

# Second Helpings

**APRIL 2024**

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

## Pastor's Page– Rev. Rick Maeser



### Holy Communion

We will celebrate Holy Communion this Sunday as usual. And by “usual,” I mean the first Sunday of the month. Sometimes we kneel at the wooden railing in front of the altar and drink from small individual cups. Sometimes we dip our piece of bread into a large chalice. We may also celebrate by receiving bread and juice from a self-contained communion pack. These packs are in a basket near the center of the altar rail and contain bread that is gluten free.

When I was a child, I looked forward to the tiny cups of juice and the plate of broken crackers which were passed to us as we knelt around the altar. Communion is still refreshing to me, but in a deeper sense than when I was growing up. Communion has everything! It begins with a gracious invitation. There is confession and pardon. There is remembrance of what Christ has done for us, and thanksgiving for God’s love and grace in the present. We are strengthened through this meal for our ministry to all the world, and we look with hope to the day when “Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.”

The meaning and experience of communion is a mystery, of course, which we can’t fully explain, but can only accept as God’s gift in all its wonder and grace. May the Lord be with you this Sunday, and every occasion when we celebrate this holy mystery together.

Blessings,  
Pastor Rick



## April Sermon Scriptures

**April 07** Acts 4:32-35, 1 John 1:1-2:22 | “May Your Joy Be Complete” | Communion  
**April 14** 1 John 3:1-7, Acts 3:12-19 | “Clean Indeed”  
**April 21** Psalm 23, John 10:11-18 | “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”  
**April 28** Acts 8:26-40, John 15:1-8 | “Abide in Me”

# Highlights from March in Pictures

**Model High School**  
21h · 🌐

Congratulations to Senior Maddie Gibson for placing 2nd in the **Noon Optimist Club of Rome Oratorical Contest**. 🎉 Shout out to MMS 5th grader, Camee Kines, for placing 3rd! 🌟 It's inspiring to see young minds showcase their public speaking skills. **#SettingtheStandardforSuccess**

👍❤️ 53      1 comment 5 shares

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During February we collected lots of useful items to donate to the Davies Men’s Shelter. Items included:

- T-shirts = 40 (29 new; 11 used)
- Underwear = 73 (51 new; 22 used)
- Towels = 46 (16 new; 30 used)
- Hand towels = 15 (used)
- Washcloths = 85 (66 new; 19 used)
- Other = 12 pairs socks, 7 pairs of gripper socks, can of coffee, and package of toilet paper



Keenagers celebrated Vesper Frazier’s 94th Birthday



Betty Albers, Sue Duck, and Nina Wheeler assembled goody bags for the teachers at Anna K Davie Elementary School. Thanks to all who contributed.

## Persons of the Week

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### April 07: Patty Jones

5 Forest Meadow SW  
Rome, GA 30165

### April 14: Tommy & Paula Jones

310 Old Calhoun Road NE  
Rome, GA 30161-9691

### April 21: Vesper Frazier

311 E 2nd Ave, TH 1  
Rome, GA 30161-3269

### April 28: Susan Pierce

105 Pine Forest Road  
Cartersville, GA 30120-2434

*Please remember these friends with cards, calls, visits, and prayers.*

## March Schedule

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Acolytes:	Flowers:	Liturgists:
04/07 Kevin Baleon-Ruiz	04/07 Available	04/07 Doug Meredith
04/14 Theo Kislak	04/14 Alexander	04/14 Greg Gaston
04/21 Jesse Meredith	04/21 Brown	04/21 Amy Astin
04/28 Kevin Baleon-Ruiz	04/28 Available	04/28 Mike Colombo

*“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”—Psalm 23:4*

## Prayer List

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### **Congregation**

Genny Alexander  
Luis Baleon-Ruiz  
Bob Baker  
Donna Bledsoe  
Lee Brock  
Iva Brown & Family of  
Matthew Chapman  
Terry & Nancy Clift  
Lynda Climer  
Barbara & Terry  
Cothran  
Family of Betty Crymes  
Nancy Davis  
Erna Dobbs  
Sue & Terry Duck  
Sally Farmer  
Vesper Frazier  
Betty Hardy  
Tommy & Paula Jones  
Mardelle Lynch  
Pastor Rick & Nell  
Maeser

Irene Martz  
Bill & Cindy Pharr  
Carolyn Prater  
Kathy Urquhart  
Vivian VanLandingham  
Jerry Waters  
Anne Westfield  
**Friends & Family**  
Stetson Baird  
Barry Barfield  
Vikki Barfield  
Anne Barker  
Patti Barron  
Jimmy Brown  
Chris Butler  
Kay Chumbler  
Wendell Crowder  
Ruth Day  
Patrick Demirjian  
Stephanie Dunn  
Danny Fricks  
Michelle Gibson-travel  
Jim Gonzalez

Carol Gunter  
Hytowitz family  
John & Beth Kennedy  
Sandra Kerr  
Matthew King  
Chad Lester  
Kevin Lobello  
Bobby Magnicheri  
Martha Martin  
Taylor Martin  
Haley & Will McDonald  
Tom McElroy  
Terri Minor  
Posey Mitchell  
Tonya Mohn  
Kelly Mountain  
Paul Mullins  
Lynette Murphy  
Jim Myrick  
Camil Nedela  
Jack & Shelvie Ozment  
Jeremy Peace  
Peggy Pharr

Wayne Pierce  
Beth Pitt  
Nicole Potvin  
Alisha Reese  
Mallory Saville  
Seletsky Family  
Danny Slaughter  
Kim Rabus Snow  
Deborah T. Sosebee  
Shirley Stanton  
David Stevens  
Susan Tate  
Bill Underwood  
Esperanza Vail  
Midge & Jerry Watford  
Mitzi Wilburn  
Family of Jim Williams  
Kennedy Williams  
Jalen Wofford  
Laura Beth Wright  
Tommy Yarborough  
Virginia Yarbrough

## United Women in Faith Meeting on April 13

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United Women in Faith will be meeting on Saturday, April 13, beginning at 10:00 a.m. with brunch. The cost of the meal is \$5.00. You can make a reservation by texting, calling, or emailing Cindy Smith (706-346-0786, [butlerjrt@gmail.com](mailto:butlerjrt@gmail.com)). We will be finished by 11:30 a.m. so that you can get on with your day.

Our program this month will be presented by Executive Director Shaundria Dean from Rebecca Blaylock Child Development Center located on Graham Street here in Rome. Dean has been associated with the center for 30 years. Rebecca Blaylock has been providing services for children for 90 years in the Rome community. It serves children up to 5 years old in its daycare and pre-k program, and it provides an after-school care program for children ages 5 to 12. This is one of those “hidden” agencies in Rome with which many are unfamiliar, but they have a rich history in ministering to children and youth in our community.



Rebecca Blaylock was born in Rome in 1914 and went into education, first teaching at the East Rome Colored School on East 12th Street. However, Blaylock wanted to do something that would ultimately benefit the Black community in Rome. Segregation was in force and there weren't any nursery schools in the area for Black children. She wanted to open a nursery school for children whose mothers worked full time and didn't have anywhere to enroll them. She went door to door to find funding to start the school and eventually was able to secure some federal government funds through the New Deal Works Progress Administration which also helped some parents find jobs at the time. Sadly, she passed away in 1936 at the age of 22 from pneumonia. In the 1990's the nursery was converted to a lottery funded pre-school and has been operating as such ever since.

We will be collecting items for Rebecca Blaylock Child Development Center as our church mission focus for the month of April, so come and learn more about this wonderful agency in our community. We will also be donating pre-packaged plasticware to Hope's House. I look forward to seeing you on the 13<sup>th</sup>! Come and bring a friend!

Cindy Smith  
President

## April Mission Project for Rebecca Blaylock Center

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For 90 years, the Rebecca Blaylock Child Development Center has provided day programs for preschool children. A Georgia lottery funded organization, they also received funds from United Way until four years ago.

During the month of April, we will collect these basic items for their supply closet: paper towels, toilet paper, baby wipes, dish detergent, and kitchen garbage bags. Collection bins for your donations are in the fellowship hall.

## Blessings and Gratitude

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Rick, JoAnn, and Church Board and Members,

Thanks to your generous support, Angel Express, Inc. was able to spread love, joy and hope to 663 people of all ages and races this Christmas. This brings the total number of Christmases brightened since 1993 to 33,060! We are now entering phase II of our 30th anniversary years celebrating our founding in 1993 and our official incorporation in 1994.

Thanks to all of you for supporting Angel Express by supplying a comfortable, safe location to serve as a basis of operation and storage. We could not serve the community without your help. Thanks also for collecting the candy and jars. Hope we can work on some projects together.

Love to all of you,  
Janet Baltzer, Founder and Director of Angel Express, Inc.

