

Recording the
JOURNEY
of the Black Rock Church of the Brethren

March 2021



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www.blackrockchurch.org

Worship: 10:15AM

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00AM –3PM

Pastor: Brandon R. Grady (pastorbrandon121@gmail.com)

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Administrative Assistant: Jodi Weaver (aabrcob@comcast.net)

Our Vision: Come as you are. Experience God's love. Go out like Christ.

Our Mission: Black Rock Church is a place of refuge where people are renewed and transformed by the Spirit to continue the work of Jesus peacefully, simply, together

By Pastor Brandon

And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7

Spring is upon us. The warmth of the sunny breezes perhaps mixed with the freshness of the air. Okay maybe there's a little rain and some remnants of the cold, but what a wonderful time for us to feel a sense of fresh peace. Even as the season of winter has past, this one is a little different than most. We've just gone through transitions in our country's leadership and our still dealing with the aftereffects. But most of all we are confronted with the question of how we will handle the possible creating of a vaccine to hopefully deal with the Covid19 Pandemic and help us get things under control. We face questions in our souls of how to treat our fellow sisters and brothers who are on complete opposite sides of mounting issues of unrest and how to talk about or deal with them ourselves. All of this while all around us is a season of blooming, newness and freshness which should bring blessing and joy!

So friends, don't we need the fresh peace of God to descend into our hearts more than ever? Don't we need the gospel to help us reinstall the values of him who said, let the little children come to me and, love your enemy and pray for those who persecute you. And most of all who also said, come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.

It seems to me as we are so divided as a nation, it's a wonderful opportunity for the church to show the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace as Colossians 3 describes. What an amazing time for us to say we will not allow any barrier to overcome the fresh peace in Christ we feel, and furthermore, we will lean into the diversity we have, and allow those conversations to draw us even closer to know, even as we disagree on the things which don't matter, we are unified in the one thing which does. We are children of the heavenly father, enfolded lovingly in his arms. He gently leads and carries us and everyone else all day long!

So even as we disagree, Christ still guards our hearts and our minds and urges us to serve one another and those whom we long to reach. Even as the news of unrest rages on, what a time for us to say, our peace cannot and will not come from anywhere else, but our Lord Jesus Christ, and we, no matter what anyone or anything says, will love everyone with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. And even as things seem to change around us, may we remain steadfast in our vow to serve and follow Jesus, always being his willing and joyful hands and feet, so everyone will by the peace of God, inherit a blessing and stay fresh as ever! To God be the Glory in Jesus' Name

Sermons

March 7

Scripture- 1Corinthians 1:18-25

Title- Nothing Compares

Description- The power of God through our whole lives is unparalleled.

March 14 -Scripture- Ephesians 2:1-10

Title- Dead or alive!

Description- do we feel like we're very special children of God as life happens?

March 21 -Scripture- Jerimiah 31:31-34

Title- "I will" never meant so much.

Description- Have two words ever carried such impact?

March 28 (Palm Sunday) Mike Ritter and Pastor Brandon

Scripture John 12:12-16

Title- What happened, what did it mean?

Description- For the crowds and the disciples what did the Palm Sunday events mean as, and after they happened?



HACC March Special Needs

Most items can be placed in the HACC Box

Provide-A Lunch (PAL)

Single serve fruits

Individual size chips, pretzels, etc.

Laundry detergent

Instant white rice

Scallop Potatoes

Clothing Bank

Family sized toiletries

Sheet sets all sizes

Bath Towels

Men's Large and X-Large white tees

Baby Diapers sizes 4 and 5

Bread wire ties

We accept donations

Mon-Fri. 8am -12:30pm

Sat. 8am -12::30pm

Changing Lives Shelter

Deodorant - (Men & Women)

Disposable cleaning Gloves - (Medium & Large)

Razors

Body Wash

Lysol Spray

Ajax Cleaner

Clorox Wipes

Paper Towels

Ziploc bags (Gallon sz)

Bottled Water

Ruth's Harvest

Single serve entrees, cereal, juice boxes, snacks or veggies (all single serve)

WELCOME GIFT MINISTRY

The Outreach Team is pleased to announce a new ministry that seeks to deepen our connections in the local community.

The Welcome Gift Ministry will contact newcomers moving into our nearby area, and offer them a welcome gift bag/basket filled with items that they can hopefully use, enjoy, and reflect upon. Donations will be collected for this ministry on an ongoing basis, so that we are ready to be in touch with new neighbors in a timely way.

