

Second Helpings

JUNE 2020



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

Message from Bishop and Cabinet on Opening Church Buildings

“

We know that, as followers of Christ, you are committed to doing what is best for the body of Christ.

Dear Clergy and Laity of the North Georgia Conference,

As we consider President Trump’s plea to open churches soon, the Cabinet and I ask you all prayerfully to consider the question, “Are we prepared to open in a way that makes our church campus as safe as possible?” rather than “Are we going to open simply because we can?” Set forth on [the Conference website](#) are the [suggestions we gave you previously](#) as steps that are necessary for a responsible opening. It is critically important that, before you gather, you have a plan in place, obtain the supplies you’ll need, and train folks to enact the plan.

We do not see ourselves as those charged with issuing edicts about opening from on high. We see ourselves as pastors whose first obligation is to do no harm. We also are all too aware that church gatherings have resulted in some of the most severe spread of the disease. We do not want even one United Methodist to get sick, die, or infect others because they chose to go to church.

We have a task force of music directors and worship leaders at work to offer us their recommended guidelines next week. We anticipate that they will recommend that there be no choirs or congregational singing because singing groups are “super-spreaders” that greatly increase the spread of the COVID virus. That insight will be helpful to all of our planning. We are also aware that there are several COVID hot spots within the boundaries of our North Georgia Conference, and that it is too early to ascertain if there will be a spike in cases caused by the re-opening of Georgia. We still think it prudent to wait until after June 22 to open so that we are more sure of the trends and the prevalence of the disease.

We recommend that even after June 22, those who are at high risk (underlying conditions, immunologically suppressed, and/or over 65yrs) avoid any public gathering and instead continue to worship online or at drive-in worship. We are also concerned about clergy who are at higher risk, and ask their parishioners to continue to worship in a way that does not put them at greater risk.

Finally, we know that, as followers of Christ, you are committed to doing what is best for the body of Christ. Sometimes watching out for the greater good means letting go of our own personal preferences. We trust that you will do what is necessary to best protect yourselves and others in your faith community. We pledge to continue to give you advice that balances safety with freedom to gather. We continue to consult with medical experts and will give you the best advice available to ensure health and safety. We appreciate your cooperation to date and ask that you remain in partnership with us as we navigate this uncharted territory.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Sue and the North Georgia Conference Cabinet

.....
Inside this issue:

Pastoral Visitation	2
May in Pictures	2
Persons of the Week	3
Home Communion	3
Prayer List	3
Pastor’s Page	4
Gratitude Notes	5
Special Dates	6
Dollars for Scholars	6

Pastoral Visitation

In June, Rev. Millie will officially start "Social Distancing Visitation." She will take a lawn chair and visit folks in their backyard (or front yard). Please contact the church office (706-234-6406 or 2ndave@bellsouth.net) if you would like to have a visit from Rev. Millie and the visitation team.

Highlights from May in Pictures



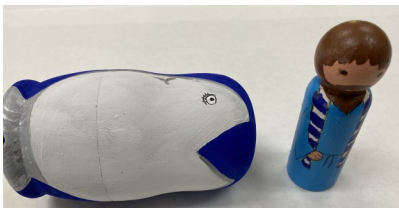
First Zoom Admin. Council Meeting



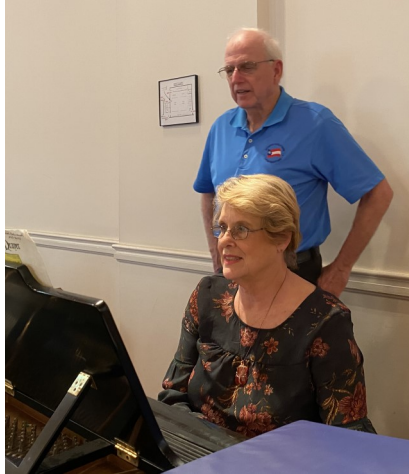
Birthday Dinner for Kevin prepared by Betty Crymes & Irene Martz



