

FIRST NEWS



First News, April 19

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

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
this Sunday, April 21, 2024
Fourth Sunday After Easter

CONNECT SERVICE at 9 AM (Youth Center)
or
SANCTUARY SERVICE at 11 AM (Sanctuary)

Rev. Ginny Ellis
[Sermon Series: "Love Seen..."](#)
Sermon: "Love Seen...In Giving for Others"
Scripture: **[1 John 3:16-24](#)**, **[John 10:11-18](#)**

Click **[HERE](#)** to watch the 9 AM service online.
Click **[HERE](#)** to watch the 11 AM service online.

This link may also be found on the home page of the church's website (**www.fpcstpete.com** - click the "Watch Live Streams Here" button) as well as on the church's Facebook page. The service is also available for viewing on **[our YouTube channel](#)** throughout the week.
Feel free to share these links with family and friends!

Click [HERE](#) for the 9 AM worship service bulletin.
Click [HERE](#) for the 11 AM worship service bulletin.

From the Desk of Pastor Ginny

Dear Friends,

Carol Riley started her children's Sunday class last week. This will be a 6-week class focusing on some of Jesus' parables (the stories he told). Carol has been planning this class for the last month or more; we have been excited about it. So, guess what?! She had 15 children in the class the first week! We are thrilled! In fact, on her first week, three of the children's parents were able to come to MY class, knowing their children were also busy learning. It just confirms what we want to be: a church that continues to learn about the Bible and about our faith. It is just wonderful.

What I am seeing here at FPC is a church where folks are finding their place in the activities, classes, ministries. There are new faces in the choir, in the handbell choir, and in the praise band. There are new ushers at 11:00 and new donut providers at Connect (our 9:00 service). There have been new people coming for the Card Ministry and new people helping with Fellowship dinners.

We love the help, of course we do. Help is both needed and appreciated! Always! But I am also excited in knowing that when people get involved, they engage with one another, they build friendships, they make connections in our faith community. It makes their lives richer, their church experience fuller.

Where are you in this experience? Would you like to come to the Inquirer Class and consider becoming an official church member? Would you like to join with the men on the second Sunday of the month, cooking and serving delicious meatloaf to the homeless in our community? Can you help us with the children's class and/or other programs? We welcome you, wherever you find the best fit for your schedule, your interests and your gifts. We need you. We want to know you better.

Blessings,
Ginny Ellis

OUR PRESBYTERIANISM CLASS

Pastor Ginny is enjoying her class! She describes the class as "fluid," because once each month, it is an Inquiry Class for those considering church membership, and once each month, we look at a document from the Book of Confessions. In between, while Ginny comes in with a plan, she also responds to class questions and interests. YOU shape the class!

The class meets at 10 AM in Conference Room (upstairs, north wing, above the back parking lot). Just follow the signs!

Here's an overview of upcoming classes:

- April 21: New Member Inquirer's Class
- April 28: No class, Ginny will be away
- May 5: Presbyterian understanding of the Sacraments
- May 12: A look at The Heidelberg Confession from Germany (1563)
- May 19: Mission Sunday; the New Member Inquirer's Class will be *after* the 11:00 worship service in the *Chapel* (different time and space!)



Please remember in prayer: Sandi Averitt, Millie Bradley, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Jane Harris, Margo Hart, Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Carol Hunt, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Alisa Keys, Taffey Lichter, Dave & Pam Malone, Dottie McClure, Nancy McLaughlin, the Moorefield family, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Margie Richmond, Robert Safransky, Henry Shaw, Judy Smith, Jane Snoke, JB Starkey

Please pray for our family and friends serving in the military: LT Marc-Antoni Juliá, USN; 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.



We need volunteers to help park cars to raise money for Missio Dei during the Mainsail Art Festival tomorrow, Saturday, April 20, and Sunday, April 21. Email Jeannie Doddridge at ddd49@aol.com for more information. Thanks!

New Member Inquirer's Class - this Sunday, April 21, 10 AM, Church Office Conference Room



This is a great 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 Church Office Conference Room this Sunday, April 21, immediately following the 9 AM worship service, where we will enjoy a great program from Pastor Ginny. Elders will be on-hand should you wish to join the church following the class. This is a great chance to learn about and join downtown's most welcoming church!



PARABLE QUEST: Transforming Stories Jesus Told

The everyday objects and real-life situations that Jesus described in His parables help children understand biblical principles.

All children Pre-K through 5th grade are welcome!

Sunday mornings at 10 AM in Room S-202; runs through May 19

For more information, please contact Carol Riley at 727-822-2031, ext. 104 or criley@fpc-stpete.org.

Lectio/Visio Divina - Mondays at 10 AM

We invite you to try a new way of studying the Bible with Lectio/Visio Divina, a guided practice of reading and discussing four different translations of a passage that will be used in the following Sunday's worship. The hourlong Zoom session meets at 10 a.m. on Mondays and includes discussion of art that corresponds to the scripture. Click [HERE](#) to join.

Don't Miss Our Upcoming Wednesday Night Dinner COOKOUT!

