WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

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Easter Blessing John 11:25 I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Today being Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, which is the most sacred time of the year for Christians. Palm Sunday recalls an event in the Christian scripture (The New Testament) of Jesus entering into Jerusalem—and being greeted by the people waving palm branches. Their praise was filled with remembrance. They remembered all the mighty works they saw Jesus do such as the raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 12:17-18). They told of the great things God had done in their lives.

For Christians, Palm Sunday is a reminder of the welcoming of Jesus into our hearts and of our willingness to follow Him. When we welcome Christ into our hearts, He must have the freedom to change our lives, and through the Holy Spirit, convict us of sin. When we welcome Jesus into our hearts and homes, we receive Him by seeking after Him with real effort. We receive Him by humbling ourselves.

On Palm Sunday, everyone wasn't welcoming or praising Jesus for His mighty works of salvation, and Jesus through His teaching and preaching warned cities, towns, villages, and individuals of the consequences. In St. Matthew 11:20-21, we read:

Then Jesus began to criticize openly the cities in which he had done many of his miracles, because they did not repent. "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! If the miracles done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgement than for you! And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? No, you will be thrown down to Hades!

For if the miracles done among you had been done in Sodom, it would have continued to this day. But I tell you, it will be more bearable for the region of Sodom on the day of judgement than for you!"

On Palm Sunday, St. Luke 19:41-44 records that as Jesus came near the city of Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it, because a great number of the residents rejected His message, lordship, and claim of being God the Son. This was a deeply moving moment for jesus. His tears were not for His own fate in Jerusalem, but for the fate of the city itself. Scholars believed that the word "Wept" might be rendered 'wailed'; Jesus burst into sobbing as he lamented lost opportunity."

Jesus predicted five specific aspects of the Roman attack upon Jerusalem:

- The building of an embankment.
- The surrounding of the city, laying siege.
- The destruction of the city.
- The killing of the city's inhabitants.
- The complete leveling of the city.

Jesus weeping here showed the heart of God; how even when judgement must be pronounced, it is never done with joy. Even when God's judgement is perfectly just and righteous, His heart weeps at the bringing of the judgement. This week especially, we are challenged to cultivate and seek after the mind of Jesus. Each one of us ought to pray, "Break my heart God with what breaks Yours." My friends, sin or acts of unrighteousness break God's heart, and so as Christians, we—

(Continued on Page 7)

Giving the Gift of Prayer

You help us by your prayers.
2 Corinthians 1:13

"I didn't realize what a gift prayer was until my brother was sick and you all prayed for him. I cannot tell you what a comfort your prayers were!"

Laura had tears in her eyes as she thanked me for the prayers of the people in our church for her brother, who was facing a cancer diagnosis. She continued, "Your prayers have strengthened him in this difficult time and have been an encouragement to our entire family."

One of the best ways to love others is to pray for them. Jesus is our ultimate example in this. The New Testament tells us about Jesus praying for others on many occasions, and even shows us that He continues to come to the Father on our behalf. Romans 8:34 says that He "is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us." Even after showing such selfless love at the cross, the risen and ascended Lord Jesus Christ continues to express His care for us by praying for us at this very moment.

All around us are people who need us to follow Jesus's example and love them with our prayers, inviting God's help and intervention in their lives. We can ask God to help us pray for them, and He will! May our loving Lord strengthen us to generously give the gift of our prayers for others today.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for praying for me. Help me to serve You and others through faithfully praying today.

James Banks



Editor: Sharon Scurlock



PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING FOR ALL THESE PEOPLE!!

Evy and Evie ask for continued healing prayer for their neighbor Steve Dobson.

Praise God, Connie Necaster's surgery went well and she is home recovering.

Harold Spaulding is in St. John's Nursing home. Please pray for him and his wife Jean.

Debbie Covill had an EMG and will be getting a leg brace along with exercises. Please pray for healing and spirit.

Mary Bailey is receiving chemotherapy.

Della VanDoran had a stroke about 2 weeks ago. She is at the Jewish Home for rehab. Please pray for her recovery.

Laura a friend of Sally Kubica and Loretta Hirschman. She has many medical problems.

EASTER JOY

By Evelyn M. Shoots

Bright blooming bouquets Will decorate many rooms In neighborhood homes

When we celebrate
The Resurrection of Christ
Thankful praise is heard

Sunshine seems brighter On that Special Day of Days Of extended life!

> He rose up from death Only for our Salvation To Eternal Life.

Spreading Easter Love Is an honor for us all For His Love brings Peace

Alleluia! Amen

Luke 24:34 Nehemiah 8:10

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Advisory Council Meeting Tuesday, April 6, 2021 6:00 PM

Please attend a short Advisory Council meeting to plan when

and how our worship will restart. Any other business or questions you have can be addressed, but reports are not required.

