



Long Ridge United Methodist Church

CHURCH NEWS

April 3, 2020

A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR

Hello Saints! I pray that you are doing well and that you are practicing safe habits to protect yourselves. I also hope this finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy. This little newsletter is here to offer encouragement and also to help you find ways to plug into our church family.

You may have seen multiple posts on Facebook about Pastor John Esposito. Pastor John had been a member of BUMC for over 25 years. He served as an associate pastor with me and then was able to become the pastor at the Gaylordsville UMC in New Milford CT.



Sadly, Pastor Espo has been stricken with the COVID-19 virus and is in critical condition at Danbury Hospital. Please keep him, his wife Tammy, and two sons John and Joe in your prayers for healing!

Please keep connected to your church family. I'm trying to be in contact in some manner with everyone but if you could reach out to each other and do check in's, that would be very helpful to me and to the folks you are contacting. Especially those who live alone and have no means to connect with anyone.

HOW TO CONTACT THE PASTOR

Feel free to contact Pastor John:

Cell Number **203-312-6789** Call or Text

Email: pastorjohnparille@gmail.com



Last week, I gave an update on how long our churches might be closed. The target date was April 5, Palm Sunday. Sadly, as all are aware, the next two weeks will be the most dangerous in our area.

With that being said, the Bishop has closed the churches through Easter and expect an update after April 12. My thought is that the churches will be closed through the month of April, unless we see some dramatic turnaround with the pandemic.

My plan is to do a live stream service on Holy Thursday at 7:30, Good Friday at 7:30 and Easter Sunday at 10:00 am.

Holy Thursday will include a brief message, and Holy Communion. Details on this service are on page 2 of how you can participate with communion liturgy on page 3.

Good Friday will be a brief message to help us reflect on what Christ did for us on this day that changed everything. Easter Sunday will be a full Easter message with communion. There will not be any live worship music I'm afraid during any of these messages, however I feel these services will be a blessing to you during Holy Week.

Daffodils for Your Home



Alice Mayer, our church flower lady, will deliver 1 dozen daffodils to your local home and accept donations.

These funds will go directly into church Outreach Projects. Contact her at:

Amayer@snet.net or 203-748-2774



Since we are not able to meet together, Pastor John has created messages which you can access with the attached links to a YouTube video. We pray these message will bring you some hope and spiritual direction during this crisis. We intend to have these 2 times per week except during Holy Week.

#6 Watch Your Mouth

<https://youtu.be/nwFgNc5BTK4>

#5 Feeling like you're ready to SNAP?

https://youtu.be/_LwnS8IAH0Y

#4 Doubt

<https://youtu.be/UTZAwLsbLdY>

#3 Finding Joy in Difficult Times

<https://youtu.be/f6V3Fa4bKDA>

#2 Worry

<https://youtu.be/47HxqSHvx7Y>

#1 Fear

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7AIBk3GMGO>



How To Call In & Hear Messages Including Holy Week Services

Also, anyone who does not have access to a computer can now call in to listen to the two weekly messages can now do so at 10am Sunday (will be a play of the Friday message) and 7pm Wednesday (will be a play of the Tuesday message). Also call in on Holy Thursday & Good Friday at 7:30 pm. Easter Sunday, call in at 10:00 am.

Listeners should call either 1-312-626-6799 or 1-929-205-6099 (providing both numbers in case one has a problem/is busy/etc). When prompted, enter the meeting ID 113-104-770 and press #, then just press # again when asked for their participant ID.



Holy Week Services

We will be having live worship available during Holy Week. Just log onto Facebook under the Bethel United Methodist FB Page, and click on the link that will be available for you at the appropriate time.

Check in on Holy Thursday & Good Friday at 7:30 pm. Easter Sunday, check in at 10:00 am.

We will celebrate communion together on Holy Thursday and Easter, see page 3 for details.



Enjoy brief, pointed messages weekly on the Expect, Believe & Trust Podcast from Pastor John. These are short messages that will help you on your journey of faith. Enter the link below on your web browser, listen on Podcast or other platforms, or simply scroll down and listen on your smartphone or computer. Enjoy!

April Fools

<https://anchor.fm/john-parille/episodes/April-Fools-ec8f8h>

Expect, Believe & Trust

<https://anchor.fm/john-parille/episodes/Expect--Believe--trust-ebd0h>



change happens in circles, not rows

Join us on Monday nights at 7:00 pm for on virtual small groups! Please visit our website for more detailed information. Below is the link to the church website

<https://www.bethelmethodist.net/>



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Read bold print in response

Please have ready at your home any bread, cracker or the like and some sort of juice. If you do not have grape juice that is fine, even water will be a accepted replacement.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath
of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love re-
mained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made cov-
enant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through the
prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of
heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to
the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to
announce that the time had come when you would save your
people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to
sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water
and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us
always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took
bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his
disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given
for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to
you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of
you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for
you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as
often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus
Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering
for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these
gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the body and
blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of
Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in
final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your
holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us now join in prayer that Jesus taught His Disciples

**Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in
heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our tres-
passes, As we forgive them that trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For
ever and ever. Amen.**