

# FIRST NEWS



Your Weekly News from  
First Presbyterian Church  
St. Petersburg

April 1, 2022

## WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for our Worship Service  
at 10 AM in the Sanctuary  
this Sunday, April 3, 2022  
*Fifth Sunday in Lent / Lord's Supper*

Sunday's Sermon: "Fragrance of Love"  
Rev. Ginny Ellis  
Scriptures: [Isaiah 43:18-21](#), [John 12:1-8](#)

We welcome you to join us for in-person worship services!  
**PLEASE NOTE: we have a MASK-OPTIONAL policy  
for worship services and on-campus activities.**

*This Sunday, we will welcome two new members - David Hunt and June King -  
and witness the baptism of Avaleigh Ella Huguet.*

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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](http://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!

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**COMMUNION SUNDAY:** We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper this Sunday during our worship service. If you are joining us online, 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

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## Praise Band Preview - The Trumpet Shall Sound

Happy Friday, everyone! As we continue through Lent, the FPC Praise Band has two more wonderful tunes for you to enjoy. The first, *In Christ Alone*, is a beautiful hymn-based tune that features an instrument we haven't heard in a while. (*Can you guess what it is? :*) Our second tune, *God So Loved*, is popular one that you're sure to know, and will be performed just before Communion. Click the links below to hear the tunes and we'll see you on Sunday!

[In Christ Alone](#)

[God So Loved](#)



**Please remember in prayer:** Millie Bradley, Carol Daniel, Peter Eckert, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Lillian Harris, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, Russ Johnson, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Alisa Keys, Jean Kohler, Margie Laughlin, Taffey Lichter, Dave & Pam Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Ken Robinson, 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](mailto:amym@fpc-stpete.org).

## From the Desk of Pastor Ginny

Here I am in the corner office, with the sun shining in its glory, and the wind whistling cheerfully past. There is a mourning dove hooting at me outside the window. We are well into spring here in St. Petersburg, and it is really pleasant to be outdoors, to go for walks, to sit on a bench in the park. I am looking at how close we are now to Holy Week and hope you have found some Lenten time to reflect on your life and your faith, to prepare to walk the streets of Jerusalem with Jesus. It's hard, I think, as our eyes are riveted to Ukraine, and our hearts yearn for answers and comfort for people in Afghanistan and Ukraine and the many places in the world where life is such a challenge. God knows what we face and where our hearts are turning. Jesus was part of the life of his people and is part of our lives and our world too. I am grateful to know that. I'm sure you are as well. Let's keep walking this journey and listen for what God is saying to us all.

Ginny

**FORGIVENESS** -- The Book on Forgiveness study is nearing its end. Here are some schedule updates. On April 6 the group will discuss chapter 9: Forgiving Yourself. There will be no meeting during Holy Week. The final meeting will be April 20 (Chapter 10, A World of Forgiveness), as always on Zoom. It has been a really good study!

**SESSION RETREAT** -- will be from 9:00 to 3:00 on Saturday April 9 at Lewis House on the Eckerd College campus.

**CEDARKRIK RETREAT** -- Saturday April 23 and Sunday April 24. After the two years of COVID restrictions we are excited to be able to get back to Cedarkirk for fellowship, recreation, worship, and study. Cedarkirk is our Presbytery's retreat center, located about 8 miles south of Brandon, about an hour from St. Petersburg. We stay in an air-conditioned lodge and eat great food. The pool is available and there are trails to walk, time for activities, and time to be together with friends and family. The theme for the weekend will be *Beloved Community in a Beloved Place*. Kathy Bardin is ready to answer your questions and make your reservations (see below article for more info).

### Lectio Devina - Monday Mornings

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

### Wednesday Night Book Study

Join us via Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. for a book study based on *The Book of Forgiving* by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu. The book explores "the four-fold path for healing ourselves and our world." Click [HERE](#) to join.

# Fauré: Requiem Mass



With world premier of  
Sydney Guillaume's  
"This, Too, Shall Pass"

*The Master Chorale*  
OF TAMPA BAY  
BRETT KARLIN • ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

**Join us for a concert at FPC  
tonight, April 1, 2022 at 8:00 PM  
*Fauré: Requiem Mass*  
Featuring: The Master Chorale of Tampa Bay\***

Praised by music critics from both the Tampa Bay Times and the Tampa Tribune as "one of the country's finest choirs" and a "cultural treasure," The Master Chorale of Tampa Bay has consistently delivered some of the most profoundly moving music performances in the area.

\*Admission to this concert requires a ticket, which can be purchased online [HERE](#) or at the door through the Master Chorale of Tampa Bay. PLEASE NOTE: when purchasing tickets online, First Presbyterian Church members and friends can receive a 10% discount by using discount code FPC22 on the General Admission ticket (price for the public is \$25).

JOIN US FOR

# Easter

at

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH - ST PETE  
HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

**PALM SUNDAY - APRIL 10**

**10:00 AM - Sanctuary**

Blended worship service featuring palm fronds and celebrating Christ's journey to the Cross. All children are welcome to join us for an Easter Egg Hunt outside, directly following the worship service!

**MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 14**

**7:00 PM - Sanctuary**

Communion Service with foot and/or hand washing. Maundy Thursday commemorates Jesus washing of the disciples' feet, his agony in the Garden of Gethemane, and his betrayal by Judas Iscariot.

**GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRÆ SERVICE - APRIL 15**

**7:00 PM - Sanctuary**

Taizé-style service with Scripture and Hymns; based on the worship style of an ecumenical Christian community in Burgundy, France, Taizé is a contemplative service centered around repetitive music, prayer, and silence, to quiet the mind, open the heart, and feed the soul. It is a simple, meditative form of worship, calling us to dwell deeply on Christ's presence around and within us.

**EARLY MORNING EASTER PRAISE SERVICE - APRIL 17**

**7:30 AM - Front Circle Drive (outside)**

Celebrate the race to the empty tomb with the FPC Praise Band leading us in Contemporary Worship out in front of the Sanctuary.

**TRADITIONAL EASTER SERVICE - APRIL 17**

**10:00 AM - Sanctuary**

Traditional Easter service; celebrate the empty tomb with worship featuring the Pipe Organ, Brass Ensemble and Handel's "Hallelujah!" chorus.



**Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt!**



We invite all the children to join us for an Easter Egg Hunt after the worship service on Palm Sunday, April 10th.

## 7 Mission Items for 7 Sundays of Lent

Every Sunday in Lent, we will be collecting items for our community during the season of Lent. These items will go to places like the St. Pete Free Clinic, CASA, and Lakewood Elementary School. Please bring the specified item only on the specified date below. Thank you for the many ways you continue to support our community!

- April 3 - Feminine hygiene products
- April 10 - Shampoo and Conditioner (for men and women)
- April 17 - Bath towels and/or wash cloths

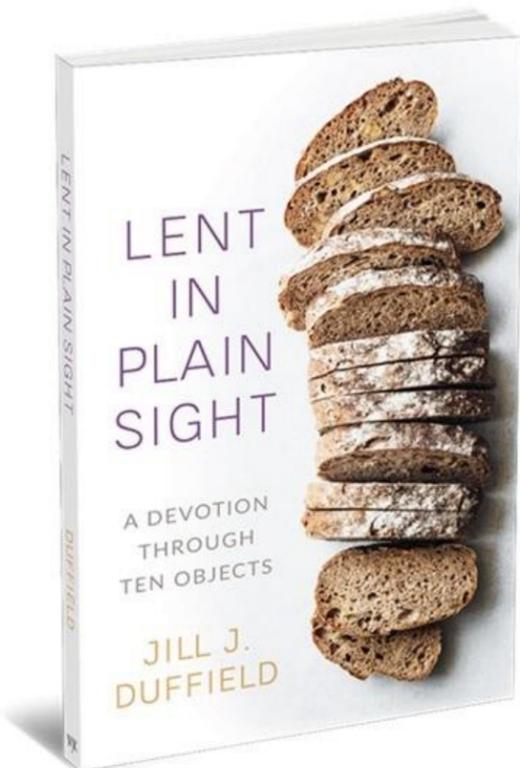


### Easter Lilies

Share Easter's beauty by sponsoring a lily to be used as part of our Easter worship service. These traditional symbols of Easter can be given in memory of a loved one or to honor friends and family (\$20 each). To order, contact Amy in the Church Office (727-822-2031 or [AmyM@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:AmyM@fpc-stpete.org)). You may pick up your lily after the 10 AM Easter Sunday service.

