



November 2, 2023

This week at FPC

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

Worship October 29

"Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.'" Acts 10:34-36



This week Sean Bland preached from Acts chapter 10. Here, we learn about Peter's vision and revelation that God is impartial, accepting both Jews and gentiles. Peter realizes he can eat with gentiles as members of the Christian movement. We also learned about prayer, loving others, and working in all sorts of vocations from the example of the centurion/gentile Cornelius. Because God is impartial, eat, pray, love, and work for God's glory.



Our fall retreat, *Developing Our Vision for Glorifying God and Growing in Christ*, will be at FPC on **Saturday, November 4** from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The Vision Framing Team will share its work over the last several months, and part of the process is engaging with and learning from members of the congregation. Join us!

Selecting Next Year's Leaders

A **congregational meeting** will be held immediately following the service on **November 12**. At that time the nominating committee will recommend that the following covenant partners be elected:

Class of 2026

Elders: Phil Thow, Chip Wilson, Peggy Yates-Berg

Deacon: Deb MacDowell

Class of 2025

Elder: Greg Bloom

Minute for Missions



During the service Roland Chase shared about Joe and Avery Morris, whose previous work on the mission field was to provide food, clothing, Christian teaching, and medical care to refugees and other needy residents in South Africa's KwaZulu Natal Province, one of the most difficult and poverty stricken areas of the world.

Please pray for the Morrises who have moved to Panama where they are seeking the Lord's direction in doing similar work in Central America.



Church Work Day

Our hard workers took advantage of a perfect fall day to attack some yard work around the church. Mark Barnes, Brian Fennessey, Ken Hoffman, Janice Kinder, Mike Ricci and Roger Ward raked leaves, pruned the Rose of Sharon and Rhododendron back into shape, made sure all of our storm drains were clear and applied seal and peel caulking to the sanctuary windows. This is such a big help keeping our church grounds looking great. **Thank you!**

Finance & Personnel

November is Stewardship Month

FPC has been blessed by the continued financial support of our congregation. As of the end of September, we are running a surplus of approximately \$34,000. For the entire year, we have forecasted a surplus of approximately \$60,000. We need to continue to build on our surplus to enable us to call a new pastor. This is not unattainable provided our attendance and giving continues to increase. Soon you will receive a letter and two pledge cards, one for General Giving and the one for the Capital Improvement Fund. These pledge cards assist the Finance and Personnel Committee in preparing our 2024 budget. Please prayerfully consider tithing. Your pledge cards can be placed in the Sunday offering plate or forwarded to the church office. Thank you for your prayers and financial support.

Qualified Charitable Distribution: Is there an advantage of getting older? It may be since an individual who has reached at least 70 ½, can donate from an IRA account directly to FPC. It is called a QCD which stands for Qualified Charitable Distribution. The advantage of this type of donation is the donor can reduce their income from their IRA directly on their income taxes even if they do not itemize their deductions. It may also help lower taxes due on other income and reduce certain thresholds for determining Medicare and health insurance costs. A QCD may save the donor on Federal and State income taxes and still benefit FPC. Please consult your tax advisor or if you have questions about QCDs please contact Susan Thow, FPC Treasurer.

Holiday Happenings



Ladies, plan now to attend our Women's Christmas Brunch Saturday, December 2 from 10 to noon in the

Fellowship Hall. To RSVP, speak with Daryl Kolator on any Sunday, call 401-339-7625 or email dakolator@gmail.com.

Deck the Halls! Help decorate the church on Saturday, November 25 starting at 9 a.m.

The annual **Christmas In Newport Concert** will be Sunday, December 10 at 7 p.m. at FPC.

The **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** is on Saturday, December 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Stay tuned for more information coming soon on all of these holiday happenings!

It's Poinsettia Time!



These holiday plants lend their color and vibrancy to our sanctuary every Advent season. This is a beautiful opportunity to dedicate a poinsettia in praise of or in memory of someone you love. The poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary through Sunday, December 25, and then you are welcome to take them to enjoy at home.

Only pre-paid orders will be accepted through November 26, and can be placed in the offering plate (please clearly designate the funds for poinsettias) or mailed to the church office at 4 Everett St, Newport, RI, 02840. Please make checks payable to FPC.

Name(s) of Giver(s): _____

Phone: _____

In Praise Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

Single Plants () x \$14 each = _____

Double Plants () x \$27 each = _____

Total Amount of Check Enclosed _____

Help Create Our Advent Devotional!

It is a blessing to have devotions created by our fellow worshippers for each day in Advent. They can be about personal Christmas traditions or experiences, Scripture, stories, or poetry, to fit on a 5½ x 8½ page.

- Begin with a scripture verse.
- Content (1-3 paragraphs)
- End with a short prayer.

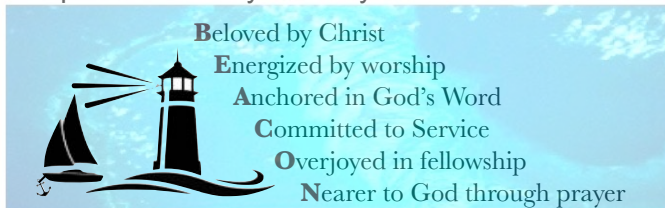
Contributions are due no later than November 12. Drop it off at the office or send it to Brian Petit (blpetit56@gmail.com) or secretary@fpcnewport.org.



On the Journey...

