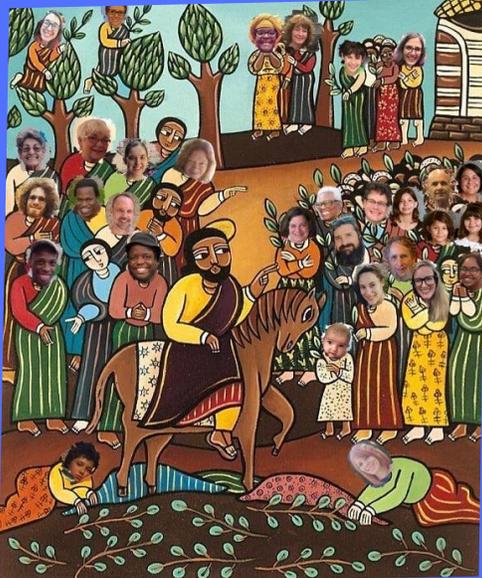




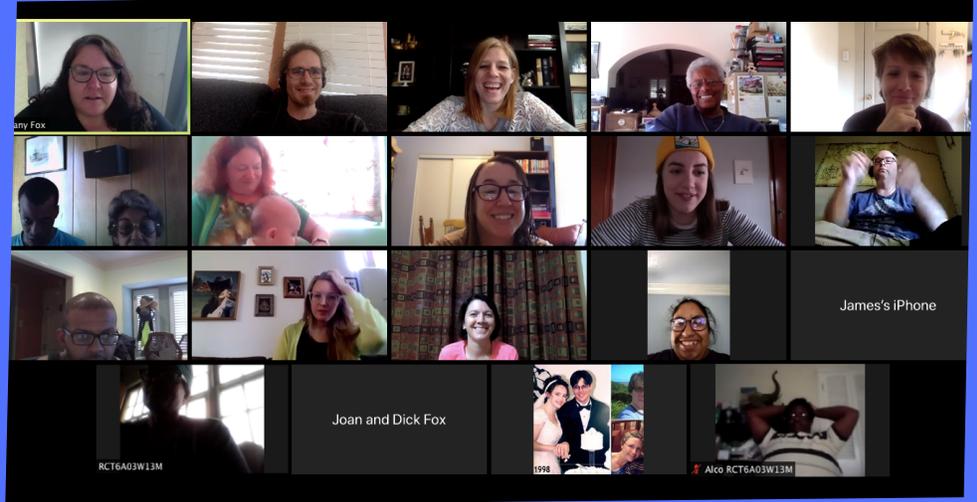
May 2020

BELOVED EVERYBODY CHURCH

An ability-inclusive community. Following Jesus and celebrating the God-given gifts of people of all abilities.



Virtual Palm Sunday Parade



Checking in at our weekly Zoom gathering

BELOVED EVERYBODY IN PANDEMIC TIME

Who knew that right after we made the decision as a community to start planning toward weekly meetings as a dinner church, we would be faced with the prospect of not being able to gather in person, for who knows how long? Especially for a community like ours, whose gatherings are interactive and invite the embodied participation of everyone present, figuring out how to meet online has been a whirlwind adventure.

But in keeping with what we had already decided, we started meeting weekly. So for the past 8 or 9 weeks we have been gathering each Sunday over zoom to connect with God, ourselves, and one another. It has been imperfect, messy, beautiful, and holy - as most of our gatherings are! And we have been able to welcome visitors from all over who have wanted to be a part of our gatherings, but couldn't previously because of distance.

It also opens a deep dependency on the creative energy of the Holy Spirit, both in creating accessible and meaningful online gatherings each week, and for adapting our plans for longterm financial sustainability and outreach in our community. While in some ways life is slower, it's also faster in terms of needing to reimagine what our community looks like during this time and in the next chapter. We are experimenting and figuring things out as we go...figuring out things that work well, and being graceful with ourselves and learning from things that don't!

In exciting news, Michael and I (Bethany) have been able to move ahead in the process of receiving approval to become a Family Home Agency to welcome an adult with intellectual disabilities to live with us. They are allowing us to do some of our substantial hours of training remotely which we thought was delayed indefinitely - so that's great news!

★ Gratitudes

- For the lovely new people we have been able to meet and welcome to our weekly gatherings from all over the world!
- A divinely orchestrated connection with someone in charge of a large disability organization in South Los Angeles who reached out to Bethany for help creating online curriculum for their participants during Covid19.
- Hosting a fantastic conversation with women of faith with disabilities on the amazing documentary Crip Camp. If you missed that event, check it out [here](#).
- That our process of preparing to welcome an adult with IDD to live with us is moving forward!

♥ Prayer Requests

- For the completion of a grant application that will help Beloved Everybody to have a portion of the financial resources needed to remain sustainable for the near future.
- Creative ways to connect to our broader community even during this time of physical distancing, especially people with intellectual disabilities who may be experiencing even more isolation and disruption in their schedule.
- Continued wisdom and adaptability as we engage our community and each other, and discernment as we plan for what our gatherings will look like in this ever-changing social reality we are all currently a part of.

Upcoming Events

- **Every Sunday** 4pm (pacific): Weekly worship gathering (about an hour long) where we connect with God, others, and ourselves. During this season of physical distancing we are gathering virtually over zoom. Contact us for the zoom link if you'd like to join! Email: belovedeverybody@gmail.com
- **Wednesday, May 27** 11am: Webinar from the *Collaborative on Faith and Disabilities* on opportunities faith communities have to bring a holistic understanding of healing to individuals, churches, and local communities. [Register here](#).

Support Beloved Everybody!

We cannot do this ministry alone! We are grateful for your support of our ministry in the following ways:

Prayer: Joining us in prayer for the requests listed above.

Spreading the Word: Share about Beloved Everybody on social media, with your friends, and other interested groups and organizations.

Donate by Credit Card: Visit belovedeverybody.org and click DONATE.

Donate by Check: email us at belovedeverybody@gmail.com for our mailing address.

We are so grateful for your prayers and support of all kinds. Thank you!