## JOIN US FOR A SIX-WEEK LENTEN STUDY SERIES BASED ON

*Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion through Ten Objects*, by Jill J. Duffield



### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Wednesday Lenten  
Lunch Study  
in the Youth Center

Wednesdays at Noon  
through April 13<sup>th</sup>

*Led by Rev. Megan McMillan and Dave Aumack*

God is often at work through the ordinary: ordinary people, ordinary objects, ordinary grace. Through the ordinary, God communicates epiphanies, salvation, revelation, and reconciliation. It is through the mundane that we hear God's quiet voice. The book, *Lent in Plain Sight*, draws our attention to ten ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem.

We will use the season of Lent to facilitate conversation and connection to each other and the meaning of this time in the church year. The goal of this lunch and fellowship time will be to focus on spiritual lessons and recognize how the seemingly ordinary can reveal the extraordinary presence of God in our lives. Join us for soup and salad in the Youth Center at noon on Wednesdays during Lent. Purchase of or reading the book is not necessary to participate.



### Cedarkirk Church Retreat - Coming Soon!

Our all-church retreat at Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center will be **April 23 - 24th!** Reservations are available for overnight Saturday night / just Saturday / just Sunday day visits. We will enjoy the relaxing atmosphere of God's beautiful woods while Pastor Ginny and Pastor

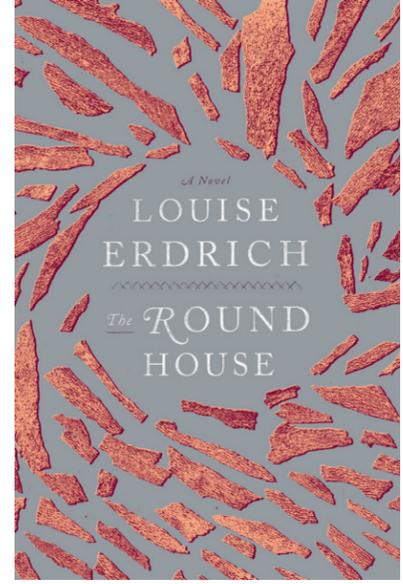
Megan share their insights. Fellowship and good food are just an additional blessing that are extended to us during this time. There will be time to swim, attend a campfire, and explore other activities. If you have questions or would like to sign up, Kathy Bardin will be sitting outside the Sanctuary before and after church for the next two Sundays (April 3 and 10), or you can call her at (727) 418-4577.

**Faith & Fiction Read for April 2022**

### *Round House by Louise Erdrich*

Discussion will be **Monday, April 4** at 7:00 PM in Room N-123. Lorraine Frankle will be our discussion leader.

Louise Erdrich is a strong voice for the Native American Community, and recently won a Pulitzer for her latest novel, *The Night Watchman*. Come join us for this discussion of one of her earlier works.



## **Meal on Wheels - Volunteers Needed!**

Meals on Wheels is a mission FPC has supported for over 50 years. Volunteers pick up and deliver meals to needy individuals from the Sunshine Center in downtown St. Pete. We currently make about 12 stops, and the whole process from pick-up to return takes about two hours. We deliver five days a week and ask that people sign up for the same day every week or every other week.

We are currently in need of someone on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Monday of the month, the 3rd and 4th Wednesday, and/or occasionally as a back-up driver. Volunteers will take a short training course and fill out paperwork before being able to deliver. Please call Kathy Bardin at (727) 418-4577 if you are interested or have any questions. We encourage people to ride along with a current volunteer before making a decision.

## **New Power Hour Sunday School Session**

Curriculum: *Animate*

Come to the new Power Hour Sunday school class as we 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, visit the website: [www.wearesparkhouse.org/store/category/286832/Animate](http://www.wearesparkhouse.org/store/category/286832/Animate). Set your alarm and join us every Sunday @ 8:30 AM in the Youth Center. Coffee and fellowship begins at 8:30 AM; class begins at 9 AM You won't want to miss it! Any questions, call Karen Mossman at 727-400-5079.

