



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

## Tower Chimes

Weeks of December 23 & 30, 2018

Issue 696

133 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

### **FOURTH 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 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.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP TIMES**



We hope you will join us for worship on one of the holiest nights of the year. For **Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24**, we will have two opportunities for worship. Both of these worship services will help us to focus on the celebration of our Savior's birth with the reading of the biblical story, the singing of traditional carols, music from our Chancel Choir, and other ensembles, and closing with candlelight.

The **5:00 p.m.** Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols will also include musical selections from our Children's Choirs, and a children's story which includes a re-enactment of the nativity story.

The **9:00 p.m.** Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols will feature additional musical selections from our Chancel Choir.

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM YOUR STAFF AT FIRST PRES!**



# Remember in Prayer

## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

### Sunday, December 23 Fourth 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 (CE)
- 11:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 p.m. Praise Band (Sanctuary)

### Monday, December 24

- 5:00 p.m. Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)
- 9:00 p.m. Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)

### Tuesday, December 25 Christmas

- 1:30 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen/737)
- 3:30 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)

### Wednesday, December 26

### Thursday, December 27

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

### Friday, December 28

### Saturday, December 29

- 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)

## MEMBERS

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

### IN THE HOSPITAL: Scott Strey

### Relatives & Friends

- |                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| John Alexander family | Lynn Oakley's friend             |
| Wendy Andrews         | Augie Andrews' friend            |
| Dolores Clay Barton   | Karen Gerber's sister            |
| Don Breidert          | Rose Flynn's friend              |
| Lisbeth Bullington    | Larry Davis' cousin              |
| Janice Bullock        | Kit Threlkel's friend            |
| Reese Burdette        | Dana Cole's cousin               |
| Garry Dutcher         | Lynn Oakley's friend             |
| Al Ellis              | Jim Threlkel's friend            |
| Connie Flannigan      | Marile Week's friend             |
| Mary Gangemi          | Lynn Oakley's friend             |
| Pete Kent             | Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew |
| Carol Moore           | Roger & Marie Able's friend      |
| Pearl Olszewski       | Susan Singleton's friend         |
| Judy & Bill Overlock  | Kit Threlkel's friend            |
| Don Patchen           | Bill Patchen's brother           |
| Larry Schlosser       | Don & Norma Martin's             |
| Steve Shipley         | Connie Shipley's brother         |
| Russell Snively       | Peggy & Larry Davis' friend      |
| Susan Stiles          | Sandy Hoffman's friend           |
| Tibbs Swick           | Amanda Olmert's father           |
| Penni Tinsley         | Tom & Jerri Oldt's friend        |



### MILITARY

Zach Anaya	David Knowles
Brenden Anderson	John Marotti
Christian Anderson	Mathew Massam
Samuel Crockett	Ryan Peardon
Zach Drum	KaitLin Marotti-Pitts
Til Fellows	Ashton Pitts
Robert Ferguson	Shad Skinner
Stephanie Gillie	Drew Stapor
Eddie Gray	
Daniel Harp	
Sean Harp	

## ANNOUNCING TITLES FOR ODD MONTH THIRD THURSDAY AT 3, OMTT3 BOOK CLUB FOR 2019

 <p><b>January 17</b> <i>The Good Neighbor</i> <i>The Life and Work of Fred Rogers</i> By Maxwell King</p>	 <p><b>March 21</b> <i>The Book of Joy</i> by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu with Douglas Abrams</p>	 <p><b>May 16</b> <i>The Last Castle</i> House by Denise Kiernan</p>	 <p><b>July 18</b> <i>The Little Paris Bookshop</i> by Nina George</p>	 <p><b>September 19</b> <i>Grandma Gatewood's Walk</i> by Ben Montgomery</p>	 <p><b>November 21</b> <i>Christmas A Biography</i> By Judith Flanders</p>
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## CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

Our Christmas Eve offering will be accepted and directed toward medical missions around the globe.

The money collected will be divided between three medical clinics sponsored by the Medical Benevolence Foundation in Haiti, Kenya, and Bangladesh, and medical mission in Honduras.

