



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of May 24, 2020

Issue 759

134 Years of Ministry

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

Emily G. Snyder
Director of
Student Ministries

Robin D. Miller
Director of Finance &
Administration

Connie J. Shipley
Administrative Assistant

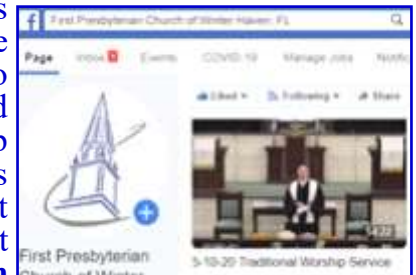
Rose S. Flynn
Office Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant
Director of Maintenance

Tonia L. Milbry
Custodian

BEING A CHURCH WHILE FACING A VIRUS

We want to be the faithful body of Christ in this time of uncertainty. To address the spread of the Coronavirus, many of our meetings have moved to Zoom. Since public health officials have requested churches to refrain from holding public worship services, we have our Sunday services **STREAMED ON FACEBOOK LIVE** at <https://www.facebook.com/FPCWinterHaven/> at **9:15 am** (Heart of Worship) and **11:00 am** (Traditional). You do not need a Facebook account to join us. Simply use the link above. Videos of weekly worship are also posted on our website by Sunday afternoon.



PLEASE HELP US STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOU. Email **Connie** at the church office at cshipley@firstpreswh.org so that we can add you to our system for email updates. Also check our Facebook page for meeting and activity updates.

And remember

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble.
Psalm 46:1

WHEN CAN WE ALL COME BACK TO CHURCH?

That's a question that most of us are asking. And your church leaders are working toward and praying for an answer.

The Session has appointed a Task Force on Re-Opening the Church. To date, the members of the Task Force (elders **Richard Baker, Cheryce Harris, Paul Montgomery, Jean Strang, Kit Threlkel, and Steve Negley**, pastor) have met twice via ZOOM. They are reviewing information from the CDC, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and the Presbytery of Tampa Bay, and local and state health officials, as they begin by considering two questions: 1) What criteria should be achieved before First Pres re-opens for public, in-person worship? And 2) What will public worship look like when we all first come back to the church facilities?

The Task Force will be reporting soon to the Session which will discuss, deliberate, and prayerfully decide the next step in our returning to 637 Sixth Street as the church.

Please keep the members of the Task Force, the Session, and the congregation in your prayers as we continue as the Body of Christ together.



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 24

- 9:15 am Heart of Worship (Facebook Live)
- 11:00 am Worship (Facebook Live)
- 7:00 pm High School Youth Groom (Zoom)

Monday, May 25 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, May 26

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)
- 12:00 pm Men's Lunch (Zoom)
- 4:00 pm Music Director Search (Zoom)
- 5:00 pm Stephen Minister Leaders (Zoom)

Wednesday, May 27

- 5:00 pm Confirmation (Zoom)
- 5:45 pm Community Outreach (Zoom)
- 7:00 pm Middle School Youth Group (Zoom)

Thursday, May 28

Friday, May 29

Saturday, May 30

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

VBS ANNOUNCEMENT

Hear ye! Hear ye! All ye Kings and Queens, Knights and Nobles!



By royal decree, the difficult decision has been made to cancel the in person summer gathering of knights known as VBS. All our knights, instead, will begin a summer quest at home, checking in twice monthly to be sure they are indeed armoring up with love, truth, and faith. On the

2nd and 4th Wednesdays June-August First Pres castle will host ZOOM gatherings with VBS music, Bible stories and prayer. Rev. Sarah will also be dropping off monthly craft activities for knights and nobles as well. Please watch for the royal announcement of times for our knights, nobles, and their families to connect via ZOOM.

Until then, it is joyfully advised to *“be strong in the Lord and the strength of His power”* Ephesians 6:10 – Rev. Sarah, First Pres Castle.

Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

Marie Able	Frances Heath	Barbara Roberts
Melvin & Debbie Anderson	Kay Hedden	John Schleifer
Kathy Andrews	Doris Hill	Lauren Schwenk
Pat Berrell	Shirley Hines	George Seagreaves
Orrin & Helen Champlain	Bryan Howard	Cash Sheaffer
Carl Cheatham	Isobel Hubbard	Bob Sheffield
Charlie Darte	Jim Huff	Joyce Shirah
Marjorie DiLorenzo	Martha Johnson	Barbara H. Smith
Yolanda Dyer	Bill Johnston	Ed Smith
Jana Easterling	John Kissel	Dale Smith
Dana Elmore	Dena Lancashire	Joel Smith
Bill Everhart	Eric Lindstrom	Christine Stevens
Jim Francis	Spike Lucia	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
John Gray	Pat McCarty	Carolyn Thompson
Jane Hammette	Bob McClew	Ellie Threlkel
Jane Hayman	Edna Mitchell	Mike Vibral
Joyce Hayman	Nancy Neale	Gwen Waters
	Lynn Oakley	Sug Zowarka
	Arletta Oriani	

