

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

June 2025 Newsletter

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

JUNE 2025 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, Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom ID 749 308 740

June 9, 2025 Pentecost Sunday

June 11, 2025 United Methodist Women, 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

June 15, 2025 Father's Day

June 19, 2025 Community Food Pantry, 4:00 p.m.

June 21, 2025 Youth and Young Adult Event, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.,
at 233 Horseneck Road, Fairfield, NJ 07004

June 22, 2025 Recognition Sunday

June 26, 2025 Circuit Rider, 11:00 a.m. at Fellowship Hall

June 27, 2025 3 M's Gathering (Music, Movements, & Meditation),
In-Person at Ignite UMC Fellowship Hall, Zoom Meeting ID 201 699 6704



Pastor's Page

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8

Dear Ignite UMC Family and Friends,

How was your month of May? I hope it was filled with exciting and meaningful events. Mine, was a tremendous journey in my pastoral ministry. It was during this month that I was commissioned as a provisional elder in the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, a significant step toward ordination. When Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi laid her hands on me and the surrounding clergy prayed, I felt God's calling reaffirmed. This experience empowered me to continue my ministry as I prepare to lead two churches, Ignite UMC and Trinity UMC in Rahway, starting in July.

As we embark on the month of June, I invite you to embrace the work of the Holy Spirit within us. Let us be true witnesses in both words and deeds, wherever God places us. Moreover, as summer approaches and the sun grows stronger, let us ask the Holy Fire to ignite our spirits to praise God in all that we do, so that we cannot contain our faith in declaring God's faithfulness.

Furthermore, together, let us celebrate Father's Day by honoring and praying for all the fathers and men in our community and encouraging them to lead their families and circles toward God. Finally, may we all remember the Great Good Father of our Lord Jesus Christ—our Creator—and give thanks to Him for calling us His children. Come, let us:

SAVOR AND FOLLOW THE LEADING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WHO IS:

PURIFYING US INTO PERFECTION

INVITING US TO GO DEEPER WITH GOD

RENEWING OUR STRENGTH

IMMERSING US IN GOD'S HOLY PRESENCE AND

TAKING US INTO JOYFUL SERVICE AND RELATIONSHIP.



Blessings,

Pastor Roeline "Wee" Ramirez

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Mikey Fiorillo
- 1 Tony Fiorillo
- 4 Vercillie Francis
- 5 Adrian Matos
- 8 Samantha Cafrey
- 8 Vicky Smith
- 10 Eleanor Fitzsimmons
- 11 Anna Nunez
- 17 Cairy Silva
- 19 William Duelly
- 19 Nicole Rae Hilario
- 23 Melissa Francis
- 24 Bernice Gangaware
- 27 Mary Ellen Paxton
- 30 Janet Henkel



“Happy Birthday! May your day be filled with joy and laughter. Wishing you all the best on your special Day.”

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Rev. William and Rev. Fran Noll
- 17 James Zhu and Charis Makar Criz
- 24 Justin and Rev. Nova Thomas
- 26 Guy Anthony and Melissa Francis



“This is the time to count the blessing of these past years... and to remember the happy memories of the joyful times you’ve shared. Happy Anniversary!”

**God is still
writing your story.
Quit trying
to steal the pen.**

***Trust the author
Faith*** makes everything possible.
Hope makes everything work.
Love makes everything beautiful.
May you have all three as you begin each day.

IT’S OKAY TO...

- ...Not know everything
- ...To make a mistake
- ...To take a break
- ...Asking for help is strength
- ...Nothing is perfect
- ...To say NO
- ...Small steps are also progress
- ...To have a bad day
- ...Set back is not failure
- ...To not be ok
- ...To start over

From Inspirational Motivational Therapy Mental Health Office Wall Door Sign

**Welcome, June.
Eyes up.
Hearts up.
Minds sharp.
Compassion on full blast.
Okay, let’s go.**

SPIRIT LIFTING

From GUIDEPOSTS Oct./Nov. 2024

**I will meditate on all thy work,
and muse on thy mighty deeds.**

~Psalm 77:12 (RSV)

My sister, Karen, greeted my husband, John, and me in front of her farmhouse. We'd come to see her newly hatched chicks.

