



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

## Tower Chimes

Weeks of May 12, 2019

Issue 713

133 Years of Ministry

### The Flamingos Are Returning To First Pres!

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

Robin D. Miller  
Director of Finance &  
Administration

Connie J. Shipley  
Administrative Assistant

Rose S. Flynn  
Office Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant  
Director of Maintenance

It's that time of year again when flocks of flamingos begin mysteriously arriving in the yards of unsuspecting church members. Please join in on the fun and take part in this fundraiser which helps support the youth summer trips. Participants of this event can pay \$20 to have someone else's yard "flocked" with flamingos. The flock will stay in the yard for 24 hours and then move on to a new location. Flamingo insurance may be purchased for \$40 to insure that NO flamingos end up in your yard. Or 'triple flock' a friend you really love for \$50. Members of our youth ministry programs will be selling both flockings and insurance after Sunday services.



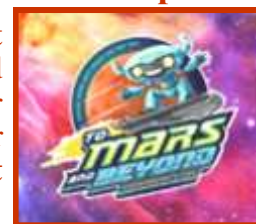
By fundraising for our summer trips, we are able to help lower the cost (typically between \$400-\$450 per youth) for the youth who are going. Thank you for ALL that you do to support our youth ministry programs! Thank you especially for supporting the Flamingo Fundraiser!

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**...is zooming in this summer!**

**Sunday, June 9 through Thursday, June 13 from 5:30 until 8 pm**

At *To Mars and Beyond VBS*, children, and their youth and adult leaders will enjoy interactive, energizing, and Bible-based good times as they explore where God's power can take them! Our voyagers will discover how to serve God and God's mission for their lives. **Registration for children, youth, and adult volunteers is on our website!**



Can't join us? Donations for supplies, decorations and snacks will be out soon! Questions? Contact Rev. Sarah at [sbishop@firstpreswh.org](mailto:sbishop@firstpreswh.org) or 294-3121.

# VBS!

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED



4X6 canvas boards; children's watercolor kits; glitter glue pens; old maps, googly eyes, tacky-craft glue; strands of fairy lights; plastic color table cloths- black, green, red, purple, orange & yellow (rectangle. Or circles); anything space or NASA-themed to help with decorations. If you would like anything returned after VBS, please add your name on the item.

Thank you and be on the lookout for Snack needs closer to VBS!

# OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

## Sunday, May 12 MOTHER'S DAY

- 8:00 am Chapel Worship
- 9:15 am Connection (MH)
- 9:15 am Heart of Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 am Sunday School (CE)
- 11:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 pm Praise Band (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 pm High School Youth Group (GC)

## Monday, May 13

- 8:45 am MOM (CE)
- 6:30 pm Christian Education (GR)

## Tuesday, May 17

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MCR)
- 12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH)
- 6:00 pm Personnel (MCR)

## Wednesday, May 15

- 8:45 am MOM (CE)
- 1:30 pm Congregation Care (MCR)
- 2:00 pm Memorial Garden (MCR)
- 3:00 pm Christ Kids (CE)
- 4:30 pm MSYG Music (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 pm MSYG (GC)
- 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study (MCR)
- 6:00 pm Chancel Bells (MS)
- 7:00 pm Choir (MS)

## Thursday, May 16

- 3:00 pm Odd Month Third Thursday at 3 Book Discussion (MH)

## Friday, May 17

- 8:45 am MOM (CE)

## Saturday, May 18

- 9:00 am All Church Retreat (Cedarkirk)
- 2:00 pm Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
- 4:00 pm Soup Kitchen (737)
- 7:30 pm Saturday Night Live (MH)

