



October 20, 2022

This week at FPC

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

Sunday Worship, October 16

"Render your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity." Joel 2:13

"When we return to the Lord" was the theme of the sermon delivered by Reverend Jeff Hutchinson, referring to Joel 2:1-17. During fellowship hour he was surprised with a cake, cards and expressions of appreciation from the congregation. Sunday's lay leader was Don Fennessey. Flowers were given by Emily Holleigh and Lynn and Larry Chase, arranged by Alice Hand.



Pastor Appreciation Sunday



Help create this year's Advent Devotional!



For many years, this booklet has touched us as we journey through the busy Advent season. We need a devotion for each day in Advent. Entries may be based on personal Christmas experiences, scripture, stories or poetry to fit on a 5½ x 8½ page.

- Begin with a scripture verse or reference.
- Main story or content (one to three paragraphs)
- End with a short prayer.

Send it to Brian Petit at blpetit56@gmail.com and we will format, proofread, and assemble the booklets. To have them ready for the first Sunday in Advent, **we need your devotional no later than November 13**, the earlier the better.

On the Journey...

Please pray for our Mission funds to be multiplied as we pray and give to support the work of the body of Christ through the world.

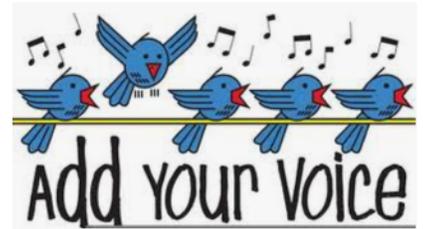
Positive progress on budget concerns! Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we have made substantial progress toward ending calendar year 2022 without a deficit. Our ability to call a new Pastor is dependent on our ability to have a balanced budget. Please continue to support our church as we navigate these difficult times. Thank you.

A timeline for the Pastor Nominating Committee:

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)—two Elders, one Deacon, and two members-at-large from our congregation—will serve to find our next permanent pastor. The Session (Elders) continue to be in prayer over who will serve on the PNC. Here are some milestones as we journey toward finding our next pastor.

- **October 18:** Session determined the Elders and Deacon who will serve on the PNC and finalize the list of nominees from the congregation. These nominees will be called by Session and asked to pray about serving on the PNC.
- **Sunday, November 20:** The names of all members of the PNC will be announced as well as nominees for next year's class of Elders and Deacons—and the date of a congregational meeting to formally elect the PNC members and 2023 Elders and Deacons.
- **Sunday, December 4:** The tentative date for the congregational meeting following the service which will include formal election of the PNC members, new Elders and new Deacons by the congregation.

Also happening soon: Formation of a Vision Framing Process Committee (VFPC), whose purpose will be to identify and characterize our specific role as part of God's greater church at this time. The information gathered by this committee will be used to assist the PNC in finding a permanent pastor.



Come sing Christmas music with us as we prepare for the Advent and Christmas season and our annual Christmas in Newport program December 11! Join us in the choir loft Wednesday at 6:30. We need more voices to share the joy! If you play an instrument or like to sing, contact Angel Conwell at angelzhu8@gmail.com.

The Thursday Afternoon Women's Bible Study Group (Zoom) has begun a new study, *The Real Heaven, What the Bible Actually Says*, by Chip Ingram. To participate email Deidra Ricci at pamperedee@cox.net.

Help host a coffee hour

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.

Dinner Club is forming new groups this month. This is open to all adults, young or old, single or attached, new to FPC or lifetime members. If you love to eat and enjoy lively conversation and getting to know your fellow worshippers better, contact Nancy Burgess (text 401-835-0183 or email nancykayaks@cox.net).

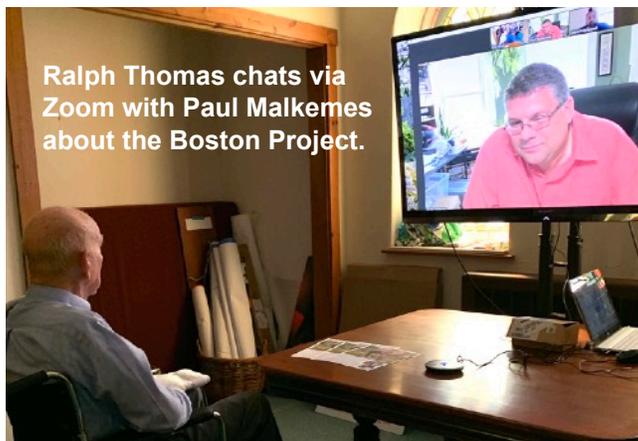


Volunteer opportunities

Have you considered becoming more involved in the life of FPC? There is a great need right now, and the mutual benefits of sharing your time, talent and treasure are more than you might expect. With so many opportunities and needs as we revitalize our church, there is sure to be an area that needs your skill and enthusiasm.

