



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of January 7, 2018

Issue 653

131 Years of Ministry

Dr. Steven R. Negley
Senior Pastor

Dr. C. Alan Harvey
Associate Pastor

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

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

Next **Sunday, January 7** will include the Ordination and Installation of our new Elders (Richard Baker, Justin Hoagland, Amanda Olmert, Lauren Schwenk, & MaryBess Thompson) and Deacons (Laura Frost, Cecilia Linn, David Nicholson, Karen Premuto, & Kevin Thomas.) Please plan to join us as we celebrate the leaders in our congregation and join in following them as they follow our Lord Jesus Christ.



We wish to thank our outgoing officers . . .

Elders: Cheryl Beckert, Rob Frost, Gannon Olmert, & Pat Reass

Deacons: Erin Emry, Janet Howard, Greg Marrs, & Joe McKee

. . . for their excellent, faithful leadership.

We thank Jay Dugger who is completing his term, but is extending his service by a year to fulfill the unexpired term of Judy Denlinger.



The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
will be celebrated at all three services
this **Sunday, January 7.**

Prepare your heart to come to the
Lord's Table.



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 7

Ordination & Installation of New Officers Communion

- 8:15 a.m. Chapel Worship (Chapel)
- 9:15 a.m. The Connection (MH)
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School (CE)
- 9:30 a.m. Heart of Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School (CE)
- 11:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 p.m. HSYG (GC)

Monday, January 8

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
- 9:00 a.m. Disassemble Christmas Decor
- 10:00 a.m. Lydia Circle (MH)
- 6:30 p.m. Christian Education (GR)

Tuesday, January 9

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

Wednesday, January 10

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
- 10:45 a.m. Preschool Music (CE 103)
- 12:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds (MH—Back)
- 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids (CE)
- 3:45 p.m. Christ Kids Bell Ringers (MS)
- 5:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group (GC)
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells (MS)
- 6:00 p.m. APNC (ER)
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MS)

Thursday, January 11

- 1:15 p.m. Chapel Bells (MS)
- 3:00 p.m. Membership (MCR)
- 6:30 p.m. Praise & Worship Band (Sanctuary)

Friday, January 12

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

Saturday, January 13

- 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
- 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)



Our Christian sympathy goes to Ed Smith on the death of his wife, Barbara Smith, who died Monday, January 1, 2018.



Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Roger Able | Ranell Hillman | Beverly Seagreaves |
| Maxie Adams | Bryan Howard | James Shinn |
| Debbie Anderson | Camille Howe | Joyce Shirah |
| Kathy Andrews | Jim Huff | Mary Alice & Emma Skipper |
| Kathleen Avinger | Martha Johnson | Barbara H. Smith |
| Bill Brack | Joey Johnston | Ed Smith |
| Tom Brackett | Peggy Kennedy | Jeff Snyder |
| Henry Braun | Toni Krieger | Nell Speer |
| Nancy Brooks | Dena Lancashire | Scott Strey |
| Helen Butz | Kathy Lockhart | Carol Switalski |
| Helen Champlain | Spike Lucia | Jay Tackett |
| Tom Coffman | Larry Marshall | Pam Tallent-Blackburn |
| Yolanda Dyer | Lynn Mincey | Carolyn Thompson |
| Jana & Mike Easterling | Bev Morris | Shirley Turner |
| Jeanne Estes | Nancy Neale | Jennifer Vibrat |
| Bill Everhart | Keith Ray | Lee Wilkinson |
| Lia Gray | Sherrie Ray | Judy Winfree |
| Clyde Greene | Barbara Roberts | Retha Wright |
| Frances Heath | Earle Roberts | |
| Kay Hedden | Elsie Savant | |
| Doris Hill | Marilyn Schleifer | |

