



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of February 21, 2021

Issue 805

135 Years of Ministry

Dr. Steven R. Negley
Senior Pastor

Rev. John F. Reiter
Interim Associate Pastor

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

Emily G. Snyder
Director of
Student Ministries

Robin D. Miller
Director of Finance &
Administration

Connie J. Shipley
Administrative Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant
Director of Maintenance

Tonia L. Milbry
Custodian

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated this Sunday, February 21, the first Sunday in Lent. Prepare your heart to come to the Lord's Table.

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Staying on track with "A Year in the Bible", each week Steve, Sarah, or John will be selecting the scriptures for the sermons on the Sundays in Lent from the weekly readings. Our Lenten Preaching Theme is "A Life Guided by the Word."

3 CENTS-A-MEAL IS THIS SUNDAY

We will collect the **3 Cents-a-Meal Hunger Offering** during worship services this **Sunday, February 21.**

This offering is divided between our Soup Kitchen/Bag Lunch Ministry, Beth-El Farmworkers Ministry, and Honduras.



PEEPING THROUGH LENT 2021 DEVOTIONAL AND KIT

Starting **Sunday, February 14** our Lenten Devotional – *Peeping Through Lent* will be available. Pick up a copy at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake drive-by or stop by the office. Included, will be a booklet and small items to focus your devotions this Lent.

Also, join in the Peeping Through Lent challenge by creating marshmallow Peep dioramas of the Bible stories! Here is an image to inspire you and be sure to share your creation as a family, individual, or couple with Rev. Sarah!



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING UPDATE

With your help, so far we have raised \$522 dollars, enough money to fund almost 3 soup kitchens. We have also collected 186 canned goods to this point. We will be collecting donations through the end of February, so you can still drop your donations off in the boxes in McLeod Hall. The Geezers are currently in the lead, but the Youth still have time to catch up!

Thank you for all of your support in our feeding the hungry ministries! We wouldn't be able to do it without your generosity!

YOUTH: 81 canned goods VS. GEEZERS: 105 canned goods



Opportunities This Week

Sunday, February 21 1ST SUNDAY IN LENT COMMUNION 3 CENTS-A-MEAL

- 9:00 am Heart of Worship
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
- 9:25 am Children's Sunday School (CE 207)
- 10:20 am Adult Bible Study (MH/Zoom)
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)

Monday, February 22

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
- 6:00 pm Associate Pastor Nominating
Committee (MH/Zoom)

Tuesday, February 23

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)
- 12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH/Zoom)
- 5:00 pm Stephen Minister Leaders (MH)
- 6:00 pm Stephen Ministers (MH)
- 6:15 pm Worship & Music (Zoom)
- 6:30 pm Deacons (MH/Zoom)

Wednesday, February 24

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
- 10:00 am Adult Bible Study (MH)
- 4:00 pm Christ Kids (CE)
- 5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (GC)
- 6:00 pm Financial Peace (MH)

Thursday, February 25

- 6:00 pm Young Adults (Off-site/Grove Roots)

Friday, February 26

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)

Saturday, February 27

- 9:00 pm Stephen Minister Training (UR)
- 2:00 pm Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
- 4:00 pm Soup Kitchen (737)

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

If you would like
information regarding registering
for the COVID-19 vaccine,
you can visit register.polk.health
or call 863-298-7500.

Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Marie & Roger Able | John Gray | Dick McCauley |
| Melvin & Debbie
Anderson | Jane Hammette | Bob McClew |
| Kathy Andrews | Jane Hayman | Pat Miller |
| Marty Bentley | Joyce Hayman | Edna Mitchell |
| Pat Berrell | Frances Heath | Richard & Judy Moots |
| Jonye Briggs | Kay Hedden | Arletta Oriani |
| Orrin & Helen
Champlain | Doris Hill | Barbara Roberts |
| Carl Cheatham | Bryan Howard | John Schleifer |
| Cindy Curry | Isobel Hubbard | Joyce Shirah |
| Charlie Darte | Jim Huff | Dale Smith |
| Marjorie DiLorenzo | Scott & Becky Irvin | Joel & Barbara H. Smith |
| Zan Dismuke | Martha Johnson | Christine Stevens |
| Jana Easterling | Dena Lancashire | Jean Strang |
| Dana Elmore | Eric Lindstrom | Pam Tallent-Blackburn |
| Bill Everhart | Spike & Jane Lucia | Lorraine Todd |
| | Candy Marshall | Gwen Waters |
| | Pat McCarty | Sug Zowarka |

