



CHRIST CHURCH PRESS

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ Church, Presbyterian
4201 Southern Pines Drive, Evans, Georgia, 30809

Volume 13, Issue 3

March 2018

Birthdays

- 01.....Charles Kimbrell
Richard Turner
- 04 Paul Caruso
- 05Lynn Black
Laura Doss
- 06 Andrew Norkus
- 08 Tambrey Fliermans
Leanora Parish
- 12.....Thelma Nunziato
- 16.....Abigail Doss
- 17.....Anne Bowen
Charlie Rector
- 19..... Hamilton McDaniel
- 20Virginia Lammie
- 21.....Roseanna Marble
Carol Mauldin
- 22Carl Fliermans
- 23Patty Marter
- 24.....David Dyer
- 25Anneka Fliermans
Graham Fliermans
Maria Russell
- 26Karleigh Stephens
- 27..... Elizabeth Doss
Kay Lovingood
- 29Ed Evans
- 31..... Kayla Almon
Jonathan Kimbrell

The Problem of Palm Sunday

It was the palm branches that made this day unique, and then again, it wasn't.

For centuries, the church has memorialized the first day of Holy Week as Palm Sunday because of the palm branches and cloaks that the people spread out before Jesus as He entered Jerusalem.

The Gospel writers tell us a crowd gathered, gushing with excitement, and lined the road in front of Jesus as He slowly rode into the city. As He made His way, one step at a time by the beast of burden on which He sat, a sort of carpet was being sewn together ahead of Him. Fresh, green palm branches, presumably picked from nearby trees, and thick, worn clothing, likely from the backs of the crowd, formed a tapestry of endearment toward Israel's long-awaited Messiah.

And according to the Pharisees, this was a problem.

What the People Said

But actually, it wasn't the palm branches that were the problem so much as what the people were saying.

Luke tells us that as Jesus entered Jerusalem the people began rejoicing and praising God, shouting,

Blessed is the King Who comes in the name of the Lord! (Luke 19:38)

Some Pharisees try to get Jesus to make the crowd stop. They ask Him to rebuke the people for what they're saying – the whole "Blessed is the King" bit.

The Pharisees get it, you see. This isn't just any phrase. This is the kind of welcome reserved for Israel's Savior.

It's a phrase found in the Hebrew Scriptures, going back to Psalm 118, a psalm that rejoices in the Lord's triumph. By verse 22 of this psalm, the rejected stone has become the "cornerstone" (Psalm 118:22). This is a marvelous work – by God's doing – which then launches the day of salvation (Psalm 118:23-24). This day of salvation is the long-anticipated deliverance that Israel thought might never come. But it will, it does, and Psalm 118:25 captures the hope: "Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success!"

Now this salvation and success is nothing generic. It will come through a person – the Messiah of God – the One sent to rescue His people. So goes the shout, in the psalm,

Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the LORD! (Psalm 118:26)

Without doubt, this rambling crowd in Jerusalem, taking its cues from Psalm 118, is declaring Jesus to be the Messiah. That's why the Pharisees tell Jesus to stop the madness. *Do You hear what they are saying? They think You're the Messiah come to save us. Tell them to shut up.*

Jesus doesn't stop them, though. He says, instead, that if the people weren't saying it then the rocks themselves would cry out. Of course, Jesus is the Messiah. He has come to Jerusalem to save His people.

(continued on page 2)

Anniversaries

- 01.... Carole & Enrique Romero
Maria & Ed Russell
- 06Sue & Ron Moncrief
- 09Charlotte & Mel Jewett
- 17.....Dessa & John Edwards

The Problem of Palm Sunday

(continued from page 1)

And according to the crowd, this was a problem.

What the People Saw

But actually, it wasn't the salvation part that was the problem so much as the way Jesus would bring salvation.

The people wanted salvation and success, remember. Which means, they wanted the Messiah to march into the city and do hard business with Rome. They wanted to be free from Gentile oppression, even if by force, even if by threats and plagues and a split sea, as they recounted so well in their history. They wanted another exodus, one that expelled the Romans.

Instead, what they got by Friday morning was a bloodied has-been, a man in Roman custody, rejected by their own leaders, standing next to an infamous criminal called Barabbas. They wanted an incomparable king, but they would see a beaten blasphemer. Or so they thought.

The sounds of the crowd this Sunday – this Palm Sunday – would later be betrayed by the sounds of their stony hearts. "Blessed is He!" would soon become "crucify Him!" For this reason, there is something nauseating about today. We read of the response to Jesus, but because we know the story, we know it's not real. It's not right.

