



September 8, 2022

This week at FPC

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

September 4—Testimony Sunday

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6

This Sunday our brother in Christ and former Elder, Richard Price, delivered a message titled Letting Go and Letting God. In his compelling testimony, he focused on four times in his life when God answered his prayers in miraculous ways, and he encouraged all who are dealing with difficulties in their lives to do as he did and recognize that, “When you come to the end of yourself, you come to the beginning of God.”



We welcomed Pastor Bruce and Diane Incze, longtime members of FPC Newport. While here in Newport, Bruce attended seminary at Gordon Conwell, and he has served as ordained pastor at Arkport Presbyterian Church in Arkport, New York, since 2017.

School Bells are ringing— Deacons are helping

This week the Deacons added a new dimension to their service to our neighbors. In addition to the Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry, they reached out to help a nearby school.

The idea took form at the most recent Deacons meeting—donate school supplies to Pell School. They contacted Mary Sweeney, school social worker at Pell, (whose children once attended FPC VBS) to find out how we could help students in need by purchasing school supplies for them.

Mary contacted the Lead Teachers, and the result? Our Deacons purchased and delivered 20 headphones, 48 pads of Post-It notes (kids use these for ideas and other creative uses) and 50 binder rings (total cost around \$200).

This is one more thoughtful way our Deacons use funds donated by members of the congregation.



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

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 or call Daryl at 401-339-7625.

Praise the Lord through song. Join us in the choir loft at 6:30 Wednesday evenings! 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! And the choir loft is air-conditioned!

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 for the Zoom link.

Help our neighbors. FPC regularly helps restock the shelves at a local food pantry. 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 11

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



New Sunday School Class

Please join us as Rev. Hutchinson and other teachers lead a new adult Sunday School class on "Essential Tenets of our Presbyterian Faith."

The class will offer a greater insight into what the ECO Constitution describes as "particular understandings of the Gospel that define the Presbyterian and Reformed tradition." While all Christians affirm the central mysteries of the faith, those who are called to ordered ministries in a Presbyterian church also affirm the essential tenets of the Reformed tradition, which are tied to the teaching of the great themes of Scripture and the historic Reformed confessions."

The class will take place in the Hometown Room at 9:15 Sunday mornings, beginning September 11.

Our Elementary Sunday School class this fall be taught by Cindy Wilson and will use the Hands On Curriculum focusing on the Joshua and Esther stories. This class will also be at 9:15 Sunday mornings starting September 11.





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.

...**For the spoken and unspoken needs** of those in 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 these and many others in our church family and beyond, who need our prayers at this time.

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| Mark Barnes' mother | Norm and Jane Champagne |
| Graciela Emerick | Jan and Bruce Jones |
| The Kinder family | The Ricci Family |
| Richard and Cindy Price | Stacie Schultz/s mother |
| Ralph and Alice Thomas | |

Thank you for you faithful prayers. They are a blessing. As we bring our cares and concerns to the Lord, may we remember it is God Himself who answers as we seek Him. 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.'"

To our church family at First Presbyterian,

Mario and I are sorry we missed attending church this past Sunday. We very much wanted to see and say goodbye to everyone. Unfortunately, Kitty and I were battling a respiratory infection.

We wanted to still say to everyone thank you so much for welcoming us to First Presbyterian Church. From the first time we attended service back in December, you all have made us feel very welcome and at home. Mario and I especially enjoyed the dinner club where we got to eat dinner and enjoy conversation with other church members. Kitty certainly loved the family game nights we attended. As a mom, I appreciated the staffed nursery. Most of all, we loved attending worship where the word of God was taught and delighted in faithfully.

Moving every few months and years can tend to tempt us to not want to get close to others since we anticipate we'll leave soon. But the blessing of deep fellowship with the family found in Christ's people always proves to meet needs in Mario and me that otherwise we would not have elsewhere. God has been so faithful in how He has served us during our time with you all, showing His love and provision through you all at First Presbyterian.

Please know the family of First Presbyterian will continue to be in our daily prayers. We will endeavor to keep you updated on any news our family has to share. And we know we shall see you all again, in accordance with the good will of God.

All our sincere best wishes to you,
Mario, Collie, and Katerina (Kitty) Colon

Note: If you have trouble receiving or viewing this newsletter through your email you can find this and previous issues at fpcnewport.org—click on News and Events.

Want to give online?
Go to our web site www.fpcnewport.org and click on the Give tab, then fill in the information on the screen.



A PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

This small plaque can be found on one of the pews in the sanctuary. Here are some excerpts from newspaper coverage of the visit by President Eisenhower that is remembered with this plaque.

President Eisenhower attended services at the First Presbyterian Church, September 15, 1957. A crowd of more than 500 persons cheered the President as he left the church at noon after shaking hands with Rev. William J. Clark, pastor, and Lt. Valery E. Sundt, Navy chaplain who had preached the sermon.

His intention to attend church in the city was made known Saturday night in broadcasts and again in Sunday newspapers, but many Newporters were not aware of the plan. Word spread among the church's parishioners, however, and all 550 seats were filled, not only with Presbyterians but also with visitors from other congregations. An inkling of the presidential visit had been given Friday when Secret Service men scrutinized the church.

Spectators were kept back by regular police, the Secret Service and 10 members of the local auxiliary police force. Newport chief Samuel H. Dugan was inside the church and Lt. Arthur S. Maloney had charge outside. Ropes were stretched along the north side of Calvert Street and the public was kept on that sidewalk.

The president left his summer White House in a limousine, trailed by two cars of Secret Service men and a Newport police car. The motorcade traveled along Training Station Road, Admiral Kalbfus Road, Connell Highway, VanZandt Avenue, Tilley Avenue and Gould Street, crossing Broadway and arriving at the Calvert Street side of the church a few minutes before 11 a.m.

Mr. Eisenhower, wearing a dark suit and a white carnation, jumped out and walked briskly toward the church, followed by white House press secretary James C. Hagerty, Captain Evan P. Aurand, his naval aide, and James J. Rowley, head of the white House Secret Service detail. Ushers of the church met him at the door

After the President entered the doors were closed, since all seats were taken, and some late-arriving churchgoers had to be turned away in disappointment. The doors were later opened for ventilation in the overcast, sticky weather. A light drizzle had fallen a half hour before the President's arrival, but the sky brightened considerably during the hour-long service.

The usual brigade of newsmen and photographers was on hand early, 'shooting' the exterior of the church and the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in front of it. Both sides of Broadway were lined with spectators and the street was filled with slow-moving lines of cars.

Meanwhile, the presidential motorcade had turned around and lined up again on Calvert Street, headed toward Broadway. Newsmen inside the church left while the closing hymn was being sung and the strains of Oh God, Our Hope in Ages Past wafted out to the watchers on the sidewalk.

Inside the church, the President took a seat in the fourth pew, directly in front of a thrilled little girl wearing an 'Ike' button. Mr. Eisenhower took part in the hymn singing, seemed to be attentively engrossed by the service, and dropped a folded bill in the collection plate. The interior of the church was



well guarded by the presidential security detail; in fact, one agent stayed inside the church all Saturday night.

For more about the visit, see the binder in the history bookcase in the reading room or refer to the FPC history book in the library.

Weekly Meetings and Activities

Thursday, September 8

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

Friday, September 9

7:00 p.m. Small Group Bible Study

Saturday, September 10

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

Sunday, September 11

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
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)

Monday, September 12

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

Wednesday, September 14

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

* office hours may vary

First Presbyterian Church

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[facebook.com/fpcnewport.org](https://www.facebook.com/fpcnewport.org)
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am