I struck off down the path to the chicken coop. John followed, and Karen came behind. Shortly, I heard my sister call, "Slow down! We don't want to scare the chicks!"

I glanced back and knew instantly that Karen was more concerned about John than the chicks. Weakened by his illness, he edged his way down the path. I could see that my quick stride accentuated his loss of strength and might have made him self-conscious. I slowed my pace.

Karen and I stepped up into the coop while John leaned in the doorway. The tiny yellow and black fluffballs scooted about their pen, peeping softly. John smiled at their antics.

My husband's rapt look showed me that we had walked into a new season of life, one where hurry had little place. It was a time to see all the wondrous kinds of new life God had placed around us and within us.

*Father, help me slow down and see how
your gift of life flows continuously
through your creation.*

Written by Raylene Nickel

RULES OF LIFE

Submitted by a Circuit Rider Reader

1. Be kind.
2. Listen more than you speak.
3. Speak the truth gently.
4. Apologize when needed.
5. Never stop learning.
6. Help without expecting returns.
7. Value your time.
8. Stay curious.
9. Celebrate small wins.
10. Avoid comparisons.
11. Spend time in nature.
12. Forgive others - and yourself.
13. Exercise regularly.
14. Eat well.
15. Drink water.
16. Smile often.
17. Save for rainy days.
18. Sleep enough.
19. Live in the moment.
20. Respect boundaries.
21. Be grateful daily.
22. Speak less; do more.

**CLEANING IS JUST PUTTING
STUFF IN LESS OBVIOUS
PLACES,**

**AND THEN WONDERING
WHERE YOU PUT THEM.**

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women met Wednesday, May 14th at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The program was entitled "Stories about Moms from Readers Digest."

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11th, 2025 in Fellowship Hall. After the meeting, the women will be going to a restaurant for lunch. All women are invited.

COMMUNITY CARE FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry served 17 families from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 15th, 2025 providing both food and non-food items, and distributed six Pet Smart Gift Cards to those who have pets. We thank all those who have donated in so many ways that enable us to continue this mission.

Our next distribution date will be the Thursday, JUNE 19th, 2025 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Donations of cereal would be very much appreciated.

THE TREASURE SHOP

The Treasure Shop will no longer be open on the second Friday of the month, but will continue to be open on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The second Saturday of the month is Bag Day. We were closed on March 24, 2025 in observation of the Memorial Day weekend.

Visitors can find something new every week. Thank you for both visiting and donating to the Treasure Shop. You are always welcome.

FROM 199 PROMISES OF GOD

1. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

~2 Corinthians 4:6

2. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

~John 15:10

3. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.

~Jeremiah 29:12

4. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth in him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death until life.

~Hebrews 4:12

5. And therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the Lord is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him.

~Isaiah 30:18

6. A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

~Proverbs 15:1

7. Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am.

~Isaiah 58:9



PRAYER REQUESTS

(Let's pray for you. Send your prayer concerns & thanksgiving)



FOR HEALING & STRENGTH: Laura, Barbara H., Oscar D., Janet C., Mary Catherine R., Tony S., Sylvanna, James F., Sue, Cindee, Charles, Eileen, Bob W., Betty S., Cathy, Gianna, Bob Mier, Diana, Jun V., Barbara, Boyet J., Brenda G, Edna R., Ofelia, Raissa S., Theresa, Pastor Don, Elba, Sal, Pat, Al B., Gareth A., Terri, Gerliz Anne M., Judy, Jen & Binny (Norma's co-workers), Ricky O., Scott W., Rob. W., Tom & Shiela, Kathy S., Crissy, Pastor Hemi., Miriam S., John (brother of Kathleen), Susan Frey., Patrick, Betsy's Father, Ellen J., Elmer D.R., Robin T. Jen,

FOR VISA APPROVAL: Che D.R. and all those seeking for approval

FOR HOUSING and JOB PROVISION: Tony P, and family., Kevin C.

FOR STRENGTH FOR NEW BABIES: Theo, Zion Mark, and all new born babies

FOR COMFORT & PROVISION: Affected by various calamities and country's economic challenges.

