



September 1, 2022

# This week at FPC

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

## Testimony Sunday

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;  
make known among the nations what he has done.

Sing to him, sing praise to him;  
tell of all his wonderful acts.

Psalm 105: 1-2

On Sunday, August 28, FPC's worship service was an inspiring mixture of scripture, hymn singing, and personal testimonies. Brian Fennessey, Ellie Green, Mark Barnes and Susan Fennessey shared their personal stories about their journey in faith, explaining the importance of God and the church in their lives. If you were unable to be with us, visit our web site, [fpcnewport.org](http://fpcnewport.org), and click on Livestream. These stories are worth hearing.



↑ "Making a joyful noise" Juno, Angel and Eden Conwell add their special touch to a hymn of praise.

A special thanks to Deidra Ricci, who served as Lay Leader, leading the service, delivering a children's message, and tending to countless details that made the morning meaningful. →



These beautiful flowers were given ← by Linda Marcley in loving memory of her parents, William and Nancy Marcley.



# *On the Journey...*

*Please pray that we would have one new family come and worship with us regularly*

For pastoral concerns contact [pastor@fpcnewport.org](mailto:pastor@fpcnewport.org)

**Pastor Search Process moves forward.** Nominations to elect two members of the congregation to serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) have been submitted, and the congregation will vote on the nominees, who will serve with two Elders and one Deacon to complete the PNC.

**Coffee/Fellowship hour needs hosts.** After Sunday worship service, all are invited to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments and friendly conversation. If you are able to help host one Sunday, please sign up on the clipboard near the coffee urn. It is only a matter of keeping the coffee pot filled, providing some simple refreshments, and about an hour of your time, but it means a lot to all who relish the opportunity to socialize before returning home.

**ZOOM conversations keep us in touch.** For the past six months, we have been blessed by being able to talk via Zoom with those unable to attend the Sunday worship service. Happily, many of these people have been able to return to worship with us, and now we look forward to reaching out to others. If you or someone you know would like to visit with fellow church members this way, please let the Deacons know: [deacons@fpcnewport.org](mailto:deacons@fpcnewport.org) or call Daryl at 401-339-7625.

**Praise the Lord through song.** Join us in the choir loft at 6:30 as we resume our weekly rehearsals Wednesday, September 4! You will be warmly welcomed. We have many empty chairs and need more singers to fill them! No auditions required, no prerequisites, just a desire to praise the Lord through song!

**You are welcome to join Evensong.** This group meets every Sunday evening at 6 p.m. on Zoom to worship with songs, hymns, and scripture, and fellowship. If you are interested in participating email Brian Ross, [mm9616b@gmail.com](mailto:mm9616b@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.

**Help our neighbors.** FPC regularly helps restock the shelves at a local food pantry. Our next delivery will be this Sunday, September 4. You can increase what we're able to donate by picking up a few extra items next time you're at the store! Frequently requested items include tuna, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, beans, rice, canned vegetables, soup, baby food, shampoo, toothbrushes, diapers and personal care items. Baskets for your donations can be found all month in the back of the Sanctuary or in Fellowship Hall. If you'd prefer to make a monetary donation, place your offering in the pew envelope or offering plate designating it for Deacons.



## *Looking ahead...*

### **Sunday, September 4**

Elder Richard Price will deliver the message. The title will be "Letting Go and Letting God." He'll highlight four times in his life when God answered his prayers in miraculous ways. Richard and his wife, Cindy, have been active members of FPC since 2002, Richard served as an Elder for 12 years.

Also, Caleb Shacklie will visit FPC this Sunday. Caleb and his wife are Christ followers who long to see revival in the United Kingdom. Since hearing about the massive evangelical need and the decline of Christianity in Scotland, they have felt a calling to serve in that land. They spent two years partnering with Hope City Church Edinburgh as apprentices. Caleb and his wife currently live in Phoenix where they are involved in a local church plant. They are actively seeking support as they plan their return to the United Kingdom.

### **Sunday, September 11**

Rev. Dr. Jeff Hutchinson will return to FPC. The worship service will include communion and a baptism.



Sunday School will resume for children and adults. Watch for more details next week.



# 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 our missionaries**, and this month we are highlighting Outreach Foundation, an FPC and ECO supported missionary support foundation. From Ukraine to Lebanon, from Honduras to Zambia, This organization works with Christians around the world to bring spiritual and practical help. Find more information at [theoutreachfoundation.org](http://theoutreachfoundation.org).

**...For the spoken and unspoken needs** of those in our church family who will have or are recovering from surgery, are ill or enduring hard-ships or loss and in need of God's healing and grace.

*Isaiah 41:13 reminds us "For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'fear not, I am the one who helps you.' "*

And as you pray, please remember these and many others in our church family and beyond, who need our prayers at this time.

