

Words of Life

Normally this week would be spent preparing for a Maundy Thursday service, a Good Friday service, a journey to the cross prayer walk, sunrise services, and all of our worship services. A week of incredible and meaningful events designed to draw us closer to Christ. Our children would participate in a fantastic egg hunt event and more than 1000 people would have likely passed through our doors across this amazing week! But these aren't normal times.

We, like those early Christians, face uncertainty. We also wonder where God is in the events going on around us. We, like our spiritual forbearers, find ourselves waiting, hoping, longing for the end of the long night and the light of a glorious new day. We long for a kind of resurrection—a re-entry of life. We cling tightly to the true and hopeful promises of Jesus---

*"I have told you these things, so that **in me you may have peace**. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! **I have overcome the world.**"*

While this will likely mark the first Easter in OCC history when the doors to our building are closed—the doors to our hearts remain open. We will celebrate this resurrection day as those first century Christians did, in small family groups, gathered together in our homes. Realizing that the world is forever changed, that Christ's victory over sin and death has been accomplished—that life exists after death, that hope lives on, that Christ is enough. That just as Christ rose to something new—so will we who are in Christ!

*"...God, who is rich in mercy, **made us alive** with Christ even when we were dead in our transgressions—it is by grace **you have been saved**.⁶ And God **raised us up with Christ** and **seated us with him in the heavenly realms** in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in **his kindness to us** in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you **have been saved**, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For **we are God's handiwork**, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God **prepared in advance for us to do**.*

So let us celebrate Jesus. Let us celebrate hope. Let us celebrate salvation. It's Easter-because Jesus lives, we will also live! Let's celebrate!

Martin E. Wright

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace.

In this world you will have trouble.

But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

Who Shepherds a Shepherd??

Virgil Clotfelter

Among the numerous and very appreciated calls, notes, emails, texts, and assurances of prayer that have come my way since Dorri went home, one contained this question and concern. A dear brother called and said the above was the question he just couldn't shake. He wanted to know who was pastoring me in my difficult circumstance. It's a valid question about those of us in the Lord's service.

My favorite passion in ministry is shepherding, or, as some would call it, pastoring. I define pastoring this way: Connecting with people by walking through life with them, and being at their side through all the events and moments of life...happy and

sad. Shepherding was done faithfully and lovingly to and for me as I grew up, and I have shaped my ministry with this process in mind. I love to imitate Jesus in this way.

I had an immediate reaction to his question of concern. **"YOU ARE!"** By that I mean the many members, friends, and leaders of my family of faith. Readers of these words and a host of other helpers have superbly shepherded me in an avalanche of grief. I have felt a mountain of love and support since this unexpected parting of my wife of nearly 45 years. You, my caring pastors, have been strong rocks in uncertain times and never-before-felt emotions.

I have received every assurance of prayer and offer of help seriously. They have blessed my heart BIG TIME! As I've often heard it said, "I don't know how people make it through such tough times without faith and true friends." I'm so thankful I don't have to try. You have shown the love of Christ in most excellent ways.

I conclude...You've done it very well. You've heeded this shepherd's needs in ways reflective of a popular comedian as he says, "get 'er done." I can honestly say, I've been shepherded very well. Thanks for overwhelmingly showing how much you care. May God bless us all and fill us all with His peace.

News Bits...

In keeping with the Covid-19 gathering rules of our Civil authorities aimed at slowing the spread of the virus, we will continue to meet through online services but we will not be using the OCC building during the month of April. Contact number is 812-799-7187.

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Due to COVID-19 pandemic, Mark Yeaton's 2,800 Ride for IDES from Key West, FL to Bar Harbor, ME to benefit Damou Mission (Haiti) Milk for Moms program has been postponed until June of 2021. The ride was to commence on June 2, 2020 and be completed by July 5.

Contact John Hundley or Lucky Jenkins if you know of a benevolent need, especially for food. We offer Jay C, Kroger and Walmart gift cards.

What's the Matter...

Kathy Bradley

I lost a small piece of my thumbnail this week – wanna see? I can't believe you said, "No!" The main reason I'd like for you to see it is so you know what a small piece it is, and yet... The first time I tried to button a shirt after the incident was an intense struggle. That took me by surprise; it wasn't even the entire nail. Which made me start thinking (like pretty much everything does). How important that nail was, even that little piece of it! As the whole hand is estimated to be only 1% of total body surface area. (BTW, I researched that.) Extrapolate that for a thumbnail, but only a piece of it. Yeah, not very significant is it?

I don't know about you, but I often wonder why I matter. Maybe that's a personal issue that doesn't apply to you, but I would wager that someone else out there feels the same. This is for you. It can be even more daunting while we are unable to assemble together where we receive concrete encouragement from each other.

For example, I love numbers & math, computers & tech, delving

into the depths of Scripture and other topics, and animals. For the life of me, I have no idea how to incorporate those things (especially that animal thing) into serving Him.

Then I observe people with gifts of hospitality, selfless service, encouragement, word of knowledge, administration – and well, they all seem so... Spiritual! That doesn't even include those whom we see at the forefront of ministry – pastors, missionaries, etc. So I compare. After which I tell myself what I would tell anyone else – stop it, Stop It, STOP IT!! But still...

The simple answer is – YOU MATTER, and so do I! It's easy to get this into your head, not so easy for it to travel a few inches to your heart. Especially now that we are physically separated.

