

# FIRST NEWS



Your Weekly News  
from First Presbyterian Church  
St. Petersburg

April 17, 2020

## Second Sunday in Easter

Join us for our 10 AM Online Worship Service this Sunday, April 19!

The sermon for this Sunday: "Cleopas"  
Pastor Dawn Conti  
Starting a new sermon series - "Jesus Sightings!"

Scripture: [Psalm 16](#), [Luke 24:13-22](#)

Click the link below to watch the service online:  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UCYcYHUzgbUrt\\_w04s4Vb5](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYcYHUzgbUrt_w04s4Vb5)

This link may also be found on the home page of the church's website  
([www.fpcstpete.com](http://www.fpcstpete.com)) 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!



## New Sermon Series: "Jesus Sightings!"

During the times of political, economic, emotional, and social unrest in first century Israel, the risen Christ appeared not only on Easter morning, but at least eight more times. Over the next six weeks, Pastor Dawn's sermons will focus on these appearances. Join us as we seek the wisdom Jesus shared so long ago to guide us as we navigate the uncertain times in which we live.

This Sunday's sermon, based on Luke 24:13-22, will be told from the perspective of the Biblical character, Cleopas.

## Weekly Online Devotion, Discussion, and Prayer Mondays Starting April 20

Pastor Dawn invites you to join in an online time of devotion, discussion, and prayer **Monday mornings from 10:00-11:00 AM beginning April 20th**. Connect with God and each other as we read and discuss the sermon text that will be preached the following Sunday. All are welcome!

To join on Monday mornings starting 4/20/20:

Click the following link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/542281573> (please note that you will need a device with a camera and microphone to use this link).

OR

You can join by phone (you will be able to hear, but not see, other participants). Dial +1 929-205-6099. The meeting ID is 542 281 573  
You will automatically be muted. You can press \*6 to unmute/mute yourself during the conversation.

## Love Offering for Rev. Ruth

Parish Associate Rev. Ruth Elswood's time at FPC officially came to an end on April 12. She has served our congregation so well and we have been truly blessed by her kind and gracious spirit.

If you would like to contribute toward a "love offering" for Ruth, please mail your donation (with Ruth's name on a note or on the memo line of your check) to the church, or use the on-line giving feature found at the church's website: [fpcstpete.com](http://fpcstpete.com). Click on the "Resources" tab and then on "Give." You will be able to give your gift through the end of April.



## Prayer Concerns

**Please remember in prayer:** Carol Abernathy, Ron & Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt, Katy Churchil, Kat Cline, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Teresa Gasper, James Gonzales, Nancy Grandoff, Ron Hall, Larry and Diane Heath, Ann Holifield, Jean Howie, Walter & Marie Huber, Gary Hunt, Bonnie Jackson, Shirnice Johnson, Jim and Iberia Johnston, Kathy Jose, Anne Justiss, Glenice Kelley, Lynn Kiehne's father Merle, Taffey Lichter, Tom and Marie Machuga, Dave and Pam Malone, Barbara Mauer, Gayle Moore, Camille Moran-Styles, Howard Moser, Tamara Murphy, Peter Pav, Alan Pfleider, Del and Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Lil Reid, Jean Schultz, Jane Snoke. Please keep in prayer all those who have been physically, emotionally, and financially affected by the Corona virus, and join us in praying for a quick end to this situation.





Please pray for our family and friends serving in the military: Brian Herzik, USA; James Loeblein, USN; CPT. Taina Specie, USA; 1st LT. Liam Shelton, USA; 2nd LT. Mallory Wasik, USMC; CPT. Robert Wilson, USAF. Lt Cdr Charlotte Symonds, USNS Hospital Ship Mercy. *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 or deletions to the weekly prayer concerns, please contact Amy Grossenbacher at [amyg@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:amyg@fpc-stpete.org).

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 let us know by calling the Church Office at 727-822-2031! Our staff and volunteers are happy to help during this time.
- Help us stay connected by sending pictures!

## Easter Fun With Victoria Vetter



Victoria co-hosted last Sunday's children's sermon with her mother, Christie.



## Lisa the Turtle

Kyle Brinkman celebrated Easter with his turtle, Lisa.

## How The Virus Stole Easter

by Kristi Bothur, with a nod to Dr. Seuss

Submitted to *First News* by Susan Luehrs

Twas late in '19 when the virus began  
Bringing chaos and fear to all people, each land.

People were sick, hospitals full,  
Doctors overwhelmed, no one in school.



As winter gave way to the promise of spring,  
The virus raged on, touching peasant and king.

People hid in their homes from the enemy unseen.  
They YouTubed and Zoomed, social-distanced, and cleaned.

... [Click here](#) to continue reading the poem



## Masks For Westminster

*From Jan Banker at Westminster:*

*Huge thanks! We are grateful for our first batch of masks made by a member of First Pres (wish we knew who specifically to thank!)* I'm on the left in this picture, and on the far right is Kevin Hintz, our Dining Manager, with some of his staff who desperately needed masks. We are smiling under our masks! Please convey our gratitude.

Our friends at Westminster are still in great need of masks. If you are willing and able to sew masks, please consider donating to Westminster. For more information, please call the Church Office or contact Jan Banker ([jbanker@wservices.org](mailto:jbanker@wservices.org)).

## "Missioner Of The Year" Nomination

The mission committee is happy to launch our new "Missioner of the Year" nomination form. We will be taking nominations for the 2020 award until April 30th. Since we are currently unable to deliver the form in the bulletin, please take a look at it ([click here](#)). If you would like to nominate someone, just send an email containing all of the pertinent information to Gay Wasik-Zegel at [gwzegel@gmail.com](mailto:gwzegel@gmail.com).

The committee will compile a list of nominees from the emails we receive.



Illustrated Ministry LLC

## One Great Hour of Sharing

In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Typically received during the season of Lent, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of



To donate to One Great Hour of Sharing, you can mail a check to the Church Office (701 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701) with OGHS in the memo line OR you can click [HERE](#) to donate online.

## Virtual Meditation

*Contemplation is meeting as much reality as we can handle in its most simple and immediate form—without filters, judgments, or commentaries. --Richard Rohr*

If you care to join in, we'll have another virtual meditation meeting on Tuesday April 28 at 7 PM. We'll meditate for 20 minutes. Anyone is invited, and please let anyone who might be interested in joining us know. For more information, contact Carlen Maddux ([cmaddux@maddux.com](mailto:cmaddux@maddux.com)).



## 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!

## FPC Calendar At A Glance

- [Click here](#) to view the full church calendar online.
- [April Birthdays](#)
- Until further notice, no groups will be meeting at the church. We will keep everyone posted on any changes.
- If anyone needs 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 for more information.

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

