

The Messenger



ROGERSVILLE U.M.C.
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July, 2020

Dear Friends,

Well it has been an interesting 6 months, filled to overflowing with the unexpected. When I said "yes" to Rev. Clem, agreeing to come to serve among you, I was expecting church as usual. Boy was I wrong. The past six months have challenged us, brought us to our knees, taught us the importance of working together and that we can trust God. Someone encouraged me to think about the fact that COVID19 days are like any new day.

You wake up in the morning and while your head is filled with your plans for the day, you never really knew what the new day will bring. Almost makes you wonder why we even bother to plan. But what if we/I would give up the foolishness of thinking we are in control? What if we planned, gave our plans to God and were willing to "recalculate?" One thing I have learned in the past and has been reinforced over the past 6 months is that when God is in control, you can expect the unexpected. But that did not stop us from being faithful followers. We have affirmed that serving God is about more than worship and sermons and classes and meetings. Serving God is about the people – it as the songs says so well – it is about holding God's people in our heart. You have done that. You have reached out to one another, reached out into the community and have reached out to your pastor. I should have been struggling with being isolated—I love being with people – but you took me in and made me one of your own. You made a difference in my life and have helped me endure and even thrive in this new season of time. God granted me that privilege, the privilege of being your pastor, to get to know you and I will always hold you in my heart and in my prayers. In I Thessalonians 1:2-4 it is written:

"Dear brothers and sisters, [b] we can't help but thank God for you, because your faith is flourishing and your love for one another is growing. 4 We proudly tell God's other churches about your endurance and faithfulness in all the persecutions and hardships you are suffering." Dear Friends, I can't help but give thanks for you.

Pastor Carol

A blue rectangular box with white text that reads: "I will go Lord if You lead me I will hold your people in my heart".



Tip of the Hat:

- ~To Kerry for all of her work on live streaming;
- ~to Tom and Sandy for measuring the sanctuary to establish social distancing practices;
- ~to Deshawn for working with getting sound for the "on the lawn" worshippers;
- ~ to Jane and Marlene for making masks for worshippers;
- ~to Amber and Tom for taking temperatures;

~To Jan for taking attendance;

~to the Ad Board for their leadership as many decision had to be made and still need to be made about reopening;

~to the donor of the sanitizing machine;

~to the youth who helped with sorting through clothes for Little Red School House and Amy's Attic;

~to Paula Phillips on receiving the Civitan Club's good citizenship award;

~To the Trustees for restoring power to the pavilion;

~to Susan for getting the office ready for Holly's arrival;

~to Tom for repairing the church sign out front;

~to each of you for being flexible and patient as we learned a new way of being church together.

Looking Forward

July 5 Pastor Holly's first worship service at RUMC- No Communion

Worship will be at 10:00 and at this time the plan (remember flexible) is for it to be in the DC. Entrance through the DC doors. Face masks required. Special seating for the folk who still feel vulnerable will at the upper level rail. Entrance through the glass doors near sanctuary. You may still attend by live stream and in the lawn.

July 19 The Pounding for Holly following worship

One Step at a time: We are all anxious for the church to be open and all activities to resume. Right now the building is closed except for worship, Little Lambs Day Care and Celebrate Recovery. Two weeks ago we opened the pavilion for small group meetings. More and more groups are taking advantage of this opportunity for fellowship and study. To reserve a day and time contact Kris at the office.

Once the new Cases Of COVID 19 decrease and maintain at a low level, we will consider opening other programs. All re-openings are a decision made by the Administrative Board. We do hear you asking to reopen the building, and appreciate your desire to resume your programs, but until it is safe, we will proceed with an excess of caution. Thank you for your patience.

Looking for volunteers:

To operate camera for live streaming – see Kerry

To set up sound system on the lawn – see DeShawn

To be part of an evangelism team that will greet our new neighbors – 30 some odd new houses = 30 some new families – see Pastor Carol

We are looking for brass players to join the praise band—see Troy

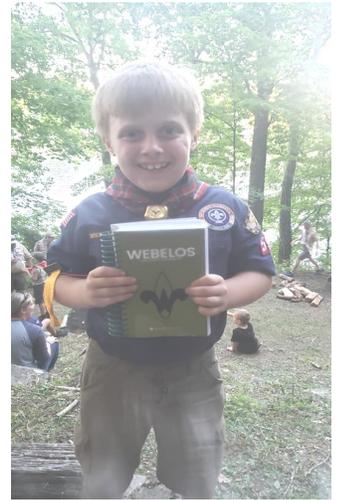


Big Changes at Little Lambs

We welcome Amber Smith-Bates as the new Director of Little Lambs. Amber has been with LLCC since they opened in June of 2018. She is currently working on her Associate's Degree in Child Development and plans to attend Calhoun College for her Bachelor's Degree.

Melanie Gallagher is the new Assistant Director. She has also been with LLCC since the beginning and is currently working on her Associate's Degree in Child Development.

Congratulations to Kenshin on becoming a Webelo!!



Due to a continued rise in COVID cases over the past several days it is with great regret that I had to make the decision to postpone the Graduation Recognition/Celebration. Our congregation will be notified once a new date has been set. We will continue to accept donations for the Love Offering for the grads. Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding.

Many Blessings,
DeShawn Mojica

Below are our figures through **June 26th**

General Fund Income	\$ 107,568.84
General Fund Expense	\$ 105,921.43
Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 920.00



**Pastor Carol's Last Sunday
Worship on the Lawn
Thank you, we will miss You!**



Thank you for the work done at the cemetery before Gordon's burial. We appreciate how nice everything looked. God Bless you all. Also, thank you to the church for the beautiful spray. Your cards and prayers were so appreciated!

The McPeters Family

Thank you for the beautiful throw given in memory of my mom, Nadine Waddell. I would also like to thank our church family for all the phone calls, cards, prayers and other acts of kindness. Mom loved her church and all her friends. She especially loved all the hugs you gave her.

Love in Christ, Jimmie Ann Hinton

Thank you very much for your gift of flowers. Your fellowship means the world to our family. We appreciate your love and encouragement!

Thank You

The Page Family

We would like to thank you for all for your acts of kindness shown to us during our loss. Thank you to all who brought food; the calls, texts and prayers. A special thank you to Pastor Carol for the beautiful service.

Gay Miller & Family

I'm doing well with my therapy. Thanks for your prayers, visits, calls and lovely cards. And, thanks so much for the lovely fruit basket.

Blessings to all, Sarah Ratliff

**Return Service Requested
May God Bless:**

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