Easter Lilies blooming at the church



Hannan & Eli and Jonah & the Whale from Friday Children's Times



Scottie Edwards and Paula Jones preparing for online worship



Beth Gibbons & Jill Borchert deliver food to Betty Crymes at Heatherwood



Drive-In Worship Services are still a work-in-progress but have been a blessing to all involved thus far

Persons of the Week

June 7: Our Injured Children

Leigh Kim-Soh (Broken Arm)
 1 Benevue Drive
 Rome, GA 30161

Cannon Roberts (Broken Collarbone)
 2694 Old Rockmart Road
 Silver Creek, GA 30173-3125

June 14: Dalton McKnight (New Member)

90 East 2nd Ave, Apt. 303
 Rome, GA 30161

June 21: Giles Chapman

23 S Ivy Ridge Road SE
 Rome, GA 30161-3912

June 28: Edith Swint

418 East 8th Street
 Rome, GA 30161-3357

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

At-Home Communion



On Sunday, June 9, we will have communion ‘together’ in our homes. The blessed communion elements will be delivered to your door with a liturgy and instructions. You are invited to follow the instructions in the packet and participate in communion.

Prayer List

Congregation

Carl Alexander
 Susan Autry
 Donna Bledsoe
 Erma Braden
 Herb Brown
 Jim & Gerrie Burton
 Danny Carver
 Giles Chapman
 Nancy Davis
 Carolyn Garwood
 Jim Gibbons
 David Gresham
 Charles Griffin
 Mardelle Lynch
 Bill Pharr
 Edith Swint
 Dennis & Kathy Urquhart
 Vivian VanLandingham
 Carol Vogt
 LuAnn Williams

Friends & Family

Michelle Albers
 Katherine Ammons
 Linda Baker
 Terri Black
 Bowman Family
 Linda Brown
 Alfred Brumbelow
 Christian Camp
 Joanie Catron
 Cindy Cheatwood
 Don Eckles
 Chris Franssen
 Daria Giebler
 Jamie Griffin
 Patty Harvey
 Destiny Erica Head
 Greg Helms
 Jada Helms
 Khloe Hill
 Sue Hurley

JoAnn Jacks
 Larry Jacks
 Janie Jolley
 Garrett Jones
 Hannah Jones
 Megan Jones
 Pat Jones
 Milton Kahn
 Bill & Peggy Lanier
 Danny Lee
 Paula Lowder
 Lisa McDaniel
 Mason McKenzie
 Alex Mendez
 Jacob Mendez
 Tandalea Mendez
 Military Personnel
 John Morris & Family
 Sherry Nolan
 Diane Norrod
 Julie Ousley

Andy Peabody
 Peggy Pharr
 Connie Ray
 Deborah Reynolds
 Ruiz-Baleon Family
 Bonnie Thomas
 Alex Trebek
 President Trump
 Urquhart Family
 Tyson Waid
 Mary Whillock
 John Wiggin
 Sunny Wilkerson
 Jim Williams and Family
 Kennedy Williams
 Debbie Willis
 John Woodward
 Regina Wright

Pastor's Page



We have not been able to gather for almost 13 weeks now (scary music playing) and missed out on a lot of events. We missed Vesper's big party. We missed Tom Climer and Lynda Boggs' wedding. (Don't forget to call Lynda, Mrs. Climer now.) We missed out on the Holy Week and Easter. Four of our youth graduated: Chloe Duck, Michael Gibson, Kamdyn Chapman, and Madison McElroy. They didn't get to celebrate their graduation like high school and college seniors normally do. We missed out on a Mother's Day Banquet! We miss eating together and seeing each other. We miss talking to one another and hugging! We are such a happy bunch that it really hurts not to be together!

We've been in a crisis mode for the past 13 weeks and that's a long time. Our patience is wearing thin and we are getting antsy. Someone told me the other day that Baptists have started worshipping in their sanctuaries again. But with the average age of our congregation, we will take our time. My prayer is that no one from our congregation catches COVID-19. It may be inevitable but we are being very cautious. I am afraid that we will continue to practice social distancing, wear masks, and wash hands for another month or so.

