



May 16, 2024

This Week at FPC

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

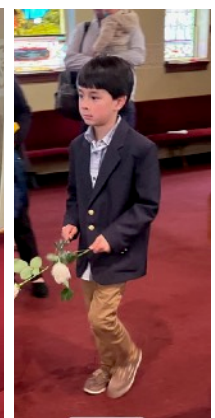
Worship: May 12

“This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.”

John 2:11

Jesus, Mary, and a Wedding Miracle

This week Sean preached from John 2 for Mother's Day, showing how Jesus brought joy to a wedding by miraculously turning water into wine after His mother asked Him to help the bride and groom, and how Jesus brings joy to us today. Because Jesus brings joy, we should in turn petition Him, trust Him, and proclaim Him.



A Few Odds and Couple of Ends

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 mentioned on Sunday how Jesus made not just okay wine but great wine - wine was of course an alcoholic beverage, but historians tell us that wine at the time had less alcohol content than modern wine. Would Jesus have partaken of the wine? It would have been expected of guests at such a wedding to partake of the wine, so yes, He most certainly would have partaken. But Jesus was without sin, and so He never, in this instance or elsewhere, would have had too much to drink.

Many Christians abstain entirely from drinking alcohol, and there is nothing wrong with that. For those of us who do partake, how much is too much? It would be nice if we had a one-size-fits-all answer, but we don't. The Biblical answer seems to be not to drink enough alcohol to become drunk, but we all have to know ourselves and our limits to know where that line is for us. God is gracious, of course, but let's strive to honor Him by not making too much of a good thing into a bad thing.



Pentecost Sunday

All are encouraged to wear red to church this Sunday in celebration of this special day on the church calendar.

“When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”

Acts 2:1-4

Game Night

Join us for a fun, relaxing evening of fellowship, games and pizza this Friday, May 17 at 5:30 p.m. Bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert to share; pizza will be provided. Teach us to play your latest favorite card game, strategy game, trivia game, or word game. All are welcome! We promise we won't make you play Twister!



Men's BBQ

All men are invited for a BBQ at the home of the Petits (415 Seaside Drive, Jamestown) on Saturday, May 18 at 4 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.

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.

Planning is underway for Vacation Bible School at FPC 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.

Pray for the Pastor

There is no better way to support our pastor than to pray for him. We have started a 30-week program of guided prayer for Sean. Each week we will provide you with a prayer for the pastor along with the scripture verses that inspired the prayer. You will find this prayer in our bulletin, in our e-news and our e-blast each week. Brochures containing all the prayers for the entire 30 weeks are in the back of the sanctuary and in the Fellowship Hall. Please take one and commit to praying for our pastor!

“Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.”

Hebrews 13:7

Pray...

...for our pastor. Ask God to protect Sean from evil plots of Satan. Pray that he will not be corrupted as he ministers in the world (Ps. 91:9-11; John 17:15; 2 Cor. 2:11).

...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



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 to study Psalms, led by Chip Wilson and Sean Bland.



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 2nd and 4th 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 2nd and 4th 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 16

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)*

Friday, May 17

5:30 p.m. *Game Night*

Saturday, May 18

7 a.m. *Promise Keepers breakfast*
4 p.m. *Men's BBQ*

Sunday, May 19

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*
12:30 p.m. *Neighborhood Prayer Walk*
6 p.m. *Evensong (Zoom)*

Monday, May 20

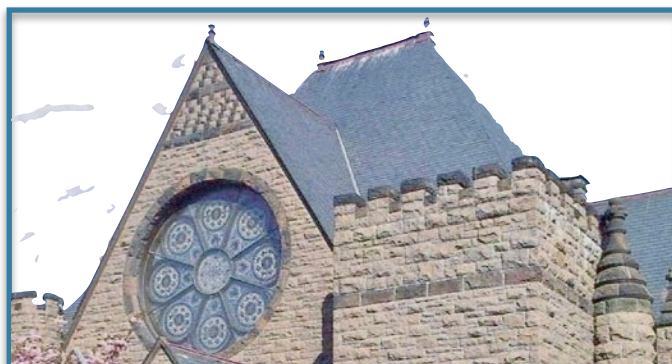
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. *Pastor office hours*
(by appointment only)

Tuesday, May 21

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

Wednesday, May 22

6 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.

