

Vanna
United Methodist Church

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything but I can do something. And what I can do, I ought to do. And, by the grace of God, I will do."

Easter Sunday
April 16, 2017



GREETING

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise the Lord in the heights!

We praise the name of the Lord, whose name alone is exalted, whose glory is above earth and heaven.

CALL TO WORSHIP Beloved church, behold the victory of our God: Jesus, our Lord, has conquered the grave.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Sin and death shall reign no more.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Let this place resound with joy.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God.

OPENING PRAYER

O Lord, your wondrous birth means nothing unless we are born again, your death and sacrifice mean nothing unless we die to sin, your resurrection means nothing if you be risen alone. Raise and exalt us, O Savior, both now to the estate of grace and hereafter to the state of glory; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, God forever and ever. Amen

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS Listen, church: God who raised Jesus from the dead has not given us over to death. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***HYMN of PRAISE** Come, Christians, Join to Sing # 158

APOSTLES CREED (Ecumenical Version) pg 882
Gloria Patri # 70

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

God of power and majesty: With the rising of the sun you have raised Jesus Christ and delivered him and us from death's destruction. We praise you on this bright day for all your gifts of new life. Especially we thank you for all victories over sin and evil in our lives . . . for loyalty and love of friends and family . . . for the newborn, the newly baptized, and those now in your eternal home . . . for the renewal of nature . . . for the continuing witness of the church of Christ . . .

God of eternity: You are present with us because of Christ's rising from the dead, and you persist in lifting us to new life in him. We bring to you our prayers for this world in need of resurrection. Especially we pray for nations and peoples in strife . . . for the poor and impoverished, at home and abroad . . . for those we know in particular circumstances of distress . . . for the diseased and the dying . . . for all who follow the risen Christ . . . through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray . . .

LORD'S PRAYER

895

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God has given us life in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In gratitude, let us offer our hearts and the fruit of our labor to God's service. (Please give generously to our Easter Love Offering in honor of our District Superintendent, DR Gary Whetstone's retirement.)

OFFERTORY

The Doxology

95

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives in union with our risen Lord who lives and reigns with you forever. **Amen.**

***HYMN of PREPARATION** Lift High the Cross # 159

EASTER SPECIAL

Becky Higgins

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Living God, by your Holy Spirit, open our eyes to see the new light of this day; open our lips to tell of the empty tomb; open our hearts to believe the good news; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE John 20:1-18

SERMON Can You Say, "I Have Seen The Lord?" Pastor Ed

***HYMN OF INVITATION** Because He Lives # 36

CHARGE

Receive the good news: Christ is risen from the dead. Tell the good news: the power of death shall no more oppress us. Live the good news: we are free to love as he has loved us.

BLESSING

May God who raised Jesus from the dead bless you and by the power of the Holy Spirit raise you with him in glory.

**Please stand if you're able*

Read Through the Bible

This past week we read Ex 5-8, 1 Sam 21-25, Ps 42-44, Job 29-30, Jer 12-16, Mark 9-10, 1 Cor 13-14. This week we will read: Ex 9-12, 1 Sam 26-31, Ps 45-47, Job 31-32, Jer 17-21, Mark 11-12, 1 Cor 15-16

-Each day Pastor Ed posts selected verses from our daily reading WITH a devotional thought on Vanna UMC's Facebook and blog pages – [HTTP://WWW.VANNAMETHODSITCHURCH.COM/](http://www.vannamethodsitchurch.com/). Please join in, make a comment, share with each other what God puts on your heart. Invite friends to read and pray.

Upcoming Future Special Offerings

Apr 16 – Easter Love Offering in honor of our District Superintendent, DR Gary Whetstone's retirement.

Apr 30 – General Conference Native American Ministries Sunday

June 4 – Annual Conference Special Offering

June 11 – General Conference Peace with Justice Sunday

Church Calendar – Future Events

Every Wednesday – Coffee and Conversation 9 am, Parsonage

Every Monday Evening - Bible Study, 7 PM, Parsonage

Apr 30 – Farewell Reception for Gary & Diane Whetstone, Watkinsville First UMC, 3 PM

May 8 – UNG Wesley Golf Tournament, Achasta Golf Club

May 21 – Vanna UMC Homecoming, no service at Carnesville UMC; Athens-Elberton Pre-Conference Briefing, 3 pm, Tuckston UMC, Athens, Ga

Jun 4 – Carnesville UMC Celebration of Ministry and Closing Service, no service at Vanna UMC

Jun 13-15 – North Georgia Annual Conference, Classic center, Athens, Ga (Jun 14 – Service of Ordination and Commissioning, 7:00 PM)

Homecoming - May 21st

It is rumored the Dove Sisters will lead the pre-service music hour. We ask you to begin to pray for this wonderful time of celebration and remembrance in the life of our congregation. **Spend some time sorting through your memories. There will be a time in the service to share your favorite memory, your saddest memory and to describe what you think God wants us to be in 20 years.**

OUR CHURCH CARES

How may we Pray for you? Where is our Presence needed? How may we support you or others with our Gifts? How may we Serve you?

How may we share our Witness and Testimony?

contact Pastor Ed.

Cell 706.265.9229

Church Office 706.384.2232

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VANNA PRAYER LIST

Please remember to pray for all of the people we are currently carrying on our prayer list and for our servicemen and women, wherever they serve. Also, please remember, there are many who are unnamed who need our prayers.

J. D. & Dianne Hollis	Joe Ballenger	Ken Ashley
Austin Mabry	Lee Kraul	Elaine Allen
Jane Jordan	Deborah Rice	Nancy Foreman
Rev. Terry DeLand	D. C. Lang	Martha Mueller
Frances Osley	Grace Branyon	Ben Funderberg
Virginia Dickerson	Ethan Coker	Sally Matthews

Please pray for our country and for our service men and women wherever they serve.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rainbow Pantry served 24 families this week, a total of 68 individuals. Please remember this ministry with your prayers and gifts.

Wednesday Mornings @ 9:00 A.M. – Coffee and conversation at the parsonage.

Please list any items which you see that may need repair or some special clean-up as we prepare for Homecoming on May 21st so that any supplies needed can be purchased prior to cleanup day. Please give your list to any trustee prior to next Sunday.

APRIL BIRTHDAY LIST

Jennifer Holcombe, 4/4	Karlee Ford, 4/4
Carol Brown, 4/16	Pastor Ed Dickens, 4/22

4/16/2017

THINK ABOUT THIS:

JUDAS HAD: The Best Pastor - The Best Leader - The Best Teacher

The Wisest and Closest Friend.

And he failed . . .

The problem isn't the leadership or the church you go to.

If your attitude doesn't change or character isn't transformed.

You will always be the same.