

FIRST NEWS



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

June 17, 2022

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for our Worship Service at 10 AM
this Sunday, June 19, 2022
in the Sanctuary or online
Second Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Art Ross
Sermon: "*Church: A Treasure Entrusted to Cracked Pots*"
Scriptures: [Galatians 3:23-29](#), [2 Corinthians 4:1-12](#)

There will be a reception in the Chapel
directly following worship this Sunday, so our
congregation can greet Art and Jan Ross personally.
A light lunch of finger foods will be served.

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

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.

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!

**PLEASE NOTE: we have a MASK-OPTIONAL policy
for worship services and on-campus activities.**

Praise Band Preview - Happy Father's Day!

It's Father's Day this Sunday and your FPC Praise Band has some great music planned. We'll be performing *Good Good Father* and *Jesus Take All of Me*. Click below to preview the music and we'll see you on Sunday!

[Good Good Father](#)
[Jesus Take All of Me](#)



Please remember in prayer: Millie Bradley, Leah Cutting, John Daniel, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Lillian Harris, Margo Hart, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, Chris Johnson, Russ Johnson, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Susan Key, Alisa Keys, Jean Kohler, Sarita Lastrapes, Margie Laughlin, Taffey Lichter, Dave & Pam Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Janet Poling, Dick Oliver, Henry Shaw, Judy Smith, 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 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; CPT 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 McCutcheon at amym@fpc-stpete.org.

From the Desk of Pastor Ginny

Dear Friends,

I got surprised by tears on Sunday as we said goodbye to Megan McMillan. One of you said I was not the only one. I have found myself reflecting on how God brings people into our lives for long or short periods of time, and we can learn from them, or teach them, experience things with them, and then suddenly things change. There is sorrow at times about that, or celebration, but in all things, we know that God is at work. God is good. All the time! We have sent Megan off with our love.

I was asked to do the chapel service at Westminster Palms this past Wednesday. The theme for the month's devotionals is "Fun in the Sun." I wasn't sure how to put together a worship time using that theme, but finally decided to use the story of Jonah. Do you remember the story? Jonah prophesied to the evil city of Nineveh that if it didn't change its ways God would destroy it. Jonah then sits up on a hill under the shade of a bush, waiting to see the much-deserved destruction of Nineveh. But Jonah's prophecy was so effective that Nineveh changed its ways and God saved the city. Meanwhile Jonah sat on his hill sulking. But because God has a sense of humor (did you know that?), and God sent a worm to eat away the bush shading Jonah from the hot sun. (There's the connection to Fun in the Sun!) Then God challenges the now angry Jonah: do you care about the bush, but expect me not to care about the great city of Nineveh?

It's fascinating for us to be reminded, at times, as Jonah was on that hot day, that our ways are not God's ways and our thoughts are not God's thoughts. We are always challenged to show more grace and offer more forgiveness than we would when left to our own devices. I am pondering that in my life. Perhaps you will too.

I hope you are enjoying the sun and the Son wherever you are!
Blessings,
Ginny

New Member Inquirer's Class
Next Sunday, June 26 in the Youth Center
immediately following worship

Whether you have been visiting FPC St. Pete for a brief time or for longer, you will want to join us for a new member inquirer's class. This is your opportunity to learn about what it means to be a Presbyterian, plus hear the answers to all those questions you may have about our church, faith, and what you need to do to become a member. We will meet in the Youth Center on June 26 immediately following worship, where we will enjoy a light lunch and a great program from Pastor Ginny. Elders will be on-hand should you wish to join the church following the class. Please RSVP by calling the Church Office (727-822-2031). This is a great chance to learn about and join downtown's most welcoming church!

GOD LOVES US ALL!

First Presbyterian is proud to be showing its support at the St. Pete Pride Festival along the parade route on the downtown waterfront Saturday June 25. Please join us!



