

FIRST NEWS



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

October 8, 2021

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

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

Rev. Ginny Simmons Ellis
Sermon: "Not What I Hoped to Hear"
Scriptures: [Job 23:1-7](#), [Mark 10:17-27](#)

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

Praise Band Preview

Your FPC Praise Band has two more great tunes planned for this Sunday's
worship: *He Will Hold Me Fast* and *Evidence*. Click the links below to learn the
tunes, and we'll see you on Sunday!

[He Will Hold Me Fast](#)
[Evidence](#)

Meet and Greet

Pastor Ginny Ellis will gladly meet to visit with members and friends of the church at 11:15 AM (after worship) on Sunday mornings October 10, 17 and 24. Wear your mask and come along! Or contact her using her cell phone (813) 404-6723 or e-mail at ginny_ellis@yahoo.com.

Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to honor or memorialize a loved one with chancel flowers, please fill out a green envelope, available in the church pew. Enclose your donation of \$45 with the memo "Chancel flowers." Flower envelopes may be dropped in the offering plate or delivered to the church office.



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



FPC Mask Policy

Reminder: in response to rising cases of COVID-19 and in conjunction with updated CDC guidelines, FPC St. Pete has re-implemented a **mandatory mask policy indoors** during worship and all other indoor campus activities.



Please remember in prayer: Guy Anderson, Millie Bradley, Bob Burkhardt, Carol Daniel, Pat Eckert, Joan Evans, Julie Evans, Sandra Fay, Teresa Gasper, Elizabeth Hammer, John & Dorothy Harte, Larry & Diane Heath, Agnes Ingles, Russ Johnson, Iberia Johnston, Anne Justiss, Alisa Keys, Jean Kohler, Margie Laughlin, Taffey Lichter, Dave & Pam Malone, Nancy McLaughlin, Karen Mossman, 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.

Update from the Presbytery of Tampa Bay Administrative Commission

Greetings from your Administrative Commission!

Thank you all for your continued support and patience through the Interim Hiring process. This week, we continue our interviewing of candidates and have closed the opportunity for additional applications. We feel that the right match is available within the pool of candidates with which we have had initial interviews.

Rev. Ellis has been working with the Officer Nominating Committee to identify elder nominees for the open positions. We are encouraged that this team has been working so diligently to restore a quorum in the session of First Presbyterian Church St Petersburg. The spirit is on the move!

Please pray that we all are open and receptive to God's will in our lives as well as in First Presbyterian Church.

You can communicate directly with the AC using

Email: fpcsp-ptb@googlegroups.com

or

Mail at:

Presbytery of Tampa Bay

ATTN: FPCSP-PTB AC

455 Scotland St, Suite 1

Dunedin, FL 34698

In Christ's Love,

Stacey Quick, Co-Chair of the Administrative Commission

Rev. John DeBevoise, Co-Chair of the Administrative Commission

UPDATE from the Officer Nominating Committee

The Committee is truly grateful for the many suggestions we received. We are now working steadily to prepare a slate of nominations for elder and deacon positions. When we have a full list, we will ask the Session/Administrative Commission to call a congregational meeting for the election of officers. We're not ready yet...but pretty soon! Please keep us in prayer as we do this important work for our church.

Members of the Officer Nominating Committee: Brad Hussung, Karen Mossman, Marilyn Mulcahy, Sally Lyle, and Taina Specie.

Pick Up the Banner!

*Calling on volunteers to carry tartan banners
for the procession at the Oct. 31 worship service*

The Oct. 31 service will be one to remember, as we celebrate both Reformation Sunday and our

Presbyterian heritage. After a COVID hiatus last year, we are bringing back the FPC tradition of Kirkin' O' the Tartans. A procession at the beginning of the service will include bagpipes and some of the tartan banners.

We would like at least eight volunteers to carry tartan banners in the processional. The beautiful tartans will be placed in standards on the chancel steps.

We have 20 banners donated over the years by members in memory or honor of loved ones. If you donated a tartan and want to walk down the aisle carrying the tartan banner, or if you are willing to carry a banner for another member, please let Gretchen Letterman know (click [HERE](#) to email her) by Oct. 25. The remaining banners will be displayed on the south-facing sanctuary windows.

In addition to the pageantry of the processional, our worship on that day will offer a beautiful lesson-and-carols style worship service. Please consider being a part of it!



Halloween is almost here!
We invite everyone to join us for Trunk or Treat
on Saturday, October 30th from 2:30-4:30 PM.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH AND
ST. PETE PRIMARY
SCHOOL
PRESENTS**

**Trunk
or
Treat**



• CANDY • HOT DOGS •
• GAMES • COSTUMES • FUN •
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2021
2:30PM TO 4:30PM
701 BEACH DRIVE NE
IN THE BACK PARKING LOT
• ALL ARE WELCOME •

First Presbyterian Church and St. Pete Primary School are excited to collaborate together to offer games, music, hot dogs, and, of course, a trick-or-treat opportunity for the young and young at heart. We hope that you will make an effort to drop by and munch on a "dog," grab a piece of candy, or just enjoy seeing those dressed up in their spookiest, most creative costumes. We encourage you to invite your neighbors, family, and friends to participate in this event!

A box will be left in the back of the Sanctuary for candy donations for the next few Sundays and we also need some volunteers to help coordinate games, help with the cooking, and/or decorate the trunk of their car and pass out candy. If you are interested in helping with any of these things, please use the Sign-Up Genius link below, call the Church Office, or contact either [Kathy Bardin](#) or

[Carol Riley](#) to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B45ADA72FA4FD0-trunk>

FPC Concert Series - VOCES8 October 30, 2021



Mark your calendar for our next Concert:

VOCES8 on Saturday, October 30, 2021 at 7:00

PM in the Sanctuary. This concert will be free but will not be recorded or livestreamed.



Devotionals Available

Copies of the Oct/
Nov/Dec edition of "Our
Daily Bread" and "These
Days" devotionals are
now available for pick-up
from the Church Office
during normal business
hours or at the Welcome
Desk on Sunday
mornings.



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!



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.

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 October 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, Chapel.
- **Sundays, 10 AM**, In-Person Worship Service, Sanctuary or [Online](#).
- **Tuesdays, 7 PM**, Christian Meditation, meeting every other week in the Chapel at 7 PM (next in-person meeting is October 12). For more information, contact Carlen Maddux (cmaddux@maddux.com).
- **Thursdays, 6 PM**, Handbell Choir rehearsal, Choir Room
- **Thursdays, 7 PM**, Choir rehearsal, Choir Room
- **Fridays, 7:30 AM**, Men's Bible Study, in-person, Room N-123. For more information, please contact Ken Young (youngkd1492@comcast.net).
- **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 will be October 29). For more information, contact John Underwood (pjfwon@gmail.com)
- **Monday, October 25, 7 PM**, Stated Session meeting
- **Saturday, October 30**
 - **Trunk or Treat**, 2:30 - 4:30 PM in the back parking lot
 - **VOCES8 "After Silence" Concert**, 7 PM, 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 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.

