



TOWER CHIMES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WINTER HAVEN
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MAY 1, 2022 | ISSUE 862

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY, MAY 8



Please plan to join us on **Sunday, May 8** at a **single 10 am worship service** as we honor our church's five graduating High School Seniors: **Preston Allen, Kaylie Arnold, Tristan Barthel, Ally Britt, and Jake Tackett**. We will be presenting Bibles to our Seniors and hosting a reception in their honor immediately following the service.

ALL-CHURCH RETREAT, MAY 14-15



Registration is now open for a weekend away with our theme *Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices In Everyday Life*. With your church family, we'll discuss finding everyday rituals, vocational holiness, and savoring the goodness of God. Check out this year's brochure for more information and register today. Registration is available via the QR code, on our website, or a printed brochure at the church. Any questions, contact Rev. Sarah.

SATURDAY NITE LIVE, MAY 21



Saturday Nite Live returns **May 21 from 12 to 2 pm** here in the church parking lot. Our time together will include a pizza lunch, Jeep car show, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, vehicle competition with judging, and more! We are looking forward to a great day!

SPRING RING, MAY 22



Our First Pres Handbell Choirs are excited to bring back *Spring Ring* this year. The afternoon concert will feature a variety of musical selections by our Chancel Bells and Chapel Bells, as well as bell solos and small ensembles. Come join us on Sunday afternoon, **May 22 at 4 pm** in the Sanctuary. The concert will be followed by light refreshments in the Memorial Garden with music supplied by the Deagan chimes.

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

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.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, May 1

- 9:00 am Heart of Worship
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
10:10 am Children Sunday School (CE 206)
10:10 am Adult Sunday School (GR)
11:00 am Traditional Worship
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
5:30 pm High School Youth Group (GC)

Monday, May 2

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
5:00 pm Nominating Committee (GR)
6:00 pm Associate Pastor Nominating
Committee (MH)

Tuesday, May 3

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

Wednesday, May 4

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
3:30 pm Christ Kids (CE)
5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (GC)
6:00 pm Chancel Bells (MS)

Thursday, May 5

- 1:15 pm Chapel Bells (MS)
3:30 pm Praise Band (Sanctuary)

Friday, May 6

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)

Saturday, May 7

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



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

MEMBERS

Melvin & Debbie Anderson	Pam Gray	Dick McCauley
Kathy Andrews	Alan Harvey	Pat Miller
Pat Berrell	Jane Hayman	Edna Mitchell
Helen Champlain	Frances Heath	Richard Moots
Charlie Darte	Kay Hedden	John & Marilyn Schleifer
Marjorie DiLorenzo	Bryan Howard	Dick Shaw
Zan Dismuke	Jim Huff	Joyce Shirah
Dana Elmore	Scott & Becky Irvin	Susan Singleton
Bill Everhart	Martha Johnson	Susan Singleton
Til Fellows	Dena Lancashire	Dale Smith
Rossanne Gorsky	Ray & Gladys Larson	Katie Sparr
	Pat McCarty	Barbara Tackett

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Shelly Arnold	.....	Greg & Mary Marrs' friend
Jessica Bowles	.....	Peter Coppini's daughter
Charlotte Callen	.....	Marcie Dershimer's friend
Susie Fisher	.....	Rob Donaldy & Becky Everhart's cousin
Jasper & Sam Gray	.....	Lynn Oakley's friend
Dottie Griffith	.....	Becky Everhart's friend
Jim Hindley	.....	Mary Marrs' friend
Lori Houmard	.....	Rick & Pat Reass' daughter
Tamara Jacobson	.....	Autumn Jacobson's mom
Cindy Laeng & family	.....	Becky Everhart's friend
John Lauffer	.....	Peter Coppini's nephew
Trish & Reed Layne	.....	Larry Davis' friends
Khyla Martinez	.....	Paul & Ann Montgomery's granddaughter
Kelly Oakley	.....	Tommy Oakley's sister
Kristin Schmid	.....	Rick & Pat Reass' daughter

PLEASE NOTE

We update the Family & Friends prayer list periodically. If there is someone who needs to remain on the list, please call the church office.

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

2022 FLOWER CHART IS IN NARTHEX

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

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 winter address), please contact the church office so we can make sure you stay informed. Thank you.

CHRIST'S KIDS



As we enter the last month of Christ's Kids, culminating with their last day, Train Day at **Richard and Nancy Dobler's** home, May 18; the Christian Education committee would like to extend thank you to this year's volunteers. Thank you to **Angela Scamehorn, Becca Alexander, Erin Miler, Lindsey Ivey, Lisa Snyder, Mary Ellen Rowker** and **Sarah Counter**. A special thank you also is extended to our Director of Music, **Jeremy Rath** for engaging music time and leading the children in sharing their gifts with First Pres in worship. Thanks also to all the parents, and the Stamp Club for snacks this year.

