

FIRST NEWS



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

July 23, 2021

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us at 10 AM in the Sanctuary
for an In-Person or Online Worship Service
this Sunday, July 25
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Preacher: Rev Amy Santamaria
Sermon: "What happens with the leftovers?"
Scriptures: [Psalm 145:10-18](#), [John 6:1-21](#)

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

Special Music This Sunday

This Sunday's guest musician is pianist Maggie Tran. Maggie is a graduate of Pinellas County Center for the Arts and Salutatorian for the Class of 2021 at Jonathan C. Gibbs High School. If you would like a preview of Maggie's piano playing, you can watch her senior recital by clicking [this link](#).



Praise Band Preview!

Do you enjoy singing along with the FPC Praise Band, but aren't too familiar with the praise songs yet? Well, we have just the thing for you! Below you'll find links to the songs the Praise Band will be performing this Sunday. We've included the lyrics in the video so you can familiarize yourself with the tunes

prior to Sunday's 10 AM service. Enjoy!

*God So Loved
In Christ Alone*

*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, Elizabeth Hammer, Margo Hart, 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 Pfeider, Richard Pfeider, Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Ken Robinson, Henry Shaw, Judy Smith, Jane Snoke

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.

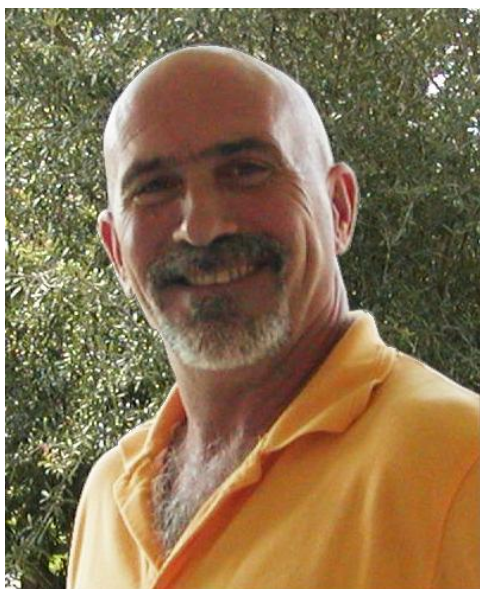
Please pray for our family and friends serving in the military: Marc-Antoni Juliá, USN LT; CPT. Taina Specie, USA; 1st LT. Liam Shelton, USA; 1st LT. Mallory Wasik, USMC; CPT. Robert Wilson, USAF. *Please provide us with mailing addresses for our card ministry.*

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.

Happy 10-Year Anniversary, Johnny Miller!

FPC's Building & Grounds Superintendent extraordinaire, Johnny Miller, celebrates his 10-year anniversary here on July 27. He is on a well-deserved vacation through Sunday, July 25, but if you see him around campus next week, give him a high-five (or a "Go Pack Go!") to thank him for his years of cheerful and dedicated service to the church and the Day School!



"Hey Mr. Johnny!" a small voice echoes across our church parking lot...that is how Johnny Miller is greeted almost every morning as our Day School begins

their day. Johnny has been part of our church family for ten years. To the Day School children he is a familiar face and he has quite a fan club. On Halloween one little boy dressed up as "Mr. Johnny." The children often see him leaf-blowing the playground, keeping an eye out for safety concerns, and overseeing the cleaning crew.

Johnny was born in Tennessee and moved to Wisconsin when he was five years old. However, if you listen closely, you can still hear a hint of a Southern drawl. He has four children, one daughter who lives in Texas, one son in Tampa, one son in Louisiana and one son in heaven. When asked what brought to him Florida, Johnny laughed and replied, "The Green Bay Packers play the Bucs once a year!" (and the weather!).

Johnny has a thirty-year career in maintenance and when he saw that the FPC church office steps were painted green and gold (Green Bay Packers colors), he said to himself, "That's it, I'll take the job!" Besides helping the Day School, he is always busy overseeing the entire church property. He is a major part of so many church activities such as setting up the crèche, preparing meeting rooms, getting the Fellowship Hall ready for large events....if there is a need, then he is there to make sure everything is perfect.

Christmas.....starting in late November, every year Johnny ventures into the dark closet at the back of the Fellowship Hall. With years of experience, he brings out all the bows, wreathes, ribbons, and trees that the Sanctuary Guild will need to transform our Sanctuary into a celebration of God's love. In January, Johnny returns the wreaths, bows, trees, and ribbons back to their proper place in the closet. Another Christmas enjoyed by the congregation thanks to the members of the Sanctuary Guild and Johnny. "So grateful for Johnny's ability to find us wherever we are working and offer help in anyway he can." (Sanctuary Guild)

In his spare time, Johnny enjoys golf and sports and grilling. When asked what his favorite dinner would be, he replied, "grilled pork chops, black eyed peas and a baked potato." Johnny's door is always open and if you are passing by, you might just get a whiff of those grilled pork chops!

Thanks, Johnny and Happy Anniversary,

A Grateful Congregation

Reminder from the Presbytery of Tampa Bay Listening and Assessment Team

We have filled the first round of listening sessions. Please note that we are providing registration confirmation about 2 days prior to your meeting time to allow for maximum flexibility in the schedule.

If you haven't had a chance to speak with us, you may choose to wait for additional sessions to become available or you may also choose to submit written communication. We will accept messages of up to 750 words via email or USPS mail. As in our listening sessions, we ask that you focus on 3 areas:

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1. Your main concern
2. How do you think First Presbyterian got to this moment?
3. What would make things better?

