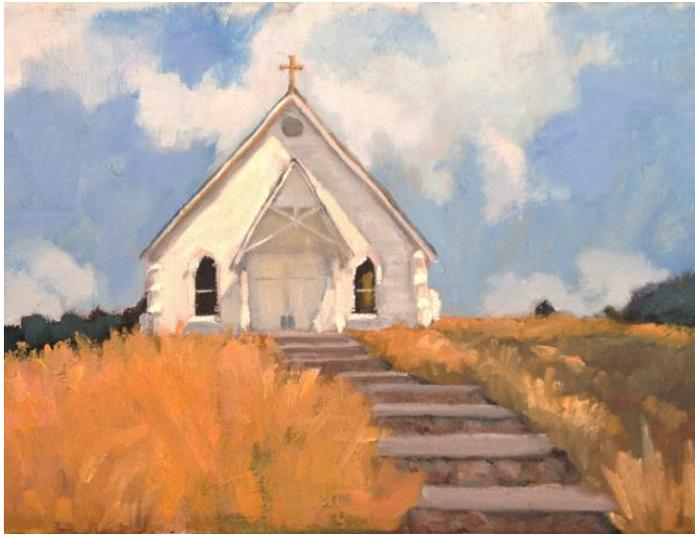


The  
Kresge  
Kourier  
August  
2021



ANNA KRESGE MEMORIAL  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH  
15 BOOGER HOLLOW  
ROAD  
CEDARTOWN, GA 30125  
*Rev. Ed Dickens*  
OFFICE 770-748-4308

From our Pastor's Heart .....

August 2, 2021

June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 was a big day in the life of the North Georgia Annual Conference and in mine!

3 persons were commissioned Provisional Deacons and 21 Provisional Elders. This group begins a three-year Residency process to prepare for Ordination in Full Connection.

5 persons were ordained deacons in full connection and 22 ordained as elders in full connection. I am blessed to be part of the later group. The total number represents two cohorts of approved ordinands; last year's class did not have the opportunity to be recognized during an annual Service of Licensing, Commissioning and Ordination since Annual Conference last year was all virtual.

While ordination marks the end of a required period of residency in ministry (3 years in our annual conference), it marks the beginning of being charged with more responsibility in the ministry of the general Church not just a local congregation. In full connection is a key and critical phrase.

There is an examination of those to be ordained during the service. Questions asked and answered in public witnessed by God, presided over by a resident bishop, and heard by all those present. This year in person and live streamed.

*As we stood on in God's presence Bishop Sue spoke these words:*

*"My sisters and brothers in Christ, you have been called to a commissioned or ordained ministry. The church now confirms your calling.*

*As commissioned or ordained ministers, you are to be coworkers with all the people of God: with laity, bishops, elders, local pastors, provisional members, diaconal ministers, deaconess, home missionaries, supply pastors, with all who serve God in the church.*

*Remember you are called to serve rather than to be served, to proclaim the faith of the church and no other, to look after the concerns of God above all.*

*So we may know you believe yourselves to be called by God and that you profess the Christian faith, we ask you:*

*Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of the ordained ministry? The candidates respond: **I do so believe.***

*Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?*

*The candidates respond: **I do so believe and confess.***

*Are you persuaded that the scriptures of the Old and New Testament contain all things necessary for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and are the unique and authoritative standard for the church's faith and life?*

*The candidates respond: **I am so persuaded, by God's grace.***

*Will you be faithful in prayer, in the study of the Holy Scriptures, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, continually rekindle the gift of God that is in you? The candidates respond: **I will, with the help of God.***

*Will you do your best to pattern your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ? The candidates respond: **I will, with the help of God.***

*Will you in the exercise of your ministry, lead the people of God to faith in Jesus Christ, to participate in the life and work of the community, and to seek peace, justice, and freedom for all people. The candidates respond: **I will, with the help of God.***

*Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church, accepting and upholding its order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline, defending it against all doctrines contrary to God's holy word, and to committing yourself to be accountable with those serving with you, and to the bishop and those who are appointed to supervise your ministry? The candidates respond: **I will, with the help of God.***

*Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the life of the order, into which you are commissioned or ordained? Will you give yourself to God through the order in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship, and service under the rule of life set forth in the vows you take this day? The candidates respond: **I will, with the help of God.***

*May God, who has given you the will to do these things, give you grace to perform them that the work begun in you may be brought to perfection. **Amen.***

There then follows the commissioning of provisional deacons and elders. I now fast-forward to the Examination of Elders. Again, standing before God we are examined by the bishop.

