



December 7, 2023

# This Week at FPC

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

## Worship: December 3

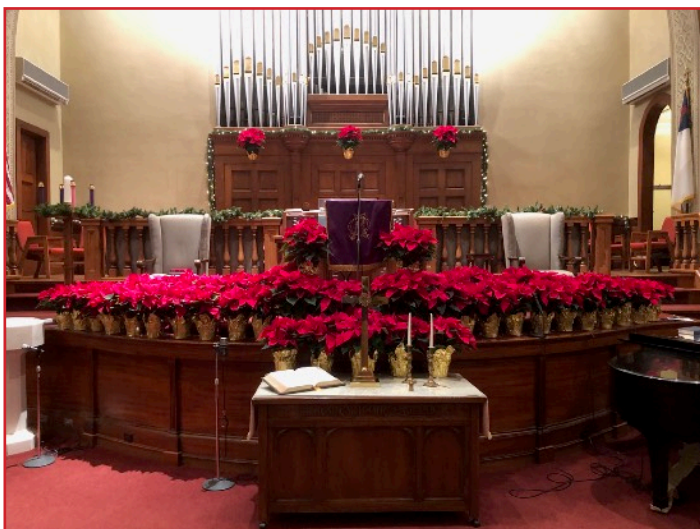
*But the angel said to him:  
"Do not be afraid, Zechariah,  
your prayer has been heard."*

*Luke 1:13*

### A People Prepared for the Lord

During Advent we focus on preparing our hearts and minds for Christmas and ultimately the second coming of Christ. From Luke 1:1-25 Pastor-in-residence Sean Bland offered some ways we can get ready:

- By reading God's word
- By observing God's commandments
- By rejoicing in God's promises
- By believing in God's promises
- By beholding God's glory



**Gathering Music:** Christmas Medley by Lillian and Frank Ross, Orion and Zelda Conwell ; **Lighting of the Advent Candle:** Julie and Johnny Lairsey; **Special Music:** Come, Let Us Sing by FPC Youth Choir



## Advent Activities

### Holiday Potluck Supper and Carol Singing

Don't miss this old-fashioned fun and festive time on Sunday, December 17 at 4:30 p.m. The Inner Life Committee will provide a ham main course. Please bring a side dish or dessert if you are able. Following dinner we will gather around the piano to sing carols.

There will be a **Special Advent Children's Church Series** on December 10 and 17. Young elementary aged students are invited to participate in these special advent lessons following the Children's Sermon in the Sunday service.

### Free the Parents!

Mark your calendar for an afternoon out on Saturday, December 9 from 1 - 4 p.m. FPC is offering parents an afternoon of free childcare while your children spend a fun few hours participating in games and other activities. If you have children you would like to lend us for the afternoon, or if you would like to spend an afternoon doing activities and having fun with the kids of FPC, please contact Deidra Ricci at [pamperedee@aol.com](mailto:pamperedee@aol.com).

**Christmas Eve Services** will be held on Sunday, December 24 at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

## Serve...

### Sunday Morning Greeters

We're looking to add more friendly faces to our greeter team. Simply arrive 15 minutes early to the worship service to say "Good morning!" and "Welcome!" to all those who come through our doors. Talk to Julie Ward on Sunday mornings, or contact the church office if you're interested.

### Nursery Helpers

Our nursery program is starting to grow again and we need a few more volunteers to ensure we can staff the room with two adults every Sunday. Sign up in the nursery room and indicate if you can help with a specific week or if you want to be included on the list of people who'd like to volunteer going forward.



### Christmas In Newport Concert

Invite friends and neighbors to this free annual concert for our community on Sunday, December 10 at 7 p.m. There will be carol singing, choral anthems, Scripture readings and more. A reception will follow.

The congregation is asked to bring finger food to be shared with concert goers to spread Christmas cheer and extend our hospitality. If you are able to bring something, please contact Nancy Burgess at [nancykayaks@cox.net](mailto:nancykayaks@cox.net) or call 401-835-0183 before December 7<sup>th</sup>.



