

FIRST NEWS



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

August 6, 2021

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us at 10 AM in the Sanctuary
for an In-Person or Online Worship Service
this Sunday, August 8
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Preacher: Rev. Carol Byrd
Sermon: "Waiting on the Lord"

Scriptures: [Ephesians 4:25-5:2](#), [John 6:35, 41-51](#), [Psalm 130](#)

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

Guest Musician This Sunday

Our guest musician this week is young freelance multi-instrumentalist and French Horn player, Griffin Ives. He is a recent graduate of the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs High School and is currently studying Music Performance at the Lynn Conservatory of Music at Lynn University. Griffin is also an accomplished singer, having been admitted into the 2020 FVA All-State Sight Reading Choir with near-perfect marks on the admission exam.



Praise Band Preview - Something New!

This week the FPC Praise Band will be premiering an arrangement of the hymn *Jesus Paid It All*. Since we haven't recorded this one, we've provided a link to the version by Christian artist *Shane & Shane* that our arrangement is based on (see below). Our second tune will be *Rising*, which is one of our favorites. See you on Sunday!

[Jesus Paid It All \(Click\)](#)

[Rising - by the Praise Band \(Click\)](#)

Re: FPC's Mask Policy

As you have likely heard on the news, new CDC guidelines recommend everyone – whether vaccinated or not – wear masks while indoors, especially in areas where COVID-19 cases are on the rise. And, unfortunately, Florida is one of those places.

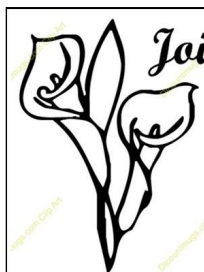


In light of these new guidelines, our Return-to-Church Committee and Session have been discussing the possibility of updating the current mask-optional policy at FPC. Please stay tuned for potential updates.

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: Elizabeth Anderson, Guy Anderson, Ron & Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt, Carol Daniel, Pat Eckert, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Sarah Fechter, Teresa Gasper, Ronn Ginn, Elizabeth Hammer, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, Russ Johnson, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Alisa Keys, Jean Kohler, Margie Laughlin, Dave & Pam Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, Peter Pav, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Ken Robinson, Henry Shaw, Judy Smith, Jane Snoke, Sandy Williams



Joined the Church Triumphant

Elizabeth Anderson
July 30, 2021

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.

Important Update from the Presbytery of Tampa Bay Listening and Assessment Team

From Elder Stacey Quick
Chair of the Listening and Assessment Team

On behalf of the Listening and Assessment Team, I want to thank you for the time we have had with you in our initial round of listening sessions. Your love for one another and your community shines clearly. The future of First Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg is bright.

On July 26, we communicated our early recommendations with the session. Our first recommendation was to fast-track the hiring of a transitional pastor. The session voted to request an administrative commission from the Presbytery to find and hire a transitional pastor with the skills necessary to guide First St. Pete in its next chapter of ministry.

Upon further research this week, it has come to our attention that, as a result of session member resignations, the session is unable to achieve a quorum (minimum number of members to act). During this temporary situation, the Presbytery will be asked by the Commission on Ministry to appoint an administrative commission to act as the session until such time as a quorum of the session can be restored following the church's Nominating Committee policy and the provisions of G-2.0403 regarding preparation for ministry as a ruling elder. Once the session is able to achieve a quorum, full power will be restored to the session and the administrative commission will continue its work to hire a transitional pastor and complete the work of the Listening and Assessment Team.

Please note that this action is not being recommended in response to anything other than the lack of a quorum, and full jurisdiction is not expected to last very long.

Musical "Notes"





[FREE Recital Tomorrow!](#)

Last week's guest musician Kevin Chavez will host a special free recital entitled "Four Oboes and a Recital" tomorrow, **Saturday, August 7, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.** in the FPC Sanctuary. No tickets are required, and all are welcome!

Mr. Chavez (Oboe, Oboe d'amore, Bass Oboe, English Horn) is excited to be living in St Pete after having called in New York City home for a decade. He has performed in orchestras in NYC and around the world in wind ensembles, orchestras, choirs, and chamber music ensembles.

