



May 9, 2024

# This Week at FPC

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

## Worship: May 5

*“I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”*

2 Corinthians 6:16b

## The Temple of the Living God

This week, Sean preached on God's presence in Christ and how our beautiful buildings remind us of God's presence and transcendence. In Exodus 35 and 36, God-empowered men build the tabernacle of God, putting their skills for craftsmanship into use, with the people of God giving more than was needed for the building project. We should be encouraged and challenged to give to God's church, keep up with beautiful buildings, like the one we have right here at FPCN!

*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.*

I had a few things I didn't get to this week. First, I forgot to mention that the name 'Bezalel' (one of the Tabernacle craftsmen) means 'in the shadow or protection of God'. Pretty neat, huh?

Second, I wanted to talk a bit more about tithing - do we as Christians have to give 10% of our income? I think the exact figure is not binding on us as New Testament believers, but it is a really good rule of thumb. I once heard it said that we should 'give until it hurts'. That seems to be a pretty good, if not challenging, rule of thumb as well.

Lastly, the work the craftsmen did for the Tabernacle was not just to make a place for worshipping God; their working on the tabernacle was *worshipping* God. There is powerful two-minute video on RightNow Media that reminds us of this truth. You can watch it by clicking here: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/player/video/287039?session=287039> or search for “Work is God’s Good Gift” on the RightNow app or website.



## Vacation Bible School

Planning is underway for Vacation Bible School which will be held July 15-19. A mission team from Pilgrim Mission Church in New Jersey, an ECO church in our Presbytery, is coming to run the program. We need volunteers to help out with the preparation as well as volunteers for the week of VBS. A prayer team is being assembled as well as a list of volunteers. Please contact Deidra Ricci for more information or to volunteer.

## Men's BBQ

Calling all men of the church! Come for a free men-only BBQ at the home of the Petits (415 Seaside Drive, Jamestown) on Saturday May 18 at 4:00 p.m. Expect manly burgers, hot dogs and other food with little or no nutritional value plus fun guy stuff, good conversation and, hopefully, deeper friendships. BYOC (bring your own chair)! Kindly RSVP yes or no to Don Fennessey at fenns@hotmail.com or 401-855-6716.



## Soup Kitchen Report

On Wednesday, May 1, 2024 we served 46 guests and had 4 take-out meals consisting of lasagna, salad, bread and butter. Dessert was ice cream with chocolate sauce and brownies. Our thanks to all our faithful volunteers: Brian and Darien Petit for planning and preparing the meal; Julie Ward, Julie Lairsey, Robert and Christine Sahms, Regina Skudera, Linda Conheeny, Paul Cabral, Dave Kolator and Coleen Spencer for additional prep and serving help; and Jerry Spencer and Roger Ward for welcoming the guests.

## Rose Window Restoration Project

The Rose Window Restoration continues this month. The work is being coordinated by Mancini Construction. Session has approved \$110,000 for this repair of which \$44,100 was provided by a grant from the Champlin Foundation. The goal is to repair the window sills and framing, and replace the protective glass so that it will last for another 100 years. Everyone is reminded to stay clear of the worksite and not to climb the scaffolding. If you would like to contribute financially to this project, please mark your check and/or offering envelope "Rose Window Restoration."

## Free Bible Study Videos & Resources

Our church family 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. Get started: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/join/fpcnewport>

*"...know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."*

Ephesians 3:19

## Pray...

**...for our pastor.** Pray that God will protect Sean's girlfriend from bitterness when her significant other is criticized. Pray that her intimacy with Jesus will be consistent, and that she will guard her mind and heart (Prov. 4:23; Heb. 12:15).

**...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:

- Sean Bland and family
- Brenda (Troy Hutchinson's mother)
- Janet Champagne
- David Chase
- Becky Farwick and family
- Bonnie Haun
- John (Nadira Ferreira's father)
- Bruce and Jan Jones
- Jamie Landsman and brother-in-law Stacey Ruff
- Ida Lash (Stacie Schultz's mom)
- Cindy Price
- Ken Scigulinsky
- Diane Sommerset (Brian Petit's sister)
- Lilia Svizzero Merrill and daughter Dana
- Ralph and Alice Thomas
- Roger Ward's mother Shirley and sister Heather
- Robert White
- The church neighborhood

## Save the Date: Neighborhood Prayer Walk

The next Neighborhood Prayer Walk will be on Sunday, May 19 following coffee hour. Plan to stay and enjoy a nice walk through the neighborhood with friends as we pray for those living around the church.





## 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 flower arrangements. Flowers can be designated in memory or honor of someone or in celebration of a special event.

## Learn and Grow...

### 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 meet in the Hometime Room.



**NOTE:** The last day of Sunday School for elementary and middle schoolers is May 19.

### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at Brian Fennessey's. Speak with Brian or reach out to the church office for more information.

### Small Group Bible Study

This group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays at 7 p.m. at rotating homes of the members. Email Daryl Kolator at dakolator@gmail.com for details.

### Women's Bible Study

Join other ladies on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Hometime Room or on Thursdays at 2 p.m. on Zoom.

### Pastoral Office Hours

Sean has office hours 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.



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, May 9

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

### Saturday, May 11

7 a.m. *Promise Keepers breakfast*

### Sunday, May 12

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

### Monday, May 13

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

6 p.m. *Building & Grounds Committee*  
7 p.m. *Young Adult Small Group*  
7 p.m. *Finance and Personnel Committee*

### Tuesday, May 14

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. *Pastor office hours*  
10 a.m. *Women's Bible Study (at FPC)*  
6:30 p.m. *Deacons meeting*

### Wednesday, May 15

6 p.m. *Choir rehearsal*

## LOOKING AHEAD

**Friday, May 17:** Game Night

**Saturday, May 18:** Men's BBQ

**Sunday, May 19:** Neighborhood Prayer Walk



*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.

