

June 9, 2022



# This week at FPC

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

## June 5 Worship Service

*"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose."*

Romans 8:28

Guest pastor Rick Koconis continued his sermon series from Romans 8 with a message titled, "For His Glory Alone, Only the Fingerprints of God," and the scripture reference was Romans 8:28-30. If you were unable to worship with us in person, go to our web site, [fpcnewport.org](http://fpcnewport.org), and click on Livestream.

Rick also leads a Bible study, "What Is the Gospel and How Does It Inform Our Church and Its Mission," at 9:15 a.m. and an informal discussion about the sermon after the service.

Thank you to Stacie Schultz for serving as lay leader, to the Williams family for hosting coffee hour, to our ushers and sound crew, and to our music ministry, for sharing their talents to enhance our worship service, especially to Eden Conwell who sang the opening solo to the anthem, "Amazing Grace."



Bill Koconis was at FPC Sunday to hear his brother Rick preach.

## Faithful teachers + eager learners = successful Sunday School year



FPC wrapped up the 2022 Children's Sunday School program with an end-of-year picnic at the Kolator home. It was a celebration of thanks for the families that participated in Sunday School this year and their teachers! The teachers for these age groups were Daryl Kolator (Pre-K and K), Cindy and Chip Wilson (Elementary School) and David Kolator (Middle School). We wish everyone a fun and safe summer!

## On the Journey...

Please pray for God's Holy Spirit to move mightily in each of our hearts to pray diligently for His presence in each of us as the body of Christ so that we may strengthen each other and grow during this challenging time.

**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.

**To view Sunday services online**, go to [fpcnewport.org](http://fpcnewport.org), FPC Livestream. The service is available live or Monday and days following.

**Sunday School study and sermon discussion** "What Is the Gospel and How Does It Inform Our Church and Its Mission?" led by Rick Koconis at 9:15 a.m. If you have questions or would like additional clarification on the morning's sermon message, grab a coffee and some munchies at coffee hour and join us in the Hometime Room for an informal discussion.

**New Women's Bible Study Opportunity!** You are invited to join to join us Thursday, June 23 at 2 p.m. on Zoom for a new study on Psalms. If anyone is interested they can contact Deidra Ricci, [pamperedee@cox.net](mailto:pamperedee@cox.net) or 401-447-3833.

### Coffee-Fellowship Time

Just ask Mario Colon and his daughter (shown here with some coffee hour snacks) if they think this fellowship time is a good idea!

We thank the Small family for last Sunday's array of goodies. June 12 will be the last Sunday here for Matt, Ali, and their sons Sebastian and Edmond. They have participated in many FPC programs while stationed in Newport, including working the nursery, Family Fun Night, Thursday Women's Bible Study, and Christmas in Newport. We wish them "fair winds and following seas" as they head for Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



**New Join our summer "pick-up" choir** This is a good time to try singing in the choir. On the Sundays listed here, we will meet in the choir loft at 9:45 to "pick up" a piece of music that we will quickly learn and sing that morning. No robes, no evening rehearsals, no auditions, just a time to enjoy singing from the choir loft and enriching our worship service. The pick-up choir will sing June 12 and 26; July 3, 17, and 31; August 7, 21, and 31. Check with Angel Conwell for more information.



## Meetings and Activities

### Thursday, June 9

9:00 a.m. —1:00 p.m. Church office open\*

### Friday, June 10

7:00 p.m. Small Group Bible Study

### Saturday, June 11

7:00 a.m. Promise Keepers breakfast at Chelsea's restaurant

### Sunday, June 12

9:15 a.m. Bible Study  
10:00 a.m. Prayer gathering  
9:45 a.m. Choir practice  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
11:30 a.m. Fellowship hour  
6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

### Monday, June 13

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Church office open\*  
10:00 a.m. Worship Committee  
6:00 p.m. Building and Grounds Committee  
6:30 p.m. Sarah Circle Bible Study (Zoom)  
7:00 p.m. 20s & 30s Small Group

### Wednesday, June 15

5:00 p.m. EFC Soup kitchen

\* office hours may vary



**Soup Kitchen**, the first Wednesday of every month, is an important outreach to our neighbors in need. At our most recent Soup Kitchen, Darien Petit purchased the food and made the sandwiches at home. Regina Skudera, Robert and Christine Sahms and Jerry and Coleen Spencer packaged and served meals to 19 guests.



