



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of March 15, 2020

Issue 749

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

JOIN US IN WORSHIP DURING LENT FOR A SERMON SERIES *Forty Days for Spiritual Practices.*



As we have moved from Ash Wednesday toward the empty tomb of Easter, we are investing our lives in prayer, confession, simplicity, solitude, and fasting.

Join us each Sunday as we practice living as disciples of our Lord and Savior, Jesus.

YOU CAN GET CONNECTED!

We are excited to announce that we now have guest **Wi-Fi** available here at First Pres. From the sanctuary to the student center, you can connect to our Wi-Fi simply by logging in with:

First Presbyterian Main, password **Connect@1stPres**



ODD MONTH THIRD THURSDAY AT 3 BOOK CLUB

Next Meeting, March 19, 3 pm in McLeod Hall

Once upon a time . . . The First Presbyterian Church Book Club has learned the history of foreign countries (*A Gentleman from Moscow*), the history of our own state (*Last Train to Paradise: Henry Flagler and the Spectacular Rise and Fall of the Railroad that Crossed an Ocean*), and stories of our country (*The Last Castle*), has been inspired by true life accounts (*Grandma Gatewood's Walk*), and even inspired to undertake secret projects (*The Thirteenth Gift*). Most of all, we have learned empathy by considering the viewpoints of the characters in the books and respecting the opinions of each other!

What is your favorite type of book to read? At the last meeting, our club voted to each bring one book that proved meaningful and present it to the club. From these, we will comprise our ongoing reading list. This is your chance to bring one of your favorites! If you have participated before, or have never participated, please come! We want to know what you think!



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 15

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

- 8:00 am Chapel Worship (Chapel)
- 9:15 am Connection (MH)
- 9:15 am Heart of Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 am Sunday School (CE)
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 pm HSYG (GC)

Monday, March 16

- 8:45 am MOM (CE)

Tuesday, March 17

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MCR)
- 9:30 am Joy Circle (Off-site)
- 12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH)
- 12:00 pm Finance (UR)
- 4:00 pm Music Director Search (MCR)
- 6:30 pm Deacons (MH)

Wednesday, March 18

- 8:45 am MOM (CE)
- 3:00 pm Christ Kids (CE)
- 5:00 pm Confirmation (GC)
- 5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (GC)
- 6:00 pm Chancel Bells (MS)
- 7:00 pm Choir (MS)

Thursday, March 19

- 12:00 pm Chapel Bells (MS)
- 3:00 pm Odd Month Third Thursday at 3 Book Club (MH)

Friday, March 20

- 8:45 am MOM (CE)
- 6:30 pm Praise Band (Sanctuary)

Saturday, March 21

- 2:00 pm Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
- 4:00 pm Soup Kitchen (737)
- 7:00 pm Saturday Nite Live (MH)

Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

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

Relatives & Friends

Belle Barris	Lauren Schwenk's friend
Steve Dobler	Rich Dobler's brother
Jean Ann & Blake Doyle	Ben & Judy Tucker's friend
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
Christy Hemenway	Bob & Lisa Endres' friend
Kate Hurd & family	Kathy Cheatham's friend
John Kluberg	Nancy Dobler's brother
Laura Lawson	Steve & Debbie Sowards' friend
Jim Marrs	Greg Marrs' brother
Carol Moore	Roger & Marie Able's friend
Jackie Murphy	Lynn Oakley's friend
Jean Murphy	Lynn Oakley's mom
Sydney Alexis Rich	Bill & Becky Everhart's friend
Deborah Strother	Sandy Hoffman's friend
Penni Tinsley	Tom & Jeri Oldt's friend

3 CENTS-A-MEAL THIS SUNDAY



We will collect the
**3 Cents-a-Meal Hunger
Offering** during
worship services this
SUNDAY, MARCH 15.

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



MILITARY

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

SEE OUR HANDBELL CHOIR PLAY

The 12th Annual Florida State Handbell Festival will be held **March 13-14** at the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center (200 Del Webb Blvd W.) Several of our bell choir members will be attending the Festival. There will be rehearsals on Friday and Saturday with a Showcase Concert at **3:00 p.m. on Saturday** that features three different groups of participants along with a mass bell choir with all participants. The public is invited to attend the concert.



HELPING HANDS ON FIRST SUNDAY

Did we over look you for helping with a First Sunday Luncheon at First Presbyterian? If your answer is "Yes," then you are invited to call the Church Office at 294-3121 and tell Connie or Rose of the date that you would like to help. You can also call MaryBess Thompson at 863-398-2600 or Erin Miller at 863-585-4259 and let these members of the Hospitality and Fellowship Committee know of your interest and availability.

Thank you!

HOW ARE YOU DOING?

Are you going through a difficult time?



- Lost a job?
- Living with depression?
- Lost a loved one?
- Going through a divorce?
- Living with an illness?



