



# FIRST DAY !

Weekly News and Opportunities at  
The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County  
May 3, 2020

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## 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. The Liturgical Color for the season of Easter is **WHITE**. You could place some **WHITE** cloth 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 there flowers 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](mailto:sharris@firstpreshc.org).

**WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS:** Thanks to the Live Stream Worship Team.  
*Tech Crew:* Virginia Callegary, Woody Collins

**FLOWERS THIS WEEK** are given to the Glory of God by Evelyn and Stacy for all couples with wedding anniversaries in May.

**REMEMBRANCE CANDLE** – We light a candle every week during the Covid-19 crisis to remember those who have died from this virus.

**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 May 31, 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, contact us if you need us, we're here for you. Keep washing your hands! Stay healthy!

**THE SESSION HAS CALLED A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING for Sunday, May 17, 2020**, following the 10:30 a.m. livestream service. The meeting will be via Zoom and a link will be emailed to all active members. The purpose of the meeting is to hear the report of the Congregational Nominating Committee, and proceed to the election of Elders, Deacons and other church officers.

## GUIDE TO PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 3, 2020

**Please pray for:** Mispa, *Justin*, Burta, Phil, Dylan, Mil, Rose, Carol, Betty, Doris, Shirley, Shirley, Beth; for everyone living in Charlestown, Millers Grant, Riderwood and Vantage House; those in our congregation who have tested positive for Covid – 19; *healthcare workers and essential employees working during Covid-19 pandemic.*

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

**Friends & Family:** *Darlene's brother, Dennis, Nancy and Larry's friend, Joyce;* Evan Brown, Andrew, Rosemary, Peter, Aaron, Ed, Tim, Myrna, Emily, David, Mary

**Hospitalized:** *Dede (Howard County), Dave (St. Agnes)*

**Recovering from Surgery:** Donna, Emma, Dan

**Bereaved:** 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](http://www.PCUSA.org/jeff-and-christi-boyd); Jed & Jenny Koball in Peru, [www.PCUSA.org/jed-koball](http://www.PCUSA.org/jed-koball)

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

*Please contact 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

**Sundar Singh (1889 – 1929)** was one of the first Indian Christian teachers to receive worldwide attention in modern times. Born in the Punjab region of northern India, Singh was born into a Sikh family. When he was a teenager, he had a mystical experience of Jesus, and converted to Christianity. His family rejected him, and tried to poison him. He sought safety in the home of a nearby British Christian. Singh spent his life as a Christian pilgrim in the Indian tradition. He wandered throughout Tibet and the Indian subcontinent as a *sadhu*, a spiritual ascetic, and he wore the traditional saffron robe. He studied to become an Anglican priest in Lahore (now in Pakistan), but returned his preacher's license when told to discard the *sadhu's* robe and wear traditional European clerical dress. He believed Indians could not become Christians unless it was in an Indian way. His simple explanations of spiritual truths severed the link between Christian faith and western culture; he never accepted Christianity's cultural conventions, even as he embraced its stark original teachings. His beggar-like existence, his intense devotion, his mystical encounters with Jesus, and his simple yet profound parables became the stuff of legends. No one who met him – including the thousands who flocked to hear him during his visits to Europe, the Far East, and the United States – remained unaffected.

**May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.** We give thanks for the diversity of Asian languages, cultures and religions, and celebrate the distinctive quality of Asian culture as it embraces and practices Christianity and enriches our own experience of the means of grace.

**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 *India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka.*

*We thank God for:*

- For the resilience of minority religious groups and those on the margins of society such as indigenous communities, Dalits, women, youth, the disabled and sexual minorities, amid discrimination and persecution.

*We pray for:*

- Those who struggle to overcome grinding poverty;
- Leaders to keep priority on the wellbeing of the people and the earth itself amid demands for economic growth.

For more information about the Prayer Cycle,  
visit the website of the World Council of Churches: [www.oikoumene.org](http://www.oikoumene.org)

## OUR MISSION PARTNERSHIP PRAYER CYCLE FOR 2020

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

**The Presbyterian Foundation** was founded in 1799. The Foundation raises, safeguards and distributes funds for mission and strengthens congregations and related mission and ministry efforts by developing gifts and managing funds on their behalf. The Foundation provides all Presbyterians an avenue to realize their philanthropic goals through a variety of giving options.

**The Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP)** is a nonprofit corporation of PCUSA created to provide low-cost loans to congregations and councils of the PCUSA. The Program offers Presbyterian investors – members, pastors, churches and other governing bodies – an opportunity to support the growth of the church through investing.

## WORSHIP, ART AND MUSIC NEWS

### JOIN OUR VIRTUAL CHOIR!

All are welcome and invited to participate in our virtual choir! No choir experience necessary! This will be an ongoing activity this spring and summer with several opportunities to sing. Our “performances” will be added to Sunday’s live stream worship as part of our musical prayer. If you are interested in participating, contact Matt ([mmay@firstpreshc.org](mailto:mmay@firstpreshc.org)) for more information.



### MUSIC MINISTRY

**Handbell Choir & Chancel Choir** rehearsals are cancelled until further notice. Questions? Contact Matt May, [mmay@firstpreshc.org](mailto:mmay@firstpreshc.org)

**THE ALLELUIA BANNERS** were created using Celtic Hand letters and filled in with Zentangle® and Celtic designs. The Zentangle® designs used were: Crescent moon, Printemps, Hollbaugh, Waves, Tagh, Jonzal, Chillion, Grouth, Swirls, Queen and King Crown, Keeko, Flukes, Web, Flying Geese, W2, Cadent, Cross Stich, Cruffel with Flux, Enyshou, N'Zeppel. Zentangle® is a registered trademark. The “Celtic Designs” were inspired by the coloring book from Studio Series by Peter Pauper Press. Other influences for designs came from our own artists: Syd, Julianna, Virginia, Evelyn, and Debbie. These include: Chinese Brush painting. A quick glance of a stained glass window in a program about historic places in England, and grape vine leaves. There is also a 3<sup>rd</sup> Alleluia on one of the letter “L” written in Hebrew, keeping with the tradition of repeating the praise to God in the Triune fashion. Thank you to our talented and creative artists who gave of their time to create these beautiful banners! ALLELUIA!

## ADULT EDUCATION & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

**ALL IN-PERSON SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES ARE CANCELLED until further notice.** Check your email and the church [YouTube page](#) for online adult education opportunities.

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM** – with Pastor Sue

9:30 – 11:00 a.m. We’re continuing with the story of King David in 2 Samuel. *Please don’t come to the church!* Enjoy Bible Study in the comfort of your home. Please email [fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org](mailto:fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org) or Pastor Sue, [sharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:sharris@firstpreshc.org), if you would like to receive a ZOOM link. We send the link out on Tuesday night. Everyone welcome!

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**IN-PERSON CHURCH SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES** has been **CANCELLED** until further notice. Church School for children is being held on Zoom at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Email Virginia Callegary [vcallegary@firstpreshc.org](mailto:vcallegary@firstpreshc.org) if you would like more information.

## 2020 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES RECOGNITION

First Presbyterian Church will honor High School Graduates in the livestream worship service on *Sunday, May 10, 2020*. Please send information about your graduate to the church office, [fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org](mailto:fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org), and send pictures to Virginia Callegary, [vcallegary@firstpreshc.org](mailto:vcallegary@firstpreshc.org), **by tomorrow Monday, May 4.**

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2020 - Knights of North Castle

Right now our plans for VBS on hold due to Covid-19.

Please watch for more information.

Monday-Friday, July 27-31, 2020 | 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Questions? Contact VBS Director at [vbs@firstpershc.org](mailto:vbs@firstpershc.org)



## STUDENT MINISTRIES

### SENIOR HIGHS VIA ZOOM, 1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> Wednesdays

Wednesday, May 6 & 20, 6:00 p.m.

### MID-HIGHS VIA ZOOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> Wednesdays

Wednesday, May 13 & 27, 7:00 p.m.

### MID-HIGHS, SENIOR HIGHS AND PARENTS –

Let's stay connected through *GroupMe* and *Remind* text messages.

Email Virginia Callegary, [vcallegary@firstpreshc.org](mailto:vcallegary@firstpreshc.org) if you would like to be added to the text message lists.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

### **JUST ONE CAN ... PLUS! - May: "Spic and Span"**

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 May is donations of cleaning supplies.

Food stamps do not cover any paper or cleaning products, so such non-food items as cleansers and paper products are especially welcomed according to the Howard County Food Bank. Recommended items are: Dish Soap, Laundry Detergent, Clorox, General Household Cleaners.

**If you need to bring items - plus Spic and Span 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 until we meet again.**

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

**COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL** reports 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](#)

### RECYCLE YOUR OLD LINENS

Mandy is collecting sheets to make wildlife rehabilitation pouches and towels to make bibs for students in her special needs school. Items don't need to be in the best shape; she can cut around any bad spots. There will be a collection box in the Lower Commons when we start to gather again. Save them up and bring them in at that time. Thanks for your support!

# CORONAVIRUS AND THE CHURCH

## **FEED HOWARD COUNTY LAUNCHES IN HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**Feed Howard County** – a partnership between **COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disaster)**, **The Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation** and Howard County restaurants has launched its efforts to help feed families who are food insecure during these challenging times.

The idea is simple — **Pay restaurants across Howard County to prepare nutritious meals for those in need.** The end results create a win-win-win: Keeping people fed; keeping people employed; and keeping businesses afloat.

The **Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation**, has offered to serve as the fiscal sponsor and is accepting donations at: <https://www.ripkenfoundation.org/donate> — (Choose “*Feed Howard County*” under giving options)

The distribution of meals will be coordinated through **COAD** — with locations chosen to best serve those in need. Each distribution event will deliver 100 meals with the initial goal to deliver 2-300 meals per week.

[The Howard County Community Organizations Active in Disaster \(COAD\)](#) is a collaborative effort of community stakeholders, each having an equal role in the organization. Their goal is to organize and deploy community resources in an efficient and timely manner, effectively contributing to each phase of a disaster.

**Questions:** [FeedHowardCounty@gmail.com](mailto:FeedHowardCounty@gmail.com) Pat - 443-695-0756

**To Donate:** <https://www.ripkenfoundation.org/donate> - (Choose “*Feed Howard County*” under giving options)

**Press inquiries** – Kevin: [kevin@totalimpressions.net](mailto:kevin@totalimpressions.net)

**Social Media** – [FaceBook](#)

Pat Curran is leading the charge as we bring this idea to Howard County. Please take the time to make a donation and just as importantly - spread the word! Reach out with any questions.

**COVID-19 TEAM** – Interested in assisting people with getting groceries, medicines, etc. as needed? Contact Pastor Sue, [sharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:sharris@firstpreshc.org)

**DEACONS ARE COLLECTING GAMES AND PUZZLES** for the 90 residents in 40 groups homes run by Howard County ARC Foundation for the mentally disabled. Either new or gently used items are fine for any age group except those aged exclusively for adults. Contributions will be collected *until Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>*. Please bring your items to the back door of Lyle Buck Hall on Tuesday or Thursday between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. only (as there is no one at the church at other times and no place to leave things out of the rain). If you cannot come to the church, please let us know and Deacons will arrange a pickup at your home.



## FACE MASKS ARE NOW MANDATORY IN MARYLAND

If you need a face mask, please contact the church office, [fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org](mailto:fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org) and arrangements will be made for you to get one. If you would like to make face masks go to <http://www.firstpreshc.org/face-masks/> for info.

Please be safe! Share the Peace, Spread the Word, but not the virus.

## FACE COVERING REQUIRED

Effective Saturday, April 18th, 2020

It's important that we aggressively take measures to keep our community safe as we combat coronavirus.

Saturday at **7:00am**, everyone must wear face coverings on **ALL** public transportation and in **ALL** stores:

- All riders on any public transportation
- All persons over the age of nine
- Shoppers at retail stores, grocery stores, and convenience stores

*Homemade face coverings, like a bandanna, scarf, t-shirt or cloth mask may be worn. For details on how to make your own mask, visit <https://bit.ly/2V9fNjY>*



Calvin Ball  
Howard County Executive

## DONT FORGET!

Please, continue to practice social distancing guidelines and keep 6 feet between yourself and others.



## GENERAL INFORMATION

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

*Thursdays at 2:00 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.

**MANY CHURCH EVENTS SCHEDULED HAVE BEEN CANCELLED, some will be RESCHEDULED.** Watch Tidings, First Day, Friday Email, and the church website, [www.firstpreshc.org](http://www.firstpreshc.org) for new dates and more information concerning the church's activities.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER FOR NOMINATED OFFICERS:**

Orientation and Training Class for Nominated Elders

*Tuesday, May 12—7:00-9:00 p.m. – via Zoom*

Orientation and Training Class for Nominated Deacons

*Tuesday, May 19—7:00-9:00 p.m.— via Zoom*

This training is required by the Book of Order. Pastor Morton will email a link to the ZOOM meeting. If you cannot make this date, please contact Pastor Morton, [mharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:mharris@firstpreshc.org) as soon as possible to discuss alternative arrangements.

**IT'S A NEW WORLD!** Virginia, Morton and Sue are available for phone calls, and if you would like face to face time ask for a zoom link. Give them a call or send them an email to set up a zoom link.

### **TASTE OF TEQUILA/SPLASH OF CHARITY**

***Thursday, May 7, 2020***

**to benefit Bridges to Housing Stability with Lib's Grill in Maple Lawn**

If you purchased tickets send an email to Pastor Sue, [sharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:sharris@firstpreshc.org) or Woody Collins, [sexton@firstpreshc.org](mailto:sexton@firstpreshc.org) so you can be included in our FPCHC Zoom-In Tequila Party! Thanks for your support!

# STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

**PER CAPITA FOR 2020 is \$36.00.** The “Per Capita” is each church member’s share of the expenses of the larger church – the Presbytery, the Synod and General Assembly of the PCUSA. Our congregation is required to pay this amount for each member of the church. *Have you paid your per capita? Thank you to those 88 people who have paid already!*

## **OUR FINANCIAL RESOURCES DOING GOD’S WORK**

|                                      |                     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Actual Income as of April 30, 2020   | \$ 268,000.96       |
| Actual Expenses as of April 30, 2020 | <u>251,857.38</u>   |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>\$ 16,143.58</b> |

It takes an average of \$2,238.90 to fund the daily budgeted operation and mission of the church. The total surplus/deficit shown above is 7 days ahead/(behind).

## **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/](http://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](http://www.firstpreshc.org)

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

ZOOM AND YOU TUBE LINKS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE: [WWW.FIRSTPRESHC.ORG](http://WWW.FIRSTPRESHC.ORG)

## **Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY  
COMMUNION  
ASIAN-AMERICAN MONTH

10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed  
6:30 p.m. Ruth Circle Meeting via Zoom

## **Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting via ZOOM

## **Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**

BULLETIN ARTICLES DUE  
9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study via ZOOM  
6:00 p.m. Senior Highs via ZOOM

## **Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>**

2:00 p.m. Facebook Live Worship Prep with Pastor Sue

## **Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>**

FRIDAY EMAIL WITH SUNDAY BULLETIN SENT OUT

## **Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 a.m. Lydia Circle via Zoom

## **Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>**

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MOTHER'S DAY  
RECOGNITION OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES  
ASIAN-AMERICAN MONTH

10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed  
7:00 p.m. Ruth Circle via Zoom

## **Staff Contact Information**

Morton Harris, Co-Pastor: [mharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:mharris@firstpreshc.org)  
Sue Lowcock Harris, Co-Pastor: [sharris@firstpreshc.org](mailto:sharris@firstpreshc.org)  
Virginia Callegary, Christian Educator: [vcalleary@firstpreshc.org](mailto:vcalleary@firstpreshc.org)  
Matt May, Director of Music Ministries: [mmay@firstpreshc.org](mailto:mmay@firstpreshc.org)  
Caroline Smith, Church Administrator: [fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org](mailto:fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org)  
Pat Travers, Bookkeeper: [bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@firstpreshc.org)  
Woody Collins, Church Sexton: [sexton@firstpreshc.org](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org) by **Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. for the June 2020 Issue #6.**