

FIRST NEWS



June 16, 2023

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

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

this Sunday, June 18, 2023

Third Sunday after Pentecost / Father's Day

CONNECT SERVICE at 9 AM (Youth Center)

or

SANCTUARY SERVICE at 11 AM (Sanctuary)

Rev. Ginny Ellis

Sermon: "Quest for Justice"

Scripture: [Isaiah 42:1-9](#), [Luke 15:1-7](#)

Click [HERE](#) to watch the 9 AM service online.
Click [HERE](#) to watch the 11 AM 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. The service is also available for viewing on [our YouTube channel](#) throughout the week. Feel free to share the link with family and friends!

Click [HERE](#) for the 11 AM worship service bulletin.



Guest Organist this Sunday



We welcome to the console organist Robert Todd while Jack Rain is in Augusta, Georgia, attending the regional convention of the American Guild of Organists. Robert holds the Master of Liturgical Music degree from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He retired two years ago after a 30-year tenure as Director of Music and Organist at Holy Family Catholic Church here in St. Petersburg.

June Music

Click [HERE](#) to see the exciting line-up of music we have for our 11 AM Sanctuary Service in June, featuring local musicians who identify as LBGTQIA+.



Please remember in prayer: Millie Bradley, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Jane Harris, Margo Hart, Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Susan Key, Alisa Keys, Taffey Lichter, Dave & Pam Malone, Ginger McCoy, Nancy McLaughlin, John Ogden, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Henry Shaw, Jane Snoke



Joined the Church Triumphant

Nina Glover
June 9, 2023

Pray for our Honduras Team, who will be traveling back from their mission trip this weekend.

Please pray for our family and friends serving in the military: LT Marc-Antoni Juliá, USN; CPT Taina Specie, USA; CPT Liam Shelton, USA; 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 McCutcheon at amym@fpc-stpete.org.

From the Desk of Pastor Ginny

Dear Friends,

Thank you are asking me about my time in Atlanta with Luke and his children. It was a nice time, with a long drive on each end of the visit, and some cooking in the middle. I am fortunate to be only 8 hours away from these grandkids. This week, I headed to the airport to pick up the high school graduate grandson, and two of his friends who will be here for a VERY HOT Florida vacation the rest of this week! They arrived Wednesday and will be heading back home on Sunday. Then we head out again late next week for a week in Montreat with all three of our children and their families. I knew June was going to be crazy for me!

But the same is true for many of you, especially in the go-go and even the slow-go retirement years. You are enjoying Honduras, Iceland, England, Minnesota, Montana, North Carolina...so many places! We had thought it would be a "down time" here at the church. But not really: St Pete Primary School and American Stage have camps going on here on campus. We had a fantastic Beach Drive Forum this past Wednesday, and we're already planning for MissionSunday at the end of July, which will involve people helping to assemble 500-1000 backpacks, but also wearing hats for worship! That should be both hard work and also lots of fun. We are making plans for a different sort of service at 11:00 for July and August, (the 9:00 Connect service will not change). But the Sanctuary service will be a little more intimate, a little less formal. I'm hoping you will submit suggestions of favorite hymns for us to sing.

We have lots going on, a little less formality. Sounds like summer!

Blessings,
Ginny Ellis

Lectio/Visio Summer Hiatus

Our Monday morning Lectio/Visio Zoom devotion time is on vacation until August 14. Until then, good summer wishes to all!

First Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg welcomes and affirms the gifts of all people. **Throughout the month of June**, we invite you to join us as we celebrate love, inclusion, and diversity. Every Sunday in June, experience uplifting worship services filled with relevant sermons and special musical guests. Together, we will explore meaningful ways to

embrace our diverse community and foster a spirit of acceptance.



Meeting with the Pastor During Pride Month

Pastor Ginny Ellis will be available for anyone who would like to meet with her after worship. She will be in the Chapel after each service this Sunday (June 18). This is meant to be a safe place for anyone to express their feelings or to share their own story. Depending on who chooses to come, it may be a group of people meeting together.

Participate with FPC in the St Pete Pride Parade

First Presbyterian Church will participate in the downtown St. Pete Pride Parade on **Saturday, June 24th**. Our church van will serve as our float, offering a cool and comfortable respite from the heat as we walk in support of the LGBTQIA+ community. If you're interested in joining us, please contact the Church Office (office@fpc-stpete.org or 727-822-2031).

