

October 6, 2022



This week at FPC

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

Sunday Worship, October 6

... Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26

"Never Beyond Reach" was the theme of the sermon delivered by Missionary Lee Pitts, referencing the story of Lazarus in John 11. Lee Pitts is a missionary with ties to FPC going back many years. After the service, he shared more about his work with interested members in the Hometown room.

Tim Schultz, lay leader, led the service and among his announcements he thanked Alice Hand for her faithfulness and creativity in arranging flowers to beautify the sanctuary. As usual, it takes many to create a meaningful worship service and fellowship hour on Sunday mornings, including Deidra Ricci with the children's message, our ushers, sound crew, our music director, choir, coffee hour hosts, and so many more.

Rev. Dr. Jeff Hutchinson will return to FPC for the rest of the month. He will serve communion October 16. We are blessed to have him with us on many Sundays while we are seeking a new pastor.

Take a minute to think about missions



October is Missions Month at FPC, so each week we are sharing a quick sound bite about our focus on Missions.



In recent years we have supported several mission organizations, including World Renew, a Christian organization reaches out in God's name to people, in North America and around the world, who are struggling with poverty, hunger, disaster, and injustice to help them find lasting ways to improve their lives. Recently, FPC donated funds to help the victims of flooding in Kentucky. Currently, World Renew is mobilized to help in the aftermath of Hurricane Ian.

How do we fund our Missionaries and Mission Organizations? Our Mission Fund is independent from the rest of our budget, so that during lean years, missions do not get overlooked. However, it also means that lean years in Mission giving directly impact what our missionaries receive. This has been a lean year. We need your help to rebuild this fund so we can meet today's many missionary needs. If you are interested in this endeavor, there is a spot for you on the Missions Committee. To give directly to the Mission fund, you can indicate that on your envelope, your check or your annual pledge.



On the Journey...

Please pray for the Lord to prepare the hearts of those He is calling to use their gifts to serve at FPC.

Pastor Search Process and budget concerns—As our search committee takes shape, we also need to face the challenge of finances. The good news is that our situation is improving, and we have turned the corner, thanks to all who have contributed to our Church to help alleviate the current deficit. Our goal is to finish the year without a deficit. Please consider what you can do to help us achieve this important goal. Our ability to call a new Pastor is dependent on our ability to live within our means, and together, with God's help and guidance, we can do it!

Volunteers needed, benefits assured

Have you considered volunteering and becoming more involved in the life of FPC? There is a great need right now in our church and the mutual benefits of sharing your time, talent and treasure are more than you might expect. Volunteering leads to discovering a greater purpose in your life and a gaining a broader perspective. It opens up lifelong friendships while helping others, and you will find yourself growing closer to God.

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 only takes about an hour of your time, but it means a lot to all who relish the opportunity to socialize before returning home.



Is it too early to think about Christmas? Not for the choir—we are already practicing for the Advent and Christmas season, and especially for our annual Christmas in Newport evening—our annual gift to the community. Join us in the choir loft at 6:30 Wednesday evenings! You will be warmly welcomed, because we are a loving church family, and because we have many empty chairs and need more singers to fill them!

The Thursday Afternoon Women's Bible Study Group will begin a study called The Real Heaven, What the Bible Actually Says, by Chip Ingram on October 13 via Zoom. If you would like to participate please contact Deidra Ricci at pamperedee@cox.net.

Using your online Church Directory Although many of you use our online church directory regularly, some may not have tried it. To access the directory, go to www.instantchurchdirectory.com. Click on Member Login at the top of the page. Type in the email you provided for the church directory and create a password to create a personal account. You will now be able to view the entire FPC directory. And, you can make changes and updates to your own information. If you have any problems creating your own account, please email secretary@fpcnewport.org.



For all ages 9:15 a.m

Adults: Join Rev. Hutchinson and other teachers in the Hometime Room for "Essential Tenets of our Presbyterian Faith." This class offers insights into the essential tenets of the Reformed tradition, the great themes of Scripture and the historic Reformed confessions.

Junior and Senior High: Beginning Sunday, October 9, in the Samuel Room, Dave Kolator will lead this class, continuing the Pastor Louie Giglio video "Indescribable" and how it corresponds with the Bible.

Elementary: Cindy Wilson is teaching this class, focusing on Joshua and Esther stories in the Pre-School room.

Looking ahead...

Help greet our neighbors this Saturday, October 8

The Broadway Street Fair is back after a two-year hiatus due to Covid! For several years we opened our sanctuary to passers by and many visitors amazed at the beauty of our sanctuary asking many questions about the church.

Would you like to help greet our neighbors and/or act as a guide to show them our sanctuary from 11:00 to 3:00 in one-hour or two-hour shifts? Contact Tim Schultz (timschultz316@hotmail.com). This is an exciting outreach opportunity.



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, Mark Incze, and others related to our church members.

...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.

