

July 20, 2023



This week at FPC

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

Worship July 16

"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Acts 2: 38-39

Reverend Jeff Hutchinson returned to the pulpit to preach a sermon, "Life in the Holy Spirit," based on Peter's words of instruction, assurance and encouragement to those who had gathered to hear him speak on the first day of Pentecost. Pastor Jeff also served communion and presided over a brief congregational meeting to review our budget at midyear.

Sean Bland continues to provide pastoral care and Sunday sermons this summer. An ECO ordination applicant and a Navy Chaplain candidate, he brings much appreciated enthusiasm and caring to our congregation. He served as lay leader last Sunday.

Rev Hutchinson will continue to be at FPC once a month to give a sermon and serve communion. We look forward to seeing him and his wife, Troy, on a regular basis. They are a tremendous blessing to us while we search for a new, permanent pastor!

Looking ahead...

Sidewalk Prayers

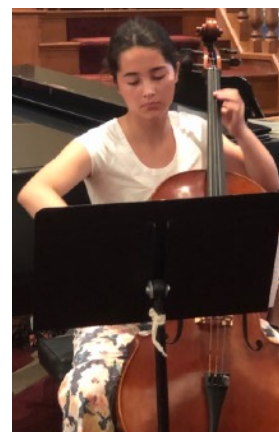
Join us Wednesday, July 26 at 6:00 p.m. to walk and pray for our neighbors. Email Deidra Ricci for more details. (pamperedee@aol.com).



Gooseberry Beach picnic!

August 27—Everyone is invited. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. Bring a salad, side dish, dessert 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.



Hearing Eden's beautiful gathering and communion music Sunday, you might never guess that right before worship service her A string broke, and she devised a way to play the songs on three strings. What a musical blessing the Conwell family brings to our church!



On the Journey

Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord for his many blessings and answers to prayer.

Pastor Search



The PNC continues to prepare for the next steps in finding our new pastor. We will meet again July 27, and we welcome questions, comments or thoughts you might want to share, using the PNC email, PNC2FPCNewport.org. Thank you.

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

The Vision Framing Team (VFC) leans on your prayers as we



seek to discern His will for our church in this time and place, and why people should call FPC their spiritual home. Our efforts have helped finalize a posting for ECO's Job Board and will serve as a

foundation for our new pastor to begin working with our leadership and members. *Chip Wilson, Tim Schultz, Stacie Schultz, Rachel Nerheim, Mike Ricci, Phil Kaun, and Daryl Kolator*

Budget Review

The congregation met after worship last Sunday to hear a mid-year report on our budget. The report showed that we had a deficit of -\$7,560 in 2020 and a deficit of -\$44,990 in 2021, but we ended 2022 with a surplus of \$39,672. This time last year, we had a deficit of -\$50,802.07, but now as of June 30, we have a surplus of +\$17,103. We have come a long way since this time last year and we need the trend to continue. For 2023, we forecasted a surplus of +\$59,515. As of June 30, it is +\$17,103, approximately \$12,654 lower than our mid-year target of +\$29,758. In prior years most of our income was received in the fourth quarter of the calendar year, so this is manageable. Please pray for the PNC, VFC, Session and our congregation as we seek to grow and flourish. *Ken Hoffman*

Pastor Office Hours — Sean Bland is available in the church office Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. He invites everyone to "Please drop by and chat sometime this summer!" leave a voice message or email pastor@fpcnewport.org.



When you can't be here to worship in person

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



Be Involved

Summer Sunday School



Join us to review a new Psalm each week this summer—studying, praying, and applying it. Come any Sunday at 9:15 in the Hometime Room.

Hosts needed



Fellowship Hour is a happy tradition at FPC. Come to the Fellowship Hall after our Sunday worship service to enjoy coffee, tea, snacks and most of all, great conversation. It's the time to catch up with friends and welcome new visitors. If you'd like to help, select an available Sunday on the sign up list near the coffee pot. If you have questions about what's involved, you'll find it's very 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 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 midweek 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. We plan to sing July 23 and 30; August 13, 20 and 27. Check with Angel Conwell for more details (music@fpcnewport.org). Music is an important part of our services. We invite all who love singing or playing an instrument to participate as we blend traditional, classical and contemporary songs in our Sunday worship.

Sunday Flowers

If you would like to contribute flowers to beautify our sanctuary each Sunday, either from your garden or by donating funds, contact Alice Hand at littleauntalice@yahoo.com.



This QR code will take you directly to our church website.

