

The Messenger

A Publication by Bethany United Methodist Church

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www.bethanyumc.net



Times Like These

These are unusual times. Never in my life did I expect to be told by the governor to shelter in place for 2 weeks. While I am an introvert who enjoys my alone time, being told I shouldn't go out makes me want to go even more. I did go to the office Monday for most of the day, but Pam McCurdy and I were the only ones there and we practiced social distancing. I have gotten used to using Zoom for online meetings.

We met for an hour yesterday, trying to figure out the best way to produce quality worship going forward. The church has its own YouTube channel now, so we have a place to put services and messages from the church. Click her and "Subscribe" to our channel. <https://tinyurl.com/bethanyumcsmyrna> You will then be notified when something new is posted. For those of you without internet, we will try to keep you informed of announcements by Calling Post and service will be on DVDs left in the mailbox at the top of the ramp by the office.

I want us all to say thank you to Nancy LaPorte who has been our volunteer church treasurer for several years. Nancy is passing the torch to Nan Hendrix who has agreed to take over the duties of Treasurer. They are in the process of making that transition. The transition was approved by the Finance Committee and Nominations.

We will not have worship in the building until after April 6, and then we will see after that.

Thank you for your support during this time. We had a good offering last week and we ask that you continue to mail in your tithe and offerings. The bills and payroll continue. We have shutdown all the HVAC in the building except for the office to try and save utilities.

The passage of scripture that always says with me during times of trial is the promise of God to "be with us always, even to the end of the earth" (Matt. 28:20 The Living Bible). So no matter what, good or bad, God is with us. At Christmas we sing Emanuel which translates "God is with us." So, lean into God in the days and weeks to come. Find assurance that no matter what God is with us.

I look forward to the day when we can come back together in person.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chip

Worship With Us!

9:00am *Praise & Worship*
Lacy Hall
11:00am *Traditional*
Main Sanctuary

Learn With Us!

10:05am *Spiritual Formation*
(aka Sunday School)

We have over 10 classes
for all ages...
find one that suits you!

We also offer Bible studies...
check the website for
dates & times

Find us on facebook and be
sure to *check-in*
Bethany UMC, Smyrna

Missed church - check out
facebook streaming or
videos on church website



BETHANY NEWS

Lenten Reflection

Psalm 130 – A Lenten Reflection

Submitted by Pieter Botes

Sunday is Palm Sunday, Christ Jesus' triumphant parade into Jerusalem, courageous and dignified, albeit on a donkey. However, Psalm 130 is anything but. The psalter is anxious and afraid, crying out to the Lord. Over the last three weeks we have reflected on how great the Lord is, always near, always providing. Yet, in the Psalm 130 we bring all of that assurance into question.

Many of us gave up something for Lent, some of us even fasting, as is tradition, from sunup to sunset. We have sought reassurance and strength in the Scripture as we have endured the season in preparation of Easter. And as the days grows longer and the flesh weaker, we begin to reflect more on what we've given up, some of us are even looking forward to resuming the luxuries we've absconded from, counting down the days until we can again enjoy that piece of chocolate or other guilty pleasure.

And here today, we call weeks of prayer and scripture into question. What has it all been in preparation of? In verse 3 the psalter cries out, "If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities... who could stand?" All of our sacrifice, all of our good intentions, nothing we can do can absolve us from our sins. Except in the Lord, where there is forgiveness. Only through the Lord's steadfast love, through His son, Jesus Christ, can we be redeemed to Him.

But the Lord *has* already redeemed us and He calls for us to live as His redeemed people. As Lent draws to a close, we must ask ourselves: have my sacrifices allowed me to draw closer to the Lord or have they served as a distraction from living as a redeemed child of God?

WEEKLY SERVANTS

MARCH 22, 2020

"Sorry, The Doctor's Been Delayed"
John 11: 1-45 Rev. Chip Wilson

*Please watch the worship service online.
Viewing link will be sent later in the week.*

*Please visit church website and Facebook
DVDs also available in church mailbox at top of ramp*



Habitat Needs Your Help

2020 marks the 20th home built by the Cobb Interfaith Coalition of which Bethany is a long term member. Our commitment to the build is \$4500 and to date we have around \$700 in the Bethany Habitat Fund. Please consider giving to this important on-going Mission activity that helps people in our community achieve the dream of home ownership. Several coalition member groups have indicated they are lowering their giving this year, so it is vitally important that we support the coalition by honoring our commitment.



