

FIRST NEWS



Your Weekly News from
First Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg

July 9, 2021

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us at 10 AM in the Sanctuary
for an In-Person or Online Worship Service
this Sunday, July 11
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Megan H. McMillan
Scripture: [Psalm 24](#), [Ephesians 1:3-14](#), [Mark 6:14-29](#)

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!*

Special Music this Sunday

This Sunday's guest musicians Meredith Hall, piano, and Roy Lawson, cello, are 2021 graduates of Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Jonathan C. Gibbs High School.



If you are looking for a little more music in your weekend, we invite you to watch Meredith's Senior Recital [HERE](#) and Roy's Senior Recital [HERE](#).

Praise Band Preview!

Do you enjoy singing along with the FPC Praise Band, but aren't too familiar with the praise songs yet? Well, we have just the thing for you! Below you'll find links to the songs the Praise Band will be performing this Sunday. We've included the lyrics in the video so you can familiarize yourself with the tunes prior to Sunday's 10 AM service. Enjoy!

[Jesus Take All Of Me](#)
[Rising](#)



Please remember in prayer: Ron & Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt, Carol Daniel, Pat Eckert, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Sarah Fechter, Teresa Gasper, 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.



**Mark Your
Calendar**

FPC Hymn Sing
Next Sunday, July 18
during our 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

**Update from the Presbytery of Tampa Bay
Listening and Assessment Team**

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Grace and Peace be with you.

As part of its listening process, the Listening and Assessment Team appointed by the Commission on Ministry of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay will receive input from individuals who wish to be heard in an initial round of listening sessions from Friday, July 9 to Thursday, July 29, 2021.

These Zoom listening sessions will be limited in time, based on the number of people interested in speaking to the team. We will try to get to as many people as we can, but may not be able to get to everyone in this first round, so please be patient as we begin this work with you.

Zoom Listening Sessions: Click [HERE](#) to register your interest in communicating with the Listening and Assessment Team, then watch for a separate email confirmation from the team with the Zoom meeting information or additional information.

If you prefer written communication instead, we will accept messages of up to 750 words via email or USPS mail.

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.

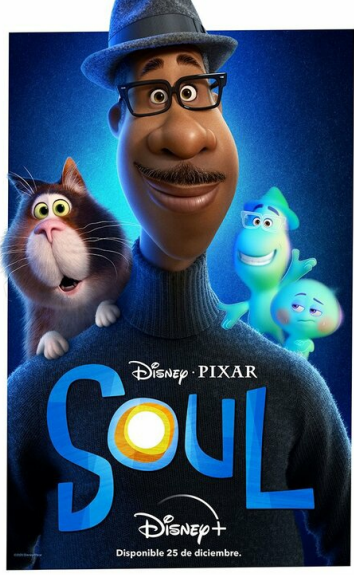
In the spirit of trust and love, we, the members of the Listening and Assessment Team, promise to give you a safe space to be heard. We promise to, and encourage you, to speak the truth in love, seeking to maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. The *Seeking Together* guidelines offer 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

Community Movie Night at FPC!

Wednesday, July 21
in the Youth Center
6:00 - 8:00 PM



Showing the movie *Soul*
Homemade popcorn and ice cream provided!

From Our Stephen Ministers

Slowly but surely the world and our community is returning to “normal” – except that it really is questionable whether we can go back to “normal.” We’ve lost so much, missed out on important family occasions, spent more time at home than many of us ever imagined...the list goes on and on. And the world around us has changed.



Are you feeling exhausted or sad or angry from all the disruptions and changes to life brought on by the pandemic and events closer to home? Are you or someone you know struggling with challenges such as:

- Isolation and loneliness?
- Anxiety over health?
- Grief due to many different kinds of losses?
- Tension from juggling work or family responsibilities?
- Financial strain or job loss?
- Uncertainty about the future?
- Other unexpected life challenges?

If so, you do not have to face it alone!

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support. A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately -- in person, by phone, by video chat - to offer care and support. And it is all completely confidential.

For more information, please call the Church Office (727-822-2031).

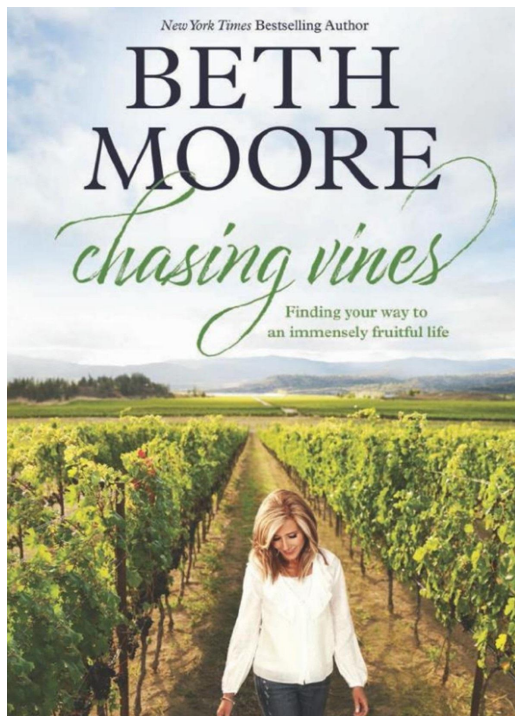
Children's Ministry

From Rev. Megan McMillan

We have made the difficult decision to pause the Children’s Message time during our Sunday worship services for the summer. We are so grateful for all those who have been volunteering their time and gifts to this ministry. However, in this time of major transition in the life of this congregation, like many other things, the Children’s Ministry programming is in a period of discernment and prayer.

I (Pastor Megan) am 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 will need a team of collaborative volunteers who are passionate about making this a thriving ministry for our church community. I invite those who are willing and able to walk alongside me on this journey to please contact me (727-828-3972 or meganm@fpc-stpete.org) over the summer months.

In the meantime, the "Kids Korner" in the Sanctuary is still a welcome and available space for your children to come and worship on Sunday mornings with the FPC community. For kids worshipping at home on Sundays, Pastor Megan will be happy to email out some activities and coloring pages to you. If you are interested in receiving these, please email Megan.



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 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; next class is July 12)
- **Tuesdays, 9:15 AM**, Beth Moore Bible study, Youth Center
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, meeting in-person every other week in the Chapel at 7 PM (next 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](#).

(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.

