

From Martha

In the month since our last Messenger, much has changed. We have now had three weeks of online services and our office is even quieter than normal (and it is pretty quiet to begin with). I hear from some of you by phone, some by email, some on social media—everyone I hear from reports that they are doing ok. Monty and I are doing ok, too—we are figuring out how to live inside the new realities. I have actually seen (digitally) my young adult children more in the last two weeks than I had in the previous months, which is wonderful. Along with the rest of you, my learning curve on the use of social media and Zoom has been fairly intense and my sense of grief at losing the regular contacts and community of my life has been enormous. I am one of the extroverts you might be seeing with their faces pressed up against the windows of their homes.

I've been very grateful to Jeff Curcio and Jim Ray for coming in to make possible our online worship service over the last weeks. It was a great joy to have Rev. Dwight Mays here to lead worship and to have the joy of Debbie Burton's music this past week as well. I'm grateful to all of you who are figuring out Zoom in order to join us for Bible Study and to our leadership for figuring it out so that we could meet this past Sunday.

In this month's Messenger, you'll find information for worship, particularly for Easter. It has been wonderful to see people tuning in to our Facebook live on Sunday mornings, and I know others have been able to access our website. We will continue working on ways to connect with you as a community. You'll also find information on our in-house pantry, and a few questions about how we could best help you as a community navigate the coming weeks. I find myself in the very odd place of needing to play a very long game, and needing to live in the immediate now, not borrowing trouble from tomorrow. I have been comforted, quite a bit, lately, by the Prayer of Thomas Merton, particularly as offered by Kate Campbell (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gePQ3B3f8b8>):

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going

I do not see the road ahead of me

I cannot know for certain where it will end

Nor do I really know myself

And the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so.

But I believe that the desire to please you does, in fact, please you

And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing,

I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.

And I know that if I do this, you will lead me by the right road

Though I may know nothing about it

Therefore will I trust you always

Though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death

I will not fear, for you are ever with me

And you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

April Birthdays

- 1 Ed Thornhill
- 3 Nolan Clapp
- 3 Patti McCue
- 4 Paige Riley
- 5 Marge Sellick
- 6 Dana Garrard
- 7 Doris Cann
- 7 Amy (Sale) Sawyer
- 9 William Cook
- 9 Sydney Moon
- 9 Elanor Sloan
- 10 Ernie Sawyer
- 11 Leslie Clapp
- 12 Pooja Dandapani
- 15 Jean Cook
- 16 Eleanor Ashwell
- 17 Gus Lamond
- 22 Preston Riordan
- 23 Georgeann Snead
- 24 Jack Flippin
- 25 Peter Arrington
- 25 Nicole Beale
- 27 Gideon Cheek
- 27 John Cook
- 27 John Cook
- 27 Betsy Garrard
- 28 Martee Morland
- 30 Karen Painter
- 30 Jim Ray

April

5—Palm Sunday—Our Eco Palms arrived on Monday. They have been placed in the gray tub that is under the portico by our front doors. If you would like, you can come by any time this week and pick up some palm branches. You can make them into a wreath for your front door, place them along your walkway or in your yard, drive around on Sunday waving them—your choice! Send pictures to peaklandbc@outlook.com of all the creative ways you find to wave your palms on Sunday! **Worship will be online on Facebook Live at 11am and available later on our website, www.peaklandbaptistchurch.org.**

9—Maundy Thursday—Facebook Live—1pm—Allan Heer will provide special music for Maundy Thursday

10—Good Friday—Resources sent out via email

12—Easter—Lilies in sanctuary; Flower Cross up—You can drive by any time during the day and place flowers in the Flower Cross, along with your unknotted ribbons—**Worship will be online on Facebook Live at 11am and available later on our website.**

19—**Worship will be online on Facebook Live at 11am and available later on our website.**

22—EARTH DAY!

26—**Worship will be online on Facebook Live at 11am and available later on our website.**

Pantry and Other Needs:

Three weeks ago, the Fellowship Team leaders decided to go shopping for some basic, shelf stable food supplies to have here at the church for anyone who needs them. Right now we have: *Pastas, Canned and Single Serve Vegetables, Paper Products, Rice, Frozen chicken, Yogurts, Peanut Butter and Crackers*. This pantry is for our community—if you need it, it is here. We can restock it online and you are welcome to use it any time, especially if it is inadvisable for you to go to a grocery store. If you use it and want to make a donation to the church, you can, but you do not have to.

What other needs do you have?

What other needs do you perceive out there in our faith community? In the larger community?

He is not here;

he has

Risen!

Luke 24:6