

FIRST NEWS



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

September 24, 2021

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us at 10 AM in the Sanctuary
for an In-Person or Online Worship Service
this Sunday, September 26
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Ginny Ellis

Sermon: "Outside the Tent"

Scriptures: [Numbers 11:4-6, 11-14, 24-30](#), [Mark 9:38-41](#)

If you feel uncomfortable or are unable to worship with us in person, you can
click [HERE](#) to watch the service online.



FPC Mask Policy

Reminder: in response to rising cases of COVID-19 and in conjunction with updated CDC guidelines, FPC St. Pete has re-implemented a **mandatory mask policy indoors** during worship and all other indoor campus activities.

Praise Band Preview - Back By Popular Demand

This week your FPC Praise Band will be performing two of our more popular songs from recent months. *God Of Wonders* is a favorite of Pastor Megan, among others. For our second tune, *Friend Of God*, we will be collaborating with the Chancel Choir for an exciting close to this Sunday's service. See you then!

[God Of Wonders](#)

[Friend Of God](#)

Meet and Greet

Pastor Ginny Ellis will gladly meet to visit with members and friends of the church at 11:15 AM (after worship) on Sunday mornings October 3, 19, 17 and 24. Wear your mask and come along! Or contact her using her cell phone (813) 404-6723 or e-mail at ginny_ellis@yahoo.com.

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Nancy Davis Nichols, Lyon and Phyllis Davis, and Dr. and Mrs. William Davis by Lillian Harris and family.



If you would like to honor or memorialize a loved one with chancel flowers, please fill out a green envelope, available in the church pew. Enclose your donation of \$45 with the memo "Chancel flowers." Flower envelopes may be dropped in the offering plate or delivered to the church office.

As a reminder, we will begin the organ prelude just before 10 AM, so please plan to arrive a few minutes early!



Please remember in prayer: Guy Anderson, Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt, Carol Daniel, Pat Eckert, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Elizabeth Hammer, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, Russ Johnson, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Alisa Keys, Jean Kohler, Margie Laughlin, Taffey Lichter, Dave & Pam

Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, Karen Mossman, Peter Pav, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Ken Robinson, Henry Shaw, Judy Smith, Jane Snoke

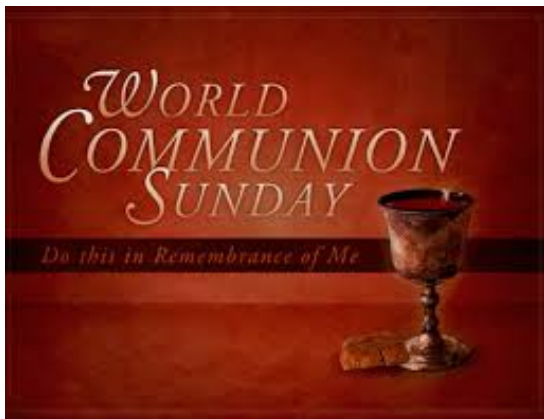
Please continue to lift our church up in your prayers during this time of transition.

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; 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.



World Communion Sunday

is next Sunday October 3!

We invite you to wear clothing representing another part of the world, or if you have fabrics we could use, please contact the Church Office so we can plan our displays.

Update from the Presbytery of Tampa Bay Administrative Commission

Greetings from your Administrative Commission!

This week we have started interviewing candidates for the Interim Pastor position. It has been exciting to hear from each candidate about their vision for ministry at First Presbyterian Church. It gives us great comfort to know that Rev. Ellis is with you during this time of transition.

Please pray that the Holy Spirit works within us to perceive God's vision for First Presbyterian Church St. Pete.

You can communicate directly with the AC using

email at fpcsp-ptb@googlegroups.com

or by mail at:

Presbytery of Tampa Bay
ATTN: FPCSP-PTB AC
455 Scotland St, Suite 1
Dunedin, FL 34698

In Christ's Love,
Stacey Quick, Co-Chair of the Administrative Commission
Rev. John DeBevoise, Co-Chair of the Administrative Commission

NOMINATIONS

The Officer Nominating Committee is currently accepting names of church members to serve on the Session (elders) or Board of Deacons.

To help you think about people you might like to suggest, here are brief explanations for the offices of elder and deacon:

- **ELDERS** are the spiritual officers of the church who work together and with the pastors to guide the congregation in worship, mission, stewardship and the church's overall vision for ministry.
- **DEACONS** are the officers who provide care for the sick, for homebound, for those in special need. They make calls, visit, take flowers or meals to show the love of Christ and the congregation.

BOTH ELDERS AND DEACONS undergo training, examination by the Church Session, and are ordained (set apart) at worship for their office.

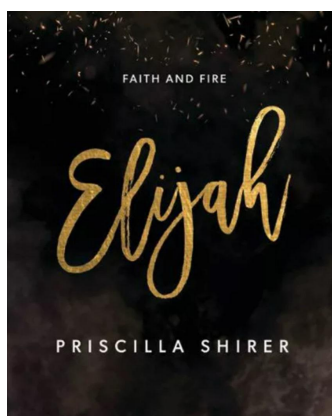
If you have suggestions of church members for the Session (elders) or Board of Deacons, you may give those suggestions directly to members of the Officer Nominating Committee. They are: [Brad Hussung](#), [Karen Mossman](#), [Marilyn Mulcahy](#), [Sally Lyle](#), and [Taina Specie](#).

