



OUR GIFTS

Epiphany Ministry, Inc.

Palm Sunday—Luke 19:41-42



Every year we celebrate Palm Sunday, another important event in the life of Jesus. It is a Sunday to recall the triumphant entry of Jesus on a borrowed donkey into the city of Jerusalem. Jesus was at the Mount of Olives, when the disciples arrived with a colt. As Jesus rode into the city, onlookers spread their cloaks on the road to Jerusalem. As Jesus descended from the Mount of Olives, he saw a multitude of people. They praised God and shouted: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"

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MARYLAND—Mid-Year Meeting—May 7, 8, 9, 2010

National Meeting for the Mid-Year will be held in Maryland. This meeting is opened to all Epiphany Ministry Team Members. See inside for more information on Hotel.

Jesus Lives

- *Jesus is born—Son of Mary*
- *Jesus is baptized*
- *Jesus is tempted*
- *Jesus is crucified and buried*
- *Jesus rose on the third day*
- *Jesus ascended into heaven*
- *Jesus will come again*

Hotel for Mid-Year Meeting

Please make your Reservations by: **April 16, 2010**

Phone: 1-301-441-3311

Toll Free: 1-800-321-2211

BE SURE TO TELL THEM
YOU ARE PART OF:
EPIPHANY MINISTRY, Inc.



*Courtyard Marriott
6301 Golden Triangle Drive
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770*

Hotel does not have Shuttle

Gethsemane Baptist Church

All Meetings will be held at:

Gethsemane Baptist Church
2500 Enterprise Road
Bowie, MD 20721

This is Carrie Miller's Church. Please plan
To attend Sunday Morning Service.

*They went to a place
called Gethsemane:
and he said; .. "Sit here
while I pray."
Mark 14:32*

Schedule

Note: Subject to Change without Notice

Friday PM

- 4PM to 6PM—Registration—
Gethsemane Baptist Church
- Supper—Gethsemane
- Budget Meeting—Gethsemane



Saturday

- 7AM-Breakfast—Hotel
- 8AM-Transport to Church-
Meet in Hotel Lobby
- 8:30 AM-Open Board Meeting
- Lunch—Gethsemane Baptist Church
- Afternoon—Open Board Meeting
- Supper—Maryland Cooking with Surprise
- Open Board Meeting
- Relax—With Other Epiphany Members

Sunday Morning

- Church Service—Gethsemane Baptist Church

The Rest of the STORY—Luke 19:41

PALM SUNDAY: JESUS WEeping OVER THE CITY OF JERUSALEM

Let us walk to see the other side of the story. As Jesus neared the city and saw the city, he wept over it. He recognized unforeseen things to come, including its destruction at the hands of Caesar. He looked intently at the city, heaved a sigh and said, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes" (Luke 19:41).

He foresaw the wounds to be inflicted on the city. Thirty years after Jesus' earthly life ended, the Romans left in Jerusalem only the loftiest towers, Phasael, Hippicus, and Mariamne, and a portion of the western wall. The rest of the city was erased to the ground.

Jesus wept over Jerusalem. He wept over its impending wounds and attacks. His heart broke in compassion and tenderness, but Jesus did not stop there. His kindness is always interspersed with justice. He asked why Jerusalem did not know the things that make for peace. Tears of compassion led to a question of justice.

As members of a faith community, we too must shed tears over the recent calamity. We must also offer help and relief to the suffering and the families of the dead.

Moreover, we must ask why we do not know the things that make for peace. Let us not ask simplistic questions. For instance, a question, "Who killed Jesus?," has resulted in the

massacre of Jews over the centuries. That question has incited anti-Semitism and negative stereotyping. Rather, a question such as "What are the forces that killed Jesus?" help us address root causes.

In Jesus' case, Pontius Pilate's expediency, religious leaders' narrow interpretation of religious laws and sacred scriptures, along with power politics led to his death.

Twentieth century history provides an example of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Lutheran minister in Germany, who asked some justice questions before the onset of World War II. He asked:

How does peace come about?

Through a system of political treaties?

Through the investment of international capital in different countries?

Or through universal, peaceful rearmament in order to guarantee peace?

Through none of these...for the single reason that all of them confuse peace with safety.

There is no way to peace along the way of

safety.

For peace must be dared.

Peace is the great venture.

It can never be safe.

Peace is the opposite of security.

Peace must be dared

Christ's compassionate tears and searching question at once show the inseparability of God's justice and God's kindness.

PRAYER:

Loving Jesus, teach us to weep as you do. Help us to ask questions of justice the way you ask, in true humility and compassion. Give us the strength to do both works of mercy and works of justice simultaneously. Amen.

Epiphany Ministry, Inc.

P.O. Box 192
Danville, GA 31017

Phone: 478-962-0794
E-mail:
bgnert@epiphanyministry.com

www.epiphanyministry.org

To show Christ's Love to
incarcerated juveniles".



A VISION

In the late 1980's there was an Episcopal church in Birmingham, Alabama that ministered to young women incarcerated in a facility called Chalkville. A chaplain at the Julia Tutwiler Facility for Young Women had a vision that something needed to be done for youthful offenders. Her husband, John, was serving on the National Chrysalis Board, but there did not seem to be any programs specifically intended for incarcerated youth. Rev. Louise Johns (a UMC minister) applied for a grant so that a program could be designed and implemented that would be similar to other three day programs such as Kairos (for incarcerated adults), Cursillo and Walk to Emmaus. A grant from the Youth Service Fund of the United Methodist Church was awarded for 1991 and the work Began.

National Board Members

Lea Hume	Vice Chair Person/VA	mrlea2@aol.com
Jayne Griffith	Treasurer/OH	jayne_griffith@hotmail.com
Marvin Trimm	Secretary/GA	paulalever@yahoo.com
Pr Doug Risdall	Spiritual Leader	d_risdall@earthlink.net
Carolyn Moulton	Colorado	cmoulton41@msn.com
Carrie Miller	Maryland	carriemm@aol.com
Polly Dupuy	Louisiana	pdupuy@comcast.net
Robert Lee	North Carolina	roborteleee@att.net
Leah Crowley	Florida	leahatohm@yahoo.com
Leslie Nordby	California	NORDBYLA@aol.com
Leslye J. Leslie	Oklahoma	jwleslie@windstream.net
Donnice Brown	Expansion Committee	MtTom1@pacbell.net
Walter Strawther	Expansion Committee	westraw1969@yahoo.com
Betty Gernert	National Office	bgnert@epiphanyministry.com
Leslie Nordby	Accountant	NORDBYLA@aol.com