

“The Servant’s Heart”

MISSIONS AT FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
APRIL 12, 2021

For information about any of the ministries with whom we partner, please visit:

www.firstpresvb.org/missions/service
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Volume 14 Number 4

“For just as the body with the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead.” James 2:26

EASTER MESSAGE FROM OUR SISTER CHURCH IN SAN NICOLÁS, CUBA

Dear Virginia Beach congregation.

May the power with which God raised Jesus Christ from the dead be with our covenant relationship. May we be filled with his power to share life, to serve and bear witness to the Resurrection of Christ, to transform sadness into joy, despair into certainty, trial into victory, war into peace, hatred into love, to unite the peoples as the colors are united by the rainbow.

Fill us with your power that humbles the rich and lifts up the poor; power given in the Gospel, in the Word of God, in his Spirit, to this people, not for fleeting delight, but to sustain, guide and announce the life of Christ. Amen.

The San Nicolás congregation embraces you on this special day. Know that we love you and accompany you in our thoughts. Blessings. Pastora Maricela

SAN NICOLÁS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CONGREGATION CELEBRATES 105 YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN 2021

Our sister church in Cuba turns 105 years old this year. When it was founded it was part of the Presbytery of New Jersey. It is now a constituent part of the Presbyterian-Reformed Church (IRPC) in Cuba, an independent ecclesiastical body. The COVID pandemic has caused many problems for our sister church, problems compounded by new economic conditions created by a monetary restructuring in Cuba and the continuation of the economic embargo imposed by the United States. Our sister church, and the IRPC ask that we pray for our brothers and sisters in the Cuban Presbyterian churches without ceasing. They remind us that their welfare is intimately bound up in our welfare and vice versa.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

During 2021 FPC has continued to reach out to other primarily black congregations in partnership to feed people with food insecurity issues. Most Thursdays we deliver food to Gethsemane Community Fellowship on Brambleton Avenue, which in turns delivers it to deserving people in the community surrounding the church. On weeks when we do not do so, in March we began to make food deliveries to Mt. Olive Baptist Church on Birdneck Road for distribution in the Seatack community. Both churches remain grateful for this partnership.

We deliver 15 bags of groceries every week. To fill 15 bags of groceries, we require:

- ◆ 45 cans of vegetables
- ◆ 30 cans of fruit
- ◆ 30 cans of beans (black, pinto, etc.)
- ◆ 30 cans of soup
- ◆ 15 jars of pasta sauce
- ◆ 15 boxes of spaghetti
- ◆ 30 boxes of mac-n-cheese
- ◆ 15 boxes of saltines
- ◆ 15 bags of rice
- ◆ 15 jars of peanut butter
- ◆ 15 jars of jelly
- ◆ 30 cans of tuna
- ◆ 15 boxes of cereal

To sustain this volume of food, we rely on purchases through the Mission Budget and purchases by members of the church. Buying a little extra for the Food Pantry is a great way to help sustain this ministry.



[Right] Food delivery at Mt. Olive Baptist Church with Miss Lula Stokes and her helper. April 1, 2021