



TODAY & THIS WEEK AT FRC (MARCH 15)



DUE TODAY - Place Your Orders for Easter Flowers

Tulips, lilies and daffodils will be used to beautify the Sanctuary for Easter Services. You may order plants in memory of or in honor of family and friends. A list of donations will be included in the Easter bulletins. Plants are \$12 each. *Proceeds will be donated to the NewBridge Services.* Look for a green order forms in the back of each worship space. Orders are due in to the office no later than **March 15**. Contact is Vicky Werr (973) 835-1144 (x11)

Senior Activity Sunday – Pizza & Computers Mar. 15 at Noon in The Gathering Place

Come and learn to use your computer or phone more efficiently as taught by our youth. If you have questions or concerns, the kids from FUEL will be more than happy to help sort them out! Join us for some food, fun, and learning. Bring your phone or laptop.



Meditate & Create, March 18 @ 7 PM in Grace Chapel

Melinda DeBell, artist and teacher, will help us enjoy a relaxation and meditative painting session. No painting experience necessary. A guided experience will encourage relaxation through an artistic outlet. A fee of \$5 for supplies will be collected. Please sign up in Friendship Hall or contact Joyce Forde-Muller at rejoyce1@earthlink.net

THINGS TO KNOW

Worship Leader/Choir Director is Being Hired – We are thrilled to let the congregation know that we are in the process of hiring a wonderful young woman to serve as the Worship Leader/Choir Director. More information will be coming as we finalize that hire.

Postponement: Grains of Hope Food Packing Event Has Been Postponed

Community Partners for Hope has decided to postpone this event. We will let you know the new date soon.

Men’s Guatemala Trip Has Been Postponed. As another precaution, we decided to not send church members to Guatemala at this time.

Atlantic Health Has Launched a COVID-19 Hotline

This is designed to assist members of the community who are concerned that they or a loved one may have been exposed to or have symptoms of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The Hotline will be staffed by trained Atlantic Health System nurses who will triage calls from patients and help guide their next steps in seeking care. Callers with clinical symptoms of concern

or travel/exposure concerns will be connected with dedicated AMG physicians to assist in evaluation and triage. The hotline will initially operate seven days a week from 7:00am to 7:00pm beginning March 11, at 862-260-3199.

Mental Health Services Regarding Coronavirus

I am feeling stressed about the coronavirus and would like to talk with a mental health professional. Who can I call? The NJ Department of Human Services operates a toll free “warm line” which is a resource for people seeking mental health services. The warm line is available 24 hours and has language access; (877) 294-HELP (4357). NOTE: The “warm line” does not replace 911 and is not used to report emergencies.

SEASON OF LENT TO EASTER

Mission Project for the Season of Lent - Every Week Bring Food for Bessie Green

During the season of Lent, we have the opportunity to support our brothers and sisters at North Reformed Church in Newark by collecting food items for their food pantry. Items may be placed on the stage in Friendship Hall: Canned vegetables, Cup O’Noodles, Pork and Beans, Ramen noodles, Canned spaghetti, Boxed potatoes, Canned ravioli, Rice A Roni, Canned fruits, Boxed mac and cheese, Canned tuna, chicken, ham, Canned soups, Peanut butter, Canned stews, Jelly, Juice boxes, Canned yams, Crackers, Canned potatoes, Boxed milk, almond milk, Canned or dry beans, Ketchup, Cereals, Mustard, Pasta sauce, Paper products of any type, Pasta, Hygiene products of any type. Thank you for supporting our brothers and sisters at North Reformed.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Family Ministries Easter Egg Hunt – March 29th

Spring Family Gathering - Come join us for an Easter Egg Hunt after church. We will meet behind Friendly Manse on Sunday, March 29th with a rain date of Sunday, April 5th at 11:30 am. Please bring a bag or basket to collect the eggs. Please sign up on the church website. **Donations of filled eggs are also needed.** Sign up in Friendship Hall or upstairs in the Spark Kidz hallway.

Learn the Art of Making Ukrainian Eggs (Pysanky) Tuesday March 31st, 7pm in Friendship Hall

Cost of supplies will be \$14.00 (kit with kistka, dyes, designs and wax plus eggs). Please pay Carolyn Connerton by **March 15th** (supplies have to be purchased by mail order). If you already have the supplies feel free to join us. No charge, but please sign up so we know how many people will be attending.) The dyes used are permanent so please wear old clothes.

Bring a candle in a candleholder to class. Candle and holder should be at a convenient height to work over.

Want to Get Healthier in 2020?