Thank you to Brian and Darien Petit for putting together this year's **Advent Devotional booklet**. Copies are available in the back of the sanctuary and in the Fellowship Hall. Pick one up and enjoy these

reflections on the true meaning of Christmas, contributed by members and friends of FPC. If you are not able to pick one up, email [secretary@fpcnewport.org](mailto:secretary@fpcnewport.org) to have a digital copy sent to you.

### Ring a Bell and Adopt a Kettle for the Salvation Army

To join the holiday appeal and volunteer for a two-hour stint at Stop and Shop or Walmart, contact the Newport Salvation Army headquarters at 401-846-3234 or send an email to [jae.eun.park@use.salvationarmy.org](mailto:jae.eun.park@use.salvationarmy.org).





Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;  
in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight.

PROVERBS 3:5-6

## On the Journey...

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](mailto:PNC@FPCNewport.org).

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

## Be Involved...


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

### Music Notes

Join us in the choir loft on Wednesdays as we practice our weekly anthem and prepare for Christmas in Newport. The choir practices Sunday anthem music at 6 p.m. and music for Christmas in Newport at 6:45 p.m., wrapping up by 7:30 p.m. Contact Angel at [music@fpcnewport.org](mailto:music@fpcnewport.org) for more information.

### 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.



Pray that the Lord will bring people  
to the Christmas in Newport concert,  
and that we may glorify Him with  
music and hospitality.

## Pray...

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

...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.

- Autumn (Granddaughter of the Burgesses)
- 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 Leino
- Troy Hutchinson's mother
- Bruce and Jan Jones
- Jamie Landsman
- Ida Lash (Stacie's mom)
- Ken Scigulinsky
- Rob Silvia
- Lilia Svizzero Merrill and her daughter Dana
- Ralph and Alice Thomas

# **Poinsettias...Given In Love**

## **In Memory of**

**Donald and Louise Fennessey and Dennis & Phyllis Tudor** by Don and Sue Fennessey  
**Loved Ones** by Roger and Julie Ward  
**George and Jessie Davis** by William Davis  
**Warren B Hartwell** by Nancy Hartwell and family  
**My husband, Don Miller** by Bunny Miller  
**Case and Mary Hoogendoorn, Frank and Carolyn Sisson, Sarah and Martin Manley and Anna Bulk** by Dick and Judy Hoogendoorn  
**Robert Henry, loving husband, father, & Beepa** by the Aleicho family  
**Dora and Jose Aleicho and Ann Marie Blythe, Love and miss you,** by the Aleicho family  
**Gordon Stewart** by Nanci Stewart  
**Norman Champagne** by Janet Champagne  
**Loved Ones** by Janet Champagne  
**Cayden Joseph Ricci** by Mike and Deidra Ricci  
**Loved Ones** by Mike and Deidra Ricci  
**Alex Gair** by the Gair family  
**Our parents David and Lynn (Tisdall) Tenney, Our son Christian David-Allan MacFarland** by Scott & NancyDee (Tenney) MacFarland  
**Al and Barbie Angel, Craig Anthony Ruggiero** by Tony and Elaine Ruggiero  
**My mother, Betty McEachern** by Bonnie Haun  
**Loved Ones** by Lawrence and Lynn Chase  
**Ruth Barnes** by the Barnes family  
**Irene Heslin and Dorothy Skudera** by Regina and Wayne Skudera  
**Captain Charles Quinn** by his wife Nancy Quinn  
**My parents, Frank and Hilda Shaffer** by Emily Holley  
**Colonel Frank A Clark** by Marcia M M Clark  
**Robert Henry** by Carolyn J Henry  
**Robert Henry, Chet Straka, and Harold Sullivan** by the Straka Family  
**Our Loved Ones Who've Gone Before** by Chip and Cindy Wilson  
**My husband, CDR William Robert Lang, my son, Peter James Lang** by Sandy Lang

