



May 19, 2022

# This week at FPC

“We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.” Hebrews 6:19



## Sunday, May 15 Worship

*“But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.” Romans 8:10*

As part of his sermon series, “God’s Trinitarian Love in All its Glory,” guest preacher Rick Koconis shared a message titled: “Life In the Spirit—Dead in Sin, Alive In Christ” based on Romans 5:8-11

Rick, a longtime FPC member, will be with us through June, preaching during the worship service and teaching a Sunday School Bible study titled, “What Is the Gospel and How Does It Inform Our Church and It’s Mission?” at 9:15 a.m. in the Hometown Room. He also led a Zoom discussion of the sermon topic at 7 p.m. Sunday evening.

Thank you to Don Fennessey for serving as lay leader May 15, and to Angel, the choir, and Juno and Eden for sharing their musical talents to enhance our worship service.

## Reaching out to our new neighbors

Deidra Ricci and Cheri Dugan recently took a trip across Calvert Street to deliver a welcome gift to our new neighbors. They left gift bags at the door of every one of the 34 new apartments in the recently converted Cranston-Calvert School. The bags included a mug, tea bag, cookies and chocolates, pen, palm cross, welcome note, and church business card—all on-hand or home-made items. They were welcomed by the developers and current managers of the property, who later came for a tour of the church. Hopefully, this first gesture will be the beginning of a friendly relationship, and that some of the tenants will consider joining us in worship.



This Friday evening!

### Pizza, Games, Fellowship, Fun!

Bring the family, a friend, or just yourself to the FPC Dining Room at 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 20, for a fun evening of games and fellowship! Pizza will be provided. Please consider

bringing your favorite game and a salad or dessert to share! Even if you don’t want to play a game, have fun watching!

Don't miss it!

## On the Journey...

We continue to seek God's guidance as we look to what the future hold for this body of believers. Until a pastoral search committee is established, we need to pray and work together for the good of the church and the Kingdom.

**For pastoral care**, contact Deidra Ricci by emailing [pastor@fpcnewport.org](mailto:pastor@fpcnewport.org). For other visitation needs, contact Daryl Kolator at [deacons@fpcnewport.org](mailto:deacons@fpcnewport.org) or 401-339-7625.

**Sunday services** are available at [fpcnewport.org](http://fpcnewport.org), FPC Livestream, or YouTube at <https://youtu.be/maD3KQzByYc>.

## So much we can do along the way

**Find your interest:** Worship, fellowship, missions, Christian education, childcare, buildings and grounds, finance and personnel, prayer, outreach, soup kitchen, small group Bible studies, music and more. For more information contact [secretary@fpcnewport.org](mailto:secretary@fpcnewport.org).

**Commit to help sustain** FPC's mission to serve God. Please prayerfully consider giving to our Capital Improvement, Operating and Mission Funds. This year has been a financial struggle for our church, and FPC is always thankful for your tithes and offerings.

**Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen** Please consider picking up a few extra items when you go grocery shopping and adding them to the collection baskets in the Fellowship Hall and back of the church—or make a monetary donation. We deliver the collected items to the food bank the first Sunday of every month.

### Coffee Hour and Online Chats

Many of our members and friends are currently unable to attend church due to health issues. Come to the Fellowship Hall after worship service, grab your cup of coffee, and find the chat in one of the adjoining offices. Please consider hosting one Sunday. It's very rewarding and not hard to do. You can make or buy a few treats, and there's always someone around to help. Thanks to the Kolators who hosted coffee hour last Sunday and made this little boy very happy!



## Meetings and Activities

### Thursday, May 19

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Church office open\*  
2:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Zoom)  
6:30 p.m. Deacons

### Friday, May 20

7:00 p.m. Small Group Bible Study  
7:00 p.m. Game Night!

### Saturday, May 21

7:00 a.m. Promise Keepers

### Sunday, May 22

9:15 a.m. Bible Study (new!)  
10:00 a.m. Prayer gathering  
10:00 a.m. Choir practice  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
11:30 a.m. Fellowship hour  
6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)  
7:00 p.m. Sermon discussion (Zoom)

### Monday, May 23

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Church office open\*  
6:30 p.m. Sarah Circle Bible Study (Zoom)  
7:00 p.m. 20s & 30s Small Group

### Wednesday, May 25

6:30 p.m. Choir practice

\* office hours may vary

## Stained Glass Windows Repair

During the next few weeks, work will continue on repairs to 27 of our beautiful stained glass windows. Some temporary scaffolding and staging may be in the Everett Street parking lot. The work should be completed by the end of June. If you would like to contribute financially to this project, please note on your check or offering envelope: "FPC Stained Glass Windows."



# There's Joy in Being Involved!



## Dinner Club is back!!!

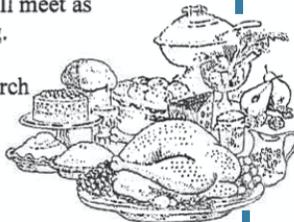


Inner life committee is bringing back Dinner Club. You may sign up by contacting Nancy Burgess Text 401-835-0183 or Email [nancykayaks@cox.net](mailto:nancykayaks@cox.net) or place this sign up sheet in the fellowship hall. You will have the month of May to sign up.



