



March 7, 2024

This Week at FPC

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

Worship: March 3

"As they went out, the people begged that these things might be told them the next Sabbath."

Acts 13:42

The Church is a Place for Beggars

This week Sean preached from Acts 13:41-14:7. He challenged us to be hungry for the Word of God like the Jews in the crowd that Paul preached to.

Specifically, we are to **earnestly seek every week to hear God speak**; we can do this daily by reading his Word but we also do that together on Sundays by hearing the Gospel proclaimed again and again.

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 13:41-14:7

Luke the historian, writing about the response of the Gentiles to Paul and Barnabas' preaching, says in 13:48 that "as many as were appointed to eternal life believed." While we do not want to overstretch this verse, Reformed theologians have long looked to this as an example of the principle that those who believe the Gospel do so because God has called them and disposed them to do so, by opening their eyes and giving the gift of faith. This should give us confidence every time the good news of Jesus is preached, for God *will* draw those whom he has set apart for himself through that preaching, and nothing can stop this from happening. We can evangelize with certain hope knowing that God has appointed many to eternal life by his sovereign power!



Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a **Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 17, 2024** following the service to present two motions for consideration and vote. These motions will allow Pastoral Resident Sean Bland to be commissioned as a lay pastor in April as he continues the ordination process with ECO. Specific details on the motions are available in the Sunday bulletin, or you can speak with Session members or Pastor Sean.



Lenten Season

Hymn Sing, Pizza Potluck and Palm Cross Making

Join us for a good old-fashioned Saturday night hymn sing and pizza supper. We'll enjoy good food and great fellowship, and then join together to joyfully request and sing a few of our favorite hymns. We'll also make the special palm crosses given to all worshippers on Palm Sunday!

WHEN: Saturday, March 23 at 5 p.m.

WHERE: Church dining room

WHAT TO BRING: Your favorite salad, side dish or dessert if you wish



Adult Sunday School: Lenten Study

The adult Sunday School is doing a special study using "He Chose The Nails: What God Did To Win Your Heart" by Max Lucado for the Lenten season. This study is led by Chip Wilson and Sean Bland. The class meets on Sundays at 9:15 in the Hometime Room.



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 24 at 10:30 a.m. Join us in worship as the children wave palms and everyone receives a cross made of palm fronds.

Maundy Thursday Service, March 28 at 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday, March 31 at 10:30 a.m. The congregation is invited to bring refreshments for the fellowship hour following the service.

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.

We're Hiring!

- **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.
- **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.



Free Bible Study Videos & Resources

Our church family now has unlimited access to RightNow Media—the world's largest streaming library of video Bible study resources. These Bible study videos can be used as part of a group study or for personal devotions, and many series include free discussion guides and handouts. Visit <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/fpcnewport> to get started. There is also a RightNow Media app so you can enjoy the resources anywhere, anytime.

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.

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 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 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.

Adult Small Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at 7 p.m. at rotating home locations of the members. Contact Daryl Kolator at dakolator@gmail.com for details.



Have News to Share?

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



"Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

Hebrews 13:20-21

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
- David Price (Richard Price's brother)
- Ken Scigulinsky
- Rob Silvia
- Regina Skudera and family
- Diane Sommerset (Brian Petit's sister)
- Coleen and Jerry Spencer
- Lilia Svizzero Merrill and daughter Dana
- Ralph and Alice Thomas
- Roger Ward's mother Shirley and sister Heather
- Robert White



*"Consider the lilies of the field,
how they grow: they neither toil
nor spin, yet I tell you, even
Solomon in all his glory was not
arrayed like one of these."
– Matt 6: 28-29*

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 _____



THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Thursday, March 7

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)

Friday, March 8

7 p.m. Small Group Bible Study

Saturday, March 9

7 a.m. Promise Keepers Breakfast

Sunday, March 10

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Pre-worship Prayer
10:30 a.m. Worship service
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
6:30 p.m. Evensong (Zoom)

Monday, March 11

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Pastor office hours
(by appointment only)
6 p.m. Buildings & Grounds Committee
7 p.m. Young Adults Small Group
7 p.m. Finance & Personnel Committee

Tuesday, March 12

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

Wednesday, March 13

6 p.m. Choir rehearsal

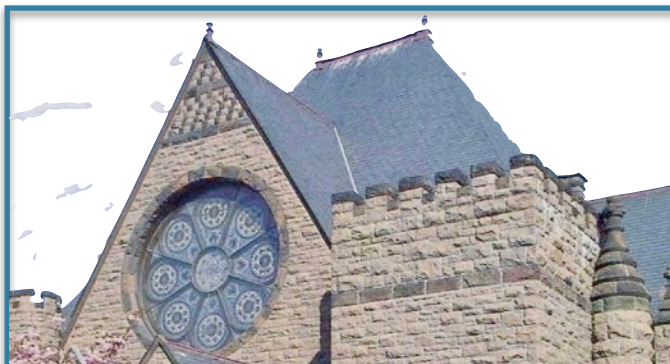
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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

Sunday, March 24: Palm Sunday

Thursday, March 28: Maundy Thursday

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
facebook.com/fpcnewport.org
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.



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.