



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of May 6, 2018

Issue 671

132 Years of Ministry

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US ON SUNDAY, MAY 6

We will celebrate the upcoming graduations of our congregation's High School Seniors:

Ethan Boland	Sean Ivey	Til Fellows
Frieda Huang	Lydia Rennie	Madelaine Scamehorn
Phillip Batista	Caitlin Seney	Henry Claggett
Baron Swango	Aurora Walker	Ben Garner
Alexis Vanryswyk	Ashley Premuto	Laura Keplinger
Peyten Palo	Kasey Ray	
Tammi O'Neal	Sadie Owen	

We will recognize our Seniors at our 9:30 a.m. Heart of Worship Service and our 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service as we present Bibles to these young people at the service they normally attend. We will also celebrate with the entire group at a special reception in McLeod Hall between the later two services (the reception will be held from 10:30 – 10:55 a.m.)

We hope you will come and help us congratulate our Seniors on a job well done.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR VBS!!!

June 10 - 14

Shipwrecked

Registration forms will be available soon.

Katie Sparr is VBS director this year and she needs **YOUR** help. To volunteer for this special time for our young disciples, please contact Katie at 407-361-1412 or katiesparr15@gmail.com.

Get ready for an adventure to an uncharted island where kids are rescued by Jesus!



Dr. Steven R. Negley
Senior Pastor

Dr. C. Alan Harvey
Associate Pastor

Dr. James G. Manor
Parish Associate

Lynn M. McCoy
Director of
Music Ministries

Robin D. Miller
Director of Finance &
Administration

Leonard A. Mosiah
Director of Student
Ministries

Connie J. Shipley
Administrative Assistant

Rose S. Flynn
Office Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant
Director of Maintenance

Kathy L. Jackson
Custodian

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 6

- 8:15 a.m. Chapel Worship (Chapel)
- 9:15 a.m. The Connection (MH)
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School (CE)
- 9:30 a.m. Heart of Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School (CE)
- 10:35 a.m. Senior High Reception (MH)
- 11:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 p.m. Baccalaureate (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 p.m. HSYG (GC)

Monday, May 7

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
- 11:00 a.m. Lydia Circle (MH-Then Off-site)

Tuesday, May 8

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
- 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)
- 12:00 p.m. Sewing for Honduras (GSH)
- 6:00 p.m. Personnel (MCR)
- 7:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Band (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, May 9

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
- 10:45 a.m. Preschool Music (CE 103)
- 12:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds (MH)
- 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids (CE)
- 3:45 p.m. Christ Kids Bells (MS)
- 5:30 p.m. MSYG (GC)
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells (MS)
- 6:15 p.m. APNC (ER)
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MS)

Thursday, May 10

- 1:15 p.m. Chapel Bells (MS)
- 3:00 p.m. Membership (MCR)

Friday, May 11

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
- 4:00 p.m. HS Girls Bible Study (Off-site)

Saturday, May 12

- 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
- 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)



Our Christian sympathy goes to Sharon Ramseyer on the death of her mother, Muriel "Peg" Stoffer, who died on Tuesday, April 17, 2018.

Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

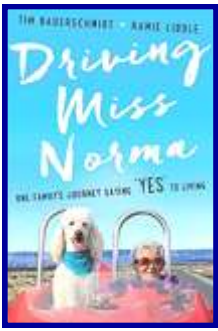
Roger Able	Kay Hedden	Randall Palmer
Maxie Adams	Doris Hill	Keith & Jane Ray
Becca Alexander	Ranell Hillman	Barbara Roberts
Joyce Anderson	Bryan Howard	Earle Roberts
Kathleen Avinger	Camille Howe	Elsie Savant
Bill Brack	Jim Huff	Beverly Seagreaves
Tom Brackett	Scott & Becky Irvin	Joyce Shirah
Henry Braun	Shea & Lacey Irvin	Mary Alice, Emma, &
Nancy Brooks	Martha Johnson	John Skipper
Helen Butz	Joey Johnston	Barbara H. Smith
Helen Champlain	Peggy Kennedy	Amy Speer
Tom Coffman	John Kissel	Scott Strey
Yolanda Dyer	Toni Krieger	Jay Tackett
Jana Easterling	Dena Lancashire	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Mike Easterling	Kathy Lockhart	Carolyn Thompson
Bill Everhart	Spike Lucia	John Van Allen
Rossanne Gorsky	Gregg Marrs	Jennifer Vibral
Clyde Greene	Larry Marshall	Lee Wilkinson
Jane Hayman	Lynnis Mincey	Judy Winfree
Joyce Hayman	Bev Morris	Retha Wright
Frances Heath	Nancy Neale	