Relatives & Friends

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Bruce Bachman | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend |
| Richard Combee | Squire Smith's friend |
| Connie Craig | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Susie Fisher | Becky Everhart & Rob Donaldy's cousin |
| Lynda Giles | Polly Wilson's niece |
| Mel Howell | Judy Lindsay's friend |
| Verona Jones | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Margaret Katros | Lisa Endres' mother |
| Mary Lenari | Bill & Becky Everhart's friend |
| John Linn | Sharon Mann's brother |
| Sue Miller | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Frank Myers | Pam Wilkinson's father |
| Joyce Nunnallee | Nancy Dobler's cousin |
| Sandy Payne | Lynn Oakley's family member |
| Cindy Partlow | Marilyn Sheffield's cousin |
| Larry Powell | John & Marcia friend |
| Eddy Ruperti | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Louise C. Schutt | Larry Davis' mother |
| Chet Spires | Mary Ellen Rowker's friend |
| Jim Steele | Bob Steele's brother |
| Sarah Summers | Lisa Endres' daughter-in-law |
| Nicole Upson | Amy McKee's friend |
| Sam Vac | Marcie Dershimer's friend |
| Carol Wilhelm | Greg & Mary Marrs' friend |
| Julie Williams | Steve Negley's friend |
| John Willson | Mary Marrs' brother |

MILITARY

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Zach Anaya | Stephanie Gillie | KaitLin Marotti |
| Brenden Anderson | Eddie Gray | Mathew Massam |
| Christian Anderson | Daniel Harp | Shad Skinner |
| Zach Drum | Sean Harp | Drew Stapor |
| Robert Ferguson | David Knowles | |
| Ernie French | John Marotti | |

A DRIVE-BY SALUTE TO SAMMY BRYANT ON SUNDAY, MARCH 28:



If you taken part in any portion of our ministry on the First Pres campus in the past two decades, then you have benefited from the professionalism, hard work, and dedication of our Director of Maintenance, **Sam Bryant**.

Sammy joined our church staff on February 9, 1998, and we, as a congregation, have been blessed with his gifts for 23 years. Sam is a dedicated disciple of Jesus Christ, and he cares for our facilities as the house of God. Coming to us from a career as a custom home builder, Sammy is a skilled craftsman. Overseeing our maintenance and all building/facilities/grounds improvements over the past 23 years, Sammy has saved our church thousands of dollars while keeping our church home in excellent shape.

As Sammy retires at the end of March, we want to honor this servant of God with a drive-by salute. Sammy will be joining us for worship at the **11:00 am** service on **Sunday, March 28**. Immediately following that service, Sammy will be seated under the porte-cochere for a drive-by, socially distanced time of recognition. People who have been in worship earlier or virtually can drive-by, and people who have been in worship at 11:00 am can go to their cars and join in. The drive-by will happen from **12:15 – 12:45 pm**.

We will have a basket that day for your cards and gifts for Sammy (He and Ginny like to dine at Longhorn and Cracker Barrel – and Sam’s favorite power tools are sold at Home Depot, if that helps you with gift card selections.)

Please plan to join us as we make sure to thank Sammy for all that he has done for us here at First Pres.

WHEN WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

Buildings and Grounds Committee is dedicated to the upkeep and appearance of our church facility. We are looking at putting together a couple of “yard work days” to pull out some old and plant some new shrubbery all around the facility. We need to see who is interested and what time/day is best for volunteers. Please call the office and let them know if you can help and if evenings or Saturdays work best for you. The committee will set the dates in the March B&G meeting and inform everyone at that time. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help your church!



CALLING ALL YOUTH!



Youth groups have started meeting (socially distanced & safe) in-person again! We are so excited to be gathering outside the youth house.

MSYG meets Wednesdays from 5:30 until 7:30 pm

HSYG meets Sundays from 5:30 until 7:30 pm

Come join us for food, fellowship, and faith building. So far it’s been another awesome year with our youth!

If you have any questions or would like to sign up to provide a meal for our students, please contact Emily Snyder at 224-4403 or esnyder@firstpreswh.org.

THE 2021 SANCTUARY FLOWER CALENDAR IS UP SIGN UP FOR YOUR IMPORTANT DATES

Please remember these important points:

- * Include your best contact number.
- * Include the name of your florist.
- * Tell your florist that the arrangement *must* be here by **Friday, 12 pm**
- * Call the office the week before to give bulletin information (294-3121.)



CHRIST KIDS - WEDNESDAYS AT 4 PM

Christ Kids – our faith-filled and safe, after-school program for children 4 years through 5th grade is going on. The fun happens **Wednesdays at 4:00 pm** with a majority of out-door activities and Bible study.

Permission slips for children are on the church website, so spread the word and don't forget to join us as an Adult Volunteer!

Questions? Contact Rev. Sarah via email sbishop@firstpreswh.org or call the church office 294-3121.



FEBRUARY CHILDREN'S VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL



Join Rev. Sarah in our virtual Sunday School classroom, with Jesus and His disciples sharing the good news! Our lessons will include links to create paper boats that float, learn more about butterflies, and inspire your peeping dioramas!

Visit the link on our church website at firstpreswh.org; under connections & children tabs.

MEN'S LUNCH IS HYBRID, TUESDAYS AT NOON

You can join us socially distant in McLeod Hall.

OR

Join us virtually on Zoom. If you are not already receiving the Zoom invite, please contact the office at 294-3121 or office@firstpreswh.org and ask to be added to the list.



SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE CARD

Couples may use one form, please include both names.