Reaching out

Helping our neighbors help others

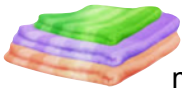
Getting to know our neighbors: If you are interested in joining a Deacon representative at an Off Broadway Neighborhood Association (OBNA) meeting, the schedule has been changed to the third Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m. at The Parlor Restaurant.

Supporting local programs: As part of July's outreach efforts, FPC Deacons will donate snacks and water for the Newport Police Department summer camp for children ages 10 to 14 during the second week of July and August.

Also this month, we are collecting jars of spaghetti sauce for the local food pantry in Portsmouth. The sauce will go well with the carload of pasta we delivered recently to the same food pantry, thanks to the generosity of many congregation members.



The McKinney Shelter is always in need of gently used twin sheets and towels. Donations would be very much appreciated. We will be collecting them through August 13. Please put them in a bag and leave them in the box in Fellowship Hall.



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, designating House of Mercy on the memo line.

Help our missions team work with organizations like the local Conexión Latina Newport, the McKinney Shelter, Salvation Army, the Outreach Foundation (and many other local and global projects) to spread God's love by designating a portion of your weekly offering for Missions.

Pray...



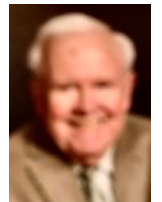
...for the **Pastor Nominating Committee** as they seek the Lord's guidance in finding our next pastor.

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged" 1 Chronicles 22:13,7

...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, who is serving with the Coast Guard in Guam.

...for the family of **Rich DaGrosa**, who passed away July 14, that they may be comforted by their memories and time spent with him. Rich was a longtime, faithful servant at FPC. He served on Finance and Personnel and was the financial secretary of the church for several years. He helped with the children's Sunday School classes and volunteered with VBS. He has been attending adult Sunday School, always well prepared and had great insights to share. He will be missed.



...for **spoken and unspoken needs** 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, remember these and many others in our church family and beyond.

Andrew and Kristen Aleicho	Nancy Burgess
Janet Champagne	Lynn Chase
Marcia Clark	Nadira Ferreira's father
Nadira's daughter Melissa	Julie Finnegan (Jones)
Bonnie Haun and Sadie	Bonnie's brother Mike
Karen Jenkins	Bruce and Jan Jones
Elaine Ruggiero	Glenna Malkemes
Ida (Stacie Schultz's mom)	Lilia Svizzero Merrill
Ralph and Alice Thomas	

John 16:33 33: reminds us:

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."



Among our 60 beautiful stained glass windows are eight banner windows in the sanctuary that illustrate highlights of Presbyterian history in many countries. There is a wide-spread impression that Presbyterianism is basically Scottish/Irish Protestantism. Few realize the strong history of Presbyterianism in England, Wales, France, Holland, Germany, Bohemia, and many other countries. Here is one of these windows, copied from a banner displayed at The World Presbyterian Alliance 1880 meeting in Philadelphia.

Netherlands Window

This window features a large shield, commemorative of the Synod of Dort, where the creed of the Dutch church was established. Below this is a bend bearing the Dutch motto, Eendracht Maakt Macht—loosely translated, “In Union there is strength.” A tablet recognizes William the Silent, under whom the Netherlands achieved her civil and religious independence. The white tablet in the shape of a Maltese cross, shows a lily springing up through thorns, one of the emblems of the Holland Church. The tablet commemorates “100,000 Martyrs, A.D. 1567-1573.”



At the bottom of the banner is a tablet commemorating the establishment of the Dutch Church in America, referred to as New Netherlands (the Dutch name for New York). Puritan missionaries arrived in 1620.

The Netherlands became Protestant and Presbyterian six years after Luther nailed his 95 Theses on a church door in Wittenburg. Two of his Dutch followers were burned at the stake by the Duke of Alva, commander of the Spanish forces in occupied Holland. However, the influence of Calvin's doctrines a few years later became dominant in the Netherlands' Presbyterian Church. Then the Spanish Inquisition tortured and killed 100,00 Protestants in 80 years of war. The Duke of Alva himself boasted that in five years he killed 18,500.

Protestants retaliated, burning and destroying Roman church property, and a vigorous Protestant Presbyterian Church survived the massacres. Wars of independence and a religious war followed.

Finally, by 1648, Europe recognized the United Provinces as an independent state. Today the Reformed churches number nearly half the population of Holland.

Weekly Meetings and Activities

Thursday, July 20

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. office open
9:00 to 4:00 Summer Pastor in office
2:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Zoom)

Saturday, July 22

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

Sunday, July 23

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)

Tuesday, July 25

9:00-4:00 Summer Pastor in office



If you receive an email that seems to be from someone you know at FPC asking for favors, gift cards, money, 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.