FOR GUIDANCE & PROVISION: Mary O., Abuela B., Drew & Gracielle R. fam, Vercillie F., Anlyn, Mary Ellen, Dee K., John D., Puma fam., Betsy DC' & parents, Karen W., A. Restrepo Fam, Fuquay Fam, Opacity Fam, Margaret N., 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., Mr. Tony S & Fam, Caffrey fam, Ptr Heme Ares & Norma Fam, Rachel R. Fam., James & Sharon S., Dale S., Luz A., Luisa & Lucianna R., Francis Fam, Vallez Fam, Jeremias Fam, Freda Fam, Crissi & Johnston Fam, Cindy P., Phil L., Marty K., Lori Strubble, Stephanie P., Pagan Fam., Kollory Fam., Abigail., Rich W., Duelly Fam., Ramirez Fam., Salvador Fam., Stephen N., Linda Sosa Fam., Edit Fam., Fabian & Nattali, Mayra S. & Fam., Blanco Fam., Kevin C., Will & Ann Dougherty, Pastor Annie, Ana Patrick, Maria Silva R and fam., Maria, Owen F. and family., Maria, Linda



FOR WISDOM, COMPASSION, AND MERCY IN LEADERSHIP: The President and all the leaders of our country. Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi UMC clergy and church leaders.

SPECIAL INTENTION FOR THIS MONTH: Strength for all fathers, jobs for all who need it. Transition for churches who have change of pastoral appointments. Last grading period of all students.

For additional prayer requests, pastoral care and services, please contact Pastor Roeline

Text: 973-282-6237

Voicemail: 908 276-1956

email: ramirezroeline@gmail.com

igniteumckenilworth@gmail.com

FAITH YOU CAN'T KEEP QUIET
LET'S GET LOUD
 LISTENING | OVERFLOWING | UNASHAMED | DEVOTED
 OPEN TO ALL YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

COMMUNITY OF HOPE CENTER
 233 HORSENECK RD, FAIRFIELD, NJ

JOIN US
 JUNE 21
 9-3PM

SCAN ME

FOR INQUIRIES: PASTOR ADRIAN MENDOZA | 862.354.0457
 PASTOR ROELINE RAMIREZ | 973.282.6237

ATTENTION PLEASE!

Beginning in
 July,
 our worship
 service will start
 at 9:30 AM.

“DADDY FIX!”

By Kim Koratsy (Tennessee, USA)

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life.

~John 3:18 (CEB)

When I was a small child and one of my toys broke, I would carry it to my dad, hold it up, and confidently say, “Daddy fix!” Over the years, I became the daddy who fixed things when my own children broke them. Even though I am now older and my dad has gone on to heaven, I have come to realize that I still have a Father I can trust to fix the broken things in my life - even me.

The Bible is replete with times when our heavenly Father helped his children, as well as with promises that our Father will continue to do so. Think of God leading his children out of slavery in Egypt to the freedom of the Promised land and of Jesus as he healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, and raised the dead. To me, the most profound of these examples is John 3:16 where it says God gave us Jesus, our way to eternal life.

Surely God will not instantly fix every broken thing in our lives. But God will walk with us, comfort us, and sometimes carry us through our troubles and suffering – fixing them in God’s way and time.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Whatever is broken in our lives,
God’s love can mend.

Prayer: Heaven Father, help us to remember that you are here to help us – all we need to do is ask. Be with us as we walk our path today. When we stumble, comfort us, guide us, and help us to know you love us always. Amen.

From GUIDEPOSTS May-June 2023

AVAILABLE TO ALL

From The Upper Room, May-June 2023

READ Matthew 19:13-15

“Allow the children to come to me,” Jesus said. Don’t forbid them, because the kingdom of God belongs to people like these children.”

~MATTHEW 19:14 (CEB)

I often think of my younger brother as a child who doesn’t really understand. Yet he understands a lot of information better than I do. Young children are often considered unable to understand or do things well. But having this mind set means we can miss the wisdom children have to offer.

In Jesus’ day, society looked down upon not only children but also women, people with disabilities, and those who were poor or uneducated. These groups were considered immature in faith – even sinful. So Jesus’ words in today’s scripture verse challenged the status quo. He welcomed the children, even calling them the heirs of the kingdom of heaven. Jesus was reminding everyone that God’s love is not limited to certain groups of people; God accepts all people.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

God’s love is available
to all people.

