

FIRST NEWS



Your Weekly News
from First Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg

April 3, 2020

Palm Sunday

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

The sermon for this Sunday: "Laying Down Our Coats" - Pastor Dawn Conti
This is the fourth sermon in a series titled "Standing on the Promises"

Scripture: [Psalm 118:1-2; 19-29](#), [Matthew 21:1-11](#)

Click the link below to watch the service online:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCYcYHUzgbUrt_w04s4Vb5

This 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. 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!

A Special Video Message from Pastor Dawn



Palm Sunday Decorations at the Mossman Family's Home



Check out our new banner advertising our online worship services!



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! We have volunteers who are happy to help during this time.

- Connie Johnson at (727) 865-6508 recently learned how to use Instacart and is more than happy to provide assistance to anyone else who would like to learn how to use it. Instacart delivers groceries from Publix.
- A big THANK YOU to all the Deacons, Stephen Ministers, Pastor Ruth, Pastor Dawn, and all the other volunteers who helped to reach out to members of our congregation over the last few weeks.
- If you know anyone who is not receiving First News (via email, Facebook, or a paper copy in the mail) but would like to, please call Amy in the Church Office.

- Another way the church can stay in touch with you is by sending text messages. If you would like to receive text updates from the church, click [here](#) for instructions on how to grant us permission.



HOLY WEEK

Pastor Dawn will be hosting an online time of prayer and devotion Monday through Thursday next week from 10:00-11:00 AM via Zoom (a video teleconferencing technology). To view the video online, you will need to click on the following link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/632047631>.

- If you don't have the Zoom app on your device already, you will be prompted to download it (you do not need to create an account).
- You also have the ability to call in using your phone (you will be able to hear - but not see - Dawn). To call in, you need to dial 929-205-6099. A voice prompt will ask for the meeting ID, which is 632 047 631.
- If you need help with Zoom technology, Dave Aumack (302-465-2416) and Amy in the Church Office (727-822-2031) will be available Monday morning (April 6) from 9:00 – 10:00 AM.
- In case you are unable to join us from 10:00-11:00 AM next Monday through Friday, these times with Dawn will also be recorded and posted to our YouTube channel, so you will be able to watch them later.

For those who would like to read ahead, Dawn's morning devotions Monday through Thursday (10-11 AM) will reference the following:

- **Holy Monday:** The Anointing of Jesus - [John 12:1-11](#)
- **Holy Tuesday:** Some Greeks come to see Jesus & Jesus speaks of his death - [John 12:20-36](#)
- **Holy Wednesday:** Judas betrays Jesus - [Matthew 26:15b-16; 20-25](#); [John 18:1-5](#)
- **Maundy Thursday:** Jesus washes the Disciples' feet & New Commandment - [John 13:1-17; 34-35](#)

Good Friday: We are planning an online **Tenebrae service**, scheduled for **7:30 PM** on Friday, April 10. The service will be available on YouTube via a link found on our church website and/or Facebook page.

Prayer Concerns

Please remember in prayer: Carol Abernathy, Ruthie Bafaro, Ron & Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt, Katy Churchil, Bob Clark, Kat Cline, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Teresa Gasper, James Gonzales, Nancy Grandoff, Ron Hall, Larry and Diane Heath, Rhys Hogan, Ann Holifield, Jean Howie, Walter & Marie Huber, Gary Hunt, Bonnie Jackson, Shirnice Johnson, Jim and Iberia Johnston, Kathy Jose, Anne Justiss, Glenice Kelley, Taffey Lichter, Tom and Marie Machuga, Dave and Pam Malone, Barbara Mauger, Gayle Moore, Camille Moran-Styles, Howard Moser, Tamara Murphy, Peter Pav, 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.



Great Need for Masks

Are you part of a sewing group or know of anyone who is willing to sew masks? As you have probably heard on the news, face masks are currently very difficult to get, and every place is running low on them. Our friends at Westminster are in great need of them. If you are willing and have the ability to sew masks, please consider donating

to Westminster. For more information, please call the Church Office or contact Jan Banker (jbanker@wservices.org).

Gifts in a Difficult Time

In response to God's love in Christ we offer our lives, our gifts, our abilities and material goods for God's service.

If not for the coronavirus, our annual pledge campaign would be in full swing by now. You would have been reminded of the myriad and wonderful ways in which FPC cares for the people of the church and ministers to our community and world. You would have received a budget with plans for deploying your gifts wisely and prudently, along with a pledge card so that you could estimate your annual gift. We would be looking forward to worshipping together on Palm Sunday, Easter, and Dedication Sunday.

Despite the fear and chaos surrounding us, we are certain that this world and all that is in it belongs to God, and we trust that God will guide our nation and the world through this health crisis and economic fallout. In the meantime, we ask that our members and friends support First Presbyterian Church financially by continuing to give at their current rate until this crisis passes, even if it rolls into the next fiscal year. If for some reason, you cannot fulfill your pledge, please contact Amy Grossenbacher in the Church Office (amyg@fpc-stpete.org or 727-822-2031) to let us know so that we can adjust our church budget.

Gratitude and Generosity
(The Stewardship Committee)

Our Church Session meets remotely using the Zoom app.

So good to get to connect face-to-face, even when it's only virtually!



"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

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



Love Peace Joy

A picture of Mollie and Will Holden's artwork "Love, Peace, Joy" sent in response to Pastor Dawn's March 22 Children's Message which focused on John 14:27.

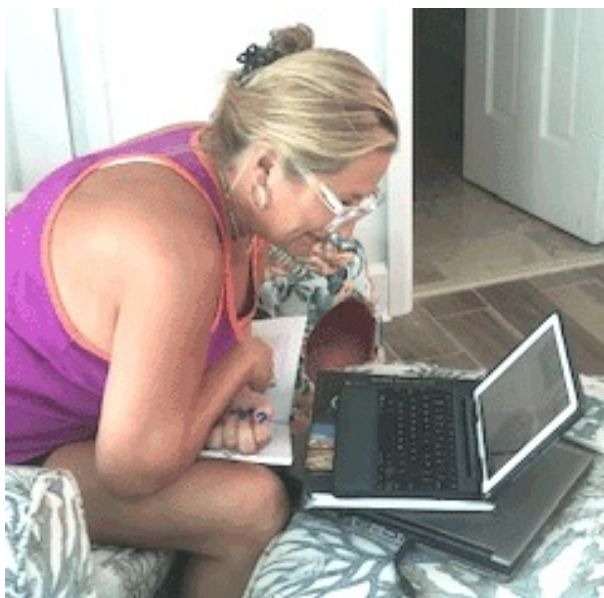
Virtual Meditation

"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 virtual meditation meetings on Tuesday, April 14 and 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.

Carlen Maddux (cmaddux@maddux.com)



Facetime With A Friend!

Submitted by Karen Mossman

Since I cannot meet in person with the ladies at Westminster Palms, recently I FaceTimed with one of the ladies. We had a lovely visit, and we even sang a song!

If you are a resident of Westminster and would like a virtual visit and have access to an iPhone or iPad, please call or have someone call me at (727) 400-5079 or email Karenamossman@gmail.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.

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.



First Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg, Florida

