



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of June 14, 2020

Issue 762

134 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

Lynn M. McCoy
Director of
Music Ministries

Emily G. Snyder
Director of
Student Ministries

Robin D. Miller
Director of Finance &
Administration

Connie J. Shipley
Administrative Assistant

Rose S. Flynn
Office Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant
Director of Maintenance

Tonia L. Milbry
Custodian

REMEMBER

FIRST PRES IS LIVE ON FACEBOOK!



Heading out of town but still desire to be part of this
worshipping community on Sunday?

Heard something lovely said or played in worship and
would like to hear it again?

Want to share with a friend a taste of worship with First Pres?

Then visit the our Facebook page at
<https://www.facebook.com/FPCWinterHaven/>! Every Sunday we will
be live-streaming the 9:15 am Heart of Worship and 11 am Traditional
worship services on our Facebook page. These services will be
available by video after worship as well.

The church website at <https://www.firstpreswh.org> will also continue
to have recordings of Sunday's worship on the main page. Scroll
down to "Latest Videos" at the bottom.

YOU CAN GET CONNECTED

Remember when you come back to worship that we have
guest **Wi-Fi** available here at First Pres!



On your device, choose one of our two networks:

First Presbyterian Main in the sanctuary building **OR**
First Presbyterian Edu in the education building and student center
The password **Connect@1st** can be used for both networks.

VBS ANNOUNCEMENT

Hear ye! Hear ye! All ye Kings and Queens, Knights and Nobles!



By royal decree the difficult decision has been made to cancel the in-person summer
gathering of knights known as VBS. All our knights instead will begin a summer
quest at home, checking in twice monthly to be sure they are indeed armoring up
with love, truth, and faith. On the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays, June-August**, First Pres
castle will host **ZOOM** gatherings with VBS music, Bible stories, and prayer. Our
knights, nobles, and their families connect via **ZOOM**, for **Lower Elementary**
(PreK-1st) at 3 pm and Upper Elementary (2nd-5th) at 4 pm – first gathering is
June 10. VBS crafts for the summer will be available for pick up from the office or
Rev. Sarah will be dropping them off at homes the week of June 1.

Until then, it is joyfully advised to *“be strong in the Lord and the strength of His power”*, Ephesians
6:10 – Rev. Sarah, First Pres Castle.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 14

- 9:00 am Heart of Worship (Facebook Live)
- 11:00 am Worship (Facebook Live)
- 7:00 pm High School Youth Group (Zoom)

Monday, June 15

Tuesday, June 16

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)
- 12:00 pm Men's Lunch (Zoom)
- 12:30 pm Finance (Zoom)
- 4:00 pm Music Director Search (Zoom)
- 6:30 pm Deacons (Zoom)

Wednesday, June 17

- 5:00 pm Confirmation (Zoom)
- 7:00 pm Middle School Youth Group (Zoom)

Thursday, June 18

Friday, June 19

Saturday, June 20

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

MILITARY

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

OUR FEEDING MINISTRIES



We are blessed to be able to continue serving the hungry of our community with bagged lunches during the week.

Our Saturday Soup Kitchen hasn't stopped either. We have available dates open in June, as well as all of July and August.

If you would like to serve the church by volunteering in either of these ministries, please call the office at 294-3121.

Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

Marie Able	Frances Heath	Lori Roe
Melvin & Debbie Anderson	Kay Hedden	John Schleifer
Kathy Andrews	Doris Hill	Lauren Schwenk
Pat Berrell	Shirley Hines	George Seagreaves
Orrin & Helen Champlain	Bryan Howard	Cash Sheaffer
Carl Cheatham	Isobel Hubbard	Bob Sheffield
Charlie Darte	Jim Huff	Joyce Shirah
Marjorie DiLorenzo	Martha Johnson	Barbara H. Smith
Zan Dismuke	Bill Johnston	Ed Smith
Yolanda Dyer	John Kissel	Dale Smith
Jana Easterling	Dena Lancashire	Joel Smith
Dana Elmore	Eric Lindstrom	Christine Stevens
Bill Everhart	Spike & Jane Lucia	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Jim Francis	Pat McCarty	Carolyn Thompson
John Gray	Bob McClew	Ellie Threlkel
Jane Hammette	Edna Mitchell	Mike Vibral
Jane Hayman	Nancy Neale	Gwen Waters
Joyce Hayman	Lynn Oakley	Sug Zowarka
	Arletta Oriani	
	Barbara Roberts	