(Please see the bulletin board for the full update letter shared by Janet showing all the events of the past few months and the many lives this ministry has touched.)

## Anna K. Davie School Project Update

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On March 26 church members delivered 50 small bags to Anna K. Davie Elementary School, filled with these items: snack crackers, trail mix, chips, cookies, breakfast bars, lots of candy, Tic-Tacs, nail clippers, emery boards, hand sanitizer, hand lotion, lip balm, tissues, and more. They were surprised and overwhelmed at our generosity.

## Keenagers Day Trip

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Keenagers are trying to put together a day trip. It will likely be to The Biblical History Center (formerly called Explorations in Antiquity) in LaGrange, Georgia. 'The Center helps people encounter the ancient biblical world through its history and culture. Through authentic archaeological replicas, Biblical meal presentations, daily life artifacts in the Biblical Life Artifacts Gallery, lectures, and other personal experiences, ancient Middle Eastern life comes back to life today.' Details to follow. It will be about \$75.00 per person including gas, lunch and admission. For more details, please contact Terry Clift (terryclift@me.com or 706-506-4205).

## Upper Room Devotionals are now here!

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March-April Upper Room daily devotionals are now FINALLY available at the church. Plan to pick yours up on Sunday or stop by the church during office hours. If you need JoAnn to mail you a copy, please contact her (706-234-6406 or 2ndave@bellsouth.net) in the office.



Budgeted amount needed as of March: \$60,024

Budgeted amount given as of March: \$54,134

Financial giving in month of March—includes budget & designated: \$21,667

## Second Avenue United Methodist Church

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Phone: 706-234-6406  
Email: 2ndave@bellsouth.net

We're on the Web:  
[2aveumc.org](http://2aveumc.org)

**Our Vision:  
"Knowing Christ & Making Christ Known"**

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### April Birthdays

4/07 Steve Davis  
4/08 Amy Astin  
4/09 Anthony Colombo  
4/09 Scottie Edwards  
4/21 Nell Maeser  
4/21 Adam Rogers  
4/21 Lauren Williams  
4/25 Rhonda Upshaw  
4/26 Carol Edwards  
4/30 Dawn Brown

### April Anniversaries

4/06 Lee & Rhonda Upshaw  
4/10 Nancy & Terry Clift

**celebrate!**

### Birthdays & Anniversaries:

If we haven't included your birthday or anniversary, please contact JoAnn in the church office (706.234.6406). We want to celebrate with you!

## April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 8:00am Church Office Closed for Easter Monday	<b>2</b> 10:00am Helping Hands	<b>3</b> 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir Practice	<b>4</b> 6:00pm Hand Bell Choir	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Lee & Rhonda Upshaw
<b>7</b> Kami Shetter-Flanery Steve Davis 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	<b>8</b> Amy Astin	<b>9</b> Anthony Colombo Scottie Edwards 10:00am Helping Hands	<b>10</b> Terry & Nancy Clift 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir Practice	<b>11</b> 6:00pm Hand Bell Choir	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 10:00am United Women in Faith
<b>14</b> 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 10:00am Helping Hands	<b>17</b> 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir Practice	<b>18</b> 6:00pm Hand Bell Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> Adam Rogers Lauren Rogers Wilson Nell Maeser 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 10:00am Helping Hands	<b>24</b> 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir Practice	<b>25</b> Rhonda Upshaw 6:00pm Hand Bell Choir	<b>26</b> Carol Edwards	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm One Board Meeting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Dawn Brown 10:00am Helping Hands				

## **Statistical Report on Consecration Sunday Results**

1. A total of 31 giving units (couples or single persons) completed *Estimate of Giving Cards* this year.
2. Of these giving units, a total of 22 units increased their financial commitment above their last year's amount.
3. Giving units that completed *Estimate of Giving Cards* this year committed a total of \$174,550.
4. Based on last year's giving records, we can expect to receive \$64,204 during the coming year from people who have consistent giving patterns during the past twelve months but have not completed a card.
5. Based on the average total of loose offerings during the past four years, we can expect to receive \$941 during the coming year from that source.
6. Church income from non-donor sources such as interest, rentals, and fees \$14,818.
7. This gives us a grand total of \$254,513 anticipated income for 2024.
8. The total income for our general operating budget during 2023 was \$185,562.
9. For 2024 we can expect our operating budget income to increase by \$67,610.
10. This is a 27 percent increase in total giving above last year.