

November 15, 2024



This Week at FPC

Worship: November 10

“However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.”

Acts 20:24

God Saves and Preachers Preach, God Elects and Shepherds Shepherd

This week Sean preached from Acts 20:17-38. In this passage, Paul speaks to the church elders in Ephesus, and his speech shows us that God saves (at great cost to himself), preachers preach (the gospel of good news from the whole Bible), God selects (his Church's elders), and shepherds (also called elders) shepherd (which means feeding the people of God with the word of God through their speech and examples).

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. Here he shares “a few odds and couple ends” for our further understanding and contemplation.

Fittingly for a day on which I preached about elders, we had an officer election meeting. Sometimes such business, and the business of deacons, committees, and the elders, can feel boring but it is still important! Joel Beeke puts it this way: “Though church business meetings may not be the most exciting or comfortable ways to use our time, we must attend them faithfully and seek to participate in a manner that is informed, prayerful, loving, humble, and God-eating.”



Pastor Sean delivering a message to attendees of the Veterans memorial event at Belmont Chapel in the Island Cemetery in Newport on Saturday, November 9.



Join us **Friday, November 15** at 5:30 p.m. Pizza will be provided and, as always, it is appreciated if you bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert to share. We'll be having a little trivia game this time! We hope to see you there!

Congratulations to Our New 2025 Church Leaders

An Officer Election Meeting was held on Sunday, November 10. The following covenant partners were elected to new roles:

Janice Kinder, Brian Fennessey and Deidra Ricci (Elders, class of 2027)

Julie Ward (Deacon, class of 2026)

Nancy Browne, Linda Conheeny and Daryl Kolator (Deacons, class of 2027)

Richard Price (Sarah Beck Hill Memorial Scholarship Trust, class of 2027)

Sue Fennessey and Phil Haun (2025 Nominating Committee)

Thank you for volunteering to serve. And thanks to everyone involved in the nomination process. God is good!!!

November is Stewardship Month

FPC is blessed to have the continued financial support of the congregation. Your generous tithes and offerings traditionally account for 75% of our operating income; they directly fund the maintenance of our historically beautiful building, the salaries of our wonderfully committed staff and the continuation of our ministry programs (inc local outreach and international missions). After the first quarter of our new fiscal 2025 year, we are pleased to report that we have an operating surplus of 11,479 (14%). This is a \$6,684 (139%) increase over the approved FY25 operating budget year-to-date.

Gift Box Packing Party

On Saturday, November 16 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. we will pack 200 boxes. All we need are willing hands. Supplies have already been purchased. If you can help, please contact Nancy Browne at 401-835-3461 or email pnsjbrowne@msn.com.



Volunteer Shifts for Drop Off

FPC has been selected to be an area drop off site for Operation Christmas Child boxes again this year. Volunteers who wish to do one of the 2 hour shifts (listed below) to receive and log boxes from other organizations, please contact Daryl Kolator at 401-339-7625 or email dakolator@gmail.com. This requires no experience or talent, just a willing heart to serve others.

- Tuesday, November 19: 5 - 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 20: 9 - 11 a.m.
- Thursday, November 21: 6 - 8 p.m.

Shoebboxes Due by November 18

Shoebboxes are sprinkled around the church if you would like to fill your own! Please return by the week of November 18. We will have a dedication on Sunday, November 24.



DECK THE HALLS

On Saturday November 30 we will gather and decorate the church for Christmas. It is a fun time of joyous fellowship as the sanctuary is a beautiful space especially all decked out for the holiday. It starts at 9 a.m. and we hope to finish by noon. Many hands make light work! Please plan to come and join the fun.



Christmas In Newport Concert

Invite friends and neighbors to this free annual concert for our community on Sunday, December 8 at 7 p.m. There will be carol singing, choral anthems, Scripture readings and more. A reception will follow.

The congregation is asked to bring finger food to be shared with concert goers to spread Christmas cheer and extend our hospitality. If you are able to bring something, please contact Nancy Burgess at nancykayaks@cox.net or call 401-835-0183 before December 4.

“I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.”

Ephesians 1:16

Pray...

...for our pastor. Pray for Sean’s personal walk with God—that his soul and spirit will be nourished and strengthened in his time with God, beyond sermon preparation. Pray that he will spend more time in God’s Word than in other reading (Mark 1:35; 2 Tim. 2:15-16).

...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:

- Janet Champagne
- Larry and Lynn Chase
- Marcia Clark
- Traci Dalton and family
- Family of Becky Farwick
- Bonnie Haun
- Melissa Ferreira
- Bruce and Jan Jones
- Ida Lash
- Peggy Leino
- Odile Mukiza
- Brian Petit
- Stacey Ruff
- Ken Scigulinsky
- Diane Sommerset
- Lilia Svizzero Merrill and daughter Dana
- Ralph and Alice Thomas
- Phil Thow
- Roger Ward’s sister Heather
- Robert White
- The church neighborhood



FPC Advent Devotional

Submissions are needed for our annual FPC Advent Devotional booklet. Include a scripture verse, 1-3 paragraphs of main content, and end with a prayer. **Contributions are due November 20.** Please drop it off at the church office or email Daryl Kolator at dakolator@gmail.com.



