

April 3, 2020

Greetings Dellites,

My apologies for sending so much information your way in recent weeks. I'm sure you are on a steep learning curve like I am, for how to live and how to work in a quarantined world. I've got some details here on upcoming events and worship for Easter, etc.. I will **bold** each paragraph's topic early on in that paragraph, so if it doesn't apply to you at all, you can skip that paragraph. Good enough?

Spring Clean Up: the weather isn't going to be very good for a clean up day tomorrow, April 4th. If anyone wants to come and work in the morning, you are welcome, but Council didn't think it was optimum for turnout and effectiveness for tomorrow. Council has suggested that we list the jobs to do: rake leaves, trim evergreen bushes, pick up sticks in parking lot, church yard, playground area, yards across from the parking lot and parsonage, trim honeysuckle bushes. Anytime you can do one or more of those jobs, you are welcome to come to Dell and dive in! If you are planning to do one of those jobs, call Pastor Joe and let him know. That way we don't get 5 guys coming on different days all thinking they are going to do the same job. Thanks men! If we need to try another larger group clean up, we may look at April 18.

Palm Branches, and Home Communion: please **swing by the church and claim a palm branch** or two/three for your home/family for this Sunday's Palm Sunday worship, April 5 at 10:30! Also, we are going to implement Holy Communion in our homes, led by Pastor Joe on YouTube. **When you come to pick up your palm branches, also grab a grape juice** bottle for your home Communion service on Easter.

We are planning to have Worship on YouTube both **Maundy Thursday** evening at 7:00pm, and **Good Friday** at 7:00pm.

On **Easter Sunday, April 12**, we'll have our normal Worship service at **10:30** which will end around 11:35 or so. Then, we **hope to have a Communion Service**, NOT advertised to the public, which will come on the YouTube channel **at 11:45 for Dellites**. **Please have bread or crackers ready, along with the grape juice, for Communion**. I would encourage you to use the grape juice that day, or soon after.

For **Communion at home**, please take note of a couple of items. For **homes with husband/father present**, this is a unique opportunity for the spiritual head in the home to be a servant-leader as Scripture describes (Ephesians 5:23, 25, 33). The husband/father should handle the bread/juice and distribute them to his family members, and bless the children who do not yet commune. For **homes where husband/father is not present**, God Himself is present to bless the women who are following His lead and who are full "heirs" of eternal life with men. 1 Peter 3:7. The **elder woman** in the household should handle the bread/juice and distribute them. It is also certainly appropriate for **singles** to commune themselves, as Pastor Joe leads the meal.

In general, please **give honor** and respect to the Lord, His meal, His body and blood present in the bread and juice, and to the person who is "leading" your communion at home. Honoring Jesus and what He did for us on the cross, honoring the elements of the meal, humbly repenting of sin, and trusting Jesus for forgiveness and life are central to Communion. St. Paul makes these things very clear in 1 Corinthians 11:17-34. If you have any questions about Communion at home, please contact Pastor Joe ahead of time for help.

I think that's it for this moment in time. Who knows? You are right, only the Lord knows! We can trust all of life and those we love into His hands.

God bless you mightily as Holy Week approaches, and the Easter shout draws near! Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!

Honoring the Lord Jesus,
Pastor Joe