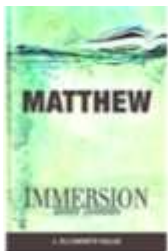
## First Sunday First Pres Gathering

On **January 6**, at the **Single 10:00 a.m. Worship Service** you will be able to catch up with all your First Pres friends. The service will feature a unique order of worship with elements from our other services such as: several opening songs with our Praise Band, a traditional anthem, Sermon, Time with Younger Disciples, and a closing music by one of our hand bell groups or ensembles.



At **11:15 a.m.**, we hope you continue fellowship with our First Pres family and friends, with a **Congregation-wide Fellowship Luncheon in McLeod Hall**.

No reservations requested or required. There will be plenty of food. Any leftovers will be used by our Saturday Soup Kitchen.



### ADULT DISCIPLESHIP ~ IMMERSION

A Wednesday evening Bible study class.

Join Rev. Sarah and additional leadership as we dive deep into scripture.

We will start a new study, the gospel of Matthew **January 9**.

The new book is \$10 and available in the church office.

Questions? Contact Rev. Sarah at 294-3121 or [sbishop@firstpreswh.org](mailto:sbishop@firstpreswh.org).

# Welcome to Our New Members

**David & Pat  
Davidson**  
359 Niblick Cr.  
Winter Haven  
FL 33881  
863-585-9668  
863-651-1744



### ANNOUNCING THE THEME OF THE 2019 ADVENT DEVOTIONAL:

*"Sweeter Than Honey" Holiday Sweets and Treats*  
2019 Advent Devotional Cookbook

*"How sweet are Your words to my taste,  
sweeter than honey to my mouth."*

Psalm 119:103



Members and Friends are invited to submit favorite holiday recipes for sweets (breads, cakes, desserts, pies, puddings, etc.) and treats (candies, cookies, pastries, etc.). Please include a brief narrative including information such as: source of recipe, for example, from a relative, friend, magazine, or cookbook; a tradition with your family for how long, what you serve with them, etc.

The editor will choose scriptures and write prayers to accompany your submission. Recipes will be accepted through Thursday January 31, 2019. Please sign posters placed around the church if you would like to participate.

**Thank you!**

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OUTSTANDING OLDER ADULTS!

On **Sunday December 2, 2018**, **Mary Ellen Rowker** and **Ellen Burks Zeller** were named recipients of the 2018 Outstanding Older Adult Award. What they have in common are: 1) both have been active in other churches throughout the course of their lives and of this church more than seven years; 2) both have a great interest in the education of young children; 3) both have been residents of Winter Haven for more than twenty years, 4) both are retired school teachers; and last) both are mothers and grandmothers.



Mary Ellen has served as an elder, taught Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, served on the Christian Education and Children's Committees, worked with Saturday Nite Live and has been involved with Special Olympics.

Ellen has served as an elder and deacon, taught Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, sings with the Chancel Choir, serves on the Membership Development Committee, taught choral and instrumental music to preschool through elementary grade students, and assists her husband, Jim, in his work with Meals on Wheels.



A certificate was presented to them and their names have been engraved on the plaque that hangs in McLeod Hall. Congratulations to these fine women and we thank them for their contributions to the church. This was the 30<sup>th</sup> year these awards have been bestowed.

## SCENES FROM OUR MORAVIAN LOVEFEAST



# Our church's "Come to the Stable and Bethlehem Square" production was once again blessed with perfect weather, a good attendance and two wonderful performances on a beautiful stage under the stars!

**THANK YOU:** to all the children, teens, and adults who were performers, both as actors and musicians; and to all those adults who worked "back stage" on the sound and lighting crews; to the adults and teens who setup and broke down the staging both outdoors and indoors; and to those who served as greeters and parking guides; and to the dressers who helped our performers with their costumes. Also, thanks to the ladies in "Bethlehem Square" who did food prep and welcomed our guests with food and drink. And, last but not least, thank you to those who provided the food and beverages. Your generous donations of tasty cookies, sweet breads, apple juice, cider, and hot chocolate were appreciated.

And our special thanks to all who attended the performances and to the parents of young children who brought their children in for costume fittings and the rehearsal as well as to the performances. As in years past, it was a blessing to see our youngest members eagerly participating in the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Also, a big thank you goes to our church staff for their support and hands-on efforts in making our annual Christmas nativity presentation a success. You are greatly appreciated and loved.