You will be grouped with other **adults** in our church family for June and July. The host (assigned by Inner Life) will contact those in your group to choose a date for the first meal. The "meal" can be a formal dinner or a casual picnic lunch. Traditionally the host provides the main course, other guests bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert. The group will meet as many times as they wish taking turns hosting.

At this transitional time in the life of our church it's very important that we remain in close fellowship with each other. Let's aim towards 100% participation in dinner club.



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

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Willing to host: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_



## Pray...



...for our church, as we renew our faith in God's plan for all of us and reach out to those around us. Join Deidra Ricci in the Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m. Sundays to pray together before worship.

...for our nation and its leaders, and for all those who serve our nation in dangerous parts of the world, and for our first responders.

...and for the spoken and unspoken needs of members of our church family who are recovering from surgery, who will have surgery this week, who are ill or enduring hardships. Pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ: Jan and Bruce Jones, Norm and Janet Champagne, Ken and Tia Scigulinsky, Ralph and Alice Thomas.

...for Judy Sweeney and her family. Her son Raphael's struggles have ended. He went home to be with the Lord. Judy is grateful for all the prayers you have lifted up for Rafe. May we continue to lift up the family that they may have the comfort only God can provide. May they feel the Lord's love encompassing them during this very difficult time. As it says in Psalm 34:18 "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Make a  
Joyful noise  
Unto The  
Lord!  
PSALM 100:1

**Evensong** This group meets Sunday evening or Zoom to worship by singing songs and hymns, sharing scripture and enjoying fellowship. To join contact Brian Ross at [mm9616b@gmail.com](mailto:mm9616b@gmail.com) to get the Zoom link.

**Choir** Come to the choir loft at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. Sundays. Contact Angel Conwell—or just show up at practice. You and your voice will be warmly welcomed. We need more voices! Try it out for a while.



**Stay in the loop!**  
Help us keep you  
informed about what is  
going on at FPC

If you have recently changed your address, phone, email, etc, please contact [secretary@fpcnewport.org](mailto:secretary@fpcnewport.org) or leave a message at 401-847-1749.

## The towers that were never built

We do not know exactly how the vision of creating such a beautiful church building originated, but we do know that Elder Gardiner Reynolds was the driving force during the planning stage. In early 1891, the building committee engaged a local architect, Mr. John D. Johnson.

Although they traveled throughout New England to gather ideas for the new church, there seems little doubt that the vision for the new church was influenced, to a degree, by the memory of the large Congregational Church that they left behind on Pelham Street (to be explained in another story.) They felt that the new church must be a “grand” church. Whether or not they could afford it was another matter.

### The vision—and the challenge

The architectural style has been described as “Romanesque.” The original concept included a 130-foot clock-and-bell tower at the northwest corner, and a smaller 60-foot tower balancing it on the opposite side. It was to be of red granite construction, with a large circular “rose window” in the front, and equally large stained-glass windows on either side. The interior was designed to seat more than 450 people, with good seating for all, and no provision for a balcony.

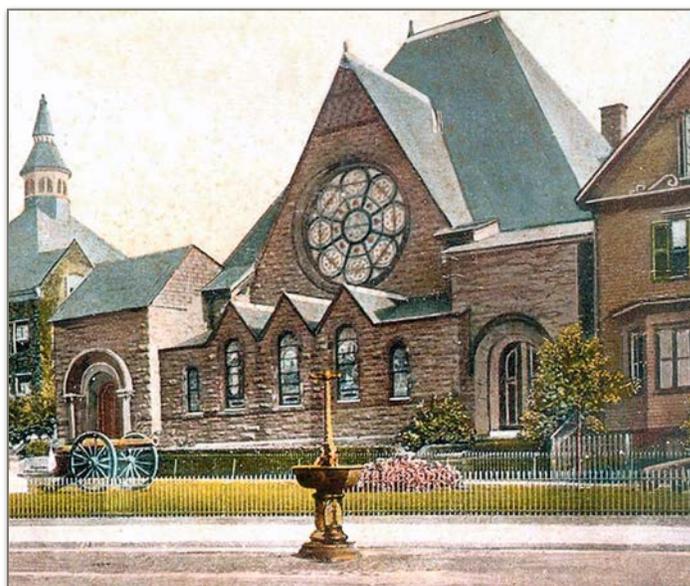
It was indeed a grand concept, and to promote the fundraising effort an artist named Porter was commissioned to paint a large picture of how it would look. This picture hangs today in the Fellowship Hall. It has been called “miraculous” that this small congregation would embark on such a bold undertaking. Perhaps a better word would be “audacious.”

The original cost target for the new building was only \$50,000, but relative to the dollar today, this would have been approximately \$1,250,000. Looking back on it, this still seems a very low amount, even in terms of the buying power of 1891 dollars. And it did prove to be a gross underestimate, because the final cost was probably at least twice that amount.

The church struggled financially, but they didn't really give up on the idea of completing the towers for about ten more years. Then they replaced the temporary wooden, pitched roofs over the entryways with the flat-roofed stone parapets there today.



First Presbyterian Church, Newport, R. I.



The church circa 1906. Notice the pitched roofs on the front entrances.



**First Presbyterian Church**  
4 Everett Street (Corner of Broadway and Everett)  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840  
401-847-1749 • [fpcnewport.org](http://fpcnewport.org)  
[facebook.com/fpcnewport.org](https://facebook.com/fpcnewport.org)  
Sunday Worship Service 10:30.

