

FIRST NEWS



Your Weekly News from
First Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg

April 2, 2021

EASTER SUNDAY

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for our 10 AM Online Worship Service
this Sunday, April 4
Easter Sunday

This Sunday's Sermon: "Terror and Amazement"
Pastor Dawn Conti
Scripture: [Psalm 118:1-2; 14-24](#), [Mark 16:1-8](#)

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

COMMUNION SUNDAY: We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper this Sunday during our virtual worship. 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.



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

If the 10 AM 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!

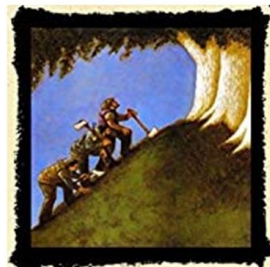
The online service link may also be found on the home page of the church's website (www.fpcstpete.com), as well as on the church's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Friday, April 2 - Good Friday

- Tenebrae service, online at 7 PM. Click [HERE](#) to view.



Saturday, April 3 - Holy Saturday

- Family & Children's Easter service, with the reading of "The Tale of Three Trees," online at 4 PM. Click [HERE](#) to view.



Sunday, April 4 - Easter

- **In-Person Sunrise Service, 7:30 AM** in the front circle drive (chairs will be set up as socially distant; please wear masks). This more casual worship service will include music and a short meditation/homily. No registration necessary.

- **Traditional Easter worship service, 10 AM, online.** Click [HERE](#) to view.



Please remember in prayer: Carol Abernathy, Ron & Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt, Carol Daniel, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Sarah Fechter, Teresa Gasper, Margo Hart, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, Russ & Connie Johnson, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Alisa Keys, Margie Laughlin, Dave & Pam Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, Peter Pav, Richard Pfleider, Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Ken Robinson, Judy Smith, JB & Marsha Starkey.

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; 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.



To the glory of God and in honor of...

Lynne Mormino by Mr. & Mrs. Ray Arsenault

Pastor Conti and all our church staff by Vicki Fox

All church volunteers by Vicki Fox

Our daughters by Gary & Lynne Mormino

Love for each of us by Marilyn Mulcahy

To the glory of God and in loving memory of...

All our church family we lost this past year by Chris Agee

Family Members by Lillian Harris

Loved ones by Sally Horrell

Our parents by Gary & Lynne Mormino

Lewis & Santoro Family Loved Ones by Mr. & Mrs. Lou Santoro

From the Deacons' Corner

Submitted by Marilyn Mulcahy

Good Friends! We are entering the final week of the Lenten season for 2021 and experiencing different emotions. We are still in the confines of the Pandemic, grateful for available vaccines, encountering church upheaval, remembering Jesus's final week that end/begins in agony and looking forward to the absolute joy of Easter. Let us all especially concentrate this week on what God has done for us: Given us His love and grace thru the crucifixion and resurrection of His only Son. What a gift! This, this is what we need and to share with others.

Please call your Deacon (or me, Marilyn Mulcahy, at 714-580-5619) if this is a difficult time for you for any reason...we are here to offer a prayer, just listen, or run that errand that you are unable to make. This is what families do for one another.

Now I, along with each of you, look forward to Sunday when we can say:
"He is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!"



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE -- ONLINE EDITION --

Everyone is welcome to join; feel free to send the links to friends and family!

7:00-8:00 PM

Social Justice - A series of talks and panel discussions are being arranged on issues of social justice. Please join us next Wednesday (April 7) when we are joined by Charlie Justice from Pinellas County Commission.

[CLICK HERE](#) for Zoom Meeting Link

Or go to [Zoom.com](https://zoom.us) and enter the Meeting ID: 851 4775 5193 and Passcode: justice

Or dial in by phone: 1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 851 4775 5193, Passcode: 0664377

If you missed earlier weeks' discussions, you can see the recorded version [HERE](#). Future speakers and programs will be announced as the dates approach.

Peaceful and Powerful Parenting Workshops are on Mondays at noon!

Each session includes practice of building skills interactively, as well as a short Q & A problem-solving discussion at the end. Monday's session (3/29) will be about Discipline Language, and we'll be using videos to show examples of "start" and "stop" language, and discussing natural and logical consequences.

[CLICK HERE](#) for Zoom Meeting Link

Or go to [Zoom.com](https://zoom.us) and enter the Meeting ID: 871 8995 8365 and Passcode: peace

Or dial in by phone: 1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 871 8995 8365, Passcode: 691341

Small Group Opportunities

In this time of COVID life, would you be interested in being a part of a small group study? What topic(s) interest you? We often find that small group ministry is a wonderful opportunity to meet with others who share the same interest, want to deepen their faith and/or explore new topics.

