

June 30, 2022



This week at FPC

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

Sunday Worship

"Restore us, God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved." Psalm 80:3



Rev. Dr. Jeff Hutchinson was welcomed back to our pulpit last Sunday, and it was a busy morning for him. Deb Hoffman, long an active FPC member, was ordained as a Deacon, a role she has informally performed for quite some time. Then he received three covenant partners into FPC membership. Kristen Aleicho, Brian Ross, and Barbara Ross have been active in the life of FPC for several years and now are officially members.

And, it was also communion Sunday at FPC. The sermon was titled "Qui Transtulit Sustinet." (He who transplanted sustaineth), The accompanying Scripture was Psalm 80.

Sean Bland, who is doing an internship with Rev. Jeff, will be serving alongside him in the next few weeks and we will be blessed with God-inspired messages from the pulpit, a Summer Sunday-School opportunity, and overall pastoral care. Sean will preach on Jonah next week.

Welcome, Sean Bland!

Sean Bland is a Jackson, Mississippi native and a Yale College graduate. Born to a Navy family, Sean is a Lieutenant Junior Grade and Chaplain Candidate in the US Navy. He is completing his final semester of Reformed Theological Seminary's Master of Divinity Degree. In his free time, you can find Sean reading, running, or, occasionally, painting. He is excited to meet you this summer, so please introduce yourself!



Sean Bland



We also welcomed back Meg and Dan Smith. Meg conducted the choral anthem, "As We Break the Bread," and Dan led the congregation in a heartfelt rendition of "God Bless America." They will be moving to Athens, Ohio, this summer as Meg pursues a doctorate in conducting and musicology.



Sean Bland

On the Journey...

Please pray for rest, refreshment and renewal for those serving in various capacities in the church body at FPC. May God provide them with direction, clarity, willingness, and the assurance that He knows, He cares, He is, and He will provide lovingly for each need and answer every prayer. Glory and amen!

For pastoral concerns, contact pastor@fpcnewport.org

To view Sunday services online, go to fpcnewport.org and select FPC Livestream. The service is available live or Monday and days following. Thank you, Mark Barnes, for serving as lay leader last Sunday, and thank you to those who served as ushers, hosted coffee hour, and otherwise contributed to making our Sunday morning service more meaningful. A special thanks to Alice Hand for providing flowers from her garden. If you would like to share flowers from your garden to beautify the sanctuary, please contact Alice or secretary@fpcnewport.org.

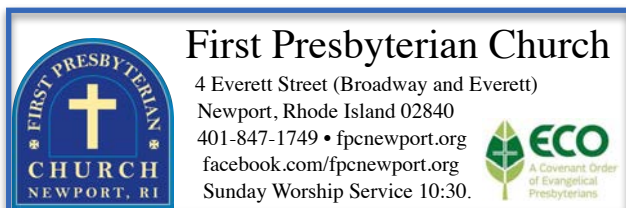
Looking ahead—

Testimony Sunday, August 28—a time to share your story

Each of us has a unique story of how we were called to accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Our lives and the lives of those around us continue to be shaped by that decision. Personal testimonies are a strong witness for the Lord, and they serve to glorify Him in ways both large and small. If you would like to share your story with our congregation during worship service Sunday, August 28, please contact Deidra Ricci, pamperedee@cox.net, or secretary@fpcnewport.org. Presentations will be limited to five minutes.

Sing with our summer “pick-up” choir This is a good time to try singing in the choir, and we are looking for more voices! You are invited to join us in the choir loft to “pick up” a piece of music that we will quickly learn and sing that morning. The choir will sing July 3, 17, and 31; August 7, 21, and 31.

Soup Kitchen, the first Wednesday of every month, is an important outreach to neighbors in need. If you would like to help, contact Coleen Spencer for preparing and serving or Nancy Burgess for purchasing the food (you will be reimbursed). Our next soup kitchen will be July 6.



Special meeting of the congregation

Important

The Finance and Personnel Committee has recommended and Session has approved a request for a Special Congregational Meeting to take place immediately following Worship Service July 31, 2022.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss, vote on and approve a Revised Operating Budget for Calendar Year 2022. Rev. Jeff Hutchinson will be the moderator for this meeting.

Copies of the Revised Budget will be available July 17 on the Gold Table in the fellowship hall or by contacting the Church Office.

New Sunday School class begins July 3, 9:15 am



Come learn more about the different genres of Psalms and what they teach us about expressing our hearts and minds to God. Explore ways that Christians express their thoughts and feelings to and about God and how have believers from across centuries, continents, and cultures worship God in praise and song.

In the Psalms we not only read the prayers and praises of those who came before us, but we learn how to do these things more richly, fully, and powerfully ourselves. In the Psalms we see every kind of human emotion, from lament to gratitude and more, all given in prayer, praise, and song to God in a way that no other book provides.

We hope to see you at as many of these classes as possible! This class will meet in the hometime room at 9:15 Sunday, led by Rev. Dr. Hutchinson and Sean Bland.