YOUTH GROUPS



Come join us for food, fun, faith, and fellowship in the Golden Center! We are excited seeing all of our youth during this great school year! Middle schoolers meet on **Wednesdays at 5:30 pm**. High Schoolers meet on **Sundays at 5:30 pm**.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: THE HISTORY AND ARCHEOLOGY OF THE BIBLE



The work of historians and archaeologists opens a thrilling world of discovery, as they bring their methods and insights to bear on the beloved narratives of the Bible. This illuminating series stops at key moments of scripture, Old and New, to bring it to life with the latest historical and archaeological findings. Meeting in Geneva Room at **10:10 am** throughout the Spring.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL



Only 3 more Sundays remain for Sunday School at 10:15am in Room 206, with even one more of art! The Christian Education Committee would like to say thank you to the teachers who made this spring possible. Thank you to **Amy Powell, Amanda Olmert, Kay and Carson Weeks, Kathryn Thomas, Lisa Snyder, and Melissa Rowker**. Thank you for helping our youngest disciples grow in God's Love this year.

ANGELS CARE CENTER KIT-MAKING NEEDS



Angels Care Center has an ongoing need for the following items to give out in kits to patients and families. Thank you for your donations—they are a blessing to so many people, and truly an expression of God's love and care. Items may be placed in the collection box in McLeod Hall.

First Aid Kits: band-aids, wet wipes, small soaps, washcloths, Q-tips, cotton balls, small bacterial soap or hand sanitizer, Kleenex, etc.

Toiletry Kits: shampoo, soap, deodorant, razors, toothbrush and toothpaste, combs, lotion, hand gel, washcloths, small samples from hotel/motels, dental floss, etc.

Senior Sacks: lightweight tote bags, laundry detergent, Lysol wipes, denture tablets, notepads and pens, adult diapers, tea bags/hot chocolate mix and cups, activity pads/crossword puzzles, anything to brighten and make our seniors life easier and brighter. (we also put a toiletry kit and first aid kit in their bag)

Children's "Jesus Kits": coloring sheets with Biblical themes, crayons, stickers, small books, small containers of Play Doh, toy cars, hair clips

Special Summer Needs: sunscreen, insect repellent, deodorant

Miscellaneous: zip lock bags (snack, quart and gallon sizes)

A CONFIRMATION JOURNEY

On Sunday, April 24, we celebrated an important point in faith with 6 young people in our congregation, Confirmation.

On each Wednesday afternoon from mid-January through the end of April, several of our church's sixth, seventh, and eighth grade youth – **Brody Brescia, Lexie Gunderson, Brett Hunter, Madey Palomaki, Laura Sparr, and Madison Thomas** joined with our pastor, **Dr. Negley** and church member **Connie Shipley**, for an exploration of faith. Early on, each young person was presented with a new Bible from the congregation of First Presbyterian Church. These compact, hardcover New International Version student Bibles contain a wealth of study aids suited for believers of this age. Two weeks of our Confirmation training were spent “shaking hands with the Bible.” During our months together, we became familiar with the life of Jesus by reading the gospels one chapter each day.

As our months of meetings unfolded, we discussed the Christian year, the history of the Christian church and the PC(USA), worship, and personal faith. We also conducted a historical scavenger hunt around the church property, and looked at our church's confessions as we studied some banners and climbed to our church's secret hiding place. We made stoles that help express our faith in symbols. (Our thanks go out to **Jane Whitney** for sewing these beautiful stoles this year for our Confirmands.) The young people selected six symbols with which to adorn these. They wore their stoles on Bright/Confirmation Sunday.

One of our Confirmation highlights was our Retreat. From 6:00 pm on Friday, April 1 to 5:45 pm on Saturday, April 2, our group was marvelously busy. After climbing the steeple and enjoying an “organ crawl” hosted by **Jeremy Rath**, our Director of Music Ministries, we started work on writing individual statements of faith. Each Confirmand was invited to respond in writing to the prompt “To me God is ...” The full copies of their statements of faith are posted on a bulletin board in McLeod Hall.

The confirmation retreat also included an early morning trip to Publix where we shopped for food for the Saturday Soup Kitchen. For the last four hours of the 24 hour retreat, we prepared and served the meal for our Saturday Soup Kitchen.

Finally, on April 20, our young people were invited to share a meal with the Elders of the church. The conversation that night revolved around what we believe. The Session members read the statements of faith, and then joined them in responding to the questions which form the basis for membership in our church: *Is Jesus Christ your Lord and Savior? Do you trust Him? Do you intend to be His disciple, to obey His Word, and to show his love?*

We welcome these followers of Christ into new avenues of ministry. Please pray for these young people as they continue in their life of discipleship.







