

FIRST NEWS



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

February 18, 2022

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for at 10 AM in the Sanctuary
Worship Service
this Sunday, February 20, 2022
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday's Sermon: "Broken but Beautiful, Renewed, Remade"
Rev. Ginny Ellis

Scriptures: [Jeremiah 18:1-4](#), [Revelation 21:1-4](#)

We welcome you to join us for in-person worship services!
Please remember we are requiring masks
for all indoor activities on campus at this time.

We are so excited to celebrate the baptisms of *Wesley Rex Delcamp* and
Roman Alexander Sereda with their families this Sunday.
We hope you will join us for this blessed event!

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!

Praise Band Preview

The FPC Praise Band is excited to continue with live worship again this week! We have two more wonderful songs lined up for you. The first, *Come Thou Fount*, is based on the hymn you likely know. The second tune, *How Can I Keep From Singing*, is one that Karen Mossman would describe as a "straight up praise tune"! Click the links below for the previews & we'll see you on Sunday!

[Come Thou Fount](#)

[How Can I Keep From Singing](#)



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.

**Annual Congregational Meeting
This Sunday, February 20, 2022
In the Sanctuary, following the worship service**

We invite you to join us for our Annual Congregational Meeting this Sunday, February 20. The 3 purposes of the meeting are:

- (1) to present the 2021 Annual Report; click [HERE](#) to preview an electronic copy
- (2) to elect a Nominating Committee
- (3) approve the 2022 salary package of your Associate Pastor Megan McMillan



The meeting will be in person in the Sanctuary. If you are unable to join us in person, you will be able to watch (but not participate in) the meeting online, via our YouTube channel. Click [HERE](#) Sunday morning.

From the Desk of Pastor Ginny

Dear Friends:

This week, we turn a slow corner from Extraordinary Time as we head toward Lent (Ash Wednesday is on March 2). It's a SLOW corner because we have finished most of our consideration of Exodus 3 and the Burning Bush passage, but our time together is still quite Extraordinary. After all, over these next two weeks, we are celebrating the baptism of three children! Plus, our Annual Meeting (which wraps up a tough year, but it leads us into new year filled with hope and energy) is this Sunday, Feb. 20.

We continue some of the Extraordinary Time initiatives, like:

- **Monday morning Lectio Divina sessions** at 10:00 AM on Zoom. Lectio is a fabulous time for thoughtful and prayerful consideration of the coming sermon texts. Put Lectio on your calendar and give it a try!
- **Wednesday Night study of *The Book of Forgiving*** by Desmond Tutu and his daughter Mpho Tutu. We meet on Zoom at 7:00 on Wednesdays. Next week will be chapter 5. The class will not meet on March 2 because there will be an Ash Wednesday service that evening at the church.
- **Book discussion of *Broken for You***, a novel by Stephanie Kallos. If you have not read this book, I hope you will! I think it has a lot to say to us, and a lot to discuss. Those conversations will be IN PERSON on Wednesday Feb 23rd in Room N-123 at 10:30 AM and ON ZOOM on Sunday Feb 27 at 6:30 PM.

I am pleased at all these ways we are serving Jesus Christ in this wonderful city!

ASH WEDNESDAY - March 2

For observance of Ash Wednesday, we will do Drive-By Ashes-to-Go with Communion in the front circle of the church from 1:00 to 3:00 PM and a service in the Chapel at 7:00 PM, with imposition of ashes and communion. The public is invited to join us for both these observances.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

Did you know First Presbyterian is going to have its own Little Free Library (LFL), on Beach Drive in front of the church? The library is being prepared by members Ronn Johnson and Dmitri Gruszka and will be dedicated after worship

on March 6. Wait until you see how beautiful our LFL is, and what a great way to reach out to our community! For more info, read on below!

Ginny Ellis

THANK YOU!

