

Notices

April 3, 2020

jcpresbytery.com

Prayers Requested

- The congregations of John Calvin Presbytery...
- For all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, that they may know the peace that passes all human understanding in Jesus Christ our Lord....
- All churches seeking a new pastor, to understand God's call moving forward.
First Presbyterian Church, Aurora, Missouri
First Presbyterian Church, Carthage, Missouri
First Presbyterian Church, Chanute, Kansas
Crane Presbyterian Church, Crane, Missouri
Community Presbyterian Church, Forsyth, Missouri
First Presbyterian Church, Nevada, Missouri
First Presbyterian Church, Sarcoxie, Missouri
First Presbyterian Church, Scammon, Kansas
- JCPDA
- JC Living Waters Mission Team
- All Pastors of John Calvin Presbytery
- Britney Shurtz, cancer treatments, daughter-in-law of Charley Shurtz.
Charley is pastor at St. Andrew@Hideaway



[Presbyterian Mission Agency Online Easter celebration to be released April 9 | Presbyterian Mission Agency](#)

The Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, president and executive director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, and the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), are featured in an Easter celebration worship video set to be released April 9.

www.presbyterianmission.org

[Workshop: Stewardship During the COVID-19 Season](#)

Lisa Tait Longo, Presbyterian Foundation, will share online, information, ideas and answer your questions about stewardship and finances during this COVID-19 season. No one knows all the answers in this rapidly changing situation. Yet we start with conversations and questions in order to seek a path forward.

events.constantcontact.com

Zoom workshop by Lisa Longo,
Ministry Relations Officer for the Presbyterian Foundation
Tuesday, April 7 at 10:00 a.m.

[Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\) - Coronavirus/COVID-19 Resources for Congregations and Members](#)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? —Psalm 27:1. Along with our brothers and sisters all around the world, we're now coming to terms with the "new normal" brought about by the coronavirus pandemic.

www.pcusa.org



Welcome and peace to all of you working and living through the COVID-19 crisis.

We've seen a number of stories and posts online from you all detailing how you are adapting to working, worshiping, and being faithful stewards remotely. Thank you for these success stories!

We loved Susannah Bryant's [infographic](#) with tips about worshiping at home with children and she's letting us share it with you all. Plus, the people at Igniter Media have created [free graphics](#) to help engage your church during the COVID-19 pandemic.

These Days, a quarterly devotional, is offering [free devotions for the month of April and two free coloring pages](#). See more details below. And the National Council of Churches is bringing you daily Scripture readings, prayers, and meditations for comfort and inspiration. [Sign up](#) for these daily devotionals and receive one email each day.

We've also seen the continued struggles you're facing. Last week we sent an email with free and reduced-cost resources. Most of these are still available and [you can access them here](#). Today we're offering additional resources, many provided by our publishing friends, so keep reading for these.

Finally, we want to put you at ease about your purchases from us since we're aware that some online retailers are overwhelmed with orders for medical supplies and household goods and are putting other non-essential purchases on hold. All book and resource purchases through [PC\(USA\) Store](#) are still going out as usual.

Please feel free to share this email with all who will find use from it. If it's easier to share through social media, a link to this email will be posted on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

EBOOKS FOR LEADERS AND CHURCH MEMBERS

On Sale at Amazon Kindle through

[HELPFUL LINKS](#)

New Links

- [Updated information](#) from the PC(USA)

April 30, 2020

Devotionals

- [Gift and Task: A Year of Daily Readings and Reflections](#)
- [I Want to Live These Days with You: A Year of Daily Devotions](#)

A Year of Daily Devotions

- [The Sun Still Rises: Meditations on Faith at Midlife](#)
- [Holy Solitude: Lenten Reflections with Saints, Hermits, Prophets, and Rebels](#)

For Preachers and Leaders

- [Blue Note Preaching in a Post-Soul World: Finding Hope in an Age of Despair](#)
- [Sailboat Church: Helping Your Church Rethink Its Mission and Practice](#)
- [A Unique Time of God: Karl Barth's WWI Sermons](#)
- [Beyond the Offering Plate: A Holistic Approach to Stewardship](#)
- [The Spirit-Driven Leader: Seven Keys to Succeeding Under Pressure](#)
- [Glimpsing Resurrection: Cancer, Trauma, and Ministry](#)
- [The Last Pastor: Faithfully Steering a Closing Church](#)

Books of Wisdom and Growth

- [Materiality as Resistance: Five Elements for Moral Action in the Real World](#)
- [Truth & Hope: Essays for a Perilous Age](#)
- [Practicing: Changing Yourself to Change the World](#)
- [The Spirit of Hope: Theology for a World in Peril](#)

