



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of November 18, 2018

Issue 692

132 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

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



DON'T MISS OUR LAST 2018 Odd Month, Odd Monday Book Club

November 19: *The 13th Gift* by Joanne Huist Smith &
52 Little Lessons from A Christmas Carol by Bob Welch

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.

In January, 2019, OMOM Book Club becomes
OMTT3 Book Club: Odd Month - Third Thursday at 3 Book Club.

DECK THE HALLS

We hope you will join us as we **DECK THE HALLS** and
decorate First Pres for the Advent and Christmas Season.

On **Monday** night, **November 26**, EVERYONE is invited to join us for the festivities.

Supper will be served at **5:30 p.m.** Grilled cheese sandwiches will be provided.
You are invited to bring a pot of soup or chili to share.

At **6 p.m.** we will divide into groups to Deck the Halls.

You can help others hang the Advent banners.

You might want to prepare the candles (placing the candles into the holders)
for the Christmas Eve Service.

Your skill might be helping others hanging the garland and angels in the sanctuary,
or fluffing and erecting the sanctuary Christmas trees.

There will be Christmas music playing throughout the church, and happy people
everywhere Decking the Halls, preparing God's house for the holiday season.

We plan to have the finishing touches in place by 8 p.m. and hope to see you here!



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 18 3 Cent-a-Meal

- 8:00 a.m. Chapel Worship (Chapel)
- 9:15 a.m. Connection (MH)
- 9:15 a.m. Heart of Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School-Children/Adults CE)
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 4:00 p.m. Praise Band (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 p.m. High School Youth Group (GC)

Monday, November 19

- 3:00 p.m. OMOM Book Club (MH)

Tuesday, November 20

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
- 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)
- 12:00 p.m. Finance (UR)

Wednesday, November 21

- 5:00 p.m. MSYG Music (GC)
- 5:30 p.m. MSYG (GC)

Thursday, November 22 THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, November 23 OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, November 24

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

3 CENTS-A-MEAL THIS SUNDAY

We will collect the
**3 Cents-a-Meal Hunger
Offering** during worship services
this **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18.**



This offering is divided between
our Soup Kitchen/Bag Lunch
Ministry, Beth-El Farm-workers
Ministry, and Honduras.



Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Roger Able | Doris Hill | Jane Ray |
| Kathy Andrews | Bryan Howard | Barbara Roberts |
| Bill Brack | Bob & Isobel Hubbard | Earle Roberts |
| Tom Brackett | Jim Huff | Elsie Savant |
| Henry Braun | Martha Johnson | Beverly Seagreaves |
| Nancy Brooks | Joey Johnston | Joyce Shirah |
| Helen Butz | Peggy Kennedy | Susan Heyer Singleton |
| Helen Champlain | John Kissel | Mary Alice & Emma
Skipper |
| Carl Cheatham | Toni Krieger | Barbara H. Smith |
| Tom Coffman | Dena Lancashire | Mary Ann Snively |
| Yolanda Dyer | Kathy Lockhart | Christine Stevens |
| Mike & Jana
Easterling | Spike Lucia | Scott Strey |
| Bill Everhart | Candy Marshall | Jay Tackett |
| Walter Ferguson | Anne McCauley | Pam Tallent-Blackburn |
| Ed & Rossanne
Gorsky | Jerry Mincey | Carolyn Thompson |
| Clyde Greene | Tillie Montney | Mike & Jennifer Vibral |
| Jane Hayman | Bev Morris | Judy Winfree |
| Joyce Hayman | Nancy Neale | Retha Wright |
| Frances Heath | Joe Oriani | |
| Kay Hedden | Randall Palmer | |
| | Andy, Sherie, & Kasey
Ray | |

