

What's Happening at Bethany

April 2, 2020

The New Bethany Picture Directory ... is FINALLY here!!

Most of you have received a pdf version of the Bethany 2020 Church Directory! If you haven't and would like to have it, please email office.bethany@gmail.com for a copy. Printed copies are available in the office if you would like to come by and pick one up. We ask that you donate \$5 per printed copy to help cover the cost of paper and binders! Thank You!

Palm Sunday Procession ...

We miss seeing you on Sunday mornings ... especially since this Sunday is Palm Sunday and the next is Easter Sunday, which is a special time to come together and worship. Except, we aren't able to do that this year. However, we still want you to take part in our services. We are asking people to take pictures of your version of a Palm Sunday procession and send them to Dani Martlock at danimartlock@gmail.com. She will create a montage for our Sunday Facebook Live worship service.

Also, send Easter greetings to the church by video to Dani and she will run those as part of our Easter worship!

Adopt-a-Senior

At the church council meeting held on Monday, March 16, we decided to ask our members to "Adopt a Senior" during these uncertain times. Some of our seniors who live at home alone might need some assistance getting groceries, picking up prescriptions, etc., or maybe they would just enjoy a phone call or card.

We want to make sure that they are taken care of and loved by their church family. If you would like to volunteer to "Adopt a Senior," please email the office at office.bethany@gmail.com or Pastor Susan at reaves.susan.m@gmail.com and we'll assign you a senior to love on!!



Adopt
a
Senior

THANK YOU!!



You deserve a hand! When the request went out for folks to keep giving their weekly/monthly tithes to the church, so many of you answered that call!! What a blessing you are to Bethany!! We appreciate the checks that have arrived by mail and for those of you who have signed up and given through our online giving on the website. When the letter was sent, we were 25.5% behind our budget ... and after this week's checks and online giving, we are only 10.9% behind the budget. For Bethany to get through the financial hardship due to the coronavirus, we need your help! This wasn't just a "one time" request to remember your offering. We need everyone to continue to give their regular offering each and every week until we can once again meet as a congregation and worship together. Can't wait for that to happen!

Prayer List ...

Don't forget those on our prayer list ...

- Bud & Barbara Somers
- Hazel Truslow
- Tom & Jan Gorden
- Bill Kile
- Peggy Lucas
- Linda Byers



A Word from Pastor Susan ...

By now, you know that Governor Northam has expanded the stay at home order until June 10 and school will not be back in session for the remainder of Spring 2020. Of course, we will not be having in person services until the stay at home order is lifted. But ministry is still happening:

I put up a video on Facebook with a Palm Sunday craft aimed at kids, but adults can participate too. Make some homemade palms from construction paper so you can shout Hosanna when we remember when Jesus rode into the city of Jerusalem and the crowd welcomed him.

We hope to have giving by text in place soon. Watch for more information.

We are still looking for volunteers to connect with members who don't have access to internet or email.



The following words of hope come from Rev. Timothy Merrill

Scripture Reading: Romans 6:1b-11

When the world says, "Give up," Hope whispers, "Try it one more time." —Author unknown

Niccolo Paganini was a well-known and gifted 19th-century violinist. He was also well-known as a great showman with a quick sense of humor. His most memorable concert was in Italy with a full orchestra. He was performing before a packed house and his technique was incredible, his tone was fantastic and his audience dearly loved him.

Toward the end of his concert, Paganini was astounding his audience with an unbelievable composition when suddenly one string on his violin snapped and hung limply from his instrument. Paganini frowned briefly, shook his head, and continued to play, improvising beautifully. Then to everyone's surprise, *a second string broke!* And shortly thereafter, a third!

Almost like a slapstick comedy, Paganini stood there *with three strings dangling from his Stradivarius!* But instead of leaving the stage, Paganini stood his ground and calmly completed the difficult number on the one remaining string.

This is a wonderful story, but in actuality, Paganini occasionally broke strings during a performance on purpose so he could further display his virtuosity. What do you think is the lesson from this story?

There's no one correct answer, but, for me, the story reinforces the importance of *perseverance under duress*. It might have been easier for Paganini to walk off the stage and demand a different violin, disrupting the concert, or perhaps cancelling it altogether. But he didn't.

It's also a lesson in *courage*. It took courage for him to persist when he could not be at his best. It's also a lesson in *humility*. Not being able to play at his best, he had to be willing to play as well as he could with only one string.

