



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

**September 6, 2019**

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**ONE WORSHIP SERVICE**

10:00 AM - Combined Worship Service, Sanctuary

The sermon for this Sunday is "Growing Up in Christ"

Scripture: [Deuteronomy 6:4-7](#); [Luke 2:39-40](#)

Dr. Dawn Conti

Click [here](#) for Sunday's bulletin and announcements

**HURRICANE DORIAN RELIEF**  
**YOU CAN HELP**

Hurricane Dorian made landfall in the Bahamas as a Category 5 hurricane on September 1 and stalled over the islands for more than 24 hours, causing massive damage. So far, it is reported that seven lives have been lost.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is working with partners in the Bahamas to respond to immediate needs and is monitoring the storm as it heads along the Atlantic coast in the U.S.

There are three ways to donate:

- (1) To give by phone, call 800-872-3283
- (2) You can make a check out to Presbyterian Church (USA) with "DR000194" on the memo line.
- (3) You can give online here. (<https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hurricane-dorian/>)



**Sunday, September 8,**  
**One Combined Service, at 10 AM**  
**in the Sanctuary**

Rally Day is the official "kick-off" of our Fall season as we meet at 10 AM in the Sanctuary for one combined service. Fall church programs begin the next Sunday, September 15. Welcome back to our numerous friends and church family members who have returned from out of town visits and trips.

On September 8, after the 10 AM service there will be an all-church gathering with light refreshments and a brief program highlighting the variety of opportunities we offer at First Presbyterian Church. Come and meet committee members, church officers and Sunday School teachers, to name a few.



## Stephen Ministers: The "After People"

What is a Stephen Minister? One way to define them is that they are the "After People."

Stephen Ministers are there

- After the phone call you hoped you'd never get.
- After the funeral, when everyone has left, and the emotions you held at bay come crashing down.
- After the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."
- After the last child waves and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.
- After your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Contact Pastor Dawn, Ginger McCoy, 804-2429, or Terry Schoenberg, 667-1023.

Stephen Ministers are the After People, ready to come alongside you –or your friends, neighbors, coworkers or relatives – and provide comfort and support for as long after as needed.

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## Stephen Ministry Sunday Will Be September 15



All families are invited to FPC's annual Blessing of the Backpacks during both services Sunday, September 15. Children (as well as their siblings) are encouraged to bring their backpacks for a special blessing. What a great way to start the school year!

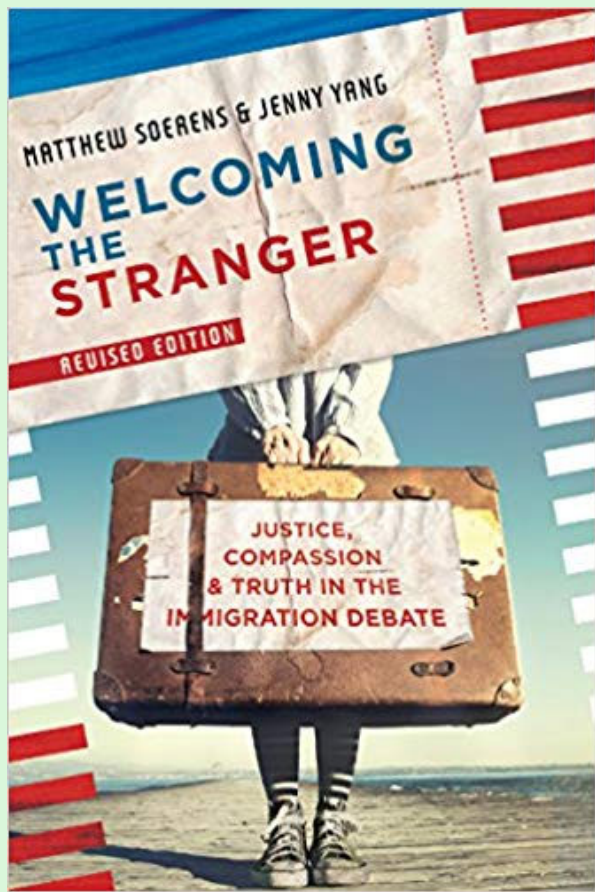
## Gun Violence Prevention Discussion Begins September 18

In the wake of recent mass shootings, our nation once again finds itself mourning the senseless loss of innocent life. In response to these tragedies, we will be holding a five-week study and discussion (using the "Gun Violence Prevention Congregational Toolkit" by Presbyterian Peace Fellowship as a resource), on Wednesday mornings from 10:30 AM – noon, starting on September 18 in Room N-123. Those who have any questions, or would like to participate in this discussion, please contact Amy Grossenbacher at 727-822-2031 or [amyg@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:amyg@fpc-stpete.org).



## Wednesday Night Live - Begins Sep. 18

5:30 PM Dinner catered by the fantastic Debbie Brown  
(as we have done in the past)



### Adult Group #1

Offered by Ruth Elswood

Immigration is one of the most complex and controversial issues of our time. Everyone seems to agree: the United States' immigration system has some problems. But that's sometimes as far as the agreement goes, with discussions quickly devolving into arguments over the best policy solution. How are we to sort through this complex issue? Join us as we think through and talk through a Christian response to immigration.

