

FIRST NEWS



Your **Weekly News** from
First Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg

July 1, 2022

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for our Worship Service at 10 AM
this Sunday, July 3, 2022
in the Sanctuary or online
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost / Lord's Supper

Rev. Ginny Ellis
Sermon: "What We're Here For: SHARING and CARING"
Scriptures: [Amos 8:4-6, 9-10](#), [Matthew 25:31-40](#)

Click [HERE](#) to watch the service online.
Click [HERE](#) for the worship service bulletin.

This link may also be found on the home page of the church's website
(www.fpcstpete.com - click the "Watch Here" button)
as well as on the church's Facebook page.

If the 10:00 hour on Sundays does not fit your schedule, the service is available
for viewing on [our YouTube channel](#) throughout the week. Feel free to share
the link with family and friends!

**PLEASE NOTE: we have a MASK-OPTIONAL policy
for worship services and on-campus activities.**



COMMUNION SUNDAY: We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper this Sunday during our worship service. If you are joining us online, please gather bread, crackers, or rolls and something to drink (juice, wine, milk, water) ahead of time for all in your home who will be participating.

Guest Organist

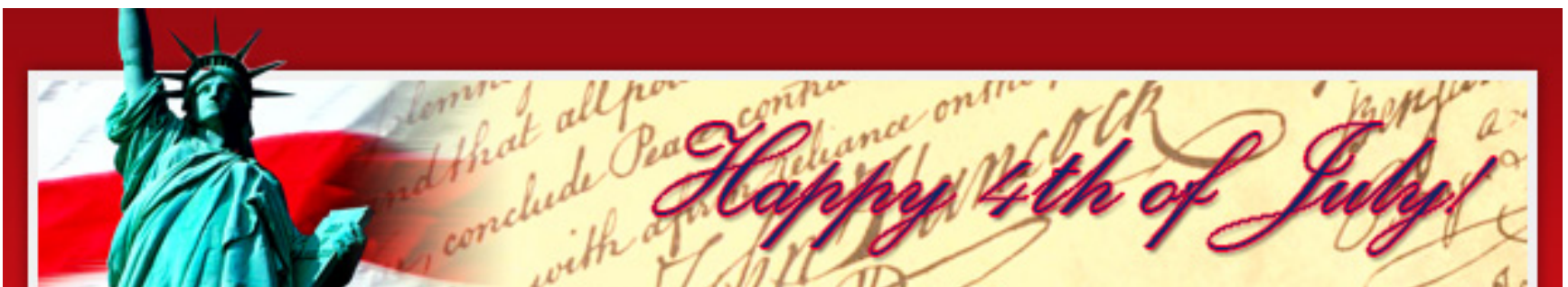
We welcome to the console organist Robert Todd while Jack Rain is in Seattle attending the national convention of the American Guild of Organists. Robert holds the Master of Liturgical Music degree from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He retired last year after a 30-year tenure as Director of Music and Organist at Holy Family Catholic Church here in St. Petersburg.



Praise Band Preview - Happy 4th!

It's gearing up to be a beautiful holiday weekend here in St. Pete. Your FPC Praise Band is excited to be playing two of our more popular tunes. This week, we'll be bringing *In Christ Alone* and *Rising* to worship. You likely already know these songs, but you can click the links below if you need a refresher. ☐ See you on Sunday!

[In Christ Alone](#)
[Rising](#)



Please remember in prayer: Millie Bradley, Leah Cutting, John Daniel, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Margo Hart, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, John Johnson, Russ Johnson, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Susan Key, Alisa Keys, Jean Kohler, Sarita Lastrapes, Margie Laughlin, Taffey Lichter, Dave & Pam Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Janet Poling, Henry Shaw, Judy Smith, Jane Snoke, Wellons family



Joined the Church Triumphant

Patricia (Pat) Wellons
 June 27, 2022



Joined the Church Triumphant

Christine (Chris) Johnson
 June 28, 2022

Please keep in prayer all those who have been physically, emotionally, and financially affected by the coronavirus, and join us in praying for an end to this situation.

Please pray for our family and friends serving in the military: Marc-Antoni Juliá, USN LT; CPT Taina Specie, USA; CPT Liam Shelton, USA; 1st LT Mallory Wasik, USMC; CPT Robert Wilson, USAF. *Please provide us with mailing addresses for our card ministry.*

Thank you for choosing to use your time to give this important gift of prayer to our church family. *The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.* - James 5:16

If you have any additions, deletions, or updates to the weekly prayer concerns, please contact Amy McCutcheon at amym@fpc-stpete.org.

