



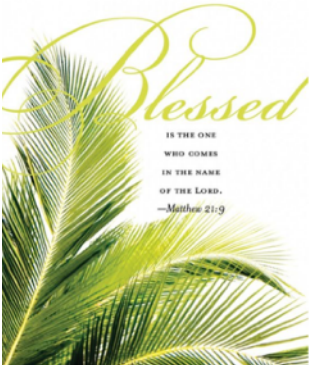
April 6, 2023

This week at FPC

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

April 2—Palm Sunday

Praise, Prayers, and Palm Crosses

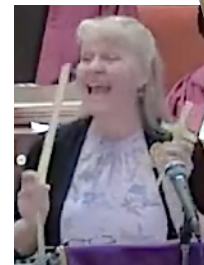


“For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope.” Galatians 5:5

Pastor Hutchinson’s sermon, “The Only Thing That Counts,” reflected Galatians 5:1-6. Stacie Schultz was the lay leader, Richard Ashmore provided gathering music, and the choir’s anthem was “In the Shadow of the Palms.” The children waved palms up and down the aisles as the congregation sang the opening hymn, “Hosannah, Loud Hosannah!” A very generous fellowship table and coffee hour followed the service, as

well as the second Pastor Nominating Committee town hall took place in the hometime room.

If you missed the service, you can view it on our website, fpcnewport.org Livestream, or use <https://youtube.com/live/LiivJ2K9rA8?feature=share>. Join us as we celebrate the risen Lord next Sunday.



HOLY WEEK



- ❖ **Tonight:** Maundy Thursday service April at 7 p.m.
- ❖ **Good Friday:** the sanctuary will be open for prayer from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- ❖ **Easter morning:** worship at 10:30 a.m. Congregation is invited to bring refreshments to coffee hour to celebrate the risen Lord.

On the Journey

Please pray that in the busyness of life as we prepare for Easter, we may focus on our Savior Jesus Christ, who laid down His life for our sins.



Pastor search moves forward with Town Hall meetings, suggestion box and survey

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) members thank all who attended the second Town Hall meeting Sunday after the worship service. Committee members handed out surveys about the qualities our congregants deem important in our next pastor. The committee members say the suggestions and opinions offered so far are exceptionally helpful and useful in this search process.



To share your thoughts on this matter contact any member of the committee, send an email to pastor@fpcnewport.org (mark PNC on the subject line), or place a copy in the PNC Drop Box in the Fellowship Hall. Please continue praying about this vital matter and our church's future. *Greg Bloom, Deidra Ricci, Jamie*

Landsman, Barbara Ross, Mark Barnes, Nancy Burgess, Susan Fennessey

At the same time, the **Vision Framing Team** is at work..They explain their mission this way: "We seek to discern what the Lord desires for this church—how it can uniquely serve Him and bring glory to His name in this time and place. The vision framework will clarify why people should call this church their home. It will also aid the Pastor Nominating Committee in its simultaneous work to identify the new pastor, and provide a framework and context for the new pastor to come into our community and work effectively with our leadership to Glorify God and magnify His light in Newport." The VFC is using a framework and materials provided by ECO and a book, *Church Unique*, by Will Mancini.

Chip Wilson, Tim Schultz, Stacie Schultz, Rachel Nerheim, Mike Ricci, Phil Kaun, and Daryl Kolator.



You are invited to join this Sunday evening group to worship through Zoom with songs and hymns, sharing scripture and enjoying fellowship. Whether you are interested in participating regularly or only occasionally, you

are more than welcome to be with us when you can. Email Brian Ross at mm9616b@gmail.com to get the link.

Looking ahead...

Welcoming our Presbytery

We have a great opportunity to meet pastors and elders from the other 11 churches in ECO's NorthEast Coast Presbytery. FPC will host the semi-annual Presbytery meeting May 5 and 6. All are invited to the Worship Service Friday, May 5, at 7 p.m. and a Praise Service from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday.

We are looking for volunteers to:

- ❖ Serve snacks Friday, May 5 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall.
- ❖ Serve continental breakfast Saturday, May 6 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
- ❖ Serve lunch Saturday, May 6, from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., dining room.

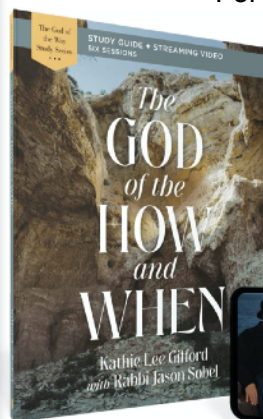
Please contact Daryl Kolator (text or call 401-339-7625 or email dakolator@gmail.com) if you would like to be part of this exciting opportunity.



New women's Bible study

The Thursday afternoon Women's Bible Study, which meets weekly on Zoom, will be starting a new video/book Study Thursday, April 27. It is *The God of the How and When* by Rabbi Sobel and Kathie Lee Gifford.

For more information call or text Deidra Ricci, 401-447-3833.



Reaching Out... to our neighbors

The Deacons recently became aware of—and helped to fill—a need at the Newport Hospital Emergency Room. Patients often have to have their clothes cut off to receive medical care. As part of First Presbyterian Church's ongoing service to our community, in March the deacons supplied Newport Hospital Emergency Department with 64 items: sweatpants, tee shirts, and socks for adults and children to be given if needed when they leave the hospital emergency room. Needless to say, the Emergency Room staff was grateful for this creative solution to a need. Please consider giving to our Deacons Fund to help them continue their thoughtful outreach to our local community.