As followers of Christ, we are also invited to accept all people. We should not demean the faith of anyone, including young children, for any reason. God’s love is available to anyone who seeks God.

Prayer: Dear God, enable us to love people of all ages and from all walks of life just as you love us. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE UP SIDE

From GUIDEPOSTS, Oct./Nov. 2024

1. "I don't just thank God for the victories. I thanked him for the defeat." ~Dawn Staley, University of South Carolina's basketball coach, on how her faith and her team's 2023 NCAA championship loss led to a 2024 championship win and undefeated season.

2. "Humans can learn something from these animals. If all these different species can get along, so can we." ~Laurie Zaleskoi, founder of Funny Farm Rescue & Sanctuary in New Jersey, home to more than 600 rescued animals.

3. "Trusting God is a series of choices, not a one-time event." ~From *Permission to Dream*, by Christine Caine

4. "There are some storms and troubles that are leading us to where the Almighty wants you to go... Consider it a divine detour." ~Robin Roberts, journalist.

5. "Resilience equals grit plus forgiveness." ~Suzy Welch, writer, professor, and speaker

6. "God, help me notice all the ways in which we've forgotten how to be human since these screens have become attached to our palms." ~prayer by Carlos Whittaker, pod caster and author, during the seven screen-free weeks he spent at a monastery and an Amish farm to explore his faith and reliance on technology

7. "God's love is ineffable. We recognize it without truly understanding it. We are not meant to understand it." ~From a *Journey of Faith*, by Edward Grinnan, Guideposts editor-in-chief

8. "One of the things I've learned on this journey is that gratitude and sadness are not mutually exclusive; they're always working at

the same time." ~Regina King, Oscar-winning actor, on life after her son dies by suicide in 222

9. "Legacy is always an active thought to do the best that I can, to leave the best of myself when I'm gone." ~Sheryl Lee Ralph, Emmy-winning actor from the TV show *Abbott Elementary*, on what we leave behind

10. "What God has for you is going to be for you." Perfect it. Hone it. Be a master of it. Love it. Do it well. Impact people when you do it, and help bring somebody up with you." ~Myron Rolle, who, after getting cut from the NFL, achieved his other childhood dream of becoming a neurosurgeon

FATHER'S DAY QUOTES

1. "A father is someone you look up to no matter how tall you grow."

2. "To the world, you are a dad. To our family, you are the world."

3. "You're my one and only dad, and you'll always have a special place in my heart.."

4. "Thanks for being the best role model I could ever ask for."

5. "You're the peanut butter to your kids' jelly, the milk to their cookies, and the best dad they could ask for!"

6. "Creating beautiful memories with your kids is the best gift you can give them."

IMPOSSIBLE ONLY UNTIL IT'S DONE
From All God's Creatures, Jan./Feb. 2025

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.
~EPHESIANS 3:20-21 (NKIV)

Did you know you can potty train a bird? I didn't until a 42-year-old parrot potty-trained himself.

I sat on the couch one evening with my open book propped on the pillow in my lap. My parrot, Lorito, rested on my arm. I rubbed his neck as I read, only pausing to turn the page.

After a while, Lorito said his name and lifted his left foot, indicating he wanted to be picked up. I set my book down, carried him to his cage, and placed him on his perch. He turned to face the front and promptly pooped. Was that a coincidence?

This happened several nights in a row. Sometimes I didn't get him to his cage fast enough or the urge came on quickly and Lorito couldn't make it to his cage before he had to go. Thankfully our tile floor makes cleanup a breeze.

I had never considered potty training my parrot a possibility. I just figured cleaning up poop came with having a bird, but what a joy that I no longer have to do that.

As I considered how Lorito potty-trained himself, I felt God's nudge to believe that He can do great things. To trust that He is bigger than my circumstances. To have confidence in Him for the impossible. That His "voice"

thunders in marvelous ways; he does great things beyond our understanding."