### Adult Group #2

## Christian Coupling: A Way to Better Relationships

Offered by Dave Aumack

Couples Helping Couples,  
A Guided Discussion

Looking for a Couples Study Group?

Need to share life's frustrations with other couples?

This Study/Life Group is for everyone who is looking to improve their relationship, whether dating, newlyweds, or celebrating their 50th and everyone in-between.

Starting with the acclaimed Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage© Seminar series by Mark Gungor the group will also incorporate Fighting for Your Marriage PREP material and open discussions about life and Christ.

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## Messy Church for Children: Super Heroes of the Bible

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These programs run Wednesday nights for 6 weeks (September 18 - October 23).

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## Help set up, serve, and clean up at Wednesday Night Live

If you are ready, willing, and able to be part of a team which serves on at least one Wednesday night, September 18 - October 23, please email Amy Grossenbacher at [amyg@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:amyg@fpc-stpete.org)



New Sermon Series Begins  
September 22

*What happens when our world falls apart?  
How do we press onward when our tightly-knit plans unravel into loose threads?*

# Presbyterian Women's General Meeting September 28

Rev. Noel Koestline will present "Sing the World Round" on September 28 at 10:30 AM. Brunch is provided. RSVP through your circle or to Rachel Bowron ([rbowron@aol.com](mailto:rbowron@aol.com) or (727) 433-0571) by September 23.



## Presbyterian Women's Circles Announce Study Topic: **Love Carved In Stone** A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments

Join a Presbyterian Women's Circle to refresh your spirit and enjoy fellowship with other women. Meetings start this month. To be connected with a circle that works for you, contact Rachel Bowron ([rbowron@aol.com](mailto:rbowron@aol.com) or 727-433-0571) or for a list of circle meeting times, you can also [click HERE](#).

## Yoga With Adam begins this Sunday

Class meets from 3:00-4:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall. For child care, RSVP [childcare@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:childcare@fpc-stpete.org) Donations accepted for FPC, but not required.



## Be Part of the Prayer Chain

Request to be put on the Prayer Chain list by either emailing [office@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:office@fpc-stpete.org) or calling the church office (727) 822-2031.

## New Hope Clinic Report

From Susan Schlecht: Thank you all for your continued support and prayer for Dr. Davila and his team at the New Hope Clinic. The love and care they give to our Brothers and Sisters in rural Honduras is amazing.



For Dr. Davila's Most Recent Report, [click here](#).



## Become a Lunch Pal at Lakewood Elementary School

Lunch Pals is a mentoring program to provide students with an additional presence of a caring, consistent and committed adult in their lives. Attend the on-site mentor training at First Presbyterian Church on September 18, 12 to 1 PM, room S-100. [Access a flier about this program.](#)

[Click here](#) to sign up for mentor training. For a volunteer application [click here](#).

**NOW HIRING!**  
Apply for Part-Time Positions in FPC Child Care

Applicants must:

- LOVE working with children
- Be DEPENDABLE and FLEXIBLE
- Be able to work evenings and weekends
- Be totally ok getting FREE CHILD CARE for their child(ren) during hours of work!
- Be 18 YEARS OLD or older

This is the perfect job for a stay-at-home parent! Interested? Send a bio or resume to [childcare@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:childcare@fpc-stpete.org)



Be Sure To "Share"  
First Presbyterian Church Facebook  
Messages with your Friends

## FPC Calendar At A Glance

[Click here](#) to view the full church calendar online.

### Coming up in September

- [September Birthdays](#)
- [September Parent Calendar](#)
- Beth Moore Bible Study, Youth Center, 9:15 AM or 6:30 PM (Tuesdays through October 8)
- Tuesday, September 3 & 17 - Meditation for Christians, 7 PM, Chapel (Contact: [Carlen Maddux](#))
- Sunday, September 8 - Rally Day! One service at 10 AM
- Sunday, September 8 - Yoga With Adam, 3 PM, Fellowship Hall (regularly scheduled on Sunday afternoons, refer to church calendar for any variation)
- Tuesday, September 10 - Grief Share Support Group, 10 AM, Chapel (meets on Tuesdays)
- Wednesday, September 11 - Congregational Dinner & Town Hall Meeting, 5:30 PM, Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, September 15 - Commissioning of Stephen Ministers and Blessing Of The Backpacks
- Tuesday, September 17 - Melodies for the Mind, 2 PM, Choir Room (Contact: [kbenn21188@aol.com](mailto:kbenn21188@aol.com))
- Wednesday Night Live begins September 18
- Wednesday, September 18, 10:30 AM until noon, Room N-123, First of "Five Week Study, Gun Violence Prevention Discussion."
- Saturday, September 28, 10:30 AM, Fellowship Hall, Presbyterian Women's General Meeting, Rev. Noel Koestline presents "Sing the World Round." Brunch is provided.
- Monday, October 7 - Faith & Fiction, 7:30 - 8:30 PM, Room N-123 (meets the 1st Monday of each month through April 2020). [Here](#) is the Reading List.

**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. Send copy to [Mary Johnson](#) and [Amy Grossenbacher](#).

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

