

# FIRST NEWS



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

**November 4, 2022**

## WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for our Worship Service at 10 AM  
this Sunday, November 6, 2022  
in the Sanctuary or online  
*22nd Sunday after Pentecost / All Saints' / Lord's Supper*

Rev. Jeanie Barnes  
Sermon: "Stunning News"  
Scripture: [Haggai 2:1-9](#)

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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!

**We have a MASK-OPTIONAL policy for worship services and on-campus activities.**



**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 - Back to the Sanctuary

After a wonderful contemporary service last Sunday, we are looking forward to heading back upstairs to the Sanctuary for combined worship. This week, your FPC Praise Band will be performing two of our more popular tunes: *Jesus Paid It All* and *Holy Water*. Click below to hear the music and we'll see you on Sunday!

[Jesus Paid It All](#)

[Holy Water](#)

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**Daylight Saving Time ends  
this Sunday, November 6**

**Don't forget to set your clocks back!**



**Please remember in prayer:** All the victims and clean-up efforts from Hurricane Ian, Faith Bedford, Millie Bradley, Ellen Carnahan, John Daniel, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Margo Hart, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, Russ Johnson, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Susan Key, Alisa Keys, Jean Kohler, Margie Laughlin, Taffey Lichter, Dave & Pam Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, Dick & Diane Nummi, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Janet Poling, Henry Shaw, Judy Smith, Jane Snoke, Marsha Starkey

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; 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**



Dear First Friends,

What about all of us wearing those crazy socks on Sunday October 30?! And what about the many, many packages of new socks and underwear you brought to share with others?! It was really good working together for the good of the homeless in our community. And it was fun to laugh about our crazy socks and share around the tables about our lives. What a great day Fifth Sunday/MissionSunday was that day!

I will be away for a Continuing Education event at Columbia Seminary in Decatur, GA next week. You will be in really good hands with Jeanie Barnes, remembering the beloved saints who have died in the last year, baptizing a one-year-old, and sharing at the Lord's Table. When I get back, the wonderful Senior Luncheon will be on Wednesday, November 16; I am really looking forward to that!

In my sermon this past Sunday, I shared a dream with you: the dream of God bringing each of us light and color and space where we saw only a small dark room. As we move into the season of Thanksgiving and then Advent, remember that God always calls us to light and color and space: to LIFE! To NEW life! And to service for others. We are so blessed to follow where God leads, and to travel together with others, with faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus never lets us down. I am blessed to be part of this journey with you.

For those ready to join us on this journey, we will have a Member Inquirer's Lunch on Sunday, November 13, in the Youth Center, right after worship. Please join us for lunch; bring your questions and let us learn more about YOU! I look forward to having time together.

Pastor Ginny

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### Lectio Divina on Monday mornings

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

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### TRUNK OR TREAT AND CHILI COOK-OFF - HUGE THANKS!

Wow! What an awesome time we had at Trunk or Treat last Saturday! Thank you for being a church with a heart for our community!

It was a community success with almost 400 kids and parents in attendance! We had 26 decorated trunks, hot dogs (250+!), chips, and drinks served up by our Men's Ministry, awesome games by St. Pete Primary School, music, a bounce slide, a photo booth, a face painter, a *Live, Love St. Pete* booth, and even a Hook-n-Ladder from St Pete Fire! So much candy, fun, and love for our neighbors was overflowing from our back parking lot.

And let's not forget this year's winners of the Chili Cook-out! Lisa and Bryan



Belcher took first place with their "Triple Threat Chili"; Blake Daniel came in second, and Griffin took third! A huge thanks to all our chili masters for blessing us with their prowess.

And a big THANK YOU to ALL who gave their time, support, trunks, and candy to help make it such a grand success!

Get it on your calendars for next year because you won't want to miss it!



## Wow! What a Crazy Socks-y Sunday!

Socks and underwear of all stripes, colors, and sizes overflowed this past 5th Sunday MissionSunday; men's and women's, boys' and girls'. We had 17 BIG BAGS of donations in total! All for those who are homeless in St. Petersburg. As you probably know, this gift will be going to St. Vincent de



Paul, the non-profit that is in the vanguard of helping our neighbors move off the streets.



The Mission Committee thanks each of you who contributed to this abundant gift!! If you would like more information about the Mission Committee, please contact Moderator Sandi Averitt ([sanaveritt1@gmail.com](mailto:sanaveritt1@gmail.com); 727.424.9300)

## CHURCH BUS!!!

We are working hard to get our church bus up and running and we plan to return it to service starting November 6, driving folks to and from church on Sunday mornings!

- Who is willing to be on our driver list?
- Who will want rides?



Please call the Church Office (727-822-2031) if you are able to volunteer to drive, or if you will be wanting a ride!