We are conducting a survey to see how many in our Church congregation have gotten their COVID Vaccine. This information will be important as we plan for reopening the Church for in person worship. Please send Sharon Scurlock or myself, an email or give a phone call. Individual information will be kept confidential.

Thank you, Leanna Shirley, Moderator

IMPORTANT



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.





APRIL Calendar

Worshiping by Video in Sanctuary on Sunday has been CANCELLED.

(Video is posted on WHBC website, YouTube, Facebook, and emailed.)

> Bible Study Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

Prayer Group Saturdays at 9:00 AM

For the above, EVERYONE will socially distance and attendees must wear masks. Gloves, masks and sanitizer are available. The area will be sanitized before each event.

EASTER SUNDAY April 4, 2021

Advisory Council Meeting April 6, 2021 at 6:00 PM

LINK articles for May due to Joyce Shutts ~ Apr. 18



Apr. 2 ~ Betty Trim

3 ~ Lynne Stewart

6 ~ Flo Braker Apr.

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Apr. 8 ~ Colin Chase

Apr. 11 ~ Sarah Zima

Apr. 15 ~ Sierrah Griffin

Apr. 17 ~ Roberta Miller

Apr. 18 ~ Oliver Hagen

Apr. 21 ~ Mark Heintz Jr.

Apr. 30 ~ Ginny Chase

News from David and Michelle Heed In Tanzania



This is Brown Mesa, his wife, Emakulata, and son, Peter. Peter started attending the kid's program in Urambo, and later the parents came to receive Jesus because of the love they saw being ministered to their son. They all joined the church and got baptized. This is an incredible story because it is very rare to see a father come to the Lord.

This is a story from Sunday, February 28th:

The child in the yellow shirt with the pink sandals is named Maisela. Yesterday I saw him walking on the side of the road. I stopped my car and greeted him. I asked if he wanted to go to church in Mlela with me. He showed me his ripped sandals. In this custom, it would be shameful for him to go to church with ripped sandals, even if he is poor. I told him sorry, and I drove on. About 10 minutes later I thought to myself, I wonder if I could buy him some sandals. I turned around and drove back to where he was. I asked him if he would come if I bought him some sandals. He was so happy. He hopped in

the car, we went to the market, and he picked out these bright pink sandals for himself. Then we went to church together in Mlela. Cost of sandals: \$1.33. I don't always get it right, but it is important to remember that we are



never too busy to help someone, when we are able. Even if you already passed by that person in need, you can always turn around.



THE COFFEE CONNECTION PROJECT EMPOWER

NEW STORE IN MARKETPLACE MALL!



Remember their mission is Glocal – serving Fair-trade organically grown coffee and to empower women in

recovery from drug addiction, trauma and homelessness, providing skills for employment and education while supporting recovery. Many of us have enjoyed their coffee as well as helped Rev. Joy Berfalk and the women at the cafes and in raising money to support them. They have closed the Greenhouse cafe and are now beginning a wonderful new phase of the program at Marketplace.

Right now they have a stand located in the food-court inside the west entrance. They serve coffee, food as well as bags of coffee for sale. Soon a kiosk will open in the center of the Mall near the new medical buildings. Later they are going to be opening a larger cafe in one of the old shops: *Charming Charlies*. There is an outside entrance, so it can stay open after the Mall closes. It will be a beautiful place to gather, share music, have meetings and enjoy food, coffee and fellowship.

Stop by the Food-Court and enjoy. While there talk to the ladies and think about a donation to help build this mission of hope. It will require a lot to develop this project, but the good it will do for these women is priceless.

You can also order products online at:

https://www.ourcoffeeconnection.org

Also located at 681 South Ave, Rochester, NY 14620



Rush-Henrietta Interfaith League of Churches

HUCC is still virtual with plans to start up in September. Some of the youth events have been happening outside.

St. Marianne Cope Parish ~ PreCOVID, they had 800 worshipping per weekend. After COVID, about 200 (now 300). Inhouse worship is at 33% of capacity and no one-to-one meetings. They had two COVID positive cases, but no additional cases. They will undergo a major renovation between June and November so they will move to St. Joseph's in Rush.

Faith United Methodist ~ has been open since last August at 33% of capacity. The Korean Service at 1:00pm is streamed so there is music with singing. The Eastman students may be in Korea and streaming the music back to USA.

Rush United Methodist ~ They have a new roof and plan to have a new play-ground by April/May for Promise Land which is gaining attendance. Opened in August with 10-15 for Traditional Worship Service and 5-10 for younger Service. Online attendance was at 3-400 but now 200. The Church needs a Youth Director September 1st. Pastor Goddard feels the global United Methodist Church will split in 2022 over sexual issues.

