

March and April 2022



First Presbyterian Church of Verona

Come and Worship With Us

10:15 a.m.

10 Fairview Ave, Verona, NJ 07044

973-239-3561

Pastor: Rev. Lynn Rubier-Capron

609-613-1254

Seminarian Intern: Pam Osborne

Christian Ed. Facilitator: Liz Hathaway

Sexton: Andy Turner

Admin. Assistant: Patti Beirne

E-Mail: veronapreschurch@gmail.com

Website: www.veronapreschurch.org

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a caring and welcoming church fully engaged in the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. Empowered by the Holy

Spirit, we live and worship in joyful fellowship with God, proclaiming the Good News through an active program of Christian education and music for children, families, and individuals of all ages. We are committed to sharing our gifts and talents to implement God's will and to assume leadership in our community, guided by the principles of Christian love.

SUNDAY WORSHIP: WE HAVE A NEW PROTOCOL- DETERMINED BY SESSION
as of March 6, 2022

Starting Sunday March 6, you may choose whether to wear a mask with the two following exceptions:

1. If you have not been vaccinated, we ask you to wear a mask
2. if you have symptoms that could indicate that you have Covid- 19, we ask you worship from home and let us know so we can find meaningful and safe ways to remain connected and support you until you are better.

In addition:

- The sanctuary balcony will be a zone that seats people who wish to be fully masked. If you don't want to wear a mask, please leave the balcony available for those who do.
- If anyone needs to have a zone downstairs in the sanctuary that is roped off for people who are fully masked because you cannot use the stairs to the balcony, please let one of the ushers know, and we will rope off a section of pews downstairs that are for people who are fully masked.
- We will continue to open windows and socially distance until further notice.
- We will resume enjoying meals in fellowship with as much ventilation and social distancing as possible.

**For those who are unable to attend, services will be streamed
to the church You-Tube Page:**

Instructions for seeing the streamed service live!

The service will be live-streamed at this address:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0czo7NSkhf56Ffx5OpA03Q>

Important:

To see the service LIVE you must subscribe.

You will see the word *subscribe*

Click on the word and it will now read *subscribed*.

Do not go on prior to 10:15. If you do not see the service, *refresh*

Worship Services are available on this You-tube channel at any time

<https://www.youtube.com/VeronaPresbyterianNJ>

or

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0czo7NSkhf56Ffx5OpA03Q>

How to Find Us

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPORT AND WORSHIP

On YouTube:	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0czo7NSkhf56Ffx5OpA03Q and subscribe to our channel.
On Zoom:	Click the link you receive in the email from Pastor Lynn. Usually, that is enough. If not, start the Zoom app and enter the meeting ID and password. To phone in with the meeting ID and

	password, call one of the provided numbers.
On Facebook:	Go directly to our page at www.facebook.com/First Presbyterian Church of Verona
Our website:	veronapreschurch.org

Online giving is now available on our website: veronapreschurch.org

2022 CHURCH OFFICERS

SESSION

Cathy Franco
 Christopher Kiel
 Donna Kiel
 Deborah Michelsen

Marilyn O'Neill
 Nicole Shaw
 Margaret Whiting

DEACONS

Kathy Dougherty
 Suzanne Fiederer
 David Haimann
 Scott Klabenesh
 Matthew Koroluk
 Michael McGough
 Dotty Ostella
 Willow Pomponio
 James Shorten

Margaret Whiting, Clerk of the Session Council

Dr. Michael Duhaney, Corporation President

Ken Lauckner- Treasurer

Kathy Dougherty & Donna Lauckner- Financial Secretaries

Dotty Ostella & Michael McGough- Deacon Co-Chairs

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

God's New Creation, East Sunday!

This Lent, I am so excited about the ways that our church is preparing for the first day of God's New Creation: Easter Sunday! Here are some of the Lenten practices to get us ready for all of the new things God is doing among us:

Bible bookmarks:

Place one of these bookmarks in your bible or near the device you use to read scripture. An easy way to start using this resource is to read one of the passages listed for the week. Prayerfully read the passage, asking God to show you what it has to say to encourage your faith. If there are sections of the passage that don't apply to you, maybe those passages become a good way to pray for others.

Seasons of the Spirit weekly mailings

This resource provides Scripture reflections, action items and Lenten themes for adults and family members. We have mailed print outs of the entire Lenten packet to those of you who prefer to receive the news letter by mail, so please let us know in the church office if you would also like a packet.

Palm Sunday

If the weather allows, we will burn the palms outside on the sidewalk to prepare for next year's Ash Wednesday service.

Maundy Thursday

We would like to have a light soup and salad dinner again this year, with the washing of hands and a service in the sanctuary. If you are willing to oversee the set up and cleanup of that meal, or if you are willing to help, that would be an enormous blessing for your entire community of faith. Please let us know if you are interested.

Good Friday

Children from FPCV and from the Holy Spirit Episcopal Church will meet on their campus at 10:00 AM for crafts and an interactive,

Children's Stations of the Cross. This should last about an hour, and we are excited for this opportunity to prepare for Easter Sunday with our neighbors!

We will also provide an adult Good Friday Service during the noon hour at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church Stations of the Cross.

Easter Sunday

The Worship and Music Committee has hired an additional musician to make the service full of celebration and joy.

If anyone would like to hide some Easter eggs for the children to find during coffee hour, please be in touch with Andy or the church office.

Blessings, Lynn

Liz Hathaway

Over the past 5 years, the children and youth at the First Presbyterian Church of Verona have been learning from and serving alongside our Christian Education Facilitator, Liz Hathaway.

During her time as our Facilitator for Christian Education, she has worked hard to provide them with a firm foundation of faith and we are eternally grateful to her for that. Her influence in the formation of faith for our youth will serve them throughout their lives.

Liz also coordinated many important faith-building church activities that generated fond memories for children and adults alike in our church. Examples include the yearly Children's Workshops for Christmas and Good Friday and our annual Christmas Eve Family services when the youth share their rendition of The Christmas Story.

Liz was instrumental in helping to ensure that our youth continued to develop their faith during the early part of the COVID pandemic introducing creative ways for our youth and then led as we resumed in-person classes and activities when it became safe to do so.

Liz has shared with the church that she will be moving on as she continues with her graduate program and this means that she will be leaving her position as the Christian Education Facilitator. She has agreed to continue with her commitment to co-lead the confirmation classes with Pastor Lynn until they are welcomed into the church this spring. She will do her best to continue with weekly Sunday School classes until a replacement is hired. If Liz is not available on a given Sunday, until we have a replacement, Cathy Franco will cover the Sunday School class.

The Christian Education Committee has been working with FPCV's Human Resources Committee to search for a new Christian Education Specialist immediately. The position has been advertised and as information is available in the search process it will be shared with everyone.

We know that you will want to express your appreciation to Liz for her ministry with our children. We will be sure to provide an opportunity to wish her well later this spring. Information will be posted in the weekly Spirit and Newsletter as the date is set.

Cathy Franco: Elder/Chair of Christian Education Committee

Message from Pam Osborne

What is prayer? Why do we pray? How should we pray?

Maybe these are burning questions for you. Maybe you have some answers to share. Most likely, it's some of each. I hope that a combination of your curiosity and your experience with prayer will bring us together during Lent to talk about this central practice of our faith.

Our conversations will be grounded in study of Biblical passages, theological ideas, Presbyterian liturgy and also some practices that lie outside our own tradition. At the same time, there will be ample opportunity to consider what we learn in light of our own experiences and to share in one-another's stories.

We'll meet five times on zoom for an hour on Wednesday evenings. Dates, times, and general topics are listed below. While we'd love to see you every week, there is no obligation to attend every meeting. Please come when you are able.