IN THE HOSPITAL: John Skipper

Relatives & Friends

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Robert Allen | Denise Cole's father |
| Mike & Linda Bechtel | Marie Able's sister & brother-in-law |
| Reese Burdette | Dana Cole's cousin |
| Kevin Dees | Jonathan Owen's friend |
| Al Ellis | Jim Threlkel's friend |
| Kevin Ehrlich | Rossanne Gorsky's son |
| Judy Hatcher | Kelli Ivey's mother |
| Pete Kent | Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew |
| Ryan Koukkouklis | Matthew Gray's friend |
| Aldo Marchetti | John Marchetti's brother |
| Diane Mauldin | Kit Threlkel's friend |
| Fred Meier | Sarah Rennie's father |
| Anna Robinson | Punkin Smith's friend |
| Alisa Sheaffer | Punkin Smith's friend |
| Rebecca Stone | Pat Reass' friend |
| Lois Susac | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend |
| Kristy Turner | Rick & Pat Reass' daughter |
| Monnie Vail | Bob & Marilyn Sheffield's friend |
| John Waters | Gale & Gwen Waters' nephew |
| Marshall Wood | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend |

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

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

A BIG THANK YOU GOES TO...

Barbara School of Dance for their annual donation of blankets. This year they collected a whopping 123. These blankets will go along way to help keep Winter Haven's homeless warm.



2017 CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

So far we have collected \$2,143 for our Christmas Eve Medical Benevolence Offering. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

THE 2018 SANCTUARY FLOWER CALENDAR IS POSTED IN THE NARTHEX.

Available dates for the near future are:
January 21 & 28, February 4, 12, & 25

There is space to sign up for placing flowers in the narthex on a given Sunday, when the sanctuary flowers for your desired date have already been selected by someone else.

Please remember these important points:

1. Include your best contact number.
2. Include the name of your florist.
3. Tell your florist that the arrangement *must* be here by **Friday, 1:30 p.m.**
4. Call the office the week before to give bulletin information (294-3121.)



OUR STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE READY TO CARE FOR YOU!



Stephen Ministers are members of First Presbyterian Church who have been through extensive training and provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to people who are experiencing a difficult time. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and provide weekly support for you as long as your need persists.

If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by **calling 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 Jean Strang.** Our Stephen Ministers are ready to bring God's love and care into your life.

CIRCLE MEETINGS

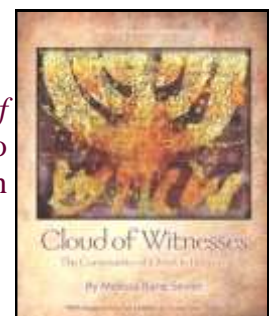
Lydia Circle - **Second Monday each month at 10 a.m.** in McLeod Hall.

Joy Circle - **Third Tuesday each month at 9:30 a.m.** at the home of Carol Carter.

We are using the PW Horizons Bible study titled: "*Cloud of Witnesses - The Community of Christ Hebrew*" written by Melissa Bane Sevier. In nine lessons, the author invites us to explore major themes found in Hebrews, relate these themes to other parts of our faith tradition, and tie them together with the overarching motif of community.

The study books are available for \$10.

Contact either Carol Carter at 299-4253 or Sue McClew at 875-6176 for your copy.



Christmas

My Favorite ^ Things



While I have enjoyed *The Sound of Music* for years, I have often wondered how one song, *My Favorite Things* was adopted into the collection of Christmas songs. Obviously the references to “brown paper packages tied up with strings,” “crisp apple strudel,” and “sleigh bells” reminded many people of the holidays and so it became a standard in the Christmas music library. I was inspired by it and thought the insertion of “Christmas” would be an appropriate theme for the 2018 Advent Devotional.

A theme for the 2018 Advent Devotional was previously announced, but it seems too narrow and restrictive so “*My Favorite Christmas Things*” will not exclude those who had already thought of a dish and recipe that might be included. The dish, “Tomato Gravy,” the recipe for it, and how it came to be a part of Christmas Breakfast might be an interesting story. Your recipe for your grandmother’s cornbread dressing and the good time you had observing her or helping her make it would also be welcome. The Peppermint Stick Ice Cream Pie and instructions for making it might entice others to conclude their holiday meal with this dessert so that it becomes a Christmas Eve tradition in their household.



Among other favorite Christmas things that might be of interest to our readers are articles of clothing. Your Associate Pastor dons Christmas ties yearly that were given him by family members of Ray Golden and Bill Ross. Do you have an ugly sweater that has become holiday garb you enjoy wearing?



