



February 29, 2024

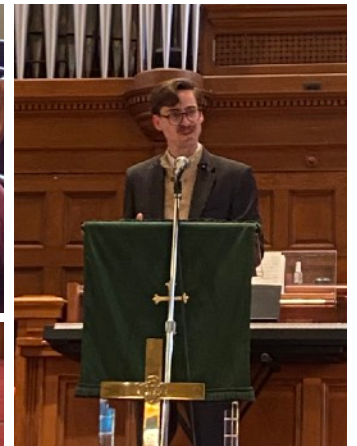
# This Week at FPC

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

## Worship: February 25

*"We tell you the good news: What God promised our ancestors he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus."*

Acts 13:32-33



*Sunday's flowers were given in memory of their son, Craig A. Ruggiero, by Tony and Elaine Ruggiero.*

## Paul: 'Jesus Did What David and Moses Could Not'

This week, Sean preached from Acts 13:13-41. This passage contains a sermon by the Apostle Paul, and Sean reminded us that the Gospel is not about what we do, but about what God has done for us.

What has God done for us? He has chosen His people, loved His people, and justified His people. These truths should each challenge us to practice humility towards others, patiently and enduringly love others, and to forgive others. Above all, though, the Gospel is a challenge to believe in Jesus for the forgiveness of sins.

*Pastor Sean often has more to share with us than he is able to fit in his sermon on Sundays. Each week he will be sharing "a few odds and couple ends" in the newsletter for our further understanding and contemplation.*

## A Few Odds and A Couple of Ends from Acts 13:13-41

I noted in our sermon how this message 'sounds' like Paul, because of Paul's characteristic word choice and emphasis on 'justification.' Our Reformed tradition understands justification as the 'great exchange,' or the 'double-imputation' of our sin to Jesus, and his righteousness to us. When a Christian is justified, they are not transformed into a perfect person. Yet, through faith, a person becomes united to Christ and that union is the basis for God 'counting' Christ's righteousness as our own. It is, as Martin Luther called it, an 'alien righteousness.'

Paul in this sermon says that we could not be justified by the Law of Moses; that is only because we are unable to keep it. But Jesus did keep it, so that perfect obedience and righteousness is credited to the accounts of those who by faith are united to him. Praise God from whom all blessings flow that we do not have to earn his forgiveness but can receive it by nothing more than simple faith!



## Honoring Two Special Sisters

Sunday's fellowship hour honored **Kris Aleicho** and **Karen Straka**. These special sisters have worked behind the scenes for many years, helping in the nursery and children's ministry, decorating and un-decorating the church for the Advent season, hosting fellowship hour, including a special one each year in memory of their father Bob Henry, and much more.

Kris and Karen continue their father's legacy of generosity as they quietly purchase items for the children, the children's ministry, the homeless ministry, and more. Whenever someone needs help they are the first to offer what they have. They are generous in every sense of the word with their time, talents and money. **Thank you, Kris and Karen, for all you do for our church family and beyond.**



## 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 studying "He Chose the Nails: What God Did to Win Your Heart" by Max Lucado in the Hometime Room.

The **Women's Bible Study** meets in person on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Hometime Room or on Thursdays at 2 p.m. on Zoom.



### Have News to Share?

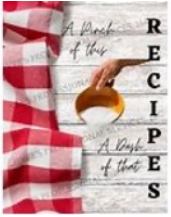
Send it to [secretary@fpcnewport.org](mailto:secretary@fpcnewport.org). Please include dates, times, details, and contact information.



FPC hosted the Off-Broadway Neighborhood Association meeting on February 20. Pastor Sean was invited to share about our church and what we believe, and Don Fennessey gave tours to many of the attendees. They also thanked our church in their newsletter which is sent out to many businesses and residences on and off Broadway.

### Pastoral Office Hours

Pastoral Resident Sean Bland is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Please stop by to share your thoughts about a recent sermon, discuss the life of the church or just say hi. Sean is also available on Mondays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only.



### Gather Your Favorite Recipes

It's time to search out your favorite recipes and beloved food and nourishment related scriptures for a new church cookbook! Send your contributions to Jen Bloom at [Jen.bloom@cox.net](mailto:Jen.bloom@cox.net).

