

July 7, 2022



This week at FPC

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

Sunday Worship

And he said to them, “I am a Hebrew, and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” Jonah 1:9



Sunday’s sermon, delivered by Sean Bland, was titled, “The Lord of Sinners, Sailors, and Stormy Seas” and referred to Jonah’s attempt to run from God’s commands, Scripture, Jonah 1:1-17. Sean, a US Navy Chaplain candidate, will be with us for the next several weeks as an intern working with Dr. Jeff Hutchinson. He will preach again next Sunday, July 10.

We thank Deidra Ricci for serving as lay leader, those who served as ushers, the Ross family who hosted coffee hour, our choir and musicians, and all those who contributed to making our Sunday morning service more meaningful.

Sunday School class focuses on Psalms



Come to the Home Time Room at 9:15 Sunday morning to learn more about the Psalms and what they teach us about expressing our hearts and minds to God. Explore ways that Christian believers across centuries, continents, and cultures worship God in praise and song. In the Psalms 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. We hope to see you at as many of these classes as possible! This class is led by Rev. Hutchinson and Sean Bland.

Our Summer Pastor in Residence



During the months of July and August, we welcome back Rev. Dr. Jeff Hutchinson to our FPC pulpit. He is the Assistant Pastor of Living Hope Community Church in Old Greenwich, CT, and is called to be the church planter of House of Mercy, a new ECO Presbyterian church in New Haven, CT. After service as a Surface Warfare Officer in the US Navy (including training at

Naval Station Newport), Jeff served as a campus minister in FL and as a Presbyterian pastor in NC, PA, and CT for more than twenty-five years, before setting out on his current church planting adventure. Jeff would love to have you join his Prayer Support Team for the new church plant. Feel free to reach out at jdutch64@gmail.com / 860-817-8149.

Summer Pastoral Intern



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!

On the Journey...

Please pray for the finances of the church as we look at our budget. May the Lord provide for all our needs as we trust in Him and are stewards of all He has given to us, including this building dedicated to Him.

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.

After Sunday worship service, everyone is always invited to the Fellowship Hall to enjoy refreshments and friendly conversation. We thank the Ross family for this Sunday's array of goodies! Fancy or simple, all are appreciated and enjoyed! Please sign up on the clipboard near the coffee if you are able to help host. It is very easy to do; much of the setup is already in place, and there is always someone around to offer assistance. It is only an hour of your day, but means a lot to many who relish the opportunity to socialize before returning home



Zoom chats keep us connected with many of our members and friends who are currently unable to attend church due to health issues. It's a way to bring joy to them—and to you! Mike Ricci sets up an online chat each Sunday during coffee hour. Be sure to stop in the Resource Room adjoining the Fellowship Hall and see who in our church family is waiting to visit with you.

If you enjoy praising the Lord through song, 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 “Pick-Up Choir” will sing July 17, and 31; August 7, 21, and 31.

This is Soup Kitchen week. The first Wednesday of every month a group of faithful servants provides an important outreach to our 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). This Wednesday evening we prepared 30 bagged meals.

Looking ahead—

Special meeting of the congregation



The congregation is called to meet 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.

It's time to apply for a Sarah Beck Hill Scholarship

If you are planning to begin, or currently enrolled in, a full-time course of study in a degree program at the University of Rhode Island this September, you may submit an application by **August 1, 2022**. Please reach out to Brian Ross for details on submitting a scholarship application. Since 1991, dozens of students have benefitted from over a quarter-million dollars of scholarship distributions from the Sara Beck Hill Scholarship Fund. The latest awards went to **Abby Bloom** and **Victoria Johnson**.



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 are shaped by that decision. Personal testimonies are a strong witness and they serve to glorify the Lord in ways large and small. If you would like to share your story (five minutes or less) with our congregation during worship service Sunday, August 28, please contact Deidra Ricci, pamperedee@cox.net, or secretary@fpcnewport.org.

We thank these faithful servants for their leadership and service

Worship Committee: Deidra Ricci and Janice Kinder

Missions Committee: Deidra Ricci

Finance and Personnel Committee: Ken Hoffman and Greg Bloom

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Don Fennessey and Phil Thow

Christian Education Committee: Janice Kinder and Chip Wilson

Inner Life Committee: Tim Schultz and Brian Petit

Board of Deacons

Co-chairs: Daryl Kolator and Darien Petit

Jen Bloom, Nancy Browne, Nancy Burgess, Deb Hoffman, Jamie Landsman, Deb Mac Dowell, Cindy Wilson

Staff

Director of Music: Angel Conwell

Secretary: Stacie Schultz

Caretakers Tom and Cheri Dugan

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, 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

Marcia Clark

Dave and Daryl Kolator

Richard and Cindy Price

Lynn and Larry Chase

Jan and Bruce Jones

Lilia Svizzero Merrill

...and those families in our midst who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones.

