



FPC This Week



NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US

Dear Church Family,

Romans chapter 8 is one I often read for encouragement. In this wonderful chapter Paul writes about our life in the Spirit, our position as heirs with Christ, future glory, and God's everlasting love. However, I am especially drawn to verses 26 and 27. Here Paul writes, "Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God."

The world we live in is often in crisis. Often the crisis does not affect us, but the world, our country, and our communities are now feeling the stress and uncertainty of living with the Covid-19 (Coronavirus). Yet, as I often say, "God is God, and God is always in control." This we must never forget as believers in Jesus Christ and as those, who because of Christ, are indwelt by the Spirit of God. No matter what difficulties life serves up for us, we have the advantage because we have given our lives, by faith, to Christ Jesus and God has given his spirit to us.

In verse 31, Paul asks two great rhetorical questions: "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us who can be against us?" The first question is answered by reading verses 1-30. The second question is answered with a resounding "No one!" So, as believers we must be encouraged and strive to stand firm in our faith.

Below I have listed some of the information you need to know with regard to the church and worship services. I have also added some suggestions of a general nature:

- **There will be no services at FPC or in-person gatherings most likely through April. At that time we will evaluate our position and needs.** The good news is that we are working on virtual services.
- Please continue to support the church with your generous giving. Checks can be dropped through the mail slot at the James House, or can be mailed to the church office at 6 Everett St, Newport, RI 02840.
- Please continue to check our website www.fpcnewport.org and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/fpcnewport for information updates, audio and video sermons. You can also find devotional videos on IGTV and Instagram (fpcnewport), and YouTube (FPC Newport Pastor Mike Herring).
- The church office currently has limited hours of operation, but messages can be left by calling 401-847-1749 or emailing of the church secretary at secretary@fpcnewport.org.

Finally, continue to pray for our nation, its leaders, your church and its leadership, and your brothers and sisters in Christ. And remember the words of Paul in Romans 8:35, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" He answers his own question in verses 38-39: nothing!

God bless you all! Stay strong, stay healthy, and more to follow ... Blessings, Pastor Mike

HOW TO KEEP CHURCH COMMUNITY ALIVE AND WELL!

Would you like to know how to keep community alive while social distancing?

LET'S ALL ZOOM!



FPC is encouraging every one who has access to a computer and the internet to sign up for a Zoom account. Zoom is a video conferencing communications tool that is relatively easy to sign up for and access! The best part about it is that it is **FREE** for the first 40 minutes. If you wish to pay for an account, it is either \$14.99 per month or \$149 for a year, if paid all at once.

To sign up for ZOOM:

- 1) Go to zoom.us
- 2) Click on the **SIGN UP FOR FREE** button.
- 3) Enter a valid e-mail and click the **SIGN UP** button.
- 4) Follow the rest of the prompts. You will be sent to your email to confirm and set up an account. If you need help, please feel free to call and reach out to a church friend.
- 5) We will be sending tips next week to help you maximize the best use of your account.

The good news is that we are planning a LIVE ZOOM EASTER SERVICE on Sunday, April 12! More info to come.

There will be several opportunities for us as a church family to use Zoom in the coming days. Zoom can also be used to video conference with your Bible studies, your friends, your Sunday school classes AND your family! We will keep you posted on the church opportunities to come.

We can do this! We can stay in touch, keep community in Christ, and support one another, even from a distance. We are all in this together.

How are you keeping community with Christ and with each other? How have you stayed encouraged?
If you have a story to share, send it to irene@fpcnewport.org

For encouragement and/or the latest church news, you can check out the following sites:

The church website: fpcnewport.org

Facebook: facebook.com/fpcnewport

Instagram: fpcnewport
Pastor Mike has posted videos on IGTV!

YouTube: FPC Newport Pastor Mike Herring

Please remember that the health and safety of all of our FPC family and friends, including our staff, is a top priority, along with the safety and health of our community. This is truly how we love one another, by putting others above ourselves and understanding that by social distancing, we are showing love.

There will be no worship service at FPC through the month of April. We will continue to re-evaluate as we listen to the federal, state and civil authorities.

The staff and leadership will keep you updated on when we will meet again for Sunday morning worship as a congregation.

This is not a time to shrink back in fear and timidity because we do not know what lies ahead. As believers in the risen Savior, Jesus, who gives people salvation, hope and peace, now, more than ever, we should share the message of salvation found in Christ!



PRAYER REQUESTS

- For those ill with the coronavirus, pray for healing. Pray for the stop of the spread of the coronavirus. Pray for our world, our country, our state, and our community. Pray that hearts would turn to Jesus Christ in this global storm.
- For all of those serving on the frontlines: healthcare workers, first responders, hourly workers, military personnel, including the National Guard.
- Pray for wisdom for our civic leaders, from the President on down. Pray for the governors of the states.
- 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*

Please remember that the following events have been cancelled:

- All activities at church or homes most likely through April 30.
- The care package collection for college students.
- The Pray New England Conference.

4 Everett Street
Newport RI 02840
401-847-1749

We serve a RISEN SAVIOR!

- Palm Sunday sermon will be on YouTube, Facebook, and IGTV
- Easter Service will be live on ZOOM...

More info to come!