For example, we thank Mark Barnes and his sons for adding to the beauty of our building and grounds by trimming the long hedge along Cranston Street. How can *you* use *your* talents to support our church, community, and those in need throughout the world?

Reaching Out...



Boston Project's mission is to engage and equip neighbors, volunteers, and congregations to build strong communities characterized by God's shalom (wholeness, peace, well-being, righteousness, and justice), in Dorchester, MA. Sixty percent of their work is with youth. They also work to provide for the physical needs of the community, addressing food insecurity and covid education. FPC has supported this important ministry since it was conceived in 1995. Find out more at <https://www.tbpm.org/>



God's love delivered in a simple shoebox

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Every year, we participate in this meaningful project, filling shoeboxes with small gifts to bless children around the world. To find out more or to donate online, visit

samaritanspurse.org.

Please pick up one of the boxes you'll find in several spots around the church. Inside each box is a flyer with suggestions for suitable items.

Return the filled shoe box (unsealed) by **Sunday, November 14**, when they will be dedicated and prepared for shipment.



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 family of Janet Johnson, who went to be with the Lord last week. Her late husband, Reverend Tyler Johnson, was the pastor at FPC from 1964 to 1995. We rejoice in her home-going but grieve with her children and grandchildren. Please pray for God to provide His comfort and bless them with many happy memories.

...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:

Norm and Janet Champagne	Rich and Karen Dagrosa
Graciela Emerick	Bruce and Jan Jones
Richard and Cindy Price	Ida (Stacie Schultz's mother)
Lilia Svizzero-Merrill	Judy Sweeney
Ralph and Alice Thomas	

Families who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

Jeremiah 30:17 reminds us, "For I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal, declares the Lord."

The chairs are back!

Thanks to the Worship Committee, our original chairs are back, providing comfortable seating for our guest pastors and lay leaders. Thank you!



Remembering...

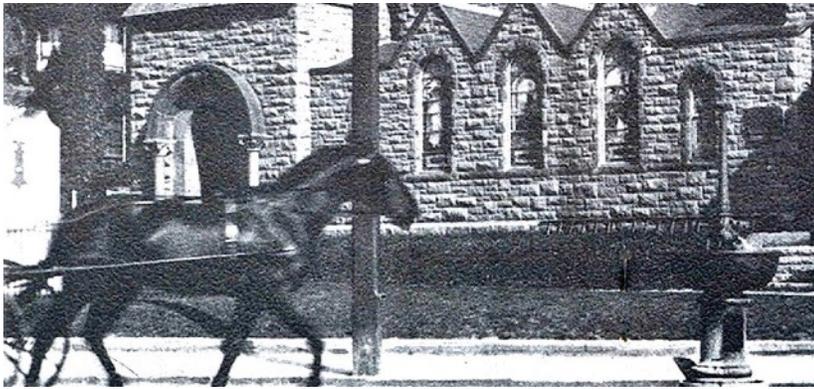
The people who built and sustained our church were remarkable in many ways. One of the most eloquent tributes to the men and women who built this church was written by Clara Emerson in 1973.

She also established our library.

How shall we record the history of a church?

It is a matter of wood and stone, glass and metal, of facts and figures and statistics, but it is much more. It is first of all the Church of Jesus Christ, built of the lives of people committed to a faith which carries them through good times and bad, through successes and failures, committed not just to a statement of doctrine but to the principle of putting righteousness first in their personal and communal lives, and to spreading abroad the good news of the love of Christ.

Only God can measure what this church's ministry has meant to its people and to the community, and only He can direct the impact that will continue through the years to come.



Using your online Directory

If you are listed in our church directory, you can access it on your phone or other device at www.instantchurchdirectory.com. Click on Member Login. Type in the email you provided for the directory and create a password for your personal account to view the entire directory and update your information. If you'd like to be added to the directory or have questions, please email secretary@fpcnewport.org.

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.



First Presbyterian Church

4 Everett Street (Broadway and Everett)
Newport, Rhode Island
401-847-1749 • fpcnewport.org
[facebook.com/fpcnewport.org](https://www.facebook.com/fpcnewport.org)
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am



Weekly Meetings and Activities

Thursday, October 20

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

Friday, October 21

7:00 p.m. Small Group Bible Study

Saturday, October 22

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

Sunday, October 23

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 24

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

Wednesday, October 26

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

* office hours may vary

We thank our Elders and Deacons 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

And special thanks to these:

Director of Music: Angel Conwell

Secretary: Stacie Schultz

Caretakers: Tom and Cheri Dugan