# **Second Helpings**

May 2020

Second Avenue United Methodist Church 801 East Second Avenue Rome, GA 30161 Phone: 706-234-6406 Audio Worship: 706-786-6406 2aveumc.org

### Let's Embrace this Season of 40! (Shared by Beverly Woodward)

- The Latin root of the word "quarantine" is "forty."
- So what does the Bible say about 40?
- The flood lasted 40 days.
- 40 years Moses fled Egypt.
- 40 days Moses stayed on Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments.
- Exodus lasted 40 years.
- Jesus fasted for 40 days.
- 40 days for a woman to rest after giving birth.
- Optimum number of weeks for human gestation is 40.
- A group of theologians thinks the number 40 represents "change." It is the time of preparing a person, or people, to make a fundamental change.
- Something will happen after these 40 days. Just believe and pray. Remember, whenever the number 40 appears in the Bible, there is a "change."
- Please know that during this "quarantine" rivers are cleaning up, vegetation is growing, the air is becoming cleaner because of less pollution. There is less theft and murder; healing is happening; and most importantly, people are turning to Christ. The Earth is at rest for the first time in many years and hearts are truly transforming.
- Remember we are in the year 2020, and 20 + 20 = 40.
- Also, 2020 is the year of the United States Census. Jesus Christ, the savior of the world, was born during a census.
- Lastly, 2020 is perfect vision. May our sight focus on the Lord and living according to His perfect vision for us knowing He holds us in the palm of His hand.

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### Persons of the Week

# Guidelines and Considerations for Resuming In-Person Worship in the North Georgia Conference

Dear brothers and sisters of the North Georgia Conference,



We, your bishop and cabinet, greatly appreciate how you have followed the guidance we have shared regarding in-person worship. We know how much you miss each other and long to be together. After talking with medical experts and reviewing data today, we are asking you not to gather before June 22, 2020. This is the date current models predict that we in Georgia can begin safely relaxing our shelter-athome strategies.

We encourage you to take this time to prepare to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19 when we do gather again for in-person worship. The cabinet will continue to meet weekly and will offer regular updates to our guidance.

Each of our churches is encouraged to continue providing expressions of church remotely. Your innovation and creativity through technology, phone calls, letters, and responding to practical needs is in keeping with our mission and our need for Christian community.

Please begin to consider the guidelines that follow. They were developed through conversations with public health and medical experts and, while they will not eliminate risk, they may help us mitigate risk.

Even in this uncertain time, what we are certain of is that loving our neighbor is the way of United Methodists. We give thanks for you and the ways you are loving your neighbors.

You are in our prayers, Bishop Sue Haupert-Johnson The North Georgia Conference Cabinet

### **Prayer List**

<b>Congregation</b>	Friends & Family	Larry Jacks	Peggy Pharr	
Carl Alexander	Michelle Albers	Janie Jolley	Connie Ray	
Susan Autry	Katherine Ammons	Garrett Jones	Deborah Reynolds	
Donna Bledsoe	Linda Baker	Hannah Jones	Ruiz-Baleon Family	
Erma Braden	Terri Black	Megan Jones	Bonnie Thomas	
Herb Brown	Bowman Family	Pat Jones	Alex Trebek	
Jim & Gerrie Burton	Linda Brown	Milton Kahn	President Trump	
Danny Carver	Alfred Brumbelow	Bill & Peggy Lanier	Urquhart Family	
Giles Chapman	Christian Camp	Danny Lee	Tyson Waid	
Nancy Davis	Joanie Catron	Paula Lowder	Mary Whilllock	
Carolyn Garwood	Emma Craig	Lisa McDaniel	John Wiggin	
Jim Gibbons	Daria Giebler	Mason McKenzie	Sunny Wilkerson	
David Gresham	Jamie Griffin	Alex Mendez	Jim Williams and Family	
Charles Griffin	Patty Harvey	Jacob Mendez	Kennedy Williams	
Mardelle Lynch	Destiny Erica Head	Tandalea Mendez	Debbie Willis	
Bill Pharr	Greg Helms	Military Personnel	John Woodward	
Edith Swint	Jada Helms	John Morris & Family	Regina Wright	
Dennis & Kathy Urquhart	Khloe Hill	Sherry Nolan	Sherry Nolan	
Vivian VanLandingham	"Buck" Huckaby	Diane Norrod		
Carol Vogt	Sue Hurley	Julie Ousley		
LuAnn Williams	JoAnn Jacks	Andy Peabody		

