

FIRST NEWS



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

July 16, 2021

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us at 10 AM in the Sanctuary
for an In-Person or Online Worship Service
this Sunday, July 18
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



HYMN SING SUNDAY

Join us for this special Sunday
as we sing a variety of beloved hymns

*If you would like to sing with the choir this Sunday,
meet in the Choir Room at 9:30! No auditions required!*

If you feel uncomfortable or are unable to worship with us in person, you can
click [HERE](#) to watch the service online.

*As a reminder, we will begin the organ prelude just before 10 AM,
so please plan to arrive a few minutes early!*



Please remember in prayer: Elizabeth Anderson, Guy Anderson, Ron & Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt, Carol Daniel, Pat Eckert, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Sarah Fechter, Teresa Gasper, Elizabeth Hammer, Margo Hart, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, Russ Johnson, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Alisa Keys, Margie Laughlin, Dave & Pam Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, Peter Pav, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Janet Poling, Jane Pruitt, Ken Robinson, Henry Shaw, Judy Smith, Jane Snoke

Please continue to lift our church up in your prayers during this time of transition.

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; 1st LT. 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 Grossenbacher at amyg@fpc-stpete.org.



Community Movie Night at FPC!

This Wednesday, July 21

in the Youth Center

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Showing the movie *Soul*

Homemade popcorn and ice cream provided!

Everyone is invited!

Update from the Presbytery of Tampa Bay Listening and Assessment Team

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

We are grateful for the time that we have spent with you thus far. It is not always easy to talk about troubling experiences and we hope you are beginning to feel heard. We have learned a lot about First Presbyterian Church despite our limited time together in each session.

We have almost completely scheduled 30 listening sessions that extend through this month. Please note that we are providing registration confirmation about 2 days prior to your meeting time to allow for maximum flexibility in the schedule.

If you haven't had a chance to register with us, you may choose to wait for additional sessions to become available or you may also choose to submit written communication. We will accept messages of up to 750 words via email or USPS mail. As in our listening sessions, we ask that you focus on 3 areas:

1. Your main concern
2. How do you think First Presbyterian got to this moment?
3. What would make things better?

Written communication contact info:

Email: fpcsp-ptb@googlegroups.com

This is a temporary group email address created to facilitate communication with the Listening and Assessment Team. Please do not send any emails directly to individual team members.

USPS Mail:

Presbytery of Tampa Bay
ATTN: FPCSP-PTB Listening Team
455 Scotland St, Suite 1
Dunedin, FL 34698

In all of our conversations, we will be guided by the principles in *Seeking to Be Faithful Together: Guidelines for Presbyterians During Times of Disagreement*. We ask that all persons review in advance and commit to be bound by the guidelines. The Guidelines can be found [HERE](#) or on the Presbytery of Tampa Bay | Seeking to be Faithful Together page of the Presbytery website.

In the spirit of trust and love, we, the members of the Listening and Assessment Team, promise to give you a safe space to be heard. We promise to, and encourage you, to speak the truth in love, seeking to maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. The *Seeking Together* guidelines offer clear suggestions for dealing with differences so they can become occasions for growing in grace and understanding of God's will for us, rather than separation.

May the peace of the risen Christ be with you now and always, and may we all strive to build up the body of Christ,

Stacey Quick, Ruling Elder
Chair of the Listening and Assessment Team



A GREAT WAY TO START YOUR DAY!

Our Day School's Summer Camp is in full swing, Mondays-Fridays through Aug. 6, and greeting the families as they drop off their little ones is a great way to put a smile on your face, and theirs!

Welcoming the families is a wonderful opportunity to let them know the church has a heartfelt connection to the Day School, which has been on our campus more than 50 years. It has been so rewarding for me (Gretchen Letterman, the proud mom of 30-year-old and 27-year-old Day School graduates) to have this interaction the first week of summer camp, and families have responded warmly to a church member's presence.

Won't you spare 15 minutes for this easy and "radical" hospitality, for a day or

two, or as often as you can? It might be easy to pick the same morning each week, or a few days one week, or even one time, to welcome these delightful families and visit with them as they wait for the classroom doors to open.

Children start arriving @ 8:45 and classes start at 9. Greeters can station themselves at the circular stairway in the parking lot, or by classrooms in the north wing or facing the Memorial Garden.

If this opportunity speaks to you, please let Gretchen (gretchen.letterman@gmail.com) know if there is a day or days you are available. It's good to arrive a few minutes before 8:45 so you can stop in the Day School office and let Director Ashley Hardy or other staff know you are on campus. If you have a church name badge, please wear it. The Day School office can provide you with a stick-on badge.

Please feel free to share this invitation with others. The more church faces, the better! (Masks are optional outside for those who have been vaccinated.)

Peace and blessings,
Gretchen Letterman

Meals On Wheels 4 Kids is looking for Volunteers!

Meals On Wheels for Kids (MOW4Kids) is a home-delivered meal program for children who depend on school meals and who are unable to get to school meal distribution sites. This innovative first-of-its-kind program helps children in Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas counties get the food they need. Through this program, volunteers and community partners are helping to reduce childhood hunger (which skyrocketed due to the pandemic) by providing lunchtime meals. MOW4Kids delivers over 5,000 meals each week across Tampa Bay.

By volunteering just a few hours a week, you can help change lives by ensuring children received nutritious food needed to survive. Volunteer shifts occur morning through mid-day and include:

1. packing food or
2. delivering food (driving your own vehicle); a route contains 5-6 stops and takes about 1-2 hours to complete.