Heart of Worship at 9:00 am; Traditional Worship at 11:00 am

For the safety of all entering the church facilities for in-person worship, please complete this brief survey. (If you answer yes to any of the questions, please return home and join us for virtual worship on Facebook Live.)

Individual #1 Individual #2

Yes No Yes No Have you had a fever, dry cough, or shortness of breath in the last 14 days?

Yes No Yes No Have you been in close contact with someone who has a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

Yes No Yes No Have you traveled to a COVID-19 hotspot in the past 14 days?

Name (Please print): _____

Phone Number: _____ Date: _____

First Time Visitor Address: _____

Thank you for helping us provide for the safety of the entire church family.

OUR STEPHEN MINISTER TRAINING CLASS

Our Stephen Ministers are learning about listening this week. Please continue to pray for them as they grow in their ability to provide caring ministry on behalf of our congregation.



In **Session Three**, *The Art of Listening*, our Stephen Minister trainees learned that listening is an essential part of Stephen Ministry. Stephen Ministers use active listening skills to help people recognize and accept the feelings they are experiencing. In this session Stephen Ministers learn and practice the skill of reflecting as a valuable listening tool. They explore the many facets of listening and talk about their own experiences so as to better understand when listening is effective and when it feels fake or makes a person feel uncomfortable.

In **Session Four**, *Distinctively Christian Caring*, Ministers will explore the essentials of using their Christian faith in caring for another, drawing on the resources of prayer, witnessing, the Bible, forgiveness, blessings, and more. An important motto of Stephen Ministry is “The Stephen Minister is the caregiver, and God is the caregiver.” This training session underscores this Christ-centered focus for Stephen Ministers

2021 ADULT BIBLE STUDY & PREACHING THEME TWO opportunities to discuss *A Year of the Bible*

Join your pastors and church family as we take the year to read the Bible beginning in Genesis and the Old Testament through Revelations and the New Testament. In each month, we will alternate between chapters in the Old and New as well as the Psalms. A reading plan can be followed by picking up your copy of *A Year of the Bible* for \$10 from the church office. It offers an introduction chapter you may read at any time. You can also download the reading plan for the whole year from our church website, or follow the plan below. We invite you to join a class for deeper discussion!

Classes are **Sundays at 10:20 am** as well as **Wednesdays at 10 am**.

If you can't join us in person, you can join us virtually for each class by following the steps below.

SUNDAY CLASS

1. go to <https://zoom.us/join>
2. enter Meeting ID **959 6689 0482**
3. click **Join**
4. click **Open Zoom Meeting**
5. enter your name and Meeting Password **637**
6. click **Join Meeting** and wait to join
7. see your church family and wave “hi”

WEDNESDAY CLASS

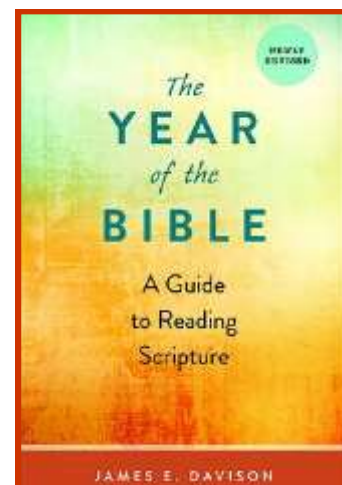
1. go to <https://zoom.us/join>
2. enter Meeting ID **927 8723 9542**
3. click **Join**
4. click **Open Zoom Meeting**
5. enter your name and Meeting Password **637**
6. click **Join Meeting** and wait to join
7. see your church family and wave “hi”

Reading Plan For Week 7

Below is a breakdown list of readings to prepare for this week's class. Class will be loosely structured as gathering, prayer, sharing your questions, and discussion on that week's reading led by a pastor.

WEEK 7

DAY	OLD Testament	NEW Testament Psalms
1	Exodus 37, 38	Acts 3
2	Exodus 39, 40	Acts 4
3	Leviticus 1-3	Acts 5
4	Leviticus 4, 5	Psalms 20, 21
5	Leviticus 6, 7	Acts 6
6	Leviticus 8, 9	Acts 7
7	Leviticus 10-12	Psalms 22



Our Purpose Statement

First Presbyterian Church
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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 2/19/21.

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

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 88 bag lunches
the week of 2/8/21.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 85 people on 2/13/21.

Return Service Requested

A DISCUSSION STARTER ON END OF LIFE ISSUES

Have you thought about:

The person I want to make care decisions for me when I can't?

The kind of medical treatment I want or don't want?

How comfortable do I want to be?

How I want people to treat me?

What I want my loved ones to know?

What would I like included in my funeral or memorial service?



Please save the date, **Monday, March 15**, and join us at **6:00 PM** in McLeod Hall and by Zoom. (Keep an eye out for Zoom instructions to come.) Dr. Negley will be discussing "Five Wishes", a document which helps open the discussion on these important topics. To reserve your spot at the table, you can call the church office at 294-3121, email at office@firstpreswh.org, or drop this reservation form in the offering plate on Sunday.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY FRIDAY, MARCH 12.

Name: _____ Number Attending: _____