

What's Happening

at Bethany

April 9, 2020



Three Days that Changed the World!

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to

my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her. (John 20:11-18)



The week that
changed the
world continues
to change our
lives.

darbydugger.co

From Pastor Susan ...

Rev. George Freeman was giving the children's message at River Road UMC in Richmond. He took hold of his guitar and taught the kids this little song: "Heaven is a wonderful place, filled with glory and grace. I want to see my Savior's face. Heaven is a wonderful place."

I suppose everyone's view of heaven is a little different. Folk singer, song writer John Prine sang about heaven this way:

*When I get to heaven, I'm gonna shake God's hand
Thank him for more blessings than one man can stand
Then I'm gonna get a guitar and start a rock and roll band
Check into a swell hotel, ain't the afterlife grand?*
("When I Get to Heaven")

I'd like to think that we don't just celebrate Easter on earth; that there's a big party in heaven with lots of celebrating too. Everyone remembers that time Jesus died and went down to hell and then came back to life Easter morning. A resurrection party would be just the thing. Paul writes in I Corinthians 15 "Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,⁴ and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day

in accordance with the scriptures." That day of resurrection is certainly worth celebrating on earth because it is also a day of redemption.

As I drive back and forth from my house to the church, I look at the scenery and I wonder if heaven looks like the Shenandoah Valley in springtime. It is so beautiful and green. The cows are peacefully grazing in the fields. The trees are blooming. The forsythia and daffodils are past their peak but the tulips are going to town. Signs of renewed life seem to be all around. Naked trees, empty flower beds and bare fields are gone and new life is all around us. The joy of resurrection is all around.

I wish we could all be together and celebrate the good news of Easter. For the moment we will need to celebrate in our own homes, but the day is coming when we will be back together and what a party that will be because it will be a day of resurrection!

Happy Easter,

Pastor Susan

There will be a Good Friday video going up on Bethany's Facebook page.

Do You Like to Color ...

It is easy to see that this Holy Week and Easter won't be like any we have experienced in the past. We may not be able to meet together as a church but we can still **work together** to celebrate the **resurrection**. We have "mosaic tile" coloring pages we would like to give out for folks to color. When they are all assembled they will make one big picture.

Don't worry about coloring inside the lines. Just let us know how many tiles you would like to color. We have 45 all together. If you have a printer we can email your tile to you which you can then print out on 8.5x11" paper, color and return to the church. If you don't have access to a printer, we can mail you your tile.

When we have all the tiles back we will assemble them into a complete picture and display pictures of the completed project on our website. I've attached a photo of the whole

uncolored picture. We would like to have the tiles back no later than April 23rd.

Just let me or Cindy know if you would like to participate or if you have any questions.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- 11th - Tiana Ryan
- 17th - Rick Northrop & Jenifer Williams
- 18th - Susan Meadows



To keep up with what's going on at Bethany ...

please refer to our Facebook page, and our website. Join us for Facebook Live each Sunday morning at 9:30 am for our worship service. Pastor Susan and Cindy are in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 9 am - 3 pm and Pastor Susan is in on Tuesdays.

The coronavirus affects each of us in different ways. Some may be working from home, while others have reduced hours or have lost their jobs. Please remember, your church is here for you in your time of need. Please call us if you are in need of financial assistance, food, or if you just need someone to talk to. **Don't hesitate, please call.**



Adopt-a-Senior

By now, I'm sure you've heard that we are trying to make sure our beloved seniors are taken care of during these uncertain times. Some of our seniors who live at home alone might need some assistance getting groceries, picking up their prescriptions, need something done around the house or maybe they would just enjoy a phone call or card. We want to make sure that they are taken care of and loved on by their church family! We have had several people step up to volunteer, some even taking two seniors, but we still have seniors that need adopting. If you would be willing to volunteer to "Adopt-a-Senior," please let Cindy or Pastor Susan know and we'll assign you a senior to love on!



Prayer List ...

- Bud Somers, who is now in hospice care
- Barbara Somers, for her pain while waiting on a needed hip replacement
- Tom & Jan Gorden
- Bill Kile
- Peggy Lucas
- Linda Byers, who is suffering from gallstones and is waiting to have 2 surgeries at Martha Washington
- All first responders, those who work in the medical field and all grocery store workers
- Danny Shreckhise - friend of Jerry Sheets
- Grandmother of Beth Metcalfe



We extend Christian sympathy to Suzanne Mullins and family upon the sudden death of her brother.

Lost and Found



The extra key to the church office is missing! If you have borrowed it and forgot to return it, please do so. We want to have it available for all who might need to get in the office. Thank you!

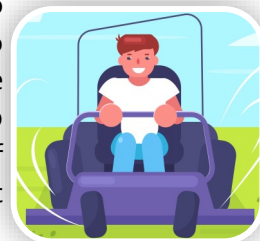
To Our Loyal Food Pantry Donors ...

We appreciate your financial support of the Bethany Food Pantry over the years. It has been a great service to our community. The Blue Ridge Area Food Bank is offering our pantry food free of charge during this time and we have a healthy nest egg saved up! Therefore, we encourage you to use your donations for regular church operating expenses at this time.

Sincerely,
Your Food Pantry Team

Do you love spring and summer? Do you love being outside? Do you love Bethany? If you answered yes to all of these questions, we have an opportunity for you that you just can't turn down!! **After many years of serving Bethany by keeping our lawn beautiful, Sidney Moyer has retired from mowing. We want to send him our sincere thank you and appreciation!**

However, that means we are now looking for volunteers to help mow the church lawn. We have our own lawn mower in the building which you can use. We would love to have enough people volunteer that you would only have one month to mow and then someone else would mow. If you would be willing to take a month during the summer to mow the church lawn, please contact the office at 540-234-8880 or office.bethany@gmail.com. If you have questions, please contact Mark Dunsmore.



We also want to take this opportunity to THANK our Food Pantry volunteers!

Our Food Pantry has remained open each Monday afternoon to provide needed food to our neighbors. Our Food Pantry is currently a "drive thru." Groceries are pre-packed by our volunteers and as cars drive thru, bags or boxes of food will be placed in their vehicles. We want to still be able to serve our community and keep ourselves safe. **Thank you and continue to stay safe!**