Please pray for the Lord to provide all that we need for FPC financially as we look to the future.

The Vision Framing Committee is tasked with crafting a vision for FPC's future which articulates our values and how to fulfill them. The draft vision statement describes FPC as "A beacon on the Rock of Christ, shining God's love into our Newport community and beyond."



The purpose of FPC's "beacon" is to guide all through the turbulence of the world and into the safe harbor of Christ's love. **VFC Members:** Chip Wilson, Tim Schultz, Stacie Schultz, Rachel Nerheim, Mike Ricci, Phil Haun, and Daryl Kolator



The **Pastor Nominating Committee** meets at least once a week to conduct interviews. Thank you for your continued prayers and support. We welcome questions or comments as we seek to determine God's plan for FPC. Email PNC@FPCNewport.org. **PNC:** Mark Barnes, Greg Bloom, Nancy Burgess, Susan Fennessey, Jamie Landsman, Deidra Ricci, and Barbara Ross



The Lost and Found Box is full. Unclaimed items will be donated at the end of November. Come claim your lost treasures!

Pray...

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

"To this end, we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and may fulfill every resolve for good, and every work of faith by his power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God, and the Lord Jesus Christ" 2 Thessalonians 1:11-1

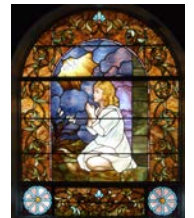
...for **our church** as we rely on our faith in God's plan for all of us and reach out to those around us.

...for **our nation and its leaders**, for our first responders and for all those who serve our nation in dangerous parts of the world. At this time, pray especially for the people of Israel and all who are suffering from current strife.

...for **spoken and unspoken needs** in our church family: for health and healing, comfort in grief or hardship, and in praise for answered prayers and God's omnipresence. As you pray, remember these and many others in our church family and beyond.

Mark Bland, Sean's father	Janet Champagne
Chase family	Marcia Clark
Becky Farwick and family	Nadira Ferreira's father
Nadira's daughter Melissa	Bonnie Haun and Sadie
Bonnie's brother Mike	Peggy Hicks
Troy Hutchinson's mother	Bruce and Jan Jones
Ida Lash (Stacie's mom)	Lilia Svizzero Merrill
Rob Silvia	Ralph and Alice Thomas

"...and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: 'He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases.'"



Matthew 8: 16-17



Operation Christmas Child

This year FPC has been selected as the drop off site for the area's Operation Christmas Child

boxes. Volunteers are needed to be on site to accept boxes at the church November 13-20. This is only a 2-hour commitment with various hours each day/evening available.

We will also need volunteers on Saturday, November 18 from 1 – 2:30 p.m. to pack 75 boxes with items supplied by the Rhode Island Area Coordinator and 25 boxes with items purchased by FPC Deacons.

Please contact Daryl Kolator at 401-339-7625 or dakolator@gmail.com if you can help.

Be Involved...

Evensong meets at 6:00 p.m. Sundays on Zoom for worship with songs, scripture, and fellowship. If you are interested in attending please email Brian Ross at mm9616b@gmail.com for the link.

Music Notes

Join us in the choir loft as we practice our weekly anthem and prepare for "Christmas in Newport" in December. The choir practices Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and at 10 a.m. on Sunday morning for a quick warmup. Contact Angel at music@fpcnewport.org if you have any questions. Altos are especially needed!

Sunday Flowers

If you would like to contribute financially to the flowers that beautify our sanctuary each Sunday, please phone or text Emily Holley at 408-668-4977. Emily and Bunny Miller are coordinating the weekly flower arrangements. Flowers can be designated in memory or honor of someone or in celebration of a special event.

Learn...

Sunday School

- Elementary school age students meet in the sanctuary to sing, then have a lesson with Cindy Wilson in the room off the nursery.
- Middle Schoolers meet with Dave Kolator in the Resource Room for a small group study on the Gospel of John.
- Adults are continuing through the Psalms with sessions led by Sean Bland and Chip Wilson until Advent.

The Women's Bible Study currently focuses on the *Q Place Study on Prayer*. You are invited to join the afternoon Zoom group Thursdays at 2 p.m. or the in-person study Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Hometime Room.



Don't forget to

FALL BACK

Sunday, November 5

When you have news to share, send it to secretary@fpcnewport.org. Include dates, times, details, and contact information to ensure that it appears where needed.



When you can't be at church, view our livestream worship service through Facebook or our web site, fpcnewport.org. Be sure to subscribe for easier access. This QR code will take you directly to our website.

Weekly Meetings and Activities

Thursday, November 2

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

Saturday, November 4

7:00 a.m. Promise Keepers breakfast
9:00 a.m. FPC FALL RETREAT

Sunday, November 5

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship service
(nursery care available)
11:30 a.m. Fellowship time
6:00 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

Monday, November 6

10:00 a.m. Worship Committee
7:00 p.m. 20s and 30s Small Group

Tuesday, November 7

9:00 - 4:00 p.m. Pastor in office
10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (at FPC)
7:00 p.m. Inner Life Committee

Wednesday, November 8

5:00 p.m. EFC Soup Kitchen

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, Nov 12—Elect Elders/Deacons

Sunday, Nov 12—Advent devotions due

Saturday, Nov 25—Decorate church

Saturday, Dec 2—Women's Brunch

Sunday, Dec 10—Christmas In Newport



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 10:30 am

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