March 9 at 8 p.m.*: What is Prayer: Biblical and theological definitions... and our own

March 16 at 7 p.m.*: Prayer in Weekly Worship: Presbyterian liturgical prayer

March 23 at 7 p.m.: Intercession Writ Large: praying for the world

March 30 at 7 p.m.: Intimate Intercession: Praying for loved ones and ourselves

April 6 at 7 p.m.: Praying in Silence: Meditative prayer practices

*The church's schedule necessitates one 8 p.m. meeting. All others will be at 7 p.m., with the opportunity to stay online for 8 p.m. fellowship (and prayer!) or to move on with your evening at that time.

Pam Osborne, Seminary Intern

MUSIC AND CHOIRS

The search for a new Choir Director has begun and hopefully we will soon have a permanent person on staff.

In the meantime, Tina Schrubba has been providing beautiful music for us on Sunday mornings. She and the choir members choose the music and practice prior to Worship. The choices of music often have to be adapted to the number of singers on a Sunday morning.

Charles Heyer and Mike McGough enjoy playing their guitars and plan to be seen and heard more in the future.

When appropriate, Pastor Lynn shares her musical talent on the violin, by "solo-ing", and by joining Tina and/or the choir.

Tina also plans to encourage the children to sing. They would practice with her following Worship. Hopefully, we will enjoy their singing before Easter.

Peg Whiting

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

MINISTRIES:

- Thank you everyone who contributed to our 4th annual **Sock Drive**. A big "thank you" to Willow Pomponio who was our weekly counter. Our grand total this year was 247 pairs of socks to help those in need. Liz Greene-Koroluk will take our final donations to the Greene shelter in Newark.
- **Crutches for Kids**: We continue to collect durable medical equipment such as walkers, canes, crutches, and other items. As we have mentioned before, they are taken to a non-profit organization where they are shipped to children in war torn areas. At this time the Ukraine is included, so anything you have will be helpful. The red bin is located near the table for Ukrainian relief donations in the front entrance area.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Our Confirmation class is half-way through and working hard. The unleavened bread for communion in March was hand-made by the class. Please continue to keep Julia and Jack Hromoko, Luke Nawrocki, Trevor Mescia & Samantha Venner in your prayers as they continue their journey of faith.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: During this Lenten season, the Sunday School youth will be working on **family activities**.

- Instructional work sheets have been sent to all of our active Sunday School families and the supplies for the first week were given to the youth during Sunday School.
- If you would like the supply packets, pick them up each week in Sunday School. If you would like the weekly instructional work sheets, let Liz or Cathy Franco know and we will get them to you.

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GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP: This year we will be doing **something new** for the children's Good Friday workshop ON Friday, April 15th.

- We will be joining with the youth at the Holy Spirit Episcopal Church in Verona on Good Friday at their church.
- The morning's activities will be set up and attended by leadership from both First Presbyterian Church and Holy Spirit Episcopal Church.
- Registration information will be posted soon so keep an eye out in the weekly Spirit.

FAMILY MOVIE: On Sunday, April 3rd we will be watching the movie ***Son of God***. It does contain material that may not be suitable for very young children. The movie depicts the life of Christ from His humble birth through His teachings, crucifixion, and ultimate resurrection. The movie is rated PG-13.

Cathy Franco: Elder Chair of Christian Ed Committee

March & April Lay Readers

March 6	Pat Heyer
March 13	Janice Tierney
March 20	Dotty Ostella
March 27	Pam Osborne
April 3	Cathy Franco
April 10	James Shorten
April 17	Beth Shorten
April 24	Nicole Shaw

March & April Ushers

James Shorten	Suzie Fiederer
Mike McGough	Matt Koroluk
Willow Pomponio	David Haimann
Dotty Ostella	James Shorten
Matt Koroluk	Mike McGough
Suzie Fiederer	Willow Pomponio
David Haimann	James Shorten
Dotty Ostella	Matt Koroluk

UKRAINE RELIEF

I was a stranger and you invited me in.—Matthew 25:35

Here is a prayer you may use for all who do not have a home because of violence or war:

*Almighty and merciful God,
whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own;
look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger,
homeless and hungry.
Bless those who work to bring them relief;
inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;
and guide the nations of the world towards that day
when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord., Amen.*

Here are ways that you can pray with your acts of generosity:

GIVE: To support emergency relief for those fleeing Ukraine, designate gifts to DR000156. You can also text PDAUKR to 41444 to donate.