Who will fill this chair?

### Note from the Secretary

At the end of August, I will be transitioning out of the secretarial position at FPC. I have enjoyed being the secretary these last three years, but at this time I need to address key roles in other areas of my life. While I still hold the secretarial position, I welcome the opportunity to train the next secretary.

The job requires a mix of organizational, communication, office, and people skills, as well as an overall knowledge of how FPC is organized and operates. The person to take up this post needs to have the qualities of kindness, patience, diligence, and a high degree of consistency. This is a part-time, hourly position that allows for flexibility, as some of the work can be done from home, although regular in-person office hours need to be maintained. I am grateful for having had the opportunity to serve as the FPC secretary and am eager to see who the Lord will bring for FPC for this key post!

*In Christ,  
Stacie Schultz, FPC Secretary*

If you are interested, please email [secretary@fpcnewport.org](mailto:secretary@fpcnewport.org).

## 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 Sunday at 10 a.m. to pray together before worship.

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

...for the spoken and unspoken needs of members of our church family who will have or are recovering from surgery, who are ill or enduring hardships or loss and in need of God's healing and grace.

**David Tenney** passed peacefully into the Lord's arms last week. Please pray for his family. There will a graveside service for him August 5 with a reception at FPC to follow. David and Lynn Tenney had deep roots at FPC and loved their FPC family. David was also very active with the local Gideons and loved sharing God's word.

**David Kolator** underwent heart surgery last Thursday, is now in the recovery phase. Please pray for the Father's healing touch on Dave as he returns to full health. May he and Daryl find joy and strength in the Almighty.

And as you pray, please remember...

Pete and Nancy Browne  
Nancy and Ed Burgess  
Lynn and Larry Chase  
Jan and Bruce Jones

Richard and Cindy Price  
Ken Scigulinsky and family  
Carol Smith and family  
Judy Sweeney and family  
Ralph and Alice Thomas

"Praise the Lord! For he has heard my cry for mercy.  
The Lord is my strength and shield. I trust Him with  
all my heart." Psalm 28:6

### New Member Class

If you would like to learn more about our church and are considering joining our membership, you are invited to join a two-session New Member Class at 9:15 a.m. Sunday, June 19 and 26.



### Dinner Club Update

Thirty people have signed up to enjoy good food, fellowship, and fun! If you forgot to sign up we can still work you in. Text Nancy Burgess at 401-835-0183 or email [nancykayaks@cox.net](mailto:nancykayaks@cox.net) if you'd like to know more about this opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones.



## Work continues....

Important repairs to the window sills of our beautiful stained glass windows is progressing slowly and carefully in the hands of skilled workers. If you would like to contribute to this essential work, please note “Stained Glass Window Repair” on your check.



## *An ongoing challenge that began in 1891*

Financial concerns are not new to First Presbyterian Church. From the very beginning, finances were always a challenge. As we undertake repairs to our stained glass windows and seek ways to increase attendance and giving, it’s interesting to note how many times our church has faced difficulties in the past. And somehow the Lord provided—FPC survived and thrived.

In 1891 the founders of our church wanted to not only meet the needs of the expanding congregation, but to create an elegant building worthy of the city and of the denomination. They felt that the new church must be a “grand” church, built of red granite with a large circular “rose window” in the front and equally large stained-glass windows on either side. The interior would seat more than 450 people, with good seating for all, and no provision for a balcony. It has been called “miraculous” that the small congregation would embark on such a bold undertaking.

The original cost target for was \$50,000. Looking back on it now, this 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 at least twice that amount.

When the congregation set out to raise the money to begin the project, Elder Daniel Fitts (who had donated the money to buy the land) took the lead role. The plan was to obtain at least half of the money from congregation members, with the balance to be borrowed by selling 20-



year bonds. In this way they also hoped to gain the broader participation of the Newport community. After all, this was still Newport’s “Gilded Age.”

At first the fundraising appeared promising, but it soon slowed and left them far short of the goal. Worse still, the country was sliding into a deep economic

recession that would last for the next five years. At this point, the whole venture might very well have been delayed or even ended—and except for the Scottish grit and determination exhibited by the congregation, that probably would have happened. Instead, they decided to save money by dispensing with a general contractor. They decided to proceed on a “do-it-yourself” basis wherever possible. And so they began.



### First Presbyterian Church

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Sunday Worship Service 10:30.

