

# FIRST NEWS



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

**June 3, 2022**

## WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for our Worship Service at 10 AM  
this Sunday, June 5, 2022  
in the Sanctuary or online  
*Day of Pentecost / Lord's Supper*  
**Remember to wear red this Sunday!**

Rev. Megan McMillan  
Sermon: "World on Fire"  
Scriptures: [John 14:8-17, 25-27](#), [Acts 2:1-21](#)

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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](http://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.

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### **Praise Band Preview - Pentecost**

Last Sunday, your FPC Praise Band had a wonderful time leading our first contemporary service in over two years! That said, we are looking forward to being back in the Sanctuary this week for Pentecost. We have two great tunes lined up for you: *His Mercy Is More* and *Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)*. Click the links below to preview the music and we'll see you on Sunday!

[His Mercy Is More](#)

[Hosanna \(Praise Is Rising\)](#)



**Please remember in prayer:** Millie Bradley, Leah Cutting, John Daniel, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Elizabeth Hammer, Lillian Harris, Margo Hart, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, 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, Dick Oliver, Henry Shaw, Judy Smith, Jane Snoke

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](mailto:amym@fpc-stpete.org).

**From this past Sunday at First Pres: three strong women in three different stages of being a pastor/chaplain!**



## From the Desk of Pastor Ginny

First Friends,

This Sunday is Pentecost! It is the day we remember the Holy Spirit descending on the gathered disciples of Jesus, bringing them powers they had never shown, enabling them to speak in the languages of the community, ALL of the community, there in the heart of Jerusalem. **RED** is the color we use to signify the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, so wear red to worship on Sunday. If you are watching from home, you can still wear red; it gets you in the spirit! And let's think about the many languages our community speaks: languages of art, of grief, of pets, of earth-care, of inclusiveness, of need, plus the languages of English, Spanish, Korean, and more. What languages do we need to speak to reach out to this community and to share the love of Jesus?

Our fifth Sunday worship, Mission Project, and lunch on May 29 were wonderful! I got tickled at the picture (see above) Marilyn Mulcahy took of Megan, Taina (who happened to be our liturgist), and me: three women God has called into ministry, blessed to be able to bring our gifts into the life and worship of this church. Thank you for all your support and encouragement!

Let me say THANK YOU to Kyle Brinkman for cooking the delicious meats for our May 29 lunch, and to Diane Zuercher for moving the Church Archives and setting up a special display on the Church Office area. Stop by to see its new home when you can! Thank you also to Dottie Young for boxing up the church library so it could be relocated to the office wing. Johnny Miller got to haul all those boxes and shelves upstairs. Thanks, Johnny. Sorry the elevator was out on those days!

I will be away this next week, attending that 50th college reunion I keep talking about, then bringing three grandchildren home with me for a week in

Florida. But I will be back with you in worship on June 12, as we say good words and express love as Megan leaves for the mountains. See all of you then. Blessings and love,  
Ginny Ellis

*Archives are now in the Church Office. Come check them out some time!*



## Congregational Meeting - June 12

There will be a congregational meeting directly following the worship service in the Sanctuary on Sunday, June 12. The congregation will vote to dissolve the relationship between Rev. Megan McMillan and First Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg, so that Megan can begin a new call as pastor of Mills River Presbyterian Church in North Carolina.



## Reception for Pastor Megan on June 12

Rev. Megan McMillan has accepted a new call as Pastor to Mills River Presbyterian Church in Mills River, North Carolina, and will be moving there in just a few weeks. This is sad news for us, but wonderful news for Megan!

Pastor Ginny and the Christian Education Committee would like to honor her with a reception in the Chapel after service on her last day in worship with us, June 12th. If you would like to give Megan a card, gift, or love offering, we will have a box available at the back of the Sanctuary, on Sundays, through June 12. If a check is included, please make it out directly to Megan, not FPC.

Megan has demonstrated grace, integrity, and faith during these past very difficult months, and we are sure she will shine as a solo pastor in her next call. Congratulations Megan!

**New Member Inquirer's Class**  
Sunday, June 26, immediately following worship in the Youth Center

Whether you have been visiting FPC St. Pete for a brief time or for longer, you will want to join us for a new member inquirer's class. This is your opportunity to learn about what it means to be a Presbyterian, plus hear the answers to all those questions you may have about our church, faith, and what you need to do to become a member. We will meet in the Youth Center on June 26 immediately following worship, where we will enjoy a light lunch and a great program from Pastor Ginny. Elders will be on-hand should you wish to join the church following the class. Please RSVP by calling the Church Office (727-822-2031). This is a great chance to learn about and join downtown's most welcoming church!



