

# FIRST NEWS



**October 13, 2023**

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

**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP  
this Sunday, October 15, 2023  
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

**CONNECT SERVICE at 9 AM (Youth Center)  
or  
SANCTUARY SERVICE at 11 AM (Sanctuary)**

**Rev. Ginny Ellis  
Sermon Series: Preparing to Sail  
Sermon: "Feeling the Wind Blow"  
Scripture: [1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-21](#), [Hebrews 13:10-16](#)**

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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](http://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 9 AM worship service bulletin.  
Click [HERE](#) for the 11 AM worship service bulletin.



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

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](mailto:amym@fpc-stpete.org).

## From the Desk of Pastor Ginny

Dear Friends,

We are turning a corner as you elect a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). It's a corner we have been moving toward for the entire two years I have been here as Interim Head of Staff: preparation for the next chapter in this church's ministry. We are talking about the church as a sailboat, and I am imagining the parts of the sailboat. Can you name some of those parts? Can you think of which of the parts of the boat you represent: hull, deck, sail, rudder, anchor, galley, others? Which are you? Where has God called you to serve, maybe just in this particular moment in your life? We might be talking about this a bit on Sunday afternoon's final Visioning Conversation (4 p.m., Fellowship Hall).

Meanwhile we are meeting after each worship service this week to elect the PNC. Here are the names of the nominees being presented by your Nominating Committee:

**Bryan Bardin** grew up in this church. He is a professional, is single and under 40. Bryan is very creative and is part of the tech team at our Connect service. He worked 7 years as Director of Children and Youth Ministry in a PC(USA) church in NY and is an ordained elder. He is a favorite uncle for four beautiful children.

**Don Doddridge** is a member of our Session, serves on the Finance Committee, and chairs the Property Committee. Don was CEO of One Blood, Inc. before he retired, and next year will chair the Board of Westminster Communities of Florida, which manages senior residential facilities, including three here in St. Petersburg. Don is active in our Men's Meal Ministry.



April Hussung coordinates the Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study here at FPC and works part-time at a law firm. An ordained elder, April has a heart for mission; she went many times to Honduras with our Mission Team. She and husband Brad have three grown daughters and three grandchildren. Usually at the Connect service, April is sometimes at the 11:00.

Lynne Mormino is on our Board of Deacons, a member of PW Circle 9 and on the Beach Drive Forum Task Force. Lynne sings in our choir, is active on our Mission Committee and is involved with a number of the non-profit agencies in St. Petersburg. She worked 38 years with Social Security Administration and has a lively interest in the music of American history.

Chris Mossman recently retired (early) from the media field where he traveled nationally and internationally in his work. A businessman with many organizational skills, Chris is personable and friendly. He attends the Connect service at 9:00 with wife Karen. Chris recently served on the Strategic Property Task Force and is a member of the Personnel and Administration Committee.

Kirby Volz recently moved to St. Petersburg from Indiana where he taught high school drama. Here in Pinellas County, Kirby stays active with community drama groups, sings in choruses and in our choir when he can; he is also a substitute teacher in the school system. An ordained elder, Kirby attends our 11:00 service and serves as a liturgist.

Annie Zuercher teaches in a public elementary school. Annie and husband Dennis regularly attend the 9:00 Connect service. Their two children (Emma and Henry) participated in children's and youth programs here at the church; both went on mission trips to Honduras, and both worked as counselors at our Presbytery's camp and conference center, Cedarkirk.

See you Sunday, or whenever.

Meanwhile: Blessings!

Ginny Ellis

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## A Congregational Meeting is called for October 15 at the close of each service

This meeting is called for the purpose of hearing a report from the Nominating Committee and for election of a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) Being nominated for the committee of 7 are the following church members:

Bryan Bardin, Don Doddridge, April Hussung, Lynne Mormino, Chris Mossman, Kirby Volz, and Annie Zuercher (see Pastor Ginny's notes above for more info on each nominee). We hope you will be able to attend one of these meetings.



