

# The Kresge Kourier July 2021



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

From Rev Ed's Heart....

June 28, 2021

The next few weeks we are exploring the Holy Spirit within in our own spirit in our sermons...

7.4 Scripture Acts 13:44-14:28, Sermon - The Courageous Spirit

7.11 Scripture Isaiah 63:7-19, Sermon - Do Not Grieve the Spirit

7.18 Scripture Acts 2, Sermon - Do Not Quench the Spirit

7.25 Scripture Acts 7, Sermon - Do Not Resist the Spirit

8.1 Scripture Matt 12:25-37 (Hebrews 10:28-29), Sermon - Do Not Insult the Spirit

8.8 Scripture Acts 1:1-2:47; John 20:22, Sermon - Receive the Holy Spirit

I am using a few of Dennis Kinlaw's This Day With the Master devotions as starting points.

Please pray for God's Holy Spirit to move. To move in me, to move in you, to move in us as a congregation and to move in our community. Pray for Holy Spirit to renew, refresh and revive our hearts, our minds, our spirits, and our souls. May the move start on our knees in our homes, as we sit in the pews of our sanctuary, as we enjoy the summer sunshine, as we go to our places of employment, as we seek opportunities to share the love of Jesus with others.

Pray the prayer to the Holy Spirit: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in us the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same, Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy your consolations. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Cindy and I may be out of town the last weekend in July. My mother's interment service is July 24 in Johnson City, Tennessee, so we may have guest preacher on July 25<sup>th</sup>. If so the last three sermons in this series will slip by a week.

We give thanks and praise and are so appreciative of all the work done to update the parsonage over the last few weeks. New roof, new windows, and soon new insulation! Thank – you! Thank – you! Thank – you!

Reach out to those who haven't returned to worship from the COVID Pause. As of today, in Polk County the daily new case rate per 100k people (7 day moving average) is 1 and the Daily new cases (7 day moving average) is .4. It is safe to get out, to interact with others. We encourage anyone who hasn't been vaccinated to do so.

Reach out to your neighbors, co-workers, the person watching you check yourself out at the store, invite them to come to worship services, invite them to Sunday school (starting up soon) and or to small group meetings in the middle of the week.

In His grip, Ed



7/6 Kaci Moates  
 John Roberts  
 7/9 Linda Stanton  
 7/11 Ann Wood  
 7/12 Gaynell Owens  
 7/15 Deana Serafin  
 7/19 Charlie Self  
 7/23 Jay O'Neal  
 7/25 Marian Williams



## Happy Anniversary

7/3 Ronnie & Beth Haynes  
 7/19 Mark & Michelle Meyers  
 7/20 Russ & Debbie Edge  
 7/24 Mac & Lou Pletcher

We Greatly Appreciate  
 Gifts Given;  
 In Honor of -  
 Rev. Ed Dickens Ordination  
 In Memory of -  
 Ed & Cindy's Mothers

The **Monday Small Group** meets at Kresge from 4- 6 pm. We are studying The book of Acts, and are also making "Blessing Bags" for the Cedartown United Fund.  
 On June 25<sup>th</sup> our small group will join the Worship Team in serving a pop-up lunch for the clients of the Cedartown United Fund.

The **Thursday Morning Small Group** is meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays this summer. Our Clothing Bank has been moved to McBrayer Furniture Store. We hope this will bring in more people. We are doing open discussions on current events during the summer.

The **Tuesday Small Group** is not meeting During the summer months.

## Ladies'

To all the Ladies of Kresge,  
 We are starting a ladies group that will meet once a month, for fun, fellowship and some outreach activities. We are so excited to meet as women and work *Ministry* together. We already have some fun ideas in mind for the upcoming months. Every woman at Kresge is invited. Won't you join us?  
 Our next meeting is July 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the church fellowship hall.  
 Contact person is Cindy Dickens.



Everyone, we need your help. Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, we will have a church cleanup day inside our Sunday School rooms and any other room that needs cleaning. Since we have been unable to get together as much with COVID, it is time to spring into action and get ready to fellowship at Kresge once again. We will start at 10:00am. A light lunch will be provided, so bring a smile and come 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:  
 July 6 - Linda Stanton \* July 8 - Marian Williams

## North Georgia Annual Conference June 2021

### CLERGY EXECUTIVE SESSION

William E. Dickens (Rev Ed) elected as member in full connection.

William E. Dickens (Rev Ed) approved for ordination and was ordained on June 5, 2021.

An Annual Conference gathering of Clergy is scheduled for Aug 12, 10-12.

Rev Ed re-appointed to Kresge as Pastor-in-Charge as a Full Connection Elder

### BUSINESS SESSION

1331 Lay Delegates

1331 Clergy Delegates

2662 Total Delegates

Lowest vote total was 1155, highest vote total was 1357 (many delegates did not participate)

By a vote of 957 yes, 201 no, 44 abstaining \$2,972,044 Wesley Campership Fund, which provided scholarships for underprivileged children and youth to attend camp was reallocated and given to North Georgia Camp and Retreat Ministry capital endowment to fund infrastructure.

By a vote of 1153 yes, 28 no, 14 abstaining the Commission on Equitable Compensation recommendation not to propose an increase to 2022 minimum compensation was approved.

Estimated Costs associated with a Full Connection Elder: (pg 82 AC Handbook)

Minimum Total Compensation	\$40,000 (Sec I & II of the Clergy Financial Support Worksheet)
Minimum Housing allowance	\$17,600 (not applicable to Kresge – parsonage)
Pension	\$9,820
Health Insurance	\$15,000
Continuing Education	<u>\$800</u>
Total Estimated Cost	\$83,220

Minimum Standard for Church-provided parsonages can be found on page 83-88

“it is expected that measures will be taken by the local church to bring their parsonages within these standards as soon as possible.” (lines 43-44, pg 83) ... “All parsonages shall be updated or renovated to conform as nearly as possible to the suggested minimum standards in the guidelines which were approved by the annual conference in 2016. Any parsonages not meeting the standards must be approved for usage by the district superintendent on an annual basis.” (lines 3-7, pg 85)

Two items listed on page 84 jump out:

#4. Climate control: Central heat and air are required, along with insulation to meet present day building codes. Energy efficient windows and doors are to be provided in order to conserve energy.

#11. Wiring/Plumbing: All wiring and plumbing must conform to present day codes and are to provide for present and future needs in order that all appliances and computer equipment may be used safely. All receptacles must be properly grounded.

Our One Board/Trustees have taken measures to have a new roof put on the parsonage and are in the process of purchasing/installing new energy effect windows and approving re-insulating the attic. Completion of these actions will bring #4 into compliance.

Most of the plugs have been rewired with grounded plugs. Though several remain that are ungrounded. It may be a good idea to bring an electrician in to give an opinion.

“It is recommended that the church’s annual budget include a parsonage fund equivalent to at least 3% of the value of the property for the purpose of repairs, maintenance, pest control and insurance. Unused yearly funds should be placed in an interest-bearing account to be used for capital expenses of the parsonage to include the future purchase of a new parsonage when the current one does not meet minimum parsonage standards.” (lines 25-30, pg 85) We need to take this under consideration as we build the 2022 budget.

“Every parsonage shall have a parsonage file” (line 34, pg 85) To my knowledge there is not a file like this.

## FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Fund Balance Report shows the Annual Conference has \$77,099,350 fund balance as of 12.31.2020 an increase off \$26,112,106 from end of 2019.

The Council of Finance and Administration reports: The 2020 NGC budget decreased 7.8% from the previous year. The 2021 budget led to an additional 19% reduction. The proposed 2022 budget totals \$17,099,834, which results in a 5% decrease. Conference employees did not receive a pay increase in 2021. The 2022 budget includes a 2.3% increase for district superintendents and a 2.2% increase for other conference staff.” (lines 12-16, pg 97)

Clergy appointed to the UM Center (Conference Hqs) receive housing allowance of \$32,749 per year and utility allowance of \$5000 per year) (\$37,749 total)

\$1,500,000 is allocated for 8 District Superintendent's Compensation (salaries, health insurance and pension benefits)  $\$1,500,000 / 8 = \$187,500$

## RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 701. Recognizing Our Role in Segregation and the Central Jurisdiction (pg 149) was approved 881 yes, 232 no, 86 abstain.

Resolution 702. Resolution Reducing Suicide Among At-Risk Native Americans (pg150) was approved 1095 yes, 64 no, 46 abstain.

Resolution 703. Resolution in Support of the Protocol of Grace and Reconciliation through Separation (pg 151) was approved 759 yes, 414 no, 84 abstain.

Resolution 704. Resolutions Relating to Rental/Housing Allowances for Retired, Disabled, or Former Clergypersons of the North Georgia Annual Conference (pg 152-153) was not voted on.

“Churches receiving new pastors shall pay the moving expenses of the clergy, not to exceed \$6,000. (lines 31-32, pg 160) We need to address in budget build 2020/review our progress toward this amount)

Several motions to amend the standing rules were approved – these reduced the number of members on different administrative committees.

Rev Ed was re-elected to serve on the Conference Housing and Homeless Council class of 2018.

Rev Ed is appointed to serve on the District Strategic Growth Team.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Willingham  
One Board Chair, Lay Delegate to Annual Conference, Lay Leader

Ed Dickens  
Pastor-in-Charge



# July



# 2021

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
				1  Clothing Bank 10-12 (McBrayer Furniture)  Psalms 36-39	2  Psalms 40-45	3  Psalms 46-51
4  Worship @ 10:55 Social distancing Masks required  Psalms 52-59	5  Small Group 4:30  Psalms 60-66	6  Tues. Morn Prayer Group 10:30 am S.H.- Linda Stanton  Psalms 67-71	7  Psalms 72-77	8  S.H.- Marian Williams  Psalms 78-80	9  Clean Team: Moody, Masi  Psalms 81-87	10  Psalms 88-91
11  Worship @ 10:55 Social distancing Masks required  Psalms 92-100	12  Small Group 4:30  Psalms 101-105	13  Tues. Morn Prayer Group 10:30 am  Psalms 106-107	14  Psalms 108-118	15  Small Group 11:30  Psalms 119	16  Psalms 120-131	17  Psalms 132-138
18  Worship @ 10:55 Social distancing Masks required  ONEBOARD 6:00  Psalms 139-143	19  Small Group 4:30  Psalms 144-150	20  Tues. Morn Prayer Group 10:30 am  Kresge Women 6:30  Proverbs 1-3	21  Proverbs 4-7	22  Proverbs 8-11	23  Clean Team: Edge, Cook, Willingham  Proverbs 12-15	24  Proverbs 16-19
25  Worship @ 10:55 Social distancing Masks required  Proverbs 20-22	26  Small Group 4:30  Proverbs 23-26	27  Tues. Morn Prayer Group 10:30 am  Proverbs 27-31	28  Ecclesiastes 1-4	29  Ecclesiastes 5-8	30  Ecclesiastes 9-12	31  Song of Solomon 1-8