[Introducing the 2021-2022 Concert Series](#)

Click [HERE](#) to see all of the exciting concerts and performers featured in this year's Concert Series!

[Designing a Concert Series Interest Session](#)

This weekend, Matt Clear will present a special virtual interest session on *Designing a Concert Series* at the virtual *Voices United Conference* serving the American Choral Director's Association Chapters of Delaware, Virginia, and Maryland. You can watch Matt's session online anytime by clicking [HERE](#).

Deacon's Corner

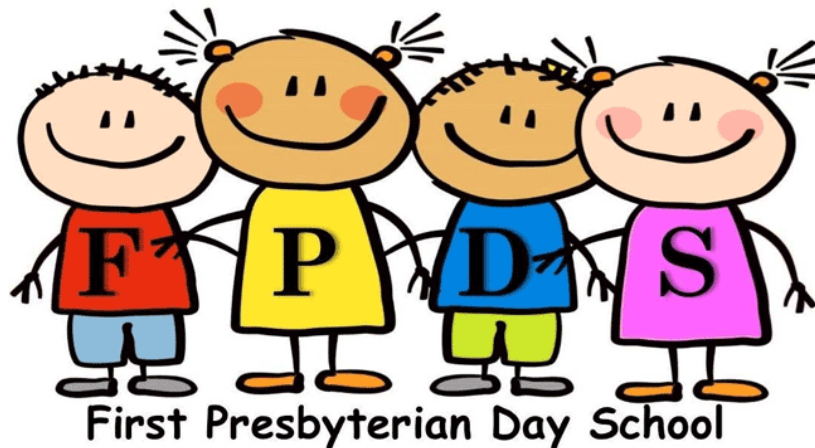
from Marilyn Mulcahy

I want to give a shout-out to a revived mission at our church: **CREATE TO SHARE**. Evelyn Moorefield has fostered this Food Ministry for several years but it had to go dormant during last year's shut-down. We feel it is safe to begin again and are enthusiastic about the assistance it will bring those with a need.

This program will allow 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. Evelyn oversees the organization of the meals and their delivery which will include an entrée or casserole, vegetables, rolls and dessert.

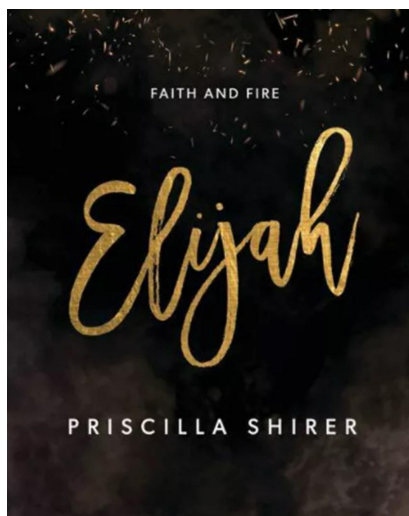
Two things to consider:

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 me, Marilyn Mulcahy at 714-580-5619. All information is confidential.



**Do you love children? Do you have free time in the afternoon?
Then call Ashley at the Day School!**

We are looking for afternoon help with our students who stay until 5:30 pm. The start time is flexible, but at a minimum we need someone from 3:00 – 5:30 pm daily. The pay for that time frame is \$15 per hour! If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact Ashley Hardy at 727-894-5889 or ahardy@fpc-stpete.org.



Ladies' Tuesday Morning Bible Study

August 17 - September 28, 2021

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 pre-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.

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 during this time.
- 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 August 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, Room S-202.
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, In-Person Worship Service, Sanctuary or [Online](#).
- *Sundays, 11:15 AM, Westminster Sunday School Class will not be meeting again until Fall.*
- *Monday morning online devotionals are taking a break for the summer.*
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, meeting every other week in the Chapel at 7 PM (next in-person meeting is Aug 17). For more information, contact Carlen Maddux (cmaddux@maddux.com).
- *Fridays, 7:30 AM, Men's Bible Study will be taking a break for the summer...will start back up after Labor Day.*
- **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 is August 27); otherwise, via Zoom. 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](#).

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