**PLEASE  
NOTE:**

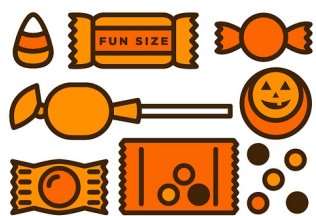
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## Lectio/Visio Divina

Join us in a Zoom devotion time at 10 a.m. on Mondays for the practice of Lectio/Visio Divina, a contemplative study of Scripture (and corresponding art) that will be used in worship the following Sunday. Click on the link [HERE](#) to join or enter meeting code 859 9201 7591 and password *lectio*.

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## Halloween Candy Collection



During the month of October, we will be collecting Halloween candy for Trunk or Treat (scheduled for Saturday, October 28 from 4 - 6 PM....more info below!).

Drop off wrapped candy donations on Sunday mornings (both the Youth Center and Sanctuary will have big collection baskets) OR at the Church Office (Monday - Thursday, 9 AM - 5 PM). Thanks!

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### Join us tomorrow - October 14 - for a picnic and solar eclipse

Did you know there will be a partial solar eclipse during the middle of the day on Saturday, October 14? Gather your family and friends, pack a picnic, and bring a blanket or lawn chairs to the front lawn at church for an Eclipse Viewing Picnic from noon to 3

pm! Eclipse viewing glasses will be provided in both kid and adult sizes. Kyle Brinkman and other members of the St. Petersburg Astronomy Club are bringing some big telescopes for our eclipse viewing pleasure and will be on hand to enlighten us about eclipses, astronomy, and maybe even answer other questions about other mysteries of the universe! A live feed from one of the telescopes will be streamed onto a screen in the Chapel for any who need the comfort of air conditioning. Come see how "the heavens are telling the glory of God!"

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### Fall Fun Day at Cedarkirk Camp Sunday, October 15 from 1:00-7:00 PM

This Sunday, Oct. 15 from 1-7 p.m., families with children and youth are invited to take part in a special Fall Fun Day at our Presbyterian camp, Cedarkirk, where you can have all kinds of adventures: zipping on the zip line, mastering the climbing wall, doing archery, and even swimming in the big pool (if it's warm enough). There will also be fall-themed arts and crafts and fall games around the pavilion (think pumpkins)! The river is currently low enough for shark's teeth hunting and there is always the gaga pit and basketball and volleyball available. Who knows, there may even be time for singing some camp songs before a delicious camp dinner! \$20 donation per participant. Student scholarships available here at FPC. Contact Linda Champion or Pastor Jeanie for more information. Cedarkirk is located in Lithia, about 90 minutes via I-275 and the Selmon Expressway from our church parking lot. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more!



Please mark your calendars to join in this community conversations at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Light delectable bites will be served.



**Wednesday, October 18**  
*An Untold Story of World War II:  
Tuskegee Airmen Nurses*

Why were some nurses initially stopped from serving their country in World War II? Compiled for the first time, recollections of United States Army Nurses who served alongside the famous Tuskegee Airmen as told by the daughter of one of these heroic women, author and journalist, Pia Jordan.

Childcare will be provided with advance reservations only.

[CLICK HERE to RSVP](#) for childcare on October 18.

A promotional poster for Presbyterian Heritage Sunday. On the left is a vertical strip of colorful tartan fabric. The main text is on a white background with a brown banner for the title. The church logo is at the top left. The date 'OCTOBER 22, 2023' is in a brown box. The featured group is 'St. Andrew's Pipes & Drums of Tampa Bay'. Service details are listed at the bottom. A scenic photo of a green hillside by the water is on the right.