Mark Barnes' mother	Norm and Jane Champagne
Marcia Clark	Graciela Emerick
Nadira Ferreira	Alice Hand
Jan and Bruce Jones	Lilia Svizzero Merrill
Brian Petit's sister	Richard and Cindy Price
Coleen and Jerry Spencer	

**...For Ray Janssen** and his family in the death of Ray's sister, Lenna Hanson in Sparta, Wisconsin.

**...For Stacie Schultz's mother, Ida**, who underwent surgery Monday. Stacie is in Colorado to support her during this time. Please pray for God's peace as they navigate the medical care needed.

**...With great sadness** and heartfelt sympathy, for Charlotte, Ben and Elena Ricci and the extended Kinder and Ricci families, in the loss of their baby. We are all leaning on the Lord. As it says in Proverbs 3:5 "*Trust in the Lord and lean not on your own understanding.*"

Thank you for your faithful prayers. They are a blessing.

## Church Secretary

While Stacie is away caring for her mother, Alice Hand and Daryl Kolator are helping to respond to phone messages, print the bulletins and announcements and send the E-News to shut-ins and non-computer folks. This is a great comfort to Koni and Dell (our copier and computer). Stacie will handle many tasks remotely, including responding to emails and sending out the E-News and E-Blasts electronically.



## Nursery Workers Needed!

We have a lovely nursery and playroom to provide childcare for young children during Sunday worship. We need new volunteers to help during worship service. If you can help temporarily or on an ongoing basis, please contact Cindy Wilson at 704-904-6990 or [cindysmithwilson@gmail.com](mailto:cindysmithwilson@gmail.com).

## Soup Kitchen

Several members of our congregation prepare and distribute meals the first Wednesday of every month. Our next Soup kitchen will be September 7. This food is very much appreciated by our Soup Kitchen guests, and it makes a difference in their lives. If you would like to be involved in this important ministry, please contact Coleen Spencer at [coleenspencer@cox.net](mailto:coleenspencer@cox.net) or call 401-339-7625 (Daryl Kolator).



## More than just another coat of paint...

After 104 years and frequent repainting to "spruce up" dirty walls and worn woodwork, FPC members decided the church had become "somewhat shabby." In the Fall of 1998, the committee, headed by Will Marcley, met with Geoff Moore of the Newport Preservation Society. Mr. Moore, noting the historic value and the beauty of the building, encouraged them to do a thorough restoration rather than just another face-lift.

The committee hired an architect, Richard Long, to help bring the building to code by making it handicapped accessible, adding modern lighting, and expanding the choir loft. Next, they met with the head of O'Donnell painting company to determine paint colors and coatings for the neglected hammered-tin ceiling. Great care was taken to uncover original paint colors and patterns. Many hours were spent tracking down the original design elements and colors.

In order for the church to continue Sunday services throughout the five-month project, scaffolding was erected and the work was done in one half of the church at a time. A polyethylene screen from floor to ceiling separated the worksite from the worship area. When the first half was completed, everything was taken down, the floor was finished, and the pews were put back. Then the second half was done in the same manner.

The new treatment of the ceiling tiles was especially transformational. Primed, enameled, glazed to emphasize the three-dimensional values, the original hammered design was embellished with 23-karat gold leaf. The wall color scheme was discovered to be a beautiful, historic family of olives and burgundies. The chandeliers were reconstructed and new overhead lighting was worked into the tin ceiling. The proscenium arch cherubs were treated in the same manner as the ceiling, glazed to create a porcelain effect, then gilded with 23-karat gold.

We are grateful for the foresight of the restoration committee as we gather each Sunday to worship amid the restored dream of those who built the church 134 years ago.



## Weekly Meetings and Activities

### Thursday, September 1

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

### Saturday, September 3

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

### Sunday, September 4

9:45 Pick-up choir rehearsal  
10:00 a.m. Pre-worship prayer time  
10:30 a.m. Worship service (nursery available)  
11:30 a.m. Fellowship time  
6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)  
6:30 p.m. Sarah Circle (Zoom)

### Monday, September 5

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. office open\*  
10 a.m. Worship committee  
7:00 p.m. 20s & 30s Small Group

### Tuesday: September 6

Naomi Circle  
7:00 p.m. Inner Life

### Wednesday, September 7

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

\* office hours may vary

**Note:** If you have trouble receiving or viewing this newsletter on your phone or through your email go to the web site, [fpcnewport.org](http://fpcnewport.org), and click on News and Events. This issue and many previous issues are posted there.

### Want to give online?

Go to [www.fpcnewport.org](http://www.fpcnewport.org) and click on the Give tab and fill in the information on the screen.

## First Presbyterian Church

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Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am