ACADEMIC EBOOKS

On Sale at Amazon Kindle through April 17, 2020

Preaching and Leadership

- [The Witness of Preaching, Third Edition](#)
- [The Practice of Pastoral Care, Revised and Expanded Edition: A Postmodern Approach](#)
- [Worship for the Whole People of God: Vital Worship for the 21st Century](#)
- [The Homiletical Plot, Expanded Edition: The Sermon as Narrative Art Form](#)

History and Culture

- [A Biblical History of Israel, Second Edition](#)
- [World Religions in America, Fourth Edition: An Introduction](#)
- [A History of Israel, Fourth Edition](#)
- [Was America Founded as a Christian Nation? Revised Edition: A Historical Introduction](#)

Theology and Ethics

- [Readings in the History of Christian Theology, Volume 1, Revised Edition: From Its Beginnings to the Eve of the Reformation](#)
- [Readings in the History of Christian Theology, Volume 2, Revised Edition: From the Reformation to the Present](#)
- [Trauma and Grace, Second Edition: Theology in a Ruptured World](#)
- [A History of Christian Theology,](#)

- about celebrating communion
- [The primary source of information](#) from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- [Past and upcoming webinars](#) on being the church in the midst of crisis from The Center for Healthy churches in partnership with other groups
- [A letter](#) from the President and Publisher of Presbyterian Publishing Corporation
- [Virtual story time rights information update](#) from Flyaway Books. They'd love to see your videos!

In Case You Missed Last Week

- [A very comprehensive site with information about doing church \(worship, ministry, study, etc\) online](#) from a solely online church. There are a number of resources here!
- [Online giving information](#) from the Presbyterian Foundation
- Groups are partnering to [provide online recovery meetings](#) with in-person meetings such as AA being cancelled
- [Previously recorded webinars](#) about technology and the church from Practical Resources for Churches.
- [Online worship opportunities](#) from More Light Presbyterians
- [PC\(USA\) Store Customer Service changes](#)
- Hymnal and Book of Common Worship [Rights and Licensing Information](#)
- Information about [distributing curriculum to church members](#) for purchasers of Growing in Grace and Gratitude, Feasting on the Word Curriculum, and The Present Word

Resources for Adults

- [Last week](#) we shared a free chapter of Walter Brueggemann's new book, [Materiality as Resistance](#). Westminster John Knox Press has partnered with The Work of the People, a spiritual visual library and virtual sanctuary, to create Materiality as Resistance: A 7-Session Film Series on Neighborliness with Walter Brueggemann. They are giving away one copy of the book and a digital gift certificate for one year of free streaming through The Work of The People. The ebook is also on sale; details below.
- [Enter the Giveaway!](#) | [Watch the trailer](#) of the video series.
- [Learn more about subscription plans](#) to The Work of the People.
- Westminster John Knox Press is offering a [free chapter](#) from [Beyond the Offering Plate: A Holistic Approach to Stewardship](#). This chapter is about digital giving, not as a guide to use the technology, but a framework for thinking about what digital giving means. You can save 35% on the print book with us or you can purchase the eBook from Westminster John Knox Press as part of their ebook sale,

[Second Edition: An Introduction](#)

- [Essential Theological Terms](#)
- [Exploring Christian Ethics: Biblical Foundations for Morality](#)

Academic Bible

- [Women's Bible Commentary, Third Edition: Revised and Updated](#)
- [New Testament Exegesis, Third Edition: A Handbook for Students and Pastors](#)
- [A Handbook to Old Testament Exegesis](#)
- [Biblical Exegesis, Third Edition: A Beginner's Handbook](#)
- [An Introduction to Womanist Biblical Interpretation](#)
- [Hidden Riches: A Sourcebook for the Comparative Study of the Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near East](#)
- [Womanist Midrash: A Reintroduction to the Women of the Torah and the Throne](#)

detailed below.

- These Days, a quarterly devotional that you can subscribe to and is mailed directly to you, is offering free devotions. In addition to a daily devotion that includes a Scripture reading, reflection, and prayer, each issue also includes inspiring essays and adult coloring pages for added spiritual reflection each month. To help you as you try to find new spiritual disciplines at home, These Days is providing the [devotions for the month of April and two of the coloring pages free for your use](#). If you're interested in subscribing for yourself or for your congregation or outside ministries such as nursing homes, [check out their information page](#).

Resources for Families with Children

- Here is this week's [free story with corresponding activities for April 5](#) and a [pack of five coloring pages](#) from the children's curriculum, Growing in Grace and Gratitude.
- Flyaway Books added a [new activity](#) to their [free resources page](#)! See what you and the kids and your life can dream up with this activity that goes with the book, [The Story of AND!](#) As an added bonus, the author of the book, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, will be doing a reading of it on [Facebook Live this Friday, April 3 at 10:30am EST](#).
- Our friends at Flyaway Books and Westminster John Knox Press have put some key ebooks on sale through Amazon Kindle (see below for more), including [Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible](#). This is a great way to engage with your children at home, and it is also the foundational resource for the forthcoming (July 2020) [Story Bible Curriculum](#), so you can get the children in your church familiar with the content.