Written communication contact info:

Email: fpcsp-ptb@googlegroups.com

USPS Mail:

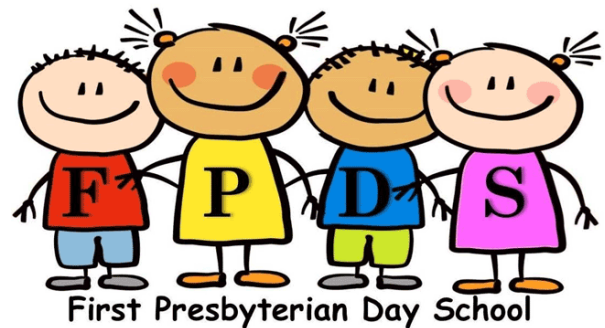
Presbytery of Tampa Bay
ATTN: FPCSP-PTB Listening Team
455 Scotland St, Suite 1
Dunedin, FL 34698

In the spirit of trust and love, we, the members of the Listening and Assessment Team, promise to give you a safe space to be heard. We promise to, and encourage you, to speak the truth in love, seeking to maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. The [Seeking Together](#) guidelines offer clear suggestions for dealing with differences so they can become occasions for growing in grace and understanding of God's will for us, rather than separation.

A Note from the Day School

Hi FPC Volunteers,

It has been such a joy to have so many of you come greet our students in the morning! Our parents are delighted to see church members on campus and enjoy chatting with you. If you've not had a chance to come by yet, we would love to have you. Just stop by the Day School Office when you get here and we can point you in the right direction. Our final day of camp is Friday, August 6, so there's plenty of time to stop by!



The first day of our new kindergarten class is Monday, August 23, and our first day of preschool (1s, 2s, 3s and Pre-K) is Thursday, August 26 and Friday, August 27. We would welcome your participation as greeters on those days as well! School starts at 8:30 AM, so parents will begin arriving about 8:15 and drop off should be complete by 8:45 AM. We plan to have a "Boo Hoo/Woo Hoo" Breakfast following drop-offs on Monday and Thursday. If you would like to stay and visit with our families while enjoying a cup of coffee and breakfast treats, we would LOVE to have you! The more the merrier!! Feel free to forward this to anyone else that would like to participate. We truly appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you soon!

Brightest blessings,
Ashley Hardy, Day School Director

Meals On Wheels 4 Kids is looking for Volunteers!

Meals On Wheels for Kids (MOW4Kids) is a home-delivered meal program for children who depend on school meals and who are unable to get to school meal distribution sites. This innovative first-of-its-kind program helps children in Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas counties get the food they need. Through this program, volunteers and community partners are helping to reduce childhood hunger (which skyrocketed due to the pandemic) by providing lunchtime meals. MOW4Kids delivers over 5,000 meals each week across Tampa Bay.

By volunteering just a few hours a week, you

can help change lives by ensuring children received nutritious food needed to survive. Volunteer shifts occur morning through mid-day and include:

1. packing food or
2. delivering food (driving your own vehicle); a route contains 5-6 stops and takes about 1-2 hours to complete.

You choose the area where you would like to pack or deliver, the day of the week you would like to volunteer (Monday-Friday), and the frequency you would like to help (every week, every other week, once a month).

Volunteer requirements:

- Volunteer application and orientation required to pack or deliver (application can be found online at [Volunteer – Tampa Bay Network To End Hunger](#))
- Pass a level 1 background check (level 2 background check preferred for delivery)
- Be able to stand and/or walk for up to 2 hours and lift and carry up to 30 lbs.

If you are unable to volunteer your time, but would like to help, please consider donating at: [Donate – Tampa Bay Network To End Hunger](#). For more information, call 813-344-5837.

Meals On Wheels
for Kids Needs
You!

Volunteers are needed!
Positions include
drivers, packers, and
box delivery.



mow4kids
MEALS ON WHEELS FOR KIDS
TAMPA BAY

Contact us!
www.networktoendhunger.org
(813)344-5837



Children's Ministry

Pastor Megan is in a time of prayer and discernment about the future of our Children's Ministry. We are already looking forward to when we kick-off Children's Messages, Children's Church, and Children's Sunday School once again. In order for all this to happen, we need a team of collaborative volunteers who are passionate about making this a thriving ministry for our church community. If you are willing and able to walk alongside Pastor Megan on this journey to please contact her (727-828-3972 or meganm@fpc-stpete.org) over the summer.

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.

Love Offering for Dawn

The session has approved a love offering in gratitude for Dawn's service to First Presbyterian Church-St Petersburg. Any checks should be made payable to FPC-St Pete and noted as "love offering" in the memo line, so that they can be correctly processed through the office. If you prefer to donate online, you can access Online Giving [HERE](#). Please use the drop-down box to designate your gift as a



Love Offering.

If you would like to write notes of appreciation for Dawn, they may be deposited in the pink boxes in the Church Office or the back of the Sanctuary. Blank notecards, envelopes and pens are available near the drop boxes. Gifts may be left near the boxes or delivered to the Church Office during business hours. If you would like to mail anything, please use the church address: 701 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

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 July 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 & Contemporary Faith Sunday School Classes 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 3). 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 July 30); 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](#).

First Presbyterian Church
701 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 822-2031

[Contact Us](#) | [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)

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

