



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

## Tower Chimes

Week of March 28, 2021

Issue 810

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

Jeremy T. Rath  
Director of  
Music 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



### PALM SUNDAY IS MARCH 28

As we continue our Lenten preaching theme, *A Life Guided by the Word*, we will follow Jesus, The Lamb of God, to Jerusalem for a festive parade and then set our sights on the Passover sacrifice (Maundy Thursday.)

We hope you will join us in our journey toward Easter.

### HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Palm Sunday	March 28	9:00 & 11:00 am	Worship Services
Maundy Thursday	April 1	6:30 pm	Worship with Communion & Tenebrae in the Sanctuary
Good Friday	April 2	Noon-3:00 pm	Chapel open for Prayers
Easter Sunday	April 28	6:30 am	Sunrise Worship Service at Lake Maude Park
		9:00 am	Heart of Worship
		10:30 am	Easter Egg Hunt on the Playground
		11:00 am	Traditional Worship

### RESERVATIONS ARE OPEN FOR EASTER WORSHIP

Our celebratory and joyful worship of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, **Easter Sunday, April 4** at First Presbyterian Church Winter Haven will require in-person reservations. Please go to <https://rsvp.church/r/vv6ROrfk> to reserve your family's spots if you plan to join us for in-person worship at **9 or 11 am**.

This glorious worship service will be filled with music, scripture, the Good News, and Alleluias.

And as always, both will also be live-streamed on our Facebook page.

Alleluia He is Risen!



### DONATIONS FOR EASTER EGG HUNT ARE STILL BEING COLLECTED



Our celebration of Christ's resurrection with a children's Easter Egg Hunt will be happening on **Easter Sunday, April 4 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 Florida heat. Don't forget your Easter basket and camera for a wonderful morning when we hide and hunt for the eggs. We'll also be putting together kits of eggs and goodies for those families who would like to a hunt from home.

Please reach out to Rev. Sarah, 294-3121 for more information.

# Opportunities This Week

## Sunday, March 28

### PALM SUNDAY

- 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)  
12:15 pm Sammy Bryant Drive-by Salute  
(Porte-cochere)  
5:30 pm High School Youth Group (GC)

## Monday, March 29

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

## Tuesday, March 30

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)  
12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH/Zoom)  
6:15 pm Worship & Music (Zoom)

## Wednesday, March 31

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)  
10:00 am Adult Bible Study (MH/Zoom)  
4:00 pm Christ Kids (CE)  
5:00 pm Confirmation Class (GC/737)  
5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (GC)

## Thursday, April 1

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

### COMMUNION

- 6:30 pm Worship (Sanctuary)

## Friday, April 2

- 12:00 pm Chapel Open Until 3:00 pm

## Saturday, April 3

- 9:00 am Lilies Set Up in Sanctuary  
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](https://register.polk.health)  
or call 863-298-7500.

# Remember in Prayer

## MEMBERS

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

## Relatives & Friends

- |                    |                                       |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Bachman Family     | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friends        |
| Bryce Beckham      | MaryBess Thompson's friend            |
| Jaidyn Craft       | MaryBess Thompson's friend            |
| Connie Craig       | Lynn Oakley's friend                  |
| Louan Crumbly      | Connie Shipley's friend               |
| Susie Fisher       | Becky Everhart & Rob Donaldy's cousin |
| Lynda Giles        | Polly Wilson's niece                  |
| Ryan Hampton       | Bill Lockhart's friend                |
| Nonie Hicks        | Bob & Cindy Steele'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                 |
| Pat Lynch          | Roger & Marie Able's friend           |
| Susan Marsh        | Roger & Marie Able's friend           |
| Sue Miller         | Lynn Oakley's friend                  |
| Leon & Barb Murphy | Bruce & Kate Eelman's friends         |
| 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            |
| Eddy Ruperti       | Lynn Oakley's friend                  |
| Louise C. Schutt   | Larry Davis' mother                   |
| Chet Spires        | Mary Ellen Rowker's friend            |
| Karen Stack        | Bill & Doris Brack's daughter         |
| 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     |                 |

# PEEPING THROUGH LENT 2021 DEVOTIONAL AND KIT



Our Lenten Devotional – *Peeping Through Lent* is available. Stop by the office to pick up your copy. Included, is 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 two First Pres submissions to inspire you. Be sure to share your creation as a family, individual, or couple with Rev. Sarah!



## MUSIC NOTES FROM JEREMY RATH



Hi Everyone! I am so excited to start rehearsals for Chancel and Chapel Bells and Chancel Choir. It will be so much fun to get to know you all better AND make music together! Rehearsals will begin the week after Easter and should be a familiar schedule to past members. On **Wednesday, April 7**, Chancel Bells will meet in the **Music Suite at 6 pm** and Chancel Choir will be meeting in the **Sanctuary at 7 pm**. Chapel Bells will meet on **Thursday, April 8 at 1:15 pm** in the **Music Suite**. All rehearsals will maintain mask wearing and be socially distanced. Chancel Choir will begin working on a Virtual Choir piece – more information will be presented at our first gathering. I am so looking forward to making music with you!

