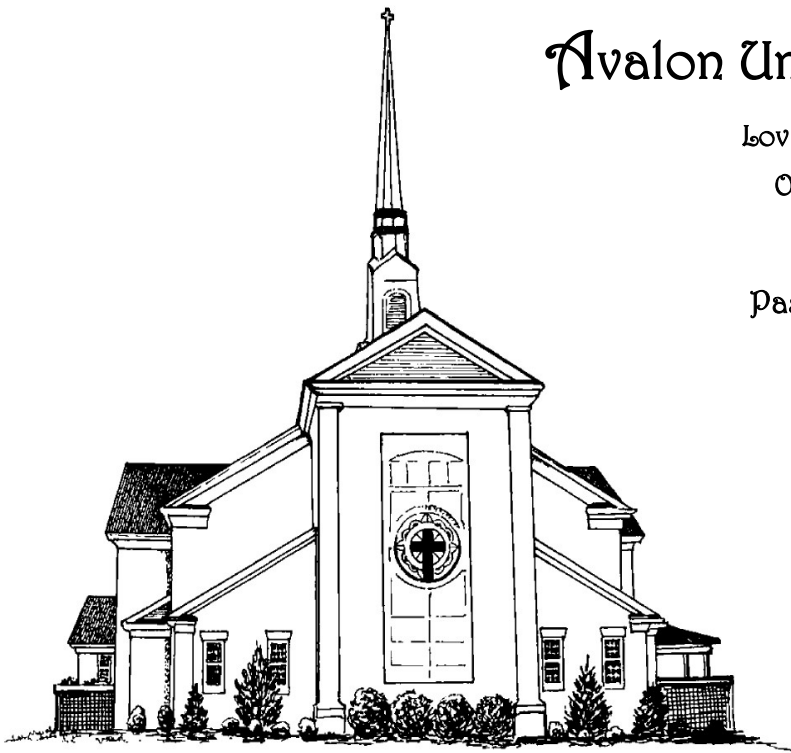


Avalon United Methodist Church

Loving God, Loving People
On Our Christian Journey

Pastor Debbie Cong

March 1, 2019



Revival

For too many lives "what could have been" is true! God sees what truly "could be"! HE wants us to experience true personal Revival. Experiencing personal Revival starts with personal surrendering our lives to God! Genesis 32, is about the end of pride and self-sufficiency in Jacob's life when he met with God. Jacob had been taught the truth by his parents and grandparents but chose to live his life on his own terms, like we often do as well.

As we look at Genesis 32: 9 we see he prayed and there is always hope for men and women that pray! Jacob felt ashamed vs.10, afraid vs.7, alone vs. 24, but when he prayed he also plotted, for his own way. Always beware of doing your own thing. Prayer should be desperation not deliberations.

Later Jacob was alone with God and had to make a choice to live by God's promises or by his own scheming! We also have to make choices like Jacob....

Choices:

- Submission or Self-assertion
- Dependence or Defiance
- Reliance or Resistance

God wants us to get alone with HIM!!! HE has plans to confront, convict, correct and change us, that's real Revival! Jacob begins wrestling against God, now he is wrestling for God!

Look at the results:

- A New - Identity- Israel (vs 28)
- A New - Vision of God (vs 30)
- A New - Beginning (vs 31)
- A New - Opportunity to witness (vs31)

Jacob means twister and cheater. God ask Jacob "what's your name"? Really?? HE wanted Jacob to admit his nature. We like Jacob don't have to struggle, just Surrender and we will experience Revival!!!!

Praying I will see you at Avalon UMC, March 10th- 13th at 6:30 pm. Believing God for great and mighty things to happen in each of our lives as we surrender to HIM!

Blessings on you,
Pastor, Debbie

Congregational Prayer for The United Methodist Church

Sunday, February 24, 2019

Gracious and loving God, who leads, teaches and guides, You who offer compassion, grace and mercy, be with us now. We passionately seek Your presence during challenging times and circumstances and we trust that you are moving and around our lives.

We, as one part of your Body, the Church, go into the days and weeks ahead seeking to discern Your deep desire for us as The United Methodist Church. Give us courage as we continue to live and respond to Your invitation to be Your hands, feet, and voice.

We ask for a fresh wind of Your Spirit and guidance for each of us as individuals, for the faithful congregations, and for this global community of United Methodists. We ask for Your wisdom and presence for those among us who have been called to serve as delegates as the Special Session of General Conference gathers today.

Grant them clarity and a discerning spirit as they seek to listen for You in their midst.

Reveal to them Your deep desire for our future as a church.

