



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of December 1, 2019

Issue 736

133 Years of Ministry

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT IS SUNDAY

We hope you will join us for worship during the Advent season as we are *Seekers of the Light*. On the four Sundays leading up to Christmas, the sermon and scripture will be joined with special music by our choirs and praise band.

On **December 1**, the **First Sunday of Advent**, we will *Prepare!* Communion will be celebrated at this single **10 am** First Sunday Worship Service.

On **December 8**, the **Second Sunday of Advent**, we will remember how *The Angels Shout the News*.

The anthem theme for the **Third Sunday of Advent, December 15**, will focus on the *Seekers of the Light Hurry to Bethlehem*.

On **December 22**, the **Fourth Sunday of Advent**, we will *Behold! Go Tell! Shine!*

Let us prepare our hearts this Advent to celebrate the birth of the Holy Child of Bethlehem.



DECK THE HALLS

We hope you will join us as we **DECK THE HALLS** and decorate First Pres for the Advent and Christmas Season.

On **Sunday, December 1**, EVERYONE is invited to join us for the festivities. **Lunch** will be served at **11:15 am**, following the single 10 am worship service. Session members will be bringing pots of chili and soup to share, and we will have Ringleader sandwiches from Publix to complete the meal.

At **12 pm** we will divide into groups to Deck the Halls.

You can help others erect and fluff the sanctuary Christmas trees.

Your skill might be helping others hang the garland and angels in the sanctuary, balcony, and on the first floor.

There will be Christmas music playing throughout the church, and happy people everywhere Decking the Halls, preparing God's house for the holiday season.

We plan to have the finishing touches in place by 2 pm.

We hope to see you here!

Dr. Steven R. Negley
Senior Pastor

Dr. C. Alan Harvey
Associate Pastor

Rev. Sarah A. Bishop
Associate Pastor for
Christian Education and
Family Ministries

Lynn M. McCoy
Director of
Music Ministries

Emily G. Snyder
Director of
Student Ministries

Robin D. Miller
Director of Finance &
Administration

Connie J. Shipley
Administrative Assistant

Rose S. Flynn
Office Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant
Director of Maintenance

Tonia L. Milbry
Custodian



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 1 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT FIRST SUNDAY COMMUNION

- 10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 pm Deck the Halls (Sanctuary/Narthex)
- 5:00 pm High School Youth Group (GC)

Monday, December 2

- 8:45 am MOM (CE)

Tuesday, December 3

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MCR)
- 12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH)
- 6:00 pm Session Supper w/New Officers (MH)
- 6:30 pm Session (GR)

Wednesday, December 4

- 8:45 am MOM (CE)
- 3:00 pm Christ Kids (CE)
- 5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (GC)
- 6:00 pm Chancel Bells (MS)
- 7:00 pm Choir (MS)

Thursday, December 5

- 12:00 pm Chapel Bells (MS)

Friday, December 6

- 8:45 am MOM (CE)
- 5:00 pm Praise Band (Sanctuary)

Saturday, December 7

- 2:00 pm Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
- 4:00 pm Soup Kitchen (737)

Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Marie Able | Joyce Hayman | Edna Mitchell |
| Melvin & Debbie Anderson | Frances Heath | Nancy Neale |
| Kathy Andrews | Kay Hedden | Bill Patchen |
| Helen Champlain | Doris Hill | Barbara Roberts |
| Carl Cheatham | Bryan Howard | George Seagreaves |
| Charlie Darte | Bob & Isobel Hubbard | Cash Sheaffer |
| Marjorie DiLorenzo | Jim Huff | Bob Sheffield |
| Yolanda Dyer | Martha Johnson | Joyce Shirah |
| Jana Easterling | Bill Johnston | Barbara H. Smith |
| Dana Elmore | John Kissel | Joel Smith |
| Bill Everhart | Dena Lancashire | Christine Stevens |
| Jim Francis | Eric Lindstrom | Pam Tallent-Blackburn |
| John Gray | Spike Lucia | Carolyn Thompson |
| Pam Gray | Pat McCarty | Mike Vibrat |
| Jane Hayman | Bob McClew | Gwen Waters |
| | | Sug Zowarka |

IN THE HOSPITAL: Helen Butz & Jackie Pinckney

Relatives & Friends

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Michael Branch | Jeff Bowen's friend |
| Tiffany Chen | George Butz's friend |
| Larry Durrence | George & Joyce Carefoot's brother-in-law |
| Al Ellis | Jim Threlkel's friend |
| Kate Hurd & family | Cathy Cheatham's friends |
| Verona Johnson | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| John Kluberg | Nancy Dobler's brother |
| Bill Lanoue | George Butz's friend |
| Bob Lapsley | Susan Singleton's friend |
| Sal Moraco | Tom & Jeri Oldt's friend |
| Michael Oriani | Joe Oriani's brother |
| Sandy Schwenk | Zane Schwenk's mother |
| Penni Tinsley | Tom & Jeri Oldt's friend |
| Margarita Villarreal | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Ennis & Liz Young | Anne Meadows' friend |



- Zach Anaya
- Brenden Anderson
- Christian Anderson
- Samuel Crockett
- Zach Drum
- Robert Ferguson
- Stephanie Gillie
- Eddie Gray
- Daniel Harp

MILITARY

- Sean Harp
- David Knowles
- John Marotti
- Mathew Massam
- KaitLin Marotti-Pitts
- Ashton Pitts
- Shad Skinner
- Drew Stapor



CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

We are excited to announce that we have requested the services of **Lifetouch Church Directories** to prepare our Pictorial Family Album. It will contain color portraits of all the families and updated addresses and contact information.

