

# Second Helpings

**FEBRUARY 2021**

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

## Covenant Prayer

In 2021, Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson invites North Georgia United Methodists to spend time praying and living Wesley's Covenant Prayer together. You're invited to join weekly conversations on the North Georgia Conference Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/ngaumc](http://www.facebook.com/ngaumc)) at 6:30 pm on Mondays or watch the videos on [www.ngumc.org](http://www.ngumc.org) or on Vimeo at [www.vimeo.com/NGUMC](http://www.vimeo.com/NGUMC).

You are encouraged to print the prayer and put it on your refrigerator, tape it to your mirror, frame it and display it on your dresser or bookshelf, or post it anywhere it will serve as a reminder to pray and ponder our covenant with God.

### A COVENANT PRAYER IN THE WESLEYAN TRADITION

I am no longer my own, but thine.  
Put me to what thou wilt,  
rank me with whom thou wilt.  
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.  
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,  
Exalted for thee or brought low for thee.  
Let me be full, let me be empty.  
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.  
I freely and heartily yield all things to thy  
pleasure and disposal.  
And now, O Glorious and blessed God, Father,  
Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Thou art mine, and I am thine.  
So be it.  
And the covenant which I have made on earth,  
Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

#### Inside this issue:

January in Pics	2
Persons of the Week	3
Prayer List	3
Pastor's Page	4
Blessings & Gratitude	5
UMW News	6
Vital Signs	6
New Bible Study	7
Handbell Choir	7
Special Dates	8

## Highlights from December in Pictures

Photos from Murphy-Harpst Youngsters' Favorite Christmas Gifts this Year



Art Sets



Bracelet



Weighted Blanket



Ukulele



Broken Necklace

### Our New Handbells Have Arrived!



## Persons of the Week

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**February 07: Irene Martz**

42 Chateau Drive, Apt. 308  
Rome, GA 30161

**February 14: Carolyn McFry**

16 N. Terrace Avenue  
Lindale, GA 30147

**February 21: Bill Pharr**

4 Ridgepoint Drive SE  
Rome, GA 30161-8519

**February 28: Jim & Gerrie Burton**

1813 Calhoun Road NE  
Rome, GA 30161-8972

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

"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever. To him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever. Who by his understanding made the heavens, His love endures forever, who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever."

—Psalm 136:1-5

## Prayer List

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**Congregation**

Carl Alexander  
Susan Autry  
Bob Baker  
Erma Braden  
Herb Brown  
Jim & Gerrie Burton  
Danny Carver  
Giles Chapman  
Nancy Davis  
Phil Franssen  
Carolyn Garwood  
Greg Gaston  
Gibbons Family  
Margaret Gibson  
Charles Griffin  
Mardelle Lynch  
Bill Mathis  
Bill Pharr  
Edith Swint  
Vivian VanLandingham  
Carol Vogt  
Darlene Wallace  
LuAnn Williams

**Friends & Family**

Katherine Ammons  
Travis Atkinson  
President Biden  
Terri Black  
Linda Brown  
Tony & Laurie Clark  
Taylor Freeman  
Patty Harvey  
Destiny Erica Head  
Ronald Hicks  
Khloe Hill  
Sue Hurley  
JoAnn Jacks  
Larry Jacks  
Janie Jolley  
Garrett Jones  
Pat Jones  
Milton Kahn  
Bill & Peggy Lanier  
Jayme & Kristy Laney  
Lisa McDaniel  
Mason McKenzie  
Military Personnel  
John Morris & Family  
Stephanie Kiser Nation

Sherry Nolan  
Diane Norrod  
Andy Peabody  
Trace Pitts  
Michael Powell  
Carolyn Prater  
Deborah Reynolds  
Ruiz-Baleon Family  
Nancy, Edwin, & Allison Sims  
Dan Smith  
David Stevens  
Jonathan & Charlotte Sturtz  
Paul Sturtz  
John Sullivan  
Roberta Sullivan  
Cade Tanner  
Bonnie Thomas  
Julie & Addie Turner  
Antonio Valles  
Tyson Wait  
Mary Whillock  
Sunny Wilkerson  
Jim Williams and Family  
Kennedy Williams

## Pastor's Page



According to the Old Farmer's Almanac, the year 2021 begins a new decade because today's Gregorian calendar counts decades starting with the first year 1 CE. I am bringing this up because I want to correct myself; I told you last year (2020) that we are in a new decade. (I know none of you remember that.) But a stronger reason behind it is my desire to start anew and get us moving in the right direction.

'Moving in the right direction' means we draw closer to God and draw closer to one another. Imagine God is in the center and we all are circled around God. In Christianity we believe as we draw closer to God, we draw closer to one another. You have also heard of the vertical and horizontal nature of our faith like the cross. The vertical nature here means our relationship with God and the horizontal nature meaning our relationship with others. Often we mistakenly think when we take care of our horizontal part of faith, the vertical part would take care of itself. Or we even think that both will develop and strengthen together simultaneously and concurrently. I am from the school of thought that the vertical part must take the lead. I am not saying that the vertical nature is the only important part, like hermits and other ascetics, but what I am saying is that it should come first and take the lead in everything we do.