From the Desk of Pastor Ginny

Dear Friends,

Many of you know that I switched out my sermon last Sunday, offering my thoughts on the abortion debate instead of moving forward with the Great Ends of the Church series. The "abortion sermon" was offered in what was meant to be a faithful and thoughtful way. If you like, and if you missed it on Sunday, you can go back and listen to it [HERE](#). I started the sermon with my own story of a miscarriage that Harry Ellis and I had early in our marriage. Many of you have since shared with me stories and experiences of your own. You have proved what I say: that the issue of abortion is seen etched in many faces and lives.

But now I will go back to the Great Ends of the Church for the last two of the great ends. For this week, you can start thinking about sheep and goats!

But, also, spoiler alert! We will celebrate an adult baptism this Sunday, and that is a reason for real joy! Come smile about this! It is such a happy moment in the church of Jesus Christ!

See you in Church!

Blessings,
Ginny



Happy 4th of July from your Deacons!

What's red, white, and blue with a sweet treat for you? Why it is a July 4th candy box filled with good old-fashioned American Hershey Kisses and, because pinwheels are fun, we added one of those too!

These star-studded candy boxes will be delivered by our faithful Deacons to members of our congregation who are unable to attend church in-person. This

is just another way that our Deacons reach out to our members during the summer months. Twenty red, white, and blue candy boxes will be delivered and enjoyed!

A fun (and hot!) day at St. Pete Pride Parade

First Presbyterian members and friends had a joyous time Saturday carrying our banner to the parade route along Bayshore Drive and cheering on the parade floats and marching groups. We landed a perfect spot on the sea-breeze side of the street under the shade of oak trees, where we installed the FPC banner on the street fence where parade participants and watchers could see it. A crowd of more than 300,000 made for lots of great publicity for our welcoming church!



The FPC delegation gathered in our parking lot before stepping off to meet the St. Pete Pride Parade Saturday. Left to right: Gretchen Letterman, Chris Agee, Susan Schlecht, Jim Garnett, Pastor Ginny Ellis, Petra Garnett, Director of Media Production Dave Aumack, Becky Aumack, Marilyn Mulcahy, Bill Shelton, Jane Egbert, and James Doddridge. Not pictured: Don Doddridge and Jeannie Doddridge.

Our Giving Tree Gives, Gives, and Gives Some More!

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you, First Presbyterian Church!

CASA, The Free Clinic, Happy Workers, and the Edible Peace Patch all express their deep gratitude to our members and friends for your over-the-top generosity this month.

Your Mission Committee delivered to children and families with these organizations: Boxes of Crayola markers and rainbow sharpies. Pull-ups, pajamas, underwear, and multiple pairs of socks for all ages. Toothpaste and toothbrushes, body wash, hairbrushes and combs. Even toilet paper and trash bags.

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More new needs from these organizations are now hanging from our Giving Tree. And it will be replenished throughout the year. (Please remember to attach the card you pick with your gift when you drop it off in the Sanctuary!)

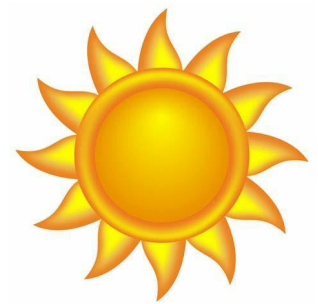
Thank you again, members and friends of FPC, for your attentiveness and compassion!

Please direct any questions or concerns to Mission Committee Chair Sandi Averitt: 727-424-9300 or sanaveritt1@gmail.com.



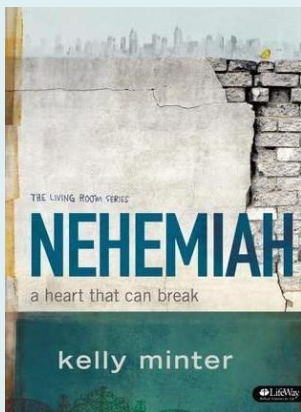
Congratulations to Jenny McCoun (and all the Reeves family!) on the birth of Seve Austin Reeves (Jenny's 5th grandchild!).

Summer House Church - July 23



All are invited to Summer House Church @ the Mossman's on Saturday, July 23rd from noon to 3 PM. Bring a dish to pass, your beverage, and your swimsuit & towel, if you wish. Please RSVP to Karen text (727-400-5079) or email (karenamossman@gmail.com) by July 18. Address: 373 6th Ave N, Tierra Verde.

Ladies, you are invited to a 7-week Summer Bible Study: "Nehemiah – a heart that can break"



Nehemiah's heart was so broken for those in need that he left the comfort of his Persian palace to help them. This study challenges women to let God break their hearts for a hurting, lost world and move them in compassion to lead people to Jesus. This study was written by author, speaker, songwriter, and worship leader, Kelly Minter.

