcome an old fear.
Take two minutes to appreciate the beauty of
nature.
Tell someone you love them.
Tell them again.
And again.
And again.

*Some word written by Howard William Hunter
The rest written by Walter Sosnosky, 2015*

SOME SPECIAL DAYS IN OCTOBER

October 5th: World Teacher's Day

If you ever had a teacher who helped you
dream bigger, reach higher, and go after your goals,
thank him/her today.

October 6th: World Communion Sunday

“As the grains of wheat once scattered on the
hill were gathered into one to become our bread; so
may all your people from all ends of the earth be
gathered into one in you.” ~Marty Haugen,
Communion hymn

October 20th: World Mission Day

Today, more than ever, our human family is
wounded by so many injustices, divisions, and wars.
Humanity needs the Good News of peace and
salvation in Christ.

From wincalendar.com

TAKE A MOMENT

Written by Tony Sosnosky, Feb. 24, 2000

Did you ever take a moment
to really look around,
You'd be surprised at all
the beauty there is to be found.

Amid the dumps and trash that
one would quickly see,
You'll find some things growing,
like flowers or a tree.

If we all just took a moment
to each do our little part,
Not just go through the notions,
but strictly from the heart,

We'd make this place we live in
a nicer place to be,
For all the seniors and the children,
and even you and me.

So why not take that moment,
it begins with only one,
To really make a difference
and see what can be done.

BLESSINGS

From Prayers and Promises for Women

1. "Surely, Lord, you bless those who do what is right. Like a shield, your loving care keeps them safe".
~Psalms 5:12 NIRV

2. " Surely you have granted him unending blessings and made him glad with the joy of your presence."
~Psalms 21:6 NIV

3. "Even more blessed are all who hear the word of God and put it into practice."
~Luke 11:28 NLT

4. "Give praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. Those blessings come from the heavenly world. They belong to us because we belong to Christ. God choose us to belong to Christ before the world was created. He chose us to be holy and without blame in his eyes. He loved us." ~Ephesians 1:3-4 NIRV

5. *God, how much fun you must have, dreaming up blessings to rain down on your children. Your affection for me is not subject to my behavior toward you. You continue to fix your thoughts on me even when I selfishly ignore your blessings. Help me to see all that you have blessed on me today.*

Which of God's blessings come to your mind today?

FROM 199 PROMISES OF GOD

1. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.
~John 14: 2-3

2. For the Lord your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if ye return unto him. ~Chronicles 30:29

3. When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid: yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet.
~Proverbs 3:24

4. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.
~Isaiah 40:29

Some Memories of September 2024



HALLOWEEN WORD SEARCH

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



Bat
 Pumpkin
 Halloween
 Mummy
 Vampire
 Witch
 Spooky
 Trick or Treat

Fun
 Ghost
 Costume
 Skeleton
 Candy
 Scary
 Monster
 Haunted House

