

FIRST NEWS



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

September 2, 2022

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for our Worship Service at 10 AM
this Sunday, September 4, 2022
in the Sanctuary or online

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Lord's Supper

Rev. Ginny Ellis

Sermon: "Counting the Cost: All About Soup"

Scriptures: [Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18](#), [Luke 14:25-33](#)

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.

Praise Band Preview - Be Our Guest

Your FPC Praise Band is excited to have a guest musician joining us this Sunday. Carly Jewel Green will be sitting in on vocals & guitar in place of Geoff, who is out of town this week. We'll be performing two tunes you should be familiar with: *Firm Foundation (He Won't)* and *Rising*. Click the links below to hear the music and we'll see you on Sunday!

[Firm Foundation \(He Won't\)](#)

[Rising](#)

Flowers in the Sanctuary this Sunday morning (September 4, 2022) are donated to the glory of God and in honor of the wedding of Ashley Richardson and Jordan Rapport.



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

As you know, we are moving toward our focus on *The Road Ahead* for First Presbyterian Church, St. Petersburg. I hope you have begun to make plans to be with us (or tune in to the services) for the four weeks of this theme: Sept 11- Oct 2. Also, I hope that you have signed up or are planning to sign up to be part of the conversation groups during those four weeks.

HERE'S WHAT YOU DO: You participate in one group (one hour) each of those four weeks. That means you will attend (in-person or on Zoom) four groups, one per week. The conversation will be different each week, but you can stay in the same group or move around as your schedule requires.

For the next few weeks, Don Doddridge and Jane Egbert are planning to be at a table in the back of the sanctuary to help with sign-ups, but you can also sign up online, by [CLICKING HERE](#).

See the list of group days and times below:

1. SUNDAYS at 11:15 a.m. in the Chapel
2. SUNDAYS at 11:30 a.m. on ZOOM
3. MONDAYS at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel
4. TUESDAYS at 4:30 p.m. on ZOOM
5. WEDNESDAYS at 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Center
6. WEDNESDAYS at 7:00 p.m. on ZOOM
7. THURSDAYS at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel

This week at worship and in the sermon, I plan to share a story that I think you will find meaningful. Then on September 11, we jump into *The Road Ahead*, looking at where God might be leading this church, and how we might prepare for the journey.

Love and blessings!

Ginny Ellis

Lectio Divina on Monday mornings

We would love for you to join us on Monday mornings at 10 AM via Zoom for Lectio Divina, when we reflect on scriptures that will be used in the coming Sunday's worship service.

Please note that we WILL be meeting on Monday, September 5 (Labor Day). To join, just click the link: [HERE](#).

Our Campus Was Hoppin' All Summer Long!

Children of all ages exploring their imaginations filled First Presbyterian Church's campus in two fun and popular camps this summer.

The classrooms and playgrounds of St. Pete Primary School (formerly First Presbyterian Day School) came alive with hands-on opportunities at its 6-week Summer Explorers Camp, where more than 60 campers ages 1 through kindergarten discovered science, nature, art, animals, books and more. Look at these happy photos!



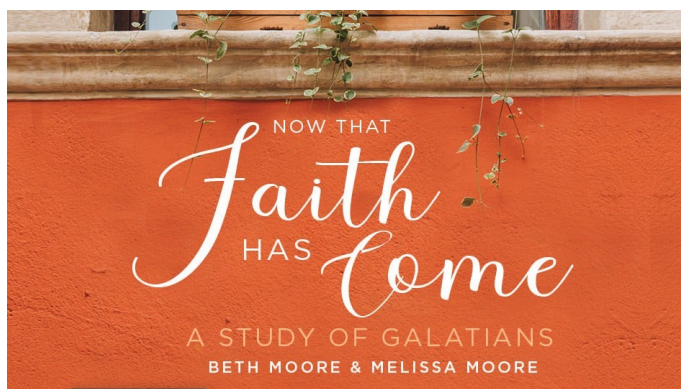
As if that wasn't enough learning and laughter on our campus, FPC was also the site of American Stage's 8-week theater camp. American Stage, the Tampa Bay area's longest-running and critically acclaimed professional theater company, provided working theater professionals who led more than 400 elementary-high school campers in the art of acting methods, cultural competency and inclusion. Click the button below to check out a terrific video of this summer's camp at FPC:

American Stage Summer Camp
Video

Power Hour Sunday School class resumes Sept. 11th
Curriculum: Animate

All Are Welcome!

Whether you are already a class member or new, all are welcomed back to Sunday school class. We will continue to animate or “give life to” our faith & community, the Bible, and our core faith practices.. We will hear perspectives from some of the best contemporary voices with this DVD-based program. There will be lively, relevant conversation starters that will spur on great conversations as we grow in our faith. For more info about the curriculum, click [HERE](#). Set your alarm and join us every Sunday @ 8:30 AM in the Youth Center where we'll have coffee and fellowship. Class begins at 9 AM. You won't want to miss it! Any questions, call Karen Mossman at 727-400-5079.