You choose the area where you would like to pack or deliver, the day of the week you would like to volunteer (Monday-Friday), and the frequency you would like to help (every week, every other week, once a month).

Volunteer requirements:

- Volunteer application and orientation required to pack or deliver (application can be found online at [Volunteer – Tampa Bay Network To End Hunger](#))
- Pass a level 1 background check (level 2 background check preferred for delivery)
- Be able to stand and/or walk for up to 2 hours and lift and carry up to 30 lbs.

If you are unable to volunteer your time, but would like to help, please consider



Meals On Wheels
for Kids Needs
You!

Volunteers are needed!
Positions include
drivers, packers, and
box delivery.



mow4Kids
MEALS ON WHEELS FOR KIDS
TAMPA BAY

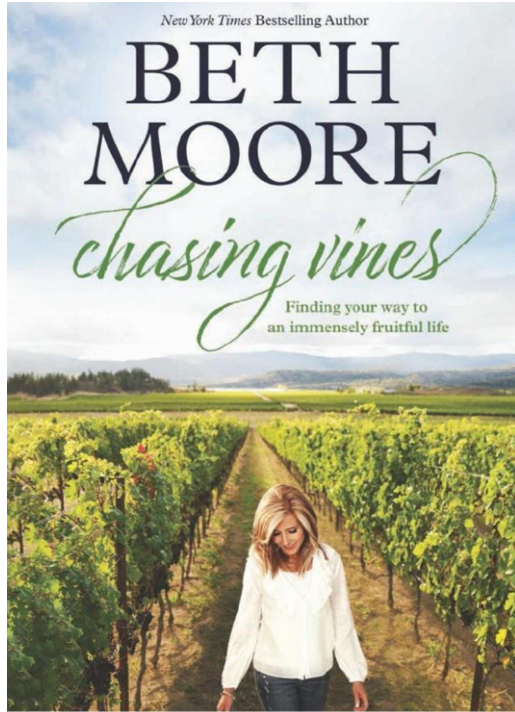
Contact us!
www.networktoendhunger.org
(813)344-5837



donating at: [Donate – Tampa Bay Network To End Hunger](#). For more information, call 813-344-5837.

Children's Ministry

Pastor Megan is in a time of prayer and discernment about the future of our Children's Ministry. We are already looking forward to when we kick-off Children's Messages, Children's Church, and Children's Sunday School once again. In order for all this to happen, we need a team of collaborative volunteers who are passionate about making this a thriving ministry for our church community. If you are willing and able to walk alongside Pastor Megan on this journey to please contact her (727-828-3972 or meganm@fpc-stpete.org) over the summer.



Beth Moore Bible Study on Tuesday Mornings

Our study is Beth Moore's "Chasing Vines – Finding Your Way To An Immensely Fruitful Life". It is on Tuesday mornings from 9:15 – 11:30 AM through this Tuesday, July 20, 2021 in the Youth Center. Even if you are going to be on vacation during any part of this study, we want to encourage you to come when you can!

Please register with April Hussung (at 727-420-1758 or stapler39@aol.com) and let her know if you need a workbook, which will be available for \$15, or if you have any questions.

Please note:

- At this time, there is no childcare available.
- We will follow Church masking policy.

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 during this time.
- Help us stay connected by sending us your pictures and prayer requests!

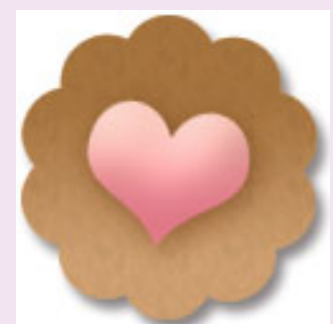


Pastoral Emergency Number

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

Love Offering for Dawn

The session has approved a love offering in gratitude for Dawn's service to First Presbyterian Church-St Petersburg. Any checks should be made payable to FPC-St Pete and noted as "love offering" in the memo line, so that they can be correctly processed through the office. If you prefer to donate online, you can access Online Giving [HERE](#). Please use the drop-down box to designate your gift as a Love Offering.



If you would like to write notes of appreciation for Dawn, they may be

deposited in the pink boxes in the Church Office or the back of the Sanctuary. Blank notecards, envelopes and pens are available near the drop boxes. Gifts may be left near the boxes or delivered to the Church Office during business hours. If you would like to mail anything, please use the church address: 701 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

During this season, we are especially thankful for the generosity of all of the people who continue to financially contribute to the church.

Online Giving



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 July Birthdays



Some groups are continuing to meet 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, meeting in-person, Room S-202.
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, In-Person Worship Service, Sanctuary or [Online](#).
- **Sundays, 11:15 AM**, *Westminster & Contemporary Faith Sunday School Classes will not be meeting again until Fall.*
- *Monday morning online devotionals are taking a break for the summer.*
- **Mondays, 12 PM**, Peaceful and Powerful Parenting class (online; last class is July 19)
- **Tuesdays, 9:15 AM**, Beth Moore Bible study, Youth Center
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, meeting every other week in the Chapel at 7 PM (next in-person meeting is July 20). For more information, contact Carlen Maddux (cmaddux@maddux.com).
- *Fridays, 7:30 AM, Men's Bible Study will be taking a break for the summer...will start back up after Labor Day.*
- **Fridays, 12 PM**, Men's Lunch Bible Study; the last Friday of the month is in-person in Room N-123 (next in-person meeting is July 30); otherwise, via Zoom. For more information, contact John Underwood (pjfwon@gmail.com)

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 Grossenbacher](#).

First Presbyterian Church
701 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 822-2031

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

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

