

# ST. MATTHEW'S UMC

## GOOD NEWS UPDATE



March 28, 2021



This Sunday is Palm Sunday. The name comes from a story in the Bible in which Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem. Prior to this event, Jesus and his friends roamed the countryside teaching and performing miracles and gaining a lot of recognition. The people of Jerusalem were super-excited that Jesus was coming to their city to celebrate a big religious festival. In their excitement, the people grabbed palm branches to wave around and threw their cloaks before Jesus on the road. The whole scene might have looked something like an ancient tickertape parade.

Today, we still commemorate Palm Sunday. It starts off a week of remembrance for Christians, often referred to as Holy Week. The week ends with the celebration of Easter, and throughout this week we mark the different events that led to Jesus' resurrection. This means that Palm Sunday is a kind of paradoxical celebration. At worship services, there is likely a festive atmosphere, where people wave palm branches and parade around the worship space shouting "Hosanna!" The paradox is that we celebrate knowing full well what came next in the story; after Jesus' triumphal entry, he was rejected, betrayed, and crucified.

Just about everything regarding Jesus was surprising. His teachings were surprising - sometimes in a refreshing way, often in a shocking way. His actions were surprising, as evidenced in the people he often associated with. His entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday was surprising - because he rode in on a young donkey. We know today that there was one more surprise to the Jesus story: the surprise of the Resurrection, which we'll celebrate on Easter Sunday. Easter is a reminder that though we may turn from God's surprises, His love persists in an undeniable way. We cannot keep God from surprising us.



*Courtesy of umc.org*







### Lent Prayer for March 28-April 3

Gracious God, thank you for sending your son Jesus Christ to this Earth. He died on the cross to take away our sins; he suffered greatly. But before that, he lived a perfect life and taught us the ways in which we should live our lives. Help us, Lord, to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Cleanse us from head to toe; make us pure in thought, word, and deed. Remind us, dear Lord, of the new life in Christ Jesus that comes with each new day.

We thank you, Lord, for the many blessings we enjoy every day. Help us to see light, Christ's light, in everything, especially when our human eyes can only see darkness. Teach us to live in harmony with each other. We pray for your perfect love and peace to cover our world. Help us to live our lives always seeking you. We are all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Courtesy of Trish Tieken, VCI Prayer Team*

# CURRENT EVENTS

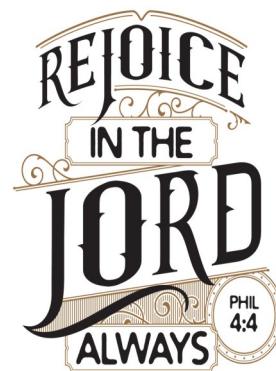
<b>Sun. 3/28</b> 10:17a Worship on Facebook 1:00p Confirmation Class 	<b>Mon. 3/29</b> 8:00a CWM 	<b>Tue. 3/30</b> 8:00a CWM 	<b>Wed. 3/31</b> 8:00a CWM 10:30 Bible Study via Conf. Call 1:00p Words of Wisdom, F'book	<b>Thu. 4/1</b> 8:00a CWM 10:00 Chapel Time w/Ms. Nell on Facebook 7:00p Maundy Thursday F'book Worship	<b>Fri. 4/2</b> Office/CWM Closed 7:00 Good Friday F'book Worship <b>Good Friday</b>	<b>Sat. 4/3</b> 8:30a Pancakes To Go 
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March 1 was **William Ammerman's** Gotcha Day, a celebration commemorating the day he joined **Matthew** and **Amy** in their family circle.

William requested a movie night at home with the family, along with Chick-fil-A and a milk shake. All the Ammermans watched a Pokemon movie voiced by Ryan Reynolds (for the second time). William was content.

Matthew and Amy are so thankful for their blessing of William and that others love him as much as they do.



## Spaghetti To Go

To order, call 713-697-0671 or email [office@stmatthewsmethodist.org](mailto:office@stmatthewsmethodist.org)

Pay @ pickup or pre-pay online @ [www.stmatthewsmethodist.org](http://www.stmatthewsmethodist.org)

**Spaghetti**  
w/meat sauce or meatless sauce  
Salad, garlic bread & dessert

Love  
donation

**Saturday, April 24**  
11:00-12:30  
Pick up on Avens across from Mister Carwash

**Order by Wednesday 4-21-21**

Fundraiser benefiting mission & ministries of St. Matthew's  
4300 N. Shepherd Dr.






Family and friends of St. Matthew's extend sincere condolences to **Herb Chelton** for the loss of his mother, **Mary Ruth Chelton**.

A memorial service celebrating Mary Ruth's life will be held in the Sanctuary on Friday, June 25 at 10:00 a.m.