Never tell a young person that anything cannot be done. God may have been waiting centuries for someone ignorant enough of the impossible to do that very thing.
~G. M. Trevelyan

Written by Crystal Storms

FROM 199 PROMISES OF GOD

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.
~Revelation 21:4

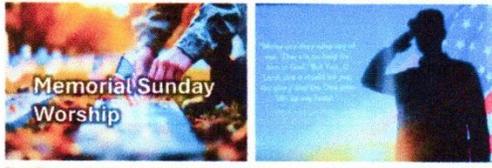
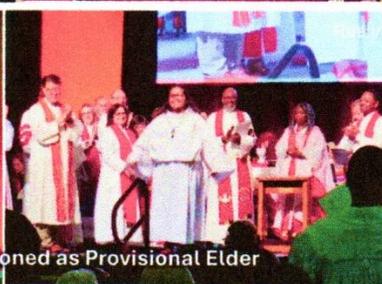
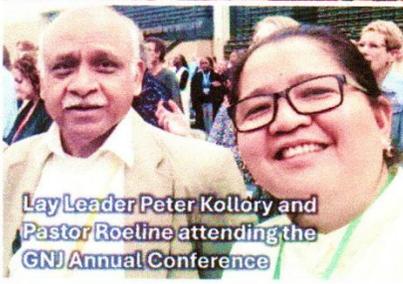
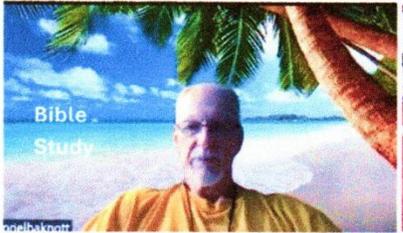
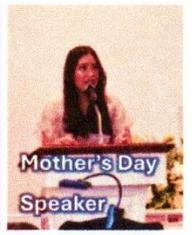
Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.
~Ephesians 6:2-3

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.
~Psalm 55:22

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.
~I John 4:14-15

A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.
~Proverbs 15:1

MAY 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



BY FAITH
By Pastor Annie Williams

Believers are still talking about what occurred on Easter. Two well-known men in current history come to mind.

The first, Jesus the Christ Son of God born a Jew came on a mission: to live among us preaching the essence of peace, of compassion and liberation through grace. Jesus did not come for the righteous but for the sinner in need of mercy. The Scriptures remind us that Jesus did not come to judge God's children but to forgive. *I will do a new thing: now it shall spring forth (Isaiah 43:18)*. When his mission ended, Christ was resurrected on Easter morning.

Next is a servant of Christ who was called to mission to be elevated as Pope Francis. This humble man was not perfect by any means. He was a celibate priest. Yet, millions referred to him as "padre" meaning father. Pope Francis led by word and deed following in the footsteps of Jesus' teachings sharing love. Encouraged women elevating some to noted positions in the church, shared the *Good News* to the poor around the world; uplifted family values and marginalized community in spite of criticism. They, too, belong in God's tapestry. We faithfully believe he is with the Father God.

As Men's Day of Father's Day approaches, we think of many dads who are taking the role of both fathers and mothers, either to raise or raze families. The word used for love refers to selfless love, sacrificed love, and satisfying love, an unceasing care and loving protection for the well-being of the family. It resembles the love of Jesus for God's children. Other dads fall short. Life

hits hard, battle with the evils of unemployment, imprisonment, addiction, and low self-esteem. As a result, they often feel inadequate, guilty or hopeless. The *Good News* is Christ did not come to judge but to liberate! You see – we never see ourselves in the presence of Christ.

In the Almighty presence, we wake up needing our God and what's the meaning of life, discovering our potential, finding joy in the community of believers and in the Sacraments to become the best version of ourselves. It is never too late to experience the risen Christ! By faith, each will be transformed by the living Lord! May you be blessed in all things.

God is still
writing your story.
Quit trying
to steal the pen.

Trust the author.

Faith makes everything
possible.

Hope makes everything
work.

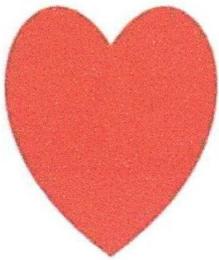
Love makes everything
beautiful

May you have all
three as you begin each day.

FATHER'S DAY

WORD SEARCH

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



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CARING
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CORAGEOUS
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