

FIRST NEWS



Your Weekly News from
First Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg

July 3, 2020

Online Worship This Sunday

Join us for our 10 AM Online Worship Service
this Sunday, July 5!
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Lord's Supper

This Sunday's Sermon:
"God's Resilient People Appreciate"
Pastor Dawn Conti
Scripture: [Psalm 36:5-10](#), [Philippians 1:1-15](#)

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 the "Watch Here" button) as well as on the church's Facebook page.

PLEASE NOTE: 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.

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!

Special Video Message from Pastor Dawn



"I Was Glad"

Our anthem this Sunday, July 5, *"I Was Glad"* by Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918), is usually performed to commemorate royal occasions and was originally composed in 1902 for the coronation of King Edward VI in Westminster Abbey. Today, this piece can serve as a prayer of hope as we wait for the day when we will be able to worship in the same physical location together again. Until then, as this text says: we can "go into the house of the Lord" whether that place is in our church sanctuary or in various places brought together by modern technology and the Holy Spirit.

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, Peter Gulbis, Ilda Hall-Littell, 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.

**Introducing our
*Summer Music Series***

Throughout the next several weeks, the Chamber Singers will take a well-deserved break and summer hiatus. During that time, guest musicians will provide special music during our weekly 10 AM Online Worship Service on YouTube.



In addition to our weekly service music, our special guest musicians will record a second piece of music which will be posted online mid-week for you to enjoy as part of our *Summer Music Series*. We will provide information on how to access our mid-week *Summer Music Series* performances on the church website, in *First News*, and on our social media pages.



Thank You to Ruthie Reid-Holcomb, Praise Band Soloist

Last Sunday's Online Worship Service was enhanced by Ruthie Reid-Holcomb's appearance with the Praise Band. Ruthie, a 2003 graduate of Eckerd College, has worked at Bringe Music for 17 years. She was Head Chorister at St. Peter's Cathedral, St. Pete until the early 2000s. A former minister's daughter, sacred music has always held a special place in her heart.

Ruthie is happily married, a cat mom, and "just loves to sing." She aspires to live a caring, kind, and godly life. We hope she will return often to First Pres.

"Oh the Places We Have Been" Meet our Member: Margaret Scott

Are you a native Floridian? If so, you have a lot in common with Margaret Scott. She was born in Florida and grew up as a second-generation Floridian in Winter Park. She proudly exclaimed, "Give up Florida? I can't do that, I love it." She and her late husband, Lee, moved to St. Pete from Winter Park in 1990, where they became members of FPC.



Lee's work brought them to St. Pete, as he was the President of Florida Power at that time. Margaret had a brief career in Real Estate, but as she said, "I had two boys and a husband who wanted his wife home on Sundays!" Lee and Margaret split their time between North Carolina and St. Pete. This arrangement enabled them to enjoy the cool summer there and the warm winters here. During their stays in North Carolina, Margaret used her time to write short stories that were printed in the local newspaper.

In addition to her love of writing, Margaret is an avid reader. "I love to read all the time and I read most anything." So if you love to read, look Margaret up and you will find her reading - fiction, non-fiction, history, you name it, she will be reading it!

Submitted by Diane Zuercher

ISOLATION NEWS

Marilyn Mulcahy and Sherry Oliver Enjoy Exploring Local Parks As They Walk For Fitness

Marilyn Mulcahy and Sherry Oliver enjoy exploring different parks to walk in. These photos are taken by a lake in Clam Bayou.



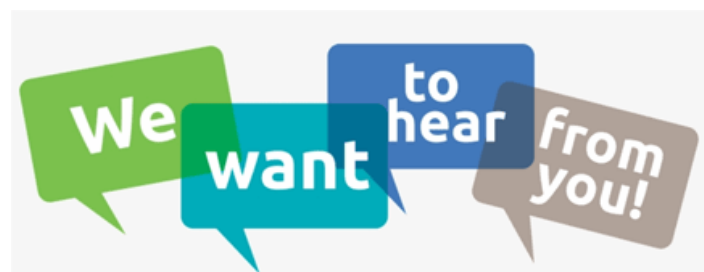
As a bonus, last week, they happened upon a manatee rescue by Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), UF, and others. Two stranded adult manatees and one calf were taken to be examined and then released. When the photos are magnified, you may see 4 kayaks for herding, two small motor boats for stringing safety nets, and some onland tents and vehicles. A drone was employed for spotting them.



Church For All

Max Letterman Shelton takes his front-row family room seat waiting for the start of FPC's online worship service.

What is "your Max" doing during isolation? Let us know!



Send news and a picture of your Fourth Of July celebration as well as pictures of your other isolation activities for *First News* to [Mary Johnson](#) and [Amy Grossenbacher](#).

Isolation-"Caterpillar Style" Narrated by: Mr. Caterpillar Submitted by: my gardener

Well, there I was, an overweight caterpillar "trucking along" to quickly find the perfect spot for my required isolation....when suddenly I was picked up (with a gentle touch) and found myself on a detour in the opposite direction.

