



August 17, 2023

# This week at FPC

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

## Worship August 13

*"But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. 'Go, stand in the temple courts,' he said, 'and tell the people all about this new life.'" Acts 5:19-20*

Reverend Jeff Hutchinson returned to serve communion and preach a sermon from Acts 5:17-42, titled "We Are Witnesses of These Things, and So Is the Holy Spirit." He stressed the similarity of the angel's charge to the early apostles and the mission of First Presbyterian Church today, charging us to teach the message of Jesus and to live it

out by caring for the needy, sharing in the joys of others, and loving one another.



David Warfield was warmly welcomed and thanked for his organ music and choir direction while Angel is away on vacation.



## Our Mission at First Presbyterian Church

At FPC Newport we glorify God and develop disciples of Christ. We will be compassionate, capable, and committed beacons, shining the light of Christ from a historic, landmark setting. We will help our neighbors find safe harbor and spiritual growth in Christ through authentic prayer, joyful worship, faithful service and biblical devotion.

## Church picnic!

Bring the family—enjoy the sand, rocks, ocean, great view, comfortable indoor shelter and facilities, fabulous food, fun and fellowship!

**Sunday, August 27**

**Gooseberry Beach**

**4 to 7 pm**

We'll supply hot dogs and hamburgers with all the trimmings, and water. If you wish, bring a picnic side dish, salad, snacks to share, and juice or soda if you prefer it. (Put your name on the bottom of your dish so we can return those left behind.)



## On the Journey

Please pray for the Lord to bring our job posting to the attention of the pastor  
He has planned for us.

### Pastor Search information has been posted!



Our church information sheet and pastor job description is posted on the ECO Job Board. We are receiving and reviewing applications as we move closer to finding our new pastor. As always, we welcome questions, comments or thoughts you might want to share, using the PNC email, [PNC2FPCNewport.org](mailto:PNC2FPCNewport.org). Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

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



**The Vision Framing Team** (Chip Wilson, Tim Schultz, Stacie Schultz, Rachel Nerheim, Mike Ricci, Phil Haun, and Daryl Kolator) deserves our heartfelt thanks for the many prayerful hours spent fine tuning our mission statement to reflect His will for our church in this time and place and why people should call FPC their spiritual home. Their efforts helped finalize the ECP Job Board posting and will serve as a foundation for our new pastor to begin working with our leadership and members.

### Beginning the search for FPC's 2024 leaders



Please be in prayer as the FPC Nominating Committee works to develop a slate of

nominees for the congregation to elect Elders and Deacons who will lead us as we continue to grow and thrive in 2024. Contact committee members Mark Barnes, Greg Bloom, Pete Browne, Brian Fennessey and Darien Petit with questions or suggestions.

**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!" He welcomes voice messages or emails ([pastor@fpcnewport.org](mailto:pastor@fpcnewport.org)).



## Be Involved



THIS WEEK!

**This Friday, August 18, 5:30 pm**

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 and watch the fun, and enjoy the fellowship.

### Summer Sunday School

We 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

Come to the Fellowship Hall after worship service for coffee, tea, snacks and great conversation as we catch up with old friends and welcome new visitors. You can help host by signing up on the list near the coffee pot. It's very simple—keep the coffee pot filled and bring in a few treats—there's always someone willing to help. We appreciate those who have hosted this time of fellowship!

### Music Notes

Come sing with us! During the summer we meet in the choir loft at 9:45 to "pick up" a piece of music to quickly learn and sing that morning. It's an opportunity to enjoy singing from the choir loft and enriching our worship service. We welcome all who love singing or playing an instrument as we blend traditional, classical and contemporary songs in our Sunday worship. If you have questions, contact Angel Conwell at [music@fpcnewport.org](mailto:music@fpcnewport.org).



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



# Reaching out

**Supporting local programs:** As part of our outreach efforts, FPC Deacons donated snacks and water for the Newport Police Department summer camp for children ages 10 to 14 this month.



**Project Bible Runners** is an organization that hand delivers Bibles to faithful followers of Jesus in areas where believers outnumber Bibles 300 to 1. If you have extra Bibles, any translation or

condition, please bring them to church. Project Bible Runners will be in our area this month to collect them! To read more about this worthwhile organization and their mission, please visit [www.ProjectBibleRunners.com](http://www.ProjectBibleRunners.com).

