

Second Helpings

OCTOBER 2026

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



Pastor's Page– Rev. Stephanie Hannah

Dear Church Family,

As the morning air turns crisp and the leaves begin to shift into brilliant shades of gold and red, we are gently reminded that creation is in a constant rhythm of change. October brings a welcome shift in the season—bringing with it the routine of fall festivals, autumn gatherings, and a fresh sense of focus as we look toward the final stretch of the year. In church life, October is always a bustling month. Our ministries and small groups are back in full swing, from Sunday School, United Women in Faith, Wednesday Bible Study Group, and Keenagers to our community outreach and mission projects.

It is often easy to allow this "season of busyness" to turn into a season of feeling burdened. Yet, Jesus offers us a wonderful invitation when life gets fast paced: *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."* My prayer for our congregation this month is that we do not just stay busy doing things *for* God, but that we slow down enough to rest *with* God also.

During this month, let us each commit to keeping our focus centered on what matters most:

- **Fostering Community:** Reach out to someone you haven't seen in the pews lately. A quick phone call or a warm cup of coffee can mean the world.
- **Remaining Faithful in Service:** Thank you for your continued prayers, giving, and presence that keep our church vibrant and alive in the community.
- **A Heart of Gratitude:** October is also a wonderful time to pause and appreciate one another, lifting up our church leaders, volunteers, and families who serve behind the scenes with joy.

Thank you for being a faithful part of this church body. May God fill your homes with His peace and your hearts with His grace throughout this beautiful autumn month.

Warmly in Christ,

Pastor Stephanie

October Liturgical Readings, Sermon Scriptures, and Sermon Titles

Oct 4	1 Thessalonians 20:12-24	Philippians 3:4b-14	"Nothing Else Compares"
Oct 11	Matthew 11:25-30	Philippians 4:1-9	"Surrender Brings Peace"
Oct 18	Psalms 103	1 Thessalonians 15:16-19	"Everyday Gratitude"
Oct 25	1 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Matthew 22:34-46	"What's Love Got to do with it?"

Preschool Sunday School Teachers Needed

If you are passionate about planting seeds of faith in young hearts, we have a wonderful opportunity for you. We are looking for enthusiastic, patient and dependable teachers to lead a new Preschool Sunday School class. Help us to help our littlest disciples discover God's love through storytelling, play, and creative activities. If you are willing and able to serve in this ministry, let Pastor Stephanie know.



Keenagers: The Bridges of Floyd County

Keenagers will be led by Beth Gibbons this month. Please join us in the fellowship hall on **October 15th at 12pm** for an exploration of the major bridges in Rome and Floyd County, and the people for whom they are named. Jump into our local history of Rome while enjoying great fellowship with us!

Bi-Monthly Service Opportunity

On **September 9th**, the Wednesday Bible Study Group prepared a meal for the residents of Brother's Place. Each month we will choose a new service project to do on the second Wednesday. On the fourth Wednesdays we do a card team ministry for the church family and friends as well as a prayer team ministry. We would love you to join us on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays every month!



Halloween-themed Fellowship Meal

On Wednesday October 28th at 6pm we will have a Halloween-themed fellowship meal hosted by Maria and Luis Baleon-Ruiz. The signup sheet is on the office bulletin board. Please plan to bring desserts and/or drinks to share with the crowd!

Joyful Ringers Handbell Choir Resumes Weekly Schedule

Our Handbell Choir has resumed weekly rehearsals, and we still have vacant spots! If you or someone you know reads music, please send them our way! Church membership is not required. Rehearsals are **Thursday nights from 6-7pm** in the fellowship hall. Please contact Pam Mullins for more information. (404-375-7594)



United Women in Faith

October is here with much more pleasant temperatures and just a hint of color starting to show in the trees. It's a great time to get out and join us at our next United Women in Faith meeting on **Saturday, October 10, 2026**. We start with **brunch at 10:00 a.m. (cost is \$5.00 per person)**, and we will be finished by 11:30 a.m. so you can get on with your Saturday activities. The menu will include some favorites like pumpkin spice, cranberry baked oatmeal, a sausage egg hashbrown casserole, fruit, juice, and coffee.

