



The Vision of the Congregation: We see ourselves as the embracing arms of Jesus Christ for each other, for the community and for the world.

First Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2015

<p>SHARE the amazing love of God</p>	<p>REFLECT the light of Jesus Christ</p>	<p>LIVE and serve joyfully in the Spirit's power</p>
757.397.3622	515 COURT STREET, PORTSMOUTH, VA 23704	WWW.FPCPORTS.ORG

Coming Events

Sunday, April 26
9:30 Breakfast
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship

Wednesday, April 29
6:45 Bells, 7:15 Choir

Sunday, May 3
9:30 Breakfast
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship with the
Lord's Supper
**3:00 Music for an Olde
Towne Afternoon at
Trinity**

Tuesday, May 5
11:30 Ladies' circle at the
Red Lobster in Ches.

Wednesday, May 6
6:45 Bells, 7:15 Choir

Saturday, May 9
Steeple to Steeple tour

Sunday, May 10
9:30 Breakfast
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship, **including
receiving gifts for \$6 a
backpack**

Wednesday, May 13
6:45 Bells, 7:15 Choir

Sunday, May 17
9:30 Breakfast
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship, **including
receiving gifts for PW
birthday offering**
12:00 Hospitality hour

*Reminder: The Court St. and
King St. doors will be locked
during worship. Please enter
through the sanctuary during
worship.*



**Please rise in body and spirit.*

Made One by Christ

*** Welcome and Call to Worship**

What is the nature of resurrection hope?

Resurrection hope is a hope for the transformation of this world, not a hope for escape from it. It is the hope that evil in all its forms will be utterly eradicated, that history will be redeemed, and that all the things that ever were will be made new. It is the hope of a new creation, a new heaven and a new earth, in which God is really honored as God, human beings are truly loving, and peace and justice reign on earth.

News for the Good of the Church

Prelude "Entrata" Pachelbel

Choral Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

***Hymn #475**

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Clothed by Christ

Anthem "In the Shadow of Your Wings" Leavitt

Corporate Prayer of Confession

The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness,
interceding with sighs too deep for words.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**God of all hope and joy, we confess that we
continue to live in fear. We speak of Your
great love but our own hearts condemn us.
We express concern for the poor but our own
actions betray us. Forgive us, God of grace.
Good shepherd, restore our souls and lead us
in right paths for Your name's sake; through
Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Corporate Prayer of Confession (continued)

Silence for personal confession

Hear the good news of God's promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.
Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. In the name of
Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Sharing of Christ's Peace

***Song of Praise, Hymn #453 "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People"**

Sharing Christ's Promise

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson Acts 13: 1-3, 14: 8-18 pages 959, 961

Sermon "Embedded Stories"
The Rev. Dr. Kerry Knox Westerwick

A Life of Blessing

*** Hymn #34 "Bless the Lord, My Soul and Being!"**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (Ecumenical)

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are Yours
now and forever.
Amen.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Musical Offering "Air" J. S. Bach

*** Doxology Hymn #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

A Life of Blessedness

*Hymn #269 "Lead On, O King Eternal!"

*Charge and Benediction

Benediction

"Peace"

G. Norbet/M. D. Callahan



A Blessing in Music

"March"

Pachelbel

"In The Shadow of Your Wings"

*Gracious God be merciful,
O my God by merciful.
My soul is crying out to You.
My only refuge Lord is You, God most high.*

*In the shadow of Your wings,
'neath the shadow of Your wings,
My soul finds rest from my deep distress.
My heart hides there till this darkness passes by.*

*I cry to God on high
whose purpose is fulfilled for me.
He reaches down to save
and reproaches him who threatens me.*

*Gracious God be merciful,
O my God by merciful.
My soul finds love and truth in You.
No other place of safety lord but You.*

*In the shadow of Your wings I hide,
O my God most high.*

The Vision of the Congregation: We see ourselves as the embracing arms of Jesus Christ for each other, for the community, and for the world.

Welcome to our visitors!

We hope that you find our congregation a welcoming one.
Your presence enriches our worship of God.

The flowers in the sanctuary today, given by Pat Sparks,
honor the memory of Ruth and Frazier Byrd.

