



November 17, 2022

This week at FPC

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



Advent Devotional is ready!

Thanks to many present and former members of our church, this year's booklet is complete. Copies will be available Sunday, November 20, on the table in the back of the sanctuary and on the tables in the Fellowship Hall. Please pick one up and enjoy these reflections on the true meaning of Christmas. If you are not able to pick up a copy, call the office (847-1749) or email secretary@fpcnewport.org to have one mailed to you.

Sunday Worship

“... To the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth: Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.”

3 John 1:1

We welcomed back Reverend Jeff Hutchinson, whose sermon, “No Greater Joy, examined 3 John 1:1-14.

Thanks to Darien Petit for filling the role of Lay Leader, and to Tim and Stacie Schultz, who prepared the communion elements and hosted coffee hour. The choir sang “See the Bread, See the Wine.” The closing hymn was “Eternal Father” as we recognized the past and present military service of many of our members.



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.

Don't miss the fun this Friday evening! Call Barbara Ross (904-742-9626) and let her know you are coming. And it's not just for kids—there's something for everyone, even if you just want to eat the pizza, watch, and enjoy the company.

On the Journey...

*Please pray for our financial future, may we praise God
for His continued faithfulness to FPC*

A timeline for the Pastor Nominating Committee:

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)—two Elders, one Deacon, and four members-at-large from our congregation—will serve to find our next permanent pastor. Here are the next milestones as we journey toward finding our new pastor.

- **Sunday, November 20:** The makeup of the PNC will be announced as well as nominees for next year's class of Elders and Deacons.
- **Sunday, December 4:** The tentative date for a congregational meeting following worship service for the formal election of PNC members, new Elders and new Deacons.

Also happening: Formation of a Vision Framing Process Committee 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 assist the PNC in finding a permanent pastor. Moving forward, we will be seeking volunteers to help shape our renewed vision for FPC. If you would like to nominate a member to serve on this committee, or if you would enjoy serving yourself, please notify the church office at secretary@fpcnewport.org.

Looking ahead...

A quick "mark your calendar" guide

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
Christmas shoeboxes due
Advent devotionals available

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 7 p.m

Friday, December 16

Potluck/Carol Sing at 5:30 in the dining room

We have good news!

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, our operating deficit (YTD) has been reduced to -\$8,278.25 as of the end of October, and we are poised to complete 2022 without a deficit! Earlier, we had anticipated an annual operating deficit of -\$47,351. This is especially important because our ability to call a new Pastor depends on our ability to have a balanced budget.

November is Stewardship Month at FPC

FPC has been blessed by your continued financial support. Your tithes, donations, and offerings enable us to pay a pastor and staff, maintain our beautiful building, feed the hungry, support several missionaries, teach the Gospel to children and adults, make beautiful music to the Lord in worship, and so much more.

You have also been generous with your time and talents in the work of this church. The Finance/Personnel Committee thanks all of you for your past generosity and encourages you to prayerfully consider how you can continue to support the work of Christ in the coming year.

Pledge cards are being mailed to you to fill out so we can better plan our financial year ahead. We ask you to continue to be generous in giving to God's work at First Presbyterian Church. We cannot do what we do without your help, financially and personally. YOU are Christ's church.

Blessings in Christ, Finance/Personnel Committee



Ladies, plan now to attend our
Women's Christmas Brunch

Saturday, December 3,
from 10 to noon
in the Fellowship Hall.

To RSVP, speak with Barbara Ross
on any Sunday, call 904-742-9626 or
email barb.ross1015@yahoo.com.



POTLUCK SUPPER AND CAROL SINGING

Don't miss this good old-fashioned
caroling party and potluck supper!

We'll enjoy a good dinner with great
fellowship, and then joyfully sing your
favorite Christmas songs and carols.
Mark your calendars now and watch for
more details coming soon.

Friday, December 16
5:30 in the dining room

Reaching Out...

—Here in Newport—



Christmas in Newport—Share the Gospel! Invite friends and neighbors to our free 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 free event. **Note:** there will be a reception following the concert; and if you would like to bring in some finger food, please contact deacons@fpcnewport.org or speak to Deb MacDowell or Daryl Kolator.



