

FIRST NEWS



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

July 15, 2022

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for our Worship Service at 10 AM
this Sunday, July 17, 2022
in the Sanctuary or online
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Preacher: Rev. Libby Shannon
Scriptures: [Amos 8:1-12](#), [Luke 10:38-42](#)

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.**

Praise Band This Week - We're on vacation!

Your FPC Praise Band is taking the week for some well-deserved R&R! Therefore, this week's 10 AM service will be traditional only, rather than combined. But don't worry! If you need your weekly fill of contemporary worship music, we've provided a vacation play-list below of some our past videos. Enjoy the tunes and we'll see you back in the Sanctuary on July 24th!

[Summer Praise Band Playlist](#)



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

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 First Pres Friends,

Up here in the Church Office, there was big potted plant, a schefflera, looking really sad, not at all healthy. We kept watering it and it kept drooping. Finally, we decided to re-pot it. It couldn't hurt, is what we figured. It turns out there was no hole in the bottom of the pot: the plant was swimming in water! We punched holes in the pot, we pruned away the unhealthy branches, and put the plant back in its pot with lots of good new soil. Then we brought it upstairs to the pastor's porch. Now I carefully water the plant twice a week and look at it! It is so alive! so happy! It is flourishing.



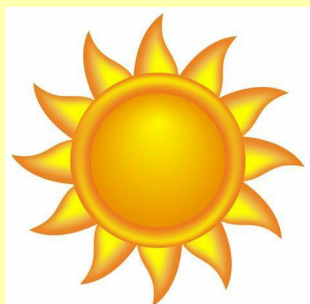
Years ago, I heard a story about a community center working with inner city kids. One week they told the kids to bring some dirt from home because they were going to plant seeds. One of the children didn't bring any dirt. They asked him. "Mike, why didn't you bring any dirt? We reminded you every day this week." "No," Mike said, "Why should I bring any dirt? You have the good dirt here."

Yes, we have the good dirt here: the healthy soil, the important message of the love of God, in a world where so many droop from being neglected, or rejected, when they cannot find answers for their questions, or help for their lives.

Let's stay focused on providing the good soil and the right amount of water. Let's help the people of this community, and even this church, know how deeply God cares for us all.

Ginny Ellis

Deacons' Card Ministry will meet Monday, July 18, (usually we meet the last Monday of the month). We will gather in the Conference Room in the Church Office from 1:30-3:00 PM. Bring something to drink, your favorite pen, and plan on spreading cheer and enjoying great fellowship!



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.

MISSIONSUNDAY



Mission Sunday - July 31 ALL HANDS ON DECK!

July 31st is *MissionSunday*!

No, that is not a typo! It is an intentional mashup, a purpose-filled sandwich of worship, fellowship, mission, and lunch (yes, there will be lunch!)

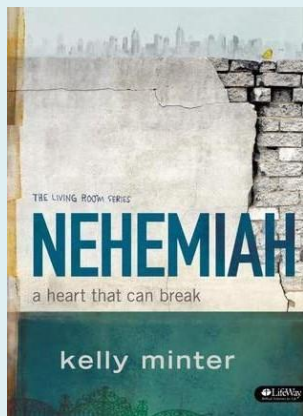
Where can YOU be a part of GOD's work? Downstairs, Sunday morning (Sunday, July 31st) where the Praise Band will lead us in worship!

We have over 500 hospitality bags and over 2,000 (yes, TWO THOUSAND!!!) backpacks to fill and stuff!

We need YOU! We need your neighbor! We need your friends! Drag them and we'll feed them! Let's be a part of God's work here and now! So - Go! Spread the word!

Sunday, July 31st – 10 AM – Fellowship Hall – Be There!

Ladies, you are invited to a 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 through August 23, 2022
in the Youth Center
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

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.

**From Dr. Cesar Davila
New Hope Clinic, Honduras**

Greetings and Blessings,

We are facing a new rebound of the Corona virus, The positive cases and deaths for this virus have increased after a "temporary decline" of cases. I believe that this phenomenon has been the experience in almost all countries. The primary care centers for COVID, the emergency rooms, and intensive care units have experienced a proportional increase in cases. In the clinic, we have also seen a moderate increase in COVID cases, with the difference being that the patients do not need hospitalization, nor are they very ill as was the case at the beginning of the pandemic.



The government is planning to take new means to help contain the contagions which have shot up in an exponential manner. One of these means is to close events where a great number of people concentrate such as: concerts, soccer games, parades, and the majority of schools have returned to virtual learning.

We are also under the threat of Dengue; I believe that we always have Dengue cases in this country at the beginning of May, which is winter here in Honduras. There is an increase in rain, which favors the mosquito population. At the hospitals, they are registering a large number of cases of Dengue and some deaths from hemorrhagic Dengue. This winter has been very rainy, and last week we were confronted with the first tropical storm of the season. Thanks to the Lord there was only minor damage.

In the clinic, we are maintaining biosecurity measures, we have never lowered our guard, and we are stepping up our methods because of this new rebound of the virus. Thanks to the Lord and the Foundation, our patients continue to receive their timely treatments. They are very grateful to God and the Foundation for all the blessings we receive through you.



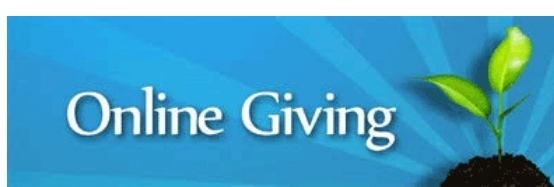
All of us at First Presbyterian are working to stay as connected as possible.

- 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](#)

- **Tuesdays, 9 AM**, Ladies Bible Study on Nehemiah, Youth Center
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, No Christian Meditation, taking a break for July.

- **Wednesdays, 7:30 PM**, 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:

- **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
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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.

