

January 19, 2023



# This week at FPC

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

*Paul says, "I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ." Galatians 1:11-12*

## Worship Service January 8 — reflections of God's grace

This was a happy day for First Presbyterian Church. Reverend Jeff Hutchinson's sermon, "Receiving the Revelation of Grace," focused on Galatians 1:11-24. Richard Price served as lay leader and was happy to announce that the church ended the year with a budget surplus. More good news: Rev. Hutchinson announced that he would continue as Pastor in Residence through the month of April.

Brian Fennessey, who has been active in our church and especially in the choir, was officially welcomed as a member (covenant partner) of FPC.

Newly elected Deacons and Elders were installed and ordained: Mark Barnes and Roger Ward as elders, and Kris Aleicho, Judy Sweeney, Nancy Burgess and Jamie Landsman as Deacons. All Elders and Deacons met in the afternoon for a training session as they look forward to the challenges and opportunities of 2023.

If you were unable to attend worship service this week, you can watch the live stream on our website, [FPCnewport.org](http://FPCnewport.org).



## On the Journey...

*Please pray for the Holy Spirit to open our eyes to where the Lord would like to use us in His work in our church, in Newport and beyond*

### Search for a new pastor—update

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has begun meeting. The members are Greg Bloom, Deidra Ricci, Jamie Landsman, Barbara Ross, Mark Barnes, Nancy Burgess, Susan Fennessey. The congregation is invited to reach out to any member of the committee with questions, concerns, suggestions or information as this process takes shape. The Vision Framing Committee is also getting underway and their work will provide valuable insight and information to the PNC.

### Balanced budget

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we ended the year 2022 with a budget surplus of \$39,995.78. Our church has been blessed by your continued financial support. If you need envelopes, email Dave Kolator, [finsec@fpcnewport.org](mailto:finsec@fpcnewport.org), or leave a message at 401-225-1544 with the number of envelopes you would like.

### Sarah Beck Hill scholarships

The scholarship committee, chaired by Brian Ross, met recently and voted to grant a scholarship for the fall semester 2022 to Victoria Johnson. Applications may be submitted by anyone planning to begin, or currently enrolled in, a full-time course of study in a degree program at the University of Rhode Island. Applications for new scholarships and transcripts (to continue current grants) need to be received by February 15. Please email Brian Ross with any questions at [MM9616B@gmail.com](mailto:MM9616B@gmail.com).

## Celebrating the life of a beloved servant of Christ

Norman Champagne was remembered at a memorial service Saturday, January 14. His children, grandchildren and others shared, through words and music, their memories of his giving and serving spirit, his love of history and his drive to share his knowledge with others. They praised Norman and his beloved wife, Janet, for the positive influence they had on the lives of their large family.



## Reaching Out...

### Four Chaplains Sunday



On Sunday, February 5, we will revive our tradition of celebrating Four Chaplains Sunday. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to join us in commemorating the selfless service of the chaplains and the 668 other men who died when the Dorchester sank in 1943.

### Serving food to our neighbors

At the January 4 Soup Kitchen, we served 28 meals to those in need, thanks to our energetic team of volunteers. If you would like to join this vital ministry as a cook, server, or cleaner-upper, contact Coleen Spencer, coleenspencer@cox.net, or text/call Daryl Kolator at 401-339-7625. This can be just a one or two hour one time service or a monthly commitment.

### 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 in Portsmouth. 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, throughout our history we have partnered with missionaries both locally and around the globe. Your support helps us to keep our commitment.

## 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 members of our congregation, including for Ralph and Alice Thomas, as Alice is facing surgery to both knees and they seek a reliable caregiver for Ralph. Also pray for Graciela Emerick and her family, as Graciela is now in Hospice care.

...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.

Janet Champagne and family	Lynn and Larry Chase
Tristan, Linda Conheeny's grandson	Judy Graves' son Daniel
Bonnie Haun's brother Mike	Nadira Ferreira's father
Bruce and Jan Jones	Bonnie Haun
Ida (Stacie Schultz's mother)	Lilia Svizzero Merrill
Ralph and Alice Thomas	Ken Scigulinsky



*"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we have asked of Him."* John 5:14-15



The Finance Committee is preparing the year-end contribution statements. If you have given us your email address, we will use that to send you your financial giving statement unless notified otherwise. If your e-mail address has changed, please notify Dave Kolator, (finsec@fpcnewport.org or kolator.ri@gmail.com), at your earliest convenience. If you do not have an email address, we will mail your statement via the US Postal Service.



## First Presbyterian Church Annual Meeting!

**Sunday, February 12**  
right after worship service  
in the dining hall

Enjoy a lunch of sandwiches and salads as we review the events of 2022 and anticipate the challenges and opportunities that God will lead us to. As we seek a new pastor, it is especially important to be present.

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11*



**Fridays at 5:30 p.m.**

February 17  
May 19  
August 18  
November 17

Games and activities for all ages, from 2 to 92! Families, singles, all are invited!

We'll provide pizza, and you may bring a salad or dessert if you'd like to. There's something for everyone, even if you just want to eat the pizza, relax and watch the fun, and enjoy the fellowship.



## 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 ECO denomination."

**Junior and Senior High:** Join Dave Kolator in the Resource Room (next to the pastor's office) to study "What Scripture Says About Heaven," adapted from Randy Alcorn's book, *Heaven*.

*New!*

**Elementary students:** Join Cindy Wilson in the Sanctuary at 9:15 a.m. to sing and then go to the first floor of the Christian Ed building for a Bible lesson.

## Weekly Meetings and Activities

### Thursday, January 19

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

### Saturday, January 21

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

### Sunday, January 22

9:15 a.m. Sunday School all ages  
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, January 23

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

### Wednesday, January 25

6:30 Choir practice

\* office hours may vary



## First Presbyterian Church

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401-847-1749 • [fpcnewport.org](http://fpcnewport.org)  
[facebook.com/fpcnewport.org](https://www.facebook.com/fpcnewport.org)  
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am  
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

