



FPC This Week

Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43:19

Sermon Connect

Pastor Mike created Sermon Connect in a simple format so that it could be used for discussion between friends, in a small group, or over coffee. It can be a wonderful tool to engage people who have questions about God!

Sunday, January 12, Pastor Mike preached on "Walking in the Light" from 1 John 1:5-10. John exposes 3 misconceptions and then counters them with the truth:

Misconception: vs. 6 - We want to believe we can live in fellowship while we live in sin. **Truth:** vs. 7 - If we walk in the light and know Christ, we are cleansed from all unrighteousness.

Misconception: vs.8 - We deceive ourselves into believing we have no sin in us. **Truth:** vs. 9 - We are ALL sinners. Christ paid for our sins and forgives us when we confess our sins.

Misconception: vs. 10 - We deny that we've sinned. **Truth:** If you say this, you are denying the truth.

Reflect on or talk about the following statements:

Light reveals the true nature of all things.

Light allows us to combat the darkness of sin in our own life.

Often we want to return the compliment to God - God made us in His image so we want to make Him into ours!

As C.S. Lewis says, God is the transcendental interferer - if our view of God is distorted, then everything else we believe becomes distorted!

Many of the writings found in the New Testament often address false teachings and the heresy and immaturity that they produced. 1 John is no different.

John wrote to deal with a more sophisticated and subtle presentation of error than many of the other NT writers encountered. The letter is directed at a specific situation in the churches where false teachers and their followers had pulled away from the main body of believers and caused division in the church.

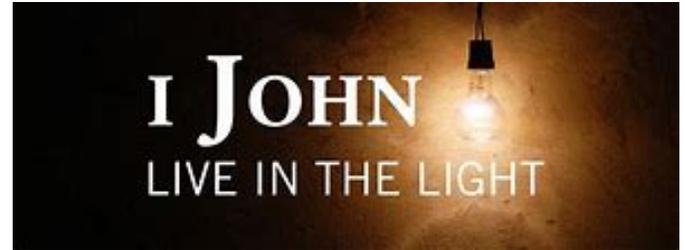
One of their reasons for separation centered on their claim to a special "anointing (charisma)" of the Holy Spirit and belief that they had been given "true" knowledge from God. This "true" knowledge (gnosis)" influenced their beliefs and lifestyle.

These beliefs developed into a widespread movement of false teachings which scholars have attributed to gnosticism. John wrote and focused on what is a true knowledge of God.

John does not hold back on those who misconstrue and produce error. He calls them "liars" (2:4, 22 and 4:20). He encourages his readers to test every new teaching they hear with the fundamental truths they have already received, found in the incarnation of Jesus Christ and the conviction that he is the Son of God. To the gnostics, such teaching was unthinkable; to John it was the foundation for our salvation. John continues to remind us that false teaching always leads to false living. So as true believers we, we stand on truth in order to "live in the light."



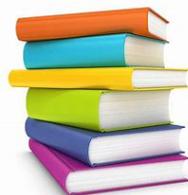
Blessings,
Pastor Mike



Would you like to listen to recent sermons? Find them on the FPC website at:
fpcnewport.org/listen-online/

Kids and Family Ministries

Barbara Ross is hosting a reading challenge beginning now and running through the third Friday in February! If your kids read 5 books from the church library, they will be awarded a small prize. We have some great books available, and you are sure to find interesting reads on the shelves of the children's library! If you have a young child who does not read on their own, you may read the books to them. Please encourage independent readers to choose books within their reading level; Barbara wants the challenge to be fun and doable, but also worthwhile and rewarding.



If you have any questions or want to share your kids progress, Barbara would love to hear from you: barb.ross1015@yahoo.com or 904-742-9626.

Let's make this a fun event! We look forward to hearing about it in February!

All children's Sunday School classes are in the CE building. For more detailed information, check out our website fpcnewport.org/sunday-school/

Help our moms get nurtured on Sunday mornings! Volunteer in the nursery!

Volunteering to watch our babies and young children during an occasional Sunday school and/or Sunday worship service brings rewards of love and gratitude. Call or text Jen Bloom, 401-297-9942.

Adult Bible Studies

For FPC men:

Men's Bible Study is studying Hebrews. They meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 6:30pm in the Hometime Room.

Promise Keepers meet for optional breakfast at Chelsea's, 1015 Aquidneck Ave at 7:00 Saturday mornings, followed by a time of Bible study, discussion and prayer in the Hometime room at 8:00am Contact Don Fennessey at fenns@hotmail.com

For Women:

Christ in You: A Study on Colossians Mondays 6pm at the Kolator home Daryl Kolator (dg.kolator@cox.net) dgkolator@cox.net for more details.

For all: The Friday night group meets the second and fourth Friday of the month, rotating at members' homes. We are studying Genesis. Contact Daryl Kolator.

The women's morning study will be taking a break for the winter-spring semester. We anticipate new and exciting studies and events for the women at FPC for 2020! The break will be used to seek God's best and to plan the year.

Thank you for your prayers as we plan how we can best serve the women and families in our church and community
-to glorify Christ,
teach His Word and
be His hands and feet.

January 19 is Last Class for The Screwtape Letters

Pastor Herring's class on *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis concludes this Sunday. We've had some great discussion the past few weeks. Join us for the last class on this classic!