Create To Share Meal Ministry

The Create To Share Meal program allows our church to provide one meal to a First Presbyterian person in distress or stress due to: death in the family, major surgery/ prolonged illness or hospitalizations, traumatic relocation due to fire, flooding, etc., or birth in the family. Each meal consists of an entrée or casserole, vegetables, rolls and dessert.

Two things to consider:

1. We could use volunteer cooks or delivery people! We have the recipes.....you have the kitchen or car. Just helping once or a few times will be appreciated. Financial donations are much appreciated if you are unable to bake or drive.
2. If you or someone you know could use a meal due to one of the aforementioned circumstances, please call Evelyn Moorefield at 727-430-3196 or Marilyn Mulcahy at 714-580-5619. All information is confidential.



Ladies' Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Through October 5

9:15 - 11:30 AM

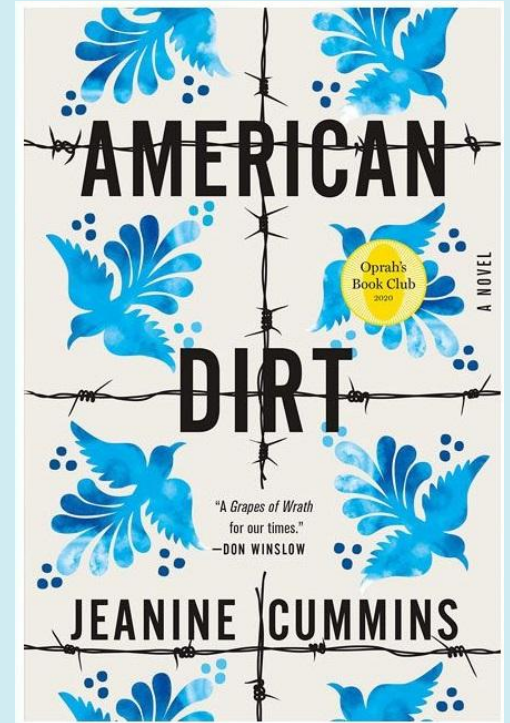
Join Priscilla Shirer on this 7-session journey through the life and times of the prophet Elijah to discover how the fire on Mount Carmel was forged in the valley of famine. And how the emboldened, fiery faith you desire is being fashioned by God in your life right now. Please register with April Hussung (email her by clicking [HERE](#) or by calling 727-420-1758) and let her know if you need a workbook, which will be available for \$20. You can also contact April if you have any questions.

Please note, there is no childcare available at this time. We will be following the church's mask policies.

Faith & Fiction will begin again on Monday, October 4th, and although we had hoped that it would be in person, due to the rising COVID levels, it is rather likely that it will have to be via Zoom until most of us get the vaccine booster.

THIS YEAR WE ARE TRYING AN EARLIER TIME: 4:00 p.m.

We have a dynamite book to start off our season! *American Dirt*, by Jeanine Cummins. We decided to have a theme this year, books about social justice, or injustice as the case may be. In this first book, which is an immigration story, a woman and her son experience violence in Mexico and must flee to try to reach the United States. This book is a real page-turner!



More information regarding our meeting will be announced closer to the beginning of October. If you have questions, call Linda Santoro, 727-897-9543.

FPC Concert Series

Mark your calendar for our next Concert: **VOCES8 on Saturday, October 30, 2021 at 7:00 PM** in the Sanctuary. This concert will be free but will not be recorded or livestreamed.



Presbyterian Women's Bible study for 2021-2022

Our Horizons study this year, is "What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus." Plan to refresh your spirit and enjoy fellowship with other women, beginning in September and continuing through May 2022.

If you are not a current circle member and would like to join, please contact Rachel Bowron (rbowron@aol.com or 727-433-0571) to be connected to a circle that works for you.

Devotionals Available

Copies of the Oct/
Nov/Dec edition of "Our
Daily Bread" and "These
Days" devotionals are



Our Daily Bread

OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2021



Where the Spirit of the LORD is, there is freedom.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17

now available for pick-up from the Church Office during normal business hours or at the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings.



OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER | 2021

U.S.P.S. #631920

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

Stay CONNECTED

- 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!



Pastoral Emergency Number

If you have a pastoral emergency, please call (561) 805-1514.

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

Online Giving



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 continuing to meet 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, 8:30 AM**, Faith Journey Sunday School Class, meeting in-person, Chapel.
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, In-Person Worship Service, Sanctuary or [Online](#).
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, meeting every other week in the Chapel at 7 PM (next in-person meeting is September 28). For more information, contact Carlen Maddux (cmaddux@maddux.com).
- **Fridays, 7:30 AM**, Men's Bible Study, in-person, Room N-123. For more information, please contact Ken Young (youngkd1492@comcast.net).
- **Fridays, 12 PM**, Men's Lunch Bible Study; the last Friday of the month is in-person in Room N-123 (next in-person meeting will be October 29). For more information, contact John Underwood (pjfwon@gmail.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 [Amy Grossenbacher](#).

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

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

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