Give them and us the faith to lay aside our personal wants and needs so that we can be truly present to You, sit with You in reverence and awe, and listen deeply for the still small voice that woos us, comforts us and invites us to that place where we can live fully and wholly into the Kingdom life that You desire for us.

We lay all this before You as the deep desire of our hearts and minds in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen

Notes from the choir.....

Spring has sprung in South Georgia! As I'm writing this, we are in a stretch of 80+ degree FEBRUARY days, with no frost predicted in the near future. Those of you who know me know how much I enjoy SHORTS weather! Hopefully though we are not back in the frost by the time the newsletter arrives...



Our Easter cantata is coming quickly; it will be **Good Friday evening, 4/19, at Avalon United Methodist Church at 7pm.** We are hoping to have some of our guest singers back, and always enjoy the chance to challenge ourselves as a choir. I am constantly amazed by the dedication, patience, and talent of our choir members. Please support them for all the hard work they put in.

Last, as we enter the Lenten season, we are entering a time to repent, reflect, and ask some hard questions of ourselves. You may notice the music reinforcing this. Lenten music is characterized by its quiet, somber mood, serious topics, and minor key settings. This is designed to encourage reflection and personal time with God. You may recognize this in famous hymns such as *Ah Holy Jesus*, and *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*. And while music is great, it is there not to entertain, but to enhance your time of worship..

My hope for us, as brethren, is that we will quiet down from our busy lives and make the time to focus on our personal connection with God. No matter what you are struggling with, He has an answer if we are willing to listen.

In Christ, Andrew Bode

Special Crystal Bowl still Missing

Please check your cabinets

If you Mistakenly carried a **Crystal Bowl** home after the Luncheon on January 13th for Catherine Pierce please return it to the Church Office, Pairs & Spares S.S. Class, or Sherry Tracy. This is an heirloom from Sherry's family and she is anxious to find it. It contained a Trifle with Cake cubes, Cool whip, Cream Cheese and Raspberry.

2019 Leadership Chairpersons

SPR Committee—Terry Stumpe	UMM	Lloyd Mears
Trustees— Carl Ellis	Usher	Lloyd Mears
Finance— Wayne Barnette	Homebound	Cheryl Laughlin
Missions—Carolyn Rentz	Lay Leader—Sheila Creel	
S S Superintendent— Richard Griffin		
Evangelism—Ann Owen		
UMW—Mona Faye Williams	Worship—Jenni Bode & Debbie Zuern	

The Stewardship of God's Peace



Peace is the third fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23, KJV. The Lord Jesus expounds on the fruit in John 15, explaining that He is the vine and believers are the branches. He wants us to bear much fruit. In order for us to accomplish this He has planted seed in the heart of every believer. He is the Gardener who tends the soil. The fruit is produced by yielding ourselves to the Holy Spirit who indwells us. To yield to Him is an act of the will (Here I am Lord, use me). "Without Him we can do nothing." John 15:5.

To produce the fruit of peace we allow the Holy Spirit to "work it out in us." "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure." Phillipians 2:13. He gives the increase. 1 Corinthians 3:7. We won't be quarrelsome, we won't create strife, we won't irritate those around us. We will be peacemakers. Our demeanor will be pleasant and winsome because He is in us and we are in Him. "We have the mind of Christ." 1 Corinthians 2:16. The world (unbelievers) will want to know how to get the peace that we enjoy - "the peace that passeth all understanding." Phillipians 4:7. This will provide opportunity to witness to the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. This peace can come only from Him, and He has given it to believers to share. John 14:27. It is "the peace that overcometh the world." John 16:33.

The love of God is the prerequisite of all the spiritual fruit. Because of His love in us and for us we want everyone to have His peace. Without Him there can be no peace. The world is an ungodly place and there will not be peace until Jesus comes and sets up His kingdom here, but in the meantime we can enjoy His peace in our lives constantly because we are trusting in Him. We are not citizens of this world; we are just passing through. Our citizenship is in Heaven. We are benefactors of His amazing peace, which as His good stewards we share with the world while we are here.

"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13. And may you have nothing broken, nothing missing by abiding in Him and His word abiding in you. John 15:7. And may you have that peace that comes from knowing that "all your sins have been washed away by the shed blood of Jesus Christ."

Janet Beard, Stewardship Chair

49'ers Senior Luncheon Avalon UMC

Fellowship Hall

Next Luncheon:
March 19, 2019 11:30am
\$7.00 per person

Third Tuesday of each month. We meet in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch provided by Kaye Blalock, Southern Elegance Catering. Come bring a friend and enjoy making new friends who love the Lord! Everyone is invited. We continue to have wonderful meals and entertainment. Each month is different.

