

FIRST NEWS



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

September 23, 2022

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for our Worship Service at 10 AM
this Sunday, September 25, 2022
in the Sanctuary or online
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Ginny Ellis
Sermon: "Reflections for The Road Ahead -
Week 3: Roadblocks and Detours"
Scriptures: [Genesis 12:1-5b](#), [Hebrews 11:1, 8-12](#)

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 - The Road Continues

This week, your FPC Praise Band has two great tunes lined up for you. The first, *Grace Greater*, is one of our newer tunes that you should recognize from recent services. The second, *God So Loved*, is one of our old favorites. Click below to hear the music and we'll be seeing you on Sunday!

[Grace Greater](#)
[God So Loved](#)



Please remember in prayer: Faith Bedford, Millie Bradley, Ellen Carnahan, Michelle Carothers, John Daniel, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Margo Hart, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, Russ Johnson, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Susan Key, Alisa Keys, Jean Kohler, Margie Laughlin, Taffey Lichter, Dave & Pam Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Janet Poling, 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; 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 at FPC, wherever you may be,

This week, again, has been busy, busy, busy. We are in the midst of *The Road Ahead*, with our 9 conversation groups, inviting each of YOU (in-person or on Zoom) to be part of the dialogue. The groups have grown this second week; at least 70 people have joined in! If you haven't gotten involved, you still can do so (see the schedule and link below). With Week Two, we looked at what things in the church's life we will want and need to carry with us on the road ahead. For Week Three, at worship this Sunday and in the Conversation Groups next week, we will look at the Detours and Roadblocks on this Road: the challenges. The journey is not always easy; you and I have learned that in our lives, haven't we? It is so good to know that our God journeys with us, leading us through fire and cloud, through Word and Spirit. People participating in this conversation tell me they really appreciate the chance to engage openly

together in this way. Come join us!

This past Wednesday, down in our Fellowship Hall, I led part of St Pete Primary School's Chapel Service, sharing with 100+ children about love. I told them the story Jesus told about the shepherd who had 100 sheep, but had lost 1 of them. Off the shepherd went to seek and find that last sheep. Just like how God seeks us, when we are lost in some way. We are never lost from God, who loves us so much, who seeks us out and brings us home. (I used about 25 stuffed animals for the sheep and, don't you know, it was our mischievous frog Clover who got lost!) You will be glad to know that the children helped me locate much-loved Clover, who will be back in our Sanctuary on Sunday! You can come too, if you are able.

God be with you!
Love and blessings,
Ginny Simmons Ellis

If you would still like to sign up for a *The Road Ahead* conversation group, there are sign-up sheets on a table in the back of the Sanctuary on Sundays, or you can sign up online, by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Group days and times:

1. SUNDAYS at 11:15 a.m. in the Chapel or Youth Center
2. SUNDAYS at 11:30 a.m. on ZOOM
3. MONDAYS at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel
4. MONDAYS at 3:30 p.m. at Westminster Palms, Palm Room, Palm Center building
5. TUESDAYS at 4:30 p.m. on ZOOM
6. WEDNESDAYS at 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Center
7. WEDNESDAYS at 7:00 p.m. on ZOOM
8. THURSDAYS at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR NEWEST FPC STAFF MEMBERS!



**This week, meet
Dave Hunt**
Coordinator of Pastoral Care

I just recently moved to St. Petersburg (January 2022) from Dayton, Ohio. I visited a few Presbyterian churches looking for "my people" then found First Presbyterian St. Pete and knew I was at home! I enjoy flipping houses, building picture frames, and repurposing furniture.

I'm very excited to be on staff working with this very cool group of people and cannot wait to get coordinating pastoral care and visits!

To contact Dave, you can email him at dhunt@fpc-stpete.org or call the

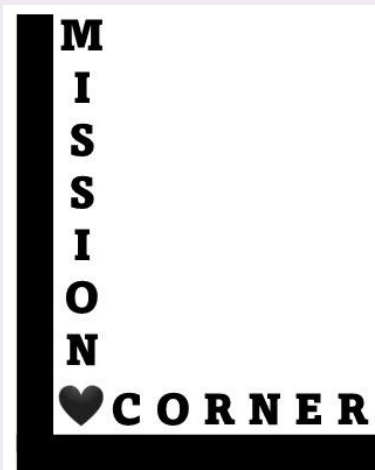
Lectio Divina on Monday mornings

We would love for you to join us on Monday mornings at 10 AM via Zoom for Lectio Divina, when we reflect on scriptures that will be used in the coming Sunday's worship service. To join, just click the link: [HERE](#).

Card Fellowship Reminder

from Marilyn Mulcahy

Card Fellowship meets this coming Monday, Sept.26 from 1:30 -3 :00 pm in the Church Office Conference Room. We will be sending birthday cards, get well cards, thinking of you cards, etc. and always need help. Anyone may come, just bring a pen! I'll bring some cookies and you can bring a bottle of water. Be prepared for lively chat and a full heart when you leave!

A red square logo with the text "Deacons' Corner" in white, tilted slightly to the right.

From the Mission Committee

by Mary-Linda Armacost

Today I learned of an urgent need from Lakewood Elementary for a person who would be willing to donate some time on a regular basis as a "grandma/grandpa" to 9-year-old Gracelyn. Gracelyn lost her foster home and goes home each night with a different agency person. She came to her 3rd grade classroom with no shoes or clothes and nothing more than a garbage bag for her books. Immediately, a donor provided a VISA gift card for \$200 to get the necessities. The much more urgent need, however, is for a person to come into this child's life consistently and spend time with her! She truly has no one. If you can do this or wish to explore this opportunity, please contact Mary-Linda Armacost, 727-465-8108 or mlsma@cs.com.

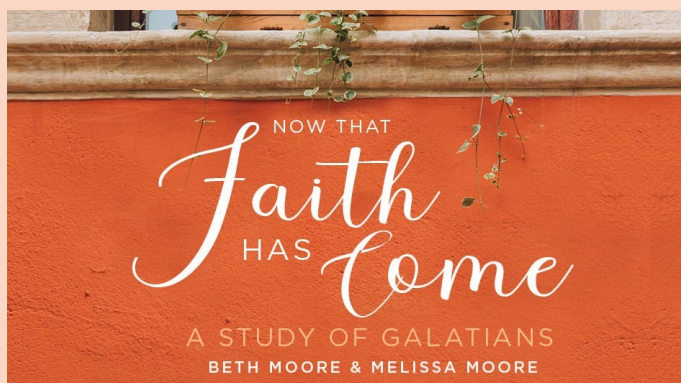
PLAN TO BRING YOUR FAVORITE GHOSTS & GOBLINS TO



TRUNK OR TREAT

**Saturday
October 29
4:00-6:00 p.m.
North Shore Parking Lot**

**We will be collecting individually wrapped candy for this event through Sunday, Oct. 23. You can drop any donations off in the Sanctuary or Church Office!
Stay tuned for further details of this fun event!!**



“Now That Faith Has Come - A Study of Galatians”

Join Beth & Melissa Moore for a 7-week deep-dive into Paul’s captivating letter to the Galatians. Let’s study it’s original context and embrace it’s timeless relevance. We will discover - or perhaps rediscover - what makes the gospel of Jesus revolutionary to those who choose to believe.

**Join us on Tuesday mornings through November 1, 2022
in the Youth Center
9:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

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? April Hussung: (727) 420-1758 or stapler39@aol.com.

Presbyterian Women’s Bible study for 2022-2023

PW Circles are resuming in person this fall with a new and exciting Bible study, “Celebrating Sabbath” by Carol M. Bechtel. Plan to refresh your spirit and enjoy fellowship with other women now through May 2023.

If you are not a current circle member and would like to join, please leave your name and phone number with the Church Office and we will call you to connect to a circle that works for you. For a list of the 2022-2023 Circles, [CLICK HERE](#).

**Power Hour Sunday School class
Curriculum: Animate
All Are Welcome!**

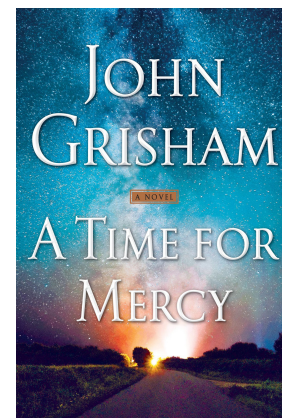
Whether you are already a class member or new, all are welcomed back to Sunday school class. We will continue to animate or “give life to” our faith & community, the Bible, and our core faith practices. We will hear perspectives from some of the best contemporary voices with this DVD-based program. There will be lively, relevant conversation starters that will spur on great conversations as we grow in our faith. For more info about the curriculum, click [HERE](#). Set your alarm and join us every Sunday at 9 AM. You won't want to miss it! Any questions, call Karen Mossman at 727-400-5079.

The logo for 'animate DVD' features the word 'animate' in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. A small white flame-like shape is positioned above the letter 'i'. Below the word 'animate', the letters 'DVD' are written in a smaller, uppercase, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a solid orange background.

Faith & Fiction

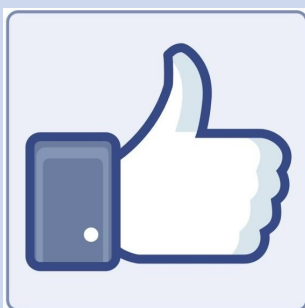
resumes Monday, October 3 at 7 PM

For this first meeting, we'll be reading *A Time for Mercy* by John Grisham. As usual with Grisham books, this one revolves around the courtroom cases of more than one of Jake Brigance's clients. This time, there are no easy answers, and there will be many topics for discussion, some very timely. Read it, and come join us on Monday, October 3rd at 7:00 p.m. Bring your legal questions...and maybe your verdicts!

The 'Stay Connected' logo consists of the word 'stay' in a large, blue, cursive script font, with the word 'CONNECTED' in a smaller, blue, uppercase, sans-serif font directly below it. The background is a light blue, textured surface.

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!

The 'Online Giving' logo features the words 'Online Giving' in a white, sans-serif font on a blue background. To the right of the text is a small graphic of a green seedling with two leaves growing out of a mound of dark soil.

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 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, Faith Journey Sunday School Class, Chapel
- Sundays, 9 AM, Power Hour Sunday School Class, Youth Center
- Sundays, 10 AM, 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, 7:30 PM, Praise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- Thursdays, 7 PM, Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite
- 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:

- *The Road Ahead* conversation groups meet throughout the week
- Monday, October 3, Faith and Fiction
- Saturday, October 29, 4-6 PM, Trunk or Treat

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.



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