



Your  
Weekly News  
from  
First Presbyterian Church  
St. Petersburg

January 3, 2020

Second Sunday of Christmas  
Epiphany Sunday  
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

8:15 AM - Communion Worship, Chapel

9:00 AM - Contemporary Worship, Fellowship Hall

11:00 AM - Classic Worship with Choir, Sanctuary

The sermon for this Sunday

"Tell Us Who God Is -- and Who We Are, Too" - Becky Higman

[Psalm 147:12-20](#); [Ephesians 1:3-14](#)

[Click here](#) for Sunday's bulletin & announcements



## Pastor Dawn Will Be Out Of The Office

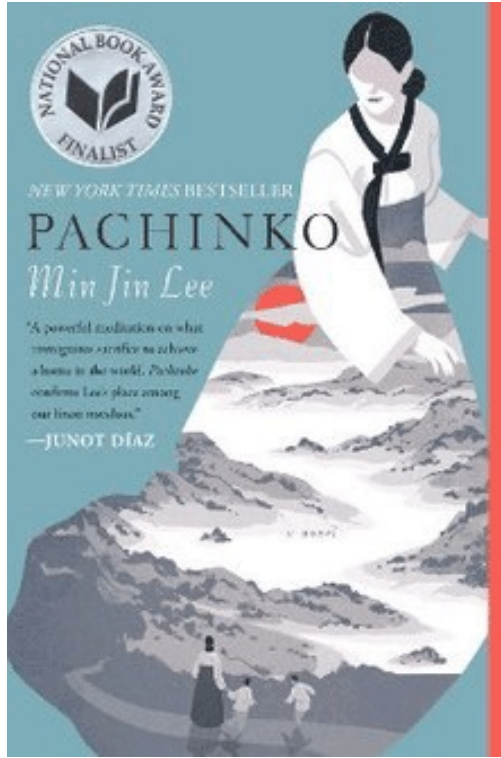
Pastor Dawn will be out of the office through January 5. In the event that there is a pastoral emergency during that time, please call the Church Office at (727) 822-2031 during regular business hours. For after-hours emergencies call Rev. Ruth Elswood (352) 278-0757



GriefShare groups will begin meeting again in January. Each week, we will offer two sessions of this support group for anyone grieving the loss of a family member or friend. We will meet Sundays from 4–5:30 PM, beginning

January 5, and Tuesdays from 10–11:30 AM, beginning January 7. Both groups meet in the Chapel.

Please join us for any or all of our meetings to learn about this journey "from mourning



## *Pachinko* by Jin Lee

*Pachinko*, by Min Jin Lee is the Faith & Fiction book selection being discussed on January 6, from 7:30 - 8:30 PM in Room N-123. The discussion Leader is Marsha Baker.

In the early 1900s, the adored daughter of a crippled fisherman falls for a wealthy stranger at the seashore near her home in Korea. He promises her the world, but when she discovers she is pregnant--and that her lover is married--she refuses to be bought.

Faith & Fiction meets the first Monday of each month, 7:30 - 8:30 PM in Room N-123 through April. [Here](#) is this year's Reading List.

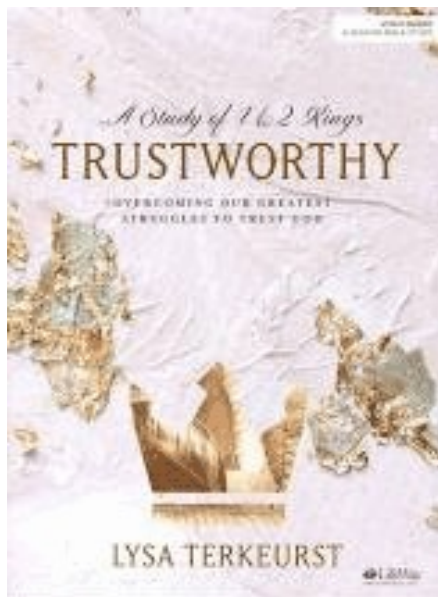
## Security/Safety Organizational Meeting

*A prudent person foresees danger and takes precautions* - Proverbs 22:3

A committee is being formed to determine how best to protect the congregation from unwanted disturbances. It is important to have a written policy. An unwritten policy is NO policy.

Bring your ideas and opinions to a meeting on Monday, January 6 at 7 PM in Room N-123. Help assemble a working document to direct our efforts. After the initial meeting, much of the work will be done by small groups via phone/email.

Your attendance is important for the welfare of your church and your friends. Questions? Contact Dick Luehrs at 727-866-7965 or [dicklu@windstream.net](mailto:dicklu@windstream.net).