And as we feel the deep tragedy of their words, of their blindness, we shouldn't expect that we'd have been any different. The Pharisees and the people had their problems, and so do we. If we know our hearts apart from grace, if we could listen in on this crowd, we'd hear our shouts along with theirs. We'd hear our praise, hollow as it were, and then, by Friday, "ashamed we'd hear our mocking voice call out among the scoffers."

It is not the righteous, after all, who Jesus came to save, but sinners. Sinners like us.

– Jonathan Parnell, *Desiring God*



Matthew 21:9

Children's Chatter: Let's Talk about... VBS



Come One, Come All!
Join in the Fun!

June 11-15 • 9:00 a.m. until noon

What is courage? Do you know someone who has shown courage in the face of danger? Courage is doing the right thing even when afraid. Our hero this year is someone who shows courage and does God's will even when facing a giant obstacle. Come and meet our "Cardiac Crusader" this June.

Sometimes it takes courage to step up and volunteer to do something even if you aren't sure you can. We have places in VBS that need to be filled in order to provide the best for the children coming in June. Find out where you are needed and courageously step up! Please contact Fay Deal by phoning 803-278-1176 or by sending an email via runningdeal@gmail.com. God equips those who serve.

Oh, that God would give us a passion to spend ourselves to make Him look as great as He really is!

Joshua 1:9
Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.



You are cordially invited to the

**INSTALLATION SERVICE OF
REV. ROBERT L. HENDRICK, JR.**

*As Pastor of
Christ Church, Presbyterian*

Sunday, March 18, at 6:00 p.m.
Reception Following



Sunday, March 4

During the 11:00 a.m. Worship

Community Service

Our next service opportunity will be Friday, March 23, from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. We will once again serve in the dining room at the Master's Table located at 702 Fenwick Street in Augusta. This is a ministry of the Golden Harvest Food Bank reaching those less fortunate with spiritual and physical nourishment. If you are willing and able to serve with us, please contact either Emily Adams (706-627-0784) or Julie Dey (706-294-2436) to reserve your spot.

Holy Week Services

Sunday, March 25
Palm Sunday at 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 29
Maundy Thursday Service
with Communion at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 30
Good Friday Noonday Service

Sunday, April 1
Easter at 11:00 a.m.
Evensong: An Easter Celebration at 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome so be sure to invite your family and friends to join us in honoring and praising our risen Lord, Jesus Christ!

Missions Matters

In January of 2016, I traveled to Ecuador as part of a missionary team with the Kilpatrick Baptist Association to share the Gospel door-to-door in the Central Highlands area of the country. For several years the Association has been involved in the startup efforts of a tent church in this area. I asked the leader of the team if I could bring a year's supply of Child Evangelism Fellowship® teaching material written in Spanish in case the church needed it. The leader agreed, and the team helped me transport it. When we arrived, I soon discovered that not only did they not have teaching material for the children, but they also needed training in how to teach children, and they asked if I would train them.



As part of our mission trip we traveled by truck around to sister churches located in remote areas of the beautiful mountains of Ecuador; sometimes climbing upwards of 13,000 feet in altitude. Every church we visited had a group of children there ready to hear us teach them God's Word. While teaching with the Gospel bracelet in one of the very remote and very poor community churches, my translator told me that some of the children did not understand what he was saying. He said that they speak Quichua as their primary language. I was so sad that the children didn't understand what we were teaching them from God's Word and it weighed heavy on my heart. On a Friday in September of 2017, I sent a request to CEF's Copyright department to get permission to have some material translated into Quichua, and on the Sunday of that same week I spoke at Christ Church, Presbyterian's Missions Prayer Bands. I had included a few pictures in the Microsoft PowerPoint presentation of the mission trips to Ecuador, but before I started the presentation I noticed that there were table markers on each table listing different continents where the church supported missionaries. When I saw South America on one of the markers, I asked what missionaries they supported there. They said, "We support a missionary in Quito, Ecuador." Then I said, "Oh really? Just this week I felt God leading me to get some material translated into a language there called Quichua. What does the missionary do there?" They then told me that Christ Church supports Rick Aschmann who is a Wycliffe Bible translator, and he is currently translating the Bible into the Quichua language.