We ask that all donations be new. They should be placed in the designated bins in the Gathering Place or front-door entranceway. Some ideas include:

Coffee mugs	Decorative napkins	Kitchen hand towels
Tissue cubes (possibly with needlepoint or painted wood cover)		
Notepad and decorative pens/Pencils	CD's -Christian music	
Small flashlights	Devotional books	Calendars
Assorted flavored tea and coffees		Beverage coasters

Please do not donate food items, due to possible dietary restrictions and/or allergies that would be unknown to us as we greet the newcomers.

Each gift bag/basket will include materials about Black Rock COB, such as a brochure and the latest edition of our *Journey* newsletter, as well as the current *Our Daily Bread* publication. During the pandemic, we will closely observe CDC guidelines for social distancing when making deliveries.

Right now, we are aware of one home under construction and one home for sale in the village of Black Rock. If you know of other opportunities for outreach to folks moving to this area, please notify any Outreach Team member*.

Please pray for this ministry, as we extend the warm fellowship of Black Rock COB and share the Good News of our Lord.

Thank you!

- ♥ Sandie Keller
- ♥ Mary Ann Robinson
- ♥ Sharon Myers
- ♥ Shari Lehman
- ♥ Patti and Mike Ritter



Outreach 2021

Clean up Buckets

The Outreach team will be collecting items from mid-January to mid-March, 2021

The estimated cost of a complete a bucket is \$75.

If you cannot afford to purchase an entire kit, you may donate any of the listed items or if you prefer, give a monetary donation. Church World Services said Clean-up buckets are their greatest need right now.



Here is the list.

1. One 5 gallon bucket with resealable lid -(lid sold separately)
(Can be purchased at Lowes or Walmart)
2. Four scouring pads
3. Seven sponges, including one large one
4. One scrub brush
5. Eighteen reusable, lightweight dry cleaning towels –
(example -Handi-wipes)
6. One 50 oz. or two 25 oz. bottle of liquid laundry detergent
7. One 16-28 oz. bottle of liquid disinfectant dish soap
8. One 12-16 oz. bottle of household cleaner that can be mixed with water *(no spray bottles)*
9. One pack of 48 to 50 clothespins
10. Clothesline, two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.
11. Five dust masks
12. Two pairs of heavy-duty, waterproof dishwashing gloves
(latex- free and non-surgical)
13. One pair of work gloves
(cotton with leather palms or all leather)
14. 24-28 heavy duty or contractor type 30-45 gallon trash bags on a roll
15. One 6-9 oz. bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent

All items must be new.

All liquid items must be capped and securely tightened.

March

The word "March" is written in a vibrant green, elegant cursive font. It is surrounded by decorative elements including thin green vines and several small, three-leaf clovers scattered around the letters.

**CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING
SUNDAY, MARCH 21, AT 11:30 AM**



March Birthdays

1	Nevin Garvick	18	Galen Bortner
	Gloria Myers		Lovie Klunk
3	Sherry Wherley		Isla Myers
4	Jacob Haring	21	Wanda Stremmel
5	Rose Marie Rill		Chris Stonesifer
	Randy Myers		Connie Forbush
6	Jamie Hartlaub	22	Mark Robinson
	Mason Tyler		Zane Biddle
7	Jayden Calstrom	23	Daniel Sprenger
8	Paul Boldosser		Michael Garvick
	Heidi Hanson		Tina Redding
	Nicole Osborne	24	Gracie Shaub
	Patti Ritter		Romaine Miller
12	Cathy Brant	24	Jeanne Wah
	Cordai Steckel	25	Mark Schaefer
13	Cody Hartlaub		Cody Shaffer
	Jill Hoffacker		Bob Roach
14	Jake Bollinger	26	Darlene Myers
	Dick Kipple		Alexandra Henderson
15	Leland Anderson	27	Robert Crawford Jr.
16	Sandy Bollinger	28	Duane Shaulis
	Jilienne Widener		Cynthia Yingling
	Mary Crawford	30	Leah Stone
	Amier Steckel		Robert Sasscer
		31	Pam Wise
			Steve Forbush
			Nolan Hanson

