



Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

3rd Sunday of Easter - April 26, 2020

Happy Easter! What? You say, Easter has passed, and we have moved on to Spring. Not so fast. Easter is more than a single Sunday in Spring. Like Christmas, Easter is an entire season of its own. Really, how can a single day be enough to celebrate the great mystery of faith. *Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again!* In fact Easter Season lasts for a week of weeks. Seven weeks over 50 days that begins on Resurrection Sunday and culminates on Pentecost Sunday with the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles with Ascension Sunday in between.

Every day for these 50 days and beyond throughout the year, let us joyfully celebrate the presence of our risen Lord in our lives, our homes, our neighborhoods, and our virtual Church. Though we may be apart from our loved ones, friends, and neighbors, we will come together once more as surely as Christ will come again. He is risen indeed!



The Supper at Emmaus

The Supper at Emmaus (shown above) is a painting by the Italian **Baroque** master **Caravaggio**, executed in 1601, and now in London. Originally this painting was commissioned and paid for by **Ciriaco Mattei**, brother of cardinal **Girolamo Mattei**.

The painting depicts the moment when the resurrected but incognito **Jesus**, reveals himself to two of his disciples (presumed to be **Luke** and **Cleopas**) in the town of **Emmaus**, only to soon vanish from their sight (**Gospel of Luke** 24: 30–31). Cleopas wears the **scallop shell** of a **pilgrim**. The other apostle wears torn clothes. Cleopas gesticulates in a perspectively-challenging extension of arms in and out of the frame of reference. The standing groom, forehead smooth and face in darkness, appears oblivious to the event. The painting is unusual for the life-sized figures, the dark and blank background. The table lays out a still-life meal. Like the world these apostles knew, the basket of food teeters perilously over the edge.^[1]

In the **Gospel of Mark** (16:12) Jesus is said to have appeared to them "in another form", which may be why he is depicted beardless here, as opposed to the bearded Christ in **Calling of St Matthew**, where a group of seated money counters is interrupted by the recruiting Christ. It is also a recurring theme in Caravaggio's paintings to find the sublime interrupting the daily routine. The unexalted humanity is apt for this scene, since the human Jesus has made himself unrecognizable to his disciples, and at once confirms and surmounts his humanity. Caravaggio seems to suggest that perhaps a Jesus could enter our daily encounters. The dark background envelops the tableau.

Caravaggio painted another version of the **Supper at Emmaus** (now in the **Brera, Milan**) in 1606 (shown below.) By comparison, the gestures of figures are far more restrained, making presence more important than performance. This difference possibly reflects the circumstances of Caravaggio's life at that point (he had fled Rome as an outlaw following the death of Ranuccio Tomassoni), or possibly, recognizing the ongoing evolution of his art, in the intervening five years he had come to recognize the value of understatement.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supper_at_Emmaus_\(Caravaggio,_London\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supper_at_Emmaus_(Caravaggio,_London))



HAVE FAITH & SMILE



Making Coffee

A chauvinistic husband and his godly wife were preparing to have breakfast when the wife asked,

"Why do I always have to make the coffee?"
The husband answered, **"Because you're the wife, that's your job."**

The wife replied, **"Well, the Bible doesn't say it's the woman's job to make the coffee, it's the man's!"**

Taken back by this, the husband demands to see where in the Bible it states that he should be the one to make the coffee.

"Well, here it is", the Godly woman replied, "Hebrews!"

Kid Artist

A kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they drew. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's artwork. As she go to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what her drawing was.

