

FIRST NEWS



Your Weekly News from
First Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg

July 24, 2020

Online Worship This Sunday

Join us for our 10 AM Online Worship Service
this Sunday, July 26!
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Sunday's Sermon:
"God's Resilient People Hope"
Pastor Dawn Conti

Scripture: [Psalm 116:1-2;12-19](#), [1 Peter 1:1-7](#)

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

This link may also be found on the home page of the church's website (www.fpcstpete.com - "Click Here to Watch Sunday Services") 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!

Prayer Concerns

Please remember in prayer: Carol Abernathy, Ron & Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt, Katy Churchil, Kat Cline, Carol Daniel, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sarah Fechter's son Gordon, Teresa Gasper, James Gonzales, Nancy Grandoff, Ron Hall, Cliff Hanks' daughter Sandra

Fay, Larry and Diane Heath, Margaret Hewitt, 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, Nancy McLaughlin, Camille Moran-Styles, Howard Moser, Tamara Murphy, Nancy Ogden, Peter Pav, Alan Pfeider, 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 coronavirus, and join us in praying for a quick end to this situation.

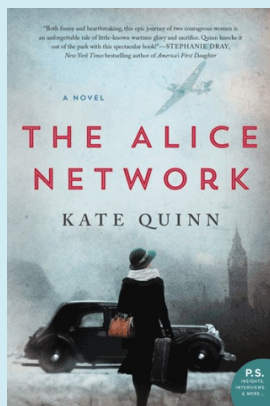


Please pray for our family and friends serving in the military: James Loeblein, USN; CPT. Taina Specie, USA; 1st LT. Liam Shelton, USA; 2nd LT. Mallory Wasik, USMC; CPT. Robert Wilson, USAF. *Please provide us with mailing addresses for our card ministry.*

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.

MY FAVORITE QUARANTINE READ



The one silver lining in having to stay home during the pandemic is having more time to read! One book that I really enjoyed was *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn. This is primarily another WWII book, but I'm finding that each of these books I read focuses on something unique and different that happened during that terrible war. This one features two women, in different eras, who show incredible courage in following paths that eventually intersect. As the story evolves, the largely unknown and amazing story of female espionage during the great war is divulged. Definitely a page-turner!

I enjoyed this one so much that I've just moved on to Quinn's newest work of historical fiction, *The Huntress*.

Linda Santoro

If you are asked what you have been doing during this quarantine, would your answer be "Reading a lot of books"?

We are hoping that many of you will let us know about your "Favorite Quarantine Read" by submitting a short paragraph describing the book. Not only will this be intriguing to *First News* readers, but it will help all of us know the interests of others in the church.



Please join in the fun by sending your Favorite Read to Mary Johnson (mgsjohnson@gmail.com).

"Oh the Places We Have Been" Meet our Member: Jean Reed

Sailing, reading, singing, and being Bob's wife have given Jean a wonderful life! She and Bob came from Illinois to St. Pete in 1988 when he was transferred to this area.



Jean worked for over 20 years with the President of Bayfront Medical Center. Along with her job, she and Bob raised three children together.

They joined FPC in January 1988 and were warmly welcomed by Dr. Art Ross, the minister at that time. Over the years, they both became involved in the activities of the church. Bob served as an Elder and both sang in the choir and were active members of the Covenanters Class.

Sailing in their boat to the Bahamas, the Gulf Coast, and to Panama City, Jean and Bob enjoyed the month-long trips with their children. Because of her passion for reading, Jean always took along at least 10 books to read! "We had a wonderful marriage because we loved each other and we loved the Lord."

Submitted by Diane Zuercher



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). If you need assistance using the online system, please call the Church Office and we'll be happy to walk you through the process 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!

From Susan Schlecht:

The New Hope Clinic has been closed since March due to the pandemic. All of Honduras has been locked down and Dr. Davila has not been allowed to travel outside of his home in Tegucigalpa. He sends me reports like the attached every 10 days or so, and they are horrific.



President Orlando Hernandez stole the election 2 years ago. The OAS (Organization of American States) protested, and asked President Trump to intervene. He refused, and since then the president's brother and sister have been indicted and found guilty of narco trafficking in the USA. President Hernandez has been named as well. An already bad situation in Honduras has exploded, as you can read.

Please continue to pray for Honduras and the world as they continue to pray for us.

[Here](#) is Dr. Davila's report.

Easy COVID Testing At Tropicana Field

A member of our church writes to share information about a very easy COVID-19 testing experience. She was tested at 9 AM last Friday in the drive-through parking lot on the west side of Tropicana Field. That screening is hosted by BayCare, and the professionals

assisting were very pleasant. From entry to exit it took about 5 minutes. There is no charge.

To receive services you must (a) have symptoms or (b) be referred by a health care provider or (c) possibly have been exposed to COVID-19. The list of symptoms now includes everything from runny nose to backache. No need to dread testing anymore. (Our member tested negative, as expected. Just needed confirmation before minor surgery.)

Summer Worship Service Soloists



Victoria Stout, alto, and Jack Rain, piano
"For Everyone Born"



Jerry Arnold, tenor, and Jack Rain, organ
Cantored Psalm 146



Carlos Walker, viola, accompanied by Jack Rain, organ
"Adoration"



Calling All Knitters/Crocheters! We are starting a Prayer Shawl Ministry here at FPC, and we would love for you to be a part of it! Prayer shawls made by the group will be blessed by the church then given to FPC members, friends, and to those in need.

Today, knitters and crocheters of all faiths are creating handmade shawls for people in need, as gifts of comfort, hope, and peace. If you are interested in participating, please call the Church Office (727-822-2031) for more details!

Publications Available For Pick-Up

The July/August/September editions of "These Days" devotionals and "Our Daily Bread" are available for pick-up during normal business hours at the Church Office.

Online Devotional With Pastor Dawn Mondays at 10 AM

Pastor Dawn invites you to join an online time of devotion, discussion, and prayer where we connect 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**, as of July 19, Zoom is requiring a password for all meetings. If it prompts you to enter one, the password for Monday devotionals moving forward will be "prayer."

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!



Letter from the Session

Although this letter was sent out yesterday, it is such important news that we want to make sure everyone receives it. Please click [HERE](#) for a message about our Day School from the Session.

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.*
- [July Birthdays](#)

All groups are currently 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.

- Sundays, 9 AM, Faith Journey Sunday School Class. For Zoom sign-in information,

contact the Church Office.

- Sundays, 10 AM, [Online Worship Service](#).
- Sundays, 11:15 AM, Contemporary Faith Sunday School Class. For Zoom sign-in information, email Lynn Kiehne (lkiehne@gmail.com).
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- Sundays, 4 PM, GriefShare Support Meeting. For Zoom sign-in information, email Petra Garnett (petra.garnett@gmail.com).
- Mondays, 10 AM, Online Devotional with Pastor Dawn. Click [HERE](#) to join. If you are prompted, use "prayer" as a password.
- Tuesdays, 7 PM, Weekly Virtual Meditation, online. For sign-in information, contact Carlen Maddux (cmaddux@maddux.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 [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