### **Easter Cross**



Thanks to all who helped make the Easter Cross a beautiful celebration and witness to the resurrection! It was a spot of beauty and hope in the midst of a painful period in our church's/nation's/world's history.

### **Upper Room Available**

If you would like JoAnn to mail you a copy of the May-June Upper Room devotional, please call the church office.

### Worship Continues Together...Apart



As we do our best to do no harm, Bishop Sue Haupert-Johnson and the Conference Cabinet continue to urge churches not to gather through June 22, 2020.

This means we will continue to have online worship a while longer. Our online service right now is a One (or Two)-Woman Show. Rev. Millie would love to have others participate in the service. If anyone plays a musical instrument or sings, you can send her a video of yourself performing a hymn. You can also volunteer to read Scripture or lead the Lord's Prayer. She will edit these video clips into the worship service. Please contact Millie for details (404-759-4778).

### **Mother's Day Project**

We would like to make a video tribute to all mothers in our congregation as well as all our mothers who have joined the great cloud of witnesses. Multiple generations in a picture is even better. Just send a picture to Rev. Millie via text or email (<u>millie.kim@ngumc.net</u> or 404-759-4778). Please include your name and your mother's name. You are also encouraged to give a donation to our ongoing project to Floyd Medical Center in honor of your mother! Make a check out to Second Avenue and add in the Memo, Floyd Medical Center.

### **Pastor's Page**



As I write this article, I am imagining what you are doing at home! What have you been doing? I hope you are doing well, staying at home safely and keeping yourself fortified with good stuff physically and spiritually. It has been crazy for me. My world has literally turned upside down! I have to say that it took me a month to gather myself and be on my feet again.

I have been overwhelmed with video/audio worship production since that has become my #1 priority, which meant that I had to learn real quick! I hope you are seeing improvements in our online worship. Since we do not have a Communication Director or any equipment, it's been me and my iPhone, and it's been so lonely! I would be really encouraged if you can volunteer to participate in our online service. Please call or text

me at 404-759-4778 or email me at millie.kim@ngumc.net. For our people who do not have online access, we have also created a phone line dedicated to worship. If you know of anyone (does not have to be a church member) who needs to hear the Word of God, please share the number, <u>706-786-6406</u>! Please help me spread the word.

We are in the season of Easter. In the immediate aftermath of the crucifixion and resurrection of their leader, master, and savior, the disciples experienced something very close to what we are experiencing right now. (Of course we have it much easier!) I bet they were in shock and were numb for a while. I bet their souls and physical bodies were quarantined, probably self-quarantined for a while. We all need to do that! We human beings cannot just shake off something of such magnitude and move on as if nothing has happened. We need time; but we cannot stay in quarantine forever!

The disciples had to transition and adapt to the new situation. And so do we! We've got to be **born again** and we've got to be **born from above**. As Nicodemus asked Jesus in John 3, "How can anyone be born after having grown old?" No one can be born again, born from above without faith and the help of the Holy Spirit! Only God can do that! So as we enter into the month of May, I am calling all of you to fast and pray every Tuesday for our church's new birth and for your new birth! I strongly believe that God is doing something new. We can either ignore it or participate in it. God does not need our help; on the other hand, we need God to live our lives meaningfully, impactfully, and abundantly. So join me in prayer and fasting every Tuesday!

