



June 1, 2023

This week at FPC

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

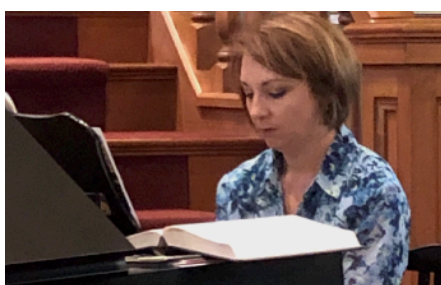
Worship May 28—Remember and Rejoice!

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27

We welcomed back Sean Bland, a Navy Chaplain candidate who will be our summer Pastoral Intern. Born to a Navy family, Sean is a Jackson, Mississippi native. He graduated from Yale university and recently earned his Master of Divinity Degree from the Reformed Theological Seminary.

Sunday's message, titled, "A People Helped by God the Father, Son, and Spirit" encouraged us to "remember and rejoice." The scripture texts are John 7:37-39 and John 14:12-31. Darien Petit was the lay leader, and Sarah Kindzerske, pianist, played the stirring patriotic *American Medley* for our gathering music on Memorial Day weekend.

Sean's comment on returning to FPC: "I have missed the congregation here at FPC Newport and it's my joy to be back for a season to preach from the scriptures. I am really looking forward to worshipping, fellowshiping, and glorifying God together! If you ever need anything from me don't hesitate to reach out to our church office. It's going to be a great summer in Newport!"



Apply for Scholarship by June 15!

Congratulations to Victoria Johnson, Abby Bloom, and Melissa Ferreira who recently received funds.

If you are currently enrolled in, or planning to begin a full-time course of study in a degree program at the University of Rhode Island this fall, please submit an application (for new scholarship) or transcript (to continue current scholarship) by **June 15**. Email Brian Ross at MM9616B@gmail.com with any questions or to submit an application.

On the Journey

We pray that the Lord would make us a blessing to our neighbors and prepare the way for our Sidewalk Prayers event.



Moving forward! The Pastor Nominating Committee thanks all who have been praying for us as we work on tasks in our search for the new pastor. We ask for continued prayers as we work on refining the job description and make changes and additions to the church website. Both tasks will be instrumental in our search for our new

pastor. The Church Information Form (CIF) has been submitted to ECO's Ministry Partnership Team (MPT) and we hope to complete the job description very soon so that FPC information can be posted on ECO's electronic Job Board.

Greg Bloom, Deidra Ricci, Jamie Landsman, Barbara Ross, Mark Barnes, Nancy Burgess, Susan Fennessey



The Vision Framing Team (VFC) asks for continued prayers as we seek to discern His will for our church in this time and place. We are working to clarify why people should call this church their spiritual home. Our efforts are helping the PNC finalize information to be posted on ECO's Job Board.

For example, if you picked up the Church Information Sheet that went to ECO, you may have noticed the tag line, *A beacon on the rock of Christ, shining God's love into our community and beyond.* This is one result of our prayerful work to define our church here in Newport—and to provide context when the new pastor comes into our community and begins working with our leadership and members. *Chip Wilson, Tim Schultz, Stacie Schultz, Rachel Nerheim, Mike Ricci, Phil Kaun, and Daryl Kolator*

If you couldn't get to church last Sunday...

Join those who view our worship service online through Youtube. You can access it through Facebook or our web site, fpcnewport.org. A direct link is available on our weekly e-blast or you can copy and paste this link into your browser. Here is this week's link.

<https://youtube.com/live/u7oxoxGJh5A?feature=share>



Be Involved

Sidewalk Prayers

Working to become more involved with our neighborhood, the question becomes, "What can we do for our neighbors?" The answer: PRAY! So, we will walk along Calvert and Cranston Streets **Friday, June 9, at 11:30 a.m.**, praying for the people in each home we pass and leaving a note on the door telling the people they have been prayed for by First Presbyterian Church.

We will gather at the church at 11:15 to pray as a group, then divide into pairs to cover the streets. If walking is difficult, anyone who would still like to participate can pray at the church while the others are out walking. We are excited to see the power of prayer at work and what God is going to do in our neighborhood.

Men's Conference

Join us Saturday, June 3, for the *Iron Sharpens Iron* conference in Uxbridge. The half-day gathering includes speakers and seminars for men of all ages. If you are interested, email Don Fennessey at fenns@hotmail.com.

Fellowship hour after worship is a happy tradition at FPC. Come to 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.



Join our summer "pick-up" choir!

This is a good time to try out singing with the choir. On the Sundays listed here, we will meet in the choir loft at 9:45 to

"pick up" a piece of music that we will quickly learn and sing that morning. No robes, no rehearsals, just an opportunity to enjoy singing from the choir loft and enriching our worship service. We plan to sing June 11, 18 and 25; July 9, 16, 23 and 30; August 13, 20 and 27. Check with Angel Conwell for more information (music@fpcnewport.org).



