

November 3, 2022



This week at FPC

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

Sunday Worship, October 30

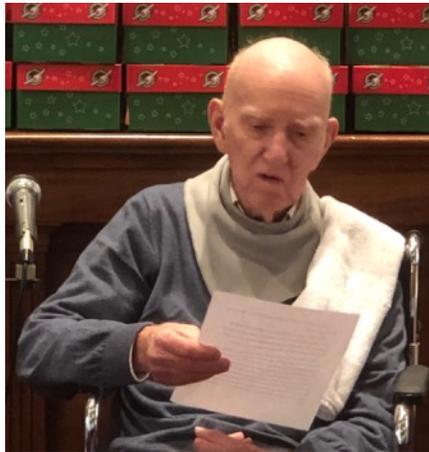


"In those days and at that time when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat." Joel 3:1-2

Reverend Jeff Hutchinson explained the context of this opening verse of the third chapter of the Book of Joel in his sermon, "When the Lord Is Our Stronghold." The offertory was a piano, violin and cello rendition of "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus."

At the beginning of the service, Ralph Thomas gave a moving personal testimony.

He told of the challenges and joys of raising two great-grandchildren, his struggles with heart problems and a stroke, and his gratitude for the support of his wife, his caretaker, his church family, and God. When speaking became difficult, Brian Ross completed the narrative. It was a moment that will be long remembered by all who were present.



Help create this year's Advent Devotional!



As we journey through Advent, it is a blessing to have devotionals created by our fellow worshippers for each day in Advent. They can be about your personal Christmas traditions or experiences, scripture, stories or poetry, to fit on a 5½ x 8½ page.

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

We will format and assemble the booklets. To be ready for the first Sunday in Advent, **we need your contribution no later than November 13**, the earlier the better. Drop it off at the office or send it to Brian Petit, blpetit56@gmail.com or secretary@fpcnewport.org.

Fall Work Day!



At 8:30 this Saturday, November 5, please join us for our fall work

day. We'll be raking leaves (please bring rakes and gloves), trimming trees, straightening storage areas, checking for leaks, throwing stuff away, adjusting thermostats, and who knows what else? Come join us to get our building ready for winter. Please contact Don Fennessey at fenns@hotmail.com or 401-855-6716 with any questions.

On the Journey...

Please come before the Lord with praise and thanks for all the great things He has done for and with FPC Newport.

A timeline for the Pastor Nominating Committee:

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has been expanded to include two Elders, one Deacon, and four members-at-large from our congregation. Here are the next milestones as we journey toward finding our new pastor.

- **Sunday, November 20:** The slate of names for the PNC will be announced as well as the slate of Deacons and Elders for the class of 2025.
- **Sunday, December 4:** The congregation will meet following worship service for the formal election of PNC members, new Elders and new Deacons.

Also happening: We are forming 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, in this place. The information gathered by this committee will be used to assist the PNC in finding a permanent pastor. If you are interested in and/or know anyone who would be interested in being part of this important committee please let Stacie Schultz know (secretary@fpcnewport.org or 401-847-1749).

November is stewardship month. FPC has been blessed by the continued financial support of our congregation. Please prayerfully consider tithing. Look for more about this important topic next week.



Ladies, plan to attend our **Women's Christmas Brunch** Saturday, December 3, from 10 to noon in the Fellowship Hall. Please let us know you would like to attend! You may RSVP and sign up to bring a dish to share by speaking with Barbara Ross on any Sunday or reaching out to her via phone at 904-742-9626 or by emailing barb.ross1015@yahoo.com.



Poinsettias— *It is said that the star-shaped leaf pattern symbolizes the Star of Bethlehem, and the red color represents the blood sacrifice of Jesus's crucifixion.*

These lovely flowers lend their color and vibrancy to our sanctuary every Advent! Please consider dedicating a poinsettia in praise of or in memory of someone you love! Be sure to have your pre-paid order in by November 20. Mail your check (payable to FPC) to First Presbyterian Church, or deliver it to the church office with the following details:

Name _____ Phone _____

In praise of _____ or in memory of _____

___ Single plants @ \$14 each ___ Double plants @ \$27 each

Total amount of enclosed check _____

Looking ahead...

