



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

# Tower Chimes

Week of November 1, 2020

Issue 782

134 Years of Ministry

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

Emily G. Snyder  
Director of  
Student Ministries

Robin D. Miller  
Director of Finance &  
Administration

Connie J. Shipley  
Administrative Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant  
Director of Maintenance

Tonia L. Milbry  
Custodian

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:20-10:20 AM AND THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM FOR NOVEMBER IS UP!

Sunday School continues for our children (PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade) after the time with younger disciples in the Heart of Worship service.



This One Room Class will be meeting in **Room 203**. And ART on the third Sunday will be meeting in **Room 207**. Rev. Sarah has also set up a virtual classroom for families to do Bible Study at home! Monthly lessons will be available at the start of each month. November is now on the church website. Check the Children's tab under Connections.

## VIRTUAL COFFEE GATHERING NOVEMBER 1, 10:20 – 10:45AM

Grab your morning beverage of choice and log-in to Zoom for an informal gathering with your church family! Follow the link below Sunday morning, Nov. 1 at 10:20am and say hello! Those comfortable gathering in-person can grab a seat in McLeod Hall and join the conversation as well. To join by Zoom, follow the steps below:

1. Go to: <https://zoom.us/join>
2. Enter Meeting ID: **943 8130 1830**
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 your church family and say 'hi!'



## 1<sup>ST</sup> THURSDAY YOUNG ADULT GATHERING



Come join the Young Adults at First Pres for their monthly gathering! This month we will be meeting at the Golden Center for dinner and time of fellowship. Bring your own dinner/take out and we will have drinks and dessert for you!

**When: Thursday November 5 at 6pm**  
**Where: Golden Center**

# Opportunities this Week

## Sunday, November 1 ALL SAINTS DAY

- 9:00 am Heart of Worship  
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
- 9:25 am Children's Sunday School (CE 207)
- 10:20 am Zoom Coffee Time (MH/Zoom)
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship/Baptism  
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
- 5:30 pm High School Youth Group  
(GC Backyard)

## Monday, November 2

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
- 6:00 pm Officer Training (MH/Zoom)

## Tuesday, November 3

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

## Wednesday, November 4

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
- 4:00 pm Christ Kids (CE)
- 5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group  
(GC Backyard)
- 6:00 pm Young Adult Dinner (GC)

## Thursday, November 5

- 3:00 pm Membership (MCR)

## Friday, November 6

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)

## Saturday, November 7

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

### OUR PASTORS ARE EAGER TO VISIT OUR HOSPITALIZED MEMBERS, BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP

The tightening of HIPAA regulations has meant that we have missed visiting some of our members during their hospital stay. If you are a member or a friend of this congregation, or you have a family member admitted to *any* hospital, please call the church office and let our pastors know.



**Thank you for helping us stay in touch  
with the congregation!**

### MILITARY

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

# Remember in Prayer

## MEMBERS

- |                          |                    |                         |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Marie & Roger Able       | Joyce Hayman       | Edna Mitchell           |
| Melvin & Debbie Anderson | Frances Heath      | Bethany Owen            |
| Kathy Andrews            | Kay Hedden         | Barbara Roberts         |
| Pat Berrell              | Doris Hill         | George Seagreaves       |
| Orrin & Helen Champlain  | Bryan Howard       | Bob Sheffield           |
| Carl Cheatham            | Isobel Hubbard     | Joyce Shirah            |
| Charlie Darte            | Jim Huff           | Dale Smith              |
| Marjorie DiLorenzo       | Martha Johnson     | Joel & Barbara H. Smith |
| Zan Dismuke              | Dena Lancashire    | Linda Stavres           |
| Jana Easterling          | Betty Lewis        | T. Michael Stavres      |
| Dana Elmore              | Eric Lindstrom     | Christine Stevens       |
| Bill Everhart            | Spike & Jane Lucia | Pam Tallent-Blackburn   |
| John Gray                | Beth Luxford       | Mike Vibral             |
| Pam Gray                 | Mary & Greg Marrs  | Gwen Waters             |
| Jane Hammette            | Anne McBride       | Carson Weeks            |
| Jane Hayman              | Pat McCarty        | Sug Zowarka             |
|                          | Dick McCauley      |                         |
|                          | Bob McClew         |                         |