The girl replied, **"I'm drawing God."**

The teacher paused and said, **"But no one knows what God looks like."**

Without missing a beat or looking up from her drawing, the little girl replied, **"they will in a minute!"**

20 ways to joyfully celebrate this Easter season

1. Sit outside in the sun.
2. Plant something that will provide nourishment in the season ahead.
3. Add some color to your living spaces.
4. Go on daily walks, noticing how spring (or autumn, for those Down Under) continues to unfold each day.
5. Buy fresh flowers—just because!
6. Keep a gratitude journal.
7. Set aside time each day to pursue an activity that brings you joy.
8. Practice saying "no" to things that drain you.
9. Catch up with an old friend with whom you've lost touch.
10. Feed the birds.
11. Talk to your children about what's bringing them joy.
12. Make a playlist of songs that bring you joy.
13. Collect images that stir your soul on a vision board.
14. Eat dessert first!
15. Find creative ways to liven up your daily tasks.
16. Give to an organization that is bringing life/joy/hope to others.
17. Keep a bottle of champagne on hand to raise a toast at a moment's notice.
18. Cuddle with your pet.
19. Write down a list of things that bring you joy for when you need a boost.
20. Take a day off work to instead go slowly and savor.

Plus 1: Add your own idea and share it here!



Martin Brody, Evangelist

Randy York

One of the most quoted movie lines is uttered by Police Chief Brody in the movie **Jaws**. After seeing firsthand the size of the shark that he and his shipmates are up against, he looks worriedly at Quint and says, "You're gonna need a bigger boat."

The Covid-19 virus appeared on the world scene and disrupted our comfortable journeys. Finances have been shaken. 26 million jobs have been lost. Supposed strengths have been exposed as weaknesses. Healthcare has been tested. Security has been replaced with uncertainty. God, however, has not changed.

If Chief Brody were to comment on our situation, he might say, "You're gonna need a bigger faith." Sure we might feel anxious and inadequate in ourselves, but we are totally sufficient in God. Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 12:9-11: *He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness".* Paul concludes by observing that *"when I am weak, then I am strong"*.

A crisis exists; but an opportunity as well for a bigger faith. Begin each day in God's presence. Pray in each moment. Stay in God's word. Rest comfortably in his grace and let God steer the boat.



Providence Presbyterian Church

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord



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PRAYER REQUESTS

Anonymous — **Jim Chambers** for good health and happiness.

Barbara York — **Her Father** for his well-being and continued health, and for **Randy's** continued health

Fritz & Jean Wainwright — **Jean's** birthday was April 17th. She was celebrated by her family from a distance with a parade of cars.



Becky Jensen — For continued prayers for the **PNC** as they carry on their mission.

Carole Shore — Ask for prayers for sanity in our country and for the healing and strength of her sister.

Wendy Kasper — Asks for prayers for healing and strength in the midst of her chemotherapy. Also for good results from a scan scheduled for 4/30 which will show the effectiveness of her chemotherapy.

Sheila Zier — Prayers for healing and strength and encouragement for her daughter, **Brittany** as she is battling a serious long term disease.

All: We have a small team of volunteers reaching out for prayer requests. If they cannot or are unable to reach you, then please e-mail RickCheslo@gmail.com so we can include you in our prayers in future editions.

Graduations

May

Jane Cheslo — Rowan College of Burlington County
Verity Cheslo — University of Rhode Island
Hannah Kroh — Belmont University, Nashville, TN
Malcolm Slaney — University of Las Vegas, Masters Degree



Please e-mail RickCheslo@gmail.com if there are others who are graduating, celebrating a birthday or any other life event, and we will recognize you here.

Remember When? Have an old photo or two you would like to share? Please send it in to RickCheslo@gmail.com



Reminder - Save a Stamp!

Come to the Drive - Thru Offering from 8:30 am to 9:00 AM and 11:00 to 11:30 AM each Sunday morning.

We average 12 to 14 cars each week. Come join the parade and Say Hey to Jack! Also don't forget to Honk on your way out!



Thank You!

To Everyone who has contributed content, behind the scenes support, feedback, and last but not least, you the reader who are friends, neighbors and fellow believers. This Newsletter is dedicated to all of you who support the Providence Presbyterian Church, May God's blessing be upon you all.