## Women's Bible Study Lysa Terkeurst's *Trustworthy* Starting January 7

Do you ever struggle to really, fully trust God? I understand. When hard times come and it seems like God starts to deviate from the plan I'm assuming my life should follow, I'm much more likely to want to tame God...not trust Him.

Classes meet on Tuesdays at 9:15 AM and 6:30 PM in the Youth Center, starting January 7. Child care will be available by appointment only. Please e-mail [childcare@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:childcare@fpc-stpete.org) or call 727-828-3971.

## Meditation For Christians

You will feel warmly welcomed when you come to meditation in a small group. We meet on alternate Tuesday evenings with the next meeting being Tuesday, January 7, from 7-8 PM in the Chapel. For more information, please contact group leader Carlen Maddux (727-504-8201 or [cmaddux@maddux.com](mailto:cmaddux@maddux.com)). We welcome your inquiries and presence.

## Wednesday Night Live Resumes on January 8



5 PM Children's Choir (Choir Room)  
(for children ages 4 - 10 years)

5:30 PM Dinner (Fellowship Hall)  
Menu: Stuffed Peppers with Spaghetti, Bread, Cake + a child-friendly meal option  
Please call the Church Office (727) 822-2031 to let us know  
if you will be joining us for dinner.

6 PM - Messy Church (Room S-106)

- Financial Peace University (Chapel)

### Can You Help?

We will need a team of volunteers to help set up, serve, and clean up!  
If you are ready, willing, and able to serve on at least one Wednesday evening,  
please email Amy Grossenbacher at [amyg@fpc-stpete.org](mailto:amyg@fpc-stpete.org) or call the Church Office at  
(727) 822-2031.

### Mark Your Calendar:

- History of the Presbyterian Church in Florida led by Kyle Brinkman will begin on Jan. 15 and continue through Jan. 29.
- Another class, "Astronomy and the Bible," led by Kyle Brinkman, will begin Feb. 5.



## Bon Voyage!

A Preview  
Of An Upcoming  
Concert At St. Patrick's  
Cathedral in New York City

*Featuring:* Pinellas County Center for the Arts Choirs, Pinellas County Center for the Arts Orchestra, First Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir, First Presbyterian Church Handbell Choir, and Guest Singers from the Tampa Bay Area

The Bon Voyage Concert will be held Sunday, January 12 at 4 PM in the Sanctuary. The Orchestra and Vox Nova Chamber Choir from Pinellas County Center for the Arts have been selected to perform a concert at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. The hour-long concert on January 12 provides an opportunity for our local community to hear the performance the PCCA ensembles will give while representing us on the national stage.

Be sure to invite family and friends to this concert.

[Here](#) are details of the remaining performances in the Concert Series.

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES AT FIRST PRES

4 PM



7 PM



# Financial Peace University Is Coming To FPC

When: Wednesdays, 6:00 - 7:30 PM, January 8 - March 11 (excluding Ash Wednesday)

Where: The Chapel @ FPC (701 Beach Drive NE)

Cost: SPECIAL FPC RATE of \$99 per individual or couple (cost covers printed class materials, plus 1 full year of online access to FPU)

Are you ready to take control of your money? Learn how to beat debt and make a plan for the future. For information or to register for this class, please call the Church Office or go online to <https://www.financialpeace.com/groups/1108629?c=ccf>.

## FPC Calendar At A Glance

[Click here](#) to view the full church calendar online.

### Coming up:

- [January Birthdays](#)
- [January Parent Calendar](#)
- First Monday of each month, 7:30 - 8:30 PM, Faith & Fiction, Room N-123. [Here](#) is the Reading List.
- Faith Development Bible Study, S-100, 9:30 AM (Tuesdays)
- Yoga With Adam, 3 PM, Fellowship Hall (Sunday afternoons, refer to church calendar for any variation).
- Sunday, January 5 - GriefShare Support Group resumes meeting, Chapel (meets Sunday afternoons at 4 PM and Tuesdays at 10 AM; refer to church calendar for any variation)
- Monday, January 6, Security/Safety Organizational Meeting, 7 PM, N-123
- Tuesday, January 7, GriefShare Support Group Meeting, 10 AM, Chapel
- Tuesday, January 7, Meditation for Christians, 7 PM, Chapel
- Wednesday, January 8, Wednesday Live resumes, Children's Choir at 5 PM (Choir Room), Dinner at 5:30 (Fellowship Hall), and at 6:30 PM Financial Peace University (Chapel)
- Sunday, January 12, Bon Voyage Concert, 4 PM, Sanctuary
- Sunday, February 2, Congregational Meeting following 11 AM service

## 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 [Mary Johnson](#) and [Amy Grossenbacher](#).

First Presbyterian Church  
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(727) 822-2031

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



**First Presbyterian Church**  
*St. Petersburg, Florida*