March Anniversaries



2	Steve & Deb Wolicki ('91)
11	Mike & Kelly Garvick ('95)
12	Pat & Donna Apicella (10)
26	Doug & Terry Martin ('83)
30	Brett & Wynne Hoffacker ('96)
	Ellis & Darlene Myers ('68)
31	Angelo & Jessie Cocci ('04)

thank you

- *Thank you to those who make our cards for the card ministry.
- *Thanks to the many volunteers, in all seasons, that make our church and parsonage, comfortable and safe for all.
- *Jill Hoffacker and Bonnie Henry , for decorating the sanctuary for the months of January and February.
- *Thank you to Shari Lehman and Jodi Weaver for preparing our Congregational Cards for the months of January and February. These cards make such a difference in the lives of those who receive them.
- *Thank you to all those who donate and those who collect and pack the donations for several of our Outreach Team projects. Even in these difficult times we are making such a difference in our community and our World.
- *Thank you to all those who volunteer, We all benefit from giving and serving each other and God is praised.
- *Thank you to Ruthanna Stremmel for serving as our phone visitor for February.
- *Thank you to Sharon Myers for helping with the CD ministry for the months of February and March.

Meat Canning 43rd Year

APRIL 5, 6, 7 AND 12, 13, & 14, 2021



Reminder: Volunteers needed for
Meat Canning project and
volunteers to provide lunch for
approximately. 30 workers.
Shift #1 (new time) 7:15am –Noon
Shift #2 9 am-2 pm



"That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

2 Corinthians :19-20

Global Mission Prayer Guide February 22,2021

*Romans 12:12 (NRSV) reminds us to:
"Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer."*

BURUNDI

Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Services (THARS) asks for prayers for the family of Vital Sinzobatohana, who passed away on February 7. Pray also for the THARS organization as it seeks to replace Sinzobatohana, who was the vice president —

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC-Praise for the successful Annual Conference that was held recently (photo, above). Ariel Rosario was elected as president of the church in the DR. Pray for Iglesia de Los Hermanos and its leaders.

NIGERIA- Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN), the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria, requests prayers for security concerns within the country and specifically in the northeast. Kidnapping for ransom has become a huge problem with kidnappings occurring within 10 miles of the church headquarters. In addition, attacks by the Boko Haram insurgency group continue, with the latest attack in the Askira community. Food costs continue to skyrocket and many live in a constant state of fear. Their faith and hope in God are what sustains them.

RWANDA-Praise for the construction funds raised and sent for church buildings in Rwanda. We pray that these funds will go a long way to getting the buildings up to code so that they may again meet in person. Cont... top of next pg.

UGANDA-Pray for the Uganda Church of the Brethren as one of their pastors, John Kule, passed away. He was considered the spiritual father of the Uganda Church of the Brethren.

UNITED STATES-Pray for the newest Brethren Volunteer Service workers as they begin their service in various areas across the globe, in Chicago, El Salvador, Japan, and Uganda.




**ANNUAL BABY DEDICATION SERVICE
TO BE HELD AT BLACK ROCK CHURCH
Mother's Day, May 9, 2021
BLACK ROCK WELCOMES THE LITTLE CHILDREN**

Bring Your Children to be dedicated so they may be enfolded into our midst Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14

Dear friends, it's such an exciting time in the life of any congregation to dedicate young disciples. If you have a child you would like to be dedicated into this community, we would be delighted to do that for you. please let us know two weeks before the service date, that would be Monday, April 26 This will allow us to plan. I will ask to meet with all families ahead of time the day of the service at 9 AM in my office to go over final details. Be blessed everyone, and to God be the glory for his gift of life!

Pastor Brandon

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Worship each Sunday at 10:15am	1 7pm Outreach Mtg. via conf. call. #832-831-2424 ID:262798	2 Annual Conference Registration. opens today	3. 9:30am John Bible Study Conference call #832-831-2424 ID:262798	4 9am-PAL	5	6 Deacon training 9am via conference call #832-831-2424 ID:262798
7 9 am W & F team mtg.in the library	8	9. 6:30pm Christian Ed mtg via conference call 7 pm Staff Relations Team meeting	10	11	12	13
14 Daylight Saving Time Begins	15	16 7 pm-Leadership Team meeting	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 First Day of Spring
21 April Journey deadline 11:30 am Spring Congregational Business meeting	22	23	24	25 9am-PAL	26	27 Passover Begins
28 Palm Sunday	29	30	31			

Date	Accompanists	AV Techs	Zoom/Video	Decorators	Narthex Display	Monthly Phone Visitor	Congregational Card Ministry
7	Suzanne Werner	Karl Lehman	Beth Osborne	Gloria Myers & Rose Marie Rill	Outreach Continued— clean up buckets	Isabelle Lehman	Suzanne Werner
14	Robyn Bortner	Amy/Randy Hoffacker	Jodi Weaver				
21	Martha Brant	Karl Lehman	Carrie Brenton				
28	Esther Kipple	Amy/Randy Hoffacker	Jodi Weaver				