**\$10 Each**

**EASTER LILIES**

Will be placed on altar for Easter worship service

Order "In Memory of" or "In Honor of"

Call or email the office (contact info on page 4)



# Holy Week & Easter Sunday Schedule

**March 28 †**  
**Palm Sunday**

**10:17 a.m. Worship  
on Facebook**

**April 1 †**  
**Maundy  
Thursday**

**7:00 p.m. Worship  
on Facebook**

**April 2 †**  
**Good Friday**

**7:00 p.m. Worship  
on Facebook**

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**7:30 a.m. Courtyard Worship**  
**April 4 Easter Sunday**  
**10:17 a.m. Worship**  
**In-person & on Facebook**  
†

*He is Risen*

[www.stmatthewsmethodist.org](http://www.stmatthewsmethodist.org)

[facebook.com/stmatthewsunitedmethodistchurch](https://facebook.com/stmatthewsunitedmethodistchurch)

St. Matthew's UMC † 4300 N. Shepherd Dr. † 713-697-0671



**Day 1** - Behold the extensive assembly line that **Amy Railsback** set up for her and her helpers as they put together Easter egg bags for neighborhood children. Her helpers are **Lauren Hudgins**, **Kristin Railsback**, and **Wesley Hudgins**.

Thanks to the **Ammermans**, **Nell Baham**, the **Collazos**, the **Hudgins'**, the **Jedkins'**, the **Murphys**, the **Porterfields**, and the **Stoneburners** for committing to hand bags out. Also, each child in our **Children's Weekday Ministries** received one of these colorful Easter bags.



**Day 2** - The Easter egg bag assembly project took parts of two days to complete. The team put together around **400 bags!**

Day 2's team consisted of **Greg**, **Kristin**, and **Amy Railsback**.



**Pastor Wall** holding her Easter gift, a beautiful creation made by **Beatrice Turner**



## PRAYING FOR...

✚ US Military Men & Women  
✚ Jean Mooney  
✚ John Cunningham  
✚ Men & Women in Law Enforcement  
✚ Flood & Hurricane Victims  
✚ Vibrant Church Initiative  
✚ Denis Rivette  
✚ Adele Collins  
✚ Rita Dostal  
✚ Jerrie Akin

✚ Joe Bisby, Jr.  
✚ George Nash  
✚ COVID-19 Victims & Heroes  
✚ Carolyn McDavid  
✚ Bobbie "Montana" Hosang  
✚ Will Ware  
✚ Family of Denise Stoneburner  
✚ Johnny Jedkins  
✚ Nell Baham  
✚ Family of Gloria Breazeale  
✚ Family of Lori Hudgins

To keep our Prayer List current, please contact the church office to add names of those who need prayer or remove those who have received God's blessing of healing.

✚ Janet Jedkins  
✚ Angie Arguijo  
✚ Family of Pastor Wall  
✚ Family of Herb Chelton  
✚ Doreen Smith



The congregation of St. Matthew's recently received a wedding invitation in the mail!

Do you remember **Rebecca Yoder**? She was our wonderful organist from a few years back. She is currently the music director at St. Columba Catholic Church in Oxon Hill, Maryland.

Rebecca will be tying the knot with Mr. Sherwin Bautista on Saturday, April 17, at 10:00 a.m.

To receive a link to view the online livestream wedding, please **RSVP to** [yotistawedding@gmail.com](mailto:yotistawedding@gmail.com).



**April 4** - Easter Sunday Services  
**April 5** - Office/CWM Closed - Easter Holidays  
**April 7** - Bible Study Conference Call  
**April 7** - Words of Wisdom via Facebook  
**April 8** - Chapel Time via Facebook  
**April 11** - Confirmation Class



## 2021 Stewardship

As we've said before, it really is never too late to turn in your pledge card.

We recently received another pledge, bringing the total pledge card amount to \$166,480.

Our goal is to receive pledges totaling \$170,000 - only \$3,520 shy. Call 713-697-0671 to make your pledge.

## Dialing for Worship

Dial **1-346-248-7799**,  
**meeting ID**  
**89813624054**, to listen  
to 10:17 a.m. Sunday wor-  
ship. **Number & code are**  
**good through July 25.**



**St. Matthew's United Methodist Church**  
**Rev. Virginia Wall**  
4300 N. Shepherd Dr. Houston, TX 77018  
713-697-0671

Please call the church office at 713-697-0671 for questions or information on any opportunities listed. Office hours are Monday-Thursday 8:00-3:00 and Friday 8:00-noon.  
([office@stmatthewsmethodist.org](mailto:office@stmatthewsmethodist.org)). Rev. Wall can be reached at 713-204-8529 or at [vwall@stmatthewsmethodist.org](mailto:vwall@stmatthewsmethodist.org).  
Check us out at [stmatthewsmethodist.org](http://stmatthewsmethodist.org). View our website for an updated calendar and newsletter!