Our Deacons Reflect the Heart of Christianity

Last Sunday Deborah Hoffman was ordained as a deacon. Deb has been serving for several months, and now is officially a member of our Board of Deacons, in service to our church and our community. What do our deacons do? Simply put, they assist those in need, both within and beyond our community of faith, through many and varied ministries. These include:

- **Visiting** those who are sick, homebound, or in nursing homes, often bringing flowers, Christmas cookies, gifts made by the children of FPC, copies of devotional, *prayers, friendship and Christian love*. Currently, nine people are visited regularly by Deacons or congregation volunteers. An additional 5 people receive frequent calls or visits.
- **Providing a monthly meal** to needy neighbors through the soup kitchen. A dedicated team plans and provides healthy meals, as well as a comfortable and cheerful atmosphere. Additionally, through donations from the congregation, we have provided toiletry items, scarves, mittens, gloves, socks and hats. Usually 20 to 25 meals are served each month.
- **Offering help** to members with emergency needs for food, shelter, transportation and occasionally, money. Meals and transportation are offered to members who are in need for medical reasons. Deacons coordinate collection and monthly deliveries to a local food pantry,
- **Providing comfort** in times of grief by sending to those who have lost a loved one, a booklet series entitled, *Journeying through Grief*, published by the Stephen Ministries. Currently six families connected to FPC are receiving these monthly booklets.
- **Coordinating receptions** for funeral and memorial services when requested.
- **Maintaining the sanctuary pews** by keeping them well stocked and tidy.
- **Communicating our love** to our church family through our card ministry.
- * **Dinners to Help** is a new project where a group led by the Deacons gathers every few months to prepare and freeze food to have on hand for those in our church who are experiencing a family illness, incapacity, new baby, or other event where a little help would be welcome. At least six families or individuals have recently received this help.

The Deacons always welcome people in the congregation to assist or lead projects in any of these ministries. This is very rewarding work. If you are interested contact Daryl Kolator 401-339-7625 or Darien Petit (dspetit55@gmail.com) or email deacons@fpcnewport.org.

Our Board of Deacons: Daryl Kolator and Darien Petit (co-chairs), Nancy Browne, Nancy Burgess, Deb Hoffman, Jamie Landsman, Deb MacDowell, Cindy Wilson,

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, including Jacob Ricci and others related to our church members.

...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. And as you pray, please remember...

Les and Phyllis Bloom
Pete and Nancy Browne
Lynn and Larry Chase
Jan and Bruce Jones
Dave and Daryl Kolator
Richard and Cindy Price
Marcia Clark
Ken Scigulinsky and family
Carol Smith and family
Judy Sweeney and family
The Tenney family

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

Philippians 4:6

Rev. Dr. Jeff Hutchinson is Assistant Pastor of Living Hope Community Church in Old Greenwich, CT, called to be the church planter of House of Mercy, a new ECO Presbyterian church in New Haven, CT. After service as a Surface Presbyterian pastor in NC, PA, and CT for more than twenty-five years. Jeff invites you to join his Prayer Support Team for the new church plant. Feel free to reach out at jdutch64@gmail.com, 860-817-8149



A note from our copier...

~Hello! My name is Konica Bizhub Minolta, "Koni" for short. If you haven't met me, I am your FPC copier and I live in the secretary's office.

I faithfully print the bulletins and announcements for you each Sunday, and even get fancy a few times a year with things like the Advent Booklet and the Annual Report!

I have enjoyed Stacie's company these past three years. She's the current secretary, and we've shared many fine times together printing out the documents that represent the life of FPC.

But, at the end of August, Stacie is leaving this role to address key roles in other life areas, and I will need a new secretary to fill my paper trays and order new toner cartridges so I can print in beautiful colors!

I know lately I've been printing with some extra marks, which is rather embarrassing, but thankfully, Stacie has made a service appointment for me to correct that.

Please pray about who the Lord will send as the next secretary, and if you are interested, please know that Stacie will happily train you for this part-time position and teach you how we can print and copy together! I'm efficient and I'm good company! Please contact Stacie at secretary@fpcnewport.org.

Sarah Beck Hill Scholarship Fund

The year 1991 brought a surprise gift to FPC that has been a great blessing to many people. The church received a generous (and somewhat unusual) bequest from the estate of Ralph P. Hill, a former Newport resident and graduate of the University of Rhode Island. The bulk of the bequest (about \$250,000) established a scholarship fund in memory of his mother Sarah Beck Hill, for students attending URI. He wanted First Presbyterian to administer the fund, and so the Session set up a separate board consisting of church members for that purpose. Dozens of students, most but not all related to church members, have since benefitted from over a quarter-million dollars of scholarship distributions.



The scholarship committee, chaired by Brian Ross, met Sunday, June 26 and voted to grant scholarships for the spring semester to **Abby Bloom** and **Victoria Johnson**. Applications may be submitted by anyone planning to begin, or currently enrolled in, a full-time course of study in a degree program at the University of Rhode Island. Prospective recipients who plan to attend URI in the Fall semester may submit an application to the board by August 1, 2022. Please reach out to Brian Ross for details on submitting a scholarship application."



Angel Conwell, Director of Music, and her daughters Juno and Eden, provided accompaniment to the hymns and special music during the communion service June 26. Their music is always a blessing to the congregation.

Meetings and Activities

Thursday, June 30

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

2:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study on Psalms (Zoom)

Saturday, July 2

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

Sunday, July 3

9:15 a.m. Sunday School (Psalms)

9:45 a.m. Pick-up Choir practice

10:00 a.m. Prayer gathering

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:30 a.m. Fellowship hour

6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

Monday, July 4

Holiday — Church office closed

Wednesday, July 6

5:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen