



TOWER CHIMES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WINTER HAVEN
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | JULY 31, 2022 | ISSUE 874

FIRST PRES WELCOMES THE POLK TRAINING CENTER



For decades, our Deacons have supported the incredible ministry conducted by the Polk Training Center with citizens who have developmental disabilities. And now we have the honor of hosting their dozen students and two instructors each weekday in the Girl Scout House on the First Pres campus. Currently, the Polk Training Center is in the process of selling their ten-acre plant nursery site in Lake Alfred and searching for a new smaller location. When contacted by their board, our Session enthusiastically offered the free use of part of our church facilities for their work. On July 18, our Christian friends started settling in. We welcome them for this new adventure.

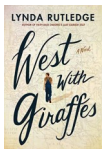
THE CHOSEN BIBLE STUDY



We invite you to join us this summer on a journey into the life of Jesus with the film series **THE CHOSEN**. We gather in McLeod Hall for dinner and to view episodes and then discuss the Bible passages that undergird the story. We hope you'll join with other believers as we share faith, fellowship, and film.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE: Beginning **Sunday, August 7**, we will meet **each Sunday** from **5:30 to 7 pm**. Please bring a covered dish to share for our meal. Child care is provided.

EVEN MONTH BOOK CLUB NEXT READ



We invite you to join us on **Monday, August 15** at **3 pm** in McLeod Hall as we discuss **West with Giraffes** by Lydia Rutledge. We hope you will come together with us for a time of fellowship and discussion of this intriguing book. Contact Sue Henry at 863-656-2611 with any questions.



SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 21, YOUTH SUNDAY

Single service worship at **10 am** with a fellowship luncheon following at **11:15**.

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.*

STAFF

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

Jeremy T. Rath
Director of
Music Ministries

Emily G. Snyder
Director of
Student Ministries

Robin D. Miller
Director of Finance
and Administration

Connie J. Shipley
Administrative
Assistant

Rose S. Flynn
Office Assistant

Daryl D. Fenley
Director of
Maintenance

Tonia L. Milbry
Custodian

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, July 31

- 9:00 am Heart of Worship
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)

Monday, August 1

Tuesday, August 2

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)
- 12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH/Zoom)
- 6:30 pm Session (GR)

Wednesday, August 3

Thursday, August 4

- 3:30 pm Praise Band Practice (Sanctuary)

Friday, August 5

Saturday, August 6

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UP-COMING 10 AM SINGLE SERVICE WORSHIPS

August 21 November 20
 September 11 December 18
 October 2

WE CELEBRATE!

On Sunday, July 24, we ordained and installed to new officers.



Tony Premuto to the office of Deacons.

Amy McKee to the office of Elders.

Congratulations and thank you for serving.

SYMPATHY



Our Christian sympathy goes to **Autumn, Remy, and Zeymond Jacobson** upon the death of their

mother/grandmother,



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

MEMBERS

Melvin & Debbie Anderson	Frances Heath	John & Marilyn Schleifer
Pat Berrell	Bryan Howard	Dick Shaw
Bill Brack	Jim Huff	Joyce Shirah
Helen Champlain	Scott & Becky Irvin	Susan Singleton
Marjorie DiLorenzo	Autumn, Zeymond, & Remy Jacobson	Dale Smith
Zan Dismuke	Dena Lancashire	Katie Sparr
Rob Donaldy	Ray & Gladys Larson	Barbara Tackett
Dana Elmore	Pat McCarty	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Bill Everhart	Dick McCauley	Glenn Thomas
Jim Francis	Pat Miller	Suzy Threadgill
Rossanne Gorsky	Edna Mitchell	Mike Vibral
Pam Gray	Richard Moots	Pat Vobornik
Jane Hayman	Jeri & Tom Oldt	Sug Zowarka

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Alicia & family Laura Frost's friends
 Shelly Arnold Greg & Mary Marrs' friend
 Alex Balequez Lynn Oakley's friend
 Jessica Bowles Peter Coppini's daughter
 Philip Burkhardt Lynn Oakley's friend
 Susie Fisher Rob Donaldy & Becky Everhart's cousin
 Kathy & Ron Giuffre Tom & Jeri Oldt's in-laws
 Jasper & Sam Gray Lynn Oakley's friends
 Jim Hindley Mary Marrs' friend
 Lori Houmard Rick & Pat Reass' daughter
 Dia Hurst Lee & Pam Wilkenson's friend
 Jim & Belinda Hurst Tom & Jeri Oldt's friends
 Kevin Jackson Doris Brack's friend
 Funner Judd Lynn Oakley's friend
 Cindy Laeng & family Becky Everhart's friends
 John Lauffer Peter Coppini's nephew
 Reed & Trish Layne Larry Davis' friends
 Khyla Martinez Paul & Ann Montgomery's granddaughter
 Dick Negley Steve Negley's father
 Brynne Nowroozi Cindy Curry's friend
 Les & Alison O'Neal Sandra Hoffman's friends
 Kristin Schmid Rick & Pat Reass' daughter
 Myra Shelton Punkin Smith's friend
 Lindsey Tomlinson Lee & Pam Wilkinson's friend
 Jess Wilkinson Lee Wilkinson's brother

MILITARY

Zach Anaya	Ernie French	David Knowles
Brenden Anderson	Stephanie Gillie	John Marotti
Christian Anderson	Eddie Gray	KaitLin Marotti
Zach Drum	Daniel Harp	Mathew Massam
Robert Ferguson	Sean Harp	Jet Sanderson

FIRST PRES SUMMER PICK-UP CHOIR



Interested in a low-commitment singing group? Come join our Summer Pick-Up Choir! We will meet at **10:30 am** in the Music Suite to learn an easy anthem or hymn to sing during the 11:00 Worship Service. During the Worship Service, we will gather around the piano on the north side of the Sanctuary and share an offering of praise. We will continue to sing each Sunday through **August 21**.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Jeremy at jrath@firstpreswh.org. We are looking forward to having you join us!

13TH GIFT THANK YOU NOTE



Hallmark has alerted us that “Christmas in July” is just around the corner. You will be able to see the 2022 Christmas ornament collection. You will also be able to see three new Christmas movies. Yes, we will be able to experience Christmas in July.

One way I plan to observe this “holiday” is by writing Christmas Thank You notes. Several years ago, our book club read a holiday book entitled “The 13th Gift” by Joanne Huist Smith. A grieving family was adopted by a group who, for 13 days, gave them special gifts to bring them comfort and hope. Our book club was so inspired that they adopted a grieving family that year and the recipients never knew the identity of the donors.

Last year my family, Dad and I, were so bereaved that a group within our church adopted us. We received gifts such as a bountiful fruit basket, complete past dinner, chocolates, and a sock collection, cocoa mix, holiday cookies, soup mixes, nuts, dish cloths, fruit cake, poinsettia, snack mix and other taste tempters. There was an element of excitement as I went to the door to see what gifts had been left on my doorstep. We still grieved, but we appreciated the assortment of gifts and the love and care they represented.

I still grieve Mother and Dad’s passing. I am most grateful for the 13 gifts, many sympathy cards, and expressions of condolence expressed.

With love and great appreciation, Alan.

CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATES



The past year has reminded us all of the importance of staying in touch with those we care about. We are always looking to keep our directory current and are seeking to make sure we have your current information on file.

If you have a new phone number, home address, email, or additional contact info (such as a seasonal address), please contact the church office so we can make sure you stay informed. Thank you.

MEN’S LUNCH GROUP



Every **Tuesday**, the men of the church gather from **12:00-1:00 pm** for lunch together. This fellowship group offers men an opportunity to build friendships and grow in faith.

We hope that you will join us. This gathering is hybrid; meaning you can come in person or join by Zoom. To receive the Zoom invite, please contact the office by phone or email and ask to be added to the list.

2022 FLOWER CHART IS IN NARTHEX

You are invited to sign up for your important Sunday worship dates. There are plenty of dates available for this year. Please be sure to call or email the church office the week before with bulletin information.

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN TEXT TO GIVE?



To donate, you will text a **keyword**, (those options are below and special events will be added as they come.), then a **space**, and an **amount** to **863-243-6880**. Example: Text keyword **3cents 5** for gifting \$5 to *3 Cents-a-Meal*. An auto-response will confirm your gift offering. Respond **Y** to confirm and send. Save this number as a contact for future giving.

Keywords are:

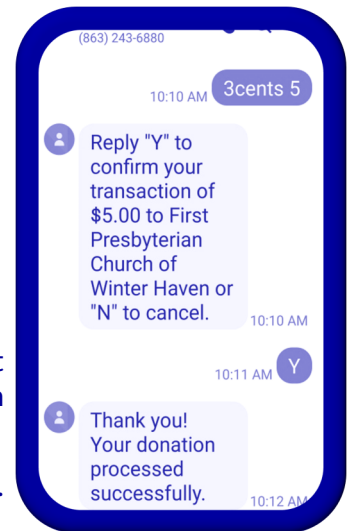
- Pledged (for your offering to be credited to your pledged amount for the current year)
- Offering (Non-pledge or undesignated gifts)
- Music (for Capital Music Campaign Organ/Music)
- 3cents (for 3 Cents-a-Meal)
- Memorial (for when donating in memory of someone)
- Special (for all other donations; example 1 time events)

If you are donating through Text To Give for the first time, you will receive a text containing a link to login or create your Secure Give account. Please save that login information.

You will then be asked to save your default payment information for giving by text. The system will confirm your donation and you will receive an email receipt.

The only time that you should have to enter your login or card information is the first time you donate through Text to Give. After your first transaction, your Secure Give account and card information will be recognized automatically and you will simply reply **Y**.

The next time you would like to give by text, simply type the keyword and amount to the number above and you will receive a request to confirm with **Y**.



HOW TO EASILY ACCESS SECURE GIVE

Go to our Church website and click on **give** (top right), you will be re-directed to <https://app.securegive.com/firstpreswh> or you can go directly to the SecureGive website, <https://app.securegive.com/firstpreswh>.

Robin Miller is available to assist you during office hours or at rmiller@firstpreswh.org.

YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH...

just by shopping at this special Amazon link.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-0668481>

Your shopping will support **Winter Haven First Presbyterian Church**

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know with the same products, same prices, same service.
- Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.



AUGUST

BIRTHDAYS

8/01	Susan Taylor	8/16	David Fellows	8/23	Howard Levasseur
8/03	Rod Lewis		William Snively	8/24	Andy Johnston
	Amy McKee		Kathryn Thomas		Stone Schwenk
	Jen Smith	8/17	Abby Sparr	8/25	Jeff Bowen
8/04	Bob Carter	8/18	Melvin Anderson	8/26	Bonnie Gray
	Nancy Meyers		Warren Glenn		Kim Lockhart
	Bob Sheffield		Betty Lewis	8/27	Angie Arnold
8/05	Shirley Hines		Ed Reints		Dale Smith
8/06	Bill Freeman, II	8/19	Helen Champlain		Scott Strey
8/07	Amy McGee	8/20	Tom Andrews Jr.	8/28	Joe Burke
8/08	Alan Harvey		Lindsey Ivey		Joe Oriani
	Sharon McGaffigan		Donna Kelly		Marcia Smith
8/10	Jen Barthel		Shorter Strang, Jr.	8/29	Rob Donaldy
8/11	John Maltese		Bob Winfree		Rose Flynn
8/12	Peggy Threlkel	8/21	Mike McGee		Tom Oakley
8/13	Norm Patrick	8/22	Peggy Davis	8/30	Neal Damkjer
	Court Turner		Becky Everhart		Marie Jeffcoat
8/14	Joyce Reints		Tim Swango		Pat Reass
8/15	Lynne Grady		Jennifer Vibrat		Suzan Wales
	Layton Sheffield	8/23	Scott Irvin	8/31	Brenna Thibodaux

ANNIVERSARIES

8/02	Dave & Pat Davidson	8/20	David & Karen Alexander
	Steve & Frances Stapor	8/26	Rick & Tillie Montney Jr.
8/04	Eynar & Heidi Munoz-Gutierrez	8/27	Vincent & Lisa Centonze
8/06	Ben & Judie Tucker	8/28	John & Ann Adams
8/07	John & Marcia Eycleshimer		Tom & Jan Wales
8/13	Tucker & Joann Gray	8/30	Clyde & Carolyn Greene
	Bill & Shirley Ussery		Greg & Mary Marrs
8/15	Adam & Brittaney Roe		Bruce & Kathryn Eelman

STRESSED? FEELING DOWN? NEED ENCOURAGEMENT?



Stephen Ministers don't just provide care for people experiencing a major crisis. They also provide care and support for people weighed down by the little things in life. If you (or someone you know) are feeling down, lonely, stressed or discouraged, you could benefit from the care, support, and encouragement of a Stephen Minister. It's free. It's confidential. And it will really make a difference in your life!

To find out more, contact **Connie Shipley** at 863-221-2224 or one of our other Stephen Minister Leaders, **Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, or Barbara Perkins.**

First Presbyterian Church
637 6th Street, NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881

863-294-3121
www.firstpreswh.org
office@firstpreswh.org
Facebook.com/FPCWinterHaven

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

This newsletter is published weekly.
Church dated material, please deliver by 7/29/22.

Return Service Requested

Bag Lunch Ministry
We gave out 223 lunches
the week of 7/18/22. 

 **Soup Kitchen Ministry**
We fed 80 people on
Saturday, 7/23/22.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!



Our Soup Kitchen provides an incredible outreach and positive impact in our community. Every Saturday, this church helps to feed 80-100 hungry people. For many, this meal is one of the few of significant substance that they will eat all week.

Many of our members volunteer just a few hours of their time to help prepare the food and serve those in need. **We currently have ALL of August dates available.** If you have never helped before or have questions, fear not, our Deacons can address any uncertainties and help you feel comfortable in serving.

Interested in learning more or signing up? Contact the church office, any of our Deacons, or check out the sign-up sheet in McLeod Hall.

YOUTH GROUPS WILL BEGIN SOON!



The **Middle School Youth Group** begins meeting on **Wednesday, August 17** from 5:30 until 7:30 pm.

The **High School Youth Group** will begin meeting on **Sunday, August 21** from 5:30 until 7:30 pm.

Come join us for another awesome year of food, fellowship, and faith building! If you have any questions or would like to sign up to provide a meal for our students, please contact Emily Snyder at 863-224-4403 or esnyder@firstpreswh.org.