Unfortunately, we missed the deadline for actually marching in the parade (there's always next year!), but we will **gather in the church parking lot at 3 p.m.** to walk with our new FPC Pride banners over to the waterfront. **The parade will step off at 4 p.m. (note the time change from an earlier First News item)** from Vinoy Park and run along Bayshore Drive to Albert Whitted Airport. Be sure to bring your water bottles, hats, and sunscreen!

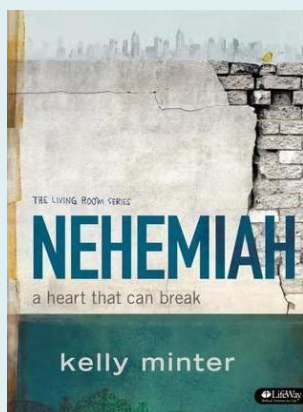
Those who are unable to walk are welcome to come to the parking lot to cheer on the group as we head over to the parade route.

If you would like to participate with church friends to spread the message that FPC loves all, just like God does, please let the Church Office know (727-822-2031).



Andy Oswald called to let us know about new baby **Tanner Harold Oswald**, born May 24, 2022. Tanner was 7 pounds, 15 ounces, and 19 ½ inches long. All in the family are doing well. Big brother Parker is now 18 months old.

Ladies, you are invited to a 7-week Summer Bible Study: "Nehemiah – a heart that can break"



Nehemiah's heart was so broken for those in need that he left the comfort of his Persian palace to help them. This study challenges women to let God break their hearts for a hurting, lost world and move them in compassion to lead people to Jesus. This study was written by author, speaker, songwriter, and worship leader, Kelly Minter.

Join us on Tuesday mornings in the Youth Center

July 12 – August 23, 2022

9:00 a.m.* – 11:30 a.m.

*Note: new starting time at 9:00 a.m.!

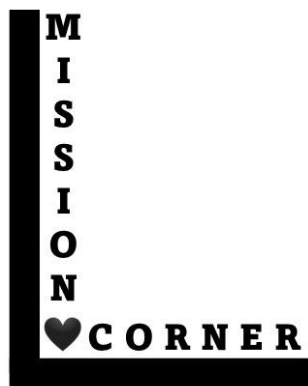
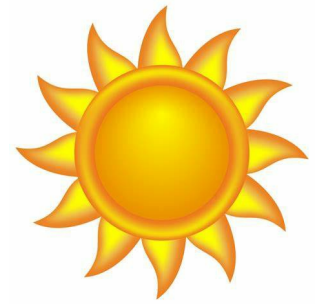
(we know it's summer, come when you can!)

Everyone is welcome – no previous Bible study experience is required. Workbooks will be available for \$20. Sorry, at this time there is no childcare available. Questions? Contact April Hussung: (727) 420-1758 or stapler39@aol.com.

Summer House Church - July 23

All are invited to Summer House Church @ the Mossman's on

Saturday, July 23rd from noon to 3 PM. Bring a dish to pass, your beverage, and your swimsuit & towel, if you wish. Please RSVP to Karen text (727-400-5079) or email (karenamossmann@gmail.com) by July 18. Address: 373 6th Ave N, Tierra Verde.



AfghanTech Round 2

Last Saturday (June 11), friends and members of First Presbyterian were able to clean and retrofit an additional eight laptops and iPads for our new neighbors from Afghanistan.

Participating in this effort sponsored by our Mission Committee were Don Doddridge, Dimitri Gruszka, Mary and Ronn Johnson, Robin Lyle, Carlen Maddux, Rue Ann Porter, and Susan Schlecht. They were led by our media director, Dave Aumack, and his sailing buddy, IT expert Mike Kelzer.



As with Round 1 in late April, there was considerable downtime as these computers were recycling. "We had a good time talking and catching up with each other," several of the participants acknowledged. Again, it took up to four hours to complete the project Saturday.

A total of 31 members and friends of our church will now have 1) wrapped up and delivered 26 laptops and iPads to these Afghan families resettling here; 2) contributed 24 bike helmets; and 3) offered transportation to their family members as needed.