Join us on Tuesday mornings in the Youth Center

July 12 – August 23, 2022

9:00 a.m.* – 11:30 a.m.

*Note: new starting time at 9:00 a.m.!

(we know it's summer, come when you can!)

Everyone is welcome – no previous Bible study experience is required. Workbooks will be available for \$20. Sorry, at this time there is no childcare available. Questions? Contact April Hussung: (727) 420-1758 or stapler39@aol.com.

**Devotionals
Available**



Copies of the Jul/ Aug/Sept edition of "Our Daily Bread" and "These Days" devotionals are now available for pick-up from the Church Office during normal business hours or at the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings.



Grieving? Know someone who is?

GriefShare is every Sunday at 4 PM, meeting virtually (via Zoom).



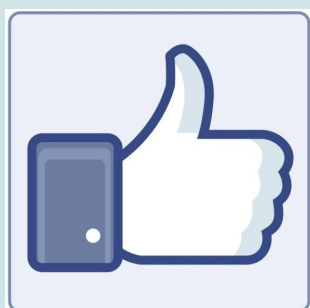
Whether your bereavement experience is recent or not so recent, you will find encouragement, comfort and help in grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, other family member, or friend. This program features biblical, Christ-centered teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The 13-week DVD seminar features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories of people, followed by a small group discussion about what was viewed. This is a great opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling. Don't allow fear of what others may think to keep you from what could help you. Confidentiality is very much a part of this program.

Need more information? Want to sign up? Call the Church Office at 727-822-2031.



All of us at First Presbyterian are working to stay as connected as possible.

- If you need anything – a phone call, a prayer, a friendly conversation, or a few errands run – PLEASE call the Church Office at 727-822-2031! Our staff and volunteers are happy to help.
- Help us stay connected by sending us your pictures and prayer requests!



Have you friended us on Facebook or Instagram?

If you haven't, please do so! Also, be sure to SHARE our Facebook and Instagram posts as much as you can! That can help us increase numbers of followers of the church Facebook and Instagram pages. Thank you for helping us be more visible!



During this season, we are especially thankful for the generosity of all of the people who continue to financially contribute to the church.

For your convenience, there are several ways which you can give:

- (1) Give online using a credit card or bank transfer ([click here](#) for the link). For assistance using the online system, please call the Church Office or
- (2) Send a check through the U.S. mail or
- (3) Drop by the Church Office and slip an envelope through the mail slot in the front door.

Thank you for the many ways you support the work of God's church at FPC – St. Petersburg!

FPC Calendar At A Glance

- [Click HERE](#) to view the full church calendar online. *Groups may not appear on the online church calendar. Please contact the Church Office if you would like to update our online calendar with your meeting.*



- [Click HERE](#) for July Birthdays

Some groups are still meeting virtually (online). If you need help navigating the Zoom conference call technology, we will be happy to help you with it so that you can join meetings and/or stay better connected. Please contact the Church Office (727-822-2031) for more information.

Regularly Scheduled Events:

- **Sundays, 8:30 AM**, Faith Journey Sunday School Class, Chapel
- **Sundays, 9 AM**, No Power Hour Sunday School Class, taking a break for the summer
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Worship Service, Sanctuary or [Online](#)
- **Sundays, 4 PM**, GriefShare, via Zoom
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, No Christian Meditation, taking a break for July.
- **Wednesdays, 7:30 PM**, **(NEW day and time!)** Praise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- **Thursdays, 7 PM**, No Chancel Choir Rehearsal, taking a break for the summer
- **Fridays, 7:30 AM**, No Men's Bible Study, Room N-123, taking a break for the summer.
- **Fridays, 12 PM**, Men's Lunch Bible Study, via Zoom. For more information, contact John Underwood (pjfwon@gmail.com)

Upcoming Events:

- **Monday, July 4**, Church Office closed for Independence Day holiday

- Tuesday, July 12, Ladies Bible Study on Nehemiah starts, 9 AM in the Youth Center
- Saturday, July 23, Summer Church at the Mossmans' house, 12 PM
- Sunday, July 31, 5th Sunday Mission; worship in the Fellowship Hall, followed by a mission project, followed by lunch.

Deadline For "First News"

Items for "First News" should be submitted as early as possible with a cut-off for any Friday's "First News" being end of day the Tuesday before publication. Please submit copy which is as concise as possible. Send copy to Amy McCutcheon at amym@fpc-stpete.org.

First Presbyterian Church
701 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 822-2031 | www.fpcstpete.com

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thur. 9 AM - 5 PM; closed Fridays

[Contact Us](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)

A Stephen Ministry Congregation of the PC (USA) - Christ empowering people to care for people.

