

FIRST NEWS



Your Weekly News from
First Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg

October 9, 2020

Online Worship This Sunday

Join us for our 10 AM Online Worship Service
this Sunday, October 11!
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Sunday's Sermon: "Steadfast Hope"
Pastor Dawn Conti

Scripture: [Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15](#), [1 Corinthians 15:51-58](#)

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

This link may also be found on the home page of the church's website (www.fpcstpete.com) - "Click Here to Watch Sunday Services") 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!

Prayer Concerns

Please remember in prayer: Carol Abernathy, Ron & Millie Bradley,

Bob Burkhardt, Gordon Crane, Carol Daniel, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Ron Hall, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Jim & Iberia Johnston, Kathy Jose, Anne Justiss, Glenice Kelley, Margie Laughlin, Dave & Pam Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, Howard Moser, Peter Pav, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Jean Schultz, Judy Smith, Hildegard & Will Sondermann.



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 Julia', USN LT; James Loeblein, USN; CPT. Taina Specie, USA; 1st LT. 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 Grossenbacher at amyg@fpc-stpete.org.



And God said,
"Good morning! I prepared a great day for you!"

Submitted by Tony McCoy



Note to readers: For many years, our church has given scholarships to students to enable them to attend Cedarkirk and to be part of the Honduras Team. In the next few weeks, several students share their experiences and how camp and Honduras have touched their lives.

Tyler Leis

Tyler is a Senior at Osceola Fundamental High School and will graduate in June. At the present time she is taking several Honors Classes and works part-time at Tyrone Mall. She is very active in sports at Osceola where she lettered in Football and Basketball. Tyler was All Conference 2nd Team as a receiver in Flag Football and is also Captain of the Girls Basketball Team!



At First Pres, Tyler has participated in Youth Parking events, Trunk or Treat, and the Beth-El mission project. She has attended Cedarkirk Camp four times and was disappointed that she could not return this past summer. When asked what she liked best about camp, Tyler replied, "I like the fact that the program was designed for teenagers, and it was an awesome way to learn about God. The staff helped us relate to God...it was like family."

Going to Honduras was quite an adventure for Tyler, as she had never flown before! When asked about her first impression of Honduras, she said, " Just seeing another country struggle like they do and comparing it to our country, made a big impression on me." While in the Clinic, Tyler was able to observe Dr. Jamie Brownlee give detailed instructions of the medicine that he prescribed to the patients. "It was very exciting since I am interested in nursing," she said. Handing out health bags and small toys to the children was part of her learning experience.

What did I learn from Honduras? "I learned that I should not complain about what is happening in my life, because I have it better."
AMEN!

Submitted by Diane Zuercher



ARE YOU EXPERIENCING PANDEMIC FATIGUE?



Are you feeling exhausted from all the disruptions to life brought on by the pandemic? Are you or someone you know struggling with challenges like . . .

- ISOLATION AND LONELINESS
- ANXIETY OVER HEALTH
- GRIEF DUE TO MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF LOSSES
- TENSION FROM JUGGLING WORK, CHILDCARE, AND SCHOOLING
- FINANCIAL STRAIN OR JOB LOSS
- UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE FUTURE
- OTHER UNEXPECTED LIFE CHALLENGES?



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

If so, you don't have to face it alone. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support.

A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately—by phone, by video chat, or, if safely possible, in person—to offer care and support. It's free and completely confidential. For more information, call our church office.

Church Office phone number is (727) 822-2031.



New Hope Clinic Is Open

Please note the wonderful photo of Dr. Davila and his staff in the front hall of the New Hope Clinic, Honduras, and his message:

We opened the clinic this week and have begun seeing patients with all the bio-security equipment in place. The people are very happy and excited.

My family, the staff of the clinic and their families are all well. We are beyond excited to be able to take care of the patients in the communities.

Greetings and Blessings.
Dr. Davila

Submitted by Susan Schlecht



CASA HIGHLIGHTS FIRST PRES CONTRIBUTIONS

First Presbyterian Church has donated to CASA (Community Action Stops Abuse) for many years. Recently, we were highlighted in the Donor Appreciation section of their newsletter, *Spotlight*, for our long-time support. [CLICK HERE](#) to read the article.