Your Pastor, Millie

# May 03Bishop Sue Haupert-Johnson | Communion SundayMay 10"Pray Like a Mother" | Matthew 14:22-27 | Mother's DayMay 17"The Giving Tree" | Luke 6:38-42May 24"Hands and Feet" | John 21:15-19 | Memorial Day WeekendMay 29"Testify What You Know" | John 3:11-17

### **May Sermon Scriptures**

### **Congratulations to Our Graduates**



Kamdyn Chapman c/o Giles & Iva Chapman 23 S. Ivy Ridge Road SE Rome, GA 30161-3912 Chloe Duck Darlington School c/o Lynn Duck 13 Shady Oaks Court Rome, GA 30161

Michael Gibson Model High School c/o Cliff & Michelle Gibson 6 Parkwood Circle Rome, GA 30161-3489

### **Bible Studies Available at Home for Free**



During this time of lockdown, we can still do finest video Bible studies at home for free. Our church pays monthly subscription and you can also watch Rev. Millie's sermon on this website. Here is the link and access code. Please let Rev. Millie know if you have any questions.

https://my.amplifymedia.com/secondavenueumcromega Access code: NGDTRS

## **Blessings and Gratitude**

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the Easter Lilies. I have really been enjoying them, have had one to bloom each day since I've had them. They really brighten my apartment and remind me of all my friends at Second Avenue.

Love to all, Lib Rogers Dear Church Friends,

God bless all of you. Thank you for the Easter lily. It is blooming and so pretty.

Sincerely, Betty Hardy

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide over 550 snack items, 250 prayer beads and dinner for 30 COVID wing healthcare workers at Floyd Medical Center. You are welcome to give monetary gifts so that we can continue to support healthcare workers at Floyd Medical Center. We also donated 100 mask to Heatherwood and 100 masks to Greystone.

We can't do everything; but we can do something!







#### Second Avenue United Methodist Church

801 East Second Avenue Rome, GA 30161 Phone: 706-234-6406 Email: 2ndave@bellsouth.net

> We're on the Web: 2aveumc.org

Our Vision: 'Knowing Christ & Making Christ Known"

### May Birthdays

- 1 Mike Colombo
- 01 Olivia Gibson
- 02 Faye Kesler
- 03 Jody Rogers
- 05 Jesse Meredith
- 06 Vicki Thomason
- 09 Kevin Soh
- 10 Shirley Dodson
- 14 Shannon Kislat
- 15 Ernie Myers
- 16 Dawn Ables
- 17 Beth Colombo
- 18 Phil Taylor
- 21 Lynn Duck
- 26 Michael Gibson

### May Anniversaries

15 Chad & Emily Embree

### **Wesley Woods**

**Wesley Woods** will serve over 1500 older adults in Georgia this year with residential services, health care, rehabilitation, nursing home care, and specialized care for Parkinson's and Alzheimer's Diseases. More than 75% of residents are dependent on financial assistance, and one-third live below the poverty level. With longer life spans and escalating healthcare costs, older adults often outlive their resources. The North Georgia United Methodist Conference realized the breadth of this problem seven decades ago, resulting in the creation of Wesley Woods. Serving older adults of all income levels, Wesley Woods provides North Georgia with nine thriving communities and resident-centered care. With your gift on Mother's Day to Wesley Woods, we can give grace and hope and make a difference to this important ministry for our older neighbors in North Georgia.

### Audio Worship Available 24/7! Call 706-786-6406 any time.

"Now is the time for which our faith has prepared us. Now is the moment when all that we believe can be put to work. Now we can turn to the inner resources we have been developing over these many years to face the challenge of a world in desperate need. We are not afraid of this crisis for we have been made ready for it. We have devoted our lives to the belief that something greater than fear or disease guides human history. We have studied, prayed and grown in the Spirit. Now we come to the call to use what we believe. Our people need hope, confidence, courage and compassion: the very things for which we have been trained. We are the calm in the midst of a storm. Stand your ground and let your light so shine that others may see it and find their faith as well." - Steven Charleston, former Bishop of Alaska