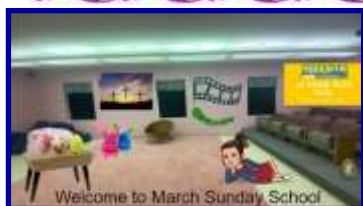
Please don't hesitate to contact me at the church by phone at 294-3121 or email to [jrath@firstpreswh.org](mailto:jrath@firstpreswh.org). If you haven't participated before, we would love to have you join us. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## CHRIST KIDS - WEDNESDAYS AT 4 PM

Christ Kids – our faith-filled and safe, after-school program for children 4 years through 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:sbishop@firstpreswh.org) or call the church office 294-3121.



## MARCH VIRTUAL CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join Rev. Sarah for a fun month of Sunday school lessons, games, and even a virtual egg hunt! Visit the Children's Connection tab on the church website to follow the link this month. Or join us on Sundays following the *Time with Younger Disciples* in the 9 am worship service.

## CALLING ALL YOUTH!

Youth groups are meeting at the youth house. We are so excited to be socially distanced & safe in-person!

**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. It is an 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](mailto:esnyder@firstpreswh.org).





# LAST CHANCE TO ORDER YOUR EASTER LILY

It is time to order your Easter lily for **Easter Sunday, April 4**. Easter lilies are a yearly tradition to decorate the church on Easter Sunday.

To purchase a lily “in honor of” or “in memory of” a loved one or friend, please fill out this order form. The cost is \$12 per plant. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church and marked “Easter Lily Fund”.

Place the order form and check in the offering plate, mail, or take to the church office by **Monday, March 29**. A complete listing will be available Easter Sunday. The Sanctuary Committee will again remove the yellow stamen from each lily so it will not bother your allergies.

Donor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- I will pick up my lily after the 11:00 am service Easter Sunday.
- I would like my lily delivered to a shut-in.



## 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.



## 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.**

## 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 our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FPCWinterHaven/>! Every Sunday, we will be live-streaming the **9:00 am Heart of Worship** and **11:00 am Traditional** worship services on our Facebook page. These services will be available as videos after worship as well.

The church website at [www.firstpreswh.org](http://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.

Either way, there are opportunities to worship with your church family when you cannot be present in person.

### MORE ABOUT FACEBOOK

**Stay in the know with everything First Pres on Facebook!**

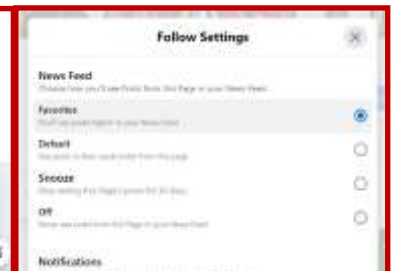
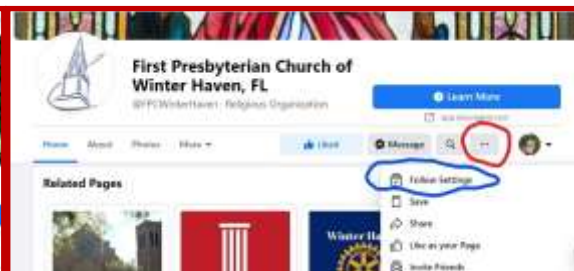
Have a Facebook Account and want to be sure you never miss a post, video, or update from your church? We have things happening daily!

1. Find our Church Facebook page by typing **@FPCWinterHaven** in the search bar.
2. Like our Page! Click the **'thumbs up' Like Icon**. You'll know that's done when the color changes from gray to blue. **IMAGE 1**
3. Set notifications by clicking the **Three dots** (circled) and then **'Follow Settings'** (circled). **IMAGE 2**
4. Mark First Pres as a **FAVORITE** and then click **UPDATE** and First Pres always be at the top of your news feed! **IMAGE 3**

**IMAGE 1**

**IMAGE 2**

**IMAGE 3**



## WORSHIP MASK POLICY

Everyone is required to wear a face covering and maintain social distancing while entering, moving throughout, and exiting the building.

**People who wish to attend in-person worship at 9 am are asked to:**

Once seated and socially distanced from all people except those in their chosen seating group, they may remove their face mask, if they choose, for that portion of the worship service.

If any person wishes to sing hymns or responses, we ask that the face covering is replaced.

**And people who wish to attend in-person worship at 11 am will be asked to follow our current worship guideline which includes:**

Face coverings are required to be worn at all times while seated for worship.

Worshippers are invited to sing while wearing face coverings.

Our session continues to review COVID safety measures for worship monthly.