## Rev. Hutchinson's church plant

Reverend Jeff 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! If you would like to contribute to Rev. Hutchinson's new church plant, House of Mercy in New Haven, CT, you may write a check payable to FPC, designating House of Mercy on the memo line.

## New Bible Study for September

All women are invited to join the Women's Bible Study group as they begin a new 12-week study September 7 at 2 p.m. on Zoom. We will use the *Q Place* study on Prayer. If you are interested, please contact Deidra Ricci at [PampereDee@cox.net](mailto:PampereDee@cox.net), as she will be ordering the books this coming week. We are trying to determine if another meeting time is necessary. If you would like to join this study, but would prefer to meet in person on Thursday morning at the church, please contact Deidra.

## When you can't be at church to worship

View our livestream worship service online through Facebook or our web site, [fpcnewport.org](http://fpcnewport.org). The weekly e-Blast offers a direct link to click or copy and paste into your browser. Be sure to subscribe for easier access.



# Pray...



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

*"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ." Philippians 1:9-10*

**...for our church** as we rely on our faith in God's plan for all of us and reach out to those around us.

**...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.

**...with heartfelt sympathy 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.

**...with joy for a new life**, welcoming Maximillian Jack Rexroth, the first grandson of Jamie and Jeff Landsman.

**...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.

Janet Champagne  
Marcia Clark  
Nadira's daughter Melissa  
Bonnie Haun and Sadie  
Karen Jenkins  
Elaine Ruggiero  
Ida (Stacie Schultz's mom)  
Rob Silvia

Lynn Chase  
Nadira Ferreira's father  
Julie Finnegan (Jones)  
Bonnie's brother Mike  
Bruce and Jan Jones  
Glenna Malkemes  
Lilia Svizzero Merrill  
Ralph and Alice Thomas

*"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."*

*Psalms 73:26*



## ECO—what does the name mean?

In the summer of 2010, seven pastors from the Presbyterian Church (USA) were concerned by declining membership and worried that growing disputes over theology and bureaucracy stole focus from their pastoral calling to share the gospel of Jesus Christ and equip a new generation to lead.

These pastors dreamed of reclaiming a sense of community among leaders from a Presbyterian and Reformed heritage, and finding new ways for churches to connect, grow, and multiply. In January 2011, they sent out a letter to PC(USA) pastors around the country, asking if others wanted to join in crafting a new way forward.

Just seven months later nearly 2,000 men and women gathered in Minneapolis to dream and pray, and in January 2012, at a conference in Orlando with more than 2,200 in attendance, a new denomination was formed: ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians. As the denomination continues to grow, they recently moved their headquarters from Goleta, California, to Dallas, Texas.

On September 15, 2017, after years of discussion, FPC left Presbyterian Church (USA) to join ECO. As described on the ECO web site, the name is not an acronym. It refers to a passion for strengthening the ecosystems of local churches, viewing each church as a living organism needing life-giving resources to help it grow, thrive, and multiply.

The full name, "ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians," speaks to four core commitments:

**COVENANT:** To connect leaders in accountable relationships and encourage collaboration.

**EVANGELICAL:** To advance the gospel of Jesus Christ and plant new missional communities.

**ORDER:** To commit to a shared way of life as we unite around a shared theological core.

**PRESBYTERIAN:** To stand within our Reformed heritage and celebrate the life of the mind.



## Weekly Meetings and Activities

### Thursday, August 17

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)

### Friday, August 18

5:30 p.m. GAME NIGHT! (free pizza)

### Saturday, August 19

7:00 a.m. Promise Keepers breakfast

### Sunday, August 20

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 a.m. Fellowship time  
6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

### Monday, August 21

10:00 a.m. Worship Committee

### Tuesday, August 22

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 [secretary@fpcnewport.org](mailto:secretary@fpcnewport.org). Include dates, times, details, and contact information. This will ensure that it appears in 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](http://fpcnewport.org)

[facebook.com/fpcnewport.org](https://facebook.com/fpcnewport.org)

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