Photography session dates will be **December 27 & 28** (Friday & Saturday) then **February 4-8** (Tuesday - Saturday.)

DECEMBER PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION SIGN UP BEGINS AFTER WORSHIP, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1 IN THE NARTHEX

Families with family members home for the holidays are encouraged to sign up for the December dates. Session times are: **Friday, December 27, 1 - 8 pm**, and **Saturday, December 28, 10 am - 5 pm**.

Beginning **Wednesday, December 4**, you will be able to sign up on our web-site at **firstpreswh.org** and our Facebook page at **First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven, FL**.

We will open our February 4-8 sessions sign-ups at a later date.

FUNTIMERS NEXT OUTING

Sunday, December 8 at 2 pm

Bartow Adult Band Christmas Concert

We will gather in McLeod Hall after the 11 am service for a sandwich lunch and fellowship and leave after lunch to go to the concert in the Bartow Civic Center, 2250 S. Floral Ave., Bartow.

We'll take the church bus, or you may choose to drive yourself. The lunch and concert are FREE!

To sign-up, please email to office@firstpreswh.org, call the church office at 294-3121, sign-up at the FunTimers display in McLeod Hall, or fill out this tear-off and drop it in the offering plate or by the office.



Name: _____ Contact #: _____ # Attending: _____

I will: Take the Bus [] or Drive Myself []

PLEASE SIGN UP NOW FOR
COME TO THE STABLE



It's only **two weeks away** and we need shepherds, angels, and kings for the **6:30 pm children's performance** and the **7:30 pm middle/high schooler's performance** on **Saturday, December 14.**

Elementary school children can sign-up for the 6:30 performance on the board in the church Narthex OR at Christ Kids on Wednesdays.

Middle and High schoolers can sign-up for the 7:30 performance on the board in the church Narthex OR at the Youth Group meetings.

Questions? Call Nancy Shaw at 258-9232.

IT IS THAT TIME ~ POINSETTIA ORDER FOR 2019

Poinsettias are a yearly tradition to decorate the church on Christmas, "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one or friend. This year the poinsettias will be in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 22. Please fill out the order form below. **The cost per plant is \$10** (price of \$11 in Sunday bulletin is incorrect) and checks, marked "poinsettia fund", should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church. Place the order form and check in the offering plate, mail it, or take it to the church office by **Monday, December 16.**

A complete listing will be available Sunday, December 22.

IMPORTANT ~ PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Donor(s): _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____



_____ I will pick up my poinsettia after the 9 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

_____ I would like my poinsettia delivered to a shut-in.

Number of plants ordered: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY

The Lydia and Joy circles current Bible Study is:
“*Love Carved in Stone*” – *A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments.*



The Lydia Circle meets on the **2nd Monday** of each month and will meet on **December 9 at 10 am** in the back of McLeod Hall.

The Joy Circle meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month and will meet on **December 17 at 9:30 am** at the home of Carol Carter.

The study books are available at a cost of \$10. See either Sue McClew or Carol Carter, or come by the *church office to purchase your copy. Our group is open to any and all women of the church interested in fellowship and Bible study.*



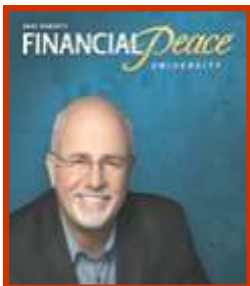
SEWING FOR HONDURAS

Sewing for Honduras ladies have met and are busy sewing dresses and backpacks. They will meet once a month on a day convenient for most. Next sewing day will be **Wednesday, December 11, 10 am.**

In the meantime, if you are curious or slightly interested and would like to see the patterns, materials, have a suggestion, or want to get started, please contact Sharon Mitchell 419-332-5268.



DAVE RAMSEY'S FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY NEW CLASS STARTING JANUARY 13, 2020



Take control of your money with *Financial Peace University* (FPU)! This nine-lesson course uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt, and make your money work for you! FPU includes your member workbook and a year of free online resources through Financial Peace Membership. Please contact Lee and Pam Wilkerson at 863-221-2006 or wilkeglk@verizon.net for more information. Registration will be opening soon.



A GREAT WAY YOU CAN HELP A HURTING FRIEND

Do you have a friend, neighbor, coworker, or relative who has suffered a loss or is going through a difficult time? Here's a great way you can help them--tell them about our Stephen Ministry! Stephen Ministers are members of First Presbyterian Church who have received special training to provide high quality, confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to hurting people. Stephen Ministers meet weekly with their care receivers to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support. (Males are matched with males, and females are matched with females.) The caring relationship lasts for as long as the person needs care. It's free, and it's a powerful way you can help a hurting friend.



