



# TOWER CHIMES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WINTER HAVEN  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MAY 22, 2022 | ISSUE 863

## 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 rides, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, vehicle competition with judging, and more! We are looking forward to a great day!

Got a Jeep? Contact the church office to sign up.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, MAY 22 AT 10:55 AM



Please join the hybrid Congregational Meeting **this Sunday, May 22 at 10:55 am**. We will hear the report of the Nominating Committee and elect Deacons and Elders. Please see slate with bios inside.

We need 101 members in attendance in this combined format to achieve our quorum. If you can not join in person, please join us by Zoom.

Check our website or your email for the Zoom link, or use these 7 steps:

1. go to <https://zoom.us/join>
2. enter Meeting ID **847 7356 6315**
3. click **Join**
4. click **Open Zoom Meeting**
5. enter your name and Meeting Password **637**
6. click **Join Meeting** and wait to join
7. see all your church family and wave "hi"

## SPRING RING, MAY 22 AT 4 PM



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.

## 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.*

### 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

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, May 22

- 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)  
4:00 pm Spring Ring (Sanctuary)  
5:30 pm High School Youth Group (GC)

### Monday, May 23

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

### Tuesday, May 24

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)  
12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH/Zoom)  
5:00 pm Stephen Leaders (MH-Back)  
6:00 pm Stephen Ministers (MH-Back)  
6:15 pm Worship & Music (MH)

### Wednesday, May 25

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)  
5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (GC)  
6:00 pm Chancel Bells (MS)  
7:00 pm Chancel Choir (MS)

### Thursday, May 26

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

### Friday, May 27

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)

### Saturday, May 28

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

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UP-COMING 2022 SINGLE SERVICE WORSHIPS

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



## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### MEMBERS

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

### FAMILY & FRIENDS

Shelly Arnold	Greg & Mary Marrs' friend
Jessica Bowles	Peter Coppini's daughter
Philip Burkhart	Lynn Oakley's friend
Charlotte Callen	Marcie Dershimer's friend
Susie Fisher	Rob Donaldy & Becky Everhart's cousin
Kathy & Ron Giuffre	Tom & Jeri's in-laws
Jasper & Sam Gray	Lynn Oakley's friend
Dottie Griffith	Becky Everhart's friend
Jim Hindley	Mary Marrs' friend
Lori Houmard	Rick & Pat Reass' daughter
Dia Hurst	Lee & Pam Wilkenson's friend
Jim & Belinda Hurst	Tom & Jeri Oldt's friends
Kevin Jackson	Doris Brack's friend
Tamara Jacobson	Autumn Jacobson's mom
Funner Judd	Lynn Oakley's friend
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
Les O'Neil	Sandra Hoffman's friend
Kristin Schmid	Rick & Pat Reass' daughter
Lindsey Tomlinson	Lee & Pam Wilkenson's friend

### 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

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 5-9



Scan the QR code to register today for Vacation Bible School. Registration is open for 3 years through 5<sup>th</sup> graders as participants and volunteers can be teens through adults.

It will be Monumental and a howling good time!

And don't forget to check the supplies bulletin board to donate needs for the week. Drop off in McLeod Hall.

## NOMINATED OFFICER'S BIOGRAPHIES

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE AT-LARGE ~ CLASS OF 2023

**LAURA FROST** was born in Harlingen, TX, graduated from Baylor University, and earned her Master's in Counseling and Development from Texas Women's University. She has worked as a teacher, school counselor, and part-time MTSS coordinator and currently is the school counselor at Brigham Academy. Laura was raised by wonderful Christian parents along with a nurturing group of family friends at Southland Baptist Church in San Angelo, TX. Laura and Rob met at Baylor and were married in 1995. Rob, Laura, Adam, and Ava moved to Winter Haven in 2006 and chose First Presbyterian Church for their programs for children and families and their outreach to the community. Laura has served in VBS, as a Sunday School teacher, a Deacon, and as a search committee member and nominating committee member.

**CHERYCE HARRIS** has been a member of First Presbyterian Church for 30 years. She has served the church as a faithful choir and bell choir member, youth volunteer, member of the Worship and Music Committee, a Deacon and an Elder and has been on several search committees. Cheryce is honored to be nominated to represent the congregation on the Nominating Committee.

