



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of December 9, 2018

Issue 695

132 Years of Ministry

Dr. Steven R. Negley
Senior Pastor

Dr. C. Alan Harvey
Associate Pastor

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

Dr. James G. Manor
Parish Associate

Lynn M. McCoy
Director of
Music Ministries

Robin D. Miller
Director of Finance &
Administration

Leonard A. Mosiah
Director of Student
Ministries

Connie J. Shipley
Administrative Assistant

Rose S. Flynn
Office Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant
Director of Maintenance

Kathy L. Jackson
Custodian

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT THIS SUNDAY

We hope you will join us for worship during the Advent season as we are "Called by the Carols of Christmas". On the four Sundays leading up to Christmas, the sermon and scripture will be joined with the sentiment expressed in some of our favorite carols of the seasons.



On **December 9**, the Second of Advent, our Carol Theme will follow *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*.

The Carol Theme for the Third Sunday in Advent, **December 16** is *O Come O Come Emmanuel*.

On **December 23**, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we will focus on the Holy Family *In the Bleak Mid-winter*.

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

Rehearsal and Costuming for "Come to the Stable" **Wednesday, December 5**

***Rehearsal and Costuming for the children's performance -
4:30 p.m. during Christ Kids***

Rehearsal and Costuming for youth and adults - 6:00 p.m.

It is important for all performers to be present for both rehearsal and costuming.

If you have signed up to provide food or drink for the event, please deliver it to the church kitchen – labeled with "Come to the Stable" and your name - before noon on Saturday, Dec. 8.

Thank you to everyone who is helping to make "Come to the Stable and Bethlehem Square" a beautiful gift to our community and a special experience for all who view it.

Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us!

Performances on Saturday, December 8 at 6:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.



2ND SUNDAY OF Advent

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 9 Second Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 a.m. Chapel Worship
- 9:15 a.m. Connection (MH)
- 9:15 a.m. Heart of Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School-Children/Adults (CE)
- 10:30 a.m. Receive new members (ER)
- 11:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 p.m. Praise Band (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 p.m. High School Youth Group (GC)

Monday, December 10

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
- 10:00 a.m. Lydia Circle (MH)

Tuesday, December 11

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
- 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)
- 6:00 p.m. Personnel (MCR)
- 6:30 p.m. Deacons (GR)

Wednesday, December 12

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
- 12:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds (MH)
- 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids (CE)
- 5:00 p.m. MSYG Music (GC)
- 5:30 p.m. MSYG (GC)
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study (MH)
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells (MS)
- 7:00 p.m. Choir (MS)

Thursday, December 13

- 1:15 p.m. Chapel Bells (MS)

Friday, December 14

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)

Saturday, December 15

- 12:00 p.m. Parent Day Out (GC)
- 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
- 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)
- 7:00 p.m. Saturday Nite Live (MH)



Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Roger Able | Kay Hedden | Andy, Sherie, & Kasey Ray |
| Kathy Andrews | Doris Hill | Jane Ray |
| Bill Brack | Bryan Howard | Barbara Roberts |
| Tom Brackett | Bob & Isobel Hubbard | Earle Roberts |
| Henry Braun | Jim Huff | Elsie Savant |
| Nancy Brooks | Martha Johnson | Beverly Seagreaves |
| Helen Butz | Joey Johnston | Joyce Shirah |
| Helen Champlain | Peggy Kennedy | Susan Heyer Singleton |
| Carl Cheatham | John Kissel | Mary Alice & Emma Skipper |
| Tom Coffman | Toni Krieger | Barbara H. Smith |
| Yolanda Dyer | Dena Lancashire | Mary Ann Snively |
| Mike & Jana Easterling | Kathy Lockhart | Christine Stevens |
| Bill Everhart | Spike Lucia | Scott Strey |
| Walter Ferguson | Candy Marshall | Jay Tackett |
| Ed & Rossanne Gorsky | Anne McCauley | Pam Tallent-Blackburn |
| Clyde Greene | Jerry Mincey | Carolyn Thompson |
| Jane Hayman | Tillie Montney | Judy Winfree |
| Joyce Hayman | Bev Morris | Retha Wright |
| Frances Heath | Nancy Neale | |
| | Joe Oriani | |
| | Randall Palmer | |