Relatives & Friends

Belle Barris	Lauren Schwenk's friend
Jessica Benton	Nikki Hoagland's cousin
Joe Boyce	Mary & Greg Mars' friend
Sheri Braun	Margaret Braun's friend
Steve Dobler	Rich Dobler's brother
Jean Ann & Blake Doyle	Ben & Judy Tucker's friend
Dottie Fairchild	Bob Hines' sister
Susie Fisher	Rob Donaldy and Becky Everhart's cousin
Tom Francis	Jim Francis' brother
Allison Futch	Lynn Oakley's friend
Debbie Futch	Lynn Oakley's friend
Lynda Giles	Polly Wilson's niece
Christy Hemenway	Bob & Lisa Endres' friend
Sidney Hilliard	Tillie Montney's mother
Kate Hurd & family	Kathy Cheatham's friend
Cherri Jordan	Ed Smith's sister
John Kluberg	Nancy Dobler's brother
Jim Marrs	Greg Marrs' brother
Carol Moore	Roger & Marie Able's friend
Jackie Murphy	Lynn Oakley's friend
Paula Penna	Steven Lockhart's friend
Sydney Alexis Rich	Bill & Becky Everhart's friend
Joan Richter	Lynn Oakley's friend
Kristy Russ	Tom & Jerri Oldt's friend
Toni Shaw	Candy Marshall's friend
Deborah Strother	Sandy Hoffman's friend
Andy Vogt	Susan Singleton's friend
Jeanie Williamson	Jackie Pinckney's friend

MILITARY

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

CHRIST KIDS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

While our programming for kids may not be meeting in person, our children and families do have the opportunity to grow in their faith at home! Families are being sent weekly a Bible lesson. Included are activities, games and creative projects all which are available when they need it. As families feel safe, we have kept our playground open on **Wednesdays, 3-5pm.**

Each week's lesson is being sent via email. So, please let Rev. Sarah (sbishop@firstpreswh.org) know if you would like to receive it as well.



YOUTH GROUP ZOOM WILL CONTINUE THROUGH SUMMER



During this challenging time, our youth groups are meeting weekly by Zoom meetings. We are doing lessons and enjoying each other's company on video chats until we can start meeting in person again.

High School: Sunday at 7pm
Middle School: Wednesday at 7pm

Emily Snyder has also created an Instagram account where she is posting devotionals every few days to keep your hearts filled with a little bit of Jesus during this crazy time! The account can be found on Instagram if you search **fpcwh_youth**. If you don't have an account, but still want to receive the devotions, here is the link: [instagram.com/fpcwh_youth](https://www.instagram.com/fpcwh_youth).

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE THROUGH SECUREGIVE

Go to our Church website at 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.

TEXT TO GIVE AT SECUREGIVE: 863-243-6880

1. Donor texts the keyword and amount (ex. Tithe 100 – **There must be a space between the keyword and amount**, to the above number. Other keywords can be: three cents or other.)
2. First time text donors receive a text with a link to sign into their SecureGive account or create a new one. A quick video with Robin walking through these steps is on our website.
3. Donor signs in or creates an account and saves a default payment method to be used for text giving.
4. When this is complete, donor receives a confirmation that their first text donation has been processed. They will also receive an email receipt.



The next time the donor would like to give by text, they simply type the keyword and amount and will receive a request to confirm with **Y**. After replying, they will receive a text confirmation that their donation was processed and will receive an email receipt everytime they give.

****We recommend that the donor save *First Presbyterian Church* text number as a contact in their phone for future use****

****Donors can text a question mark “?” to be sent helpful tips.**

****Donors can text STOP to de-activate text giving from their phone. If they have texted STOP at any point, they must text START to get re-started.**

Robin Miller is available to assist you during office hours at 294-3121 or email rmiller@firstpreswh.org.

Our Purpose Statement

First Presbyterian Church
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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 5/22/20.

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

Return Service Requested

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 164 bag lunches
the week of 5/4/20.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 70 people on 5/9/20.

LOCAL MINISTRIES NEED OUR HELP

The ministries supported by our church can use our help now more than ever. The Deacons have been in contact with those ministries to inquire about their current needs. If you wish to help, please consider the needs of this valuable partner in our community.

Polk Training Center

This nonprofit operates a Day Training program for adults with developmental disabilities. They utilize plant sales from their nursery to help support this vital program. Currently, they are open by appointment only. They have a supply of annuals, perennials, and shrubs. Inventory changes daily. Contact Linda West at 863-956-1620 or visit polktrainingcenter.org for more information.



OUR FEEDING MINISTRIES

We are blessed to be able to continue serving the hungry of our community with bagged lunches during the week and the Saturday Soup Kitchen.

If you would like to serve the church by volunteering in either of the capacities, please call the office at 294-3121.