It is important to remember during this present crisis, that God knows how many strings we have at our disposal. God knows if we have four, three, two or only one. Perhaps we're in such a crisis that we feel as though we don't have any strings at all!

God knows and God understands. Let's just tell God that we are willing to serve God with as many "strings" as we have left, and we can also say the prayer below.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord, I am out of strings. I am out of energy. I have nothing left. But what I have, I give to you. Amen.

So they took
branches of palm trees
and went out to meet him,
shouting, "Hosanna!
Blessed is the one
who comes
in the name
of the Lord!"

John 12.13



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 it. Thank you!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- 5th - Trae Elkins
- 7th - Jordan Dunsmore
- 9th - Susan Thacker & Phil Mikesell
- 10th - Chuck Schwab

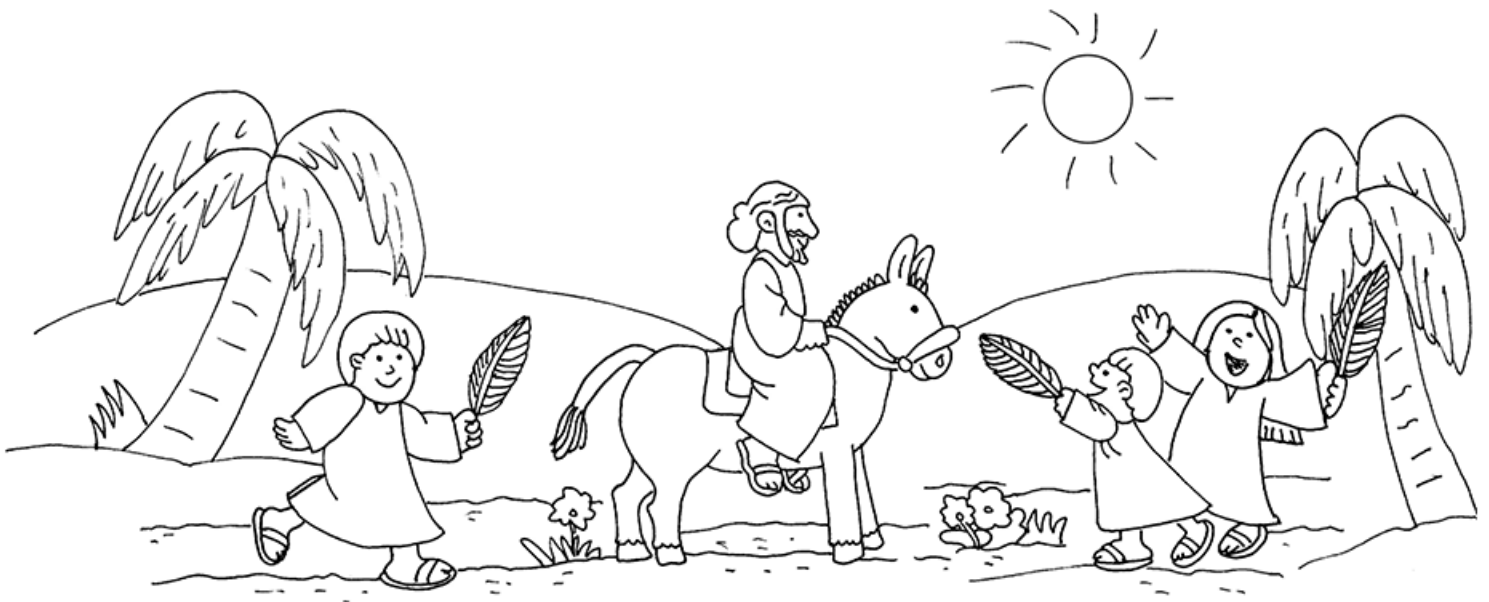


To keep up with what's going on at Bethany, please refer to our Facebook page, and our website. Join us for Facebook Live each Sunday morning at 9:30 am for our worship service. Pastor Susan and Cindy are in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 9 am - 3 pm and Pastor Susan is in on Tuesdays.

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.**

Kids ... color the picture and have your parents send it to Dani Martlock!

The Triumphal Entry



HOSANNA!

BLESSED IS HE THAT COMES IN
THE NAME OF THE LORD!

HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!

Produced by BibleQuizzes.org.uk