



May 4, 2023

# This week at FPC

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

## May 2 Worship Service—Love One Another

*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”*

*Galatians 5:22-23*

Reverend Hutchinson’s sermon topic was titled “Since We Live by the Spirit, Let Us Keep in Step with the Spirit.” He described the battle of good and evil forces within us, referring to the Scripture text, Galatians 5:16-26. He offered this simple rhyme as a help to remember to nurture our gift of the “fruit of the Spirit.”



### Which will you choose?

*Two natures live within my breast.  
One is cursed, one is blessed.  
One I love, one I hate,  
The one I feed will dominate.*



After the service, the Ross family (Brian, Barbara, Frank and Lillian) were honored for gifts of service and love that every one of them shares with our larger church family. “We appreciate the recognition and kind words from everyone. This church is full of God’s love, and it’s a joy to serve and show that love to His Glory,” they said.

## Looking ahead...

### ECO Presbytery meets here this weekend



You are invited to a Worship Service this Friday evening at 7 p.m. This is a great opportunity to meet pastors and elders from 11 churches in ECO’s NorthEast Coast Presbytery. Pastor Jeff Hutchinson will lead the service and deliver the message.

You are also welcome to join a Praise Service Saturday from 9 to 10 a.m. FPC Elders will join our visitors for lunch and a business meeting Saturday.

Many church members are helping to serve lunch, set up, do registration, serve snacks and provide any other assistance. Some have even offered their homes to ECO visitors. Angel Conwell has prepared music for both services. Our congregation will prove once again to be loving gracious hosts, and this should be a memorable occasion for all.

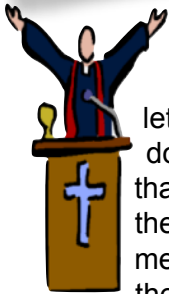


### Parade parking alert!

The Aquidneck Island National Police Parade will take place this Sunday, May 7, at 11:50 a.m. from West Main Road in Middletown, south on Broadway to Washington Square. The parade will honor the 245 officers who lost their lives in the line of duty in 2022. If you park your car on Broadway *it will be towed*. You may park on side streets or in the Newport Hospital employees’ parking lot at Rhode Island Avenue. If you park in the mortgage company lot you won’t be able to get your car out after church.

# On the Journey

In Jeremiah 29:12 the Lord tell us "you will call upon me and pray to me and I will listen to you." May we bring the Lord our hopes and dreams for the future of FPC.



## Pastor search moves forward

The PNC is using the results of the survey and other letters and messages about our pastor search to finalize a document to post on ECO's job board. The committee is thankful for the effort and thoughtful consideration put into the survey responses and other correspondence. The members of the PNC continue to ask for your prayers as they use this input move forward in the search for our new pastor. If you have additional thoughts to share, please contact any member of the committee or email [pastor@fpcnewport.org](mailto:pastor@fpcnewport.org) (mark PNC on the subject line). *Greg Bloom, Deidra Ricci, Jamie Landsman, Barbara Ross, Mark Barnes, Nancy Burgess, Susan Fennessey*



## The Vision Framing Team (VFC) asks for

continued prayers as they continue seeking to discern His will for our local expression of His Church in this time and place. They are working to create a document that will clarify why people should call this church their home, help the PNC in its simultaneous work to identify our new pastor, and provide context for the new pastor to come into our community and work effectively with our leadership. *Chip Wilson, Tim Schultz, Stacie Schultz, Rachel Nerheim, Mike Ricci, Phil Kaun, and Daryl Kolator*



You are invited to join this Sunday evening group as they worship via Zoom with songs and hymns, Scripture and fellowship. Be with us when you can. Contact Brian Ross at [mm9616b@gmail.com](mailto:mm9616b@gmail.com) for the link.



**Fellowship hour** after worship is a long tradition at FPC, and a very happy one, as these two young ladies will agree. Be sure to stop in the Fellowship Hall Sunday to enjoy coffee, tea, refreshments and most of all, great conversation.

Better yet, offer to be a host one Sunday. It's simple: keep the coffee pot filled and bring in a few treats, and there's always someone willing to help you.

Time for some more fun!



Friday, May 19

5:30 p.m.

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, watch the fun, and enjoy the fellowship. To reserve your pizza slice, call Barbara at 904-742-9626.

## Calling all FPC men!

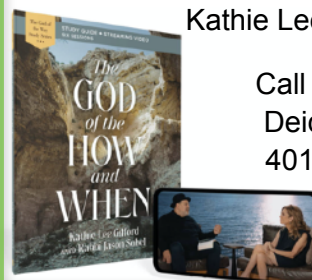
Here's another opportunity to join a men's fellowship conference: Saturday, June 3, about an hour from Newport up Route 146. The half-day



gathering includes featured speakers and seminars for men of all ages. Cost is only \$39. If you are interested, contact Don Fennessey at [fenns@hotmail.com](mailto:fenns@hotmail.com).