The members of the Community Outreach and Evangelism Committee recognize the efforts of all who participated and attended Come to the Stable as essential to the success of the event. For many years, the committee has been deeply committed to making our nativity presentation - an annual gift for our congregation and community - a beautiful and meaningful experience for both the participants and the audience. We have enjoyed working with you once again and look forward to doing so in the future.

"Special thanks to NMS and KHI, who were attentive to so many details of this production this year, ensuring its success once again.

## Have a wonderful Christmas!



# January

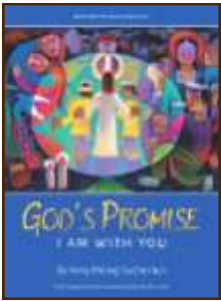
## Birthdays

1/1	Orrin Champlain Jim Francis Adam Frost Kathy Girouard Caitlin Seney	1/9	Lizzy Duce Micah Mosiah Loretta Traviss	1/18	Ed Smith Taylor Threadgill Sug Zowarka
1/2	Debbie Anderson Erin Cranmer Nicole Voltapetti Heather Whitney	1/10	Rob Baker Annette Chilton Sophia Chilton Stella Chilton Michael Premuto Christine Stevens Carol Switalski	1/19	Connor Clinch Kim Salomon Taylor Thompson
1/3	Allison Burke Shawn Swango	1/11	John Adams Trey Braswell Chad Pearson Charlie Reineke Adam Snively	1/20	Sarah Jorgensen Jenny Kellett
1/4	Meredith Baragona Ally Britt Jana Easterling	1/12	George Dunham Candy Marshall Carley Rabern	1/21	Emma Cornejo John Reineke
1/5	Megan Kennedy Norma Martin	1/13	Dana Cole Jackie Dugger Kay Weeks Phyllis White	1/23	Reed Hoagland James Dexter
1/6	Philip Batista Susan Braswell Rick Dantzler Chloe Miller Betty Shinn Betty Stephens	1/14	May Kimbrell	1/24	Sam Garner
1/7	Amanda Olmert Lisa Snyder	1/15	Katie Sparr Jessica Strang	1/25	Kyle Bentley Anne Montgomery
1/8	Peter Coppini Shauna Gann Rob Helmick Nanette Rodgers Cheryl Marchetti Rebecca Wilson	1/16	Meredith Clem	1/26	Gloria Allen Bud Shinn Retha Wright
		1/17	Nichole Gainey Jackie Lawn	1/27	Callie Clinch Ava Frost
		1/18	Becky Irvin Marilyn Riggs	1/28	Jay Tackett Devin Thompson Gale Waters
				1/29	Kathy Deloach Danny Miller
				1/30	Jerry Mincey
				1/31	JoBee Hazlett Nicholas Jax Andrea Stevens

## Anniversaries

1/1	Bob & Marilyn Sheffield	1/21	Matt & Sharon McGaffigan
1/3	Leonard & Liz Mosiah	1/25	George & Sylvia Chambers
1/5	Jay & Lia Gray	1/26	Argyle & Christine Stevens
1/7	Allen & Robin Miller	1/29	Jay & Trisha Dugger
	George & Krysti Rowker	1/30	Scott and Becky Irvin
1/18	John & Wanda Breuning		John and Meg Strang

# 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 **January 14 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 **January 15 18 at 9:30 a.m.** at the home of Carol Carter.

The study books are available at a cost of \$10.00. See or call either Sue McClew (875-6176) or Carol Carter (299-4253) to purchase your copy. Both groups are open to any and all women of the church interested in fellowship and Bible study.

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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!

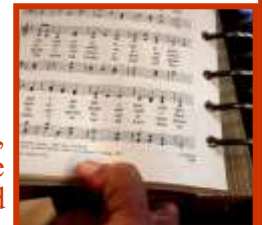
#### Perspectives Sunday School Class – 9:30am in the Geneva Room



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, 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 are also 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.**



## 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 12/21/18.

Non-profit Org.

U.S. Postage Paid

Permit No. 1162

Lakeland, FL

### Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 218 bag lunches  
the week of 12/3/18.

**Return Service Requested**

### Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 90 people on 12/01/18.

# 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.**

Help serve the Christmas meal and clean up **3:30 – 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Day.**

If you would like to help with any of these portions of the Christmas Day Soup Kitchen meal, please sign up in McLeod Hall and plan to join us for this wonderful Christmas tradition here at First Pres.