Relatives & Friends

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| John Alexander family | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Wendy Andrews | Augie Andrews' friend |
| Dolores Clay Barton | Karen Gerber's sister |
| Lisbeth Bullington | Larry Davis' cousin |
| Janice Bullock | Kit Threlkel's friend |
| Reese Burdette | Dana Cole's cousin |
| Brenda Cape | Alan Harvey's friend |
| Katie Carter | Bob & Carol Carter's daughter-in-law |
| Garry Dutcher | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Al Ellis | Jim Threlkel's friend |
| Dale Szarflarski | Wade Hoffman's friend |
| Connie Flannigan | Marile Week's friend |
| Thomas & Carolyn Francis | Jim Francis' brother & sister-in-law |
| Mary Gamgemi | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Alicia Gлика | Diane Repass' friend |
| Diana Hagen & baby Liam | Debbie Anderson's friend |
| Pat Harmon | Marile Weeks' friend |
| Pete Kent | Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew |
| Eduardo Lopez | Gene Aspy's friend |
| Eve H. Mills | Gannon Olmert's cousin |
| Carol Moore | Roger & Marie Able's friend |
| Kris Polak | Sandy Hoffman's friend |
| Don Patchen | Bill Patchen's brother |
| David Satterfield | Heather Whitney's friend |
| Larry Schlosser | Don & Norma Martin's friend |
| Jim Smathers | Tom & Jeri Oldt's friend |
| Arnie Spangers | Marile Weeks' friend |
| Ken Stratford | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Tibbs Swick | Amanda Olmert's father |
| Kristy Turner | Rick & Pat Reass' daughter |

MILITARY



- Zach Anaya
- Brenden Anderson
- Christian Anderson
- Samuel Crockett
- Zach Drum
- Til Fellows
- Robert Ferguson

- Stephanie Gillie
- Eddie Gray
- Daniel Harp
- Sean Harp
- David Knowles
- John Marotti
- Mathew Massam

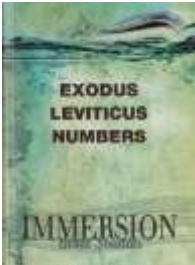
- Ryan Peardon
- KaitLin Marotti-Pitts
- Ashton Pitts
- Shad Skinner
- Drew Stapor

ADVENT DEVOTIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

If you are receiving our daily devotions by email, you will also receive our Advent devotions. If you are not and would like to, go to <http://www.firstpreswh.org/resources/e-mail-subscriptions/> and click on resources to



ADULT DISCIPLESHIP IMMERSION



Join our **Wednesday** evening Bible study.

Join Rev. Sarah and additional leadership as we dive deep into scripture, continuing with the Books of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers.

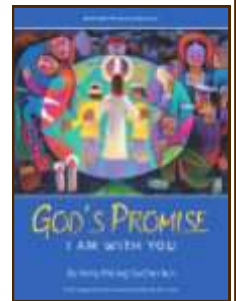
Our adventure is **Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. December 5, 12, & 19.**

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY

The Lydia and Joy circles current Bible study: *God's Promise – "I Am with You."*

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

The Joy Circle meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month. and will meet on **December 18 at 9:30 a.m.** at the home of Carol Carter.



BUSY WITH CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS? NEED SOME "ME" TIME?

Our youth have set aside a day to help you! Announcing our very own

PARENTS DAY OUT!



On **December 15**, starting at **noon** you can drop off your children at the church in McLeod Hall and **pick them up at 5 p.m. promptly.**

For a kind donation we will take care of your children (potty trained to 5th grade) while you get stuff

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH WINTER RETREAT!

Cedarkirk: January 19-21, 2019

Come join us on our First Pres Student Winter Retreat! We will be going to Cedarkirk and staying in the climate-controlled lodging. We would love to see you during this amazing weekend of fun, memories, and an opportunity to grow closer to God. Fun activities include canoeing, campfires, wall climbing, zip lines, and more! This trip is under your own student leadership, so you know it will be fun and relaxed.



IT IS THAT TIME ~ POINSETTIA ORDER FOR 2018

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 December 23.

Please fill out the order form below. The cost per plant is \$11 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 17.

A complete listing will be available Sunday, December 24.

IMPORTANT ~ PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Donor(s): _____

In Memory of: _____



CHRISTMAS DAY SOUP KITCHEN



We are planning to share another wonderful Christmas Day meal for those in our area who are hungry. The dinner menu will include: turkey and gravy, ham, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, corn, cranberry sauce, bread, pie, cake, and Christmas cookies. **From 1:30–3:15 p.m.** we will be cooking side dishes, carving meat, cutting bread and desserts in the main church kitchen, and setting up the 737 building and tables for the meal. We will serve from **3:30–4:30 p.m.**

Volunteers are needed to

- Bake a ham or turkey at home, and bring it to the main kitchen by **2:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve** (the hams and turkeys can be picked up at the church on Sunday, **December 16**)
- Make a large green bean casserole (disposable baking pans can be picked up at the church on Sunday, **December 16**)
- Help with cooking and food and building prep. from **1:30–3:30 p.m. on Christmas Day.**

REMEMBER! THE STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE HERE FOR YOU!