*"An elder is called to share in the ministry of Christ and the whole church: to preach and teach the word of God, and faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, to lead the people of God in worship and prayer; to lead persons in faith in Jesus Christ; to exercise pastoral supervision, order the life of the congregation, counsel the troubled, and declare the forgiveness of sin; to lead the people of God in obedience to Christ's mission in the world; to seek justice, peace, and freedom for all people; and to take a responsible place in the government of the church and in service in and to the community.*

*This is the rule of life and work of an elder.*

*Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of an elder? The candidates respond: **I so believe.***

*Bishop Sue then said:*

*"As these persons are ordained by God and the Church for the ministry of elders to which we believe they have been called by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for them.*

*We praise you, eternal God, because you have called us to be a priestly people, offering you acceptable worship through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Apostle and High Priest, Shepherd and Bishop of our souls. We thank you that, by dying, Christ has overcome death and, having ascended into heaven, has poured forth gifts abundantly on your people, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the word of ministry, to build up Christ's body, and to fulfill your gracious purpose in the world. Give to these your servants the grace and power they need to serve you in this ministry.*

*Make them faithful pastors, patient teachers, and wise counselors. Enable them to serve without reproach, to proclaim the gospel of salvation, to administer the sacraments of the new covenant, and to offer with all your people spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

Then Bishop Sue, Bishop Sharma Lewis, Rev (Dr) Jeff Ross, and Cindy laid hands on me while Bishop Sue said:

*"Almighty God, pour upon William E. Dickens the Holy Spirit, for the office and work of an elder in Christ's holy church. **Amen.***

*Ed, take thou authority as an elder to preach the Word of God, and to administer the Holy Sacraments and to order the life of the Church, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.***

*Friends, let us pray together and as we pray I invite the Church to extend your arms toward these persons.*

*Almighty God, may the grace of ministry rest upon these your servants and may the opportunity to serve lead them into the fullness of your calling. Clothe them with your righteousness, and grant that they may glorify you by giving themselves to others, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.***

*I present to you these newly ordained elders of the North Georgia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church!"*

I take seriously the responsibility to carry out that which I have been called to by God and charged to do by the Church. The examination during the Service of Licensing, Commissioning, and Ordination is full of serious thought and questions. The questions are far more than symbolic and represent just a little of the examination we have been through to be approved for ordination in full connection. In my case, during four years of Residency in Ministry.

Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior of all, His Word – The Holy Scriptures as found in the Old and New Testament are the inerrant Word of God and contain all things necessary for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. God establishes boundaries for our greater good and directs us on the path He would have us follow through the Holy Scriptures. I will preach and teach from The Bible. I have been, am and will be loyal to The United Methodist Church, accepting and upholding its order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline, as currently defined by the General Conference. I will defend it against all doctrines contrary to God's holy word, and I commit myself to be held accountable to those defining standards of our Church.

May God find our worship and service pleasing and acceptable as we continue to journey with Him. In His grip, Rev Ed



**Kresge's Monday Small group along with Outreach will be hosting another POP-UP LUNCH at the Cedartown United Fund on Friday, August 27.**

**Volunteers are needed here at Kresge on Friday morning beginning at 10:30 to pack the sack lunches.**

**If you cannot be here at 10:30, we could use some help serving at Cedartown United Fund at 11:45.**

**This is a good way of ministering to our community. We would love to have you join us!**



**SAMARITAN**  
*Hope, Healing, and Change. house*

Please remember to bring supplies for the Samaritan House the first Sunday of each month. The Samaritan House is open on Tuesday and Thursday. Volunteers this month are:  
Aug 3 - Debra Willingham \* Aug 5 - Joan Billingsley  
Aug 31 Judy Cook



*K.L.M.*  
*Kresges' Ladies' Ministry Updates*

A big thank you to all the ladies who showed up last Saturday for clean up day at Kresge. Lots of work was done and lots of sore backs, but it was a great start.