## New Women's Bible Study

The Thursday afternoon women's Bible Study, which meets weekly at 2 p.m. on Zoom, will begin a new video/book study Thursday, May 4. It is *The God of the How and When* by Rabbi Sobel and Kathie Lee Gifford.



Call or text  
Deidra Ricci at  
401-447-3833.



## Reaching out

Our Board of Deacons works tirelessly to serve the needs of our congregation and our community. Your gift to the Deacons Fund will help them continue their thoughtful outreach.

### Join a new neighborhood outreach

Deacons have begun sending two representatives to the monthly Off Broadway Neighborhood Association (OBNA) meetings to strengthen our outreach and service to our neighborhood businesses and residents. The OBNA meets the last Thursday of the month at 6:p.m. at The Parlor Restaurant, and anyone in the congregation is welcome to attend along with the two Deacons.

### Food pantry serves growing needs



St. John's Lodge Food Bank IN Portsmouth supplements the diets of more than 100 households every week. To help fill their shelves, during the month of May we are collecting peanut butter, and in June the target will be baked beans. You'll find collection baskets in Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to shop for these items, consider a donation to the Deacons' fund, marking this on your giving envelope or check.



### Scholarship news!

The scholarship committee, chaired by Brian Ross, met recently and voted to grant a Sarah Beck Hill scholarship for the Fall 2022/Spring 2023 semesters to Victoria Johnson, Abby Bloom, and Melissa Ferreira.

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. The deadline for applications for new scholarships and transcripts (to continue current scholarships) for the Fall 2023 term is **June 15, 2023**. Please email Brian Ross with any questions at [MM9616B@gmail.com](mailto:MM9616B@gmail.com).

## Pray...



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

*"I pray not only for these, but also for those who believe in me through their word. May they all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us, so that the world may believe you sent me."* John 17:20-21

...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.

Cheryl Blake	Nancy Burgess
Janet Champagne	Lynn and Larry Chase
Marcia Clark	Rich Dagrosa
Nadira Ferreira's father	Bonnie Haun and her brother Mike
Sadie Haun	Ray Janssen
Karen Jenkins	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

May the Lord continue to have his hand upon us, giving us reassurance of His presence and to strengthen us for each day!

As it says in Hebrews 4:16

*"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."*



## “As it was...”



### The ladies of the church at work

*Throughout our history, the women of the church have been a driving force in “getting things done.” Here’s one example.*

At the March 1931 meeting of the Young Women’s Auxiliary, the members voted to give a play, “The Strike of the Ladies Aid,” on Friday evening, May 28, selling tickets for 35 cents each and also having candy on sale.

At the April meeting, the treasurer reported a balance of \$178.16, and the members voted to purchase and install a bulletin board in front of the church, to hold a rummage sale April 28, to select a suitable carpet for the church, and to appoint a committee to solicit candy for sale on the night of the play.

At the May meeting they voted to purchase the carpet, hold a supper in June and sell tickets, appoint a telephone and an automobile committee, and hold a “favorite recipe night.”

At the June meeting, noting a treasury balance of \$330.88, they made arrangements to pay for the carpet, pay half the expense for a weekly cleaning of the church, prepare an annual June supper and plan for the July picnic.

*These are excerpts from the minutes of the Young Women’s Auxiliary, which was formed in 1926. For those who like to read about our history, copies of all these documents can be found in the bookcase in the Resource Room.*



### Every church should have a Ross family...

Honored at last Sunday’s coffee hour, they enhance our church life in many ways. Brian works in the sound booth, facilitates our live-streaming, and handles the technology for the weekly Evensong gathering. (Frank and Lillian are regular readers).



Barbara serves on the PNC, has taught Sunday School, and is integral to the Women’s Bible Study on Zoom. The entire family initiated the popular Family Game nights. Frank recently became a full-fledged usher, and Lillian’s special treats for coffee hour are always a hit.

## Weekly Meetings and Activities

### Thursday, May 4

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. office open  
2:00 p.m. Women’s Bible Study (Zoom)

### Saturday, May 6

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

### Sunday, May 7

9:15 a.m. Sunday School all ages  
10:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal  
10:30 a.m. Worship service  
(nursery care available)  
6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

### Monday, May 8

10:00 a.m. Worship Committee

### Wednesday, May 10

5:30 p.m. EFC Soup Kitchen  
6:30 p.m. 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](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.



**If you receive an email** that seems to be from someone you know at FPC asking for favors, gift cards, or money transfers, or offering photos, do not respond.

**If you have news to share**, send it to [secretary@fpcnewport.org](mailto:secretary@fpcnewport.org). Include dates, times, details, and contact information. Stacie Schultz will ensure that it appears in the appropriate FPC communications platforms.