We have a special program planned for this month with a speaker coming from Hope4HeartsGA. Tonya Dean, founder of the organization, will talk to us about the important work this relatively new agency in Rome is doing to help single mothers in the community as they seek to raise their children. Through the kindness of donors, this organization has helped women with the following::

- rent & utilities
- food & clothing
- counseling services
- car expenses
- medical care
- Christmas gifts
- haircuts
- books and DVD's for children, highlighting character, integrity, virtue, etc.
- school supplies
- sports/activities equipment
- summer camps/activities



Please make a reservation with Cindy Smith (Call or text 706-346-0786 or email butlerjrt@gmail.com). I hope to see you on the 10th! Bring a guest!

Cindy K. Smith, president

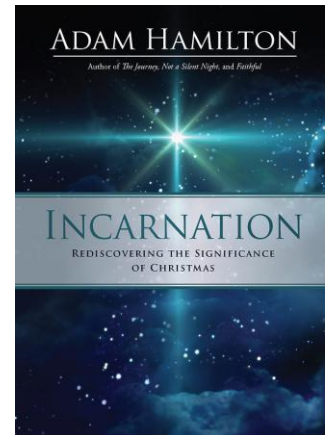
Annual Church Charge Conference

Our annual charge conference will be held at the church on **October 12th at 7pm**. We will be hosting Cave Spring UMC and Vann's Valley UMC. Please sign up outside the church office to bring a snack or drink to share!

Advent Bible Study

Pastor Stephanie will be hosting an advent Bible study on **Wednesdays at 1pm, December 2nd through the 23rd**. We will be using the book "Incarnation" by Adam Hamilton. Each book costs \$15, and signups must be received by the second Sunday of November to receive them in time. Please let Jordan or Stephanie know if you are interested! Here's the book's summary:

His parents gave him the name Jesus. But the prophets, the shepherds, the wise men, and the angels addressed him by other names. They called him Lord, Messiah, Savior, Emmanuel, Light of the World, and Word Made Flesh. In *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*, best-selling author Adam Hamilton examines the names of Christ used by the gospel writers, exploring the historical and personal significance of his birth. This four-week Advent study invites Christians of all ages to rediscover the Christ Child as a source of unity, healing, and light in uncertain times. This Advent season church families will come together to remember what's important. In the face of uncertainty and conflict, Christians reclaim the Christ Child who brings us together, heals our hearts, and calls us to bring light into the darkness. Now more than ever, we invite you to reflect upon the significance of the Christ-child for our lives and world today!



Paula Jones SURPRISE 80th birthday party!

On September 6th, Paula had a surprise birthday party luncheon hosted by her daughters and family. It was a huge success! Paula had no idea, and we all got to enjoy food, fellowship, and birthday activities.



Thank all of the church for being at my surprise party! You can really keep a secret! Love to you all!

Best church ever!

-Paula

October Mission Projects—Salvation Army Food Pantry

We are dedicating our mission efforts this month to helping Salvation Army stock their food pantry with the items needed. In addition to daily hot meals, Salvation Army provides food pantry items and grab-and-go snacks for families who need groceries. Because they have a good supply of certain items, **they are NOT requesting any of the following: Pasta, flour, sugar, ramen, or canned food items** (but they will accept flour/sugar in one-pound packages). Collection bins are in the Fellowship Hall. Please help as you are able. These are the items that would be most useful:

For grocery bag fill-ups:

Protein bars
Breakfast bars with fruit filling (like Nutri-Grain)
Cereal (boxed or individual serving size)
Instant grits/oatmeal
Powdered milk
Mac/Cheese, microwave or boxed
Instant mashed potatoes (pkg, or box)
Dried beans
Rice (1 lb. dry pkg.)
Stove Top Stuffing

Snack bag foods:

Vienna sausage
Tuna in packages
Small bags of chips
Trail mix, nuts
Fruit cups



October Mission Projects—Warm Clothing Drive



We are collecting all types of warm clothing in new, good, and usable condition, including:

Socks
Hats and caps
Gloves
Hand and foot warmers
Jackets
Sweaters
Boots
Scarves
Blankets

Items will be distributed to Salvation Army and Loving Others Ministry. Please bring items to the Fellowship Hall.