Relatives & Friends

Reese Burdette	Dana Cole's cousin
Helen Cote	Norm & Bonnie Patrick's friend
Al Ellis	Jim Threlkel's friend
Don Howell	Jeff Bowen's stepfather
Pete Kent	Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
John McKibben	Jane Whitney's brother
Mike & Marilyn Melody	Lisa Endres' friend
Amy & John Miles	Bethany Owen's friend
Michael Oriani	Joe Oriani's brother
Mike Parker	Julia Parker, son
David Satterfield	Heather Whitney's friend
Kristy Turner	Rick & Pat Reass' daughter
Kevin Tobin	Gale Johnston's friend
Rick Tucker	Ben & Judy Tucker's son
Jeannie Weeks	Marile Weeks sister-in-law
Jerry Williams	Steve Negley's friend
Marshall Wood	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend



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



ARE YOU READING FOR OUR NEXT Odd Month, Odd Monday Book Club?

May 21: *Driving Miss Norma* by Tim Bauerschmidt and Ramie Liddle.

We will meet in the back of McLeod Hall at 3 p.m.
for discussion and light refreshments.

Please RSVP by calling 294-3121 or emailing office@firstpreswh.org.

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AND FOR THE REST OF 2018...

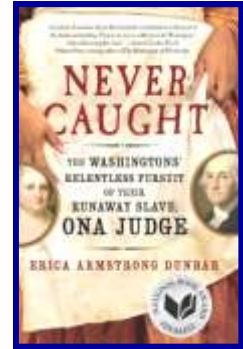
July 18: *Never Caught* by Erica Armstrong Dunbar

September 17: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

November 19: *The 13th Gift* by Joanne Huist Smith

52 Little Lessons from A Christmas Carol by Bob Welch

Copies will soon be available in the Price Library or you may contact Jonathan or Bethany Owen about ordering a copy for you.



We could use your help...



as a substitute care-giver in our church nursery. Do you like spending time with God's smallest children? We have a wonderful staff who regularly provide child-care in our church nursery on Sunday mornings, but occasionally those folks need some time away.

If you would be willing to serve as a substitute (we would arrange with you well in advance) please call (294-3121) or email (rmiller@firstpreswh.org) Robin Miller, our Director of Finance and Administration to get your name on our nursery substitute list.

Thanks.

DO YOU LIKE TO SEW? WE NEED YOU!

We are sewing SUNDresses for Honduras pre-school girls. We gather in the Girl Scout House on **Tuesdays from 12 to 2 p.m.** (Bring a sack lunch.)

NEEDED: Sew either at church or in your own home.

Drop by, pick up some material, cut a pattern, cut material, sew or just say "Hi"; any or all work for us.

For details please contact Lydia Circle member Sharon Mitchell 419-332-5268.



CAN YOU HELP US SPRUCE UP THE FLOWER BEDS?



The Buildings and Grounds Committee needs help in sprucing up the church grounds. We want to thank the Middle School Youth for helping spread a small mountain of mulch in the playground and many of our sanctuary area flower beds.

We are planning to **WORK EVENINGS** – to refresh to the two flower beds that border the main entrance driveway off Sixth Street. We are seeking volunteers on **TUESDAY, MAY 15, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.** and **THURSDAY, MAY 17, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.** We plan to work one flower bed at a time, removing old plants and groundcover and then planting new bushes and spreading mulch.

Please join us for one or both of our work-evenings as we beautiful God's house.

A Confirmation Journey

Today, we celebrate an important point in faith with 5 young people in our congregation, Confirmation.

On each Wednesday afternoon from mid-January through the end of April, several of our church's sixth Youth – Manderley Barthel, A.J. Brescia, Landon Olmert, Michael Premuto, and Riley Hicks joined with our pastor, Dr. Negley, and church members Connie Shipley and Susan Singleton, for an exploration of faith. Early on, each young person was presented 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. Three weeks of our Confirmation training were spent “shaking hands with the Bible.”

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 Dana Elmore, who has sewn these beautiful stoles again this year for our Confirmands.) The young people selected six symbols with which to adorn these. They are wearing their stoles today.

One of our Confirmation hi-lights was our Retreat. From 6:00 p.m. on Friday, April 6 to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 7, our group along with Steve and Susan (and overnight chaperone Jen Barthel, morning chaperone and Director of Student Ministries Leonard Mosiah, and tower chime ringers Dave Zwicker and Richard Dobler) were marvelously busy. After climbing the steeple and an “organ crawl” hosted by Lynn McCoy, 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 ...” On the other side of this insert, you will find excerpts from the statements of faith that each of these young people composed during Confirmation. (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, families of the Confirmands joined us as we prepared and served the meal for our Saturday Soup Kitchen.

Finally, on April 25, 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?

Some of these 5 young people will be baptized today as they profess their faith in Jesus Christ. Other members of our Confirmation Class were baptized as infants or children and will join the church as they affirm for themselves the promises that were made for them by their parents at baptism. Please pray for these young people as they continue in their life of discipleship.