## USE OF CHURCH BUS

On Saturday, October 29, Wayne Specie used our church bus to transport refugee families to Eckerd College for a Halloween party. On the way back, Wayne stopped at the Eckerd College "beach" where the children played in the water; they had not seen a beach before! Eckerd College students planned and carried out this party for the families. We know that refugee children, some from war-torn areas, can find Halloween confusing and even frightening. Eckerd's chaplain, Doug McMahon says: "The program was a great success. The event would not have happened without your generous and kind spirit. Please tell the session and everyone who was involved that we very much appreciate the ministry of First Presbyterian Church. They (especially Wayne) are our superheroes!"



## Senior Luncheon!

*Sponsored by  
the Deacons*  
**Fun! Food!**



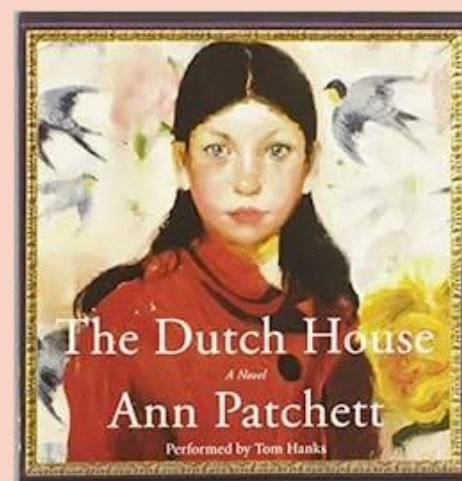
## Fellowship!



**Wednesday, November 16 from 12:00 - 1:00 PM  
in the Fellowship Hall**

Please call the church office at 727-822-2031 to RSVP no later than **Monday, November 7th**. Also let us know if you will need transportation.

**Faith & Fiction**  
**Monday, November 7**  
**7:00 p.m., Room N-123**



This month, we'll be discussing *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett, which is a coming-of-age story about a brother and sister who grew up in a mansion known as "The Dutch House." The story follows them for five decades and was a Pulitzer Prize finalist. There are plenty of copies of this book (both electronic and hard copies) at the library, and, should you choose the audiobook, you will be pleasantly surprised to hear Tom Hanks reading this story to you! Al May will be our discussion leader.

## Scholastic Book Fair



FPC members and friends are invited to shop at St. Pete Primary's first annual Scholastic Book Fair! The fair will open today, Friday, November 4 and run through next Friday, November 11 (weekdays only). Hours are 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. daily. The Book Fair is

in the Media Center next to the School Office in the south wing. This is a great time to do some Christmas shopping for little ones!! Quality children's books, Christian books, and stocking stuffers too!

**Celebrate "Friendsgiving"** with your church friends at the Mossman's home in Tierra Verde on Saturday evening, **November 12 at 6 PM**. Bring a favorite Thanksgiving dish to share with others as we dine outside under the light of the moon. **Please RSVP by Nov. 7** to Karen Mossman ([karenamossman@gmail.com](mailto:karenamossman@gmail.com) or 727-400-5079) and let her know what you will prepare so a balanced Thanksgiving dinner will be provided. Stargazing will follow, compliments of the Brinkman Observatory. Join us as we give thanks for each other and all our blessings!



**New Member Inquirer's Class**  
**Sunday, November 13**  
immediately following worship  
in the Youth Center



Whether you have been visiting FPC St. Pete for a brief time or for a while, you will want to join us for a new member inquirer's class! This is a great opportunity for you to learn about what it means to be a Presbyterian, plus hear the answers to all those questions you may have about our church, faith, and what you need to do to become a member. We will meet immediately following worship on November 13 in the Youth Center, where we will enjoy a light lunch and a great program from Pastor Ginny. Elders will be on hand should you wish to join the church following the class. Please RSVP by calling the Church Office (727-822-2031). This is your opportunity to learn about and join downtown's most welcoming church!



## 2023 Honduras Mission Trip Interest Meeting Sunday, November 13

Our next mission trip to Honduras will be June 11-17, 2023. If you might be interested in going, or if you have any questions, **please join us for an information meeting on Sunday, November 13**, in the Chapel, directly following the worship service. If you can't make the meeting, or if you have questions ahead of time, please contact Susan Schlecht at 727-735-5332 or [schlecht21975@gmail.com](mailto:schlecht21975@gmail.com).

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### Nov. 1, 2022 Report from Dr. Cesar Davila, New Hope Clinic, Honduras

Greetings and Blessings Brothers and Sisters,

The national Congress of Honduras is ready to repeal the use of masks in open spaces except for schools, Clinics, Hospitals and closed spaces. The COVID cases have decreased considerably. In the Clinic we are diagnosing fewer cases each day, thanks to the Lord and we hope we don't have an uptick in cases as seen in some other countries.

Unfortunately, in Honduras we continue under the threat of tropical storms. A few weeks ago, we suffered from the effects of Hurricane Julia, and we are now under the threat of another atmospheric phenomenon, the storm Lisa. According to the experts they expect this to strengthen in the next hours into a hurricane. We are praying that there be minimal damage.