Persons of the Week

October 4:

Cindy Davis

291 West Dixie Hwy
Rutledge, GA 30663

October 18:

Lee & Rhonda Upshaw

P.O. Box 84
Lindale, GA 30147

October 11:

Sue & Terry Duck

7 Mt. Creek Drive SE
Rome, GA 30161-7917

October 25:

Anna Brooks

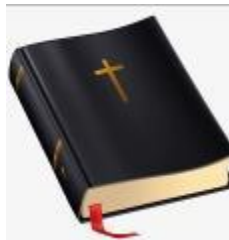
1700 Old Cedartown Hwy SE
Lindale, GA 30147

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

October Schedule

Liturgists:

10/04 Mike Colombo
10/11 Doug Meredith
10/18 Dennis Urquhart
10/25 Susan Stroup



Acolytes:

10/04 Kevin Baleon-Ruiz
10/11
10/18 Theo Kislat
10/25

Prayer List

Congregation

Genny Alexander
Donna Bledsoe
Anna Brooks & family
Gerrie Burton
Rose Collum
Cindy Davis
Nancy Davis
Erna Dobbs
Shirley Dodson
Sue & Terry Duck
Greg Gaston
Betty Hardy
Brooke & Avery Harris
John & Beth Kennedy
Harry Petersmarck
Bill & Cindy Pharr
Lib Rogers
Family of Jerry Waters
Pam Wilkey
Wayne Wilkey

Tracy Baker
Anne Barker
Elsie Bates
Myra Bates
Pam Bibb
Xander Bickers
Jeannie Blunt
Rev. Jane & David Brooks
Brooke Brown
Jimmy Brown
Chris Butler
Kathy Cason
Ruth Day
Davis Donahue
Stephanie Dunn
Cory Eads
Sally Farmer
Terry Ferguson
Roxanne Golden
Carol Gunter
Tom Hardman & Friends
Beckham Hutcheson &

Family

Hytowitz Family
Jessie (foster child)
Elissa Jacks
Kathy Jaryinan
Gloria Johnson

Garrette Jones
Henry Kennedy
Matthew King
Ivy Law
Pat Law Scot Leonard
Chad Lester
Angela Mackler
Sam Markin
Martha Martin
Family of Rev. Dr. Gary MacDonald
Haley & Will McDonald
Tom & Cheri McElroy
Blakely Messer
Pam Mills
Raymond Millwood
Terri Minor
Lucie Mitchell
Posey Mitchell
Ali Morales
Lynette Murphy
Camil Nedela
Holli Nix
Bo Payne
Jeremy Peace
Beth Pitt
Aimee Rank
Roger Ramey

Jane Reimers
Margaret Rodela
Mike Sarver
Mallory Saville
Orlando Shaw
Peaches Shaw
Nancy Sims
Mariss Snow
Ashley Spires
Shirley Stanton
David Stevens
Susan Tate
Michael Thomason
Nadia Vagnerova
Esperanza Vail
Pavel Wagner
Lori Watters
Family of Jill Wells
Peggy White
Alice Wiener
Mitzi Wilburn
Autumn Wilkey
Kennedy Williams
Morgan Wilson
Jalen Wofford
Lara Beth Wright
Tommy Yarborough

Friends & Family

Dusty Alexander
Justin Allen & Family
Madelyn Amerson
Dana Andrews
Dr. B

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"

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Message	1
October Scriptures	1
Volunteer Information	2
October Keenagers	2
Bi-monthly Service Group	2
Halloween Fellowship Meal	2
Joyful Ringers Update	3
October UWF	3
Charge Conference	4
Advent Bible Study	4
Paula's Surprise Party	4
October Missions Info	5
Persons of the Week	6
Liturgists & Acolyte Schedule	6
Prayer List	6
Birthdays & Anniversaries	7



Birthdays & Anniversaries:

If we haven't included your birthday or anniversary, please contact Stephanie in the church office (706.234.6406).

October Anniversaries

10/6 Juanita Underwood
10/23 Michelle & Cliff Gibson

October Birthdays

10/1 Kathy Urquhart
10/10 John Henderson Jr.
10/11 Margaret Gibson
10/19 David Hannah
10/22 Wayne Fears Jr.