You may remember, Westminster Communities is working with Lutheran Services to help these Afghan families resettle in St. Petersburg, Bradenton, Orlando and elsewhere in Florida.

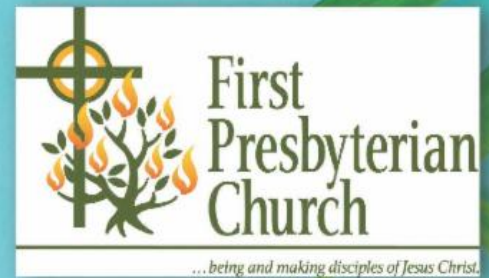
Leaving your homeland, family, and friends can be harder than hard. FPC's Mission Committee is grateful to all who contributed their time, effort,

money, and prayers in helping our Afghan friends feel welcomed and accepted in their new home. Thank you.

SUMMER MUSIC SERIES



- JUNE 19** Todd Donovan, baritone
- JUNE 26** Susan Hellman-Spatafora, soprano
- JULY 10** Gerald Arnold, tenor
- JULY 17** Roy Lawson, cello
- JULY 24** Victoria Stout, alto
- JULY 31** Kevin Clark, trumpet
- AUGUST 14** Liam Dunn, piano
- AUGUST 21** Chelsea Gentner, soprano
- AUGUST 28** Kaandis Mance, flute
- SEPTEMBER 4** Leah Kirkland, soprano
and Anna Kirkland, oboe



JOIN OUR SUMMER CHOIR

SING IN OUR 10:00AM SERVICE
ON JULY 3RD AND AUGUST 7TH

TO REHEARSE WITH US, MEET AT 9:30AM IN THE CHOIR ROOM PRIOR TO SERVICE
NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY



Devotionals Available

Copies of the Jul/
Aug/Sept edition of "Our
Daily Bread" and "These
Days" devotionals are
now available for pick-up
from the Church Office
during normal business
hours or at the Welcome
Center on Sunday
mornings.



Hiring Nursery Staff



We are looking to hire two good people to staff a nursery for young children on Sunday mornings, from 9:30 to 11:00 AM. If you are interested, or know someone to suggest, please call the Church Office (727-822-2031).

A background check will be required.

Grieving? Know someone who is?

GriefShare is every Sunday
at 4 PM, meeting virtually (via Zoom).



Whether your bereavement experience is recent or not so recent, you will find encouragement, comfort and help in grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, other family member, or friend. This program features biblical, Christ-centered teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The 13-week DVD seminar features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories of people, followed by a small group discussion about what was viewed. This is a great opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling. Don't allow fear of what others may think to keep you from what could help you. Confidentiality is very much a part of this program.

Need more information? Want to sign up? Call the Church Office at 727-822-2031.



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**, Faith Journey Sunday School Class, Chapel
- **Sundays, 9 AM**, Power Hour Sunday School Class, taking a break for the summer
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Worship Service, Sanctuary or [Online](#)
- **Sundays, 4 PM**, GriefShare, via Zoom

- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, meeting in-person on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month (next in-person meeting is **June 28**, in the Chapel). For more information, contact Carlen Maddux (cmaddux@maddux.com)

- **Wednesdays, 7:30 PM**, **(NEW day and time!)** Praise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary

- **Thursdays, 7 PM**, Chancel Choir Rehearsal, taking a break for the summer

- **Fridays, 7:30 AM**, Men's Bible Study, Room N-123. **Last meeting before summer break will be this Friday, June 24.** Please contact Ken Young at 207-841-8562 for more information.
- **Fridays, 12 PM**, Men's Lunch Bible Study, via Zoom. For more information, contact John Underwood (pjfwon@gmail.com)

Upcoming Events:

- **Sunday, June 26**, New Member Inquirer's class, immediately following worship in the Youth Center
- **Monday, July 4**, Church Office closed for Independence Day holiday

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

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

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

