



FPC This Week

For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. 1 John 3:11

CORONA VIRUS and CHURCH LIFE WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



**KEEP
CALM
AND WASH
YOUR
HANDS**

HOW YOU CAN PRAY:

Pray that the virus would be contained in our country and pray for the “hot spots,” where people are more affected.

Pray for those countries greatly affected by the virus.

Pray for calm and for trust in the LORD. Panic can create more problems than the actual illness.

Know that at FPC, we are monitoring everything and have a contingency plan, should it be necessary.

Most of us have heard the national and global news about the corona virus. The Surgeon General of the United States along with the CDC have some practical recommendations:

- 1) **Don't panic.** Make wise decisions based on your risk factors. Remember that prevention is the best way to handle any illness.
- 2) **For now,** it is recommended that the elbow bump replace the handshake. Let's be aware of how we say good morning at Sunday worship.
- 3) **Practice good hygiene.** Wash your hands often! Sing the Happy Birthday song twice while you wash your hands. Once you've sung it through, you can rinse all the suds and germs away.
- 4) **Eat healthy, sleep well, and get your flu shot** (if you haven't already). **If you are sick, stay home.** While the flu shot doesn't prevent corona, it does help build up your immunities.
- 5) **Be wise about traveling, especially internationally or on cruises.** If you travel stateside, carry hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes. It's recommended that you wipe down your seat handles and tray when flying. If you are elderly or have a chronic or underlying health issue, it is recommended that you curb your travel domestically.
- 6) **Please do not buy masks if you are well.** Wearing a mask does nothing to prevent you from getting the corona virus. Masks need to be available for health care workers and those who are sick.
- 7) **Check on the elderly and those who are sick with chronic and underlying health issues.** Coronavirus affects these segments of our population more than others. If you have an elderly or ill relative, neighbor or friend, check up on them.

WE APPRECIATE OUR VOLUNTEERS

This Sunday, March 15:

Sexton: Brian Petit

Coffee Hour: Bloom Family

Nursery: Deidra Ricci and Kris Aleicho

Young Children's Worship: Mikyong Kim

Hospitality: Brian and Darien Petit, Tim and Stacie Schultz, Charlotte Ricci, Don Fennessey, John Wicks

Last Sunday, March 8:

Sexton: Mike Franco

Coffee Hour: Nancy Crockett and Lilia Merrill-Svizzero

Nursery: Deidra Ricci and Karyn Straka

Young Children's Worship: Mikyong Kim

Hospitality: Brian Ross, Mike Franco, Judy Graves, Barbara Estes, Charlotte Ricci, Don Fennessey, Dave Kolator

CELEBRATE EASTER and THE MISSION OF FPC!



Collection for college care packages will be March 15-April 12.



Sale of sanctuary lilies begins March 15.



Palm Sunday is April 5, 10:30am.



Maunday Thursday is April 9, 7pm.
Communion served.



Easter Sunday is April 12, 10:30am.

Rebuilding Together: An Opportunity to Serve

In 2018, FPC, for the first time, participated in Rebuilding Together, a national nonprofit service organization, which brings together 200,000 volunteers in nearly 200 communities across the United States.



Working with Rebuilding Together Greater Newport, that year FPC volunteers worked in the home of our neighbors at 2 ½ Pond Avenue. They helped install drywall in two bedrooms; painted an exterior wall, the front porch, and steps; helped remove the existing windows and install new ones; and did lots of cleaning. With the work complete, the home was more habitable and safer for those who reside there.

In 2019, FPC volunteers worked at the home of a widow in Middletown. They removed the vegetation that had grown against the walls, and then scraped, primed, and painted them. They also removed rubbish from the yard and trimmed trees. The house, which had barely visible through the vegetation, and the grounds were now a source of pride for the owner.

This year we will be working with one of our mission partners, the Salvation Army, at their building on Memorial Drive. Most of the work will be repainting interior walls, sanding and painting doors, and priming and painting exterior trim. **Volunteers will be needed for prep work on the Saturday mornings of April 4 and 18 from 9 to 12 AM. The finishing work will be from 9 AM to 3:30 PM on April 27.** No special skills are required: willing hands wielding a paintbrush are just as important as the skilled carpenter. Many stewardship messages ask for your treasure, but here it is your talents that are needed. If you can help, please contact Ralph Thomas at thomasesar@aol.com.



Giving
Hope
Today

The **Pray New England 2020 Conference** will be March 26-28 in Middletown. The 3 day conference is designed to equip you with the tools and vision of transformation within your life and the body of Christ. This is an exciting opportunity, given that it's happening right here on the island! For more info, go to <https://www.praynewengland.com/>



FAMILY AND KIDS MINISTRIES

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

Finals, graduation, relocations... help remind our college students that God and their church family love them! From March 15 - April 12, a box will be in the Fellowship Hall to collect snacks and food that can be prepared in a dorm room.



Suggestions: Packaged soup, hot chocolate and tea, individually wrapped snack crackers or cookies, gum, mints, nuts, trail mix, candy, breakfast bars, Lara bars, pretzels, popcorn. No liquids, please. This year, we will include a small copy of the New Testament for each student. Be sure to get your student's name and current college address (or home address for commuters) to Judy Sweeney at 401-225-7577, email to judys.ri@gmail.com You can also call the church office at 401-847-1749.

BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!

On April 4, Palm Sunday, children will meet in the Hometime Room after Sunday School to be handed palm fronds for a procession at the beginning of the worship service. This is a special time in the life of FPC! We encourage all of our FPC kids to participate as we remember Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem.



All kids Sunday School classes meet on the 2nd floor of the CE building at 9:15 am. For more details, see the FPC website at <https://fpcnewport.org/sunday-school/>

There will be no Sunday School Easter Sunday, April 12.

Join us for Sunday School at 9:15am!

A discussion-based Bible study of 1 John, paralleling Pastor Mike's sermon series, is facilitated by John Wicks.

Where: The Lynch Room, 2nd floor above the Fellowship Hall (look for the sign on the stairs)

A Bible study on the book of Philippians, to be followed by a study of Ephesians, is led by Don Estes.

Where: The Hometime Room, main level off of the Fellowship Hall



Adult Bible Studies

For FPC Men:

Calling all Men Prayer Warriors. On February 19, the men's Bible Study begins a study of the book **The Battle Plan for Prayer** by the Kendrick brothers. The men's Bible Study meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 6:30pm in the Hometime Room.

Promise Keepers meet for optional breakfast at Chelsea's, 1015 Aquidneck Ave at 7:00 Saturday mornings, followed by a time of Bible study, discussion and prayer in the Hometime room at 8:00am Contact Don Fennessey at fenns@hotmail.com

For Women:

Darkness and Light: A Study of 1 & 2 Thessalonians

Mondays 6pm at the Kolator home. Contact Alice Thomas at thomasesar@aol.com for more info.

For All: The Friday night group meets the second and fourth Friday of the month, rotating at members' homes. We are studying Genesis. Contact Tim Schultz @ 919-699-7576.



SERMON CONNECT

Sermon Connect was created in a simple format so that it could be used for discussion between friends, in a small group, or over coffee. It can be a wonderful tool to engage people who have questions about God! This past Sunday, Pastor Mike preached on 1 John 3:11-18.

Love: The world is deceived about what true love is. How would you define true love? (See vs. 11-16)

Talk about these statements:

~"Love is the axis on which the wheel of Christianity turns." How does this illustration apply to the sermon passage in 1 John?

~"There are a lot of ways to murder someone without actually killing them." (see vs. 14-15) What are ways we can "destroy" a person by exhibiting a lack of love?

Love applied: Love for others is a characteristic of walking in the light and remaining in Christ. Neither genuine life or love can exist outside the new birth God offers us through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

More than a feeling: Love must be accompanied by action. Christ's ultimate demonstration of love was to willingly go to the cross to pay the penalty of sin. He laid down his life for us. How do we demonstrate love to others in practical ways?

Our Facebook page ([facebook.com/fpcnewport](https://www.facebook.com/fpcnewport)) is updated several times a week with current information and spiritual encouragement.



Find us through Instagram at [fpcnewport.](https://www.instagram.com/fpcnewport/)



Find us on the web: fpcnewport.org



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PRAYER REQUESTS

- **For our country and its leadership as they make decisions about all of the current issues.**
- **For the military personnel are deployed, with thanks to all veterans and their families for their sacrifices.** If you have a service member to add to our prayer list, please call the church office (401-847-1749) or email secretary@fpcnewport.org.
- **For our pastor, elders, deacons, staff, musicians and volunteers.**
- **For Dick and Cindy Price** as Dick continues to recover from his 2nd stem cell transplant. Dick is doing much better and would love to hear from you. To find out how you can let the Prices know you are thinking of them, contact Deidra Ricci at pamperdee@cox.net

If you have a prayer request that you would like to be added to the ENews, please send it to irene@fpcnewport.org. Your prayer care and needs are of the highest importance!

The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and His ears toward their cry. Psalm 34:15

Here are the guidelines to share information in the ENews and the Church Bulletin. We appreciate your help in keeping our family, friends and the community up to date!

- **ENews Submissions:** Should be submitted to irene@fpcnewport.org by the Thursday prior.
- **Church Bulletin Submissions:** Should be submitted to secretary@fpcnewport.org no later than the Tuesday prior to when they will appear in the Sunday bulletin.
- **Please include in all submissions:**
 - Name of event/class/announcement
 - Start date/end date
 - Start time/end time
 - **Location** (room within the church)/Name and street address if outside the church
 - **A direct point of contact** to the person(s) in charge via email and/or phone.
 - Any other relevant details specific to the event/class/announcement



Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Matthew 6: 28-29

IT'S TIME FOR EASTER LILIES!

Do you wish to order Easter lilies in praise, remembrance, or love for someone special? These lovely flowers will adorn our sanctuary Easter Sunday and then can be taken home to enjoy! Only pre-paid orders will be accepted through Sunday, April 5th, and can be mailed or delivered to the church office at 6 Everett St, Newport, RI, 02840. Please make checks payable to FPC. Order forms are available at the church. For more information, please call the church office @ 401-847-1749.



CELEBRATE EASTER AT FPC

April 5, 10:30am
Palm Sunday worship

April 9, 7pm
Maundy Thursday Service
Communion served

April 12, 10:30am
Easter Worship Service

JOIN US!

All events are at First Presbyterian Church, Newport Rhode Island