Please Give To Local People In Need

FREE CLINIC "HUNGER FREE 2020"

You can help make sure families do not have to choose between keeping a roof over their heads or putting food on the table by contributing to Hunger Free 2020.

Hunger Free 2020 will take place on **October 10, 9 a.m. - 12 noon**
at the Jared S. Hechtkopf Food Bank, 3115 44th Ave N St. Pete FL 33714

Go to the Hunger Free 2020 website (link is below) to donate money, food, time or to become a sponsor of the event.

<https://stpetersburgfreeclinic.org/events/hunger-free-2020/>

Find many more ways you can give by contacting Julie Bostick, Director of Development Operations, at julie.bostick@stpetersburgfreeclinic.org



Lakewood Elementary School Uniforms Drive

Lakewood Elementary School's principal informed the FPC Mission Committee that the "clothes closet is running low, especially for our boys. We are reaching out to see if you... would consider making a donation to our clothes closet. Lakewood is a uniform school with students wearing Navy or White Polos and Khaki or Navy Bottoms."

Use the following link to access the Lakewood Elementary School registry at Walmart and select the items you wish to donate. All items need to be mailed directly to the school. If the shipping address doesn't automatically fill, use 4151 6th St S, St. Petersburg, FL 33705.

<http://www.walmart.com/lists/view-events-registry-items?id=3a8cca0f-f1c9-4aea-9be4-e7b6213b4d29>

Information from the FPC Mission Committee



When a hurricane threatens and an evacuation is ordered, church members living in evacuation areas have options such as a hotel/motel, or they can evacuate out of town if they leave soon enough. The best choice is to evacuate to a friend or family's home in a non-evacuation area of our community.

We would like to create a volunteer Host Homes program for those who will need to move to a non-evacuation area, may have pets (members can offer if they are willing to take pets), or have other needs that will require special consideration.

If you are interested in becoming a Host Home or are someone who would need to move to a non-evacuation location, please email Lynn Kiehne at lkiehne@gmail.com or call the Church Office at 727- 821-2031, and we will get the right form to you.

Once these are completed, we will work to match hosts and guests, and, of course, there will be an opportunity to speak to each other to see if this match would work. We will also keep the information on file at the church via a spreadsheet and we will update the following year as needed.

All of us at First Presbyterian are working to stay as connected as possible during this time of social distancing.

- 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 during this time.
- Help us stay connected by sending us your pictures and prayer requests!

Pastor Dawn invites you to join us for a time of devotion, discussion, and prayer where we

connect online with God and each other as we read and discuss the sermon text that will be preached the following Sunday. All are welcome!

MONDAY DEVOTION

For sign-in information to the Zoom call, please contact the Church Office at 727-822-2031 or click [HERE](#) to join. **PLEASE NOTE:** Zoom is now requiring a password for all meetings. If Zoom prompts you to enter a password, the password for Monday devotionals moving forward will be "prayer."

Online Giving



During this season when we are physically apart, 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 October Birthdays](#)

All groups are currently 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.

- Sundays, 9 AM, Faith Journey Sunday School Class. For Zoom sign-in information, contact the Church Office.
- Sundays, 10 AM, [Online Worship Service](#).
- Sundays, 11:15 AM, Contemporary Faith Sunday School Class. For Zoom sign-in information, email Lynn Kiehne (lkiehne@gmail.com).
- Sundays, 11:15 AM, Westminster Sunday School Class. For Zoom sign-in information, email Jim Garnett (jim.garnett237@gmail.com).
- Sundays, 4 - 5:30 PM, GriefShare Support Group. For Zoom sign-in information, contact Petra Garnett (petra.garnett@gmail.com).
- Mondays, 10 AM, Online Devotional with Pastor Dawn. Click [HERE](#) to join. If you are prompted, use "prayer" as a password.
- Tuesdays, 7 PM, Weekly Virtual Meditation, online. For sign-in information, contact Carlen Maddux (cmaddux@maddux.com).

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 [Mary Johnson](#) and [Amy Grossenbacher](#).

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[Contact Us](#) | [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTUBE](#)

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



First Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg, Florida