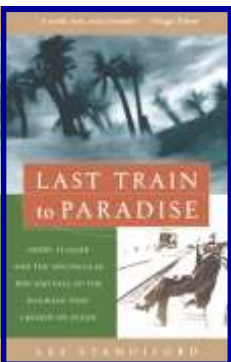
Your favorite things might be homemade decorations or ornaments that were made when you were a child, a scout or taking a craft class. A dear friend may have made a special decoration or ornament for you.

Christmas carols or songs that became identified with one particular artist may be especially dear to you. For example, it might just not seem like Christmas without hearing Bing Crosby sing *White Christmas*.

Or it might not seem like Christmas without viewing *The Grinch* or *Elf*. One of your favorite Christmas things might be listening to ‘*Twas the Night before Christmas*’ or reading again Dickens’ classic, *A Christmas Carol*. Water skiing might have been a favorite thing to do for Winter Havenites spending the holiday here while others enjoyed snow skiing up north or out west while visiting there.



“*My Favorite ^Christmas Things*” has the potential for being one of our best Advent Devotionals. Once again scripture lessons and prayers will be added to your submissions. Please share one or more of your favorite ^Christmas Things. Sign up in the narthex, in the office or by calling Alan at 294-3121. Thanks!



ARE YOU READING FOR OUR NEXT
Odd Month, Odd Monday Book Club?

January 15, *Last Train to Paradise* by Les Standiford

We will meet in the back of McLeod Hall at 3 p.m.
for discussion and light refreshments.

Please RSVP by calling 294-3121 or emailing office@firstpreswh.org.

Join Us on the Lord's Day



Worship

8:15 a.m. Chapel Worship

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

9:30 - 10:25 a.m. Heart of Worship

A Praise and Worship service is held in our sanctuary. Along with scripture, sermon, and prayers, a praise band helps the congregation in adoring and showing reverence to God. Following the Time with Younger Disciples, children are 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 is held in our sanctuary. The service follows the same order as the 8:15 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.

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

Hosts circulate in McLeod Hall and the CE Building to greet and assist people in making connections with others in one of the worship or Christian Education options.



SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES



For Kids: We are getting to know some amazing Bible characters this fall: Hannah, Samuel, Saul, David, and Solomon. Short videos, music, art, and Bible activities will keep the kids coming back for more!

If your family attends the 9:30 a.m. service, kids age 4 and older worship with their families for the first part of the service. After the "Time with Younger Disciples," age 4 through grade 5 may be dismissed to the Christian Education building for music and classes until 10:45 a.m.

If your family attends the 11:00 a.m. service, come to the CE Building for music and classes from 10:00 until 10:45 a.m.

For Adults: Who is the real Jesus? How can we experience the mystery, complexity, and richness of his spirituality and teachings in our lives today? *Living Jesus: Learning the Heart of the Gospel* by Luke Timothy Johnson elucidates the mystery of Jesus' resurrection and its central role in the Christian experience. It explores the diversity and fullness of the New Testament views of Christ, revealing how each book's perspective can deepen our understanding of Jesus. Profoundly insightful, *Living Jesus* offers valuable lessons on how we can accept the Gospels' powerful invitation to an authentic Christian spirituality. Join us in the Geneva Room from **9:30 until 10:30 a.m.**



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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 1/5/18.

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

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 165 bag lunches
the week of 12/18/17.

We gave out 197 bag lunches
the week of 12/25/17.

We gave out 814 bag lunches
in December, 2017.

Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 60 people on 12/23/17.

We fed 80 people on 12/30/17.

We fed 358 in December, 2017.

IT'S TIME TO PREPARE FOR OUR ANNUAL TALENT SHOW!!!

Our annual Talent Show is literally right around the corner!
It will be held **Sunday, January 28 at 5:00.**



If you have a special talent to share and would like to participate, please contact Leonard Mosiah at leonardmosiah@gmail.com or the church office at 294-3121.



Even if you don't have a talent you would like to share, we would love it if you would join us for an evening of food, fellowship and fun! Please RSVP to 294-3121, office@firstpreswh.org, or fill out this reservation form and drop in the offering plate.

Name: _____ # of Adults: _____ # of Children: _____