

FIRST NEWS



Your Weekly News
from First Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg

June 5, 2020

Join us for our 10 AM Online Worship Service this Sunday, June 7!
Trinity Sunday / Lord's Supper

The sermon for this Sunday: "Abide and Wait"
Pastor Dawn Conti
Scripture: [Psalm 8](#), [John 15:1-11](#)

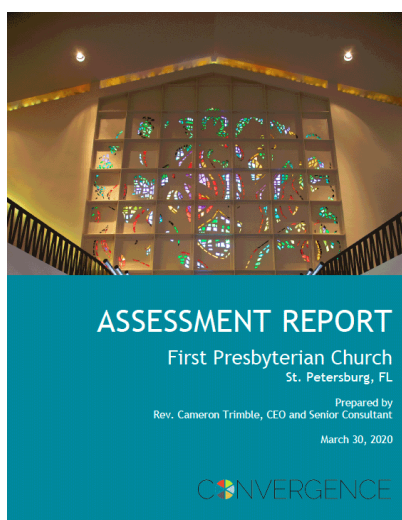
PLEASE NOTE: We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper this Sunday during our virtual worship. Please gather bread, crackers, or rolls and something to drink (juice, wine, milk, water) ahead of time for all in your home who will be participating.

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) 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!

Special Video Message from Pastor Dawn
"Racism & Riots"



Assessment Report From Rev. Trimble

In case you missed the email earlier this week:

In February 2020 we partnered with Convergence, led by the Rev. Cameron Trimble, to do an assessment report for our church. The report was recently received and reviewed by the Session in a meeting moderated by Rev. Trimble. We are now pleased to share the report with our congregation.

The report illustrates the vibrancy, talents, and resources of our members as well as areas that need healing. This clearly positions our church with many exciting opportunities to build a sustainable future if we courageously step out in faith.

Pastor Dawn and the Session have embraced the findings of the report and we are in the process of taking steps for healing to take place. We hope you will join us in the journey and be part of the visioning process so that First Presbyterian Church will continue to be a nurturing congregation and a leader in outreach to our community and beyond.

You may access the full report and the executive summary online using the following 3 steps:

1. Access the Convergence website by clicking [HERE](#)
2. Type in the Username **fpcstpete**
3. Type in the Password **Vision-2020**



Mobile of More Than 2,000 Paper Doves Hung Over Baptismal Font

Last Sunday, to celebrate Pentecost, a mobile of over 2,000 paper doves was hung over the baptismal font in the Sanctuary! Thanks to the Aumack family and the youth who tackled this project!

Click the picture below to watch a special behind-the-scenes video!



Prayer Concerns

Please remember in prayer: Carol Abernathy, Ron & Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt, Katy Churchil, Kat Cline, Carol Daniel, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Teresa Gasper, James Gonzales, Nancy Grandoff, Ilda Hall-Littell, Ron Hall, 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, Lynn Kiehne's father Merle, Taffey Lichter, Tom and Marie Machuga, Dave and Pam Malone, Barbara Mauger, 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, Gwen Tuthill, Carol Lee Wathen. 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.

Virtual Chancel Choir Performance

Last Sunday the Chancel Choir presented the first-ever Virtual Chancel Choir Performance using Zoom during the 10 AM Online Worship Service. They are pictured below.



CONGRATULATIONS CHRIS AGEE!



Thanks to everyone who submitted a nominee for the Missioner of the Year Award sponsored by FPC's Mission Committee. Our congregation is known for its service to others. This year's recipient is Chris Agee.

Chris has been actively involved in volunteerism since college. After joining First Presbyterian in 1992, Chris joined the Service and Benevolence Committee and began serving meals at St. Petersburg Free Clinic's Beacon House. From there she became an interviewer in the "We Help" area where she continues to volunteer today.

One of Chris's nominators elaborated: "Chris has served on the Missions Committee and volunteered in almost every aspect of missions. She has volunteered at St. Pete Free Clinic for many years, gone on mission trips to Honduras, visited shut-ins at Westminster Palms, served meals at homeless shelters and other places that most people are not aware of. She does this humbly and with a smile and warm greeting."

"Through volunteering, the Lord grants us the ability to love our neighbors," says Chris. She is an example and encouragement to us all. Congratulations and thank you, Chris.

Congratulations to Matt Clear

We are so proud of Matt Clear who has been named Pinellas County Music Educators Association Performing Arts Secondary Teacher of the Year. Here at First Pres, Matt serves as Director of Worship Music and the Arts.



"Oh the Places We Have Been"
Meet our Members - Agnes Ingles
1916-2020



Spanish Flu---WWII---Polio---
Man on the Moon---COVID-19---16 US Presidents

From 1916 to 2020, Agnes has witnessed some of the most amazing events of our country. Born in Detroit, Michigan, she has lived through three pandemics: the Spanish Flu, Polio, and now COVID-19.

Agnes graduated in 1934, when the high schools closed early due to lack of money. She attended Shorthand School where she learned business skills that would enable her to work for Kelvinator Appliances Company, a steel company, and as a court reporter for 10 years. She retired at the age of 68 after a 21-year career as the secretary to the U.S. Court of Appeals Judge.

Agnes took off for several trips to Europe, visiting England, Scotland, Wales, and Switzerland. Turkey and Russia were also part of her travels. To sum up her travel experiences she said, "It was nice to visit, but not to stay."

When asked if she ever married, she replied, "Well, when the boys came home for the war, all the other girls grabbed them up and there was none left for me! So I missed being a Mrs., but I have had a great time."