If you, or someone you know, are sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. Men are matched with men, and women with women. (It's completely confidential too!) To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or someone you know, **call Pat Reass at 206-9914. Or you can talk with one of our other Stephen Leaders: Alan Harvey, Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, Barbara Perkins, Susan Singleton, or**

JOIN US ON SUNDAYS!!!

8:00 a.m. Chapel Worship

A traditional worship service held in our chapel. The service follows the same order as the 11:00 a.m. worship, but does not have a Chancel Choir. Musical ensembles will offer special music on many Sundays. *A Time with Younger Disciples* will be included when we have children in attendance.



9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Heart of Worship

A Praise and Worship service held in our sanctuary. Along with scripture, sermon, and prayers, a praise band will help the congregation in adoring and showing reverence to God. Following the *Time with Younger Disciples*, children will be invited to join Ms. Lynn in music and then to join in their own Children's Sunday School Classes.

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

A traditional worship service held in our sanctuary. The service follows the same order as the 8:00 a.m. Chapel Service, and includes music from the Chancel Choir and the organ, as well as other instruments and groups.



DON'T MISS THE CONNECTION 9:15-10:45 A.M.

This fellowship time in McLeod Hall offers a coffee bar type selection with different flavored creamers, pastries, etc. It is a gathering place before or between worship and Sunday School for some folks.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES!

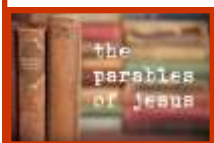
Children's Sunday School for PreSchoolers through 5th grade happening in the CE Building, **9:30 a.m.** (9 a.m. on the **First Sunday**.) Our children will activate faith with *Spark Lectionary* curriculum. Each class will engage the Biblical story of the day through creative, hands-on activities, interactive games, and crafts. Sunday School for preschoolers and kindergartners will meet in Room 101. Our elementary students will meet after music in Room 206. Sunday School ends at 10:30 a.m.



First Sundays – Sunday School at **9 a.m.** and sharing musical talents in worship at **10a.m.**

Adult Educational Opportunities – Sunday mornings and more!

Perspectives Sunday School Class – 9:30am in the Geneva Room



This discussion-based class is guided by Dr. Kenneth Bailey's lectures on the Parables of Jesus. Join Glenn Thomas and other leaders for this engaging class at **9:30 a.m.** in the Geneva room. Perspectives ***DOES NOT*** meet on First Sundays.

Advent – “O Come, O Come: Emmanuel”

Reflections on Four Seasonal Hymns

This Advent, beginning **December 2**, adults will be encouraged to discuss the importance of four Advent hymns, explore their meaning and learn more about the hymn writers. These seasonal hymns will also be reflected in this year's Advent sermon series by our Pastors. Join **Richard Baker** and other facilitators for this class in CE Room 207 at **9:30 a.m.**



(For 11 a.m. worship services.)

If you would be interested in helping welcome, greet, seat, and assist people at worship, we could use your assistance as an usher.

Please contact the church office at 294-3121 or office@firstpreswh.org.



Our Purpose Statement

First Presbyterian Church
637 6th Street, NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881
863-294-3121
FAX 863-294-1105
www.firstpreswh.org
office@firstpreswh.org

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 12/7/18.

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

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 245 bag lunches
the week of 11/26/18.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 85 people on 12/01/18.

Return Service Requested

«Mailing Name»

«Address 1»«Address 2»

«City», «State» «Zip»

MORAVIAN LOVEFEAST

Have you ever so enjoyed something that you wanted your loved ones and friends to share that same experience? I, Alan, have and since I knew it would be impossible to take all of you to experience the Christmas Lovefeast at Home Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the Worship and Music approved a plan set forth by Lynn and me to attempt to recreate that event here.

The Lovefeast has its origin in the lives of early Christians who gathered to break bread together symbolizing union, fellowship and love. You may have heard the other name for this gathering as an agape meal. The custom of the Lovefeast originated in Marienborn, Germany, in 1747, and was celebrated in this country by Moravians in 1753. The service includes a variety of music, scripture and prayers. The meal includes a hot sweetened coffee with cream or cocoa with a slightly sweetened and spiced bun. The service concludes with candlelight reminding all that Christ said, "I am the light of the world" and "you are the light of the world – let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."



Please plan to join us for this special service on **Sunday, December 16 at 4 p.m.**