Only God could put something like this together. God's timing is incredible! Christ Church gave me Rick's contact information, and he arranged for a national translator to work on this project. Rick also oversaw the work proofing it for errors with a program he wrote. In January of 2018, my husband and I traveled to Ecuador a day before the rest of the team arrived, and we had the honor and privilege of meeting Rick and his wife, Betty, and getting 1,000 Gospel Bracelet Tracts printed in Quichua while we were in Ecuador. We also purchased Bibles from Biblica (Previously called International Bible Society) that Rick and the team of Wycliffe Bible Translators produced in the Quichua language to take with us to the churches.



The people in the churches were so happy to receive the Bibles in their language, and the tracts were divided up between the CEF Director in Ecuador, the International Mission Board Director, the pastor of the tent church, and Rick Aschmann who leads a Bible study at his church for Quichua speaking people in Quito.

Glory to God for His sovereignty! What a mighty God we serve!

In His service for the children,
Kim Green, Local Director, CEF of Georgia, Augusta Chapter



Ministry thru Music

Plan to hear two of our musical groups as they share in evening worship: **The Augusta Youth Chorale** will sing Sunday, March 18, and our **Children's Choir** sings Sunday, March 24.

LAST CALL if you are interested in singing celebratory Easter music with the Christ Church Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra. We will celebrate with glorious music the incredible love, sacrifice, and resurrection of our Lord. We continue to rehearse each Wednesday evening and you are cordially invited. Our last extra rehearsal, highlighting Easter music is scheduled Saturday morning, March 10, at 10:30 a.m. Contact me for further information. The choir will sing both Maundy Thursday, March 29, and for our Evensong: An Easter Celebration Sunday evening, April 1.

Stan Pylant, *Director of Music*,
music@christchurchpres.org

For the LORD your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs. Zeph. 3:17, NLT

Received Accolades

We wanted to honor the ministry of some of your faithful servants who visited my mom, Edith Novotny, at NHC nursing home in North Augusta for years. My mom and dad attended Christ Church regularly until my mom had a serious stroke 6.5 years ago. She was unable to walk, talk, feed, or dress herself after the stroke. Dad took care of her at home for 3 years and then NHC took over. Christ Church visited them regularly. We so appreciate your care and concern. Thank you for being such a blessing to our family!

In His Name,
Gail Illuzzi, daughter
Peoria, IL



It was such a pleasure and encouragement to be with you this past weekend (February 9-11) at the conference. There are so many "benefits" that ministered to Amy and I over the weekend to include the wonderful hospitality and food, the fellowship with dear friends and supporters at CC,P, the hearing from and connecting with the other missionaries, and of course the foundation of it all, the solid preaching and encouragement from the Word from Dr. Willson.

We are blessed to have CC,P standing with us in ministry. So thank you for your support, prayers, and the extra gift we received at the conference.

Blessings in Christ to each of you!

Love,
Doug, Amy, Analise and Nate Nunziato

1 **Corinthians 1:14**

I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ.

Christ Church Press

Rev. Robert Hendrick, Pastor-Elect
 Christ Church, Presbyterian
 4201 Southern Pines Drive
 Evans, GA 30809
 706-210-9090
christchurchpres.org

Address Service Requested



MARCH

Weekly Sunday Schedule: 9:45 a.m. Sunday School • 11:00 a.m. Worship • 6:00 p.m. Worship

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
					6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer	9:00 a.m. American Heritage Girls Workshop
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion 12:30 p.m. Fellowship Meal 4:15 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	6:45 p.m. American Heritage Girls 7:00 p.m. Trail Life	6:00 p.m. Session Prayer & Meeting 7:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Augusta	6:15 p.m. Brass Ensemble Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6:45 p.m. Women's Evening Bible Study	6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer 5:00 p.m. Youth at Putt Putt on Washington Rd.	10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal: Easter Music
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
4:30 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting <i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i>	6:45 p.m. American Heritage Girls 7:00 p.m. Trail Life	7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Evans	6:15 p.m. Brass Ensemble Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal		6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer	<i>Trail Life Troop Hike</i>
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
4:30 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Missions Prayer Bands 6:00 p.m. Installation Service	6:45 p.m. American Heritage Girls 7:00 p.m. Trail Life	7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Augusta	6:15 p.m. Brass Ensemble Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6:45 p.m. Women's Evening Bible Study	6:30 p.m. Men's Prayer 10:30 a.m. Community Service: Master's Table	
Palm Sunday 25	26	27	28	Maundy Thursday 29	Good Friday 30	31
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