 **First Presbyterian Church**  
*...being and making disciples of Jesus Christ.*

**Join us as we celebrate**

**PRESBYTERIAN HERITAGE SUNDAY**

**OCTOBER 22, 2023**

featuring  
**St. Andrew's Pipes & Drums of Tampa Bay**

**9:00 a.m. Connect Service**  
Solo bagpipe player at the conclusion of the service

**11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service**  
Pipes and Drums processional during the service and a concert on the patio at the conclusion of the service

**Would you like to be an important part of our Presbyterian Heritage Sunday?**

If you would like to be a tartan/banner carrier during the procession at the 11 AM service on Oct. 22, please contact Gretchen Letterman ([gretchen.letterman@gmail.com](mailto:gretchen.letterman@gmail.com))!

**Teen Confirmation Class**

The teen confirmation class has started...the next one will be Oct. 22 at 10 AM in Room S-205. We're using an exciting curriculum that uses punchy infographics in video and in workbooks





and includes fun activities which helps students both recognize and recollect ideas about what it means to be a Presbyterian, a Christian, and a child of God! We don't have to have all the answers and solve all the problems, but we will be facilitating the discovery process!

Please invite any teenagers you know who **might** be interested in joining us and make some new friends along the way!

Pastor Jeanie

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## TRUNK OR TREAT Is Coming! Saturday, Oct. 28 from 4-6 PM Invite family, friends, and neighbors!

Please help us get ready! Use the sign-up links to volunteer in the following categories:

- Donate **CANDY**! See above for details on where/when to drop it off.
- [SIGN UP HERE](#) to **decorate your car trunk** and hand out candy. Let your FUN and CREATIVE juices flow!
- If you can, please help by being a **volunteer Bounce House monitor**. [SIGN UP HERE](#) to volunteer for a 60-minute shift at one of the bounce houses. (You can be seated!)
- Do you have a great **CHILI RECIPE** you'd love to share? [SIGN UP HERE](#) then bring your crockpot filled and we will plug it in!

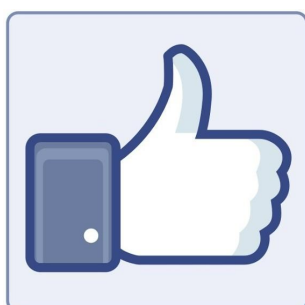
The Men's Meal Ministry will also be roasting hotdogs and fixings! Questions? Please text or call Kathy Bardin (727-418-4577) or Pastor Jeanie (260-348-4724).

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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!

We continue to be thankful for the



generosity of all who contribute financially to our church, along with the other contributions they bring to our ministry. 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 October 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 S-203
- **Sundays, 9 AM**, Connect Worship Service, Youth Center or [Online](#)
- **Sundays, 9:45 AM**, Faith Journey Sunday School Class, Room S-202
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Power Hour Sunday School Class, Youth Center
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Young Adults/Parents Sunday School Class, Room S-206
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, Teens' Sunday School Class, Room S-205 (meets every other week)
- **Sundays, 11 AM**, Sanctuary Worship Service, Sanctuary or [Online](#)
  
- **Mondays, 10 AM**, Lectio Divina, via [Zoom](#)
  
- **Tuesdays, 9 AM**, Ladies' Bible Study, Youth Center
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, Chapel (meets in-person the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month)
  
- **Wednesdays, 7 PM**, Praise Band Rehearsal, Youth Center
  
- **Thursdays, 6 PM**, Bell Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite
- **Thursdays, 7 PM**, Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite
  
- **Fridays, 8:00 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](mailto:pjfwon@gmail.com))

### Upcoming Events:

- Saturday, October 14, 11:30 AM, Solar Eclipse Viewing and Picnic
- Sunday, October 15, Congregational Meeting at the end of each service
- Sunday, October 15, 4:30 PM, "Preparing to Sail" Visioning Conversation #3
- Wednesday, October 18, 6 PM, Beach Drive Forum, *An Untold Story of World War II: Tuskegee Airmen Nurses*
- Sunday, October 22, Presbyterian Heritage Sunday
- Saturday, October 28, 4 PM, Trunk or Treat
- Sunday, November 12, MissionSunday (more info next week!)

## 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](mailto:amym@fpc-stpete.org).

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

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

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



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