Stephen Minister Request Form Boxes are placed in the **Centennial Room, narthex, and balcony hallway** for your convenience. These secure boxes make it easy for someone to make a Confidential Request for a Stephen Minister. Forms are found in the pew pockets and forms and pens are also held by the box making it convenient for individuals to request a Stephen Minister.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or someone you know, **call Susan Singleton at 318-9208. Or you can talk with one of our other Stephen Leaders: Alan Harvey, Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, Barbara Perkins, or Jean Strang.**

DECEMBER

Birthdays

12/2	Ron Damjker Teresa Renney	12/11	Mike Lyons Zane McCann Jane Ray Dave Sparr	12/22	Maggi Helmick Lou Parrott Cynthia Stroupe Weston Thibodaux
12/3	Henry Chilton Bruce Eelman Daphne Gray Edward Jordan Lisette Levasseur	12/12	Kaylie Arnold Bill Lockhart Jackie Pinckney	12/23	Cecilia Linn Kyle Meadows
12/4	Jack Scamehorn	12/13	Dawn Fellows Peggy Kennedy Beverly Seagreaves	12/24	Judy Fitzgerald Ryan Johnson Mary Anne Knowles
12/5	Janie Hammette Alee Swango Jane Tillman	12/15	Merry Stewart Borowski Micah Darte Lia Gray Lynn Lasseter Griffin Powell Margaret Way	12/25	Carol Roe
12/6	Helen Butz Avery Lockhart Steve Saterbo Ginger Schreier	12/16	Marty Bentley Jean Bostick Randy McCann Kim Powell	12/26	David Alexander Patti Forum
12/7	Christina Maness	12/18	Geoff Roe	12/27	Rusty Hart
12/8	Caroline Beckley Margaret Dantzler	12/19	Megan Kosmensky	12/28	Stephanie Cornejo Madison Thomas
12/9	Bob Helmick Lorraine Todd	12/20	Renee Parrish	12/29	Christine Burow Wiley Koon, Sr. Glenda Parrott
12/10	Marile Weeks			12/30	Ella Chilton Keith Putnam Terry Rayfield
12/11	John Gray Austin Johnston			12/31	Barbara Roberts Steve Sowards

Anniversaries

12/05	Joey & Krista Endres Josh & Jessica Lockhart	12/23	Jim & Ellen Zeller
12/09	Russell & Lynn Aaron	12/26	Steve & Laura Dunham Kline & Barbara Roberts Drew & Lindsay Stapor
12/16	Jim & Daphne Gray Ray & Gladys Larson	12/27	Mike & Martha Seney
12/18	Carl & Kathy Cheatham	12/28	Bob & Carol Carter
12/19	Andrew & Linda Stavres	12/29	Howard & Cheryl Beckert Gale & Gwen Waters
12/20	Wiley & Sara Koon Steve & Teresa Negley	12/30	Richard & Pam Baker Pete & Merry Stewart Borowski
12/21	Jose & Alison Batista	12/31	Dean & Sonja Jackson Paul & Anne Montgomery John & Tracy Scheck
12/22	Nat & Jane West		
12/23	Orrin & Helen Champlain Larry & Pat Lincoski		

First Presbyterian Church
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FAX 863-294-1105
www.firstpreswh.org
office@firstpreswh.org

Our Purpose Statement

As a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA), First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven exists to show God's kingdom to the world as we...

Share the good news of what God has done in Jesus Christ

Develop and nurture God's children into disciples

Provide a place and a program for praising God

Live our lives according to the Word, guided by the Spirit

Commit to justice for all God's people.

Adopted by Session, 2003

This newsletter is published weekly.

Summer months and holidays published bi-weekly.

Church dated material, please deliver by 11/29/19.

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 1162
Lakeland, FL

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 209 bag lunches
the week of 11/18/19.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 45 people on 11/23/19.

Return Service Requested

ADVENT: ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Walking Backwards to Christmas

Beginning December 8 at 9:30 am in CE Room 207

In our second Adult Sunday School, we'll be reading the book, *Walking Backwards to Christmas*, which starts at the end, with Jesus' presentation to Anna and Simeon at the temple and moves backwards through the Christmas stories both light and dark. Telling the story through the eyes of both the famous and imagined characters, the author and our discussion leaders will invite the class to experience Jesus' birth anew.



Join the conversation by purchasing the book, \$10, from the church office or in class.



SAVE THE DATE FOR *JINGLE JAVA JAM!*



This year's programming has brought a return of the Jingle Java Jam which will be on **Sunday, December 8 at 4:00 pm** Please come and enjoy an afternoon of festive Christmas music including beautiful new arrangements of favorite carols and lively popular tunes. You will hear ensembles and solos from tubas to bells and jazz to ballades.

Dessert, coffee, and hot chocolate will be served and the program is free of charge so please bring your family and friends to help celebrate the season through song!