Stephen Ministers are members of First Presbyterian Church who have received special training to provide high quality, confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to hurting people.

If you, or someone you know, are sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or someone you know, **call Susan Singleton at 318-9208.**

A SPECIAL NOTE FROM ANGELS CARE CENTER OF ELOISE

Angels Care Center continues to give out special kits to our patients and their families, e.g. toiletry kits, first aid kits, children's kits, and senior bags. This is not possible without your donations of items to fill these kits! We have made and given out over 31,000 in the last 9 years!

But... in the last few months we have come up short of what is needed to fill the kits. This is a year round project and the need is great. We are in particular need of deodorant, disposable razors, small combs, quart and snack size zip lock bags, Band-Aids, washcloths, sunscreen, small hand sanitizer, and small samples from hotel/motels. Also, any and all items for our senior bags, whatever will make our senior citizens' lives easier and brighter: laundry soap, Lysol cleaning wipes, paper towels, mugs or plastic plates, bowls, teabags, oatmeal packs, crossword puzzles/activity pads, seasonal item/décor, gift cards (Walmart, restaurants, etc.) You can put these items in the Angels Care collection box located in McLeod Hall.



Your help now and throughout the year is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for being God's special Angels!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY

The Lydia and Joy circles current Bible Study is:
“Love Carved in Stone” – *A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments.*

The Joy Circle meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month and will meet on **March 17 at 9:30 am** at the home of Carol Carter.

The Lydia Circle meets on the **2nd Monday** of each month and will meet on **April 13 at 10 am** in the back of McLeod Hall.

The study books are available at a cost of \$10. See either Sue McClew or Carol Carter, or come by the *church office to purchase your copy. Our group is open to any and all women of the church interested in fellowship and Bible study.*



SEWING FOR HONDURAS

Sewing for Honduras ladies are busy sewing dresses and backpacks. Keep an eye out here for the next sewing date and time.



They are in need of donations of the following items you might have at home:

- Dritz 1/2” Non-roll elastic
- White and beige thread
- 32 ply Macramé cord (black preferred) to be used as drawstrings for the backpacks
- Double –fold bias tape of any color

All of these items are also available at JoAnn Fabrics and have online coupons to save more. Donations are being accepted at the church office.

In the meantime, if you are curious or slightly interested and would like to see the patterns, materials, have a suggestion, or want to get started, please contact Sharon Mitchell 419-332-5268.

2020 CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

Did you miss getting your picture taken for our 2020 Church Directory?

We have noticed several people missing who were pictured in the 2016 directory when compared with the roster of persons who were photographed in December 2019 and February 2020. Thus far, for the 2020 Directory we have had 135 photos taken compared to 240 for the 2016 Directory.

Would you still like to have your photo included in the new directory? If your answer is “Yes!” and if there is enough interest, we are trying to schedule a make up day.

Please call the church office at 294-3121 or Toni Barger at 914-715-1734 and let us know you would like another opportunity to be photographed. Also, please indicate what day works best for you: Tuesday, Saturday, or either one.



We really would like everyone included in our 2020 First Pres Pictorial Directory.

WE HAVE AN EXTRA WAY OF GIVING!

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.



HOW MANY OFFERING ENVELOPES WOULD YOU LIKE?

We are custom printing our offering envelopes this year. If you would like to have envelopes and have not received them yet, please contact Rose in the church office at 294-3121 or rflynn@firstpreswh.org.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GATHERINGS

Middle School Youth meets on **Wednesday evenings, from 5:30 – 7:30 pm**. Join our leaders and sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students as we enjoy time of food (we always have a meal), fun, and faith. Feel free to invite your friends to come along too.

High School Youth, our ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade young people along with leaders gather on **Sunday evenings (5:30 – 7:30 pm)** to share food, Christian fellowship, and service. Come check us out and watch your walk with Jesus deepen.

Both groups meet in the Golden Student Center (711 Sixth Street, NW).



HAVE YOU LOST GLASSES...

Prescription, reading, or sunglasses?

Maybe it was last week, last month, or even last year. If so, we could have them.

We have a collection that has been found over time and would like to find their rightful homes.

Please check the desk next to the maintenance office.



CHRIST KIDS

Christ Kids – our faith-filled and safe after-school program for children 4 years through 5th grade meets **Wednesdays at 3 pm**. Permission slips for families 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 calling the church office at 294-3121 or emailing sbishop@firstpreswh.org.



NAME TAG ORDER FORM

“My Go By” First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address/City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

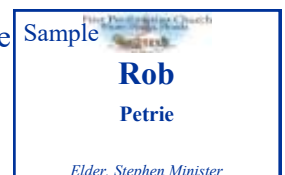
Cell Phone: _____ Can we text you? Yes [] No []

We are requesting your address, phone and e-mail in order to update church files.

