

June 22, 2023



This week at FPC

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

Faithful servants—at work June 17 and at Worship June 18

Last Saturday's Work Day was a grand success, according to Roger Ward and Don Fennessey, who coordinated the efforts of an enthusiastic and results-driven team. Rain did not stop the pruners and repairers, and indoors amazing feats were achieved through scraping, painting, installing, and much more.

There are still a few items on the spread sheet of tasks and their status. Some are already spoken for, but if one of these interests you, contact Roger or Don. They include: pulling weeds around the James House, spreading more mulch, painting the Lynch Room ceiling and the blue room walls, and continuing plastering in the Hometime Room.



Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.
John 1: 8-9



Reverend Jeff Hutchinson was back in Newport to preach the sermon and serve communion. In his Sermon, “House of Mercy,” he spoke of the New Haven church of that name that he has been called to plant, and he reflected on the Scripture passage John 5: 1-15. Sean Bland served as lay leader. We are thankful for the caring and leadership we receive from these two dedicated men.



On the Journey

Prayers of thanks and praise to the Lord for his provision for FPC for 135 years!

New

Pastor Office Hours Sean Bland will be in the church office Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Monday afternoons. He invites everyone to "Please drop by and chat sometime this summer!"



Moving forward! Thank you all for your prayers for our journey to finding our new pastor. We are continuing our upgrade of the FPC Website. The pastor's job description is being approved by Session, so we are one more step closer to

posting. *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 for ECO's Job Board and will 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*

When you can't be here to worship in person

Join those who view our worship service online through Youtube. You can access it through Facebook or our web site, fpcnewport.org. Watch the weekly e-Blast for a direct link that you can click on or copy and paste into your browser. When you are at the site, be sure to subscribe, making it easier the next time.



Parking Challenges



The parking lot across Everett is not currently available on Sunday mornings. If you cannot find parking on nearby streets, you may use the Newport Hospital parking lot at Broadway and Rhode Island Avenue (free). One more option is a discounted all-day rate

(\$10) in the gated parking lot next to the Fifth Element at Broadway and Ayrault. If you are interested in this option, contact Don Fennessey, fenns@hotmail.com for more details.

Be Involved

New

Summer Sunday School is back in session. We'll look at a new Psalm each week—Psalms we did not cover last year—studying, praying, and applying them together. Join us Sunday at 9:15 in the Hometown Room.

Fellowship Hour

is a happy tradition at FPC. Come to the Fellowship Hall Sunday to enjoy coffee, tea, snacks and most of all, great conversation. Better yet, offer to help 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.



Sing with us this summer!

We still have room for more! This is a good time to try singing with the choir. We meet in the choir loft at 9:45 to "pick up" a piece of music to 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. The music is available to take home for practice, and Angel prepares sound recordings for each part. We plan to sing June 25; July 9, 16, 23 and 30; August 13, 20 and 27. Check with Angel Conwell for more information (music@fpcnewport.org).



Reaching out

We are helping our neighbors help others

Using money contributed by our congregation, the Deacons recently donated 15 waterproof mattress covers to The McKinney Cooperative Shelter, which has provided services to the homeless of Newport County since 1988. The recently renovated Shelter is open 24 hours, every day, all year.

Collecting diapers, wipes, and formula for Conexion Latina Newport to help new mothers and their babies. Please add some to the playpen in the Fellowship Hall. Or, pick up some baked beans and other non-perishable items for the local food bank. Donation baskets are in Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to shop for these, consider a monetary donation to the Deacons.

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

Rev. Hutchinson's church plant: If you would like to contribute to Rev. Jeff Hutchinson's new church plant, House of Mercy in East Greenwich, CT, you may write a check payable to FPC, with House of Mercy written on the memo line.



A Triple-Celebration Day!

1. 135th anniversary of First Presbyterian Church
2. Deidra Ricci's birthday
3. Honoring Deidra and Mike Ricci for their many

years of faithful service—especially for their perseverance during difficult times to keep the church alive and well, to keep the congregation informed, and to serve in more ways than can be counted.

"We consider it a privilege to serve the Lord and the congregation. Everyone in the congregation is doing their part to serve each other."

Pray...



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

"You Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these (two) you have chosen to take the place in this ministry..." Acts 1:24

...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 has returned from a year of overseas duty with the Coast Guard and will soon be heading to Guam.

...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. As you pray, please remember these and many others in our church family and beyond.

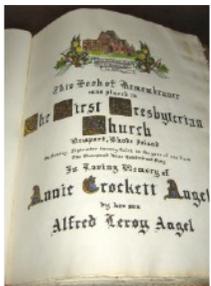
Andrew and Kristen Aleicho
Marcia Clark
Nadira Ferreira's father
Bonnie Haun, Sadie Haun
Karen Jenkins
George and Denise Landis
Glenna Malkemes
Lilia Svizzero Merrill

Janet Champagne
Rich Dagrosa
Julie Finnegan (Jones)
Bonnie Haun's brother Mike
Bruce and Jan Jones
Elaine Ruggiero
Ida (Stacie Schultz's mom)
Ralph and Alice Thomas

Psalm 147:3 reminds us: *"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."*



A beautiful record of gift giving



As the congregation started planning the church's 75th anniversary in 1963, there was concern that records of the legacy of preceding generations were slipping away. During the early years many memorial gifts, either of money or specific items, had been crucial to meeting the needs of the congregation. And memorial gifts were considered an appropriate way to keep the memory of departed ones alive.

In answer to this need, a unique gift was received from the Angel family in memory of longtime member Annie Crockett Angel—a large Book of Remembrances, together with an appropriate display case for the church narthex and is still on display. The purpose of the book was to permanently record (with ornate calligraphy) the many memorial gifts that had been received over the years.

The problem was that a comprehensive list of memorial gifts did not exist—and so, as Presbyterians do, the church formed a special committee. Longtime church member Charles A. Hambly Jr. was on the Memorial Committee. Hambly also owned the nearby funeral home on Broadway and was Mayor of the City of Newport. An initial list was put together and sent out to all church members for comments. As a result, the final listing of more than 100 items represented the best collective memory of the congregation.

The list included major items such as the land on which the church was built, the cherubs over the pulpit, the stained-glass windows, and the church manse. But it also included the many smaller treasures that had been so lovingly given to the church over the years, including the silver communion service, flower vases, hand bells for the choir, and even a clock for the Sunday school.

Summer Fun —

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Gooseberry Beach picnic!

August 27—Everyone is invited. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. Bring a salad, side dish, or whatever you like. Enjoy the sun, sea and sand, or relax in the comfort of the deck umbrellas or indoor shelter!

Game Nights are planned for August 18 and November 17. Come at 5:30 p.m. for food, fellowship, friends, and fun for the whole family! Pizza is provided and you're welcome to bring a salad or dessert to share.



Remembering with love

Troy Hutchinson with Janet Champagne, whose husband Norman created this beautiful wooden cross.

Weekly Meetings and Activities

Thursday, June 22

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. office open
2:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Zoom)

Friday, June 23

7:00 p.m. Small Group Bible Study

Saturday, June 24

7:00 a.m. Promise Keepers breakfast at Chelseas

Sunday, June 25

9:15 a.m. Sunday School (Psalms)
9:45 a.m. Pick-up choir rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Worship service
(nursery care available)
11:30 Fellowship time
6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

Monday, June 26

7:00 p.m. Twenties and 30s Small Group

Tuesday, June 27

6:30 Deacons



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.

When you have news to share, send it to Stacie Schultz at secretary@fpcnewport.org. Include dates, times, details, and contact information. She will ensure that it appears in the FPC communications platforms.



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.

