



March 14, 2024

This Week at FPC

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

Worship: March 10

"In Lystra there sat a man who was lame. He had been that way from birth and had never walked. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed and called out, 'Stand up on your feet!' At that, the man jumped up and began to walk."

Acts 14:8-10

God in Human Form

This week, Sean preached from Acts 14, where Paul and Barnabas are mistaken by local Gentiles as Greek gods after healing a man who was crippled from birth. Sean pointed out how, in light of Paul's life, being a Christian is easy in that God cares about our sufferings, Christ is with us wherever we go, God provides for us, we have a community of support, and we are able to trust in God's sovereignty.

On the other hand, the Christian life is hard because God doesn't work on our schedules, we will be misunderstood, we will be opposed in our preaching of the gospel, go through hardships, and the same community that helps us also sins against us.

Pastor Sean often has more to share with us than he is able to fit in his sermon on Sundays. Here he shares "a few odds and couple ends" for our further understanding and contemplation.

A Few Odds and A Couple of Ends from Acts 14

After the sermon this week, someone pointed out that Paul may have died and been resurrected in his stoning. That's possible, but our text doesn't say that specifically. Paul's being stoned in this passage also prompted me to look up stoning; I learned that stoning is still something that happens today, especially in rigorist Islamic-law based countries. In Afghanistan, for example, the practice has been illegal and then legal again as the Taliban has lost and retaken power. Are we willing to even be stoned for the cross of Christ? Do we pray that God would give us such bravery?

Reminder! The Session has called a **Congregational Meeting for 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 potluck 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 learn to make the special palm crosses given to all worshippers on Palm Sunday!

Don't miss this evening of fun for the whole family!

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, plus your willing voice and hands



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.

Easter Sunday Fellowship Hour Goodies

We are asking our congregation to please bring refreshments to share for the Fellowship Hour on Easter Sunday. As the saying goes, "Many hands make light work!" We're hoping to make this time simple and enjoyable on Easter Sunday so we all can enjoy this marvelous day of celebration!



"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: _____



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.

in the Fellowship Hall. Come join in this moving and intimate service.

Easter Sunday, March 31 at 10:30 a.m.

Celebrate our risen Savior!



March Soup Kitchen Report

On Wednesday, March 6 we served 37 guests and 6 take-out meals of fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans and rolls. Ice cream was served for dessert. The meal was planned and prepared by Brian and Darien Petit. Robert and Christine Sahms, Julie Lairsey, Linda Conheeny, Paul Cabral, Judy Graves, Sue Fennessey, Regina Skudera, Dave Kolator, and Mike and Diedra Ricci helped prepare and serve of the meal. The guests were greeted and welcomed by Dick Price. Once again, the efforts and support of our dedicated volunteers made for a successful Soup Kitchen.

Submit Your Recipes for the FPC Cookbook

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

This 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.



"You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised."

Hebrews 10:36

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 Barnes and family
- Mark Bland (Sean's father)
- Brenda (Troy Hutchinson's mother)
- Janet Champagne
- David Chase
- Becky Farwick and family
- Delfino Ferreira and family
- Bonnie Haun
- Mark Henderson (Son-in-law of Larry & Lynn Chase)
- John (Nadira Ferreira's father)
- Bruce and Jan Jones
- Jamie Landsman and brother-in-law Stacey Ruff
- Ida Lash (Stacie Schultz's mom)
- David Price (Richard Price's brother)
- Ken Scigulinsky
- 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
- The church neighborhood

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.

Personnel News

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.

Pastoral Office Hours

Pastoral Resident Sean Bland is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 5 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 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. by appointment only.

Have News to Share?

Send it to secretary@fpcnewport.org. Please 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. Be sure to subscribe for easier access. This QR code will take you directly to our website.

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Thursday, March 14

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Church office open
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Pastor office hours
2 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Zoom)

Saturday, March 16

7 a.m. Promise Keepers Breakfast

Sunday, March 17

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 18

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Pastor office hours
(by appointment only)

Tuesday, March 19

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Pastor office hours
10 a.m. Women's Bible Study (at FPC)
7 p.m. Session meeting

Wednesday, March 20

6 p.m. Choir rehearsal

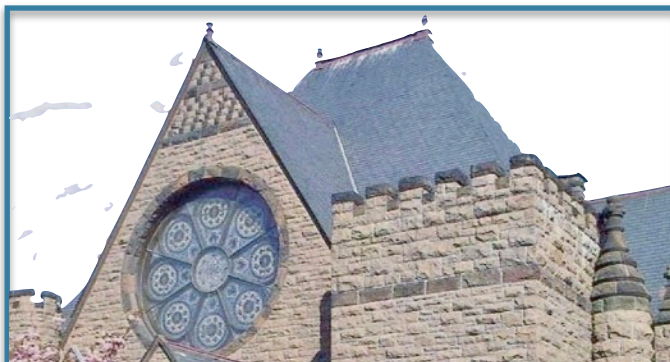
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, March 23: Hymn Sing, Palm Cross Making and Potluck Supper

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.