## Relatives & Friends

- |                        |                                       |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| John & Muriel Davis    | Dick & Anne McCauley's friends        |
| Margaret Dorman        | Brenda Darte's mother                 |
| Susie Fisher           | Becky Everhart & Rob Donaldy's cousin |
| Donald Gaitlin         | Pat McCarty's friend                  |
| Bonnie Gaudet          | Bob Howard's sister                   |
| Lynda Giles            | Polly Wilson's niece                  |
| Lynda Holyk            | Paul Montgomery's sister              |
| LuAnn Hurley           | Sandy Hoffman's friend                |
| Frances Jewell         | Bob & Shirley Hines' friend           |
| Lottie Johnson         | Lynn Oakley's friend                  |
| Susan Lobdell          | Jonathan Owen's friend                |
| Michael Oriani         | Joe Oriani's brother                  |
| Paula Penna            | Steven Lockhart's friend              |
| Joan Richter           | Lynn Oakley's friend                  |
| Sonny & Nancy Robinson | Susan Singleton's friends             |
| Jane & Mario Scarpa    | Judy Winfree's friends                |
| Toni Shaw              | Candy Marshall's friend               |
| Barbara Sjolander      | Judy & Richard Moot's friend          |
| Bennie Spangers        | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend         |
| Jim Steele             | Bob Steele's brother                  |
| Nicole Upson           | Amy McKee's friend                    |
| Sam Vac                | Marcie Dershimer's friend             |

### PLEASE NOTE:

We update the Relatives & Friends prayer list periodically.

If there is someone who needs to remain on the list, please call the church office at 294-3121.



## DO YOU HAVE EXCESS PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS?

If you have extra grocery bags that you don't know what to do with, First Pres can help you put them to good use!

During this pandemic, we have been able to continue serving the needy at our Saturday Soup Kitchen. Meals are in to-go food containers placed in plastic bags. If you have bags that you don't need, please bring them with you on Sunday and put them in the kitchen or bring them by the church office. Thank you!



## MEALS ON WHEELS NEEDS YOUR HELP!



Due to many new recipients in the Winter Haven area that need meals, we need new meal delivery volunteer drivers.

### WHO CAN DELIVER MEALS?

Individuals, Couples, Groups, Any Age  
(17 or older to drive, young people can deliver along with an adult)

Please call 299-1616 for more information.

## PRAYING RIGHT NOW FOR NEW STEPHEN MINISTERS

*So we fasted and petitioned our God about this, and He answered our prayer (Ezra 8:23).*

Finding Stephen Ministers is the next step for our congregation's Stephen Ministry. Right now the church is praying for the individuals God is calling to serve as caregivers. Please include this need in your prayers. God answers our prayers because He is faithful.

If you are interested in joining this rewarding ministry, please contact one of the leaders below.

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## OUR STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE READY TO CARE FOR YOU!

Stephen Ministers are members of First Presbyterian Church who have been through extensive training and provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to people who are experiencing a difficult time. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and provide weekly support for you as long as your need persists. If you or someone you know is hurting contact one of the leaders below. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to bring God's love and care into your life.

Stephen Minister Leaders: **Connie Shipley (863-221-2224), Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, or Barbara Perkins.**



## CHRIST KIDS



The school year has started and you know what that means?!? Christ Kids – our faith-filled and safe, after-school program for children 4 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade is going on. The fun happens **Wednesdays at 4:00 pm** with a majority of out-door activities and Bible study.

Permission slips for children are on the church website, so spread the word and don't forget to join us as an Adult Volunteer!

Questions? Contact Rev. Sarah via email [sbishop@firstpreswh.org](mailto:sbishop@firstpreswh.org) or call the church office 294-3121.



**OUR FIRST  
TRUNK OR TREAT  
WAS A GREAT  
SUCCESS  
FOR ALL AGES!**

**MEN'S LUNCH IS HYBRID**

**You have two ways to attend the First Pres Men's Lunch on Tuesdays at noon.**

**You can still Zoom** and the invite will continue to be sent Tuesday mornings. The Zoom connection will be on the flat panel TV at the end of the table in McLeod Hall. You will be seen and heard as a full participant in the Men's Lunch. If you would like to join us by Zoom and have not been receiving the invites by email, please contact the office at 294-3121 or [office@firstpreswh.org](mailto:office@firstpreswh.org) and ask to be added to the list.

**OR**

**You can join us in person** at our socially distanced table in McLeod Hall.

- You will need to wear a mask.
- We will be seated around the tables – six feet apart.
- We'll get to see each other face-to-face (or at least eye to eye) like we can on Sunday mornings.

We hope you'll join us with one of these options as we continue meeting together as brothers in Christ. And don't forget your lunch!



# REMEMBER ~ FIRST PRES IS LIVE ON FACEBOOK!



Heading out of town, but still desire to be part of this worshiping community on Sunday?  
Heard something lovely said or played in worship and would like to hear it again?  
Want to share with a friend a taste of worship with First Pres?

