

Coming This Month...

APRIL -

- 1 Church Clean-Up*
- 4 Deacons & Trustees Meeting*
- 6 Maundy Thursday*
- 7 Good Friday*
- 9 Easter Breakfast*
Easter Worship
- 24 Ladies Tea*
- 30 Quarterly Meeting*

*He is
not here,
He has
Risen!*
Luke 24:6

Do You See?

When you walk around in really big cities it is almost like your eyes, ears, and nose are assaulted! The smells come from street vendors peddling their food, as well as a mixture of rotting trash, and human odor. One's eyes can easily become over stimulated from the flashing neon lights, sky scrapers shooting out of the ground, and the vast assortment of people and their clothing choices that scream for your attention. The sounds of a major city are a mixture of heavy traffic, the dull hum of countless people milling about, and occasionally even street musicians filling the air with "music". Often these musicians are playing on plastic tubs, old beat up instruments, or on rare occasions multi-million dollar instruments that belong only in the hands of master musicians. Such was the case in 2009 in Washington D.C.

A man dressed as a beggar unpacked a violin worth 3.5 million dollars and gave the people of D.C. a treat! This man was world renown master violinist Joshua Bell. As he played six selections written by Bach (a composer most experts believe was the greatest composer ever), most people walked right by him too busy to notice, or too oblivious perhaps to even care. He like other street musicians had a place to leave money to "tip" or pay for the music that was being provided for all to hear. Most would only throw money in the hat without even bothering to notice or to pay attention to the melody that rang true from Joshua's violin.

At the end of Joshua's performance on the street he collected just \$32.00 when just a few nights previous he packed the Boston Theater out where the average seat to hear him play cost \$100. Why did so many people ignore this master? Why did so many miss this free opportunity? After the Washington Post reported this, there were no doubt many who remember walking by this "street performer" and didn't bother to stop and

listen. They missed an opportunity of a lifetime.

Psalms 19:1-2 reminds us that, "The Heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge." (ESV). We are surrounded by the work of the Master of all masters. Every morning the sun rises to reveal a stunning display of God's work and power. Every night the sky twinkles and hints at the vastness of God's creation. Have we grown oblivious to the glory of God because we have been around it too much? Have we become too used to seeing the majesty of God's creation that we have become blind to it?

I want to encourage all of us to spend some more time marveling at God's creation. If you are out driving and notice the sunset, pull over get out and spend an extra minute or two on your trip to praise God. When you are driving down the coast don't ignore the vast ocean out your window, ponder the greatness of God who created such an amazing thing at a simple verbal command. Encourage your children and grandchildren to find the beauty in all of creation. Use the vastness of the night sky to move you to contemplate some of God's eternal attributes. Don't be one of those people who walk past a master ignoring him ply his trade. Stop and make time to marvel at God's handiwork as you enjoy the beauty and wonder of His creation.

Pastor Rich Carr



Worship With Us

8:45 A.M. Glad Tidings Radio 1370 A.M.

9:30 A.M. Sunday School (all ages welcome)

11:00 a.m. Worship Services

Live Stream

We live stream our 11:00 A.M. Sunday worship services on Facebook Live (Bethany Free Lutheran Church) Links can be found on our website: bethanyfree.com. Sermons after can be found on our YouTube -Bethany Free Lutheran, Astoria, Oregon

Men's Breakfast

Men's breakfast will be cancelled this month,

WMF Meeting

Women's Missionary Federation (WMF)

Thursday April 13th, at 11:00 A.M.

Bring a sack lunch, dessert is provided.

All Ladies welcome!



Bethany Sewing Ministry



Sewing will be April 6, 20 & 27 at 10:00 A.M. All sewing skills are welcome. A lunch is provided.

Brown Bag Ministry

Every Tuesday at 1:30 P.M. Each week our Brown Bag Ministry prepares as many as 100 or more brown bag lunches that are distributed to the homeless by local nonprofits and individuals. Each lunch is created to feed the body and share the good news of God's love and salvation through Jesus. Join us in packing the bags.

Spring Cleaning

We will be sprucing up Bethany with a cleaning day. April 1st at 10:00 A.M. A job is available for all!



Deacons & Trustees Meeting

D&T meeting will be Tuesday April 4th, at 6:00 P.M.

The Net in Naknek, Alaska



We will be sending a tote with quilts and supplies to the mission in Naknek again this year. Coffee, tea bags, napkins, paper cups, hot cocoa (not individual), iced tea, cookies mixes, brownies and other desserts are needed for the summer coffee house outreach ministry. Warm clothing is also welcome. April 23 will be the last day to bring items, we will need to load the tote and get it to Seattle for shipping.

Opportunities to Serve

Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board Greeters, Readers, Treats, & Flowers for Sunday's.

Ladies Tea

The ladies will be having a tea and treats on April 24th at 6:30 P.M.

All ladies and girls welcome. Bring your favorite tea cup, we will also have some on hand.



Holy Week

April 2, Palm Sunday Worship at 11:00 A.M.

April 6, Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 P.M.

April 7, Good Friday Service at 7:00 P.M.

April 9 Easter Breakfast at 9:00 A.M.

Easter Worship Service at 11:00 A.M.

Quarterly Meeting

The quarterly meeting will be after church April 30th.

Celebrate Easter with Us!

BREAKFAST AT 9:00 A.M.

EASTER WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."
John 3:16-17