....and a note of thanks for prayers

David and Daryl Kolator would like to thank everyone for the many kindnesses shown during David's recent medical event. As always, our church has shown a compassion and generosity that is truly overwhelming. Particularly gratifying was the knowledge that hundreds of prayers were lifting us and his medical team up. These prayers made a difference. He is doing better each day for which we thank God.

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

Philippians 4:6

A note from the office computer...



(Editor's note—Evidently FPC office equipment is not content with quietly creating, composing, computing, copying and communicating. Every once in a while it needs to speak out.)

Hello! I'm Dell, your FPC Church Computer and I live in the Secretary's office. I help create and remember all of the information needed for the life, events and activities of FPC. Stacie, our current secretary, has festooned the edge of my screen with important post-it notes, which makes me feel rather festive! Together, Stacie and I have sent out countless emails, and created documents of all sorts in keeping with FPC church life.

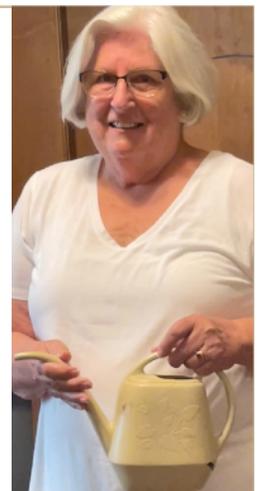
But, at the end of August, Stacie is leaving the secretarial role, and I will need a new secretary to tap at my keyboard, and play one of my favorite games, Copy/Paste. Stacie will happily train the next secretary and introduce you to me! Send us an email at secretary@fpcnewport.org.

By the way, I have great screensavers!

"This is our Father's world..."



Is your garden in full bloom? Would you like to share some of that beauty for our Sunday worship service? Alice Hand has been using flowers from her garden but would welcome some from others' gardens as well. Text or call Alice at 401-439-4663.





How “The Ladies of the Church” took action in the early days of First Presbyterian Church

The Young Women’s Auxiliary’s play, “The Strike of the Ladies Aid,” raised funds to purchase carpet and pay for a weekly cleaning of the church. (1931)

In 1892 the congregation struggled to meet the weekly expenses of the congregation; often there were problems just paying the pastor’s salary. On more than one occasion the women of the church sold baked goods to raise the money to pay the pastor.

In fact, the Ladies Benevolent Society assumed the responsibility for paying off the debt on the church organ with church suppers and sales of baked goods and handicrafts. Monthly “dues” of 10 cents were assessed for the purpose and later, in 1898, the dues were increased to 15 cents. In 1907, the wife of trustee Neil McLennan wrote to Alfred G. Vanderbilt asking for his help with the organ fund. He sent a check for \$600 and this made it possible to finally “burn” the organ mortgage note. (Alfred was the son of Cornelius Vanderbilt who built “The Breakers” mansion in Newport; unfortunately, Alfred died just a few years later when the ship he was on, the Lusitania, was torpedoed during the First World War.)

On May 15, 1896, the Ladies Benevolent Society sponsored a fund-raising concert by the Faculty of the Boston Conservatory of Music. Every seat was taken, and it was necessary to bring in temporary chairs. In the following years the trustees occasionally allowed the use of the sanctuary for concerts and organ recitals for a \$25 fee.

Another organization was also formed that year, the Women’s Home and Foreign Missionary Society. At that time, church suppers, concerts and “entertainments” became a significant source of funds. In 1913, the Ladies Aid Society (formerly known as the Ladies Benevolent Society) organized a dinner to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the church, and they reported a net profit of \$32.54 from the event.

Money for the church kitchen came from a bequest from the estate of Mrs. Benjamin Almy, one of the earliest members of the congregation. The Ladies Aid Society of the church raised the money for the new heating system.

The Ladies Aid Society was also instrumental in the purchase, rental and eventual demolition of the Stevens house, which stood in front of the church on the corner of Everett and Broadway.

From the minutes of the Young Women’s auxiliary, a sub-committee of the Ladies Aid, it’s obvious that this group was very active. (The minutes were quite formal, with all ladies referred to as “Mrs.”)

In their 1931 meeting minutes, we learn that they presented a play, selling tickets for 35 cents each and also selling candy. They often held dinners, rummage sales, and picnics to build their treasury. They used the funds to purchase and install a bulletin board in front of the church, purchase carpet for the church, and pay for weekly cleaning of the church.

Meetings and Activities

Thursday, July 7

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

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

Saturday, July 9

7:00 a.m. Promise Keepers breakfast at Chelsea’s restaurant Sunday, July 3

Sunday, July 10

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

10:00 a.m. Prayer gathering

10:30 a.m. Worship service

11:30 a.m. Fellowship time

6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

Monday, July 11

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. office open*

10:00 a.m. Worship committee

7:00 p.m. 20s & 30s Small Group

Tuesday, July 12

7:00 p.m. Inner Life committee

Wednesday, July 13

5:00 p.m. EFC Soup Kitchen

* office hours may vary



First Presbyterian Church

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Sunday Worship Service 10:30.