Wednesday Family Night Fellowship (FNF)

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS

March Menus FNF Begins at 6PM

Mar. 6—No Meal, Ash Wednesday

Mar. 13—No Meal, Revival

Mar. 20—Lasagna, Salad, Bread, Tea, Dessert

Mar. 27—Baked Ham, Sweet potatoes, Butterbeans, Tea, Rolls, Dessert.

Server Rotation: Volunteers

Please be mindful that if your reservations are not cancelled by noon on Tuesday, you are responsible for payment.

Cost: Adults-----\$6.50

Children under 12 years- - \$3.50

Take outs----- \$.50 extra

Southwest District Upcoming Events

Apr. 27, 2019—Wesley Glen Ministries Fish Fry

Jan. 15-24, 2020—Holy Land (Call District Office)

Pastor—Rev. Debbie Cone
Music Director—Andrew Bode
Pianist/Oranist— Vicki Wilburn

Youth Director— Derek Thornton
Secretary— Elaine Tarpley
Finance—Donna Carswell

3018 Gillionville Rd., Albany, GA 31721-2908

Pastor's email: debbiedcc@att.net

Pastor's Home Number: 229- 432-2266

Church : Tel: 229-436-2056

Fax: 229-436-2011

Email: avalonumc@gmail.com

Website: www.avalonumchurch.org

Regular Sunday Schedule:

9:45am Sunday School **11am** Morning Worship **6pm** Evening Worship

THOSE WHO SERVE

Offering Stewards Mar. 3—Ann Owen/ Kim Glass
Mar. 10—Bill Beard/Ellen Branch
Mar. 17—Wayne Barnette/Sheila Creel
Mar. 24—Katy Reed/Jenny Collins
Mar. 31—Nola Bricker/Janet Beard

Ushers:

Mar. 3 — Lloyd Mears, Ron Wolfe, Carl Ellis, Max Collins,
Richard Griffin, Robbie Collins, Josh Hammond
Mar.10— Avalon Youth
Mar. 17—Lloyd Mears, Ron Wolfe, Carl Ellis, Max Collins,
Richard Griffin, Robbie Collins, Josh Hammond
Mar. 24—Lloyd Mears, Ron Wolfe, Carl Ellis, Max Collins,
Richard Griffin, Robbie Collins, Josh Hammond
Mar. 31— Lloyd Mears, Ron Wolfe, Carl Ellis, Max Collins,
Richard Griffin, Robbie Collins, Josh Hammond

Prayer Room: Mar. 3—Homer Milliner Mar. 10—Norma Smith
Mar. 17— Ann Owen Mar. 24—Robbie Collins
Mar. 31—Nola Bricker

Nursery: Mar. 3—Sheils Sizemore Mar. 10—Ann Owen
Mar. 17—Tina Justice Mar. 24—Terri Stumpe
Mar. 31—Dollie Dollar

Sound Technician: Bob Smith

Trustee of the Month of March Rainey Owen

If Trustee is unable to be at an event your month it is your responsibility to get someone to fill in for you. Buildings need to be locked after an event.

Circle Of Concern:

Nikki Daniel, Gene & Laverne Hawkins, Dorothy Griffin, Rebecca Smith, Ursula Gaydosh, Mike Ling, Bobby Reese (friend of Barry & Tina Justice), Rebekah Griffin, Gail Mears, Hazel Sellars, Will Hammond (13 Yr. old Nashville GA.), Wendy McLeod, Beverly Reese (Bobby Bruner's daughter), , Martha Nicholson, Martha Darsey, David Michels (Brother of Cheryl Laughlin), Ginger Chamberlain (friend of Cheryl Laughlin), Fred English, Glenn Stanford, (Son of Jan Beard,) Jim Warner, Phyl Strawbridge, Jane Everett (sister of Debra Harris), Glenn Creech (Agnes McCorkle son in law), Kathy Hanson (Martha Nicholson daughter), Murray Blackstock, Wilda Rutland, Sheila Creel, Cathy Lange's daughter-in-law & her mother, and Ida Fowler.

If you know of anyone that needs to be added or removed please call the church office.

Home Bound – Please join us in this ministry to these members:

Barry & Nikki Daniel, Ann Dollar, Fred English, Ed & Nelle Ennis, Gene & Laverne Hawkins, Gay Sheffield, Rebecca Smith, Joyce Waters, Kitty Tomlinson, Bill Coward, Cora Dasher, Lola Moreland, George Anderson.

Memorials

Betsy Tatum

Norma Smith
John & Sherry Tracy