April food pantry needs

This month the Deacons are collecting pasta, rice and potatoes for the St. John's Lodge Food Bank in Portsmouth. You'll find collection baskets in the fellowship hall. If you are unable to shop for these items, please consider a donation to the Deacons' fund. You can mark this on your giving envelope or check.

Soup Kitchen

Our next meal for our friends in need will be Wednesday, April 3. We welcome volunteers to shop, prepare, serve or clean up the dining room. If you would like to join this team, contact Coleen Spencer at coleenspencer@cox.net.



As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.

Pray...



...for the **Pastor Nominating Committee** as they seek the Lord's guidance in finding our next pastor.

"Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." 1 Timothy 1:6-7

...for our church as we rely on our faith in God's plan for all of us and reach out to those around us. Join Deidra Ricci 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—for health and healing, comfort in grief or hardship, and praises for answered prayers and God's omnipresence. And as you pray, please remember these and many others in our church family and beyond.

Nancy Burgess	Lynn and Larry Chase
Marcia Clark	Rich Dagrosa
Nadira Ferreira's father	Bonnie Haun and her brother Mike
Ray Janssen	Bruce and Jan Jones
George and Denise Landis	Glenna Malkemes
Richard and Cindy Price	Ida (Stacie Schultz's mom)
Lilia Svizzero Merrill	Ralph and Alice Thomas

As we bring our cares and concerns to the Lord, may we remember it is God Himself who answers as we seek Him. Isaiah 41:13 reminds us—

"For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'fear not, I am the one who helps you.'"



A care package from FPC shows our college students that we care!

Exams, goodbyes, moving, all can cause stress. You can help by bringing non-perishable food items (snacks or food that can be prepared in a dorm room) to Fellowship Hall **by April 16**. Please no liquids! Be sure to get your hard working student's school address (or home address for commuters) to judys.ri@gmail.com, 401-225-7577, or Mark Barnes markdbarnes01@gmail.com—or you can call the church office with the information. Thank you for supporting the college students in FPC's family!





In the Shadow of the Palms (Lloyd Larson /John Parker)

Hosanna they cry, as they welcome their King,
In majesty He rides into town.

See how the children line the streets; watch how Jerus'lem bows down.

But in the shadow of the palms, evil hands lie in wait.

In the shadow of the palms, darkened hearts are filled with hate.

Blessed is He who comes in the Lord, In glory and splendor He reigns!

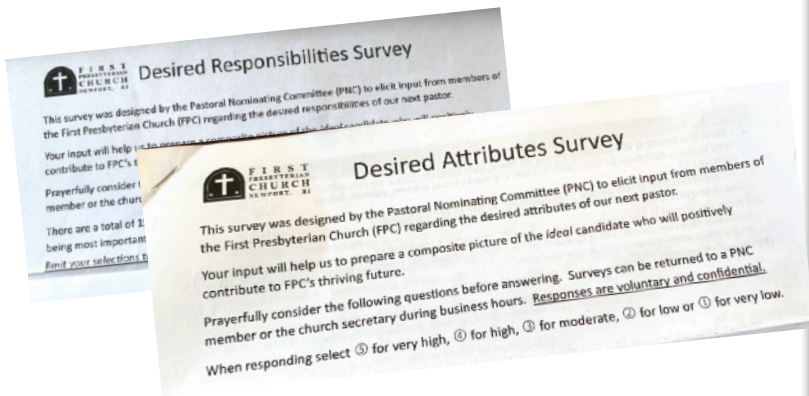
Coats and branches placed in the street; see how the palms are laid!

But in the shadow of the palms, crowds of anger and hatred scheme.

In the shadow of the palms, pain and death remain unseen...

See how Jerus'lem bows down, see in the shadow of the palms.

FPC You are an important part of our pastor search process. Our Pastor Nominating Committee is diligently and prayerfully working to find the right person to serve and lead our congregation along God's path. As they explore possibilities they are calling for God's guidance and also for opinions, concerns and ideas from members of the congregation. Our future as vibrant spiritual home is at stake. Please help by filling out these surveys and/or sending your thoughts for the PNC and for the Vision Framing Committee to pastor@fpcnewport.org.



During last Sunday's worship service we took a few minutes to spotlight the work of the Worship committee. Watch for similar spotlight features as we highlight the work of committees and other groups who work, often behind the scenes, to sustain our church and ensure that it is a place to learn, grow, serve, and love God and one another and reach out to those who are in need outside of our walls.

Weekly Meetings and Activities

Saturday, April 8

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

Sunday, April 9, Easter

10:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Pre-worship prayer time

10:30 a.m. Worship service (nursery care available)

6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

Monday, April 10

6:00 p.m. Building and Grounds

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

Wednesday, April 11

5:00 p.m. EFC Soup Kitchen

6:30 Choir practice

* office hours may vary



A friendly place to grow in Christ and serve with joy

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.



If you receive an email that seems to be from another FPC member or staff member asking for favors, gift cards, or money transfers of any kind, do not respond. Pray that the Lord turn their hearts toward Him.

If you have news to share....

Send it to secretary@fpcnewport.org. Include dates, times, details, and contact information. Stacie Schultz will ensure that it appears in the appropriate FPC communications platforms.