**TOM OLDT** was born in Michigan and came to Florida as an infant. The Oldts joined First Presbyterian Church in 1947 and Tom's earliest memories include being tended to in the nursery (now the chapel) by church women who became like second mothers. He became a Cub Scout and then a Boy Scout with Troop 121, earning his Eagle at age 15, and was active in the church's youth group during high school. At the University of South Florida, from which he graduated, Tom participated in the Methodist Student Union. During the Vietnam War, he served in the U.S. Navy. After college he worked as a research librarian at The Washington Post, covered Congress as a writer for The Energy Daily, was a reporter for the St. Petersburg Times and a reporter and later a columnist for The Ledger, to which he currently contributes a monthly interview. In a short second career, he taught history, economics, and government at Winter Haven High. For the past 28 years he has served as a registered representative and general securities principal in the investment business and sits as an arbitrator for the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). Tom has served on a number of community boards and continues to serve on the boards of Historic Ritz Theatre and the GiveWell Community Foundation. He and his wife Jeri were married by Steve seven years ago. In years past Tom has been a choir member, a Honduras mission trip participant, an associate pastor search committee member, an Elder and a member of the nominating committee. He occasionally plays the Deagan chimes and the sanctuary piano for services.

**DILLON POWELL** was born in Columbia, MD and moved to Florida at a young age. He was raised in Winter Haven where he joined First Pres and was baptized by Dr. Negley. Since then, he has been heavily involved in the life of the church with the youth group, soup kitchen volunteering, a search committee, and Dillon's personal favorite, joining the church's praise band during his freshman year of high school in which he still plays in today. He recently graduated from Lakeland Christian School in the spring of 2020. He currently is attending college at the University of Florida in Gainesville where he is pursuing a major in Finance. Dillon is very thankful for all the opportunities granted by the church to grow as a Christian and as a person and looks forward to serving on the Nominating Committee.

**KATHRYN (KAY) GRAY WEEKS** was born and raised in Winter Haven. She is a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven member. Kay is married to Carson Weeks. Kay is currently the Senior Director of Accounting at Florida's Natural Growers in Lake Wales, FL. But not for long! She is retiring at the end of June after almost 36 years with the company. Kay has served as an Elder at First Presbyterian and a Sunday School teacher for longer than she can remember. She has also helped at VBS. Kay is looking forward to spending more time volunteering, playing with the younger Weeks, Cranmers and Grays upon her retirement. And building lots and lots of LEGOS with them! She also looks forward to spoiling her 3 dogs and 1 cat. And her retired husband of course. Kay is honored to be asked to serve on the Nominating Committee.

### ELDER ~ CLASS OF 2023

**AMY MCKEE** grew up in Winter Haven and has been actively involved at First Presbyterian her entire life. She grew up singing in the Crusader choir, attending Cedarkirk during the summer, participated in Middle School and High School Youth Groups, served as a Deacon and Youth Coordinator during college, went on three mission trips to Honduras, and enjoyed many other church related activities. She received her Bachelors in Business Management in 2002 from the University of Central Florida and her Masters in Business Administration from Warner University in 2009. In 2012, Amy married Joe McKee. They have three children; Jonathan (7), Timothy (5), and Grace (2). Amy served as Director of Christian Education at First Presbyterian Church from 2006-2016. Amy is honored that she has been asked to serve as an Elder.

*I can do all this through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13 NIV*

## ELDER ~ CLASS OF 2025

**BRUCE EELMAN** was born in Tucson, Arizona in 1946, but grew up and lived most of his life in NJ. While there, he met and later married his wife, Kate, in 1968. A U.S. Navy veteran, he graduated from Rutgers University with a B.S. in Business. He was active in the Boy Scouts while his two sons were growing up, both of whom became Eagle scouts. Bruce was employed by several firms, most notably as Director of Manufacturing for Chanel, Inc. in New Jersey, and later for Aquarium Pharmaceuticals in Pennsylvania. He retired in 2008 and shortly afterward relocated to central Florida where he joined First Presbyterian Church. He has served as an elder for Brick Presbyterian Church and looks forward to serving in that capacity at First Pres. His interests are traveling, auto racing, and classic boats.

