

# The Messenger



ROGERSVILLE U.M.C.  
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September , 2020

Hello, everyone! I hope you are enjoying these last few weeks of summer. I am definitely a cardigan/hot chocolate/warm quilt kind of girl, so I am not that sad to see summer winding down. To say that this summer has been a whirlwind is a great understatement! The transition in pastors, wearing masks everywhere we go, and the need to move back for a while to worship outside the building have conspired together to make these last few months challenging. For me, they have been filled with hard work, hard decisions, and such a profound and overwhelming joy to be here becoming part of the RUMC family. I am so grateful for the warm welcome and willingness of so many people to jump in and help make things go as smoothly as possible. I already feel like I belong here and I look forward to a bright and exciting future for all of us!

As a pastor, I have been called many times to make – or at least participate in making – some incredibly hard decisions. But I find that this spring and summer, the season of Covid -19, has forced some of the most difficult decisions many of us have faced in the church. Trying to honor and balance the spiritual, emotional, and bodily health needs of our church family and community is a difficult path. I am so glad to have leaders stepping up and sharing in the decision-making process. It really highlights the strength and health of our church that we can listen to and support each other even in times when we may not be in full agreement as to how to move forward.

Being part of such a supportive group brings to mind a lovely bit of scripture, Proverbs 12:25: “An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up.” What a lovely word from our Lord! As we move into the fall and holiday season, let’s all strive to put forth a kind word every chance we get.

As Christians, we must speak kind words *to* and – perhaps even more importantly *about* – each other. The kind words we speak show our community the love, grace, and fellowship that mark our church as a special group of Christ-minded and Christ-hearted people. Let’s strive this month to continue speaking only words of kindness and grace, no matter the situation. People are watching and listening to God’s children in this strange and difficult season. Let’s give them reasons to rejoice and celebrate that God’s love and kindness is in full and constant supply through all we say, all we do, and all we are. Peace and blessings, beloved children of God, amen.

Pastor Holly

Below are our figures through **August 24th**

General Fund Income	\$ 138,857.83
General Fund Expense	\$ 140,007.47
Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 1,070.00



From The Administrative Board

I just want to thank everyone for their patience and support during this difficult time we are going through. The Administrative Council has been focused on how we can reopen the church building to groups safely. We are still following both the "Do No Harm" document from the North Alabama Conference as well as the CDC and State guidelines. Decisions have been difficult when all of these are considered. Factors we consider include the negative impact on individuals or the community of not providing these ministries versus keeping people safe. Spiritual health is a crucial component when we navigate through times like these. We are taking small steps in the upcoming weeks so again I ask for your patience. We will keep you informed through e-mail and with the Onecall phone messaging system. Feel free to contact myself or Pastor Holly if you have questions. Thank you all again, and please stay safe. In HIS service, Sam Moody, Chairman, RUM Administrative Council.

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I just want to say thank you one last time. Thank you for your prayers and your support while I was serving and thank you for your kind words and gifts as I returned to retirement. You made a difference in my life and your support was just the boost I needed as I grieved my beloved husband Bob. Thank you for being you and for allowing me to be your pastor and part of your family. May God bless you, even as you blessed me.

Pastor Carol

Thank you to all those who sent expressions of sympathy in the death of Faron's uncle, Norman White .

Faron & Jan White

Thank you for the beautiful flowers , they were greatly appreciated. God is amazing and it is wonderful to know that you still care.

Jamie Roberson and the family of Robert Baggett.

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I hope this newsletter finds everyone well and slowly moving to a sense of normalcy. The Children's department has been missing our kids. It will be nice once we can truly meet together again. One of the things that we always do at the end of summer is to have an end of summer bash and we plan to have one this year, just a little different. In September we plan to have a Come, Take and Go Picnic. We will be providing a brown bag meal of hamburgers and hotdogs with chips, a dessert, and a drink for you to pick up. We will also have some take home activities included in all the bags. We hope that you will come and join us. If you would like to help prepare to-go bags please contact Darby Allday.

Also we have been posting children's video lessons on Facebook Messenger. If you would like to receive these and are not in the group let Mrs. Darby know. If you are not on FB but would like a link let Mrs. Darby know your email address and she will be sure to send them to you.

Looking forward to seeing everyone soon.



## Graduation Sunday

September 13th at 10:00 a.m.

It is going to be a special day!

We invite you to join us as we celebrate our College and High School Graduates during the morning worship service. Let's come together and wish these young men and women, a bright future, as we share in prayer over each of them. They will each receive the gift of a love offering from the church. There will also be a table if anyone would like to leave a card for them.

### Parents of Graduates

If you have not emailed your graduates picture and info, please email me at [youth@rogersvilleumc.org](mailto:youth@rogersvilleumc.org), as soon as possible.



**Drive Through  
Trunk- n-Treat  
October 31st  
Time: TBA**

The RUMC Youth Group will host a Drive through Trunk—n -Treat on Saturday, October 31st. If you are interested in decorating your car or having a candy station for the event, please let DeShawn know. This will be an outside event with a rain date of November 7th. We will take all the necessary precautions to keep everyone safe as possible. Monetary donations or a donation of prewrapped candy would be greatly appreciated. If donating by check please put Youth in the memo line. As always thank you for your support! You can contact me via email or phone if you have any question. DeShawn at [youth@rogersvilleumc.org](mailto:youth@rogersvilleumc.org) or 256-702-5500



Currently our plan is to have Homecoming on All Saints' Day, November 1st. Traditionally, All Saints' Day is a time to honor the heroes of our faith. We will light candles to commemorate those church members we have lost and celebrate those who were born this year. More information will be provided soon.

### **Online ministry**

In June, we applied for and received a New Church Development grant of \$2,600 for online ministry. These funds are used to provide hardware and networking so that the worship service is now available to those who wish to worship with us live online. Church family locally and from miles away have connected together for worship online during this pandemic situation. We have also heard from viewers who have recently moved to the area. We're thankful for this opportunity to share God's word beyond the walls of the building! Anytime you are unable to attend worship in person, consider participating online. The live online worship is available on Facebook and is later posted on the church website.

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Return Service Requested  
May God Bless: