

This week's news...



March 31, 2021 – HOLY WEEK EDITION



Dear Friend,

We had no idea this would be the 2nd pandemic celebration of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter, but alas, here we are!

As you're hopefully aware, the leadership and staff of the church has striven for creative and meaningful ways to commemorate the liturgical year safely and with theological integrity. Tomorrow is one of those attempts!

A service of worship dedicated to the events and words of Jesus' Last Supper will be available online by 4:00 p.m. tomorrow followed by Drive-through Communion from 5 to 6:00 p.m. As with Ash Wednesday, we will utilize the portico and ask that folks drive through the courtyard where Nikki, two elders, and I will be offering the sacrament. Staff will be on-hand to help direct traffic and also make sure that you're able to exit onto Kings Highway safely.

On behalf of the entire staff, we wish for you and yours a joyful, reflective, and healthy Easter!

Be well, stay safe, and God bless,



Wednesday, March 31: – Holy Week Zoom **Prayer Service** — 6:30-6:45 p.m.
Thursday, April 1: **Maundy Thursday Service** streamed at 4:00 p.m.
Communion served in portico — 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Friday, April 2: **Good Friday** Zoom Service at 12:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 4: **Easter Service** streamed live at 10:00 a.m.



Please join us on 4/3/21 at 11am for FPCH's First Easter Egg Hunt
We will be dividing up the playground and church grounds by age for kids 10 and under to be able to have some fun and hunt for eggs. Our Easter Egg Hunt will be BYOB(asket) and BYOM(ask). Hope to see you there!

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING:

Restoring Hope, Feeding the Hungry, Empowering the Oppressed

Collected today and next week, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. For specific information about OGHS and an interactive map of projects your gifts support, [click here](#). *Your OGHS offering can be made online or with a check. (Please label accordingly.)*

Taking a break for Holy Week and Easter:

- Speaking Truth in Love
- Nikki's Bible Study
- Conversations on Race
- Youth Sunday School
- Youth Group
- And youth choirs are on Spring Break next week (4/7).

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

"There is no joy without grief." (This may or may not be a quote from this week's Grey's Anatomy.) (sorry) We start off Holy Week with joyful crowds but a weeping Jesus. We then live through the grief of Good Friday and Jesus' death on the Cross. And in all that grief, we are gifted the joy of the Resurrection. Joy and Grief cannot be separated. We cannot feel one without the other. This week we're taking a detailed look into Holy Week. We are all very familiar with Palm Sunday with its palm parades and Hosannas. We're also pretty clear on the grief of Good Friday and the joy of Easter Sunday for obvious reasons. But how much do you know about the other days? (Truth moment...I had never heard of Spy Wednesday). We are taking the next week off from Sunday School for Easter. Enjoy it. Rejoice in the day. Celebrate with your families. Know how much you are loved by God, by Jesus, and by your church family.

This Week for Lent: This week in Lent our younger friends were challenged to make Resurrection Eggs. For instructions, go to the [Sunday School links](#) on the church website. This week in Lent we had our older friends focus on daily prayers and they can be found here. I'm so proud of you all for participating in our weekly Lent challenges and would love to know which ones you enjoyed, which ones were hard, and how you felt about them. And I'm still waiting for those pretzels....



PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION

Once again Presbyterian Women is creating a pinwheel garden in April for the observance of National Child Abuse Prevention month. It is a program of *Prevent Child Abuse-New Jersey (PCA-NJ)* which promotes great childhoods, positive parenting and healthy child development. Founded in 1979, all their efforts throughout the state are dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect in all forms for all New Jersey children. April is the national observation of Child Abuse Prevention Month. During this time, PCA-NJ implements its "Pinwheels for Prevention" campaign. The pinwheel is in their logo and was chosen as a national symbol of prevention because it is whimsical and evokes childlike notions – so it is a good emblem of the "Great Childhoods" that is desired for all children.

PRESCHOOL FLOWER SALE



This is the only fundraiser this year for the Preschool. Fundraisers pay for playground maintenance and improvements. Our fundraisers also support capital improvements which benefit the Church. Any support would be greatly appreciated.

Order deadline: April 13

Pick up: May 3, 10:30-12:30

Checks: 1st Presby. Preschool

Info: 856-429-0609

Order form – [click here](#)

BLOOD DRIVE right here at First Presbyterian

Tuesday, April 13, 2-7 p.m. Sign up on the American Red Cross [website](#).



“JESUS, REMEMBER ME”

"Jesus, Remember Me, When You Come into Your Kingdom," sung by Mikey and Allie Hall, and James Gushue, with Paula Meyer on piano. Originally written for the Taizé Community in France, this simple hymn is in our hymnal.



Click [HERE](#)

ONGOING...

Old Testament Bible Study: Meets Mondays at 11:30 a.m. on [Zoom](#). Contact Doug [here](#) for info.

Doug's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. on Zoom, Doug hosts an informal conversation about the scripture that will be the text for the following Sunday's sermon. The text for **Tuesday, April 6** is John 20:19-31. [Zoom link](#)

PASTOR NIKKI'S STIL CLASS AND BIBLE STUDY will resume on April 7 and 8.

IHOC ADOPT-A-BOX COLLECTION



It's time to collect hygiene products – toothbrush and paste, shampoo, baby shampoo, hand sanitizer, deodorant, underwear, socks, comb, shaving supplies, soap, washcloth, etc. (travel sizes are fine) – and put them in a shoebox to be distributed to neighbors in need. Close each box with a rubber band, label it “Man,” “Woman,” “Boy,” “Girl,” or “Baby,” and drop it off at the Sunday drive-through.

ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

NEEDS: We really need canned mixed vegetables, carrots and peas, pasta, Mac n cheese, socks for all ages, diapers—sizes 5 & 6, and wipes. **Volunteers are needed for the Food Bank Crew** who pick up food each week and deliver it to St Wilfrid's. The next anticipated Foodbank pick-up is Friday April 9. If you are interested in helping or have questions, check with Rose Guthrie at intrepidrose@hotmail.com. Next month volunteers will be needed to do Spring Cleanup on the grounds around the church—if you would be interested in helping or finding out other ways to volunteer, please call Jill Mascena at 756-427-7342 or check the website. www.opendoorcliniccamden.org

OUR THANKS TO THE REV. NIKKI PERRINE PASSANTE FOR ONE INCREDIBLE YEAR!!



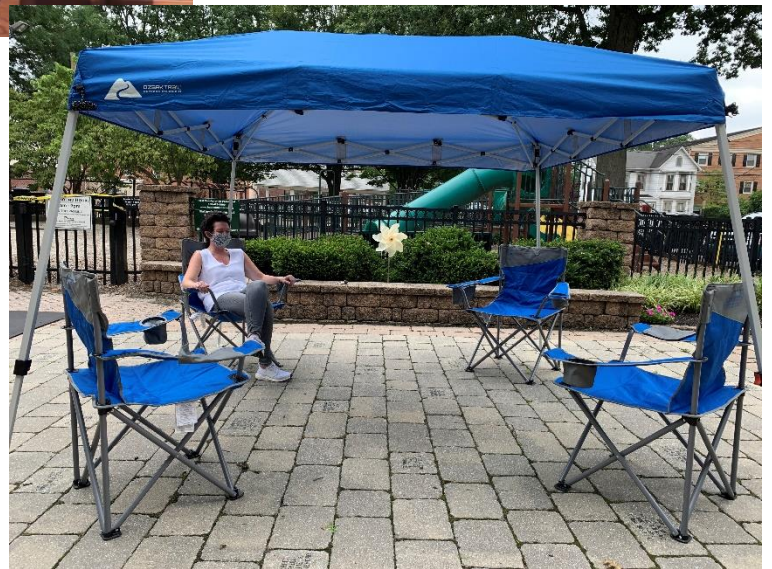
Candidate Sunday
Jan. 26, 2020



April 5, 2020 (Rev. Nikki Passante)
Palm Sunday
"And They Found Everything As He Had Told Them"

First Sunday, April 1, 2020

Courtyard Conversations



Pandemic Family Group



Baptism

Ash Wednesday 2021

This Week in Youth Group

We played dodgeball (a new version named Hunger Games dodgeball) and Pictionary this week. The rain held out long enough that we were able to hang outside, and the kids were also able to play dodgeball in Fellowship Hall – their first time back inside the building in over a year! We are taking next week off for Easter and will be meeting up again on 4/11/21. **A reminder that we could use your help for the Easter Egg Hunt set up and clean up on Saturday 4/3/21.** Stay tuned for details....



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mar. 31 – 6:30 p.m. Holy Week Prayer on Zoom
Apr. 1 – 4 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service Online
Apr. 1 – 5-6 p.m. Communion in portico
Apr. 2 – 12 p.m. Good Friday Prayer on Zoom
Apr. 3 – 11 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt
Apr. 4 – 10 a.m. EASTER Worship online
Apr. 4 – Donations drive-through (portico)
Apr. 5 – Church staff day off
Apr. 5 – 11:30 a.m. Old Testament Bible Study
Apr. 6 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study
Apr. 7 – No choir rehearsals
Apr. 7 – 7: 30 p.m. STIL
Apr. 8 – 6:30 Nikki's Bible Study
Apr. 11 – 9 a.m. Conversations on Race
Apr. 11 – 10 a.m. Worship
Apr. 11 – Donations drive-through (portico)
Apr. 11 – 5 p.m. Youth Group