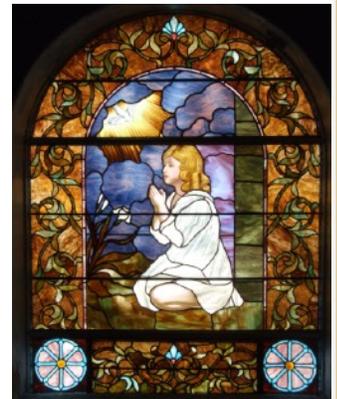
The Barnes Family
Rich and Karen Dagrosa
Judy Hoogendoorn
Kinder family
The Ricci Family
Lilia Svizzero-Merrill

Norm and Janet Champagne
Graciela Emerick
Bruce and Jan Jones The
The Miller Family
Ida (Stacie Schultz's mother)
Ralph and Alice Thomas

...for **Richard Price**, who has broken 3 vertebrae in his back. He had injured his back over a week ago but when improvement was slow, he had x-rays taken and found out the extent of the injury. Please pray for God to strengthen him physically and for wisdom for his medical team. Please pray for God's hand upon his body to heal the lungs and protect his bones.

Psalm 69:29 " I am in suffering and in pain. Rescue me, O God, by your saving power." Psalm 73:26, 28 reminds us "My flesh and my heart may fail, But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." "I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all Your works."

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.' "



Don't miss a word!

If you could use an assist with hearing the worship service, FPC has a system in place to help. As you enter the church you will see receivers and ear pieces that work with the system. Users can pick up any receiver to use during the service. They are not dedicated to any one individual. Ear pieces are provided that can be individualized. Add your name to the tag on the ear piece on the initial use. You can identify a specific ear piece as your own using the marked tag and use it each week. You can also use your own personal ear piece from home if desired. Several guest ear pieces are also available. If you need help feel free to ask Mike Ricci for assistance.



Are you telling me some people don't want to help in the Nursery?? Are they Crazy?? Have they seen how cute I am??



Nursery Workers Needed!

If you can help one Sunday or on an ongoing basis, please contact Cindy Wilson, at 704-904-6990 or cindysmithwilson@gmail.com.

Looking back...

A daunting task faced with determination

"I can do all this through Him who gives me strength." *Philippians 4:13*

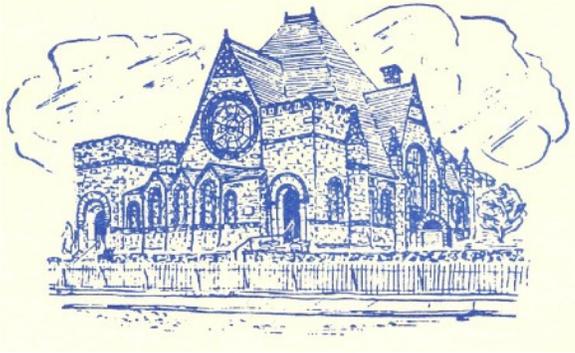
As we wrote a few weeks ago, when our church founders were ready to start building they found that the cost would be much higher than anticipate. Ambitious fundraising efforts did not raise enough. At this point, the whole venture might very well have been delayed or even ended. And except for the Scottish grit and determination of the small congregation, that probably would have happened. Instead, they decided to save money by dispensing with a general contractor and proceeding on a "do-it-yourself" basis wherever possible.

The man behind this daring decision was George Mackie. He had come to America from Aberdeen, Scotland as a young man 10 years earlier. He and his wife were among the first to worship at Grace Chapel, and he was one of the first Trustees. Fortunately, he was a masonry contractor who had worked on some of the Newport mansions. At least two other members of the congregation, Alexander Miller and Alexander Nicol, were said to be fine carpenters and there were others who felt equal to the task of building a new church.

In January 1892 a contract was placed for the foundation work, and the red granite stone of the exterior walls was ordered from a quarry in Braintree, Massachusetts. The stone was brought to the site during the winter months; temporary sheds were erected at the rear of the property so stone cutters could work during the inclement weather. By spring, enough stone had been cut to allow actual construction to start.

And so the church was built—stone by stone, largely in the evenings with the volunteer labor of church members. They were mostly

young people—artisans and day workers trying to establish businesses and get ahead themselves. Few could contribute money, but they were selflessly devoted to the vision of the new church.



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.

Weekly Meetings and Activities

Thursday, October 6

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

Saturday, October 8

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

Sunday, October 9

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Choir Practice
10:00 a.m. Pre-worship prayer time
10:30 a.m. Worship service
(nursery care available)
11:30 a.m. Fellowship time
6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

Monday, October 10

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

Wednesday, October 12

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

* office hours may vary

We thank our Elders, Deacons and staff 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

Chip Wilson and Janice Kinder

Inner Life Committee

Tim Schultz and Brian Petit

Board of Deacons

Co-chairs Daryl Kolator and Darien Petit

Nancy Browne, Nancy Burgess, Deb Hoffman, Jamie Landsman, Deb MacDowell, Cindy Wilson

Director of Music: Angel Conwell

Secretary: Stacie Schultz

Caretakers: Tom and Cheri Dugan



First Presbyterian Church

4 Everett Street (Broadway and Everett) Newport, Rhode Island

401-847-1749 • fpcnewport.org

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Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am