First Presbyterian Church, St. Petersburg's 2022 Collection

raised:

\$601 and 195 food items

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



February 13, 2022

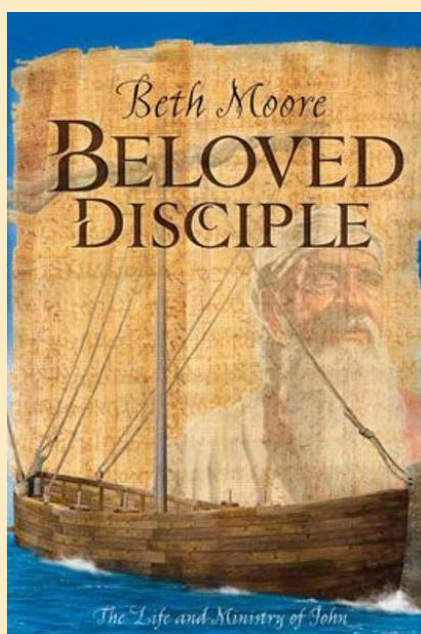

Alison Reese
Executive Director
Souper Bowl of Caring

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.



Ladies, let's start the new year with
a Beth Moore Bible Study!

Join us on Tuesday mornings
through April 26, 2022
9:15 – 11:30 a.m. in the Youth Center

"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 required. We will keep you updated on this. Thank you for your understanding! Questions? Contact April Hussung at 727-420-1758 or stapler39@aol.com.

St. Pete Primary School had their "Spirit Week" this past week. On Tuesday morning, the kids got a visit from special guest Daisy the Reading Pig! Pastor Ginny was able to stop by and say hello!



Power Hour Sunday School Class (not meeting Feb. 20/resumes Feb. 27)

Stop over the Youth Center on Sundays at 9 AM for the "Power Hour" Sunday school class. For the coming weeks, we will watch short clips featuring Pastor Rob Bell as he explores topics relevant to our lives today. Discussion follows DVD. Fellowship is before class from 8:30-9:00 AM with coffee & pastries. RSVP to Karen Mossman at karenamossm@gmail.com or text 727-400-5079.



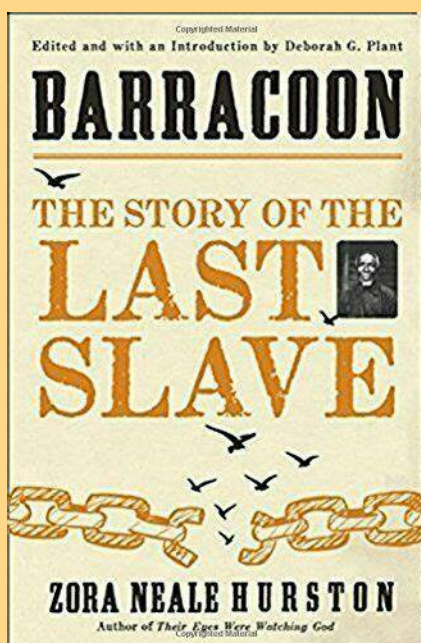
WHY A LITTLE FREE LIBRARY AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

The Little Free Library at First Presbyterian Church (FPC) is an outreach program meant to passively interact with the neighborhood. Our neighborhood is the Old Northeast and all surrounding areas plus visitors to these areas.

The Little Free Library will bring FPC to the attention of the neighbors and their friends. Many will take advantage of a convenient place to TAKE A BOOK & LEAVE A BOOK. Some of these persons will want to see what else FPC has to offer. They will attend church concerts, other programs, events, worship and will wish to become part of our welcoming church.