This year I would really like us, as a church and as a body of Christ, to focus on worship and be able to say concretely these are the ways we strengthened our worship in 2021. This is not to say our worship is sub-standard right now but to say there is always room to grow. Each Sunday this year I have had, and will continue to have, a teaching moment on worship in which I will introduce an idea about worship for us to mull over. I want you to do it and share your feedback with me. I really want our church to worship in truth and in spirit.

I am reading the Bible through again this year and it is amazing how the Israelites are instructed to offer the best sacrifice to God with the right heart. That is what God asks of us. What does that mean for you? What does it look like? What does that mean for Second Avenue? What does that look like? Let's envision or visualize it in our head and let's dream together about it. Most of all, let's do it together!

Your Pastor,  
Millie

## February Sermon Scriptures

- February 07 "Followers, Not Admirers" | 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 | Drive-in Services Resume
- February 14 "You are Loved" | 1 John 4:7-21
- February 17 "Living Lent" | 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 | Online Only Ash Wednesday Service
- February 21 "Seeing Myself in the Mirror" | Mark 1:9-15 | First Sunday in Lent
- February 28 "Truth to Tell" | Romans 4:13-25 | Second Sunday in Lent

## Blessings and Gratitude

Dear Second Avenue Family,

My family and I wish to thank you for your many prayers, concerns, and gifts of love during the tragic death of my father due to Covid. Rev. Millie, many hugs and kisses of gratitude for your calls and text messages.

The isolation that this disease causes is heartbreaking and just hearing your prayers over the phone helped so much. I have faith that we will be stronger, more compassionate, and love more fiercely in the year 2021. Please may God bless you and keep you, my dear church family.

Grace and Peace,  
Rhonda Eichenberger

Dear Second Avenue Family,

Thank you so much for all the sweet notes, gifts, calls, etc. congratulating me on my recent marriage. You guys are the best and I'm so grateful to work in a church that loves me so well.

God bless each of you,  
JoAnn (Thomas!!)

Dear Friends of Venezuela Now,

Thank you for your donation of \$475 to Venezuela Now, Inc. This has been a challenging year for all, but nowhere more so than in Venezuela. It is into this devastation Venezuela Now has poured its resources. Here is a brief statistical report of just our food and medicines ministries for 2020:

1,212,400 meals	\$2,529,870 value of meds
14,000 patients treated	96,882 pounds shipped

Total cost to VNI \$127,000. What a great return on investment! You have also given to so many other ministries in Venezuela including building projects, children homes, training of pastors, clothes for poor children, cost of major surgeries, formula for at-risk infants, curriculum development for the seminary and the medical centers and so much more! You have also made it possible for us to add our first paid U.S. staff member, Elliott Stotler, Executive Director for Venezuela Now.

Thank you again for your generous support!

In Christ,  
Warren Lathem, President

### How Nice It Is to Have Good News and Good Friends!

On January 17, Jim Williams (Betty Crymes' son) celebrated his birthday with many people calling to wish him a good day. Jim had a great surprise call from one of the best—as we finished eating birthday cake, a dear friend, Scottie Edwards, called with good wishes. After a long conversation of memories, Jim was surprised with a Happy Birthday song from Scottie and Carol Edwards and her mom, Edith Swint. What a joy this was for Jim! Thank you so much, friends, and I want you to know that you made Jim's day on his birthday.

From my heart I thank you,  
Betty Crymes

## United Methodist Women News

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It is hard to believe that February is already here though January, for me at least, has seemed to be several months long. We will continue to send our pledged contributions to the breakfast program at Ruth and Naomi House, so if you agreed to contribute to this local mission, please continue to send your checks to the church made out to Second Ave. UMC designated for Ruth and Naomi House. JoAnn will forward those gifts for us each month. From September through December, we contributed \$360. Thank you so much for your support for this most worthy cause in our community.

I want to issue each of you a challenge for the month of February since we still cannot meet safely. February is most often associated with Valentine's Day, and when we think of Valentines, we naturally think of love. There are 28 days in the month, and I am challenging you pick one person each day of the month to show love. You might send that person a card, a text, an email, a phone call. If you are a cook, you might even take him/her a special treat or simply say a special prayer for that person. I know we have at least 30 women in our congregation who can participate, and if we all did this, we could touch 840 people this month alone with God's love!!!! Would'n't that be amazing!! Let's do it!

Love to each of you,

Cindy Smith, UMW President

## Valentines for Shut-ins

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We deliver a sign of our love and care for those of our congregation who are shut-in and could use a reminder of the congregation's love. You can help by contributing bud vases and/or volunteering to help deliver these gifts. To volunteer or for details, please contact Beth Gibbons at 706-346-2701 or bgibbons1961@gmail.com.

