

The Messenger



ROGERSVILLE U.M.C.
51 TURNER LINDSEY ROAD
ROGERSVILLE, ALABAMA 35652
rumc@rogersvilleumc.org

August, 2020

Hello, everyone! I can't believe that I have already been here at RUMC for a month. It has flown! I am so glad and excited to be here getting to know and become part of this wonderful faith family.

I have been thinking a lot lately about prayer – what it means to pray and what it means to listen to the One to whom I pray. We often talk about unanswered prayers. I love the fact that God gives us the grace and wisdom to look back and see that, sometimes, the things for which we prayed the hardest in the past are often not the things that give us the best and brightest future. God does not always give us what we wish for, but He always gives us what we need. So many times in my life, I have looked back and seen that what I received from God was so much better than what I wanted in the first place.

In one of my favorite Garth Brooks songs, he “thanks God for unanswered prayers” because the life he lives is incredible and irreplaceable.

I love the idea of unanswered prayers. And I have thanked God many, many times for those unanswered ones. But there is one type of prayer I love even more: when God answers prayers we did not even know to pray. Matthew 21:22 says “Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive.” When I was a younger Christian, I thought that this verse told me I could have anything I want if I really prayed for it. I focused on the “whatever you ask for.” Now, though, I want to focus on the next part: what you ask for with faith. As a maturing Christian, I understand that having faith means that I pray not for what I want for myself, but what God would have for me.

Because I cannot comprehend the fullness of God's plan, I do not know how to pray for the things that lead me to that plan. Praying in faith is to surrender what I want to what God wants for me. These are the prayers that I do not yet know to pray.

In many ways, coming here to Rogersville is one of those prayers I did not yet know to pray. I was content in my appointment and did not plan to move. I had only thought of Rogersville United Methodist Church a few times in my entire life. I did not pray to come here because I never thought about being here. But I did pray for God's will to be done – I prayed for God to send me and that I would answer.

So, here I am in a place and a new life that I did not know to pray for. And I could not be happier! God brought us together and has created a path for us to walk that is known only to Him. Let's surrender to His will and go where He sends us. Let's hold as tightly as we can to the miracle that God is still working in our midst and still has great plans for our future. Let's offer up full and complete faith that God will work in us and among us so that we can bring life to the world. What a glorious adventure!

Thank you for sharing this journey with me.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Holly



It has been almost a month since my family and I moved from Rogersville to Cullman. It was a bittersweet move for us. We had been in Rogersville for 8 years, our longest appointed to date. We knew everyone in the church. We knew where everything was and Kenley loved the school. We have so many friends in Rogersville it is impossible to even count all of them. But as United Methodists we know the time will come to move on. As I said it is bittersweet because we leave behind what we know and love but we also move into new ministries and new relationships.

We are getting used to Cullman and St. Andrews. We are starting to find our way around town and the church. We have met a lot of new people and are making new relationships here. Sherry is learning her way around a new store and getting used to her new job. Kenley starts school on Aug 19th, and attending classes in person for her senior year, we hope.

The family and I want to say thank you to so many of you. Thank you for the wonderful time and gifts on June 14th. It was far beyond what we expected and our gratitude and joy run deep for all of you. It was so great getting to see so many of you again and being able to say good bye in person.

Thank you to our loving and caring supporters for 8 years of wonderful ministry. It was not always easy, there were difficult times and so many of you continued to support us and love us to the very end. Even in difficult times you continued to support and check on us and aid my well being. We can never thank you enough for your support and love. You will always be special to us. I think of Rogersville UMC and the members and pray every day for God to bless all you.

We leave you in the very loving and wonderful hands of Rev. Holly Woodall. She is such an amazing pastor and preacher. I have known Rev. Woodall for many years and have always admired her ingenuity, passion and vision for worship. She deeply loves and cares for those whom God put in her care. I know you will love her as much as I do. I know she will love you and take great care of you.

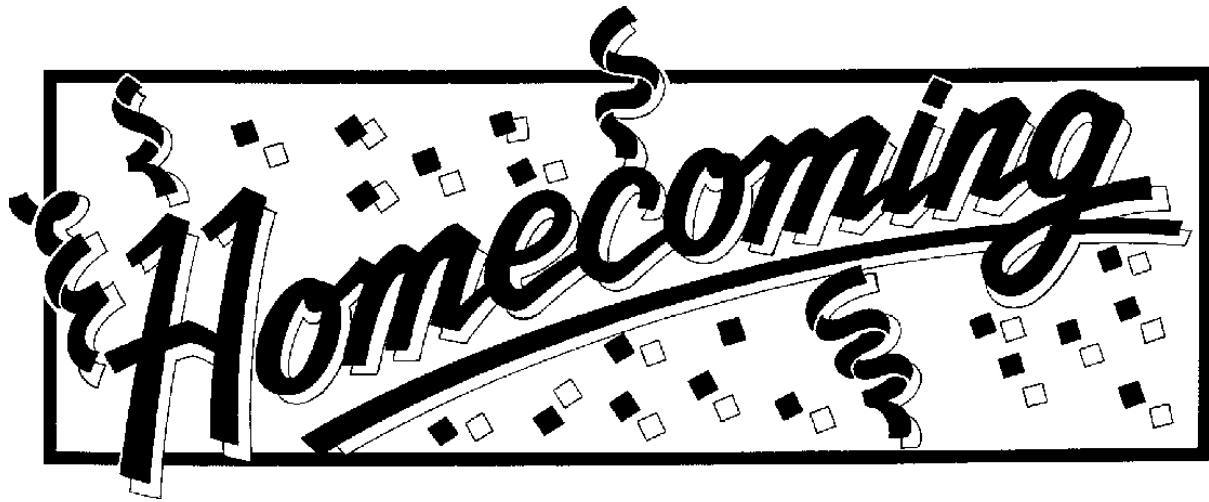
May God bless each of you. May He continue to pour out His love, mercy and grace upon the church and all of the ministries.

Bro. Robert Lancaster

Below are our figures through **July 31st**

General Fund Income	\$ 124,027.84
General Fund Expense	\$ 129,253.52
Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 1,070.00





Join us for a modified homecoming service this year. Homecoming is usually on the second Sunday of August. Since we will not be in the building on that day, we will reschedule as soon as we can all be together again. We will recognize member births and deaths, and family members during the service. We will not be able to have a meal this year due to COVID 19. We also will not have a decoration day this year at the cemetery.

Little Red School House



LRSH is accepting donations of the following items:

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Backpacks | Composition notebooks |
| # 2 pencils | 1" Binders |
| Erasers | Zippered pencil pouch |
| 24 count crayons | Divider sheets |
| Washable markers | Ear buds |
| Watercolor paint | Copy paper |
| Safety scissors | Kleenex |
| Glue sticks | Paper towels |
| Expo dry erase markers | Hand soap |
| Highlighters | Hand sanitizer |
| Construction paper | Disinfecting wipes |
| Primary journals | Disinfecting spray |
| Wide ruled loose leaf paper | |

Please call the office on a Monday or Thursday to drop off donations. Monetary donations are needed as well. They can be mailed to the church or dropped in the offering. Please indicate it to go to the LRSH.

The Youth Welcome Pastor Holly



Return Service Requested
May God Bless:

Rogersville U.M.C.
51 Turner Lindsey Road
Rogersville, AL 35652