Poinsettia Orders

Dedicate a poinsettia in praise or in honor of someone you love. The poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary through Christmas Day, then you are welcome to take them home to enjoy! Prepaid orders will be accepted through November 24. The cost is \$14 for a single plant or \$28 for a double. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and be sure to designate that the funds are for the poinsettias. Payments/orders can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office.

Join us
for the 4th Annual

*FPC Ladies
Christmas Brunch*

**December 7, 2024
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

RSVP by December 1st
Sign-Up list in the
Church Fellowship Hall
or call the Church Office at
401-847-1749
OR email dakolator@gmail.com

If you are able to contribute a dish to be shared, use the sign-up list or call 401-339-7625 or 401-323-0077.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP, FOOD & FIRE

On Saturday, November 9, 32 men and 3 boys from 5 churches (FPC Newport, Generation North Kingstown, Friends Portsmouth, Ocean Pointe Middletown and St. Barnabas Portsmouth) enjoyed an evening of fellowship hosted by Brian Petit in Jamestown. After a social hour, we discussed our ministry vision, objectives and schedule for 2025. It was great fun cooking hot dogs over an open fire, then a brief devotional with shared prayer requests. We finished by singing "It is well with my Soul" around the fire. We donated well over 200 items to the Newport Food Bank.



Learn and Grow...



Sunday School/Childcare for Infants, Toddlers, Pre-school and Lower Elementary:

- Childcare is provided from 9:15-10:30 a.m. in the nursery rooms.
- During the service childcare for infants and toddlers is provided in the nursery room.
- Instruction for pre-school and lower elementary children will follow the children's message in the room off the main nursery room.

Sunday School

- Upper Elementary/Middle School with Dave Kolator: Meets in the Resource Room
- Grade 9-12 with Dan Yates-Berg: Meets in the Lynch Room
- Adults: Meet in the Hometime Room

Young Adult Small Group

Young adults (20s and 30s+), single and married, meet on the second Thursday of each month for a time of Bible study and fellowship. Contact Rachel Schulz at rachelshulz23@gmail.com.

Women's Bible Study

Groups meet on Tuesday at 10 a.m. in person or on Thursday at 2 p.m. on Zoom. Contact Deidra Ricci at Pamperedee@aol.com or 401-447-3833 for more info.

Small Group Bible Study

This group meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays at 7 p.m. at rotating homes of the members. Contact Daryl Kolator at dakolator@gmail.com.

Evensong

Join us Sundays at 6 p.m. on Zoom for worship with songs, scripture, and fellowship. Contact Cindy Wilson or Kendra Fleming (adminassistant@fpcnewport.org) for the link.

The MomCo

The MomCo (for moms of infants through middle schoolers) meets on the first Tuesday of the month from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Contact Rachel Nerheim at fpcnmomco@gmail.com.

'The Story' Study

This group meets on Friday evenings using The Story, an abridged chronological Bible. Join us Friday from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Hometime Room. Childcare is available for ages 2-12. Email Michael Hicks at michaelehicks89@gmail.com.

"The Story" is a 31-lesson study of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. This group for men meets every other Thursday and is led by Mike Hicks. Email michaelehicks89@gmail.com or call

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Friday, November 15

9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Church office open
6:30 p.m. 'The Story' Bible Study

Saturday, November 16

7:30 a.m. FPC Men's Breakfast
9:30 - 11 a.m. OCC Gift Box Packing Party

Sunday, November 17

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

Monday, November 18

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Church office open
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Pastor Office Hours (appt. only)

Tuesday, November 19

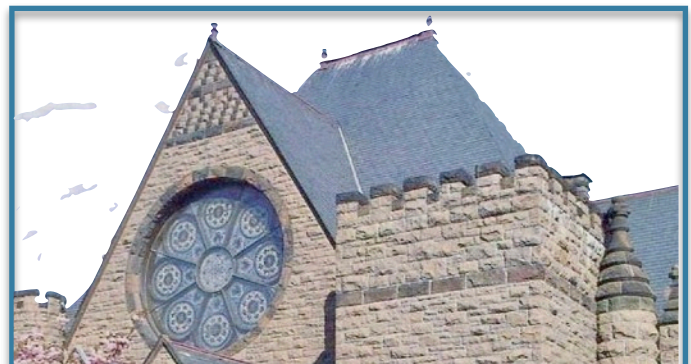
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Church office open
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Pastor Office Hours
10 a.m. Women's Bible Study at FPC
7 p.m. Session Meeting

Wednesday, November 20

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Church office open
6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 21

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Pastor Office Hours
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Church office open
2 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Zoom)
7 p.m. Men's Bible Study



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

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Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