## Lenten Devotional Guide

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For the upcoming season of Lent, the five downtown United Methodist Churches—Rome First UMC, Trinity UMC, South Broad UMC, Metropolitan UMC and Second Avenue UMC—are creating a combined effort daily devotional. The Devotional will be available for you to pick up on Sunday, February 14. If you need one mailed to you, please contact the church office. Let's all pray and read the same devotional, so that we can be together and strengthen our ministry here in Rome.

## Souper Bowl of Caring/February Food Drive

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This year we are not doing the Souper Bowl of Caring and collecting spare change for the Meals and More, but we are collecting money for the food pantry at Metropolitan United Methodist Church. All five Rome area churches are combining our efforts to mitigate hunger in the Rome area. Please give generously as this will be our Lenten Offering as well. When you make a check, please indicate "Food Pantry" and all the money will go toward the food pantry.

## Handbell Choir Has Begun

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We purchased three octaves of Malmark handbells in January and had a good crowd for the informational meeting. Although we have not named the handbell choir yet, we have started our handbell choir. It meets every Thursday at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone can participate. You do not have to be able to read music in order for you to join. The door will be open from 5:15 pm so participants can get ready and practice if they wish. Mrs. Pam Mullins (Shannon Kislak's mother) has volunteered to teach the choir. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Mullins ([pamelamullins@windstream.net](mailto:pamelamullins@windstream.net)) or Susan Pierce ([suspice@comcast.net](mailto:suspice@comcast.net)).

## Bible Study on Psalms

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Bible Study on Psalms, every Wednesday at 6:30pm  
Zoom ID: 979 6367 7563 (no password required)

We will be using OneBook Psalms curriculum and you can purchase an e-Book through Seedbed ([seedbed.com](http://seedbed.com)) or we can send you each week's lessons. It would be great if you can attend every Wednesday but it is not necessary. Join us when you can and learn about Psalms and how it can help you in the good times and bad times of life!

## Installation of New Church Officers

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On Sunday, January 3, we installed the following new church officers:

Amy Astin	Terry Clift	Mike Colombo
Steve Davis	Shirley Dodson	Randy Embree
Sally Farmer	Phil Franssen	Greg Gaston
Julie Mathis	Cindy Smith	Susan Stroup

They are sharing their dreams and visions for our church through individual videos which will be posted on the website and added into our online and drive-in worship services throughout February and March. Cindy Smith and Amy Astin have already shared their thoughts. Our first One Board Meeting was held on January 31.

## Worship Services

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Drive-In Worship Service resumes on Sunday, February 7, at 11:00 am. The Ash Wednesday service on February 17 will be online and will be available all day. Watch upcoming emails for more details.

## Warm Up Sunday

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Each winter we collect coats, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, blankets....anything that will help folks keep warm. These items will be donated to Davies Shelter. A collection box is in the Fellowship Hall. You may bring you items to the church during office hours and to the worship services on February 7 & 14. Please feel free to put a note of encouragement in the pocket of your donated coat to warm its recipient's heart. For more details, call the church office at 706-264-6406.

## Second Avenue United Methodist Church

801 East Second Avenue  
Rome, GA 30161  
Phone: 706-234-6406; Audio Worship: 706-786-6406  
Email: 2ndave@bellsouth.net

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

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

Our Vision: "Knowing Christ &  
Making Christ Known"

### Lent: Preparing for New Life

Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). This year Ash Wednesday falls on **February 17**.

Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline.

During some Ash Wednesday services, the Pastor will lightly rub the sign of the cross with ashes onto the foreheads of worshipers.

The practice of repentance and mourning in ashes is found in 2 Samuel 13:19; Esther 4:1; Job 2:8; Daniel 9:3; and Matthew 11:21. (From [www.umcdiscipleship.org](http://www.umcdiscipleship.org))

### February Birthdays

2/02 Donna Bledsoe &  
Lily Embree  
2/08 Railey Davis  
2/09 Phil Baker  
2/12 Reese Gibson &  
Charles Griffin  
2/25 Ralph Davis &  
Greg Gaston

### Birthdays & Anniversaries:

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

### February Anniversary

2/14 Kevin Soh & Millie Kim  
2/24 Bob & Shirley Dodson

## February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Donna Bledsoe Lily Embree	<b>3</b> 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study on Psalms	<b>4</b> 6:00pm Handbell Choir	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 11:00am Worship	<b>8</b> Railey Davis	<b>9</b> Phil Baker	<b>10</b> 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study on Psalms	<b>11</b> 6:00pm Handbell Choir	<b>12</b> Charles Griffin Reese Gibson	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Kevin Soh & Millie Kim Valentine's Day 11:00am Worship	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Ash Wednesday Online Service 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study on Psalms	<b>18</b> 6:00pm Handbell Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 11:00am Worship	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Bob & Shirley Dodson 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study on Psalms	<b>25</b> Greg Gaston Ralph Davis 6:00pm Handbell Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 11:00am Worship						