(A quick "mark your calendar" guide to some of our many activities)

Saturday, November 5

Fall Work Day at 8:30

Sunday, November 13

Devotionals are due for our Advent booklet.

Sunday, November 13

Be sure your Christmas shoebox is back at the church. They will be dedicated the following Sunday.

Friday, November 18

Game night (with pizza) for all ages at 5:30 in the dining room.

Sunday, November 20

Poinsettia orders are due.
Coat Drive ends.
Important PNC announcements

Saturday, December 3

Women's Christmas Brunch from 10 to noon in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, December 4

Election of PNC members, Elders and Deacons

Sunday, December 11

Christmas in Newport concert at 7:00 p.m. Plan to come and bring a friend.

First Presbyterian Church

GAME NIGHT

You're invited to join us for quarterly game night!

Location.....FPC Dining Room

Date.....November 18

Time.....5:30

Pizza will be provided

Please consider bringing your favorite game and a salad or dessert to share.

For more information, or to reserve your pizza slices, please call Barbara 904-742-9626.

Reaching Out...

—In Newport—

Christmas in Newport—One way to share the Gospel with our neighbors is for every member to invite friends and neighbors to our Christmas in Newport concert, *Music for the Christmas Season!* December 11 at 7:00 p.m. There will be carol singing, choral anthems, Scripture and more! Join the choir to be part of this special event.

Men's Coat Drive



FPC is partnering with Seaman's Church Institute to collect men's coats to distribute during their annual Thanksgiving dinner. We will collect men's large and extra-large coats until **Sunday, November 20**. If you don't have a coat you can part with, you may donate to *Deacons Coat Drive*. We will also purchase coats from Savers or other discount stores. Our goal is 50 coats! This will be a blessing to those without warm enough clothing as the cold winter months are upon us.

—And Beyond



We are blessed that Rev. Dr. Jeff Hutchinson is with us on many Sundays in the role of pastor as we seek a permanent pastor. Rev. Jeff 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. During the "Mission Moment" at worship last Sunday, he spoke of the widespread decline in attendance at Christian churches and expressed his gratitude for FPC's support of his New Haven project, where the need is great. In fact, Dr. Hutchinson has directed all moneys we would have paid him as an honorarium have gone directly to The House of Mercy Church plant through Living Hope Church. Jeff would love to have you join his Prayer Support Team for the new church plant. Feel free to reach out to him at jdutch64@gmail.com / 860-817-8149.

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:

Norm and Janet Champagne	Rich and Karen Dagrosa
Graciela Emerick	Judy Graves' son
Bonnie Haun's brother	Bruce and Jan Jones
Richard and Cindy Price	Ida (Stacie Schultz's mother)
Judy Sweeney	Ralph and Alice Thomas

Families among us who are grieving the loss of a loved one or facing other challenges.



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

Return filled shoe boxes by Sunday, November 13!

Operation Christmas Child brings God's love and joy to children in need around the world. Every year, we join this effort and fill as many shoe boxes as possible with small gifts. Please take one home. Inside each box is a flyer with suggestions for suitable items. Return the filled shoe box (unsealed) by Sunday, November 13 so they can be prepared for dedication and shipment. If you are not able to pick up and fill a shoebox, you can also donate online through the samaritanspurse.org website.



What would we do without our youth?



Their music enriches our worship service—and if you need any cookies decorated....



Also, we have a beautiful child care facility. If you are able to help once in a while to care for small children and babies during worship service, please reach out to Cindy Wilson at cindysmithwilson@gmail.com.

Weekly Meetings and Activities

Thursday, November 3

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

Saturday, November 5

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

Sunday, November 6

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, November 7

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, November 9

5:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

* office hours may vary



The front window repairs are complete, the sun is shining through our beautiful windows again!



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
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