Reaching out

Missionary visit

We are always happy to reunite with missionaries we support in many areas of the world. At Coffee with the Callisons, our friends shared the history of the Kurdish people and how God called them to serve. They recalled some of the special projects we had supported in the past, including the sewing machines and a children's library for the refugee camp. They were very gracious and gave us a book for our library,



"And the second commandment is ... 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

Deacons attend the monthly Off Broadway Neighborhood Association (OBNA) meetings to strengthen our outreach and service to nearby businesses and residents. Congregation members are also invited to attend, the last Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at The Parlor Restaurant.

A new community outreach



We recently learned about **Conexion Latina Newport**, a new Broadway neighbor (across the street) whose mission is to meet the needs of Newport's Hispanic

community. Darien Petit's daughter tutors for this organization and brought it to our attention. As a result, during the month of June Deacons are requesting donations of diapers, wipes, and formula to support the needs of new mothers and their babies. These will be collected in a donation playpen in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you all for the continuing support of our Deacon projects.

If you have an extra can of baked beans—

To help fill the shelves at St. John's Lodge Food Bank in Portsmouth we are collecting baked beans this month. Donation baskets are in Fellowship Hall. Of course, other perishables are always greatly appreciated as well. If you are unable to shop for these items, consider a monetary donation.



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

Pray...



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

*"But we will devote ourselves to prayer
and to the ministry of the Word."*

Proverbs 3:5-6.

...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, who joined us last week as he returned from a year of overseas duty with the Coast Guard and will soon be heading to Guam for his next assignment.

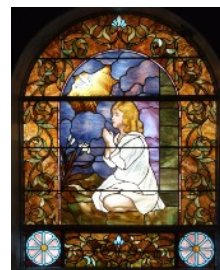
...for the spoken and unspoken needs of those in our church family; for health and healing, comfort in grief or hardship, and praise for answered prayers and God's omnipresence. And as you pray, please remember these and many others in our church family and beyond.

Andrew and Kristen Aleicho	Janet Champagne
Larry, Lynn, & Dave Chase	Marcia Clark
Rich Dagrosa	Nadira Ferreira's father
Julie Finnegan (Jones)	Bonnie Haun, Sadie Haun
Bonnie Haun's brother Mike	Karen Jenkins
Bruce and Jan Jones	George and Denise Landis
Glenna Malkemes	Ida (Stacie Schultz's mom)
Lilia Svizzero Merrill	Ralph and Alice Thomas



Let us reflect on these challenging times and see God's hand. Psalm 18:15 tells us

*"Shouts of joy and victory
resound in the tents of the
righteous: 'The Lord's right
hand has done mighty things!'"*



“As it was...”

The Depression and World War II

Rev. Harry Fulton Cost became the eighth pastor of First Presbyterian June 30, 1930, and he was faced with guiding the congregation through the difficult years of the Depression and the World War that followed.



Rev. Harry F. Cost

Most people did not experience the effects of the Depression all at once; it just slowly squeezed the vitality from the economy and the people as everyone became afraid to spend money. And it was that way with the church. The Board of Trustees appointed a special budget committee and cut expenses as far as possible. When even routine maintenance was put on hold, individuals and groups managed to take up some of the slack and get work done around the church.

The Young Women's Auxiliary took over the job of cleaning the church. Soon after that, they obtained new red carpeting for the sanctuary and assumed responsibility for the monthly payments.

The Deacons and other groups were very much involved in trying to alleviate the hardships endured by many families and individuals during those years. In 1934 the Deacons requested that the entire Easter Sunday offering be diverted to them for the purpose of helping those in need.

As church income continued to drop, all non-essential expenses were cut, and even the pastor's salary had to be reduced. The Financial Secretary sent notices to members who were delinquent in their pledges, but at that point only about 40 percent of the membership was contributing anything at all. By 1934, the church's operating budget had shrunk to only \$2,940 a year—about half what it had been before the Depression.

Still, there were some expenses that could not be avoided, and generally this meant taking on more debt. On at least one occasion they resorted to “creative financing.” In 1932, the trustees decided they had to replace the boilers of the heating system and convert from coal to oil heat. To do this they needed \$1,200, and they devised a somewhat unique method to raise the money. Church members were encouraged to purchase non-interest-bearing bonds at five dollars each—with the bonds to be redeemed over the next several years. Each year, during the annual congregational meeting, a lottery drawing determined the lucky winners who would be “paid back.”

Sunday Flowers!

The flowers that beautify our sanctuary each Sunday are enjoyed by all. These lovely peonies are from the gardens of Lynn, Larry and David Chase. If you would like to contribute toward flowers, or share some from your garden, please contact Alice Hand at littleauntalice@yahoo.com.



Weekly Meetings and Activities

Thursday, June 1

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. office open
2:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Zoom)
7:00 p.m. Choir practice

Friday, June 2

Saturday, June 3

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

Sunday, June 4

9:45 a.m. Choir rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Worship service
(nursery care available)
6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

Monday, June 5

6:00 p.m. Worship Committee (Zoom)

Tuesday, June 6

7:00 p.m. PNC meeting



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 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. Include dates, times, details, and contact information. Stacie Schultz will ensure that it appears in the appropriate FPC communications platforms.