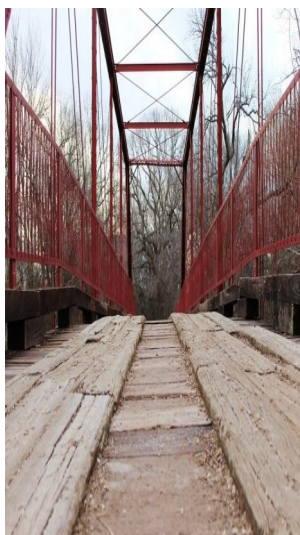




Annetta United Methodist Church
2836 W FM 5
Aledo, Texas 76008



What happens now?

You may have asked yourself that very question after receiving notification that our live worship services are cancelled until further notice. I certainly did. But I want to reassure you that plans are being made to keep us connected, in new ways, and this is one...

AAAHHHH.....

Many years ago, back in the days when most written communication was delivered by the Postal Service, I began to write a newsletter column with the title shown above. This title occurred to me during one of my frequent “question and answer” sessions with God. (Think of some of the similar conversations you might have had with your children when they were teenagers. For example: “M-oommmm...I know I came home two hours past my curfew, but do you REALLY have to ground me?” To which you replied, “Yes” Those kind of conversations.) It was after getting one of these obvious answers from God that I had an “ah-ha” moment. Or, “aaahhhh....” And the AAAHHHH column was born. I was serving the Grace and Wichita Avenue United Methodist Churches, as a student pastor.

As I moved from church to church the column moved with me. Eventually it went online but the premise was always the same: What is God trying to say to me — and to God’s people — in THIS time, and in THIS place? At one point, during a very difficult time, personally and professionally, the AAAHHHH columns stopped. I justified it as God having nothing to say; though I know that it was not God’s lack of instruction but my reluctance to hear.

But lately, the idea of a renewed AAAHHHH column has been coming to mind at the most unusual times. For instance, “Wow; there’s an actual psychological syndrome called ‘panic buying?’ Jesus said to ask God to give us our DAILY bread, not enough for the next year! That would make a good AAAHHHH column.” Or, “We have to practice ‘social distancing ?’ God has never required us to stay six feet away! That would make a good AAAHHHH column.” And so it goes.

So the AAAHHHH column is back. I’m not sure how often it will be published. I’m trying to learn a lot of new things really fast (how to do pastoral care in a digital world, streaming worship, online giving, etc.) but the column is back. Feel free to share with others. For those who do not have access to email, but do have a smart phone, feel free to share. For those who have neither, there’s good old fashioned page printing, or take a picture and share it on your device.

To close I’d like to reiterate I told the Church on March 15: *“God is our refuge and strength, a help always near in times of great trouble. That’s why we won’t be afraid when the world falls apart!”* (Ps. 46:1-2 CEB). aaahhhh.....

Dr. Ann Hitt

Thanks to Sarah Harris who took the photograph of the bridge and gave her Mother permission to use it!

Please remember that even in these difficult times, our ministries still continue, so we need your financial support. Efforts are being made to initiate online giving, but until that it is in place, please mail your gifts to the church address shown above.

And thank you!