“Now That Faith Has Come - A Study of Galatians”

Join Beth & Melissa Moore for a 6-week deep-dive into Paul's captivating letter to the Galatians. Let's study it's original context and embrace it's timeless relevance. We will

discover - or perhaps rediscover - what makes the gospel of Jesus revolutionary to those who choose to believe.

Join us on Tuesday mornings in the Youth Center

9:00 a.m.* – 11:30 a.m.

September 20 – October 25, 2022

**Note: new starting time at 9:00 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? April Hussung: (727) 420-1758 or stapler39@aol.com.

STAFF MATTERS

Our Personnel Committee wants you to know more about the staff members who keep First Presbyterian running so smoothly. So around each person's birthday, we will be doing short profiles called “5 Questions of...” We are starting with **Linda Champion**, whose birthday is today, Friday, September 2.

Linda has been working with FPC as our Staff Accountant for almost four years. She is a CPA with an MBA from the University of Georgia. Prior to FPC, she worked with the St. Pete Free Clinic and a few other churches in our area after spending her career doing Investor Relations. Linda's son Chris (pictured with her below) is “getting married in February,” she says with excitement. “He's a die-hard Gator, having earned three degrees from the University of Florida.” Linda, a widow, lives with two cocker spaniels, Bentley and Paisley.

Linda, we have five questions of you:

Q1: What is your favorite food?

Linda: Mexican, no question.

Q2: Your favorite hobby?

Linda: Cruising and planning my next cruise. I also enjoy various arts and crafts and reading.

Q3: What is the favorite place you've visited?

Linda: The beach is my happy place. I love cruising and have enjoyed four cruises this past year. My favorite was a 15-day Mediterranean cruise with my son about five years ago.



Q4: Where did you grow up?

Linda: Columbus, GA. My Dad retired from the Army (at Fort Benning) when I was two, so we didn't bounce around during my childhood.

Q5: Do you attend church?

Linda: Yes, St. Raphael Catholic Church.

Happy birthday, Linda! Thank you for giving our members and friends a peek into your life and interests.

Deacons' Corner

As summer humidity continues and familiar pew faces disappear for cooler temperatures, your deacons faithfully deliver at least three vases of flowers to church members who can't get to church. These are made from the floral arrangement that you see up at the altar each week. (Please call Amy in the Church Office if you would like to donate the arrangement in honor or celebration of a loved one). Our dilemma? We are almost out of MID-SIZED vases. This is the best size for members still in their homes. No more bud vases at this time. ☺ Bring them to the Welcome Center or call Marilyn Mulcahy for pick up @ 714-580-5619.

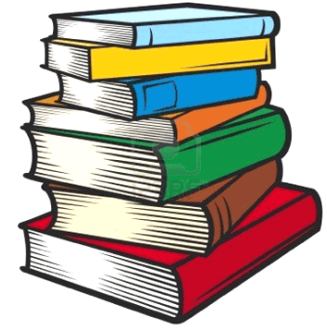


Email and Text Scam Reminder - PLEASE TAKE NOTE

Occasionally FPC members and friends will let us know they have gotten an email or text message that LOOKS like it is from a member of our staff or church group, which sounds a little strange or is asking them to send something (money or gift cards). **THIS IS A SCAM; PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND IN ANY WAY.** No matter what the wording on the message implies, our church groups and staff will NEVER personally solicit money, gift cards, or bank transactions in this manner. Also, ALWAYS double-check the email address of the sender; oftentimes, they have changed the email address to make it *look* like it's from someone you know.

If you ever encounter any suspicious texts or emails, or if you have any questions, please call the Church Office at 727-822-2031.

Little Free Library Request



A family member is searching for two books that were donated by accident to our Little Free Library. The books were both older photo/history books of St. Petersburg and Pinellas County. There are family names hand-written on the inside cover of the books. If you have these books or know of where they might be, please call the Church Office at 727-822-2031. Thank 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 September 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, 8:30 AM**, No Power Hour Sunday School Class (resumes September 11)
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Worship Service, Sanctuary or [Online](#)

- **Mondays, 10 AM**, Lectio Divina, via [Zoom](#)

- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, Chapel (meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month)

- **Wednesdays, 7:30 PM**, Praise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary

- **Thursdays, 7 PM**, No Chancel Choir Rehearsal (resumes Sept. 15)

- **Fridays, 7:30 AM**, No Men's Bible Study, Room N-123; group will resume September 9.
- **Fridays, 12 PM**, Men's Lunch Bible Study, via Zoom. For more information, contact John Underwood (pjfwon@gmail.com)

Upcoming Events:

- **Monday, September 5**, Church Office closed for the Labor Day holiday
- **Sunday, September 11**, *The Road Ahead* series and groups start

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.



First Presbyterian Church | 701 Beach Drive N.E., St. Petersburg, FL 33701-2618

[Unsubscribe amy@fpc-stpete.org](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by office@fpc-stpete.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!