Joyce Shutts

Habitat for Humanity Harvest home/Thrivent Coalition

The Coalition is building another home this year at 757 Jay Street, it's fifth since 2012. Construction will start in July; therefore, it is fundraising time. The faith community half of the cost is \$15,000.00. The Thrivent Grant provides the rest. We have completed our payment for the last house at 395 Campbell Street. The landscaping for 395 Campbell needs to be completed on May 8th. If you would like to volunteer, let Gretchen Young or Joyce Shutts know.

Joyce Shutts

Editor: Sharon Scurlock



Fundraiser for Harvest Home/Thrivent Coalition

A Dough Raiser with UNO's is planned for Sunday, May 19th, in Webster on Holt Road. As the day grows closer, we will have coupons for everyone. Sadly, we lost our Henrietta location, but we are looking for options to work with another eatery to have a fundraiser later in our area. Suggestions are welcome. We (WHBC) are looking for a clever way to raise more donations outside of our budgeted amount to support this mission. We anticipate the pie sale will happen in the Fall. Patrese became the proud home owner of 395 Campbell Street, and will be moving in April 1st with her son and granddaughter. The granddaughter will be allowed to play outside—something that has not happened recently: it was not safe.

Joyce Shutts

Update on Distribution Center

As of March 24 Town Board Meeting, this proposed development public meeting/ decision is postponed until possibly the next Town Board Meeting. The Postponement is because developer has to make changes to the last rendering based on comments from last public meeting. These changes involve: a more historic like façade for building, location of ponds and water flow (are they holding ponds with water year around?) There are environmental concerns regarding runoff from the hill. There has to be two entrances to satisfy Fire requirements, etc.

Joyce Shutts

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UNTITLED STORY

Read on Air by Phil Foley, Host of Tabernacle Presbyterian Church's Good News Tab Program on December 6, 2000

After a few of the usual Sunday evening hymns, the church's pastor slowly stood up, walked over to the pulpit and, before he gave his sermon for the evening, briefly introduced a guest minister who was in the service that evening. In the introduction, the pastor told the congregation that the guest minister was one of his dearest child-hood friends and that he wanted him to have a few moments to greet the church and share whatever he felt would be appropriate for the service.

With that, an elderly man stepped up to the pulpit and began to speak. "A father, his son, and a friend of his son were sailing off the Pacific Coast," he began, "when a fast approaching storm blocked any attempt to get back to shore. The waves were so high that, even though the father was an experienced sailor, he could not keep the boat upright, and the three were swept into the ocean as the boat capsized."

The old man hesitated for a moment, making eye contact with two teenagers who were, for the first time since the service began, looking somewhat interested in the story. The aged minister continues with his story. "Grabbing a rescue line, the father had to make the most excruciating decision of his life: to which boy he would throw the other end of the life line. He only had seconds to make the decision. The father knew that his son was a Christian, and he also knew that his son's friend was not. The agony of his decision could not be matched by the torrent of the waves. As the father yelled out, 'I love you, son!', he threw out the life line to the son's friend. By the time the father had pulled the friend back to the capsized boat, his son had disappeared beneath the raging swells into the black of night. His body was never recovered."

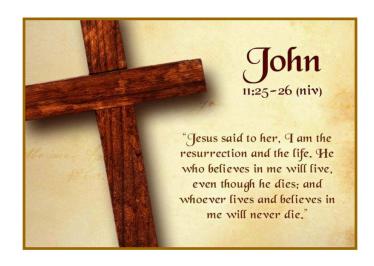
By this time, the two teenagers were sitting up straight in the pew, anxiously waiting for the next words to come out of the old minister's mouth. "The father," he continued, "knew his son would step into eternity with Jesus, and he could not bear the thought of his son's friend steeping into

an eternity without Jesus. Therefore, he sacrificed his son to save the son's friend. How great is the love of God that He could do the same for us. Our heavenly Father sacrificed His only begotten Son that we could be saved. I urge you to accept His offer to rescue you and take hold of the life line."

With that, the old man turned and sat back down in his chair as silence filled the room. The Pastor again walked slowly to the pulpit and delivered a brief sermon with an invitation at the end. However, no one responded to the appeal. Within minutes after the service, the two teenagers were at the old man's side. "That was a nice story," politely said one of the boys, "but I don't think it was very realistic for a father to give up his only son's life in hopes that the other boy would become a Christian."

