

November 11, 2020

# FPC ENews

## Advent Begins November 29

### THE INDESCRIBABLE GIFT Journey Through Advent

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#### Sunday Worship Service at 10:30 am

- 11-29 ~ First Sunday of Advent: The Indescribable Gift
- 12-6 ~ Second Sunday of Advent: The Gift of a Special Birth
- 12-13 ~ Third Sunday of Advent: The Gift of a King in a Manger
- 12-20 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent: The Gift of Faith



Christmas Eve Services  
5:30 pm and 7 pm

Thanks be to  
God  
for His  
indescribable  
gift.

2 Corinthians  
9:15

Think about one of your most meaningful gifts. Do you remember? Can you see it? If you were asked to describe it, you would be able to with glorious detail. Now, what if you were asked what might make a gift **indescribable**?

In reality, all human presents are describable. So it would seem the only thing that makes a gift indescribable is it would have to be more than human.....

Join us this advent season as we journey through Advent and prepare our hearts for the coming of The Indescribable Gift.

## College Care Packages



Students attending college this year have been challenged in ways we could not have anticipated. The Inner Life Committee would like to send a small Christmas package to these students to encourage them and let them know their

congregation is praying for them. It does not matter if students are attending in-person or virtually. We want to remind them that amid all the turmoil and changes, their God is ever-present and faithful.

If you would like your student to receive a package, send their address to me at [judys.ri@gmail.com](mailto:judys.ri@gmail.com), or you may send it to the church office. Please send addresses by November 11th. Thank you.



### IT'S POINSETTIA TIME!

These lovely flowers lend their color and vibrancy to our sanctuary every Advent! This is a beautiful opportunity to dedicate a poinsettia in praise of or in memory of someone you love! The poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary through Sunday, December 27th, and then you are welcome to take them home to enjoy! **Only pre-paid orders will be accepted through November 29th**, and can be mailed or delivered to the church office at 6 Everett St, Newport, RI, 02840. Please make checks payable to FPC.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

In Praise Of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_

Single Plants: ( ) x \$12 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Double Plants ( ) x \$24 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount of Check Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

## Operation Christmas Child Boxes Due November 15



It is the time of the year when we can once again participate in the Operation Christmas Child ministry or as some may call it, the Christmas shoebox outreach. Whatever you may call it, this year 2020 could be the year of "Blessing of Millions of Children in the Middle of a Pandemic". As we think of our difficulty traveling and trying to limit the spread of COVID-19, just imagine the additional precautions the ministry will have to take to safely collect and deliver the shoebox gifts. The boxes mean so much to the children that receive them, but the children also receive materials for The Greatest Journey discipleship lessons. This has not only brought millions of children to faith in Christ, but also to their families, and it has led to church plantings throughout the world. All of this happens with your gifts and your prayers!

The boxes are available at the exits of our church, which should contain a brochure about how to pack a shoebox. Your box will need to be brought back to FPC by 11/15/2020. If you are uncomfortable shopping for gift items, you may want to go to [samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanspurse.org/occ) where you can build personalized shoeboxes on line for a donation.

If you have any questions please feel free to call Phil or Susan Thow at (401) 849-4407.



# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



We are excited that Sunday School is currently meeting at 9:15am. Cindy and Chip Wilson will be teaching Grades Kindergarten through 3 again this year in the same room as last year (third floor of CE Building) and look forward to helping your children better understand and remember the stories from the Bible. Dave Kolator is teaching 4-8th grades in the upstairs Samuel Room. If you need help finding the rooms, the teachers will be happy to help you.

Masks will be required for the entire Sunday School period. Music will start off the hour as usual, however, the children will sit on cushions so that they are apart from each other. During class time, each family unit will be seated together but be distanced from others. The church will supply a box of individual markers/pencils for each child to be used each week. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Cindy Wilson through the church office, David Kolator at [Kolator.ri@gmail.com](mailto:Kolator.ri@gmail.com) or either Mikyong ([mikyong@uri.edu](mailto:mikyong@uri.edu)) or Daryl Kolator ([dg.kolator@cox.net](mailto:dg.kolator@cox.net)).