Then visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FPCWinterHaven/>! Every Sunday we will be live-streaming the **9:00 am Heart of Worship** and **11:00 am Traditional** worship services on our Facebook page. These services will be available as videos after worship as well.

The church website at [www.firstpreswh.org](http://www.firstpreswh.org) will also continue to have recordings of Sunday's worship on the main page. Scroll down to "Latest Videos" at the bottom.

Either way, there are opportunities to worship with your church family when you cannot be present in person.

## CALLING ALL YOUTH!

Youth groups have started meeting (socially distanced & safe) in-person again! We are so excited to be gathering outside the youth house and can't wait to see all of you soon.



**MSYG meets Wednesdays from 5:30 until 7:30 pm**  
**HSYG meets Sundays from 5:30 until 7:30 pm**

Come join us for food, fellowship, and faith building. We can't wait for another awesome year with our youth!

If you have any questions or would like to sign up to provide a meal for our students, please contact Emily Snyder at 224-4403 or [esnyder@firstpreswh.org](mailto:esnyder@firstpreswh.org).

## HAVE YOU LOST GLASSES...

Prescription, reading, or sunglasses?

Maybe it was last week, last month, or even last year? If so, we could have them. We have a collection that has been found over time and would like to find their rightful homes. Please check the desk next to the maintenance



## SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE CARD

**Couples may use one form, please include both names.**

**Heart of Worship at 9:00 am; Traditional Worship at 11:00 am**

For the safety of all entering the church facilities for in-person worship, please complete this brief survey. (If you answer yes to any of the questions, please return home and join us for virtual worship on Facebook Live.)

Individual #1 Individual #2

Yes  No  Yes  No Have you had a fever, dry cough, or shortness of breath in the last 14 days?

Yes  No  Yes  No Have you been in close contact with someone who has a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

Yes  No  Yes  No Have you traveled to a COVID-19 hotspot in the past 14 days?

Name (Please print): \_\_\_\_\_

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

First Time Visitor Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for helping us provide for the safety of the entire church family.**

# NOVEMBER

## *Birthdays*

11/1	George Butz Benjamin Jax Judith Suprina	11/9	Carole Marotti Amy Speer	11/19	Will Rowker Christopher Turner
11/2	Ellen Miller Amanda Plowden	11/10	Beth Luxford Bob Mishael Padgell Palo	11/20	Audrey Bowlin Todd Dantzler Marie Williams
11/3	Stephany Alexander Erin Miller Connie Shipley Karla von Hahmann	11/11	Cheryl Beckert Zane McCann Rosalind McCoy	11/21	Charley Chilton Jay Pearson George Seagraves
11/4	Bruce Houston	11/12	Ellie Hoagland Bob Howard	11/22	Clyde Greene Greg Marrs Mandy Matha Steve Negley Suzann Threadgill
11/5	Joyce Shirah Missie Snively Jakson Thibodaux	11/13	Dru Gainey Gary Gardner Sy Gray IV Carol Lind	11/23	Preston Allen Kim Zimmerman
11/6	Amanda Price Hanley Renney	11/14	Ricky Montney, III	11/24	Jonathan McKee
11/7	Jennifer Dismuke Patti Herndon Nikki Hoagland Josh Lockhart	11/15	Phyllis Legg Carly Salomon Hope Stapor Judy Winfree	11/25	Sharon Bogey
11/8	Mia Cinquanti Ben Crowder Jimmy Hankin Chris Larson Judie Tucker	11/16	Cameron Weeks	11/26	Paula Forrest Penn Tucker
11/9	McKenzie Cinquanti Carolyn Hatch	11/17	Henry Braun Jaleeann Johnston	11/27	David Dershimier Tracy Mercer Chuck Tate
		11/18	Judy Partridge	11/28	Debora Pearson Bliss Roe Louise Volpe
		11/19	Leonard Gann	11/29	Jackson Gainey

## *Anniversaries*

11/1	Joni & Leonard Gann Nancy & Ken Jorgensen	11/22	Marie & Roger Able
11/8	Mary Ann & James Koon	11/23	Punkin & Squire Smith
11/9	Lesley & Andy Johnston	11/25	Deborah & Terry Rayfield
11/16	Laura & James Powell	11/26	Cynthia & Stephen Saterbo
11/17	Karen & Tony Premuto	11/27	Gayle & Bill Johnston Arletta & Joe Oriani
11/18	Kathryn & Kevin Thomas	11/30	Janet & Michael Lawlor
11/20	Kelly & Hamp Walker		

# Re-Opening First Presbyterian Church to Public Worship

When confronted by COVID-19 posed a significant threat to the health and safety of the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven, the Session suspended the gathering for public worship, initiating virtual worship services exclusively beginning March 22, 2020.