We look forward to celebrating the beauty of diversity and standing in solidarity with you this June. Let us join together as a loving and inclusive community, spreading God's message of acceptance and compassion. #FPCSTPETE #LoveInclusionDiversity #PrideMonth #WeWelcomeAll

Church *Shine* Day – July 7

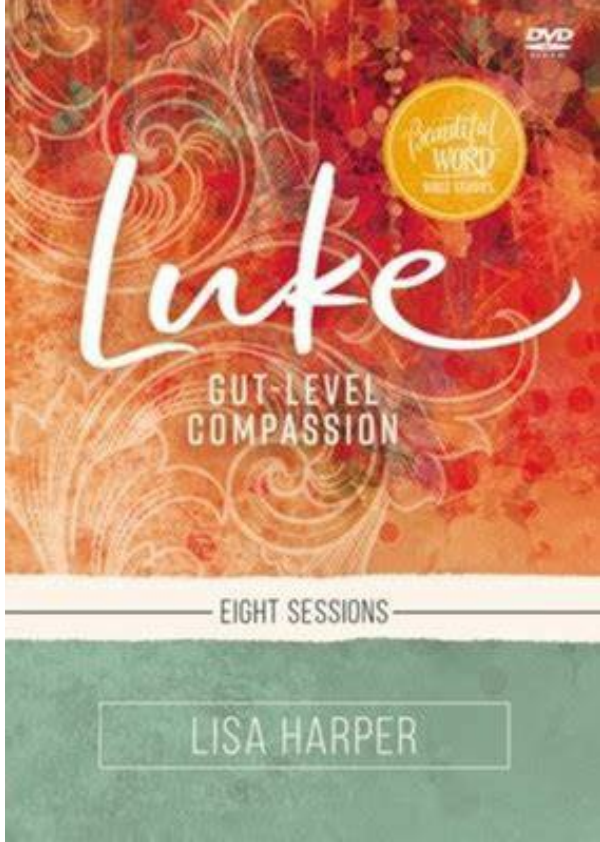
Would you like to help us honor God by *shining up* our church... that is cleaning, clearing out unwanted stuff and organizing the things we need to do our ministry in the best way possible? To that end, we are scheduling a Church "Shine" Day on Friday, July 7 from 9:30 am till we break for lunch! Serious shiners may choose to work into the afternoon! You may drop by for as long as you are able to help us get started on this BIG project! Some of the work will be physical, while other jobs can be done seated at a table. With many hands, food, drink, and music, it is going to be a FUN shine day! Please mark your calendars and plan to come!



Ladies, you are invited to Lisa Harper's new Bible Study! Luke: Gut-Level Compassion

For 8 weeks we will study the humanity and compassion of Jesus shared by Luke. The great news woven throughout the Gospel according to Luke is that perfection is not a prerequisite for deep and personal relationship with Jesus!

Join us on Tuesday mornings



through August 8 (not meeting July 4)
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
in the Youth Center

Workbooks (including streaming video access for all sessions) will be available for \$25. We know it's summer – come when you can! No previous Bible study experience is needed. Bring a friend! Sorry, at this time there is no childcare available. Questions? April Hussung: 727-420-1758 or stapler39@aol.com.

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.
- Help us stay connected by sending us your pictures and prayer requests!



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!



During this season, 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). 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 June Birthdays

Some groups are still 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.

Regularly Scheduled Events:

- **Sundays, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM**, childcare is available, Room 203
- **Sundays, 9 AM**, Connect Worship Service, Youth Center or [Online](#)
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Faith Journey Sunday School Class, Room S-202
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Power Hour Sunday School Class, Youth Center
- **Sundays, 11 AM**, Sanctuary Worship Service, Sanctuary or [Online](#)

- **Mondays, 10 AM**, Lectio Divina (on summer break until August 14)

- **Tuesdays, 9 AM**, Ladies' Bible Study, Youth Center
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation (on summer break until August 8)

- **Wednesdays, 7 PM**, Praise Band Rehearsal, Youth Center

- **Thursdays, 6 PM**, Bell Choir Rehearsal (on summer break)
- **Thursdays, 7 PM**, Chancel Choir Rehearsal (on summer break)

- **Fridays, 7:30 AM**, Men's Bible Study, Room N-123
- **Fridays, 12 PM**, Men's Lunch Bible Study, via Zoom. For more information, contact John Underwood (pjfwon@gmail.com)

Upcoming Events:

- **Saturday, June 24**, FPC participates in the St Pete Pride Parade
- **Monday, June 26, 1:30 PM**, Card Fellowship
- **Tuesday, July 4**, Church Office will be closed in observance of Independence Day
- **Friday, July 7, 9:30 AM**, Church "Shine" Day

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 McCutcheon at amym@fpc-stpete.org.

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

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thur. 9 AM - 5 PM; closed Fridays

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



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