Friday, May 1, Church Women United will celebrate May Friendship Day at St Andrew's United Methodist Church (5615 Portsmouth Blvd., Portsmouth, VA 23321 757-488-3534). The celebration begins at 11:00 A. M. with a luncheon following at noon. The speaker is Ms. Debra Thomas of Third Baptist Church. The cost is \$10. Please come prepared for the "Least Coin Collection." Please contact United Methodist if you will be attending by Monday, 4/27.

The Scriptures are read from the pulpit Bible. The pew Bibles are a slightly different translation. To follow the exact text, use your smart phone/tablet, go to biblegateway.com and select the NRSV version.

Prayer List

Jeff Baker (Norma Halterman's brother-in-law), Betty Bartlett,
Kyle Craig (Kerry's cousin), Jackie and Tyler Forsythe,
Benjamin Gerlach (Pat Sparks' grandson), Tom Goolsby, Stephanie Green,
Linda Hackworth, Mildred Humphrey (Lane Pittman's mother),
Joyce Jenke (Breena Branham's mother), Joe Jennings,
Mark Leonard (Claudia Laughlin's brother), Agnes McFadden
Larry and Tammy Pittman, Bob Pomeroy, Jr. (Diane Griffin's brother),
Marina Reimann, Carl Rhodes,
Georgie Stewart (David's mother), David Stuart,
the Winkler and Powell families, Dorothy Wooldridge (friend of Carl Rhodes)

Everyone suffering with cancer and facing surgery

Our friends at home, especially

Margaret Glynn, Lanier Halterman, Frances Hardy,
AT and Nancy Mayo, Ann Michaluk, Sue Parker,
Lane Pittman, Burma and Leon Smith, Frances and Harvey Spiers,
Robert Westbrook, Patrice and Phil Winkler,
Joyce Wright, Grace and Harold Yingling

We commend to God's care Alton Catlett, Nancy Mayo's father.

Leading in worship today

The Rev. Dr. Kerry Knox Westerwick
Mrs. Edna Broadhurst, Director of Music Ministries
Reader: Karen Diggs
Ushers: David Culpepper, Rudy Simpson
Counters: David Culpepper, Rudy Simpson

April offerings

4/5 \$ 3,965.00 4/19 \$ 2,780.93
4/12 \$ 2,900.00 4/26 \$
MTD \$ 9,645.93

We received \$143 for the Backpacks for Kids offering.

April attendance

4/5	Worship	75	4/19	Worship	31
	Sunday school	N/A		Sunday school	16
4/12	Worship	31	4/26	Worship	
	Sunday school	17		Sunday school	

The church office will be open on Wednesdays only, from 10:00 – 1:30.
Please call the pastor at other times

In order to prepare the bulletin in a timely manner, all notices should be sent to the pastor (pastor@fpcports.org) and the bulletin editor (rjrodriguesiii@yahoo.com) no later than noon Wednesday.

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Session

The Rev. Dr. Kerry Knox Westerwick, Moderator of Session
Karen Diggs, Class of 2015, Clerk of Session
Worship, led by Agnes McFadden and David Culpepper
Congregational Fellowship, led by Oralie Wilhite
Administration, Property and Finance, led by Paul Butler
Mission and Outreach, led by Jennifer Patgorski
Christian Formation, led by Gail Pittman

Members and friends of the congregation are encouraged to contact the appropriate elder with their comments and suggestions.

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Kerry Knox Westerwick, Pastor	397-3622 ext. 202
Mrs. Edna Broadhurst, Director of Music Ministries	397-3622 ext. 203

<p><u>Birthdays</u></p> <p>4/11 Norma Halterman 4/14 Lane Pittman 4/18 A. T. Mayo 4/19 Jerry Freeman 4/24 Bill Westbrook Phil Winkler 4/25 Ann Michaluk Raymond Rodrigues 4/29 Alice Butler <i>Missing a birthday? Please contact: Church</i> pastor@fpcports.org 397-3622 Bulletin Editor rjrodriguesiii@yahoo.com Newsletter Editor slp149@aol.com</p>	<p><u>Ministries for April</u></p> <p>Sunday school all month Paul Butler, Gail Pittman April 5 No breakfast April 12 Breakfast Barry Westerwick Hospitality Sylvia Stephenson, Barbara Bond April 19 Breakfast Raymond Rodrigues April 26 Breakfast Alice Simpson</p> 	<p>Contact Us: 757-397-3622 www.fpcports.org infor@fpcports.org</p> 
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