Men's Coat Drive update

FPC is collecting men's large and extra large coats to be distributed at the Seamen's Institute Thanksgiving meal for those in need. We have received 41 coats so far—bringing us closer to meeting our goal of at least 50 men's winter coats, jackets or vests! There are collection boxes in the narthex and in the Fellowship Hall. We will collect the coats until **Sunday, November 20**. Also, if you write a check to FPC (mark Deacons on the memo line), we can also purchase more coats from Savers or other discount stores. Your donation will be a blessing to those without warm clothing in the cold winter months.

—and beyond—

Return shoe boxes by Sunday, November 20!



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 this Sunday, when they will be dedicated and prepared for shipment. If you are not able to pick up and fill a shoebox, you can also donate online through samaritanspurse.org.

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 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 Dick and Alma Hanson. Many of you know, remember and love, the Hansons, who worshipped with us for many years before moving west. Dick has suffered a serious heart attack and prayers are needed for wisdom for his doctors. Also, we just heard that his brother Norm, who also is facing heart procedures.

...for the family of Connie Mello, who recently went home to the Lord.

...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.



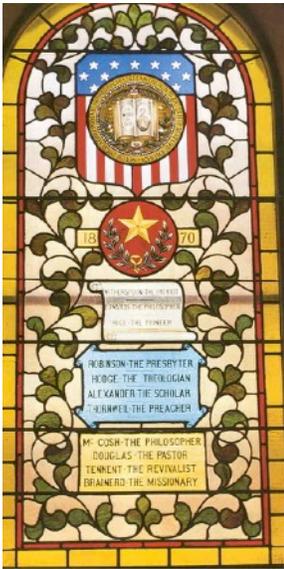
Jeremiah 30:17 reminds us, "For I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal, declares the Lord."

For our safety and well-being

the Building and Grounds committee has installed two emergency service devices, one in the sound booth and one in the nursery. They have also installed moisture and temperature monitors to warn of leaks or heating concerns. One of these safety devices allows you to pull a tab to notify the police of an emergency, while the other helps control the temperature and humidity.



Our stained glass windows: the American Window



This window represents the 1870 ecumenical union of the Presbyterian churches in America. The shield features the stars and stripes, an open Bible, the cross of Christ, and a serpent. The motto of the ecumenical union was: "A voice crying in the wilderness signifies the position of the church as a missionary church in the unsettled wilderness of America." Beneath the shield is the coat-of-arms of Philadelphia—"Let brotherly love continue."

The window honors John Witherspoon, first moderator of the General Assembly. (As the Continental Congress hesitated to pass the Declaration of Independence, Witherspoon, a lineal descendant of John Knox, stood up. "There is a tide in the

affairs of man," he said. "We perceive it now before us. To hesitate is to consent to our own slavery. That noble instrument (the Declaration of Independence) should be subscribed this very morning by every pen in this house. Though these gray hairs must soon descend to the grave, I would infinitely rather that they descend quicker by the hand of the executioner than desert at this crisis the sacred cause of my country." After this statement, everyone signed. When news of these extraordinary proceedings reached England, Horace Walpole said to the British Parliament: "Cousin Americana has run off with a Presbyterian parson."

More than half the men in the Continental Army were of the Reformed and Presbyterian Faith. Britain actually called the American Revolution the "Presbyterian Rebellion." It has been estimated that by the time of the Revolution, two-thirds of America's population were of Presbyterian and Reformed faith.



Have you ordered your poinsettia?

These flowers beautify 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) 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 _____

Weekly Meetings and Activities

Thursday, November 17

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

Friday, November 18

7:00 p.m. Small Group Bible Study

Saturday, November 19

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

Sunday, November 20

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 21

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. office open*
7:00 a.m. Finance and Personnel
7:00 p.m. 20s & 30s Small Group

Tuesday, November 22

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

* office hours may vary

For our safety and well-being

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First Presbyterian Church

4 Everett Street (Broadway and Everett)

Newport, Rhode Island

401-847-1749 • fpcnewport.org

facebook.com/fpcnewport.org

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

