

APRIL METRO NEWS

Happy 94th Anniversary!



It's been one year since the Covid 19 Pandemic changed our lives in most usual ways. The changes of this past year have prompted the church of Jesus Christ to rethink and reassess how we will continue to minister to a hurting world. New paradigms are prerequisite in order to Move Forward. It has also been 94 years since the spirit of God moved upon the hearts of 8 people to give birth to the Greater Metropolitan Church faith community. Moving forward in faith we can celebrate and serve this present age with a greater effectiveness. It is required of us as stewards to be found faithful. Thank you for stewardship efforts and contributions! Happy Anniversary! It's **Time To Move Forward!**

Real Sacrifice

(2 Samuel 24:11-18)



Rev. Dr. Michael Runnels

In Verse 18 God had David go out and bow on his face to the king. He went to buy an altar to build to save his people. He said, "I will not

offer to the Lord that which cost me nothing."

Everyone will remember the plague of 2020. Now, in 2021 we are looking back and we stand hopeful that maybe the vaccine will bring us normalcy. Many of us are still reeling. For some of us we've been blessed.

God saw David through every situation and he looked upon his soldiers and he was pleased with himself. God used David as an instrument to chastise his people. He had allowed 70,000 to die. "Please let me fall into the hands of God!"

When David saw the angels he said to God, "Please protect me and my family, for it was my sin." When you fail, still turn to God. When you fail keep looking to God. David cried out to God and received mercy.

"Go and set up an altar and worship." That was the instruction from God. David obeyed. He had keen

understanding that you can give without worshipping, but you can't worship without giving.

It is our job to proclaim that God is our savior. When it's time to worship you must appear with a sacrifice. At every celebration, God required a sacrifice. David said, "I will not accept a handout to worship God, I will purchase it." David confessed, "It's me oh Lord, standing in the need of prayer."

It's urgent that this plague be stopped. But if we seek His face, turn away from sin and pray, He is still able and He will heal the land.

Offer Him the sacrifice of praise and sacrifice for all He has done for us. He answers prayers and will forgive our sin. He will save us.

March News



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Thank you to everyone that celebrated in person or virtually for our Annual Stewardship Drive and 94th Anniversary. It was a wonderful day to regather again and worship. Thank you for your Stewardship contributions. We nearly reached the half way mark of our goal this year of \$50,000. If you have not had the opportunity to complete your commitment pledge, you can still do so.

Happy Palm Sunday! March 28th was the first day of Holy Week, a seven-day span that culminates the day before Resurrection Sunday. As Believers, Palm Sunday is a celebration honoring Jesus Christ's victorious entry into Jerusalem, which is a joyful, special occasion that took place towards the end of His days on Earth before being crucified.

Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, FEMA will provide financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020.

We are working with stakeholder groups to get their input on ways we can best provide this assistance, and to enlist their help with outreach to families and communities. FEMA will begin to implement COVID-19 funeral assistance in April.

Fraud Alert: We have received reports of scammers reaching out to people offering to register them for funeral assistance. **FEMA has not sent any such notifications and we do not contact people prior to them registering for assistance.**

Vaccinations are available at www.zocdoc.com/vaccine or call the hotline (312) 746-4835 at the **United Center** site for ages 65 and below and non-essential workers.

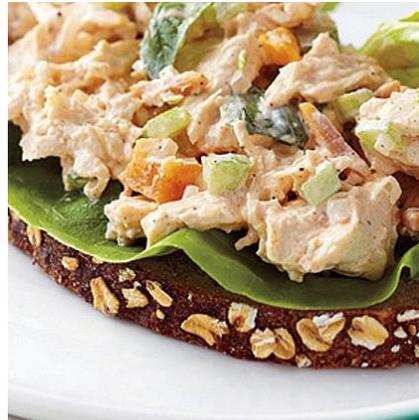
If you have recently changed or have an email update, then please submit to the church office for correspondence purposes, thank you.

Wednesday's Midweek Bible Study and Prayer Meeting is only available via zoom at 10:45 am. Please click the link on the email or enter the meeting ID and password on your Zoom account or telephone. Meeting ID: 670 946 1527 Password: Gmmbc. One tap mobile 1312-626-6799.

Our Food Pantry grab-n-go distribution is open under the CDC guidelines. Prepacked food baskets are given away from 1:00pm – 3:00pm every Wednesday.

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Classic Chicken Salad



INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup diced chicken
- 1 heaping tablespoon minced red onion
- 1 heaping tablespoon minced celery
- 2 teaspoons freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 2 teaspoons mayonnaise
- Dash of hot sauce
- Coarse salt and ground pepper, to taste

DIRECTIONS

Step 1

Place all ingredients in a bowl; stir to combine.

Step 2

For a whole-grain sandwich, layer your favorite whole-grain bread with 1/4 cup baby greens (we used arugula) and chicken salad.

Step 3

To serve on a bed of greens, place 2 cups mixed salad greens on a plate; spoon chicken salad over the top, and add 6 to 8 halved red seedless grapes.

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