With a continued concern for the health and welfare our church family, seeking to maintain robust virtual worship while also providing the safe opportunity for those who wish to again assemble in God's house for praise and prayer, the Session appointed a Task Force on the Re-Opening of First Presbyterian Church for Worship, and re-entry in public gatherings.

Moving toward opening the doors of God's house once again for services of public worship, the Task Force met for prayerful research and reflection on two questions:

- 1) What criteria should be used for allowing the return to public worship?
- 2) What will public worship look like as we first return?

On June 2, 2020, the Session met for discussion on the Task Force recommendations and adopted the following **Plan for Re-opening**:

- 1) Guided by Polk County statistics on the efforts to combat the COVID-19 virus, as evidenced in a steady or downward trend in the number of new COVID-19 hospitalizations and in the percentage of positive cases (as compared to total tested) reported, **the church re-opened our doors to those who wish to attend in-person worship on Sunday, June 14, 2020.** (We are also continuing our vibrant virtual on-line worship experience on FaceBook Live)
- 2) **As we return to public worship in our church facility, we have implemented the following measures** to provide for the health and safety of our sisters and brothers in Christ.
  - a) Our worship schedule includes 2 Sunday worship services in our sanctuary - **Heart of Worship at 9:00 am** and **Traditional Worship at 11:00 am.** (This time change for Heart of Worship service allows for thorough cleaning between services.)
  - b) The second-floor exterior doors leading to the walkway to the CE building will remain open to increase the flow of fresh air into our ventilation system.
  - c) All worshipers will be greeted under the porte-cochere at the west entrance with a brief health questionnaire.
  - d) All worshippers will be asked to complete or bring a daily attendance card.
  - e) Out of concern and care for all who gather for worship, all worshipers ages three and older will be required to wear a face covering (covering mouth and nose) while inside the church buildings.
  - f) Hand sanitation stations will be located throughout the church facility with all encouraged to use upon entrance and exiting facility and other designated area (water fountains, restrooms, elevator buttons, stair rails, etc.)
  - g) All paths leading to the worship space will be marked with six-foot separation stripes.
  - h) The sanctuary will be marked with "worship sites for family units" (a single person, couple, or family grouping) with 8-foot separation in all directions for safe social distancing. (The first row of the balcony will be left vacant)
  - i) Ushers (observing a six-foot separation) will escort worshipers to the next available worship site, filling the sanctuary from front to back, to minimize contact in passing by other worshipers.
  - j) Worship will be modified in accordance with best practices, to reduce the threat of airborne virus spread.
  - k) Following worship, ushers will dismiss the congregation starting at the back of the sanctuary and proceeding to the front, encouraging those who need to use the elevator to proceed to that location with safe distancing and asking those who can traverse the stairs to proceed to the north or south side stairwells.
  - l) Immediately after the sanctuary is vacated following the Heart of Worship service, sanitation teams will disinfect all surfaces which have been touched in preparation for the arrival of the next worshipers.

The Session will continue to monitor the progression of the COVID-19 virus in our community, and will meet regularly to discuss any modifications to our public worship plan. The Session will also be making decisions on the resumption of other in-person activities here in our church facilities. We look forward to our continued life together as Christ's body.

### Our Purpose Statement

First Presbyterian Church  
637 6th Street, NW  
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 10/30/20.

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

#### Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 154 bag lunches  
the week of 10/19/20.

#### Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 60 people on 10/24/20.

#### Return Service Requested

«Mailing Name»

«Address 1»

«City», «State» «Zip»

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY

The Lydia and Joy circles have begun a new Bible Study:  
*Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament* by P. Lynn Miller.

***The Lydia Circle*** meets on the **2nd Monday** of each month and will meet on **November 9 at 10:00 am** in McLeod Hall and by Zoom.

***The Joy Circle*** meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month and will meet on **November 17 at 9:30 am** in McLeod Hall and by Zoom.

The study books are available at a cost of \$10. Contact either Sue McClew at (863)604-1610, Carol Carter at (863)206-7095, or the church office (863)294-3121 to purchase your copy. Our groups are open to any and all women of the church interested in fellowship and Bible study.

If you prefer to join by Zoom, please call Sue for the Lydia Circle, Carol for the Joy Circle, or Connie in the church office to provide your email. You can also email your request to [cshiple@firstpreswh.org](mailto:cshiple@firstpreswh.org). Be sure to indicate which circle you wish to join.