Relatives & Friends

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| John Alexander family | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Wendy Andrews | Augie Andrews' friend |
| Dolores Clay Barton | Karen Gerber's sister |
| Don Breidert | Rose Flynn's friend |
| Reese Burdette | Dana Cole's cousin |
| Brenda Cape | Alan Harvey's friend |
| Katie Carter | Bob & Carol Carter's daughter-in-law |
| Al Ellis | Jim Threlkel's friend |
| Dale Szarflarski | Wade Hoffman's friend |
| Connie Flannigan | Marile Week's friend |
| Thomas & Carolyn Francis | Jim Francis' brother & sister-in-law |
| Mary Gamgemi | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Alicia Glika | Diane Repass' friend |
| Diana Hagen & baby Liam | Debbie Anderson's friend |
| Pat Harmon | Marile Weeks' friend |
| Pete Kent | Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew |
| Eduardo Lopez | Gene Aspy's friend |
| Eve H. Mills | Gannon Olmert's cousin |
| Carol Moore | Roger & Marie Able's friend |
| Kris Polak | Sandy Hoffman's friend |
| Don Patchen | Bill Patchen's brother |
| David Satterfield | Heather Whitney's friend |
| Larry Schlosser | Don & Norma Martin's friend |
| Jim Smathers | Tom & Jeri Oldt's friend |
| Arnie Spangers | Marile Weeks' friend |
| Ken Stratford | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Tibbs Swick | Amanda Olmert's father |
| Kristy Turner | Rick & Pat Reass' daughter |
| Marshall Wood's family | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend |

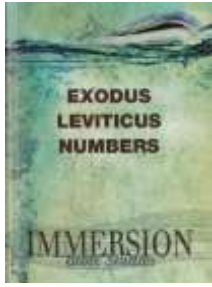
MILITARY



- Zach Anaya
- Brenden Anderson
- Christian Anderson
- Samuel Crockett
- Zach Drum
- Til Fellows
- Robert Ferguson

- Stephanie Gillie
- Eddie Gray
- Daniel Harp
- Sean Harp
- David Knowles
- John Marotti
- Mathew Massam

- Ryan Peardon
- KaitLin Marotti-Pitts
- Ashton Pitts
- Shad Skinner
- Drew Stapor



ADULT DISCIPLESHIP *IMMERSION*

Join our **Wednesday** evening Bible study.

Join Rev. Sarah and additional leadership as we dive deep into scripture, starting with the Book of Exodus.

Our adventure is **Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. December 5, 12, & 19.**

Questions? Contact Rev. Sarah at sbishop@firstpreswh.org or 294-3121.

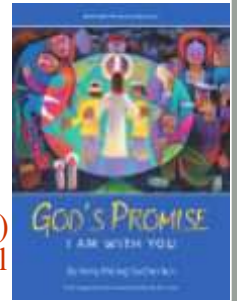
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY

The Lydia and Joy circles current Bible study: *God's Promise – "I Am with You."*

The Lydia Circle meets on the **2nd Monday** of each month and will meet on **December 11 at 10 a.m.** in the back of McLeod Hall.

The Joy Circle meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month. and will meet on **December 18 at 9:30 a.m.** at the home of Carol Carter.

The study books are available at a cost of \$10.00. See or call either Sue McClew (875-6176) or Carol Carter (299-4253) to purchase your copy. Both groups are open to any and all women of the church interested in fellowship and Bible study.



Remember the fun times you had in High School or College Band?



You have the chance to recreate the great friendships and revive your musical skills with the *First Pres Christmas Band!* We can definitely use current High School players too!

If you play any kind of wind instrument, even if it has been a few years, please give Lynn a call at 294-3121. We have found some excellent arrangements of Christmas Carols that should be well within the skills of a High School band person and there will be several instruments on the same part so it will be a fantastic time to get back in the musical groove and share your talent and praise for our Christmas program on the afternoon of **December 16.** We should be able to find you an instrument if you no longer have one of your own. If you currently have an instrument in a closet somewhere that no one is playing, please bring it in so we can get it cleaned up and used!

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH WINTER RETREAT!

Cedarkirk: January 19-21, 2019

Come join us on our First Pres Student Winter Retreat! We will be going to Cedarkirk and staying in the climate-controlled lodging. We would love to see you during this amazing weekend of fun, memories, and an opportunity to grow closer to God. Fun activities include canoeing, campfires, wall climbing, zip lines, and more! This trip is under your own student leadership, so you know it will be fun and relaxed.

Please contact Leonard at 312-678-7764 or leonardmosiah@gmail.com for more information. The cost is just \$125 per person which covers transportation, lodging, and meals.



