

The Church Building Will Be Closed at Least Through April 30, 2020

The Church staff will be working from home Monday through Friday.

Our staff members can be reached individually by phone or email between 8:00am and 5:00pm:

Matthew Miller.....(505)764-2902
Stephanie Urban...(505) 764-2903
Frank Yates.....(505)681-0625
Carolyn Rhodes.....(505)764-2900
or (505) 764-2906
Libby Whiteley.....(505) 764-2924
or (505) 249-5096
Niccole Pierre-Williams.....
(505)764-2911

If you have an after-hours emergency, you can reach Matthew through our Helpline at (505) 764-2910

DOES THE CHURCH KNOW HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU?

- Please check in with the church office if you have not received phone calls OR emails from us OR if your contact information has changed.
- And please REMEMBER to check your emails.

Calendar for the Week

- Daily Lectionary Readings ~ 8:00am
- Daily Hours of Prayer ~ 9:00am & 3:00pm
- Good Friday Resources: Holy Week Study Stations ~ available on our website, firstpresabq.org (April 6-12)
- Easter Sunday Message Recordings from First Presbyterian Church of ABQ ~ 9:00am (view on our website and on Facebook)
- Easter Sunday Worship Live Streaming from the Presbytery of Santa Fe ~ 10:00am (view on santafepresbytery.org)
- Wednesday Support Groups (12-Step will meet via teleconference) and AA will meet outside the church in the garden
- Maundy Thursday Story Video Stream ~ 12:00pm (view on our website and Facebook)
- Friday Godly Play Video Stream ~ 12:00pm (view on our website and on Facebook)

***Stay tuned for upcoming Christian Education studies through virtual gatherings.

***All gatherings and events which take place in the church building are cancelled for the time being.

First Presbyterian Church (USA)
215 Locust Street, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87102
(505) 764-2900
Helpline: 764-2910
www.firstpresabq.org



Messenger Lite

First Presbyterian Church
April 8, 2020

The pattern of Christian worship is such that every Sunday we gather in light of the Resurrection. What I mean is that the story that lies at the heart of our faith unfolds “on the first day of the week.” In other words, every Sunday is in some way, Easter Sunday. However, the annual Feast of the Resurrection that marks the end of Lent is a particularly special one of me.

It was an Easter Sunday that paved my way back to the church and into pastoral ministry. I was 25-years-old at the time and had recently begun trying to go church again after being away for the better part of four years. It was Easter Sunday and I told the woman I had been dating (Marie) that I wanted to go to church. We looked in the phone book (remember those?) and found Central Presbyterian Church in downtown Denver near her apartment. Afterwards, I said to Marie, “We should come back here.” That was the church we attended when we were married, and where our daughters were baptized. It was the church that took me under care as an inquirer for ministry and pointed me toward seminary. It was the last church I was a member of before they ordained me to Ministry of Word and Sacrament. And it all started on an Easter Sunday. I don’t know that in the 24 years since I’ve missed an Easter Sunday worship service. Until this year.

I imagine for many of you that streak is much longer, and I can’t help but grieve the loss with you. Maybe that’s okay. After all, as I’ve preached many a time, that is where Easter begins. It begins with grief, with mourners coming to anoint a dead body. That’s when the story gets good. When God surprises us, the world, by announcing what no one could have seen coming. In this season of predictions and modeling, let us remember that the good news is that God is still full of surprises and that in our risen Lord, death has lost its sting. I encourage you, if you can, to find the Presbytery’s Easter service on the internet this Sunday via YouTube. It will be like nothing any of us has experienced before—just like that first Easter.

Grace and peace,
Matthew Miller

Daily Prayer Options

We invite you to our daily prayer practice at 9:00am and 3:00pm as a way for us to connect while we are apart. We post on our website and send emails with daily prayer prompts and devotionals to collectively meditate at 9:00am and 3:00pm. **Please let the church office know if you would like to be part of this email chain.**

Our Facebook page now has a congregational group called "FPC Daily Prayers and Devotionals". We encourage members with Facebook access to join the group to view Lenten devotionals, prayer prompts, and the daily Lectionary readings. If you already have joined the group, we encourage you to share it with others and post in the group to share your prayer requests and praise reports.