Relatives & Friends

Belle Barris	Lauren Schwenk's friend
Jessica Benton	Nikki Hoagland's cousin
Joe Boyce	Mary & Greg Mars' friend
Sheri Braun	Margaret Braun's friend
Bob Carolan	Amy Speer's father
Katie Derthick	Marile Weeks' great-niece
Steve Dobler	Rich Dobler's brother
Jean Ann & Blake Doyle	Ben & Judy Tucker's friend
Dottie Fairchild	Bob Hines' sister
Susie Fisher	Rob Donaldy and Becky Everhart's cousin
Tom Francis	Jim Francis' brother
Allison Futch	Lynn Oakley's friend
Debbie Futch	Lynn Oakley's friend
Lynda Giles	Polly Wilson's niece
Paul & Betty Gilliam	Debbie Anderson's parents
Christy Hemenway	Bob & Lisa Endres' friend
Sidney Hilliard	Tillie Montney's mother
Kate Hurd & family	Kathy Cheatham's friend
Cherri Jordan	Ed Smith's sister
John Kluberg	Nancy Dobler's brother
Jim Marrs	Greg Marrs' brother
Carol Moore	Roger & Marie Able's friend
Jackie Murphy	Lynn Oakley's friend
Paula Penna	Steven Lockhart's friend
Sydney Alexis Rich	Bill & Becky Everhart's friend
Joan Richter	Lynn Oakley's friend
Kristy Russ	Tom & Jerri Oldt's friend
Toni Shaw	Candy Marshall's friend
Jim Steele	Bob Steele's brother
Deborah Strother	Sandy Hoffman's friend
Andy Vogt	Susan Singleton's friend
Jeanie Williamson	Jackie Pinckney's friend

A Plan for Re-Opening First Presbyterian Church to Public Worship

June 2020

When confronted by COVID-19, a highly contagious airborne virus which posed a significant threat to the health and safety of the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven, the Session suspended the gathering for public worship, initiating virtual worship services exclusively beginning March 22, 2020.

With a continued concern for the health and welfare our church family, seeking to maintain robust virtual worship while also providing the safe opportunity for those who wish to again assemble in God's house for praise and prayer, the Session appointed a Task Force on the Re-Opening of First Presbyterian Church for Worship, and re-entry in public gatherings.

Moving toward opening the doors of God's house once again for services of public worship, the Task Force met for prayerful research and reflection on two questions:

- 1) What criteria should be used for allowing the return to public worship?
- 2) What will public worship look like as we first return?

On June 2, 2020, the Session met for discussion on the Task Force recommendations and adopted the following **Plan for Re-opening**:

- 1) Guided by Polk County statistics on the efforts to combat the COVID-19 virus, as evidenced in a steady or downward trend in the number of new COVID-19 hospitalizations and in the percentage of positive cases (as compared to total tested) reported, **the church will plan to re-open our doors to those who wish to attend in-person worship on Sunday, June 14, 2020.** (We will also be continuing our vibrant virtual on-line worship experience on FaceBook Live)
- 2) **As we return to public worship in our church facility, we will implement the following measures** to provide for the health and safety of our sisters and brothers in Christ.
 - a) Our worship schedule will include 2 Sunday worship services in our sanctuary - **Heart of Worship at 9:00 am** and **Traditional Worship at 11:00 am.** (This time change for Heart of Worship service will allow for thorough cleaning between services.)
 - b) The second-floor exterior doors leading to the walkway to the CE building will remain open to increase the flow our fresh air into our ventilation system.
 - c) All worshippers will be greeted under the porte-cochere at the west entrance with a brief health questionnaire.
 - d) All worshippers will be asked to complete or bring a daily attendance card.