In the Clinic, thanks to the Lord, everything continues on very well. Our patients visit us every day for our Medical, dental and Lab services. The people are always very grateful for our services, our help and the unconditional support they receive from the Clinic.

The people in all the communities are very pleased with the news that next



**New Hope Clinic**





## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

St. Petersburg's RunFest will be held on the morning of Nov 13. The back church parking lot will be closed off for the morning (6-10:30 AM). Please make plans to park in our ample grass parking area south of the sanctuary, or in the front circle drive.

Our church will be assisting RunFest in the following ways:

- Our Praise Band will play for the runners from approximately 8:00 to 10:00 AM, so feel free come a little early to support them!
- We will staff a water table behind the church. We need volunteers for this! Please call the Church Office if you can help!
- We will pray for the safety of all those participating.

## Thanksgiving FAMILY FUN Cookout and Game Day! Sunday, November 20, 11:30 AM - 1 PM on the Church Playground



KIDS, grab your parents and grandparents and come for some yummy grilled burgers, veggies, ice cream and more!

We'll get to make new friends and catch up with the ones we met before COVID started! Besides the playground to play on, we'll have games and bubbles and balls. Can you juggle, kick, or throw? If you want, bring your favorite game or ball to share! We plan to have some serious FUN and do a mission project too!!!

Let us know you're coming by signing up [HERE](#) or in the Sanctuary.



## St. Pete Baroque Concert Sunday, November 20, 2022 at 4:00 PM

Daniel Urbanowicz and the talented artists of St. Pete Baroque return to our Sanctuary to perform early music repertoire on historical period instruments. Offering will be taken for St. Pete Baroque.

## Childcare/Kids Ministry Updates



- A new childcare & kid's room is **COMING SOON!** New flooring, fresh paint, and new mini-blinds will soon be installed in Room 203!
- **Donation request:** if you have any clean, new or gently-used children's books, toys, or furniture that would be appropriate OR if you're redecorating yourself, we could use a couple of cute, comfy chairs. Before dropping off any large items, please send pictures to



Pastor Jeanie at [jbarnes@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:jbarnes@fpc-stpete.org).

- **Volunteer request:** If you would like to volunteer to help the new staff once a month during church, please sign up in the Sanctuary or contact Pastor Jeanie (727-822-2031). THANK YOU!

Be a part of FPC's participation in the **Downtown Santa Parade on Nov. 26**. Gather your friends and family and ride in the decorated church van or walk along side during the Santa parade. Santa hat will be provided for all participants. Parade begins at 6 PM with lineup at 4 PM. If interested, contact Karen Mossman, 727-400-5079 or [karenamossman@gmail.com](mailto:karenamossman@gmail.com).



## New Service Times

Beginning Sunday, December 4, FPC will offer a contemporary service in our Youth Center (9:00 AM) and a traditional service in our Sanctuary (at 11:00 AM). Sunday School classes and/or fellowship time will be from 10:00-11:00 AM. We are hoping to have childcare available 9 AM - 12 PM. Your support (and attendance!) will be essential to these two worship services being successful.

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!

## Online Giving



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 November 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 Divina, via [Zoom](#)
  
- **Tuesdays, 9 AM**, Ladies' Bible Study, Youth Center
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, Chapel (meets in-person the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month)
  
- **Wednesdays, 7:00 PM**, Praise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary (new time)
  
- **Thursdays, 6 PM**, Bell Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite
- **Thursdays, 7 PM**, Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite
  
- **Fridays, 7:30 AM**, Men's Bible Study, Room N-123
- **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:

- **Sunday, November 6**, Bus Ministry starts
- **Monday, November 7**, 7 PM, Faith & Fiction
- **Saturday, November 12**, 6 PM, "Friendsgiving" potluck at the Mossmans' house
- **Sunday, November 13**, 11 AM, New Member Inquirer's class
- **Sunday, November 13**, 11 AM, Honduras Mission Trip Interest meeting
- **Wednesday, November 16**, 12 PM, Senior Luncheon, Fellowship Hall
- **Sunday, November 20**, 11:30 AM, Thanksgiving Family Fun Cookout, Game Day, and Mission Project
- **Sunday, November 20**, 4 PM, St Pete Baroque Concert



- Thursday, Nov. 24 and Friday, Nov. 25, Church Office closed for the Thanksgiving holiday
- Saturday, November 26, join FPC in participating in the Downtown Santa Parade
- Sunday, December 4, transition to TWO SERVICES! 9 AM Contemporary service in the Youth Center and 11 AM Traditional service in the 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 McCutcheon at [amym@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:amym@fpc-stpete.org).

First Presbyterian Church  
701 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
(727) 822-2031 | [www.fpcstpete.com](http://www.fpcstpete.com)

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thur. 9 AM - 5 PM; closed Fridays

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



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