# Remember in Prayer

## MEMBERS

Marie Able	Joyce Hayman	Nancy Neale
Kathy Andrews	Frances Heath	Randall Palmer
Bill Brack	Kay Hedden	Bo Palo
Tom Brackett	Doris Hill	Barbara Roberts
Helen Butz	Bryan Howard	Earle Roberts
Helen Champlain	Bob & Isobel	Dave Ryan
Carl Cheatham	Hubbard	Cash Sheaffer
Charlie Darte	Jim Huff	Joyce Shirah
Patricia Dexter	Martha Johnson	Barbara H. Smith
Yolanda Dyer	Joey Johnston	Mary Ann Snively
Mike & Jana	John Kissel	Christine Stevens
Easterling	Toni Krieger	Scott Strey
Dana Elmore	Dena Lancashire	Barbara Tackett
Bill Everhart	Spike Lucia	Jay Tackett
Scott & Kathy	Bob McClew	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Girouard	Joan McCollough	Carolyn Thompson
John Gray	Matt McGaffigan	Pat Vobornik
Bob Hancock	Edna Mitchell	Gwen Waters
Jane Hayman	Bev Morris	

IN THE HOSPITAL: Tom Coffman & George Seagreaves

## Relatives & Friends

Sheryl Bachelder	Kit Threlkel's friend
Michael Branch	Jeff Bowen's friend
Reese Burdette	Dana Cole's cousin
Debra Cain	Tom & Jeri Oldt's sister-in-law
Jacqueline Dewdney	Kit Threlkel's friend
Al Ellis	Jim Threlkel's friend
Fred Hallmark	Jim Francis' friend
Jay & Gail Jones	Mary Marrs' friends
Pete Kent	Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
Linda Harris Leeds	Debbie Sowards' friend
Carol Moore	Roger & Marie Able's friend
Lettie Lane North	Jean Strang's sister
Bill & Judy Overlock	Kit Threlkel's friends
Hugh and Joyce Pemberton	Rick & Pat Reass' friends
Jack Phares	Nell Speer's friend
Tom Polak	Wade & Sandy Hoffman's friend
Sandy Schwenk	Zane Schwenk's mother
Kristy Turner	Rick & Pat Reass' daughter



## MILITARY

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



*Congratulations to Emily & Shad Skinner on the birth of their son, Miles Merlin Skinner, born Thursday, May 2, 2019. The proud grandparents are John & Marcia Eycleshimer.*

# 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 - 10:15 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 OPPORTUNITIES!

The last day for Sunday School before the summer worship schedule begins is **May 26**.

Be on the look-out for NEW educational opportunities this summer.

**Children's Sunday School** for PreSchoolers through 5<sup>th</sup> grade happening in the CE Building, **9:30 am (9 am on the First Sunday.)** Our children will activate faith with *Spark Lectionary* curriculum. Each class will engage the Biblical story of the day through creative, hands-on activities, interactive games, and crafts. Sunday School for preschoolers and kindergartners will meet in Room 101. Our elementary students will meet after music in Room 206. Sunday School ends at 10:30 am



**First Sundays – Sunday School at 9 am.**

## PERSPECTIVES SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY HAS BEGUN



This class is studying *Man's Search For Meaning*, a book by Dr. Viktor Frankl to guide discussion. Dr. Frankl and his family were sent to a Nazi concentration camp in 1942. There he would experience the death of his pregnant wife, both parents and brother. From that experience, he, as a psychiatrist, focused on human suffering. He reminds us that while we cannot avoid suffering, we can choose how to cope with suffering and even find meaning in the midst of our suffering, while we move forward with renewed purpose.

Our own faith will also guide this discussion-oriented class whose shared leadership welcomes you to join us 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 the Sunday rotation in the sound booth. **PLEASE!!**

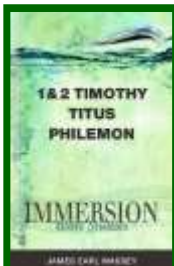


## ODD MONTH THIRD THURSDAY AT 3 BOOK DISCUSSION IS NEXT WEEK

*The Last Castle* by Denise Kiernan

Plan now to join us in the back of McLeod Hall on  
**Thursday, May 16 at 3 pm.**

The book is available for checkout from the library or Jonathan  
or Bethany Owen will order a copy for you.



### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IMMERSION BIBLE STUDY

We are diving deep into scripture with Paul's letters - 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon meeting in McCleod Hall at **6:00 pm.**

Contact Rev. Sarah to join us at 294-3121 or [sbishop@firstpreswh.org](mailto:sbishop@firstpreswh.org). Books are just \$10.00!

### CAN YOU SPARE JUST A LITTLE TIME?

Opportunity is knocking for an individual or a couple to pick up bread and desserts for our soup kitchen at the Winter Haven Square Publix, across from Legoland, on Saturday mornings.

This is on a rotation basis with other volunteers and a commitment of only three to four times a year. To volunteer or get more information, please call Alan at the church office 294-3121.



### THE LADIES ARE SEWING DRESSES FOR HONDURAS AGAIN

Come join us in the Girl Scout House  
the **Second Tuesday** of each month at **noon.**

### CALLING ALL KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS!

The prayer shawl group needs you! We meet the **4th Monday of the month (next meeting is May 27) at 10:30 a.m.** in McLeod Hall to knit/crochet together. We would love to have you come to our meetings. But... you don't need to be able to meet with us to participate.

You can knit or crochet at home. There is lots of yarn in the closet at the church. So please help us bring comfort to others with the lap robes and prayer shawls that we create. Any pattern you would like to use would be fine, but we usually keep things pretty simple.

We want to continue to be able to meet the need for the prayer shawls so your help will be greatly appreciated! Call the church office at 294-3121 if you have questions.



### WE HAVE AN EXTRA WAY OF GIVING!

Go to our Church website at [www.firstpreswh.org](http://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](mailto:rmiller@firstpreswh.org).

## MANY THANK YOUS ARE IN ORDER

Maundy Thursday would have happened, but the nice dinner enjoyed by folks would not have without our acting caterer, **Joyce Snively**, and the time and talents of: **Kelly Butz, Bonnie Patrick, Jackie Pinckney, Debbie and Steve Sowards, Nell Speer, Mary Bess Thompson, and Ellen Zeller.**

Easter would have happened, but the wonderful breakfast would not have without the time and talents of: **Toni Barger, Jackie Pinckney, Andy, Kasey, and Sherie Ray, Debbie Sowards, Glenn Thomas, Mary Bess, Devin and Miller Thompson, and Ellen Zeller.**

Bright Sunday would have come and gone like the twenty before this year, but not without the time and remarkable talents of **Bil and Jeff Keane**, cartoonists of *The Family Circus* and Jeff Keane's generous spirit granting us permission to use his and his father's artwork. **By the reception of the presentation, it is clear we do indeed love *The Family Circus!*** "Great!" "Best one yet!" and "Wow!" were just some of the comments received. [It was a labor of love and I thoroughly enjoyed poring through the book compilations and my clipped newspaper cartoons of *The Family Circus* over its fifty-nine year history. CAH]

We thank our talented and skillful musicians of the **Chancel Choir, Children's Choir, Jazzbyterians and Rooted**, all under the direction of our Director of Music Ministries, **Lynn McCoy**. We thank our clever audio/visual technicians: **Kade Rabern, Squire Smith, and Ariston Walker**. We thank our cast: **Merry Stewart Borowski** as the Mommy, **Brayden Olmert** as Billy, **Carley Rabern** as Dolly, **Kade Rabern** as Jeffy, **Garren Olmert** as PJ and yours truly as the Daddy. We thank **Kalen West** and **Amanda Olmert** for their skills in fine tuning the production of "**Comics Alive! Saints Alive!**" We thank our fabulous set designers: carpenter **Sam Bryant** and artist, **Amy Powell**. We thank **Connie Shipley** and **Rose Flynn** for the preparation of bulletins, photography and other odd jobs.

