

FIRST NEWS



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

October 28, 2022

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Join us for our Worship Service at 10 AM
this Sunday, October 30, 2022
in the Fellowship Hall or online
21st Sunday after Pentecost / 5th Sunday Mission Sunday

Rev. Ginny Ellis
Sermon: "Zacchaeus: Up a Tree"
Scriptures: [Jeremiah 29:11-14](#), [Luke 19:1-10](#)

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 NOTE: we have a MASK-OPTIONAL policy

Praise Band Preview - Fellowship Hall This Week!

Your FPC Praise Band is excited to be hosting another full Praise Service down in Fellowship Hall this Sunday at 10 AM. We've got 5 great tunes lined up for worship. That's a lot of music, so we'll just preview our opening tune, *God So Loved*, and our closing tune, *God Is Great*. Click below to check out the videos and we'll be seeing you on Sunday!

[God So Loved](#)

[God Is Great](#)



Please remember in prayer: All the victims and clean-up efforts from Hurricane Ian, Faith Bedford, Millie Bradley, Ellen Carnahan, Michelle Carothers, John Daniel, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Nina Glover, 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, Alan Pfleider, Richard Pfleider, Janet Poling, Henry Shaw, Judy Smith, Jane Snoke



Joined the Church Triumphant

Larry Kirsch
October 25, 2022

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.

From the Desk of Pastor Ginny

Dear Friends,

When I was a girl, one of my absolute favorite experiences was once watching the Boy Scout soapbox derby race near my grandparents' house. Those boys sat in the race cars they had built and rolled as fast as they could down a steep

hillside in Lynchburg, Virginia. It was so exciting. I still remember it all.

I guess I feel a little like those boys must have felt, sitting in those race cars, looking down that steep course. You see, at the church, it is looking like a fast downhill course. There is much on the schedule, all coming quickly here as we end October and move on into the fall: Trunk or Treat is on Saturday. (I have a costume! I am really excited about that.) Then Mission Sunday with worship, lunch, and our crazy socks event in the Fellowship Hall. What a fun way to help other people as we bless them with new socks and underwear! In November comes the remembering of the saints of the church, a baptism, the return of the bus ministry, a Member Inquirer's Class on November 13, Thanksgiving following right after that (and much more! keep reading below!). And along with all of that, we will juggle many details preparing for the transition to two services to begin in December.

We will need you to help all you can. Please pray for the church staff and leadership, especially our musicians and Amy McCutcheon in the Church Office. Participate in every way YOU can. Be here. Be generous with your gifts. And tell your family and friends about the exciting things happening at First Presbyterian. It's surely as great as a soap box derby!

God bless us all in this exciting journey of faith,
Ginny Ellis

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](#).

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!

TRUNK OR TREAT AND

GREAT CHILI COOK-OFF!



**Saturday
October 29
4:00-6:00 p.m.
North Shore Parking Lot**

Gather all your little ghosts and goblins and head over to First Pres for our annual Trunk or Treat and Great Chili Cook-Off tomorrow, Oct. 29 from 4-6 p.m.



We will have fun games, an inflatable slide, a photo booth, a movie, and St. Pete Firemen will be there with one of their big red fire engines to explore! In addition to chili, we'll have hot dogs, chips, and lemonade. Invite your grandkids, neighbors, and friends to come join this Halloween extravaganza!



Crazy Socks-y Sunday! MissionSunday - October 30

Come to church this Sunday wearing the craziest socks you have. We're ALSO asking that you bring bundles of NEW socks and/or NEW underwear for the homeless—all sizes, adult and children, men and women.

When is it? This Sunday, October 30! Join us for worship at 10 AM. At 11 AM, we'll sort and pack the new socks and underwear. After sorting, we invite you to sit down for a fun potluck lunch; we'll provide the meat...you bring a dish to share!

Where will it be? The service, sorting, and lunch will be in Fellowship Hall.

What non-profit will be getting these gifts? St. Vincent de Paul (384 15th Street N), which is a local agency on the front line for taking in our homeless neighbors and working with them.

Questions? Contact Beth Houghton (bethannehoughton@gmail.com, 727-422-6864) or Susan Schlecht (schlecht21975@gmail.com, 727-735-5332).

Jackets for Lakewood Elementary

PW Circles have been donating brand-new jackets for children at Lakewood Elementary...31 so far this year! Circles 6, 10, and 9 made jackets one of their

projects this fall since that Lakewood expressed that they are needed. Below photos are when jackets from Circle 10 were delivered to Lakewood's Family Volunteer Coordinator, Ms. Madeline, by Rachel Bowron and Sally Lyle.