**Watch for our Little Free Library
GRAND OPENING on March 6!**



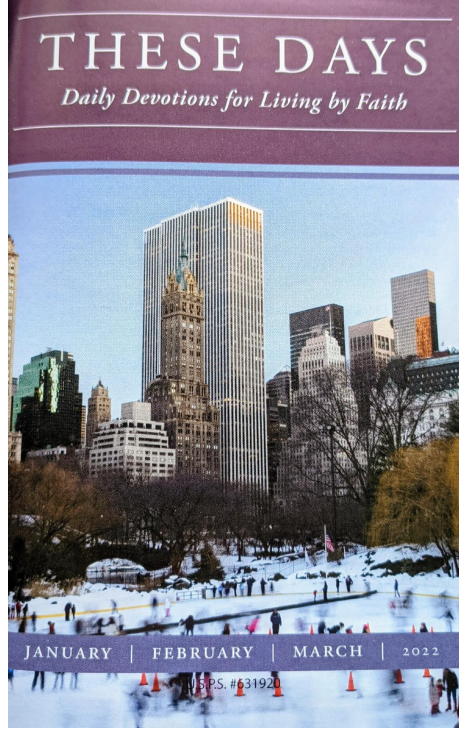
Faith & Fiction

Barracoon, The Story of the Last Black Cargo by Zora Neal Hurston, is the Faith & Fiction read for next month. Our discussion of this book will be on **March 7th**, at 7:00 p.m. in Room N-123. Debbie Factor will be our Discussion Leader.

We are also accepting suggestions for next year's reading list. Please bring them in person to the next meeting or send them to Linda Santoro via email

(LindaJSantoro@gmail.com). Thank you! We are hoping for an eclectic reading list for next year with no particular theme.

Devotionals Available



Copies of the Jan/
Feb/Mar edition of
"Our Daily Bread" and
"These Days"
devotionals are now
available for pick-up
from the Church
Office during normal
business hours or at
the Welcome Center
on Sunday mornings!



College Scholarship Applications



We will be accepting applications for college scholarships through February

28th. These scholarships include the Church Family and Ohrns Scholarships for undergraduates and the Osborne Scholarship for Theology students. We only require one application is for both Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 semesters (awards are split). The applicant needs to let us know if they only need it for one semester.

For further details about these scholarships, please contact the Church Office. To apply for any of these scholarships, you will need to include: 1) a completed application form (found [HERE](#)); 2) a copy of your most recent high school or college transcript; 3) a 500-word essay describing your involvement in church-related activities as well as extra-curricular and community involvement activities, why you want this grant, and what you expect to do following the completion of your education.

The Scholarship Committee will review the applications and the Session will approve the final awards. Successful applicants will be asked to provide proof of enrollment and acceptance by their educational institution. Funds for the scholarship will be sent directly to the institution so be sure to give the proper name and address to which the funds are to be sent.



Thank You "Cupid,"
the anonymous church member,
who treated the church staff to
some beautiful and delicious
gourmet cookies for Valentine's Day
this past Monday.

We feel so loved!

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 February 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.

- Sundays, 8:30 AM, Faith Journey Sunday School Class, Chapel
- Sundays, 9 AM, Power Hour Sunday School Class, Youth Center. **NOT meeting Sunday, Feb. 20;** will resume Feb. 27
- Sundays, 10 AM, Worship Service, Sanctuary or [Online](#)
- Mondays, 10 AM, Lectio Devina Extraordinary, [via Zoom](#)

- Tuesdays, 9:15 AM, Ladies' Beth Moore Bible Study, Youth Center
- Tuesdays, 1 PM, Praise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary; *next week only we're moving our rehearsal to Wednesday (2/23)*
- Tuesdays, 7 PM, Christian Meditation, meeting virtually every other week. Next in-person meeting is Feb. 22, in the Chapel. For more information, contact Carlen Maddux (cmaddux@maddux.com)
- 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)
- Sunday, February 20, following service, Annual Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
- Wednesday, February 23, 10:30 AM, Book Discussion of *Broken for You*, Room N-123
- Sunday, February 27, 6:30 PM, Book Discussion of *Broken for You*, via Zoom
- Wednesday, March 2, 1-3 PM, (Ash Wednesday) Drive-By Ashes-to-Go and communion, front circle drive
- Wednesday, March 2, 7 PM, (Ash Wednesday), Worship service with imposition of ashes and communion, Chapel
- Monday, March 7, 7 PM, Faith & Fiction, Room N-123

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.

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