# SUMMER MUSIC SERIES

**JUNE 19** Todd Donovan, baritone  
**JUNE 26** Susan Hellman-Spatafora, soprano  
**JULY 10** Gerald Arnold, tenor  
**JULY 17** Roy Lawson, cello  
**JULY 24** Victoria Stout, alto  
**JULY 31** Kevin Clark, trumpet  
**AUGUST 14** Liam Dunn, piano  
**AUGUST 21** Chelsea Gentner, soprano  
**AUGUST 28** Kaandis Mance, flute  
**SEPTEMBER 4** Leah Kirkland, soprano and Anna Kirkland, oboe

**First Presbyterian Church**  
...being and making disciples of Jesus Christ.

**JOIN OUR SUMMER CHOIR**  
SING IN OUR 10:00AM SERVICE  
ON JULY 3RD AND AUGUST 7TH  
TO REHEARSE WITH US, MEET AT 9:30AM IN THE CHOIR ROOM PRIOR TO SERVICE  
NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY

**Faith Day**  
with the Tampa Bay Rays

Join fellow FPC friends for a day of fun at the Ballpark! Tampa Bay Rays vs. Pittsburgh Pirates on Saturday, June 25. Game time is 1:10 PM, and doors open at 11:40 AM. Lower-level tickets are only \$35 per person (a \$65 value). Each ticket includes a Rays hat. A post-game event features Rays players speaking about the role their faith plays in their daily lives.



The above rates are for a group of 10 people or more. The church will make the arrangements to secure the tickets if enough people are interested in participating. Please contact Amy in the Church Office (727-822-2031 or [amym@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:amym@fpc-stpete.org)) no later than June 14 to let us know you are interested.



**The Power Hour Sunday School class will be taking a summer break until September.** Over the summer, the group will meet once a month as a small group at the Mossmans' house. For more information, please contact Karen Mossman at 727-400-5079 or [karenamossman@gmail.com](mailto:karenamossman@gmail.com).

## Want to Get Rid of an Old Laptop or iPad?

First Presbyterian members and friends have cleaned, retrofitted, and delivered 18 or so laptops and iPads to our new neighbors from Afghanistan.

Since that time, another 8-10 old laptops have come in to the Church Office, and next Saturday, June 11, we will be getting them ready for delivery to our refugee friends.

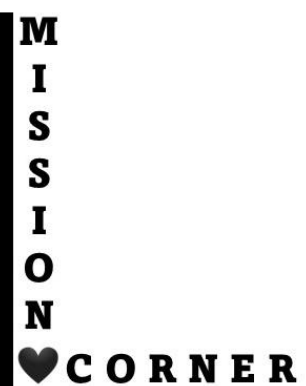
So...if you have a laptop or iPad just gathering dust and you don't know what to do with it, your Mission Committee has the solution. Let us add your old computer to this next batch to wipe your personal data clean and to retrofit. *Just get it to us before Saturday, June 11.*

You may remember that Lutheran Services and Westminster Communities are helping Afghan refugees resettle in St. Petersburg, Bradenton, Orlando, and elsewhere in Florida. And these families need laptops and iPads to stay in touch with family members and friends back in Afghanistan while also helping them develop their English-speaking skills.

So if you would like to help, bring your laptop/iPad (with charger cord if you still have) this Sunday, June 5, and leave in a designated collection box in the Sanctuary.

Or you may contact Carlen Maddux with the Mission Committee to pick it up at your house. (Phone: 727.504.8201; email: [cmaddux@maddux.com](mailto:cmaddux@maddux.com).)

**Remember: we need it before Saturday, June 11!**



Thanks for your support with this most important outreach. Our new Afghan neighbors say they are most appreciative.

## Hiring Nursery Staff



We are looking to hire two good people to staff a nursery for young children on Sunday mornings, from 9:30 to 11:00 AM. If you are interested, or know someone to suggest, please call the Church Office (727-822-2031). A background check will be required.



## Grieving? Know someone who is?

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

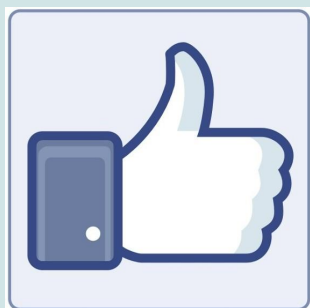
Whether your bereavement experience is recent or not so recent, you will find encouragement, comfort and help in grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, other family member, or friend. This program features biblical, Christ-centered teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with 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



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 June 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**, 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, 1 PM**, Praise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, meeting in-person on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month (next in-person meeting is **June 14**, in the Chapel). For more information, contact Carlen Maddux ([cmaddux@maddux.com](mailto:cmaddux@maddux.com))
- **Thursdays, 7 PM**, Chancel Choir Rehearsal, taking a break for the summer
- **Fridays, 7:30 AM**, Men's Bible Study, Room N-123. Last meeting before summer break will be June 24. Please contact Ken Young at 207-841-8562 for more information.
- **Fridays, 12 PM**, Men's Lunch Bible Study, via Zoom. For more information, contact John Underwood ([pjfwon@gmail.com](mailto:pjfwon@gmail.com))

### Upcoming Events:

- **Sunday, June 5**, Pentecost Sunday. Remember to wear red!
- **Sunday, June 12**, Congregational meeting to dissolve Pastor Megan's call, reception to follow in the Chapel.



- **Sunday, June 19**, Rev. Dr. Art Ross, pastor of First Presbyterian Church for ten years in the 1980's and 90's, will be our guest preacher. There will be a reception after worship so our congregation can greet Art and Jan Ross personally.
- **Sunday, June 26**, New Member Inquirer's class, immediately following worship in the Youth Center

## 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](mailto:amym@fpc-stpete.org).

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(727) 822-2031 | [www.fpcstpete.com](http://www.fpcstpete.com)

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

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