OFFICER NOMINATIONS

The 2022 Officer Nominating Committee has begun meeting and invites your suggestions of members who might serve as elder or deacon, the lay leaders in the Presbyterian church. Elders and Deacons are elected by the congregation. After election they are trained for their work and ordained and/or installed at worship to their office. Elders at FPC work in the areas of Worship, Education, Mission, Finance, Administration and Property. Deacons are engaged in the ministries of Congregational Care.

Feel free to contact any member of the Committee with names you would like to recommend. The committee is made up of Karen Mossman, chair; and members Peter Bardin, Jim Garnett, Brad Hussung, Gretchen Letterman, Sally Lyle, and Dottie Young. Thank you for your prayers and your support!



Senior Luncheon!

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



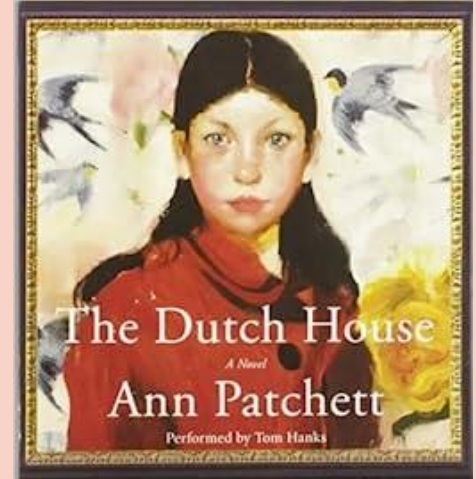
**Wednesday, November 16 from 12:00 - 1:00 PM
in the Fellowship Hall**

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.



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 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. 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.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

St. Petersburg's RunFest will be held on the morning of Nov 13. The back church parking lot

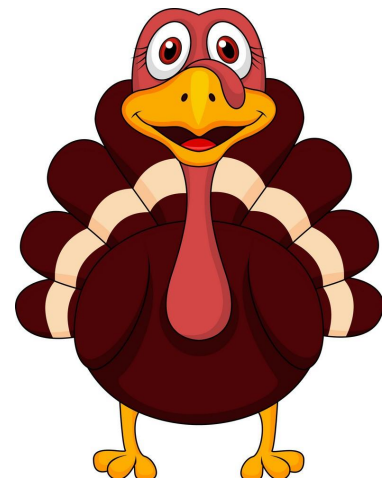


will be closed off for the morning (6-10:30 AM). Please make plans to park in our ample grass parking area south of the sanctuary, or in the front circle drive.

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!!!

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

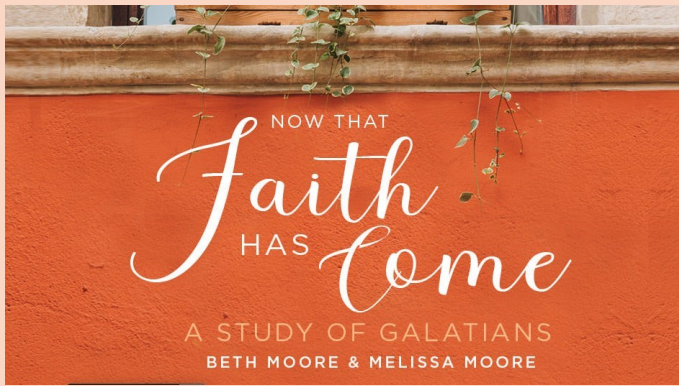
Daniel Urbanowicz and the talented artists of St. Pete Baroque return to our Sanctuary to perform early music repertoire on historical period instruments. Offering will be taken for St. Pete Baroque.

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!
- Interviews for new Childcare staff are underway. (We hope to have someone in place soon!)
- **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.

- **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!



“Now That Faith Has Come - A Study of Galatians”

Join Beth & Melissa Moore for a deep-dive into Paul’s captivating letter to the Galatians. Let’s study its original context and embrace its timeless relevance. We will

discover - or perhaps rediscover - what makes the gospel of Jesus revolutionary to those who choose to believe.

Join us on Tuesday mornings through November 8, 2022
9:00 – 11:30 a.m. in the Youth Center

Everyone is welcome – no previous Bible study experience is required. Workbooks will be available for \$20. Sorry, at this time there is no childcare available. Questions? April Hussung: (727) 420-1758 or stapler39@aol.com.

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.



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!



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)

Upcoming Events:

- **Tomorrow, October 29**, 4-6 PM, Trunk or Treat, back parking lot
- **Sunday, October 30**, MissionSunday, a mission project followed by potluck lunch; we're asking for donations of socks and underwear
- **Monday, October 31**, 1:30-3:00 PM, Card Ministry, Church Office

- 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 and Game Day
- 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

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.

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



First Presbyterian Church | 701 Beach Drive N.E., St. Petersburg, FL 33701-2618

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