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS CINDY AND CHIP WILSON



Cindy and Chip Wilson live in Westport, MA and have been regular attendees at FPC for the past 2 1/2 years. Cindy and Chip teach the 1-3 grade Sunday School class, and Cindy has been the story teller leader for Vacation Bible School. The Wilsons moved up to this area 3 years ago. They lived in Charlotte, NC for 23 years and were active members at South Mecklenburg

Presbyterian Church. They have two sons: Sam is 25 and lives and works in Richmond VA, and Nick is 22 and a Senior at Clemson University in SC. Chip is the Chief Financial Officer of Blue Harvest Fisheries in New Bedford. Cindy substitute teaches in the Westport and Dartmouth school districts. We are blessed to have them as members! Thank you for your example of serving for Christ.

FPC to Welcome Joe and Avery Morris, Missionaries to Africa

FPC will welcome Joe & Avery Morris, Missionaries to Africa, on Jan 26th. The



Morris' ministry is called Jesus to the Needy: <<http://jesustotheneedy.com/>> <http://jesustotheneedy.com>. They serve the Lord by serving others in feeding, clothing, and teaching hundreds of students, orphans, abandoned children, and adults each week. Please join Joe and Avery in the Home Time Room Sunday, January 26, following the worship service, for a presentation and discussion about what God is doing through them in Africa.

Food Collection

Every month, we gather non-perishable food items and deliver them to the food pantry at St. Joseph's Church. At any time, you may place your donations in the baskets in Fellowship Hall or back of the sanctuary.

Social Media

Our Facebook page (facebook.com/fpcnewport) is updated several times a week with current information and spiritual encouragement.

Find us through Instagram at [fpcnewport](https://www.instagram.com/fpcnewport).

Find us on the web:
[fpcnewport.org](https://www.fpcnewport.org)



Please Pray:

- For Daryl and Dave Kolator and families in the death of Daryl's mother. Our deepest sympathies and prayers go out to them.
- For those who are sick with colds or the flu.
- Continued healing for Barb Estes as she recovers from knee replacement surgery.
- Healing for Charlotte Ricci who broke her ankle.
- **For the military personnel who have recently been deployed to the Middle East, with thanks to all veterans and their families for their sacrifices.** If you have a service member to add to our prayer list, please call the church office (401-847-1749) or email secretary@fpcnewport.org.
- **For our pastor, elders, deacons, staff, musicians and volunteers.**
- **For Dick and Cindy Price** as Dick continues to recover from his 2nd stem cell transplant. To be added to or removed from the email list for timely updates, contact Deidra Ricci at pamperdee@cox.net
- **For our country's leaders, that they would seek God for wisdom.**

If you have a prayer request that you would like to be added to the ENews, please send it to irene@fpcnewport.org. Your prayer care and needs are of the highest importance!



**The eyes of the LORD are toward the
righteous and His ears toward their
cry. Psalm 34:15**

Many years ago, a church member donated two burial plots in Newport Memorial Cemetery to FPC. The cemetery is located off of Indian Avenue in Middletown. FPC is making the burial plots available to those who attend FPC at a price considerably below market value. If you are interested, please email Mike Franco at mfrancoesq@verizon.net for more details.

Here are the guidelines to share information in the ENews and the Church Bulletin. We appreciate your help in keeping our family, friends and the community up to date!

- **ENews Submissions:** Should be submitted to irene@fpcnewport.org by the Thursday prior.
- **Church Bulletin Submissions:** Should be submitted to secretary@fpcnewport.org no later than the Tuesday prior to when they will appear in the Sunday bulletin.
- **Please include in all submissions:**
 - Name of event/class/announcement
 - Start date/end date
 - Start time/end time
 - **Location** (room within the church)/Name and street address if outside the church
 - **A direct point of contact** to the person(s) in charge via email and/or phone.
 - Any other relevant details specific to the event/class/announcement

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Last Sunday, January 12:

Sexton-Mike Franco

Coffee Hour-MacDowell and Thomas Families

Nursery-Deidra Ricci and Karyn Straka

Young Children's Worship-Mikyong Kim

Hospitality-Brain and Darien Petit, Judy Graves, Mike Franco, Dave Kolator, Tim and Stacie Schultz

This Coming Sunday, January 19:

Sexton-Phil Thow

Coffee Hour-Inner Life

Nursery-Deidra Ricci and Kris Aleicho

Young Children's Worship-Hilary Hartlaub

Hospitality-Ross Family, Tim and Stacie Schultz, Charlotte Ricci, Don Fennessey, John Wicks

Christmas Eve at FPC brought together family, friends, and our community to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, Immanuel, God With Us!

Phil, Bonnie and Sadie Hahn (Sadie was home from college!) lit the advent candles and the Christ candle on Christmas Eve.



Pastor Mike had the joy of baptizing his grandsons at the December 29th worship service. His son-in-law, Clark Dunn, attended church at FPC as a young boy in the 1990s. Clark's parents, Tim and Susan Dunn, lived in Newport while his father was in school at the War College as a Marine officer. His father served as an elder, and his brother and sister were baptized at FPC.



Church Office Hours
M-Wed, 9am - 1pm
401-847-1749

First Presbyterian Church
4 Everett Street
Newport RI 02840

