

December 29, 2022



This week at FPC

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

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'" Luke 2: 11-14 KJV



Christmas Eve and Christmas morning were filled with grateful prayers, joyful song, and the timeless story of the birth of Jesus.



On the Journey...

Please pray that our hearts would turn to the Lord and seek Him first in the midst of our busy Christmas season as that is the reason for the season.

Balanced Budget: Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, at the end of November, we showed a budget surplus. Our church has been blessed by your continued financial support. As the Finance and Personnel Committee prepares our 2023 Operating Budget, we ask that you submit pledge cards to aid us in our deliberations. Please prayerfully consider your tithing. Your pledge cards can be placed in the Sunday Offering Plate or forwarded to the church office.

More good news! Reverend Jeff Hutchinson will be staying on through the month of January as our “pastor in residence.” His pastoral care as we seek a new pastor has been a blessing to our church. We are grateful for his preaching on Sunday mornings and the many other ways he has shared his personal kindness and caring for our congregation members. Rev. Hutchinson also serves as Associate Pastor at Living Hope Community Church in Old Greenwich, Connecticut, and he has been called to plant a church in New Haven.



Learn and grow!

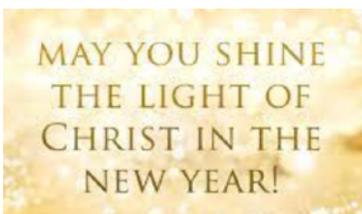
Sunday School classes for all at 9:15

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: Join Dave Kolator in the Samuel Room to continue viewing the Pastor Louie Goglio video "Indescribable" and discuss how it corresponds with the Bible.

Elementary students: Join Cindy Wilson in the Sanctuary at 9:15 a.m. to sing and then go to the pre-school room for a Bible lesson.

(no Sunday School January 1)



Reaching Out...

Serving food to our neighbors

The Deacons have decided to resume seated dining in the Church Dining Room for Soup Kitchen beginning January 4.



If you would like to be part of the team that provides this important and rewarding ministry the first Wednesday of each month, please contact Coleen Spencer at coleenspencer@cox.net or text/call Daryl Kolator at 401-339-7625.

Filling the Food Pantry Shelves

Thanks to our generous congregation, we are able to send substantial amounts of food each month to help fill the shelves at St. John's Lodge Food Bank on Sprague Street in Portsmouth (the Mason Lodge). This food bank reaches out across Rhode Island and at this time the need is great. Our donations are truly appreciated. You can help by picking up a few extra non-perishable items when you go grocery shopping. Collection baskets are available all month in the fellowship hall to receive your items.

Supporting our missionaries

Matthew 28:19. *"Therefore go and make disciples of all the nations..."*

Here at FPC we are committed to making disciples of all the nations! Throughout our history we have partnered with missionaries both locally and around the globe. Your support is important in fulfilling this important aspect of our church's ability to share God's love at home and in far away areas of the earth.

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.

...with love and sympathy for Alma and all of the Hanson family, as Dick Hanson joined the heavenly celebrations on Christmas Day. May they find comfort in their many years of memories.

...with caring concern for Ralph and Alice Thomas as they seek a new caregiver.

... for many in our church who have or have been exposed to COVID, and for safety for those who will be traveling during the holidays.

...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.

Lynn and Larry Chase's

son-in-law Mark

Bonnie Haun's brother Mike

Bruce and Jan Jones

Ida (Stacie Schultz's mother)

Lilia Svizzero Merrill

Graciela Emerick

Judy Graves' son Daniel

Bonnie Haun

Richard and Cindy Price

Ken Scigulinsky

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

John 14:27 reminds us that Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you;



my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."



The choir sings at Christmas—circa 1950

Weekly Meetings and Activities

Thursday, December 29

9:00 a.m. —1 p.m. Church office open*

Sunday, January 1, 2023

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, January 2

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. office open*

7:00 p.m. 20s & 30s Small Group

Tuesday, January 3

7:00 p.m. Inner Life

Wednesday, January 4

5:30 Soup Kitchen

6:30 Choir practice

* office hours may vary

**As the new year begins, we thank
these faithful servants for their devotion to
serving and sustaining our church.**

Elders-Session Members

Deidra Ricci and Janice Kinder—Worship Committee

Deidra Ricci—Missions Committee

Ken Hoffman and Greg Bloom—Finance/Personnel Committee

Don Fennessey and Phil Thow—Buildings/Grounds Committee

Janice Kinder and Chip Wilson—Christian Education Committee

Tim Schultz and Brian Petit—Inner Life Committee

Board of Deacons

Daryl Kolator and Darien Petit, Co-chairs

Jen Bloom, Nancy Browne, Nancy Burgess, Deb Hoffman,

Jamie Landsman, Deb Mac Dowell, Cindy Wilson

Staff

Angel Conwell—Director of Music

Stacie Schultz—Secretary (secretary@fpcnewport.org)

Tom and Cheri Dugan—Caretakers



First Presbyterian Church

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Newport, Rhode Island

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Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.



Choir of Angels....2018