Interested in a weight loss program? Sign up sheet in Friendship Hall. If there is an interest, The Health and Wellness Team will put together a program.

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Men's Bible Study Beginning a New Study

Men of all ages are welcome! The Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study will begin a new study -Spiritual Warfare on Saturday April 4th. We meet 1st and 3rd Saturday each month [except July and August] from 9:00-10:00 AM in the choir room. An excerpt from the introduction: "If you want to avoid a spiritual Pearl Harbor will ask and answers 3 critical questions: Who is our real enemy? What is their plan of attack? And how we can defend ourselves in battle and be victorious." Cannot make every meeting - no problem. Come and join us. Bring your Bible and we use a study guide. Questions to Lew Shafer: ljshafer@gmail.com ; or Frank Chara: frchara40@optonline.net .

SUPPORT/SERVE

Help Support Young Adults on Service Sunday

We have the opportunity to impact young adults who have gone through the immigration process to enter the United States, and now are working to maintain their status here in New Jersey. There are currently 33 students ranging in age from 14-19 years old, living with either a relative or a sponsor in Newton, NJ, and attending Newton High School. In addition to maintaining good grades and attendance in school, each of these young people is employed 25-40 hours a week in order to pay legal fees and rent, while purchasing their own food and clothing. This Service Sunday project is twofold: You can either purchase a \$25.00 gift card to Walgreens or Walmart, or, you can purchase items to go in gift bags. Items to be donated can be found on the Guatemala map at the back of Friendship Hall. Please return these items to the boxes in Friendship Hall no later than Easter Sunday. Purchased gift cards can be given to Karen Mazur, Bonnie Holmes, or left in the Main Office to our attention. Thank you for your willingness to make life a bit brighter for those working hard to maintain legal residence in our country.

Do you knit or crochet?

Help with the Little Yellow Duck Project. Your duck could find its way onto a world map while advocating for blood, organ and bone marrow donation. Instructions are on the kiosk in Friendship Hall. Return them on Service Sunday, April 19, and join us for stuffing and tagging them during Service Sunday.

Are You Ready for Membership?

Joining a church means moving from "This is the church I attend" to "This is my church" – a sense of ownership. "I'm still shopping around" to "I feel connected within this faith community" – a sense of belonging. "I go to that church because of the services they provide me or my children and family" to "FRC church has a vision and mission that I believe in and want to support" – a sense of shared purpose.

If you sense you are ready to take the next step in your level of commitment within the congregation of First Reformed, simply contact Pastor Kathleen at kathleen@frc-pp.org or (973) 835-1144 (x12). There will be the opportunity to join in mid-April.

GENEROSITY/GIVING

Food Pantry Current Needs



Most Urgent Needs: Jelly, Dish detergent, Coffee, Tissues, Toilet paper, Laundry detergent, Mayo / Salad dressing, Canned / Pkg. Fruit / Boxed Milk (Parmalat)

Also Needed: Peanut Butter, Juice, Coffee / Tea, Canned / Pkg. Meat / Meals / Chef Boy R Dee, Cereal / Oatmeal, Pasta Sauce, Ketchup / Mustard, Canned tomatoes, Rice

Cash donations are greatly appreciated as well – while the food pantry is being renovated we have increased the amount of Shop-Rite cards given to each client since they are not receiving as much food

FAMILIES/CHILDREN/YOUTH

Middle School & Senior High Youth:

FUEL Youth Group

Our FUEL Youth Group meets Wednesdays in Friendship Hall at 7 pm. Any questions contact Dave Sippel dave@frc-pp.org

Alaska Mission Trip Update

If you have not already, please pay your deposit to hold your spot on the high school mission trip. Also, we are leaving one day earlier than planned to save a few hundred dollars per person on the airfare. New trip dates are: June 26th to July 3rd.



Rent-a-Kid Fundraiser

Support our youth mission trips and get a little help around the house. During the months of April and May, church members are invited to hire high school students to complete odd jobs, such as yard work, window cleaning, babysitting, etc. Students sign up for a job and contact the church member directly to coordinate the date and pay. Add your job to the Job Board by visiting the church website.



Pajamas & Popcorn – March 29th It's our 5th Sunday celebration! Wear your pajamas to church and Spark Kidz!

Children and Communion Class – Registration is online for all children in 2nd grade & up interested in participating in our Children and Communion class. The class will meet during Spark Kidz on May 17 & 31. A first communion celebration will take place on June 7th.

Snack Pack Project Donations – Donations are needed for our Service Sunday Snack Pack Project. Look for the board in Friendship Hall during coffee hour or in the church office. Pick a tag and return the tag and item by **April 5th**.