We thank **Peggy Davis** and **Gene Aspy** for preparing the cross for worshipers' floral contributions and offer kudos to Peggy for beautifying the Memorial Garden for Easter and Bright Sunday. We thank the **Iveys: Kelli, Sean, and Lindsey** for distributing the butterflies to those releasing them.

**Thank you one and all for your contributions to these events.**



## **A Confirmation Journey**

*Today, we celebrate an important point in faith with 8 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 – Audrey Bolin, McKenzie Cinquanti, Mia Cinquanti, Sarah Dugger, Calen Nowroozi, Carley Rabern, Lucy Schwartz, & Sawyer Speer 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 pm on Friday, April 6 to 6:00 pm on Saturday, April 7, our group along with Steve, Susan, Shipley, and Amy Speer 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 24 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?*

*Please pray for these young people as they continue in their life of discipleship.*



# GOD

- BRAVE
- STRONG
- LOVING
- WITHIN ME

## To Me God is ...

\* He is always with us, in us, and about us.

\* Loving and forgiving

\* Walks everyone around in God's eyes

## To Me, God Is ....

Statements of Faith by the members of the  
2019 Confirmation Classes at First Pres



God is the one  
who only seem to die  
on that cross to  
forgive our sins



To Me, God is my Savior and Father. With his love, HE has given

me the ability to breathe, to hear, to see, and to learn. HE is the one who

created land and water and had a son named Jesus, who took care

of others, and did for our sins. HE has created our unique and

special personalities.

God is also the Holy Spirit. It

helps us, and in us. Jesus had told his disciples that

his advocate, the Holy Spirit, would come to them after his

departure, and give them strength, to help them live with his

presence. I think of the Holy Spirit as God all around us,

helping us be kind and compassionate to all of our

brothers and sisters.

God is the friend, the Father,

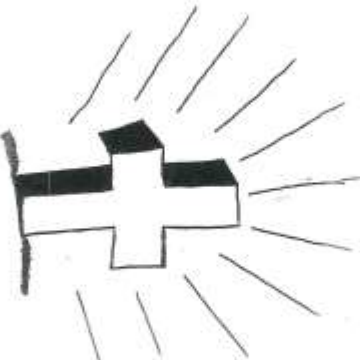
who we can always talk to and who is always there

for us. Whether we're feeling immense joy or terrible

sadness, or we've had the best day of our lives or

are going through a rough time, we can always talk

to him.



To me God is a Photographer. He is in control  
of the whole picture; when it is, when to smile,  
and all of the special effects. Jesus is the  
light inside of you to create a great photo.  
The Holy Spirit is the lighting and editing  
of the photo to make sure all of the  
effects are placed effectively.

I believe in the Trinity. I believe in it because  
to me it helps me to understand the Father, Son, and the  
Holy Spirit better.

Finally, if  
you look at the Trinity, all 3 sides are connected.



## Our Purpose Statement

First Presbyterian Church  
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Winter Haven, FL 33881  
863-294-3121  
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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 5/10/19.

Non-profit Org.

U.S. Postage Paid

Permit No. 1162

Lakeland, FL

### Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 215 bag lunches  
the week of 4/29/19.

We gave out 954 bag lunches  
in April 2019.

### Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 60 people on 5/4/19.

We fed 416  
in April 2019.

Return Service Requested

## When "Pull Yourself Together" Doesn't Work!



You've heard it time and time again: "Pull yourself together; Cheer up; Tough it out; It's not that bad." Perhaps people have said it to you. Or perhaps you keep saying it to yourself. But it hasn't helped. You are still hurting. Things are coming apart, not coming together.

Here's the good news: You don't have to go through your struggles alone. Help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers who will walk with you, listen to you, and provide confidential one-to-one care as you search through the pieces and find what is truly in your heart.

To learn more about Stephen Ministry for yourself or someone you know call **Susan Singleton at 318-9208**. Or you can talk with one of our other Stephen Leaders: **Alan Harvey, Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, Barbara Perkins, or Jean Strang**.