Advisory Opinion Communion in an Emergency/Pandemic

Advisory Opinion

Crocker Presbyterian Church Crocker, Missouri



The Crocker church has a unique witness in their area, including Fort Leonard Wood army base. The congregation includes families of long tenure and also families passing through in their military service. Session has approved ZOOM live broadcasts for Sunday service and Adult Sunday School. Our ZOOM following is expanding to members and friends of the congregation outside of the state of Missouri. Each week attendance has been increasing.

Starting the week of April 5th a daily devotional, Thoughts for the Day, is sent out to the congregation.

Session members and pastor are consistently contacting members of the congregation through phone calls, emails, text message and or ZOOM.

Starting the week of April 12 on Tuesday evenings a weekly ZOOM one-hour broadcast with focus on Bible study and once a month fun evening on ZOOM for the church family.

Crocker houses the food bank for the community, as part of the Ministerial Alliance. Convoy of Hope is delivering pallets of food and other items to our church for distribution, besides other donations coming in to the church.

Several women in the church are making surgical masks to be distributed to the community, hospital, and others as requested

Each week with this pandemic we are finding lots of changes and a new normal for the church family, but we focus on showing gratitude, love, compassion and prayers for the church family and community.

Bill Agnew
CRE, Crocker Presbyterian Church



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FORT SCOTT, KANSAS

Here in Fort Scott we are missing one another's faces, singing together, laughter and even small talk over refreshments. We have established some simple rhythms. We post a video of our liturgy/prayers, and a separate video of a short sermon, to our youtube channel. We mail a print copy of the liturgy and the sermon to all who choose to receive it that way. We adjusted our April Food Drive away from bringing food items to pile at the front of the sanctuary (we often pit one section of pews against another in friendly competition!). Instead, we will collect financial gifts.

For Palm Sunday we will have palm branches for those who want to do a "driving palm parade" through our neighborhood. Then (one family at a time), we'll place the palms in the cross on our front lawn (as is our custom). On Maundy Thursday we'll do "drive through communion" in front of the church and drape our cross in black cloth. On Easter morning, we'll again offer drive through communion and invite the congregation to bring fresh flowers to place in the cross (a beloved tradition here).

Our Sunday morning book discussion of Brene Brown's *The Gifts of Imperfection* has moved to an email format. We are calling and checking on one another as best we can. We are trying to receive each day as it comes, looking forward to a time when we can be physically together again.

Peace, Jared Witt (on behalf of FPC in Fort Scott).



PWJCP

Women's Word

Volume 1, Issue 3

Spring 2020

Inside This Issue:

Moderator's Moment

Five Ways to Be the Church

Sheltering in Place

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Inspirational Websites

What Can You Control?

Practical Ideas!



Moderator's Moment

From: Joan Russell

The executive committee of PWJCP wants to announce the postponement of our "Spring Gathering" on April 25th. We will still celebrate at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Springfield, MO, but at a later date to be announced. We look forward to getting together with all our PW friends when it is again safe for us to gather.

It is so important for us to keep in touch with each other during this time. We are very fortunate to have such a variety of forms of communication to keep us connected. So, whether you phone, email, text, send a greeting card, or whatever you choose, let's share our lives and experiences to uplift each other. You know we are very good at that.

As PW, God calls us to RESPOND, We HEAR, We ACKNOWLEDGE, We GRIEVE, We look to the Word for HOPE, We PRAY, We ACT, We REBUILD. For nothing will be impossible with GOD. --Luke 1:37. This comes from "Prayer and Beyond -- Faithful Response in Times of Trouble". The Justice and Peace Committee of Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA) has created a leaflet that can be downloaded for us to share with each other during this difficult time. Download this item at www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice.

"May we remember that, in the midst of crisis, God's grace goes with us, Our hope in God brightens our way, And God's love surrounds us all." --JyungIn (Jenny) Lee Moderator for PW in the PC(USA), Inc

Five Ways To Be The Church When Church Is Canceled

BY ERIN WATHEN (edited version)