Gifts can be made online at pcusa.org/UK22, by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check using the below reply device.

Through the leadership of Christina Turkington, we have been contributing to the donations being received by the Ukrainian church in Clifton.

Verona resident, Ukrainian artist Elina Rosenblum made this opportunity available to the larger community. These collections begin and end quickly, so please join us for worship and note details for those collections.

**May we all stand strong in faith, hope and love alongside
all those who have no place to call their own.**

Pastor Lynn

Interfaith Service for Peace hosted by Verona Clergy Council



On Sunday, March 27 at 5pm the Verona Clergy Council (B'nai Shalom, Calvary Lutheran, First Presbyterian, Holy Spirit Episcopal, Islamic Center of Verona and Our Lady of the Lake) is hosting an interfaith unity service for peace which will include speakers, prayers, and music. As we watch the unrest in Ukraine, our hearts are heavy witnessing history repeating itself. Join in community to pray for peace in our world. The service will be held at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church located at 36 Gould Street in Verona. For more information visit www.holyspiritverona.org or contact a clergy leader at one of the sponsoring houses of worship.

WELCOME PACKAGE

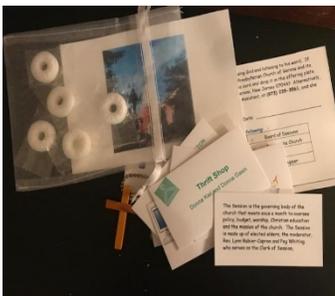
We have a new welcome package for our church visitors located in a basket on the table in the Narthex. The welcome “bags” include:

Colorful and cheerful cards about many of our ministries, programs and people in our church

- A “reply” card where our guest can indicate if he/she would like more information about our programs
- Several peppermint Lifesavers (for both literal and metaphorical purposes)
- A lovely wooden cross keepsake

Please stop by the Narthex table and take a look – but leave the Lifesavers!

Dottie Ostella





FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Wednesday evenings at 8:00 pm, is a time to check in with each other, share concerns, joys, and prayer requests, and close with a prayer. All are invited.

The zoom invite will be sent for you prior to the meeting time.

If you have a prayer concern but are unable to attend the get-together, email Pastor Lynn beforehand.



SUNDAY SUPPER CRAFT GROUP

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The Sunday Supper Craft Group continues to have monthly get-togethers to create crafts to accompany the Sunday Supper deliveries. The times and dates are adjusted to the schedules of the 2-6 participants.

Getting together to create is a fun social time with church friends. All materials are provided and new crafters are always welcome.

For more information contact Cathy Franco at turtlebacktwo@yahoo.com. The March meeting date is Saturday March 12th at 10:30 a.m.

The April meeting time is Saturday, April 16th at 10:30 a.m.

LENT AND EASTER AT FPCV- 2022



Sun. April 10th **PALM SUNDAY:** *Burning of the palms* following worship weather permitting.



Wed. March 2nd **ASH WEDNESDAY-** *Imposition of Ashes* for those who would like to receive and a quiet service with violin music and prayer



Thurs. April 14th **MAUNDY THURSDAY:** *Simple Meal, Hand washing, and Service*

5:30- set up in Chamberlain Hall

6:00- Meal, Beginning of service, hand washing

7:00- Maundy Thursday Service in the Sanctuary

(Sign up or call Marilyn O'Neill if you are willing to bring soup- 973-487-0313)



Fri. April 15th **GOOD FRIDAY:** **FPCV and Holy Spirit Episcopal Church**

10-11a.m.: Holy Episcopal Church, *Children's Workshop* and Interactive Stations of the Cross.

12:00 pm- Good Friday Service of Worship at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church

Sat. April 16th *Decorating the Church* with Deacons and volunteers: time to be determined



Sun. April 17th **EASTER SUNDAY-** Worship at FPCV 10:15 a.m.

HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

Call out from the Deacons

If you are interested in helping with decorating the church for Easter this year, please contact Dotty Ostella at dotteo52158@yahoo.com or by phone at (973) 650-8458. The church will be beautified with daffodils, tulips and other non-fragrant flowers on Saturday, April 16th (the exact time to be determined.)

We spend the Lenten season preparing our hearts for Easter. Won't you join the Deacons as we physically ready the sanctuary for the celebration of Jesus's resurrection? Let's make it even more special now that we can be with one another in this joyous preparation. He is risen, Alleluia!



Dotty Ostella is heading up the Team for FPCV Easter Flower Decorations and Donations

If you wish to contribute, please make your check out to First Presbyterian Church of Verona (FPCV) and in the memo section include Easter Flowers. The deadline for donations is Good Friday April 15, 2021.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact the Church Office at 973.239.3561. Your contribution is greatly appreciated as we welcome the Risen Lord into Our Sanctuary this Easter



CHANCEL FLOWER DONATIONS 3/8

What a beautiful way to remember our loved ones at Sunday Worship.
Your name and that of your loved one will be included in the bulletin.

March 6 th	Given by Martha McNinch in Loving Memory of her husband Robert McNinch.
March 13, 20, & 27	Open
April 3rd, 10 th	Open
April 17 th & 24 th	Easter Flowers donated by Members and Friends of FPCV

If you wish to donate, please contact Barbara Levenson at barbarabert@verizon.net
or call the church office at 973-239-3561

Thank you and God Bless You for your generous donation!

HOLY SPIRIT FOOD PANTRY



The Holy Spirit Food Pantry continues to need our help. The curbside-pick up food pantry, instituted at the beginning of the pandemic, remains in operation.

You may use the 24-hour drop-off bin in their parking lot on 30 Gould Street for any donations. Please consider

writing a check to: Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit with "food pantry" in the memo line.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



There are numerous opportunities for church friends to share their talents. Opportunities are published from time to time. Ideas are always welcome. Feel free to speak with a Session member, Deacon, or Pastor Lynn at any time. Lay Readers for Sunday Worship are always needed. If you would like to volunteer to lay read, please contact Beth Shorten for information: 973-641-2296.

BEHIND-THE-SCENES

There are many church friends and members who are busy, behind-the-scenes, helping to make FPCV a special place to worship. **In addition to his duties as a Deacon, this person mows the lawn and collects the food for the food pantry and much more. Do you know who this person is? DAN UNISS WAS THE FEBRUARY "BEHIND THE SCENES" PERSON.**

The BEHIND THE SCENES person for March and April is not on a Board. However, she is the point person for the Fish Fry and can often be seen setting up or cleaning up after Coffee Hour. "Ask and it shall be given" is the nickname I give to this person.

These persons deserve a special "thank you" from all of us. **If you know of a person who is busy behind-the-scenes**, please email me to let me know. I will attempt to describe one person in each issue of the Church News. Peg Whiting

CHURCH SECURITY SYSTEM

After many hours of work the Church Security System is in place. Training was done to staff during the month of February. Fobs being handed out and their use will begin on March 22, 2022. Thank you Michael Duhaney & Ken Lauckner & Andy Turner.

WISHING BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS, a very Happy Birthday.

Remember the only way to be added to this list is by reaching out to Dan Uniss or another deacon and providing your birthday information (no year required)!



March 9 Scott Klabenesh
April 1 Tony Pomponio
April 2 Charles Heyer
April 13 Marion Shine
April 29 Peggy Whiting
April 29 Andria Kiel

GRANDPARENTS' GROUP

Grandparents Group meets the second Thursday of the month via Zoom.



Please email patheyer75@gmail.com or call 973-239-3592 if you'd like to join us.

NEWS FROM THE THRIFT SHOP



We reopened to the public on February 22 at 10am. It was close - the lighting in the shop was fixed 15 minutes before opening. Twenty minutes in the lights went off again but Andy with his magic fingers, got them on. Hooray!