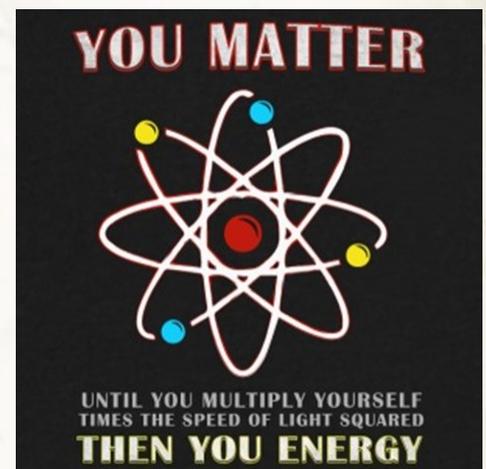
If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he

chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ...

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

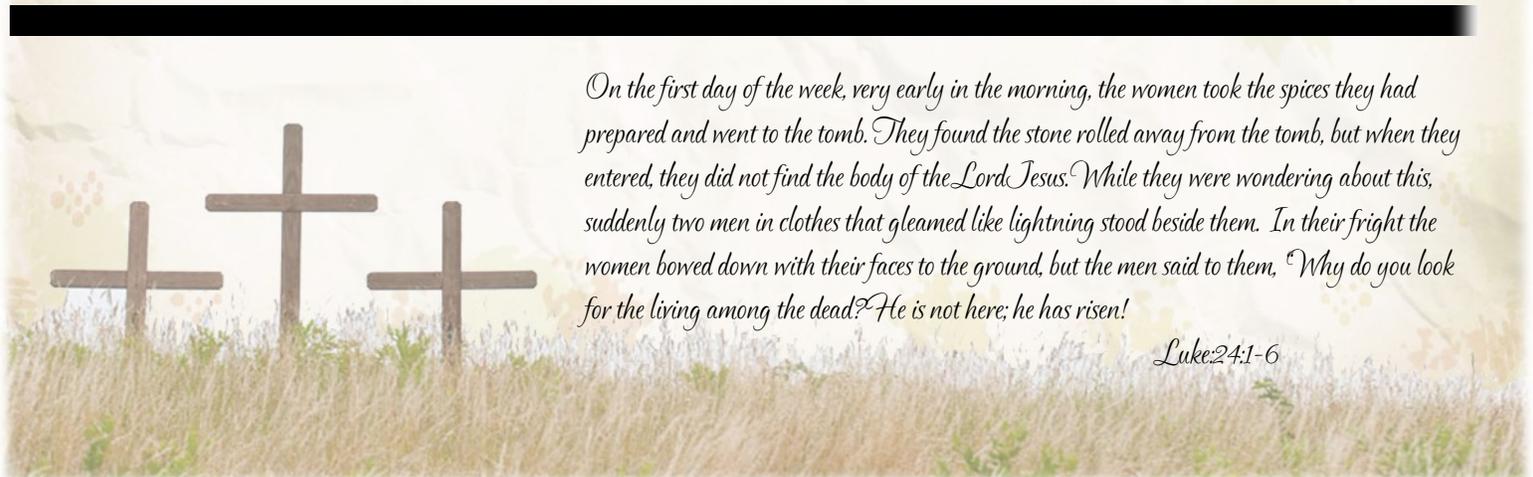
1Co 12:17-22, 27 ESV

And so the bottom line (literally):



On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead?" He is not here; he has risen!

Luke:24:1-6





Electronic giving is a convenient, easy way to support our church and ministries

By giving electronically, you can:

Give anywhere, anytime from your computer, smartphone or tablet

Donate to one of our special 'offerings funds'

Set up recurring payments and never worry about bringing your checkbook or cash again!

Get started today! Visit our donations page to set up your online contribution: www.occtoday.org

OCC's ONLINE GIVING

By Martin Peterson - elder and treasurer

Ogilville Christian Church implemented website based electronic giving a little over 6 years ago. This excellent and convenient service has been used by many in our church since its introduction and has shown to be 100% secure and without any known issues. Our implementation strategy included trialing the system extensively and then promoting its use over time as appropriate. I can think of no better time than right now for our members and supporters to utilize this option than while our entire church family is restricted from gathering.

The Service: While the access to the 'GIVING' button is on OCC's webpage, the actual transactions are linked and processed through our contract financial banking source Vanco Services.

A few notes about Vanco:

Began in 1998 with bank to bank transfers (ACH or 'Automated Clearing House' transactions)

Currently about 20,000 churches use this service

At last reports they have 30,000 clients processing \$13.1 billion annually

Steps to giving online:

1. Go to our OCC website at www.occtoday.org
2. On the home page at the top right select 'GIVING'
3. This opens the following Online Donation page (this page is linked to and operated by Vanco Services)
4. Create a personal "online profile" using an email plus you create your password
5. With Profile set you are ready to donate!
6. For Tithes, enter donation amount in General Funds Account. If desired you can also use or add Offerings donations in the Benevolence, Missions or Building Expansion accounts.
7. Using the 'Donation Frequency' drop down box, select whether you wish this giving to be one-time donation or weekly/monthly recurring donations. You also select your desired withdrawal day/s.
8. Select 'Continue' to bring up the payment type options; (1) 'Direct Bank Transfer', (2) 'Debit Card' withdrawal or (3) 'Credit Card' withdrawal. Based on selection either enter your personal 'bank account' number plus 'bank routing' number as found on your checks or debit/credit card details.
9. Review and confirm and you're done!

Notes:

- If at any time you have any questions or desire direct help setting up your transactions please contact myself (812-371-7679) or our assistant Treasurer Kelly Strahl (812-277-6482).
- You can access, change or remove your choices right up until the day you've selected for the transaction.
- You can have multiple transactions. (Example – you could have a recurring weekly Tithe donation and then add a one-time Building Fund donation without impacting your recurring tithe transactions). Any combination of transactions can function simultaneously.
- Once your account is created you can use the easy to read Mobile Site format for smartphones etc. by clicking on the View Mobile Site link.

1. Go to our OCC website at www.occtoday.org



4. Create Your Online Profile



3.

5.

View Mobile Site