A Plan for Re-Opening ~ Continued

- e) Out of concern and care for all who gather for worship, all worshipers ages three and older will be required to wear a face covering (covering mouth and nose) while inside the church buildings.
- f) Hand sanitation stations will be located throughout the church facility with all encouraged to use upon entrance and exiting facility and other designated area (water fountains, restrooms, elevator buttons, stair rails, etc.)
- g) All paths leading to the worship space will be marked with six-foot separation stripes.
- h) The sanctuary will be marked with “worship sites for family units” (a single person, couple, or family grouping) with 8-foot separation in all directions for safe social distancing. (The first row of the balcony will be left vacant)
- i) Ushers (observing a six-foot separation) will escort worshipers to the next available worship site, filling the sanctuary from front to back, to minimize contact in passing by other worshipers.
- j) The worship services will be shown by livestream video in McLeod Hall, which will have worship site seating in 8-foot separation for over-flow or late-arriving worshipers.
- k) Worship will be modified by restricting singing and choir, in accordance with best practices, to reduce the threat of airborne virus spread.
- l) Following worship, ushers will dismiss the congregation starting at the back of the sanctuary and proceeding to the front, encouraging those who need to use the elevator to proceed to that location with safe distancing and asking those who can traverse the stairs to proceed to the north or south side stairwells.
- m) Immediately after the sanctuary is vacated following the Heart of Worship service, sanitation teams (our custodian, Tonia, and trained volunteers – all of whom will wear protective eye wear, masks, and gloves) will disinfect all surfaces which have been touched in preparation for the arrival of the next worshipers.
- n) The pastors will have exited immediately following the benediction via the front doors and proceeded to the porte-cochere for socially distanced farewells to worshipers.
- o) Children will be asked to worship with their parents, and childcare will not be provided.

The Session will continue to monitor the progression of the COVID-19 virus in our community, and will meet regularly to discuss any modifications to our public worship plan. The Session will also be making decisions on the resumption of other in-person activities here in our church facilities. We look forward to our continued life together as Christ’s body.

CHRIST KIDS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

While our programming for kids may not be meeting in person, our children and families do have the opportunity to grow in their faith at home! Families are being sent weekly a Bible lesson. Included are activities, games and creative projects all which are available when they need it. As families feel safe, we have kept our playground open on **Wednesdays, 3-5pm.**

Each week's lesson is being sent via email. So, please let Rev. Sarah (sbishop@firstpreswh.org) know if you would like to receive it as well.



YOUTH GROUP ZOOM WILL CONTINUE THROUGH SUMMER



During this challenging time, our youth groups are meeting weekly by Zoom meetings. We are doing lessons and enjoying each other's company on video chats until we can start meeting in person again.

High School: Sunday at 7pm
Middle School: Wednesday at 7pm

Emily Snyder has also created an Instagram account where she is posting devotionals every few days to keep your hearts filled with a little bit of Jesus during this crazy time! The account can be found on Instagram if you search **fpcwh_youth**. If you don't have an account, but still want to receive the devotions, here is the link: [instagram.com/fpcwh_youth](https://www.instagram.com/fpcwh_youth).

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE THROUGH SECUREGIVE

Go to our Church website at www.firstpreswh.org 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 at 863-294-3121 or email rmiller@firstpreswh.org.

TEXT TO GIVE AT SECUREGIVE: 863-243-6880

1. Donor texts the keyword and amount (ex. Tithe 100 – **There must be a space between the keyword and amount**, to the above number. Other keywords can be: three cents or other.)
2. First time text donors receive a text with a link to sign into their SecureGive account or create a new one. A quick video with Robin walking through these steps is on our website.
3. Donor signs in or creates an account and saves a default payment method to be used for text giving.
4. When this is complete, donor receives a confirmation that their first text donation has been processed. They will also receive an email receipt.



The next time the donor would like to give by text, they simply type the keyword and amount and will receive a request to confirm with **Y**. After replying, they will receive a text confirmation that their donation was processed and will receive an email receipt every time they give.

****We recommend that the donor save *First Presbyterian Church* text number as a contact in their phone for future use****

****Donors can text a question mark “?” to be sent helpful tips.**

****Donors can text STOP to de-activate text giving from their phone. If they have texted STOP at any point, they must text START to get re-started.**

Robin Miller is available to assist you during office hours at 294-3121 or email rmiller@firstpreswh.org.

Our Purpose Statement

First Presbyterian Church
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FAX 863-294-1105
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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 6/12/20.

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

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 155 bag lunches
the week of 6/1/20.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 98 people on 6/6/20.

Return Service Requested

SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE CARD

One form is necessary for each person attending.

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.)

Yes No Are you running a fever, have a dry cough, or shortness of breath?

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 Have you traveled to a COVID-19 hotspot in the past 14 days?

Name (Please print): _____

Phone Number: _____ Date: _____

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