Opportunities

Lynn Kiehne would love to hear from you as to what interests you and we will see if we can create groups of like-minded members/friends of members to enjoy this type of fellowship. As we are currently exercising extreme caution, these groups will more than likely meet online unless the membership of the group wishes to gather safely in person. Email Lynn (lkiehne@gmail.com) or call the Church Office (727-822-2031) to express your interest.

Devotionals Available!

Copies of the April/May/June edition of "These Days" and "Our Daily Bread" large-print devotionals are available for pick-up from the Church Office during normal business hours.

If you have concerns about social distancing, just call ahead, and a copy



can be left outside for you.



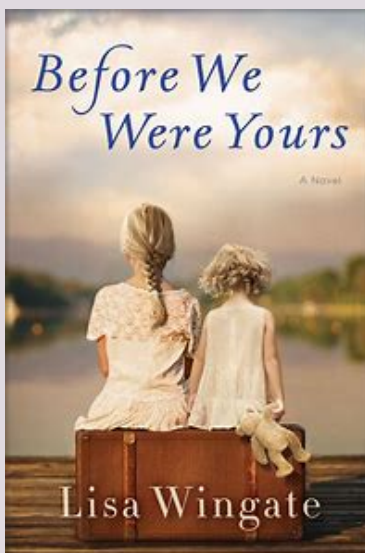
Grieving? Know someone who is? Join our GriefShare group on Sundays at 4 PM (via Zoom)

Whether your bereavement experience is recent or not so recent, you will find encouragement, comfort and help in grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, other family member, or friend.

We're taking a break this coming Sunday (April 4) for Easter; we will resume on April 11.

This program features biblical, Christ-centered teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The 13-week DVD seminar features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories of people, followed by a small group discussion about what was viewed. This is a great opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling. Don't allow fear of what others may think to keep you from what could help you. Confidentiality is very much a part of this program.

Need more information? Want to sign up? Call the Church Office at 727-822-2031.



Faith & Fiction

Next month, Faith & Fiction will be reading *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate. This is a thought-provoking, complex tale about two families, two generations apart, and is based on a notorious true-life scandal.

Our discussion will be held on **Monday, April 5th** at 7:30 p.m. Once again, we will meet via Zoom. Please contact Linda Santoro if you would like to join the discussion (727-897-9543 or lindajsantoro@gmail.com).

Below is the lament that PW Circles will be using in April:

A Lament in Search of Comfort

--by Sarah Fechter, March 2021

O Jesus, it has been more than a year
do you know how sad life has been —
so many desperately ill loved ones
dying before their time?

Do you care that we are lonely
missing hugs from family and friends
stuck at home, unable to work or play
or even to worship in your house?

In the midst of this pandemic I confess
how often I have failed to obey you
ignored your commandment that

we love one another
I have hurt you and those around me
been ungrateful for your care
yet never have you failed me
your forgiveness exceeds my worth
I bow down and you lift me up
always sharing my pain
comforting me with your love
and now promising hope for better times
soon to be.



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!



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



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 April Birthdays



Most 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, 9 AM**, Faith Journey Sunday School Class. For Zoom sign-in information, contact the Church Office.
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Worship Service [Online](#).
- **Sundays, 11:15 AM**, *Contemporary Faith Sunday School Class will NOT be meeting*

- on Easter Sunday; class will resume next Sunday, April 11*
- **Sundays, 11:15 AM, Westminster Sunday School Class will NOT be meeting on Easter Sunday; class will resume next Sunday, April 11**
 - **Sundays, 4 PM, GriefShare will NOT be meeting on Easter Sunday; class will resume next Sunday, April 11.**
 - **Mondays, 10 AM, Online Devotional with Pastor Dawn. Click [HERE](#) to join. If you are prompted, use "prayer" a password.**
 - **Mondays, 12 PM, "Peaceful and Powerful Parenting" Workshops via Zoom.**
 - **Tuesdays, 7 PM, Weekly Meditation, virtual. For more information, contact Carlen Maddux (cmaddux@maddux.com).**
 - **Wednesdays, online, 7 - 8 PM - Wednesday Night Live! (Social Justice)**
 - **Fridays, 7:30 AM, Men's Bible Study, in person in Room N-123.**

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- **Friday, April 2, Good Friday, Church Office closes at noon, Tenebrae Service online, 7 PM**
 - **Saturday, April 3, Children & Family Easter Service online, 4 PM**
 - **Sunday, April 4, Easter! In-person sunrise worship service at 7:30 AM in the front circle drive; online worship service at 10 AM**
 - **Wednesday, April 7 - FPC member Helen Leslie turns 100!!**
 - **Friday, April 9 (7:00 - 9:30 PM) and Saturday, April 10 (9:00 AM - 4 PM), Reconciliation Workshop by the Lombard Mennonite Center, in-person, in Fellowship Hall**
 - **Sunday, April 25, FPC re-opens for in-person worship services in the Sanctuary, 10 AM**

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](#).

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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.