He answers my prayers and protects me. He keeps me healthy and safe. He helps me with my problems and also he helps my family. He helps me stay calm

To Me, God Is

Statements of Faith by the members of the

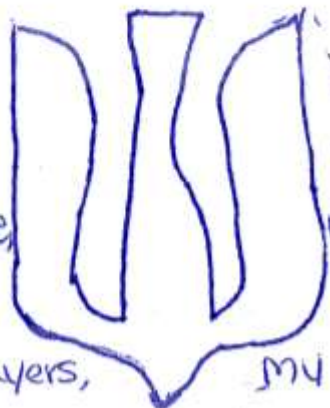
2018 Confirmation Class

God is the Creator of all things who sent his only son Jesus to die on the cross to deliver us from sin to open the gateway to heaven so that we can have an eternal life in him

He is kind and caring to all of his people
He heals us
He gives me peace
He gives us other chances that we do not deserve

I think of God as the creator and savior. God sees us all differently but in all of us he also sees himself. Jesus is our lord. I trust God and Jesus Christ. Jesus died to save us. We all look to God for advice.

He is smart and
He will answer
God is caring to me,
friends. I trust
will answer my prayers,



intelligent.
your prayers,
my family, and my
in God because he
my family's, and my

Scenes From Confirmation Sunday and 5th Sunday Luncheon



Join Us on the Lord's Day

Worship



8:15 a.m. Chapel Worship

A traditional worship service is held in our chapel. The service follows the same order as the 11:00 a.m. worship, does not have a Chancel Choir. Musical ensembles offer special music on many Sundays. A Time with Younger Disciples is included when we have children in attendance.

9:30 - 10:25 a.m. Heart of Worship

A Praise and Worship service is held in our sanctuary. Along with scripture, sermon, and prayers, a praise band helps the congregation in adoring and showing reverence to God. Following the Time with Younger Disciples, children are invited to join Ms. Lynn in music and then to join in their own Children's Sunday School Classes.

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

A traditional worship service is held in our sanctuary. The service follows the same order as the 8:15 a.m. 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 A.M.

Fellowship time in McLeod Hall offers a coffee bar type selection with different flavored creamers, pastries, etc. It is a gathering place before (or after) worship, and between worship and Sunday School for some.

Hosts circulate in McLeod Hall and the CE Building to greet and assist people in making connections with others in one of the worship or Christian Education options.



SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES



For Kids: We are learning more about Jesus - His life and ministry and leaders in the early church. Short videos, music, art, and Bible activities keep the kids coming back for more!

If your family attends the 9:30 a.m. service, kids age 4 and older worship with their families for the first part of the service. After the "Time with Younger Disciples," age 4 through grade 5 may be dismissed to the Christian Education building for music and classes until 10:45 a.m.

If your family attends the 11:00 a.m. service, come to the CE Building for music and classes from **10:00 until 10:45 a.m.**

For Adults: Who is the real Jesus? How can we experience the mystery, complexity, and richness of his spirituality and teachings in our lives today? *Living Jesus: Learning the Heart of the Gospel* by Luke Timothy Johnson elucidates the mystery of Jesus' resurrection and its central role in the Christian experience. It explores the diversity and fullness of the New Testament views of Christ, revealing how each book's perspective can deepen our understanding of Jesus. Profoundly insightful, *Living Jesus* offers valuable lessons on how we can accept the Gospels' powerful invitation to an authentic Christian spirituality. Join us in the Geneva Room from **9:30 until 10:30 a.m.**



Also For Adults: We are watching a video series by New Testament scholar Dr. Kenneth Bailey, as he uses his vast experiences in the Middle Eastern world (where Jesus first walked and talked) to help us unlock the wonderful meaning of some of the parables of Jesus. The group listens to Dr. Bailey's insights and discusses how each story told by our Lord touches our lives today. Join us at **9:30 a.m.** in Room 207 of the Christian Education building.

Our Purpose Statement

First Presbyterian Church
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Winter Haven, FL 33881
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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 5/4/18.

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

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 241 bag lunches
the week of 4/23/18.

Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 105 people on 4/28/18.

DID YOU KNOW?

A typical Sunday worship service includes: a prelude...often played on the organ; following the Call to Worship is a congregational hymn (4 verses), accompanied by the organ; then a sung response to a Prayer of Confession followed by an Assurance of Pardon and another choral response; then the offertory hymn sung by the choir with the organ and the Doxology with congregation and organ; the invitation to the children's worship sung by the congregation with the organ; then following the sermon is the second congregational hymn (4 verses), accompanied by the organ and we close our worship with the postlude which may include both the choir and the organ.



We are called to worship by music, we sing our praises in responses several times, we give our tithes to the accompaniment of music, we sing hymns and we follow the closing benediction with music as we leave the church.

Music adds so much to wonderful worship.