Can you feel the summer breeze? It's coming...and we are going to celebrate! Join us **Wednesday, May 8 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall for a Summer Fun Cookout. We'll have grilled burgers and hot dogs plus awesome sides and dessert! Come enjoy the fun as we welcome family, friends and neighbors to Summer Fun at FPC. All ages are warmly invited!



If you plan to attend, please RSVP by clicking [HERE](#) (be sure to click the "YES" button!) or by calling the Church Office (727-822-2031) - thanks!



YOU'RE INVITED!

On Friday, May 10, [Live Love St Pete](#) is hosting their first gala at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club. In appreciation for all the support First Presbyterian Church has given them over the past few years, *Live Love St Pete* is making a limited number of tickets available to church members at cost. Tickets include dinner and drinks, and there will be live music and fabulous raffle prizes. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more info and tickets. Use promo code FPC1 to receive the

discount. If you're interested in purchasing a table (for 8) at the same discount, please use promo code FPC8. See you there!



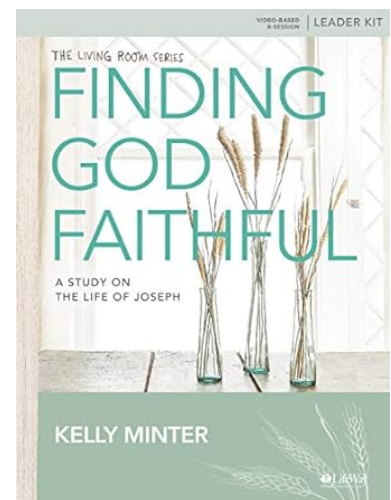
Our next "Beach Drive Forum" will be Wednesday, May 22!

State of the Arts in Tampa Bay by Paul Wilborn, award-winning journalist, author, playwright, pianist, singer and executive director of the Palladium Theater at St. Petersburg College, who knows a thing or two about the arts! He'll share his wisdom about what's influencing the flourishing local arts scene, including whether artificial intelligence is a good or bad creative force. Learn more about our speaker [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).

Beach Drive Forums are monthly conversations for the community with intriguing speakers on thought-provoking topics. Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30 PM in Fellowship Hall (doors open at 5:30, presentation at 6:00). Refreshments and Q&A included. Open to the public; best parking is the church lot off N. Shore Drive.

Ladies, you are invited to Bible Study: *Finding God Faithful - A Study on the Life of Joseph*

In this 8-session study from Kelly Minter, we will be reminded of God's faithfulness through Joseph's story. No matter what we walk through, God's presence is constant; His provision is enough, and His purposes are unstoppable.



**Join us on Tuesday mornings through April 30, 2024
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in the FPC Youth Center**

Everyone is welcome – no previous Bible study experience is required. Workbooks will be available for \$25 (includes streaming video access for all sessions). Bring a friend! If interested, please contact April Hussung at (727) 420-1758 or stapler39@aol.com. Sorry, at this time there is no childcare available.



Theological Scholarships

We are now accepting applications for the Osborn Scholarship for Theology students! We only require one application is for both Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 semesters (awards are split); the applicant needs to let us know if they only need it for one semester.

The deadline for Theological Study Scholarships is **April 30**.

For further details about these scholarships (including downloadable application forms and deadlines), [CLICK HERE](#).

The Pastor Nominating Committee has a new page on our website:

www.fpcstpete.com/pnc-updates

You can visit it any time for the latest information on our Pastor Search!

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!



We continue to be thankful for the generosity of all who contribute financially to our church, along with the other contributions they bring to our ministry.

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 April 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-12:30 PM**, childcare is available, Room S-203
- **Sundays, 9 AM**, Connect Worship Service, Youth Center or **Online**
- **Sundays, 9:45 AM**, Faith Journey Sunday School Class, Chapel
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Power Hour Sunday School Class, Youth Center
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Young Adults/Parents "Next" Sunday School Class, Room S-100
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Presbyterianism class, Church Office Conference Room
- **Sundays, 11 AM**, Sanctuary Worship Service, Sanctuary or **Online**

- **Mondays, 10 AM**, Lectio/Visio Divina, via **Zoom**
- **Tuesdays, 9 AM**, Ladies' Bible Study, Youth Center
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, Chapel (meets in-person the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month)

- **Wednesdays, 7 PM**, Praise Band Rehearsal, Youth Center

- **Thursdays, 6 PM**, Bell Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite (on summer break)
- **Thursdays, 7 PM**, Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite

- **Fridays, 8:00 AM**, Men's Bible Study, Room N-123
- **Fridays, 12 PM**, Men's Lunch Bible Study, via Zoom. For more information, contact John Underwood (pjfwon@gmail.com)

Upcoming Events:

- **Sunday, April 21, 10 AM**, New Member Inquirer's Class
- **Monday, April 22, 7 PM**, Stated Session meeting
- **Tuesday, April 30**, Theological Scholarship application deadline
- **Wednesday, May 8, 5:30 PM**, Wednesday Night Dinner
- **Friday, May 10, 6 PM**, *Live Love St. Pete* fundraiser
- **Sunday, May 19**, Mission Sunday
- **Wednesday, May 22, 5:30 PM**, Beach Drive Forum

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](#)



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

[Unsubscribe amyg@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:amyg@fpc-stpete.org)

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

Sent by office@fpc-stpete.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!