HANDS & FEET

MUST Items

The following items are needed at the Smyrna MUST pantry: beef stew, canned chicken, ham or salmon, ramen noodles, canned pork & beans, canned fruit (*pineapple or mandarin oranges - no snack sizes, please*), spaghetti noodles, dry potatoes, pinto beans, chili beans, canned carrots, canned spinach, kidney beans, canned peas, chunky soups, tomato paste, tea, juice boxes. Your donations are greatly appreciated. Volunteers are also needed!

Happy Birthday!

March 23—Laurie Mote, Russell Henry

March 24—Kaitlyn Buchanan

March 30 –Brenda Danas

Our Pastors

Rev. Chip Wilson, Senior Pastor
chip.wilson@ngumc.net
706-836-4500

Rev. Pam McCurdy, Associate Pastor
associatepastor@bethanyumc.net
770-314-8919

Rev. Stiles Cobb, Pastor Emeritus

Our Staff

Chandra Miles, Administrative Assistant
office@bethanyumc.net

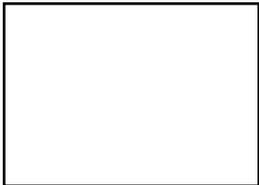
Mary Jane Higman, Director of Student Ministries
maryjane@bethanyumc.net

Autumn Kuykendoll, Youth Assistant
youthdirector@bethanyumc.net

Evelyn White, Pianist

David E. Dillard, Organist & Interim Music Director

Bethany United Methodist Church
 760 Hurt Road, Smyrna, GA 30082
 Phone 770-436-2675
 Email office@bethanyumc.net
Office Hours
 Mon-Thurs 8:30 am—4:00 pm



Return Service Requested



«AddressBlock»

Current Prayer Concerns

Dylan Black
 Members of the Armed Forces and their Families
 Terry Wullschlegler

Pray For Our Friends

Neal Allen	Eloise Fulmer
Donald Clark	Doug Stisher
Donald Beaton	Evelyn Panter
Kathy Beckham	Joyce Poolos
Nell Bilderback	Martha Speir
Carolyn Daniels	Colene Morrison
Jane Eisenburg	Betty Nixon
Sandy Roberts	Phyllis Woodyard

Long-Term Prayer Concerns

Christine Adhikari	Ginger Lyle—sister of Glenda Etheridge
Cyndi Bonilla - family of Mary Jane Higman	Patty Mann - family of Gail Garrett
Don Carter - nephew of Travis Carter	David Marvin—family of Ray Gary
Gary Carter - nephew of Travis Carter	David May
Rev. Herb Chisenhall	Jim Mount—friend of Mary Anne Malcolm
Britt Crump - nephew of Judy Kelley	Shirley Murray—family of The Reckards
Rev. Stiles Cobb	Tammy Osborne
Sheila Combs - niece of Ray Gary Sr.	Aaron & Allie Rice
Laura Denton	Rose Family—friends of Stuart Hasty
Mollie Edmondson—sister of Wayne Thomas	Eliska Rucker & Family
Elizabeth Fisher—mother of Shelley Boggus	Russell Elementary School
Becky Fowler—niece of Nan Hendrix	Evon Satterfield
Guy & Alison Gabrielson	Greg Satterfield
Aaron Garner	Gary Shinall—family of Keith Garrett
Jason Hardin - family of Carol Jenkins	Justin Simpson—son of Curt & Dee Simpson
Mandy Harrison—sister of Melanie Crowe	David Smith Jr.—family of Dianne Tidmore
Harvey Hendrix	Chris Sperry - friend of Britt McCurdy
Charles Hill—family of Johnnie Driver	Richard Sprayberry
Bobby Holbrook	Helen Sullivan
Barry Johnson—brother of Tammy Groce	Rev. Susan Taylor
Patricia Kramer	Cole Tolbert—family of Brad & Laurie Mote
Chad LaPorte	Shea Tolbert—family of The Lowther's
Nichole LaPorte	Kaye Wilson—friend of The Sprayberry's
Kelley Lennon—friend of Leta Thomas	