Very gently I was placed under this very lovely purple plant and

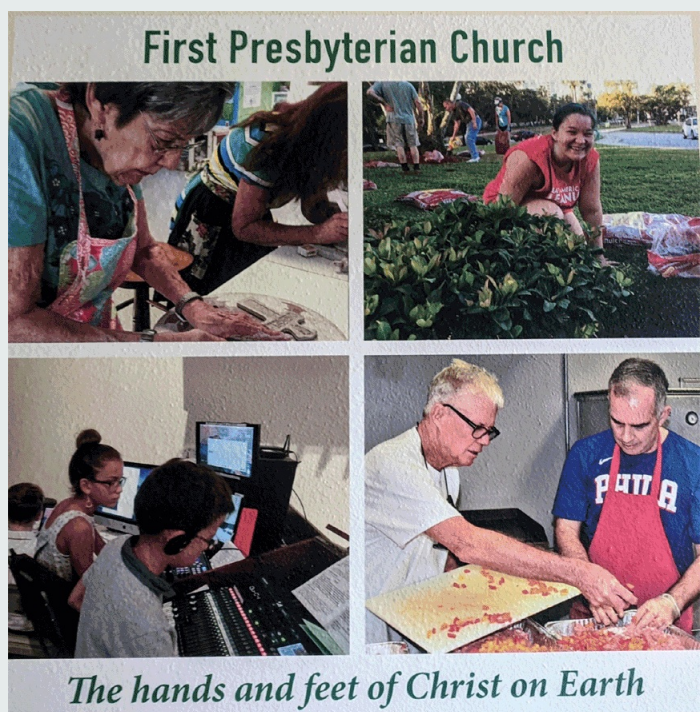
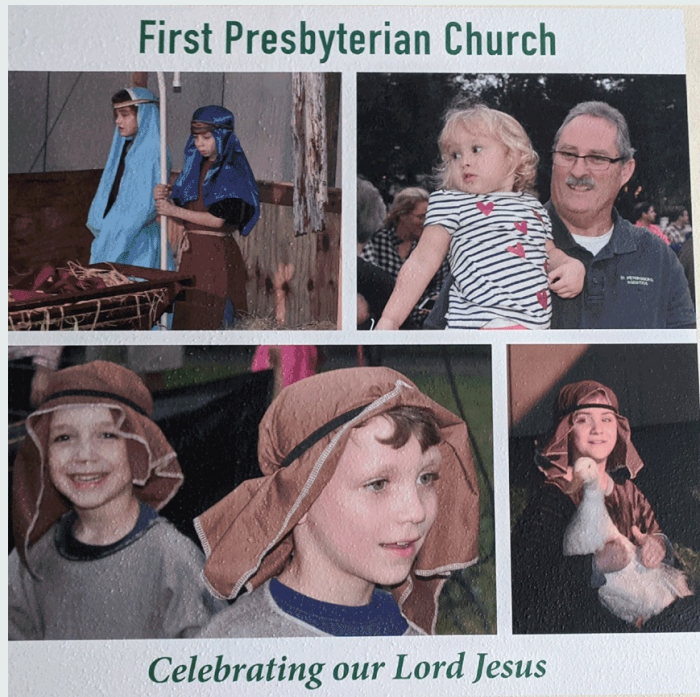


was told, "This place is much safer for you."

Since it was shady and cool, I quickly attached myself. I had to hurry up and isolate myself. This is a picture of me finally in isolation, A good long rest for 2 weeks. When I hear God's whisper "It's time," then my isolation will be over and I will have a new life!

These Walls CAN Talk! Photo Murals At FPC

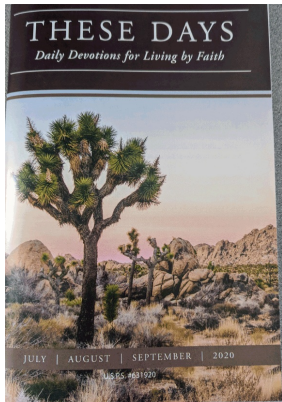
Before the coronavirus shut down our campus, you may have noticed our outdoor walls came to life with large photographs depicting the life of First Presbyterian Church St. Petersburg. Here are some of the photo murals.



These photo murals and signs are part of the Revitalization Committee's efforts to tell our story, boldly and proudly. From our Honduras mission trips to our music programs to our many outreaches, these photographs highlight what goes on inside and outside the walls of First Presbyterian. Other new signage, including a welcome tent, banners in the front, portable A-frame signs and 9-foot tall "feather" flags, welcome visitors to find the love of our Lord Jesus and opportunities to serve God as part of our congregation.

Gretchen Letterman spearheaded the new signage project, working with Sir Speedy print and marketing company in St. Petersburg which produced and installed the products.

Next time you are able to visit, be sure to check out the weatherproof signage and murals facing the parking lot, on the walls above the ramp to the Memorial Garden, on the north outside sanctuary wall and the front of the church. Also take a peek at the Fruits of the Spirit walkway on the Day School playground sidewalk.



Devotionals Available For Pick-Up

The July/August/September edition of "These Days" devotionals have been delivered to the Church Office and are available for pick-up during normal business hours!

Change In Church Financial Year

The church financial year has been changed back to calendar year, rather than a July-June fiscal year. [This letter](#) explains the reasons for this change and that records have been modified to reflect fiscal year pledges as calendar year pledges for the year 2020. o think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining!"

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 on the link in the calendar below.

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!



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](#)

Today, Friday, July 3, the Church Office is closed, in observance of Independence Day.

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, following the 10 AM Worship Service, Contemporary Faith Sunday School Class. For Zoom sign-in information, email Lynn Kiehne (lkiehne@gmail.com).
- 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.
- 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.