THANK YOU FOR SUBMITTING YOUR PHOTOS! PLEASE KEEP THEM COMING

Do you have any church related photos such as FunTimers, middle or high school youth groups, Bible study, Sunday school, the Connection, First Sunday, women's circles, Fall Fest, Christ Kids? The possibilities are endless. Please email to cshiple@firstpreswh.org or call Connie at 294-3121 to make other arrangements.

What WE do – Thanks to YOU

A celebration of generosity and ministry

What WE do ... In In-reach and Out-reach

What WE do ... Christian Education

In the book of Acts, Philip encountered a man who was reading from the book of the prophet, Isaiah. Philip asked him if he understood what he was reading. The man replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” (Acts 8:31) This question forms the basis for **Christian Education** in the church. We strive to provide the best opportunities we can to encourage people to grow in faith in Jesus Christ.

Infants/Toddlers – From the time the parents bring their young children into the **Nursery** for the first time, they will recognize the clean, safe, and nurturing environment which we provide and the loving care givers who will care for them in their parents’ absence. We provide a Nursery for all worship services, Sunday School, and other activities in which young parents participate. **Morning Out Mom** on three weekday mornings gives parents, and in some cases, grandparents, time off to run errands or enjoy an adult activity. The children enjoy socializing with other children and playing with the wide assortment of toys in the nursery suite and on the playground.



Children – Many of our children participate in our after school program called **Christ Kids Inc.** for kindergartners to fifth graders. It meets once a week for recreation and snacks, Bible study, and music, and three times a year for parties. On each Sunday morning, children have an opportunity to explore God’s Word in our Sunday School program as teachers help them explore their lives as Younger Disciples.



Middle School Youth meets every Wednesday afternoon, and **Senior High Youth** meets every Sunday night for food, fellowship, and study. Each group takes a summer trip to a conference at Great Escape or Montreat. They have weekend retreats and special events, and they participate in various mission projects. The **Confirmation Class** provides training for church membership, usually for sixth graders.



Adults have special programs throughout the year. On **Sunday Mornings**, there are several **adult classes**. **And there are adult Bible Study groups that meet on various weekdays**. We never outgrow the need to learn more, and studying with a group of committed Christians is the best way to learn. Our teachers are dedicated and always striving to help adult disciples in faith development. The **Church-Wide Retreat** is an annual weekend of education and growth.



Thanks to YOU ...

Because of the generosity of our congregation in regular giving, we plan to invest around \$250,000 during 2019 in the area of Christian Education, covering the cost of curriculum and supplies, and many of the expenses related to trips, conferences, and retreats for children, youth, and adults. This portion of our church budget also provides for the services of an Associate Pastor for Christian Education and Family Ministries, a Director of Student Ministry, and our nursery personnel.

In addition, each year church members donate nearly 4,000 hours as teachers, mentors, chaperones, and planners for our various educational events so that we can educate all God's children here at First Pres.

REMEMBER! THE STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE HERE FOR YOU!

If you, or someone you know, are sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. Men are matched with men, and women with women. (It's completely confidential too!) To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or someone you know, **call Pat Reass at 206-9914. Or you can talk with one of our other Stephen Leaders: Alan Harvey, Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, Barbara Perkins, Susan Singleton, or Jean Strang.**

Stephen Minister Request Form Boxes are placed in the **Centennial Room, narthex, and balcony hallway** for your convenience. These secure boxes make it easy for someone to make a Confidential Request for a Stephen Minister. Forms are found in the pew pockets and forms and pens are also held by the box making it convenient for individuals to request a Stephen Minister.



ANGELS CARE CENTER OF ELOISE Angel Collection Box Needs

There is an ongoing need for the following items to give out at the Angels Care Center. Please leave items in the Angel Collection Box in McLeod Hall. Thank YOU, and God Bless!!!

First Aid Kits: washcloths, band-aids, wet wipes, small soaps, small antibacterial soap, Q-tips, small packets of antibiotic ointment, etc.

Children's "Jesus Kits": coloring sheets with Biblical themes, crayons, scripture/song cards (simple and short for children), small books, stickers, etc.

Toiletry Kits: shampoo, soap, deodorant, razors, feminine products, combs, washcloths, hand gel, lotion, toothbrush and toothpaste, small samples from hotel/motels, etc.

Miscellaneous: zip lock bags (gallon, quart and snack size).