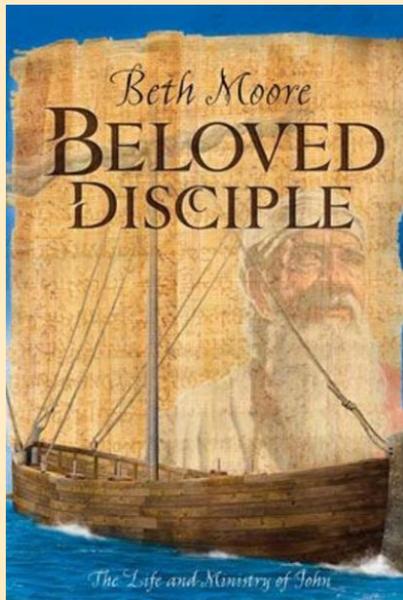
## **Lakewood Elementary School Initiative**

Lakewood Elementary School has begun an initiative that, if successful, will result in having 100 books read to every kindergartener at Lakewood this school year. To do this, they need volunteers to read to one child at a time. If you have an hour to spare and would enjoy reading to a child (actually 3 children in an hour works – twenty minutes per child), please contact Missy Olsen ([olsenme@pcsb.org](mailto:olsenme@pcsb.org)) or call 727-893-2196 and ask for Missy. You can discuss schedules with her.

You will need to fill out a volunteer form that will include your driver's license number and your social security number. You do NOT need to be fingerprinted

but the school will do a background check on you since we sit alone with each child.

For further information, you may contact Missy (contact information is above), or feel free to contact Mary-Linda Armacost (727-465-8108, [mlsma@cs.com](mailto:mlsma@cs.com)).



Join us on Tuesday mornings  
through April 26, 2022  
9:15 – 11:30 a.m. in the Youth Center  
for a Beth Moore Bible Study!

**“Beloved Disciple:  
The Life and Ministry of John”**

Join us for an 11-week study of the life of John the apostle and his relationship with the One who loved him. Beth Moore says, “John was free to love because he was so utterly convinced that he was loved. How differently would each follower live if we characterized ourselves above all else as the beloved disciple of Jesus Christ? This is the goal of our journey.”

Workbooks will be available for \$20. No previous Bible study experience is needed. Bring a friend! Sorry, at this time there is no childcare available. Currently, masks are optional. We will keep you updated on this. Thank you for your understanding! Questions? Contact April Hussung at 727-420-1758 or [stapler39@aol.com](mailto:stapler39@aol.com).



**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!

**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!



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 April 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 Devina, [via Zoom](#)
  
- **Tuesdays, 9:15 AM**, Ladies' Beth Moore Bible Study, Youth Center
- **Tuesdays, 1 PM**, Praise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, meeting in-person on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month (next in-person meeting is **April 12**, in the Chapel). For more information, contact Carlen Maddux ([cmaddux@maddux.com](mailto:cmaddux@maddux.com))
  
- **Wednesdays, 12 PM**, Lenten Lunch Study, Youth Center
- **Wednesdays, 7 PM**, Wednesday Night Live, [via Zoom](#); book study: *The Book of Forgiving*
  
- **Fridays, 7:30 AM**, Men's Bible Study, Room N-123. 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](mailto:pjfwon@gmail.com))

Upcoming Events:

- **Tonight, April 1, 8 PM**, *Fauré: Requiem Mass* Master Chorale Concert, Sanctuary
- **Sunday, April 10, Palm Sunday**. Worship service at 10 AM, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt for the children

- Thursday, April 14, 7 PM, Maundy Thursday service, Sanctuary
- Friday, April 15, 7 PM, Good Friday/Tenebrae service, Sanctuary
- Sunday, April 17, EASTER! Two services, 7:30 AM (outside) and 10 AM, (Sanctuary)
- Saturday, April 23 and Sunday, April 24, All-Church Retreat at Cedarkirk

## 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).

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