OPTIONAL: “Conversation Starters”-The space on the name tag has room for three additional items. Please fill in the appropriate information by one or more items below:

Birthdate-Month/day: _____ Birthplace/Hometown: _____

Year joined First Pres: _____ Sunday School teacher (class): _____



SPRING AND SUMMER EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

Donations for Easter Egg Hunt now being collected

Our celebration of Christ's resurrection with a children's Easter Egg Hunt will be happening on **Easter Sunday, April 12 at 10:30 am**. But we need your help! Please drop individually wrapped candy in the marked bins around the church. Unfortunately, we cannot accept chocolate with this FL heat. Look for the baskets in McLeod Hall to drop off your donations.

And don't forget your Easter basket and camera for a wonderful morning when we hide and hunt for the eggs.



All-Church Retreat May 2-3 at CedarKirk

Registration and this year's theme to be announced soon. But plan on joining us for a relaxing weekend away in the pines. All types of families and individuals are invited to join us.

Vacation Bible School: June 14-18

Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor



This summer, our brave knights will grow in their strength of the Lord and His power at *Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor*, Vacation Bible School starting June 14 through the 18th. So mark your calendar now to help kids take up the gauntlet and accept the challenge to "armor up" and be strong by remaining with God and sharing God's love to the world! Registration for volunteers and kids is just around the corner.

Cedarkirk Summer Camp Registration is Open

Registration for Cedarkirk's 2020 Summer Camps is open! Whether you are in first grade or high school, a family with young children or a grandparent seeking time with your grandchild, Cedarkirk's summer programs have something for you.

Cedarkirk offers camps for all ages and stages of life, emphasizing opportunities for fun, community-building, and spiritual growth in a beautiful, natural environment. To ensure your choice of programs, pick up a brochure in the church office or visit www.cedarkirk.org today. If you have any questions, please contact the camp office at camps@cedarkirk.org or 813-685-4224x2



JOIN US ON SUNDAYS!!!

8:00 am Chapel Worship

A traditional worship service held in our chapel. The service follows the same order as the 11:00 am 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 am 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 am Sanctuary Worship

A traditional worship service held in our sanctuary. The service follows the same order as the 8:00 am 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 AM

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 FOR ALL AGES CHILDREN & ADULTS: 9:30 - 10:30 AM

FOR THE CHILDREN



SPARK Sunday School will begin for our children (PreK-5th grade) and will be sparking faith after the *Time With Younger Disciples* in the Heart of Worship service. PreK-K will be meeting in Room 101 and 1st through 5th grades in Room 206. Don't forget they will also be doing music with Ms. Lynn before their respective classes and ART on the third Sunday. Sunday School ends at 10:30 am.

Can't make it to church? Your family can activate faith with God's Word by connecting with the stories at home with our Spark home sheets and buying a copy of the Story Bible at www.weareSparkhouse.org.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

PERSPECTIVES

The Adult Perspectives Class is studying a DVD/discussion series titled *Honoring Creation* where we interact with seven acclaimed scholars, theologians and authors exploring what is next for Christianity. We ponder what our response to God's creation might look like for ourselves and others in the 21st century. The focus of this session is: *Restoring Our Relationship With the Divine*. This class meets at **9:30 am** in the Geneva Room.



SOUND BOARD OPERATORS WANTED



If technology is your thing, we have a place for you in our musical praise!! We are in need of people who would like to learn about our sound system and help during the worship services to make sure all our praise is heard! We will be holding a training session, so contact Lynn at 701-570-1485 and let her know if you are willing to join

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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 3/13/20.

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

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 186 bag lunches
the week of 3/2/20.

We gave out 773 bag lunches
in February, 2020.

Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 96 people on 3/7/20.

We fed 414 in February, 2020

A HARD ACT TO FOLLOW

After nearly five years of leading the music program here at First Presbyterian Church, **Lynn McCoy** is moving toward retirement. Lynn let the Session and choirs know late last fall that she had bought a lake home closer her children and would start splitting her time between Florida and the upper mid-west this summer. Lynn's official retirement date will be **July 6, 2020**.



The Session has appointed a Director of Music Search Committee, and they have been busy this year preparing to search for Lynn's replacement. The committee (Mike Harris, chair, Sara Hank, vice-chair, Karen Premuto, secretary, Lia Gray, Sean Ivey, Ed Smith, Devin Thompson, Nat West, Mike Seney, and Steve Negley ex-officio) has helped the Session update the position description, and create materials to advertise the position, and are currently posting ads and hope to be receiving resumes in the days to come.

If you know of someone who might be interested and qualified to serve as our new Director of Music Ministries, please direct them to our church website for more information. And please keep the committee, Lynn, and all those involved in our music programs in your prayers in the coming months.