WE HAVE AN EXTRA WAY OF GIVING!

Here are a few ways to access this new option:

- 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>
- First time users will click on sign-up
- Complete all fields and click the blue sign-up box ** password must be a minimum of 8 characters, including numbers and uppercase and lowercase letters.
- Click donate
- Choose your donation option, under special offering you will enter your special request, i.e. pastor fund, butterfly etc
- Choose one time or reoccurring
- Enter card information (if you choose to save your information the next time you login the information will be there and make giving much easier)
- Submit (this is where you will add your additional message if needed)
- You will receive an email confirmation of your giving for your records

There's also an APP for that!

- Simply go to your App store and download the free **SecureGive Vision** (you must type in SecureGive Vision) app and follow the prompts on each screen. Once you login or create an account you will be prompted to search for First Presbyterian church by name, city and/or state, follow the steps and enter the amount you wish to donate and the designation, one-time or recurring and then enter your card information.

Robin Miller is available to assist you during office hours at 863-294-3121 or email rmiller@firstpreswh.org.

JOIN US ON SUNDAYS!!!

8:00 a.m. Chapel Worship

A traditional worship service held in our chapel. The service follows the same order as the 11:00 a.m. 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 a.m. 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 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

A traditional worship service held in our sanctuary. The service follows the same order as the 8:00 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.

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!



Children's Sunday School for PreSchoolers through 5th grade happening in the CE Building, **9:30 a.m.** (9 a.m. 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 a.m.



First Sundays – Sunday School at **9 a.m.** and sharing musical talents in worship at **10a.m.**

Adult Educational Opportunities – Sunday mornings and more!

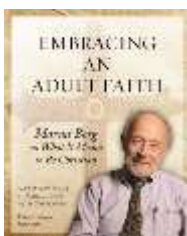
Perspectives Sunday School Class – 9:30am in the Geneva Room

Join a discussion-based, current topics class that values diving deep in today's issues. Topics for 2018-19 include the Middle East and Islamic faith; racism and other contemporary, thematic concerns. Join Glenn Thomas and other leaders for this engaging class at **9:30 a.m.** Perspectives does not meet on First Sundays.



Adult Faith Formation Class

Running through November 25



Author and Bible scholar Marcus Borg invites us to join him in revisiting Christianity's most fundamental questions: Who is God? What does salvation mean? What place does Jesus hold in contemporary Christian faith? This faith-formation class, participants enjoy the rare privilege of witnessing Marcus in dialogue with a small, diverse group of adults as they honestly — and sometimes painfully — confront the big questions and work together toward authentic answers. Each session includes a 10-minute presentation by Marcus Borg followed by interaction with the group.

Join the dialogue with **Bill Lockhart** at **9:30 a.m.** in CE Room 207.

(For 11 a.m. worship services.)

If you would be interested in helping welcome, greet, seat, and assist people at worship, we could use your assistance as an usher.

Please contact the church office at 294-3121 or office@firstpreswh.org.



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 11/16/18.

Non-profit Org.

U.S. Postage Paid

Permit No. 1162

Lakeland, FL

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 198 bag lunches
the week of 11/5/18.

Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 108 people on 11/10/18.

“Come to the Stable and Bethlehem Square”

First Presbyterian Church's annual outdoor nativity presentations followed by social gatherings in Bethlehem Square; i.e., McLeod Hall.

Saturday, December 8th - performances at 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.

We need: actors and actresses of all ages, back-stage crew members to set-up and take down the sets, dressers to assist the performers with their costumes, men to direct parking for our guests, front-of-the-house greeters and costumed servers for our social gathering in addition to cooks to provide the food and kitchen helpers to arrange the food and make beverages for our guests. **Please select your “role” and sign-up now!** (Musicians - please sign up in the choir room.)

You are invited to CHECK the sign-up board in the Narthex to see how you can be a part of our annual celebration of the birth of Jesus.

All ages are welcome to participate in the performances; however, we also need adults and even some teens to assist in the non-acting roles.

In addition, there is **one more way you can be a part of making our nativity a success:**
Attend one or more of the performances and invite your friends and neighbors to join you!

“Come to the Stable and Bethlehem Square” is a wonderful way to begin the celebration of the Christ child's birth!

