



FIRST DAY !

Weekly News and Opportunities at
The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County
April 5, 2020

TODAY

Today, during the coronavirus alert, we are [Live Streaming worship](#) at 10:30 a.m. so stay home and stay healthy and join us online. Share the Peace, Spread the Word, not the virus.

ON-LINE WORSHIP IS A NEW EXPERIENCE. Here's a few ideas about how to make it more meaningful. To enhance the audio, use headphones, earbuds or a small Bluetooth speaker. Gather some items for a home worship space. It might be your coffee table or kitchen table or desk – wherever you are sitting to watch/participate in the Live Stream. Include a candle and matchstick so you can light the candle in your home when Pastor Sue lights the candle in the Sanctuary. You could place some purple cloth – for Lent – under the candle. A copy of the bulletin is a good idea – either a hard copy that you print or a soft copy on another device – so you can refer to it and join in the liturgy while you watch. Are the daffodils blooming in your garden? Put one or two in a bud vase for your home worship space. Mark the text beforehand in a Bible, so you can follow the reading (the text will also be printed in the online bulletin.) Other ideas? Take a photo of your home worship space and send it to sharris@firstpreshc.org.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS: Thanks to the Live Stream Worship Team.

WE WELCOME Frank Rittermann as our guest musician this morning. Thanks to Frank for being part of the Live Stream Worship Team.



THE PALMS THIS WEEK are given to the Glory of God.

RED ROSE IN THE PULPIT is in celebration of the birth of *Adriana Paige*, on Monday, March 30, 2020, daughter of Bridget and Daniel, granddaughter of Woody and Carol, niece of Blake.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER, also called Holy Communion, is included this morning during worship. You will need to have some bread and some wine or juice ready. Everyone who puts faith and trust in Jesus Christ is welcome to share communion. Communion Sundays are the first Sunday of every month.

ALL IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES, STUDY GROUPS, MEETINGS AND SERVICES ARE CANCELLED THROUGH April 30, 2020. Some groups will meet via ZOOM or other online apps. **THE CHURCH OFFICE is currently CLOSED**, and the church staff are working from home, but someone will be checking the building daily. The building is locked. Please contact the church staff via email, listed on the back of First Day! So, call us if you need us, we're here for you. Keep washing your hands! Stay healthy!

FACEBOOK LIVE EVENT FOR KIDS AND THEIR GROWN-UP FRIENDS.

Thursdays at 3:00 p.m. join Pastor Sue as she gets everything ready for Sunday worship. She'll have stuff for everyone to do to get ready – maybe some art, maybe learn or practice a song, maybe a home scavenger hunt. Come and see.

GUIDE TO PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 5, 2020

Please pray for: Justin, Burta, Dave, Phil, Dylan, Mil, Rose, Carol, Betty, Doris, Shirley, Shirley, Beth; for everyone living in Charlestown, Millers Grant, Riderwood and Vantage House.

Non-Resident Members: Frank & Betty, Vivian, Russ & Barb, Virginia

Friends & Family: Evan, Andrew, Rosemary, Peter, Aaron, Tim, Emily, David, Mary

Births: *We celebrate in the birth of Adriana Paige, on Monday, March 30, 2020, daughter of Bridget and Daniel, granddaughter of Woody and Carol, niece of Blake.*

Recovering from Surgery: Donna, Emma, Dan

Bereaved: Jeff & Natalie; Jimmy's Family, Barb & Sarah; Marvin, Alice

Care Center: Marvin, Reva, Jim

Seminarians: Blake, Emma

PCUSA Mission Coworkers: Jeff & Christi Boyd in Congo, www.PCUSA.org/jeff-and-christi-boyd; Jed & Jenny Koball in Peru, www.PCUSA.org/jed-koball

Members and friends who are staying home during the Corona Virus outbreak.

Please contact the church office, 410-730-3545 or one of the Pastors:

Morton Harris, 443-824-3768 or Sue Lowcock Harris, 443-824-4305

with the prayers and concerns that you would like to share.



PEOPLE ON THE WAY

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian (February 4, 1906 – April 9, 1945) As World War 2 approached, this noted German theologian was studying in the United States. He returned to his homeland. When Hitler came to power and took control of the church, he publicly opposed him. He was one of the leaders of the Confessing Church movement and in time he became involved with the resistance movement. This led him to abandon his nonviolent stance and participate in a failed attempt to assassinate Hitler. For this he was arrested and sent to Buchenwald, and then to Flossenburg. On April 9, 1945 morning, while conducting worship, the guard came for him he calmly said goodbye and walked courageously to his death by hanging. US soldiers reached the camp and liberated it tow weeks later. His best-known books include *Life Together*, emerging from his experience in founding a clandestine Protestant seminary, *The Cost of Discipleship*, coining the phrase, "cheap grace," and *Letters and Papers from Prison*, birthing the idea of "religionless Christianity." *Glory to God* includes a hymn (818) by Bonhoeffer.

We also remember: On **April 4, 1968, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated** in Memphis, Tennessee, where he was helping to organize a strike of sanitation workers. Though frequently imprisoned, abused, and harassed by the FBI, King consistently exercised the New Testament teachings about turning the other cheek, loving one's enemies, and proclaiming the good news of God's coming reign.

THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE focuses the prayers of Christians week by week, so that over the year all the countries of the world are prayed for.

This week we pray for *Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania*

We thank God for:

- Those who welcome newcomers and provide for them and others in need.

We pray for:

- Economic developments that serve all people.
- Ending practices that harm the air, soil and forests, and installing instead measures to protect the environment.

For more information about the Prayer Cycle,
visit the website of the World Council of Churches: www.oikoumene.org

OUR MISSION PARTNERSHIP PRAYER CYCLE FOR 2020

We pray for the mission we share as part of the PCUSA.

Compassion, Peace and Justice (CPJ) Ministries of the Presbyterian Church USA Sara Lisherness is the Director of this ministry area. The work of this area includes: peacemaking, public witness, hunger, self-development of people, disaster assistance, the United Nations, environmental ministries, public education and responsible investments.

HOLY WEEK

TODAY IS PALM SUNDAY! Get your palms ready for your Living Room Palm Parade. **We will be sharing communion** via our Live Stream Worship. Please read “a word” below so you can prepare.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING PCUSA SPECIAL OFFERING

will be collected TODAY *Sunday, April 5*. Include your gift with your regular offering and designate it for OGHs.

Go to [One Great Hour of Sharing](#) for more information.

Click here for [One Great Hour of Sharing Insert](#) that you can color!

HOLY WEEK BEGINS TODAY. We'll worship together via Facebook Live and YouTube, just as we do on Sunday mornings.

- Maundy Thursday Worship, April 9 with **Communion** at 7:00 p.m.
- Good Friday Worship, April 10 at NOON

A WORD ABOUT SHARING COMMUNION on Palm Sunday morning and Maundy Thursday evening. In order to do this, you will need to have a few things in your home: wine or grape juice, and bread. The bread can be any kind – a slice of sandwich bread, a roll, tortilla, naan – it can be gluten free or with gluten. You will want a napkin or a plate for the bread, and something to hold the wine or juice – a wine glass, a juice glass, even a coffee mug would be fine. Please use bread and wine/juice.

- Place your bread and wine on a table or stand in the middle of the room where you worship, so your worship is around the table – just like it is when we gather in the Sanctuary.
- When it is time to break the bread, choose someone to lift the bread with Pastor Morton and break it, and the lift the cup with Pastor Sue. When we share the bread, you can pass it and tear a small piece of the common loaf/slice. When we share the wine/juice you can share by common cup (everyone takes a sip from the same cup) or by intinction (dipping the bread into the wine or juice.) When all have shared, place everything back on the table for the rest of the service.

Wherever two or three are gathered – there Christ is in the midst of us.

WORSHIP, ART AND MUSIC NEWS



MUSIC MINISTRY

Handbell Choir & Chancel Choir rehearsals are cancelled until further notice. Questions? Contact the church office.

ADULT EDUCATION & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES ARE CANCELLED until further notice.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM – with Pastor Sue
9:30 – 11:00 a.m., During Lent we are studying *The Servant Songs of Isaiah*
Please don't come to the church! Enjoy Bible Study in the comfort of your home.
Please email the church office, churchoffice@firstpreshc.org
or Pastor Sue, sharris@firstpreshc.org, if you would like to receive a ZOOM link.
We'll send the link out on Tuesday. Everyone welcome!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL is CANCELLED until further notice.

CONFIRMATION CLASS is CANCELLED

The Confirmation Dinner and meeting with Session and Confirmation Sunday, will be rescheduled after the virus alert has passed.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

MID-HIGHS, SENIOR HIGHS AND PARENTS –

Let's stay connected through *GroupMe* and *Remind* text messages.
Email Virginia Callegary, vcallegary@firstpreshc.org if you would like to be added to the text message lists.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

COVID-19 TEAM – Interested in assisting people with getting groceries, medicines, etc. as needed? Contact Pastor Sue, sharris@firstpreshc.org

JUST ONE CAN ... PLUS! - April: Baby Items

As part of the Deacons' continuing campaign against hunger in Howard County, we are asking for specific supplements to our on-going initiative called *Just One Can*. Our featured category for April is extra donation of baby items. Recommended items are: Diapers, Wipes, Formula, Baby food

Keep collecting! **If you need to bring items - plus baby items - to the church please place your items in the storage box by the back entrance (near the mail box), otherwise save it up for the next couple weeks.**

Thank you on behalf of the Deacons and the food-stressed of Howard County.

Community Action Council reports that the Howard County Food Bank is open and helping people, but because of the increased demand, they are requesting online monetary donations. [Click here to donate to Howard County Food Bank](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION

IT'S A NEW WORLD! Virginia, Morton and Sue will be having office hours while we're practicing social distancing. Office Hours are times when we are at our computers for emails, chats – ask for a zoom link. Looking forward to being in touch!

Tuesdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m. – Virginia
Wednesdays, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. – Sue
Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Morton



BRICK ORDERS! Has ordering a brick to be placed in the front pathway been on your to-do list? Now's your chance to place an order. Contact the office for an order form. Contact: the church office.

CHURCH EVENTS CANCELLED:

The 5K Family Run for Coffee, New Member Orientation

Watch Tidings, First Day, Friday Email, and the church website, www.firstpreshc.org for new dates and more information concerning the church's activities.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GIVING TO THE CHURCH

Since we can't pass the offering plate as usual, many people have asked about other ways to make their contributions and pledges. Here are some ways we can continue to give:

1. **PayPal** – You could contribute immediately online through PayPal. This works even if you do not have a PayPal account. There is a button on the church website. When you click the button, it will take you to a page that clearly says "First Presbyterian Church of Howard County: General Giving."
2. **Automatic payments through your regular bank account** -- if your bank provides an automatic payment service, you could set it up to send a contribution to the church as a payment.
3. **U. S. Mail** – This way still works! You could mail checks to First Presbyterian Church, 9325 Presbyterian Church, Columbia, MD 21045. Checks are delivered to a strong, locked mailbox on the church premises.
4. **Automatic bank drafts by completing the church's Electronic Giving Form** – you could fill out and return an Electronic Giving Form (available on the church website). Mail or bring the completed form to the church office. This form gives permission for a bank draft on the account you specify, in the amount and frequency that you specify.
www.firstpreshc.org/electronic-giving-form-fpchc/

We are exploring other ways of contributing that will be safe, easy and convenient. Those will be included on this list as they become operational. Thank you for all the ways you support the Church!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday Morning Schedule
10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed
www.firstpreshc.org

THE CHURCH OFFICE AND BUILDING ARE CLOSED
CHURCH STAFF CAN BE REACHED VIA EMAIL, SEE LISTING BELOW.

ZOOM LINKS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE: WWW.FIRSTPRESHC.ORG

Sunday, April 5th

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY | HOLY WEEK BEGINS
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SPECIAL OFFERING
10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed
7:00 p.m. Ruth Circle via Zoom

Tuesday, April 7th

HOLY WEEK
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting via ZOOM
6:00 p.m. ZOOM Office Hours for Virginia Callegary

Wednesday, April 8th

BULLETIN ARTICLES DUE
HOLY WEEK
9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study via ZOOM
2:00 p.m. ZOOM Office Hours for Pastor Sue Lowcock Harris

Thursday, April 9th

HOLY WEEK | MAUNDY THURSDAY
1:00 p.m. ZOOM Office Hours for Pastor Morton Harris
3:00 p.m. Facebook Live Worship Prep
7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service – Live Streamed

Friday, April 10th

HOLY WEEK | GOOD FRIDAY
12:00 p.m. Good Friday Service – Live Streamed

Saturday, April 11th

HOLY WEEK | HOLY SATURDAY

Sunday, April 12th

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD – EASTER SUNDAY
10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed

Staff Contact Information

Morton Harris, Co-Pastor: mharris@firstpreshc.org, 443-824-3768
Sue Lowcock Harris, Co-Pastor: sharris@firstpreshc.org, 443-824-4305
Virginia Callegary, Christian Educator: vcallegary@firstpreshc.org, 410-292-3400
Caroline Smith, Church Administrator: fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org
Pat Travers, Bookkeeper: bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org
Woody Collins, Church Sexton: sexton@firstpreshc.org

The Church Office is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

For more events throughout the week at First Presbyterian Church, please check the calendar on our website at www.firstpreshc.org, the current issue of Tidings, or call the church office 410-730-3545.

A Weekly Email is sent every Friday, if you would like to receive it please contact the church office.

To submit news or events for the weekly bulletin **First Day!** please email to: fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org by Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. To submit articles for Tidings, our monthly newsletter, please send articles by email to: fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org by **Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. for the May 2020 Issue #5.**