**PEGGY DAVIS** was born and raised in Winter Haven. The only child of Frank and Delores Pride, she grew up around and in the orange groves on Eloise Loop, Thompson Nursery, Lake Ruby and Little Lake Winterset. She still resides on the family property minus the orange groves. As a young child she attended Eagle Lake Baptist and years later was married in the same church. After graduating from Winter Haven High, she attended Florida State University, majoring in "Social Interaction". As her boys began their Christian education at Grace Lutheran School, she renewed her "social interaction", becoming active in the community. Keeping ties with FSU, she has served on the Seminole Booster Board, Booster Area Chairman, and President of the Polk Seminole Boosters. Her interest in fauna, flowers was bolstered by membership in The Garden Club of Winter Haven, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Florida Flower Show Judges Council, Winter Haven Council of Garden Clubs, ultimately establishing her own business, Floral Affair. She has volunteered with Meals on Wheels, Banker's Cup, Keep Winter Haven Clean and Beautiful, Good Shepard Hospice, Hospital Foundation and proudly, a Girls Inc. "She Knows Where She's Going" recipient. At First Presbyterian, she is a member of the Joy Circle, Congregational Care Committee, Sanctuary Committee and volunteers in the care and maintenance for the Memorial Garden. Her husband, Larry Davis, has served as an elder in the Lutheran church and a deacon at First Presbyterian. They have two sons, Terry and Scott. She is honored to be nominated as elder.

**AMANDA-JO NICHOLSON (AJ)** was born in Yorkshire, England in 1971. Prior to coming to the United States, she had a long career with Barclays Bank. This career encompassed many roles, from junior office member, to Bank Branch Manager, Sales & Service Trainer and culminated in her role as the Regional Director of Mortgage Sales & Compliance. In 2006, AJ and her husband David, moved to the United States. Quickly establishing Winter Haven as their "forever home", they adopted their little dog Jake in 2011 and became American citizens in 2014 – a day AJ describes as (next to her wedding day) the best day of her life. They became members of First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven in 2015 and Steve baptized AJ on that very same day. AJ has served the Winter Haven community in many capacities, as the Chamber of Commerce's Vice President of Member Services from 2009 to 2021, and in her current role as Chief Executive Assistant to the City Manager's Office at the City of Winter Haven. She is a graduate of Leadership Winter Haven, Leadership Polk and the Winter Haven Police Department's Leadership Advisory Council, a Past Board member and Board President of Girls Incorporated of Winter Haven, the Kiwanis Club of Winter Haven, Habitat for Humanity of East Polk County and an active supporter of many other community organizations. She was voted Leadership Alumni of the Year in 2019 by her peers for her work in the Winter Haven community at large. AJ is currently a member of the Community Outreach Committee and is excited for the opportunity to continue her journey in Christ, further her commitment to our church, and hopes to be a valuable member of the Session.

**T. MICHAEL STAVRES** was born in Indiana, PA and moved to Winter Haven with his family in 1978. He has been a member of First Presbyterian Church his entire time in Winter Haven. He has been married to his wife Charlotte since 1993, and they have one daughter, Delanie. T. Michael has worked for the City of Winter Haven since 2001 and currently serves as the Deputy City Manager. He holds a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Recreation & Leisure Services Administration, and is a Distinguished Alumnus of Polk State College. He is a Credentialed Manager through the ICMA, a Certified Public Manager, a Certified Parks & Recreation Professional, and is a former President of the Florida Recreation & Park Association. He is a graduate of Leadership Polk, and is a Distinguished Alumnus of Leadership Winter Haven. T. Michael was a Founding Board Member for Cypress Junction Montessori Charter School and a Founding Board Member of the Public Education Partnership of Winter Haven. He is presently a Trustee for All Saints Academy. He previously served as a Deacon for First Presbyterian Church.

## DEACON ~ CLASS OF 2025

**DEBBIE ANDERSON** Deborah Anderson was born in Ypsilanti, Michigan and grew up in the Louisville, Kentucky area. She moved to Winter Haven full-time after she and her husband retired in 2008. Deborah received a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology from Old Dominion University and a Masters of Science degree in social work from the University of Louisville. She retired from the Louisville VA Medical Center where she worked as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker specializing in mental health treatment. Deborah is married, has two children, two grandchildren and a beautiful new great granddaughter. She also has two fur babies. She spends her time as caregiver for her husband and her parents. She also enjoys reading, gardening and baking. She is a member of PEO and enjoys helping with community service projects, including serving as head cook for the Saturday soup kitchen. She loves First Presbyterian Church and looks forward to serving the church in any way possible by becoming a Deacon.