Agnes is full of good quotes. About her remarkable age she said, "Well, age sort of snuck up on me, but I just kept moving along."

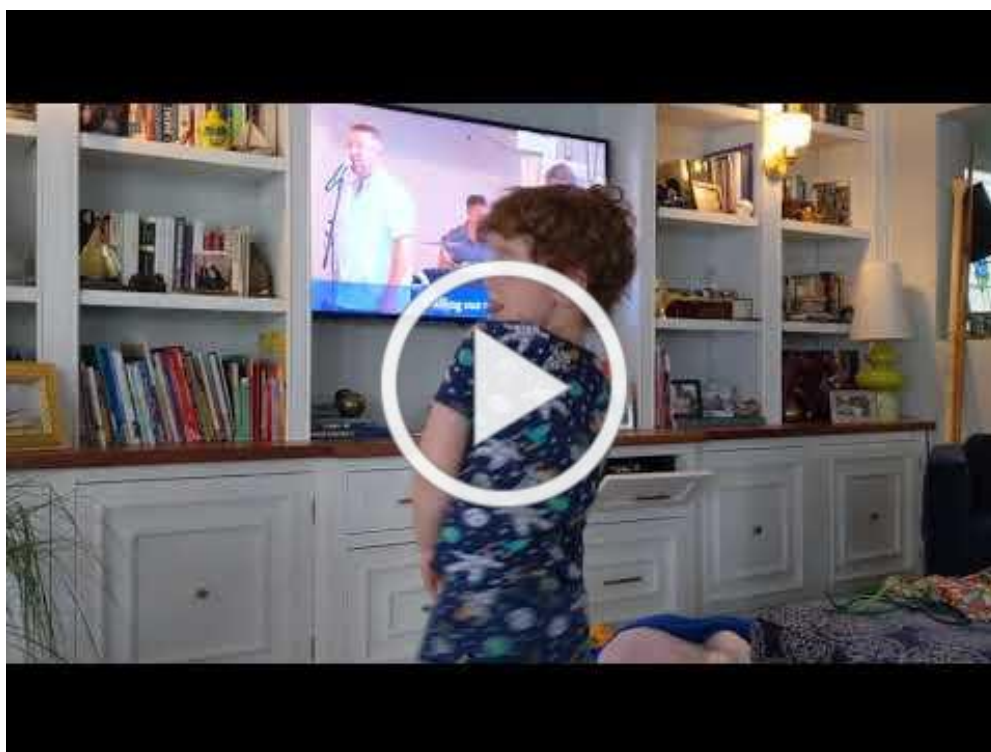
Agnes attends the 11:00 service and has been involved with FPC since the 1950s.

If you ever need an eyewitness to history, look Agnes up....she was there and has seen it all.

Submitted by Diane Zuercher

Worshiping at Home

Click below to watch the video we received of Will Holden (age 4) in his living room, enthusiastically participating in last week's worship.



WNL Reruns

A series that Kyle Brinkman did for our Wednesday Night Live earlier this Spring, titled "Heritage and Hope," is about the history of the Presbyterian Church in Florida, and is now available on FPC's YouTube channel. You can access this and another Christian Education programming through our website ([HERE](#)), or by using the links below.

- [Part 1](#) - Settlement through 1860
- [Part 2](#) - 1861 to 1940
- [Part 3](#) – Post-WWII to Modern Time

The Daily Bread Devotionals Are Available

The June/July/August edition of "The Daily Bread" devotionals are available in the Church Office. Stop by the Office to pick up your copy during normal business hours. If you have concerns about social distancing, call ahead and a copy can be left outside for you.

Weekly Virtual Meditation

The next Virtual Meditation meeting will be on Tuesday, June 9 at 7 PM. Feel free to join us any Tuesday evening. Though apart physically, we'll be connected by God's healing Spirit. What more do we need? For more information, contact Carlen Maddux (cmaddux@maddux.com).



GriefShare Support Groups

GriefShare groups, which are for anyone grieving the loss of a family member or friend, meet virtually using Zoom on **Sundays from 4:00–5:30 PM**. Please join us for any or all of our meetings to learn about this journey "from mourning to joy."

For more information on GriefShare, please contact Amy in the Church Office (727-822-2031, amyg@fpc-stpete.org).

Have You Served Our Country?

We would like to update our church records to include all men and women from our congregation who are currently serving or who have served in any branch of the military, including the National Guard. Most of us are unaware of the men and women who have served in this capacity for whatever the reason, and we would like to be able to acknowledge and honor all of you during this November's Veterans Day.



Please email or call Amy in the Church Office (amyg@fpc-stpete.org, 727-828-3795) with your branch of service, years of service, rank, and where you served. We look forward to hearing from you, and we thank you for your service!!!

Online Devotion, Discussion, and Prayer

Mondays from 10-11 AM, connect with God and each other as we read and discuss the sermon text that will be preached the following Sunday. To connect, click [HERE](#) (you will need a device with a camera and microphone to use this link). Or, join by phone, dial +1 929-205-6099. The meeting ID is 542 281 573. You can press *6 to unmute/mute yourself during the conversation.

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 pictures!



FPC Calendar At A Glance

- [Click here](#) to view the full church calendar online.
- [June Birthdays](#)
- Until further notice, no groups will be meeting at the church. We will keep everyone posted on any changes. *Since groups are not currently meeting on campus, they 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.*
- If anyone needs 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 for more information.

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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[Contact Us](#) | [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTUBE](#)

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