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:

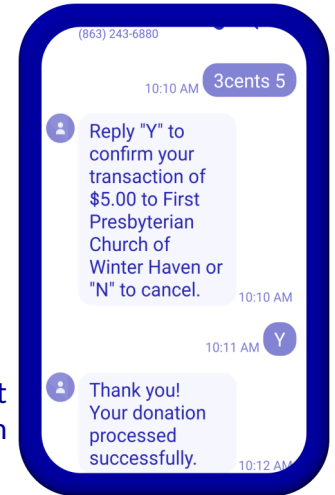
- Pledged (for your offering to be credited to your pledged amount for the current year)
- Offering (Non-pledge or undesignated gifts)
- Music (for Capital Music Campaign Organ/Music)
- 3cents (for 3 Cents-a-Meal)
- Memorial (for when donating in memory of someone)
- Special (for all other donations;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

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 office@firstpreswh.org and ask to be added to the list.



APRIL

BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5/1 Sara Hanks
James Koon
Sean Lawlor
Grace McKee
Margorie Porter
Punkin Smith
Bo Snively | Cheryce Harris
Ryan Irvin
Karen Premuto | 5/22 Bonnie Walter
Callie Weeks |
| 5/2 Lydia Badnell | 5/14 Taylor Anderson
Cindy Chilton
Pat Lincoski | 5/24 Tony Premuto
Jim Vobornik |
| 5/3 John Schleifer | 5/15 Linda Dinger
Kelli Ivey
Brad Salomon | 5/25 Alison Batista
AJ Brescia |
| 5/4 Tristan Barthel | Martha Seney | 5/26 CarLee Marchetti
Ashley Premuto
Randy von Hahmann |
| 5/5 Ray Larson
Joseph Lawlor
Jeri Stewart-Oldt
Barbara Tackett | 5/16 Harry Denlinger | 5/27 Lynda Coppini |
| 5/6 Don Martin | 5/17 Kial Irvin
Jacob Linn | 5/28 Garren Olmert |
| 5/7 Mark Bostick
Lilly Duce | 5/18 Cathy Bentley
Shea Irvin
Paul Montgomery | 5/29 Jason Bentley
Mia McCann
Rick Montney, Jr. |
| 5/9 Elizabeth Stewart
Ellen Zeller | 5/19 Courtney Massam | 5/30 Zeymond Jacobson
David Kalb
Michael Lawlor
Dillon Powell |
| 5/10 David Davidson
Jan Wales | 5/21 Dorothy Placenic
Porter Summers
Brett Swango | 5/31 Kris Dunham
Ann Meadows
Clark Porter
Andy Ray
Nancy Shaw |
| 5/11 Laura Sparr | 5/22 Bill Allen
Ethan Endres
Chalsey Lockhart
Laura Powell | |
| 5/12 Jeffrey Powell | | |
| 5/13 Yolanda Dyer | | |

ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 5/3 Dale & Melody Johnson | 5/21 Bob & Cindy Steele |
| 5/7 Robert & Chelle Doyel | 5/22 Patrick & Steffen Bentley |
| 5/12 David & Stephany Alexander | 5/23 Chuck & Ellen Tate |
| Brad & Kim Salomon | 5/24 Paul & Bo Palo |
| 5/14 John & Karen Clarke | 5/25 Weegie & Cathy Bentley |
| 5/17 Lee & Pam Wilkinson | 5/25 Charles & Brenda Darte |
| 5/19 Ken & Sue Henry | Aaron & Lindsay Thibodaux |
| 5/20 Peter & Lynda Coppini | 5/27 Justin & Nicki Hoagland |
| Shawn & Cori Swango | 5/31 David & Amanda Jo Nicholson |
| 5/21 Jon & Amy Powell | Bob & Julie Wilson |

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
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This newsletter is published weekly.
Church dated material, please deliver by 4/29/22.

Return Service Requested

Bag Lunch Ministry
We gave out 177 lunches
the week of 4/18/22. 

 **Soup Kitchen Ministry**
We fed 73 people on
Saturday, 4/30/22.

MONUMENTAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, JUNE 5-9



We'll be celebrating God's greatness at Monumental VBS **Sunday, June 5 – Thursday, June 9, 5:30-8 pm**. Registration is now open for children 3 years through 5th grade as participants. Teens and adults can volunteer as crew or station guides. Scan the QR code or visit the website to complete registration today! Can't join us? Check out the donation bulletin board for needed supplies. Also, contact Rev. Sarah if you have any special desert decorations you'd like to loan for the week to set the scene. Thanks, and we look forward to this howling good time!

ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE



The APNC is still working hard in the search to find a new Associate Pastor. The APNC would like to extend a special thanks to Rev. John Reiter for allowing them to have peace and comfort knowing he is doing great work here at First Pres while they continue their search. Please continue to pray for the committee and their work!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UP-COMING 2022 SINGLE SERVICE WORSHIPS



May 8 (with reception)	September 11
June 12 (with luncheon)	October 2
July 3 (with luncheon)	November 20
August 21	December 18