Sunday School for adults meets in the Lynch Room where John Wick leads discussion on Philippians. Please wear a mask and properly distance from other families.

Pastor Mike is preaching out of the New Testament book of Romans, the most complete book on theology in the New Testament. The author, the apostle Paul, lays out how the Old Testament and New Testament forever tie together through faith in Christ. Pastor Mike has been on fire as he preaches boldly about themes such as justification, reconciliation, peace amidst suffering, and most importantly, salvation through faith alone in Jesus Christ. Here's how you can access his most recent sermons:

The church website: [fpcnewport.org](http://fpcnewport.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/fpcnewport](https://www.facebook.com/fpcnewport)

Instagram: [fpcnewport](https://www.instagram.com/fpcnewport)

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hRsZk0Ncjjc&t=8s>

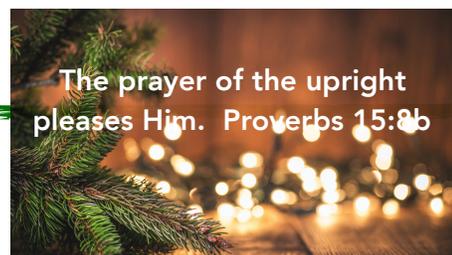


Office Hours are flexible. If you can't reach the office by phone, please e-mail @ [secretary@fpcnewport.org](mailto:secretary@fpcnewport.org)  
6 Everett Street, Newport RI 02840

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praises that we are able to worship in person!
- Diane, Brian Petit's sister, who has cancer
- Lori (Alice and Ralph Thomas' daughter) doing Hospice at COVID Specialty Nursing Home
- Heather (Nancy and Ed Burgess' daughter) taking care of patients on the COVID Ward at Mass General
- Danielle (Dick and Cindy Price's daughter) working with COVID patients
- That people would turn to Jesus Christ in this time of crisis
- For our military, serving at home and overseas
- For our civil, state and federal government leaders
- Charis and Joshua (daughter and son-in law of missionaries Larry and Linda Jones) are safely returned from Bangladesh and living in Washington State awaiting the Lord's call to their next mission

The prayer of the upright pleases Him. Proverbs 15:8b



## WE'RE OPEN SUNDAYS FOR WORSHIP!



- Sunday School begins at 9:15 am.
- Service begins at 10:30 am.
- All who enter the church must wear a face mask during the service.
- Pew Bibles will not be available so you will need to bring your own Bible.
- Hymnals will not be available so we will have printed music sheets in the bulletins.
- We will practice social distancing in sanctuary seating.
- Offering plates will be placed in the front and rear of the sanctuary for your convenience and will be collected during the designated offering time.
- There will be no children's sermon.
- No activity bags will be provided, so children may want to bring similar items of their own.

These guidelines/restrictions allow us to continue to worship together. Even with the restrictions, we have enjoyed meeting together to worship and hear preaching and encouragement through the Word of God.

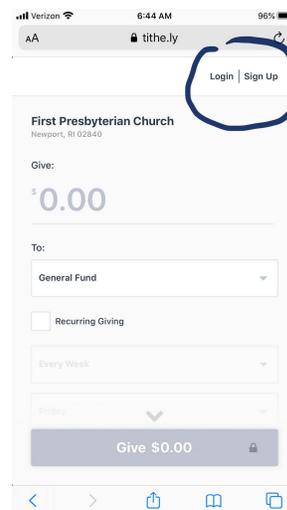
Finally, remember there is hand sanitizer placed throughout the church for your use. We encourage you to bring your own as well. Also, if you are sick or running a fever, please remain at home. We can't wait to see you!



On Saturday, November 14th, between 8:30 am and 12:30 pm, come join members of our church family to help get our church building ready for the upcoming winter. No special skills are required, just willing hearts and hands. Contact Don Fennessey or the church office for details and questions.

### You can now give online!

Go to the church website [fpcnewport.org](http://fpcnewport.org) and click on the far right GIVE tab on the main menu bar. You can then create an account by clicking on "Sign Up" in the top right corner.



The FPC Staff wish all of you a safe, peaceful and, yes, **thankful** Thanksgiving, as we rejoice in all of God's blessings.