"Well, you've got a point there," the old man replied, glancing down at this worn Bible. Sorrow began to overtake the old man's smiling face as he once again looked up at the boys and said, "It sure isn't very realistic, is it? But I'm here today to tell you that I understand more than most the pain God must have felt to give up His only Son. For you see, I'm the man who lost his son to the ocean that day and my son's friend that I chose to save is your pastor."

~ Author Unknown ~ God's Little Acre



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(Continued from page 1)

- Say no to idolatry
- Say no hypocrisy
- Say no to hatred
- Say no to pride
- Say no to greed
- Say no to disobedience toward Jesus, the Messiah.

Each one of us should ask ourselves the following questions: Do I get upset at the same situations that angered the heart of God? Do I turn a blind eye at what moved Jesus to tears or fail to notice the people and situations that stirred His compassionate heart and caused Him to take action?

Good Friday is a reminder to Christians that Jesus has in fact dealt with evil in that greatest act of evil. In the greatest act of evil in the history of the world, Jesus was killed. The Son of God stepped out of eternity to live as a human and to die as a divine sacrifice. His death had nothing to do with His sins (since He was sinless) and in fact, we are told that our sins were placed on Him. He suffered in our place so that God could forgive and redeem His creation.

The Scripture tells us that while Christ has redeemed His people, God is being gracious to allow more time for more people to hear what Christ has done for them before He ends evil in an ultimate act of justice (2 Peter 3:8-10). Now is your day of Salvation; if you hear His voice pleading to you to accept His message of salvation, harden not your heart.

Rev. Dr. Peter Grinion, Pastor

Jesus is the ONE WAY to Heaven God is perfectly holy We are all lost in sin "There is none righteous, no. "The Lorp out God is holy." "You not one." "All have sinned and are not a God who takes pleasure fall short of the glory in wickedness, Not shall of God." "All we like Jesus bridged the gap evil dwell with You." sheep have gone 'Who may stand in "God demonstrates His own love astfay." (Romans His holy place?" toward us, in that while we were still 3:10.23: Isaiah 53:6) sinners. Christ died for us," (Romans 5:8) (Psalm 99:9: 5:4: 24:3) Jesus said ... I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6)

Editor: Sharon Scurlock



0000PS!!!!

The light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red

light by accelerating through the intersection. The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, as she missed her chance to get through the intersection dropping her cell phone and makeup.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up.

He took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a holding cell. After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects. He said. "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, making lewd gestures to the guy in front of you and, cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the "What Would Jesus Do?" bumper sticker, the "Choose Life" license plate holder, the "Follow Me to Sunday School" bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk, so naturally. . . I assumed you had stolen the car."

Ask yourself . . .

Am I just a Sunday morning Christian?

Do I set a good Christian example every-day?

Think about it . . .





The American Baptist Churches of the Rochester/Genesee Region is hosting an online concert featuring musicians from across our region.

Thursday, April 8th, 7-8pm on Zoom (REGISTRATION REQUIRED, see below)

Musicians from Seven Region Churches:

Immanual Baptist: The fondly remembered late Miche Fambro Greece Baptist: Rev. Steve Gretz, Leslie Lee, Joanna Frank

Crescent Hill Baptist Church of Louisville, KY: Elizabeth Weaver, Allison Hammons, Louie Bailey

First Baptist Rochester: David Labman and choir section soloists

Peace Community Church of Oberlin, OH: Choir

Ogden Baptist: Fred Dean

First Baptist Church, Fairmont, West Virginia: Kevin Aldana

Two Beneficiaries:

Local: RENEW Climate Fund of the Rochester Area Community Foundation

RENEW Climate Fund of the Rochester Area Community Foundation provides energy efficiency and weatherization for low-income home owners in the Greater Rochester region.

International: Savory Institute (https://savory.global)

Savory Institute facilitates regenerative agriculture for farmers across the world.

To Register:

Please fill out the registration form on the **Greece Baptist Church** website at: www.greecebaptistchurch.org/creation-collaborative.html

A Zoom link will be emailed before the event to those who register.

Alternatively, you can email or call the church office and leave your name and contact information so we can get you the Zoom link.

office@greecebaptistchurch.org (585) 225-6160 x1

Three Ways to Make a Donation:

- Donate directly to one or both of the organizations listed above, before, during, or after the concert
 Make a donation through the yellow DONATE button at greecebaptistchurch.org, and email the church office indicating your name, the date, the amount, and the purpose of your donation
- **3)** Mail your check to Greece Baptist Church, 1230 Long Pond Rd, Rochester, NY 14626, indicating the purpose of your donation

Endless Benefits:

A memorable evening of music during COVID
A win-win-win for people, their pocketbooks, and the planet
The benefits of energy efficient homes continues year after year

Educating farmers to care for the earth is passed on from farm to farm, from generation to generation.