## **In Praise of**

**God's Goodness to Us!!** by the Browne family  
**Our sons, Sam and Nick** by Chip and Cindy Wilson  
**God's Amazing Love!** by Richard and Cindy Price  
**Our children, Erin, Andrew, and Lauren** by Andrew and Kristen Aleicho  
**My grandchildren Frank and Lillian Ross** by Karen and David Addy  
**Our first grandchild, Riley Lynn Oates** by Scott & NancyDee (Tenney) MacFarland  
**Our Church** by Deb MacDowell

# **Women's Christmas Brunch**

The ladies of FPC enjoyed festive fun and Christian fellowship at the Women's Christmas Brunch on December 2. The event was a combination of great food, laughter, creativity, and Christian love. Our thanks to Darien Petit, Daryl Kolator, Regina Skudera and Deb MacDowell for all their work planning the event.



## **Learn...**

### **Sunday School – 9:15-10:15 a.m.**

- 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 study on John.
- Adults are continuing through the Psalms with sessions led by Sean Bland and Chip Wilson.

The **Women's Bible Study** is going through the Q Place Study on Prayer. Join the afternoon Zoom group Thursdays at 2 p.m. or the in-person study Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Hometime Room. The groups will pause for the holidays starting the week before Christmas and will resume in January.

## Finance & Personnel



### Champlin Foundation Grant

The Distribution Committee of The Champlin Foundation has approved a grant in the amount of \$44,100.00 to First Presbyterian Church of Newport to contribute to the refurbishment and repair of the Rose Window in 2024. The Finance and Personnel Committee along with the Building and Grounds Committee will be coordinating this repair to restore the Rose Window sills and framing to last for decades. If you would like to contribute to this project, please mark your contribution on your pew envelope or check for the "Rose Window" repair.

## Buildings & Grounds

### More Parking!

The parking lot of the former Dunkin Donuts at the corner of Everett and Broadway is once again available for parking on Sunday mornings. It is now functioning as an art studio/gallery.



### Have news to share?

Send it to [secretary@fpcnewport.org](mailto:secretary@fpcnewport.org). Include dates, times, details, and contact information.



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

## THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

### Thursday, December 7

9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Church office open  
2 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Zoom)

### Saturday, December 9

7 a.m. Promise Keepers breakfast  
1 - 4 p.m. Free the Parents

### Sunday, December 10

9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10 a.m. Pre-worship Prayer  
10:30 a.m. Worship service  
(nursery care available)  
11:30 a.m. Fellowship time  
7 p.m. Christmas in Newport concert

### Monday, December 11

6 p.m. Building & Grounds Committee  
7 p.m. 20s & 30s Single & Married Group  
7 p.m. Finance and Personnel Committee

### Tuesday, December 12

10 a.m. Women's Bible Study (at FPC)  
7 p.m. Inner Life Committee

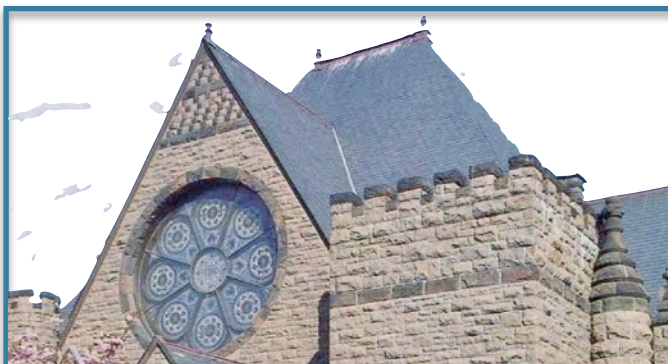
### Wednesday, December 13

6 p.m. Choir rehearsal

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Sun., Dec. 17 — Potluck Supper & Carol Singing**

**Sun., Dec. 24 — Christmas Eve Services**



*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 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

