

FIRST NEWS



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

January 21, 2022

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for our 10 AM ONLINE Worship Service
this Sunday, January 23, 2022
Third Sunday After Epiphany

Sunday's Sermon: "Holy Ground"
Rev. Megan McMillan
Scriptures: [Exodus 3:4-5](#), [Luke 13:1-9](#)

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 remember in prayer: Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt,
Carol Daniel, Peter Eckert, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra
Fay, Teresa Gasper, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane



Heath, Agnes Ingles, Russ Johnson, Iberia Johnston, Kathy Jose, Anne Justiss, Alisa Keys, Jean Kohler, Margie Laughlin, Taffey Lichter, Dave & Pam Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, the Pav family, Alan Pfeider, Richard Pfeider, 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.

From the Desk of Pastor Ginny

EXTRAORDINARY TIME CONTINUES

Extraordinary Time continues, as we study the Burning Bush and explore our discipleship as people of faith, and our ministry as a congregation. Your job is to tune in we worship; listen to the readings, the music, even the silences. Join in our singing and the prayers. Join with us in this extraordinary work of loving God, hearing God's word, following where God leads.

THIS IS OUR EXTRAORDINARY TIME TOGETHER.

Other ways to engage during Extraordinary Time:

SUNDAYS: Right after the worship service, join us online via Zoom [HERE](#) for COFFEE FELLOWSHIP. We had more than 20 connections last week! Join us!
Leaders: Uneeda Brewer and Megan McMillan

MONDAYS: 10:00 a.m. - LECTIO DIVINA EXTRAORDINARY. With traditional *lectio* and *visio* disciplines, we'll look at the scriptures for the next Sunday. You can join on Monday mornings by clicking [HERE](#). *Leader: Megan McMillan*

WEDNESDAYS: 7:00 p.m. - A book study via Zoom 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." For this coming week, read chapter 1 and do the suggested meditation and ritual at the end of the chapter. You can order the book online. Join us on Wednesday evenings by clicking [HERE](#).
Leader: Ginny Ellis

ALSO...COMING SOON!

- Prayer Stations starting January 30th in the Chapel (hours will be Sundays

from 11 AM - 3 PM, Tuesdays from 11 AM - 3 PM and 5-7 PM, and Thursdays 11 AM - 3 PM and 5-7 PM)

- An Extraordinary Time book discussion in late February, of *Broken for You*, a novel by Stephanie Kallos. If possible, we will plan an in-person book discussion, as well as one on Zoom (link will be given closer to the start date). This does not substitute for the Faith and Fiction book discussion of an excellent book.

JANUARY MISSION FOCUS

For the month of January, I am asking that we support our presbytery's Beth-El Farmworker Mission in Wimauma, by gathering items that will HELP THEM STAY WARM. Items they have requested are:

- Headgear (baseball caps, bandanas, straw hats)
- Hooded sweaters (Adults S/M/L, or children's sizes)
- Gently-used or new long-sleeve button shirts for men (S/M/L)
- Gently-used or new pants for men (S/M/L)
- Socks (adult or child)
- Blankets and towels
- Bed sheets (twin/full)

These items can be brought any time during the week to the Church Office, or there is a labeled box outside the Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

RETURN TO CHURCH TASK FORCE: The RTC Task Force will meet again on January 31 to look at our hopes, strategies, and plans for moving back to in-person worship. Meanwhile, sick members of the church staff seem to be mostly back to good health. Please keep the church (and staff) in your prayers as we cope with the challenges of COVID in our midst.

Bon Voyage! Concert
Featuring: Pinellas County Center
for the Arts Women's Chorale
Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 4:00 PM



The Pinellas County Center for the Arts Women's Chorale is an outstanding

SSAA ensemble who performs the highest levels of treble choral repertoire. They have been selected to perform at the American Choral Directors Association 2022 Southern Region Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina. These talented music students will sing their program for our community in preparation for this prestigious performance. Offering will be taken for PCCA Women's Chorale.

In 2019 and 2020, The Women's Chorale was selected as Critic's Choice for the Florida Vocal Association District 9 Music Performance Assessment. The PCCA Women's Chorale regularly performs for a variety of community and state events supporting music education and arts advocacy.

Pinellas County Center for the Arts (PCCA) at Jonathan C. Gibbs High School is a center of excellence in the visual and performing arts. It provides a comprehensive educational program of artistic training, academic and creative development, and preparation to compete for scholarships toward advanced study in institutions of higher learning.

College Scholarship Applications



We will be accepting applications for college scholarships starting today, 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.

Drumroll please!
Our Frog's Name Is.....

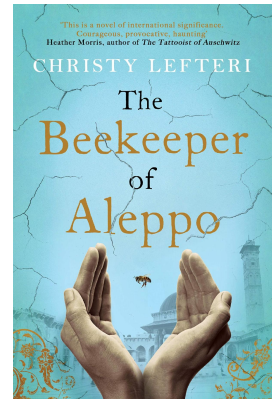
Thanks for all who participated in our frog-naming contest over the past few weeks! Per all the votes compiled, we introduce to you...CLOVER!



Look for Clover in our Moment for All Ages during online worship, and hopefully you can spot our frog friend in-person around campus sometime soon!

Faith & Fiction

Our next book is *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* by Christy Lefteri. The discussion will be on February 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. -- hopefully in person, but if not, then via Zoom. Come join us either way!



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!

Pastoral Emergency Number



If you have a pastoral emergency, please call (561) 805-1514.



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 January Birthdays



Groups are 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, Zoom
- Sundays, 9 AM, Power Hour Sunday School Class, Zoom
- Sundays, 10 AM, [Online](#) Worship Service
- Sundays, following worship, Coffee Fellowship time, [via Zoom](#)
- Sundays, 4 PM, GriefShare, Zoom
- Mondays, 10 AM, Lectio Devina Extraordinary, [via Zoom](#)
- Tuesdays, 7 PM, Christian Meditation, meeting virtually. 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. Please contact Ken Young at 207-841-8562 to obtain information regarding meeting off-campus.
- Fridays, 12 PM, Men's Lunch Bible Study, via Zoom. For more information, contact John Underwood (pjfwon@gmail.com)
- Monday, January 24, 7 PM, stated session meeting, online
- Monday, January 31, 7 PM, Return-to-Church Task Force meeting, online
- Monday, February 7, 7 PM, Faith & Fiction (yet to be determined if it will be in-person or online)
- Sunday, February 13, 4 PM, Bon Voyage concert, Sanctuary

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

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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.