**Also, here are some dates for all our ladies to put in their calendars:**

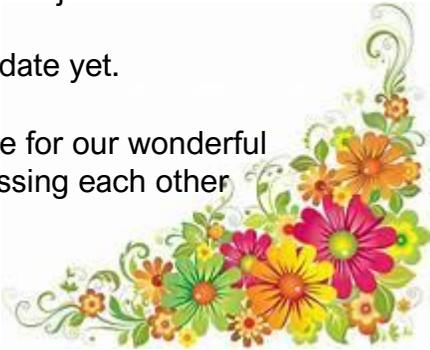
**\*\*August 12th-** Ladies game night-6:00 p.m. Bring your favorite snack to share. This will be our meeting for August.

**\*\*September 21st-** 6:30 p.m.-Planning meeting for our upcoming activities. We are talking about a luncheon for our shut-in ladies. Also, a thanksgiving meal is being planned. We really do have fun planning and laughing together, so come join us.

**\*\*December-** Out to eat for fun. Haven't set a date yet.

All ladies are invited to any of these activities. This is a great time for our wonderful ladies to enjoy being together, laughing, talking, and truly blessing each other as we travel this wonderful road together.

Hope to see you there!



# August



# 2021

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
<p>1 Sunday School Reopen</p> <p>Worship @ 10:55 Social distancing Masks required</p> <p>Isaiah 1-4</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Small Group 4:30</p> <p>Isaiah 5-9</p>	<p>3 S.H.- Debra Willingham</p> <p>Isaiah 10-14</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Isaiah 15-21</p>	<p>5 S.H.- Joan Billingsley</p> <p>Clothing Bank 10 -12 (McBrayer Furniture)</p> <p>Isaiah 22-26</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Clean Team: Moody, Masi</p> <p>Isaiah 27-31</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Isaiah 32-37</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Worship @ 10:55 Social distancing Masks required</p> <p>Isaiah 38-42</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Small Group 4:30</p> <p>Isaiah 43-46</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Tues. Morn Prayer Group 10:30 am</p> <p>Isaiah 47-51</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Isaiah 52-57</p>	<p>12</p> <p>K.L.M. Game Night 6 pm</p> <p>Isaiah 58-63</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Isaiah 64-66</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Jeremiah 1-3</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Worship @ 10:55 Social distancing Masks required</p> <p>ONEBOARD 6:00</p> <p>Jeremiah 4-6</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Small Group 4:30</p> <p>Jeremiah 7-10</p>	<p>17 Tues. Morn Prayer Group 10:30 am</p> <p>Jeremiah 11-14</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Jeremiah 15-18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Small Group 11:30</p> <p>Jeremiah 19-22</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Clean Team: Edge, Cook, Willingham</p> <p>Jeremiah 23-25</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Jeremiah 26-28</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Worship @ 10:55 Social distancing Masks required</p> <p>Jeremiah 29-31</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Small Group 4:30</p> <p>Jeremiah 32-33</p>	<p>24 Tues. Morn Prayer Group 10:30 am</p> <p>Jeremiah 34-36</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Jeremiah 37-40</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Jeremiah 41-44</p>	<p>27</p> <p>POP UP LUNCH</p> <p>Jeremiah 45-48</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Jeremiah 49-50</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Worship @ 10:55 Social distancing Masks required</p> <p>Jeremiah 51-52</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Small Group 4:30</p> <p>Lamentations 1-2</p>	<p>31 SH - Judy Cook</p> <p>Tues. Morn Prayer Group 10:30 am</p> <p>Lamentations 3-5</p>				