***If you would like to receive text reminders at each prayer time, please text @FPC1881 to 81010, when prompted, reply with "P".

Giving Options are Still Available

We are continuing to work in our ministries to reach out to members of the church and our greater community. Please remember to make your contribution by mailing your checks to the church at:

First Presbyterian Church
215 Locust Street NE
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Here are online options for giving:

From our website, (www.firstpresabq.org) go to the CHURCH LIFE tab and select "Online Giving and Payments" in the drop down menu. Follow the instructions in the new window that opens to make your donations.

From a cell phone, text "GIVE" to 505-207-0463 and follow the instructions.

Sunday Worship Options

We will continue to promote prayer and worship through our social media platforms, including: firstpresabq.org, Facebook, Email, and Instagram.

Presbytery of Santa Fe Live Streamed Worship Service (santafepresbytery.org)

We are collaborating with the Presbytery of Santa Fe to conduct joint live streamed worship services on Sunday mornings at 10:00am through YouTube. You can follow these live videos by visiting the Presbytery of Santa Fe website at the time of the service.

First Presbyterian Church Recorded Messages

The Pastoral Staff of FPC will record special audio messages for our congregation each Sunday and post it to Facebook and the church website at 9:00am. You can view these recordings in the Sermons tab of our website or by visiting First Presbyterian Church of Albuquerque's Facebook page.

Godly Play Video Streaming

The Pastoral Staff will record *Godly Play* video lessons to be shared with families on Friday afternoons. These videos will be available for viewing through the church website or our Facebook page.

If you have any questions about the technical aspects of these options, please contact the church office for guided assistance.

Holy Week Online

As a special way to honor Holy Week from home, we will be launching a new tab on our website with excellent resources to observe each day of Holy Week. Beginning on Monday, April 6th, this new tab will display seven "stations" for you to meditate with throughout the week. Each station will include a piece of art, a music selection, and prayerful text—all created for your mindful meditation.

The Seven Stations of the Cross:

1. Jesus is judged by Pilate (Luke 23:13-25)
2. Jesus takes up the cross (Mark 15:20)
3. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry his cross (Luke 23:26)
4. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem (Luke 23:27-31)
5. Jesus is crucified (Luke 23:33, 47)
6. Jesus dies on the cross (Luke 23:44-46)
7. Jesus is placed in the tomb (Luke 23:50-54)



NAEYC'S Week of the Young Child

4/13 -4/17

Activities for you to do at home!

Music Monday – ACG will be “hosting” a family concert on You Tube for you to enjoy at your leisure. We want to thank Ms. Emma’s dad, Oscar Butler, for donating his time and talent to this wonderful cause. The link will be posted on our Facebook page on Monday.

Tasty Tuesday – Let your child make their own snack and send a picture or video of your creation to a loved one!

Work Together Wednesday – Today we are celebrating all of the Essential Workers who are taking care of us in so many ways. Ms. Sandria made a beautiful banner thanking all of our essential workers that we will hang outside on the north side of the church and we also encourage you to choose one of these activities to do with your child today.

*Decorate your mailbox with steamers or balloons that thank your mail carrier for keeping us all connected.

*Draw a picture, make a card or write a letter to a worker at your local grocery store thanking them for keeping us fed.

*Download and print out the picture of our banner to hang in your window at home or in your car. (Picture to come)

*Have your child make a poster or picture thanking the health care providers, truck drivers, train operators, and delivery people who are working non-stop to keep us healthy, safe and at home and then post a picture of it to your social media account.

*Order take out or delivery from a restaurant and leave a card, letter or picture for those workers as well.

Artsy Thursday – Make a puppet out of items you have at home (brown bag, sock, popsicle stick and paper) and sing a song or do your own puppet show. One of our favorites is the “Itsy-bitsy spider”. Send the video to an elderly friend or family member who could use a pick me up!

Family Fort Friday – Make the best fort you can possibly think of and then read a book together inside your fort. If you are really adventurous, have a sleep-over inside your fort!

Help us celebrate young children everywhere by exploring your inner child!

All our best,

The Staff of A Child’s Garden Preschool