Of all the cancellations, perhaps the most unnerving of all is the call, in many areas, to cancel church worship services. This seems counterintuitive in a time when people are anxious and need community; when people are facing economic uncertainty and need support; and when people are fearful and need the comfort of prayer and connection. And yet-- we have to acknowledge that "large gatherings" are a hotspot for the spread of disease, and that church services can be pretty cozy experiences as far as personal space goes. There is unprecedented territory ahead, and nobody can say how long it might last. Here are some things to remember, **Support your pastors.** Know that they heavily weighed consequences, including your disappointment, and ultimately did what they thought was the best thing for the wellbeing of the community. Thank them for having your best interests at heart, **Send in your pledge.** This may seem like a small thing in the grand scheme. Even if the building is empty, bills and salaries need to be paid; what's more, you're helping your church maintain mission commitments to the community in a time when that commitment is more important than ever. **Check on your neighbors.** Any time you help someone in your proximity, you are living out the values of your faith community. You are embodying what the whole gospel thing is about, which takes church out of the building and brings it to life for others. This is what we go to church to learn how to do-- it is 'for such a time as this' that you have spent all those other Sundays in worship. **Pray for your church family.** And send notes. Make phone calls. We are one body, even when that body is not together in the flesh. **Practice Sabbath.** For some, this shutdown of life as we know it is going to cause significant economic hardship. Keep perspective and recognize that downtime can be a gift.

Websites for Inspiration

Daily Scripture readings:

presbyterianmission.org/devotion/daily/

Prayer for Wisdom and Peace:

presoutlook.org/2020/03/prayer-for-wisdom-and-peace-as-the-coronavirus-spreads/

Bible Verses for Peace and Comfort

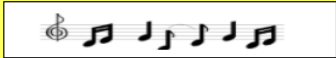
<https://www.southernliving.com/culture/comforting-bible-verses>

Presbyterian Women

<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/>

Sheltering in Place For the Easter Season

We in Fort Scott are not enjoying the normal Easter church activities, but we are 'sheltering in place'! Our PW ladies are phoning members of the church each day just to chat and make sure everyone is okay. Each one of the officers is picking one or two members and keeping in touch. Our sheriff, who is a member of the church, is making sure people have groceries and medicine. We are hoping our minister will have sermons on line, but he does put the weekly church bulletin on line so we are getting the Bible verses, prayers, and weekly message. We just need to use our talents to be a mission unto ourselves in this interesting time.



A Practical Idea!

When singing Happy Birthday or the ABC Song while washing hands gives enough time for the soap to work, reciting The Lord's Prayer or singing "Bless Be the Tide That Binds" takes the same amount of time.

If we wash hands once an hour -- the current recommendation for workplaces -- we can be reminded that God chose to wash away our sin, and through the water are reminded of our baptism, the baptismal vows we've made to others, and are in community with our Christian brothers and sisters at their sinks around the world!

Veda Rowe from Woodland Heights reminds us
"Blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence." -
Jeremiah 17: 7-8

Books with Spirit

What are Presbyterian Women Reading?

Kate Morton: [The Clockmaker's Daughter](#)

Margaret Atwood: [The Testaments](#)

Ann Patchett: [The Dutch House](#)

Sarah Young: [Jesus Calling](#)

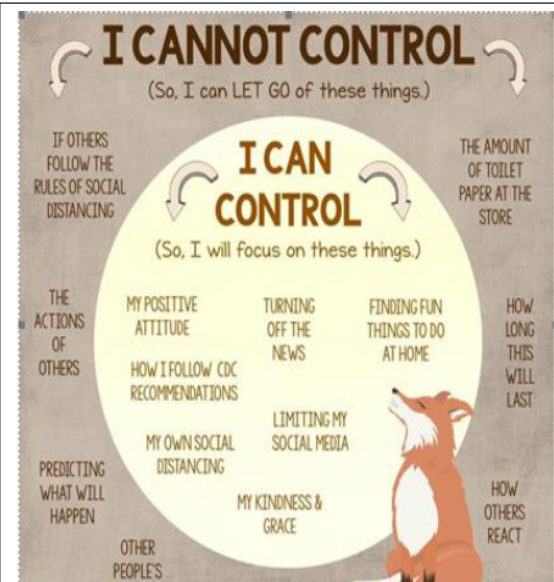
Melinda Gates: [The Moment of Lift](#)

Jojo Moyes: [The Giver of Stars](#)

Kelli Estes: [The Girl Who Wrote On Silk](#)

Donna Tartt: [The Goldfinch](#)

Celeste Ng: [Everything I Never Told You](#)



John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Contact Us..... How can we help?

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**Please continue to mail all remittances
Per Capita, Shared Mission and special offerings to:**

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Shell Knob, Missouri 65747

PULPIT SUPPLY for a minister leading worship and preaching for a congregation as a visiting minister should ordinarily receive \$100.00, plus the IRS approved mileage amount per vouchered mile (2019 IRS rate \$0.575 per mile). Pulpit Supply is \$100.00 with the understanding that is only if one (1) service is to be prepared. It was approved by COM that if two (2) services are required the honorarium would be \$150.00. If overnight lodging is required, motel and meals should be provided at the church's expense. Honorarium for moderating a session is \$50 plus the IRS approved mileage rate per vouchered mile.

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