

## Worship: December 24

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11

## The Birth of Christ Jesus the Lord

What were humans born to do? What is our purpose on earth? Using Luke 2:1-21 Pastor-in-Residence Sean Bland answers the question: our purpose is to praise Christ Jesus the Lord.

Why do we praise? **Because Christ was born in a humble stall.** He was born a king and yet came into the world with great humility.

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! (Philippians 2:6-8)

# Because Christ was born as the anointed one, the messiah the world had been waiting for.



Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

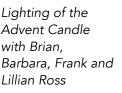
"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:13-14





Lay leader Deidra Ricci





Children's sermon with Pastor Sean

## **Candlelight Service**



Gathering Music with Angel Zhu, Eden and Juno Conwell





Lighting of the Advent Candle with Phil, Bonnie, Clay and Sadie Haun

# With Grateful Hearts...

#### An Update From the PNC

The Pastor Nominating Committee thanks everyone for your continued prayers of support, encouragement, and discernment for the process we have gone though this past year. We also thank you for the patience you have given us. We are nearing the end of our journey to discover the pastor that God has planned for First Presbyterian Church. We look forward to being able to share more details next month.

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

## **Buildings & Grounds**

# \*

#### Un-Deck the Halls!

Join the fun on Saturday, January 6 to "undecorate" the church. Come at 9 a.m., knowing that many hands make light work!

#### 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.

#### Handicapped Parking Spots

Now that more parking is available across Everett Street we ask that the spots in the parking lot be reserved for those in our congregation with limited abilities.

## 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 for the link.

#### **Music Notes**

Love to sing? Join the choir! The choir meets in the choir loft at 6:30 Wednesday evenings, then at 10 a.m. Sunday mornings to warm up before service. Contact Angel at 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. "Commit your work to the Lord and your plans will be established." Proverbs 16:3

## Pray...

...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.

...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
- Lynn Chase
- Marcia Clark
- Becky Farwick and family
- Nadira Ferreira's father John and daughter Melissa
- Bonnie Haun
- Bonnie's brother Mike
- Troy Hutchinson's mother
- Bruce and Jan Jones
- Johnny and Julie Lairsey's granddaughter "B"
- Jamie Landsman
- Ida Lash (Stacie's mom)
- Peggy Leino Hicks
- Ken Scigulinsky
- Rob Silvia
- Lilia Svizzero Merrill and daughter Dana
- Ralph and Alice Thomas
- Roger Ward's mother Shirley and sister Heather

NEWS	

#### Have news to share?

Send it to secretary@fpcnewport.org. Include dates, times, details, and contact information.



## Poinsettias...Given In Love

#### In Memory of

**Donald and Louise Fennessey and Dennis and 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, and 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

If you purchased a poinsettia you are welcome to take it home after the service on Sunday.

## 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.

#### THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

**Thursday, December 28** 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. *Church office open* 

Saturday, December 30 7 a.m. Promise Keepers breakfast

Sunday, December 31

10 a.m. Pre-worship Prayer
10:30 a.m. Worship service (nursery care available)
11:30 a.m. Fellowship time
6:00 p.m. Evensong

**Tuesday, January 2** 7:00 p.m. Inner Life committee

Wednesday, January 3 5:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen 6:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal



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 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