During this time of isolation, gestation or hibernation (whatever you may call it), I became very aware of how blessed we are! We have dedicated people like Greg Gaston, Paula Jones, Scottie Edwards, Amy Astin, Phil Taylor, Nancy Clift, Randy Embree, and all of you! Your support for the church and our community has been steady and faithful. Thank you! There have been times when I was discouraged but you kept me going by your words of encouragement and prayer. Thank you!

As we move into June, we are getting our sanctuary and church facility ready for your returning. Please be assured that we are doing all in our power to keep our facility disinfected and equipped with essential supplies like hand sanitizers, masks, etc. I know that this COVID-19 situation is tough but I am filled with hope that God is doing something new in the midst of us. Please continue to pray for our church and each church member during this time. If you have concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to share with me.

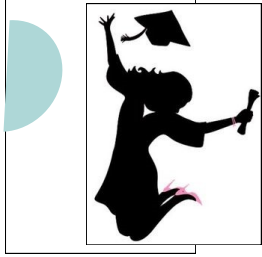
I thank God for all of you each and every day. In a crisis, we, Second Avenue UMC, really show our commitment to Christ and to one another. It truly is a beautiful thing to witness.

Love y'all,
Millie
Your Pastor

June Sermon Scriptures

June 07	Psalm 22:1-11 "All Seems Lost"
June 14	Psalm 13 "Doubt & Thought Distortions"
June 21	Psalm 46 "Pivoting"
June 28	Psalm 30:4-7, 11-12 "Morning Has Broken"

Congratulations to Our College Graduate



Madison McElroy
 c/o Tom & Cherie McElroy
 10 Gray Rock NW
 Rome, GA 30165

Online Children’s Time on Fridays

All our youngsters are invited to Children's Time every Friday at 11:00 a.m. on Zoom.
 Meeting ID: 914 7073 8746 Password: 6406

Drive-In Worship Continues

Our Drive-in Worship Service will be every Sunday until we move back into the sanctuary. Our target date is June 28. We have changed the time of the Drive-In Service to **9:00 a.m. instead of 11:00 a.m.** Rain or shine.

Blessings and Gratitude

Thank you so much for your kind remembrance. We must all be much in prayer during this time of trial. We know God is in control and holds the future in His strong Almighty hands. Even so, Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

With love,
 Amy Willis

Dear Second Ave. Family,

Thank you for all your prayers, phone calls, and visits even in a time of social distancing. As soon as I am allowed by my doctor and church is allowed to meet, I will resume joining you all for worship.

Giles Chapman

Dear Millie and Church,

Thank you for the masks which were donated to residents of Heatherwood Apartments. My neighbors and I have appreciated the kind gesture and have put them to good use.

Looking forward to gathering together again with church friends soon.

Betty Crymes

The Pharr’s miss you all. Sending love your way. ☺

Dear Millie,

Happy Spring. Loved the Easter greeting.
 The Eichenbergers

Hello dear Millie,

I so regret our not returning from the cabin in time for the parking lot service yesterday. Maybe next week. I have a devotion first thing each a.m. with the Bible reference in the Upper Room and those inspiring short short stories. My grandmother set that example before me years ago.

Love, Bev Woodward

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

June Birthdays

02 Erin Ables
06 Dottie Taylor
06 Jamie Jackson
07 Dan Emerick
07 Sally Farmer
09 Mary Sue Gilleland
14 Alex Ables
16 Bob Dodson
17 Eli Ables
17 Phil Franssen
18 Dalton McKnight
24 Cindy Smith
28 Susan Autry
29 Sarah Colombo

Our Vision: "Knowing Christ & Making Christ Known"

June Anniversaries

08 Wayne & Carol Fears
18 David & Norma Gresham
23 Scottie & Carol Edwards
24 Tim & Katie Flanery

Dollars for Scholars



We invite you to participate with our congregation as we collect funds for the Dollars for Scholars Program through the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation. The Dollars for Scholars Program awards college students scholarships up to \$4,000 per year to attend United Methodist-related schools. Two of our college students, Chloe Duck and Axel Baleon-Ruiz, have benefited from this program. This worthy cause was to be the focus of our Lenten Offering this year but the Offering got derailed due to the current pandemic so we encourage you to please pray and give as you feel led, designating your check to Dollars for Scholars!

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