It was a wild opening day. I think it was one of the highest dollar amounts ever and we had tons of customers coming in to say 'Hi, We missed you'. Customers came from all over - as you can see by the below picture. **They know about the Thrift Shop in outer space !!!!**

One Volunteer was missing from 2021 ACTS, it was Willow Pomponio and she is too important to forget! Also, we are welcoming back Joyce Cougan to our Volunteer Staff.

Thrift Shop Hours are Tuesday 10 to 1, Thursday 11 to 1 and Saturday 10 to 2.

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CALENDAR March and April

<p>Wednesday March 2 7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service</p> <p>Sunday March 6 *10:15 am Worship Service with Communion 7:00 pm Deacons Meeting via Zoom</p> <p>Wednesday March 9 7pm Worship and Music via Zoom 8pm Adult Education Prayer via Zoom –Pam Osborne</p> <p>Thursday March 10 11:00 am Grandparents Group 7:45pm CE Meeting via Zoom</p> <p>Saturday March 12 <i>Spring Forward</i> 10:30 am Sunday Supper Crafters</p> <p>Sunday, March 13 *10:15am Worship Service 4:30pm Confirmation Class</p> <p>Wednesday March 16 7pm Adult Education Prayer via Zoom –Pam Osborne 8pm Church Fellowship via Zoom</p> <p>Saturday March 19</p> <p>Sunday March 20 <i>Sunday Supper Delivery</i> *10:15am Worship Service 10:15am Clara Kiel Christening</p> <p>Wednesday March 23 7pm Adult Education Prayer via Zoom –Pam Osborne 8pm Church Fellowship via Zoom</p> <p>Thursday March 24 7:00 pm Session</p> <p>Sunday March 27 *10:15am Worship Service 4:30pm Confirmation Class 7:00 Unity Service of Prayer for Peace at Holy Spirit Episcopal, Verona NJ</p> <p>Wednesday March 30 7pm Adult Education Prayer via Zoom –Pam Osborne 8:00pm Church Fellowship via Zoom</p>	<p>Sunday April 3 *10:15 am Worship Service with Communion Family movie following Coffee Hour 4:30 pm Confirmation Class 7:00 pm Deacons Meeting</p> <p>Wednesday April 6 7pm Adult Education Prayer via Zoom –Pam Osborne 8pm Church Fellowship via Zoom</p> <p>Thursday April 7 7:45 pm CE Meeting via Zoom</p> <p>Sunday April 10 <i>Palm Sunday</i> *10:15 am Worship Burning of palm leaves following Worship</p> <p>Wednesday April 13 7pm Worship and Music via Zoom 8:00pm Church Fellowship via Zoom</p> <p>Thursday April 14 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 6:30pm Tentative Time for Service 11:00 am Grandparents Group</p> <p>Friday April 15 <i>Good Friday</i> 10:00 am <i>Children</i> Workshop and Stations of the Cross at Holy Spirit Episcopal Verona, NJ 12:00 Noon <i>Adult</i> Service of Worship, Stations of the Cross at Holy Spirit Episcopal Verona, NJ</p> <p>Saturday April 16 Church Decorating – (time to be announced) 10:30 a.m.- Sunday Supper Crafters</p> <p>Sunday April 17 <i>Easter Sunday</i> <i>Sunday Supper to be announced</i></p> <p>*10:15am Worship Service 4:30 pm Confirmation Class</p> <p>Wednesday April 20 8:00pm Church Fellowship via Zoom</p> <p>Sunday April 24 *10:15am Worship Service</p> <p>Thursday April 28 7:00 pm Session</p>
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Additional Use of the Facility
Music Together

Workshops Monday thru Saturday

Check their website for details

TPAPNJ (Children's Theater Group)

Classes to run from January 10 to May 20, 2022

10 Weeks

Chamberlain Hall

Mondays: 4pm to 8pm

Tuesdays: 4pm to 6pm

Wednesdays: 4pm to 6pm

Thursdays 5pm to 6pm

Fridays: 4pm to 6pm

AA Meetings

Meeting in Chamberlain Hall- Tuesdays
8:30pm-9:30pm

Al-Anon Meetings

Meeting in Julie Chamberlain Room – Fridays
12:30pm to 1:30 pm