## 2021 ADULT BIBLE STUDY

### 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 Passcode **637**
6. click **Join Meeting** and wait to join
7. see your church family and wave "hi"

#### WEDNESDAY CLASS

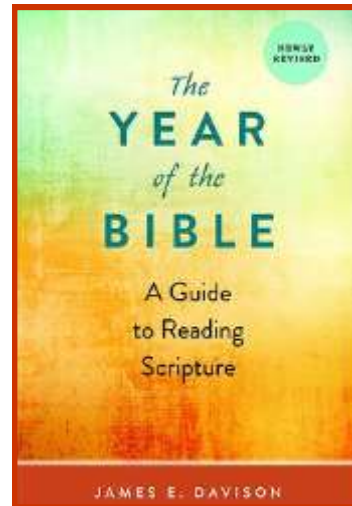
1. go to <https://zoom.us/join>
2. enter Meeting ID **927 8723 9542**
3. click **Join**
4. click **Open Zoom Meeting**
5. enter your name and Meeting Passcode **637**
6. click **Join Meeting** and wait to join
7. see your church family and wave "hi"

### Reading Plan For Week 12

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 12

DAY	OLD Testament	NEW Testament Psalms
1	Deuteronomy 8, 9	Acts 28
2	Deuteronomy 10, 11	Roman 1
3	Deuteronomy 12-14	Roman 2
4	Deuteronomy 15, 16	Psalms 34
5	Deuteronomy 17, 18	Roman 3
6	Deuteronomy 19, 20	Roman 4
7	Deuteronomy 21, 22	Psalms 35



### SECUREGIVE NEWS



**SECUREGive**  
Giving Made Simple

With each transaction, there are fees charged by the credit card processing companies. Securegive now has a "Separate Fee Offset" option when giving online. This option, if chosen, will increase the transaction to help offset transaction fees, the fee amount will be calculated based on the selected payment method. These fees are up to 2.5% of the transaction depending on the card used (the amount will be shown once the option is chosen).

New donors will see this as one of their options and they must select yes or no. If you are currently using the online service you will need to go into your account and update your information, as it is not automatic.

The total amount will be considered a donation and will appear on your quarterly statement. If you have any questions, call Robin, (863)294-3121.

# APRIL

## BIRTHDAYS

4/1	Shirley Ussery		Debbie Sowards	4/22	Thomas Wales
4/2	Kenny Lasseter	4/14	Marcia Eycleshimer	4/23	Kimberly Gaines
	Alexander Schulz	4/14	Julia Parker	4/24	Diany Blanton
	Phillip Tanner		Amena Roe		Kelly Butz
4/3	Glenn Thomas	4/15	KC Davidson		Clara Nell Dantzler
4/5	Blake Bentley		Tracy Garcia		Lydia Rennie
	Richard Bogey		Perry Oakley	4/25	April Porter
	Glynn Swango	4/16	Steven Dunham	4/26	Blair Dunham
	Betsy Wengler		Elise Levasseur		John Marchetti
	Kalen West		Barbara H. Smith		Darcie Owens
4/7	Russell Aaron		McCree Stults		Dave Tannahill
	Brandy Gray	4/17	Howard Beckert	4/27	Lori Calvin
	Caden Kok		Scott Hart		Lindsay Fitzgerald
	Kenneth Welch		Billy Melvin		Barbara Puckett
4/8	Jacob Dantzler	4/19	Joni Gann	4/28	Carolyn Greene
	Elizabeth Walker		Jane West		Kyle Seney
4/9	Mal Boland	4/20	Jay Gray		Lucas Volpe
	Katie Solomon		Roxane McCann	4/29	Alice Colgrove
	Kristin Tannahill		Julie Valk		Matthew Gaines
4/10	Julius Windham		Ansley Wales		Marilyn Sheffield
4/11	Quentin Roe		Dave Wander		Alexandra Turner
	Mike Speer	4/21	James Bruce	4/30	Deane Briggs
4/12	Ellie Crowder		Christian Cornejo		Cynthia Curry
	Charlene Glenn		Kevin Grady		Judy Denlinger
	Meg Strang		Corbin Hart		Dale Johnson
	Kyle Walker		Marcia Strang		Ryan Seney
4/13	Drew Baker	4/22	Lyndsey Clarke		Ellen Tate
	Barrett Bostick		Harper Roe		

## Anniversaries

4/1	Neal & Anne McBride	4/17	Dick & Susan Wales
4/4	Tom & Jeri Oldt	4/22	Ted & Paula Threadgill
4/6	Stephen & Beth Luxford	4/23	Michael & Meredith Baragona
4/7	David & Marcie Dershimer	4/25	Joe & Martha Burke
4/10	Carson & Kay Weeks	4.25	Bob & Linda Mishael
4/12	Lauren & Zane Schwenk	4/26	Shorter & Marcia Strang
4/13	Peter & Sarah Slocum		

### Our Purpose Statement

First Presbyterian Church  
637 6th Street, NW  
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 3/26/21.

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

#### Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 83 bag lunches  
the week of 3/15/21.

#### Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 38 people on 3/20/21.

Return Service Requested

## A DRIVE-BY SALUTE TO SAMMY BRYANT THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 12:15-12:45 PM

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.**