## Be Involved...

**Evensong** meets on Sundays at 6 p.m. on Zoom for worship with songs, scripture, and fellowship. Email Brian Ross at [mm9616b@gmail.com](mailto:mm9616b@gmail.com) for the link.

### Music Notes

Love to sing? Join the choir! The choir meets in the choir loft at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays and Sundays at 10 a.m. to warm up before the service. Contact Angel at [music@fpcnewport.org](mailto:music@fpcnewport.org) for more info.

### Sunday Flowers

If you would like to contribute financially to the flowers that beautify our sanctuary each Sunday, contact 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.

### Young Adult Small Group

All young adults, single and married, are invited to this time of Bible study and fellowship. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at the home of Brian Fennessey. Talk to Brian or reach out to the church office for more information.

### Hymn Sing, Palm Cross Making, and Pizza



Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 23 at 5 p.m. Bring your favorite dessert, salad or side to share and join in the warm fellowship!

*"Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage."*

Psalm 84:5

## 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.

- Tony Aleicho
- Mark Barnes and family
- Mark Bland (Sean's father)
- Brenda (Troy Hutchinson's mother)
- Janet Champagne
- Lynn Chase and family
- Marcia Clark
- Robert Erickson (Son-in-law of the Petits)
- Becky Farwick and family
- Delfino Ferreira and family
- Bonnie Haun and brother Mike
- Heather (Nancy Burgess's daughter)
- John (Nadira Ferreira's father)
- Bruce and Jan Jones
- Jamie Landsman and brother-in-law Stacey Ruff
- Ida Lash (Stacie Schultz's mom)
- Peggy Leino Hicks
- Ken Scigulinsky
- Regina Skudera's dad, Brendan Heslin
- Rob Silvia
- Coleen and Jerry Spencer
- Lilia Svizzero Merrill and daughter Dana
- Ralph and Alice Thomas
- Roger Ward's mother Shirley and sister Heather





### It's Time for Easter Lilies

Do you wish to give Easter lilies in praise, remembrance, or love for someone special? These lovely flowers will adorn our sanctuary Easter Sunday and then can be taken home to enjoy! **Only pre-paid orders via**

**cash or check will be accepted through Sunday, March 24.** Place orders separately in the offering plate or mail them 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 \_\_\_\_\_



### Office Manager/Secretary

As FPC continues to grow, the role of Office Manager/Secretary needs to grow with it. The new Office Manager/Secretary position will expand to a 24-hour, part-time role with a broader scope of duties and more on-site hours to accommodate

church business and activities. A healthy combination of computer, communication and organizational skills is desired. If you or someone you know would fill this key position, please contact Peggy Yates-Berg at [yatesberg@cox.net](mailto:yatesberg@cox.net).

### Nursery Caregiver

We are looking to hire a paid, dedicated nursery caregiver from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Sundays. If you or someone you know could fill this role, please contact Chip Wilson at [chip.wilson87@gmail.com](mailto:chip.wilson87@gmail.com).



**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, February 29

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Church office open  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Pastor office hours  
2 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Zoom)

### Saturday, March 2

7 a.m. Promise Keepers Breakfast

### Sunday, March 3

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  
6:30 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

### Monday, March 4

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Pastor office hours  
(by appointment only)  
6:30 p.m. Worship Committee

### Tuesday, March 5

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

### Wednesday, March 6

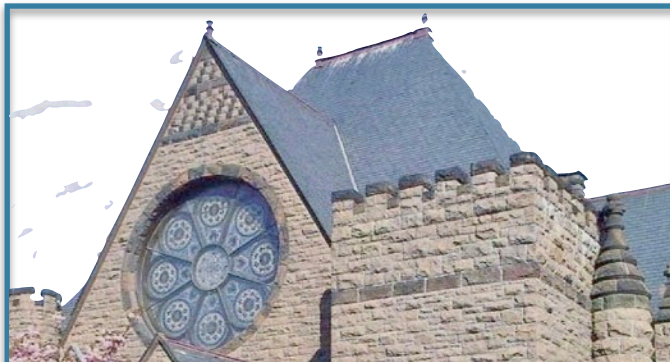
5 p.m. Soup Kitchen  
6 p.m. Choir rehearsal

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Saturday, March 23:** Hymn Sing, Palm Cross Making and Pizza

**Sunday, March 24:** Palm Sunday

**Sunday, March 31:** Easter



*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.