**BETTS HUFF** lived her growing-up years in Oriskany, a small village in upstate New York. Her Christian education began as a small child at the local Presbyterian church. Where she has been a member until recently when she joined First Presbyterian. She is married to Jim Huff who is in assisted living due to a stroke 12 years ago. They have not been blessed with children. Her employment started as a travel agent then, group sales at Marriott and Westin Hotels. She currently writes children 's books. She has travelled extensively and has visited all continents except Australia. Betts served as an elder in her home town church and looks forward to expanding her involvement at First Presbyterian as a deacon.

**ELIZABETH NEPUTE** was born in Tampa, Florida. She is a 2017 graduate of Winter Haven High School and graduated from Polk State College with her Associates in Arts degree in 2020. Elizabeth was baptized at First Presbyterian Church in Lake Wales at the age of 4. She later moved her membership to First Presbyterian Church in Winter Haven in 2011 attending confirmation class as well as becoming an active member in the middle school youth group, and later the high school youth group. She was able to attend both Great Escape and Montreat several times as well as the Montreat College conference and felt that each conference helped her grow more in her faith. Elizabeth also joined the handbell choir at First Pres to be able to share her gift and passion of music with others and has occasionally performed handbell solos for Sunday worship services over the last several years. Elizabeth is honored to have been nominated to be a Deacon and is excited for this new path and opportunity to serve!

**CANDY MARSHAL** was born and raised in Winter Haven, Fl. She was raised in First Presbyterian and feels it is her home here in Winter Haven. She attended local schools and graduated from WHHS and has remained active with friends and being a part of the committee for reunions. She graduated from University of Florida with a BSBA. She is a loyal Gator fan and enjoys Florida football. Candy married Larry Marshall at First Presbyterian in 1973. They had 2 children, Dusty and Courtney. She was very active in all of their activities. She taught and helped with Christ Kids. Candy worked at Scotty's Homebuilders Corporate office, Carroll Marshall Insurance, and now owns the Agency and runs it along with her son, Dusty. Candy feels blessed and honored to be nominated as a Deacon, and hopes to serve and help the wonderful congregation at First Pres.

**JENNA VOLPE** was born and raised in Winter Haven, FL. She has attended First Presbyterian Church for as long as she can remember, and has spent many years attending Christ Kids, Vacation Bible School, Youth Group, Great Escape, Montreat, and any other church activity that she could fit in her schedule. Jenna received a Bachelor of Science in Recreation, Tourism, and Events Management from Florida State University, and her Master of Education in Professional Counseling from the University of West Georgia. She has now settled back in Winter Haven, and is enjoying life at the Volpe Farms avocado farm while working in Employee Relations for a Staffing Firm. In her free time, Jenna loves playing with her dog Twinkie, traveling, baking, and being outside.

First Presbyterian Church  
637 6th Street, NW  
Winter Haven, FL 33881  
863-294-3121  
www.firstpreswh.org  
office@firstpreswh.org  
Facebook.com/FPCWinterHaven

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Lakeland, FL

**This newsletter is published weekly.**  
Church dated material, please deliver by 5/20/22.

**Return Service Requested**

**Bag Lunch Ministry**  
We gave out 189 lunches  
the week of 5/9/22. 

 **Soup Kitchen Ministry**  
We fed 100 people on  
Saturday, 5/14/22.

## FLAMINGOS ARE BACK!



Are you wondering how you can support the youth group AND put a smile on your neighbor's face? Wonder no more because the answer is here – participate in our Flamingo FUNdraiser! It's as easy as 1, 2, 3:

**Step 1:** Look for the sign-up table as you leave the sanctuary after Sunday service.

**Step 2:** Order flamingos to put in the yard of your choice.

**Step 3:** Relax and enjoy the show!

### OPTIONS:

1 flock: \$30

2 flocks: \$50

Flamingo Insurance (to ensure your home doesn't get flocked): \$40

Flocking will run from **May 11 to May 27**. All donations will go toward our youth summer trips. You can sign up at church on Sundays after service or fill out the form below and drop it off or mail it to the church office along with your donation. Thank you!

Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Recipient Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Recipient Address: \_\_\_\_\_