



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of November 29, 2020

Issue 796

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

THOSE WHO DREAM ADVENT SERMON SERIES

Starting this Sunday, November 29; the first Sunday of Advent



This Advent we will meet the prophets, psalmists, John the Baptist, Mary, Elizabeth, Joseph, Simon, Anna, the Shepherds and Magi - those dreamers of the Christmas story. They received, discovered, and responded to God's dream; a dream made real in the Christ child.

So too, will we step into the mystery and wonder of God's dreams to also shape our reality today. We dream of a better world and connect with the dreamer in all of us.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE RESERVATIONS ARE OPEN

Choose your worship time and reserve your family's spot for in-person worship through our reservation service. Or join us on Facebook Live.

We have two services, **5 and 7 pm** that will all have the Christmas story lessons and carols, time for children, and candlelight.

There are limited spots per service, so if your service fills up, Please choose another when joining us in-person.

Reminder: spots are by family unit
(1 spot equals an individual or family size of 6 and under).

Visit our website: www.firstpreswh.org or
our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FPCWinterHaven/



*The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated
this Sunday, November 29, the first Sunday of Advent.
Prepare your heart to come to the Lord's Table.*

Opportunities this Week

Sunday, November 29 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT COMMUNION

- 9:00 am Heart of Worship
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
- 9:25 am Children's Sunday School (CE 203)
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
- 5:30 pm High School Youth Group (GC)

Monday, November 30

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

Tuesday, December 1

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

Wednesday, December 2

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
- 2:00 pm Presbyterian Women
Bible Study Leaders (MCR)
- 4:00 pm Christ Kids (CE)
- 5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (CE)

Thursday, December 3

- 6:00 pm Young Adult Dinner (Grove Roots)

Friday, December 4

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)

Saturday, November 28

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

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:20-10:20 AM

AND

THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM FOR DECEMBER IS UP!

Welcome to December's Virtual Sunday school classroom. This month we continue our Christmas story lessons. The Team up poster takes you to the lessons and the Deep Blue poster is the videos. Click the items in the classroom!

Activities this month include Christmas games, coloring sheets and making Christmas cookies. Also, click the Christmas lights to see a cool video of Christmas lights timed to music and click Rev. Sarah to register your family for our Christmas Eve worship services! Check the church website and follow the link.



Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

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

Relatives & Friends

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| John Brack | Bill & Doris Brack's son |
| Curtis Capers | Pat McCarty's friend |
| Connie Craig | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Sherry Dart | John & Doris Brack's friend |
| John & Muriel Davis | Dick & Anne McCauley's friends |
| Margaret Dorman | Brenda Darte's mother |
| Susie Fisher | Becky Everhart & Rob Donaldy's cousin |
| Donald Gatlin | Pat McCarty's friend |
| Bonnie Gaudet | Bob Howard's sister |
| Lynda Giles | Polly Wilson's niece |
| Louie Herman | Judy Lindsay's brother |
| Lynda Holyk | Paul Montgomery's sister |
| LuAnn Hurley | Sandy Hoffman's friend |
| Frances Jewell | Bob & Shirley Hines' friend |
| Lottie Johnson | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Verona Jones | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Susan Lobdell | Jonathan Owen's friend |
| Sue Miller | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| Don Nash | Jeff Bowen friend |
| Michael Oriani | Joe Oriani's brother |
| Paula Penna | Steven Lockhart's friend |
| Robert & Marilyn Rackleman | Ann Meadows' friend |
| Joan Richter | Lynn Oakley's friend |
| 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 |
| Eleanor Vega | Orin & Helen Champlain's friend |

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 |

VIRTUAL COFFEE GATHERING

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 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, **December 6 at 10:20 am** 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: **Okay**
6. Click **JOIN MEETING** and wait to join
7. See your church family and say 'hi!'



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY

The Lydia and Joy Circles Bible Study is
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 **December 14 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 **December 15 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 cshipley@firstpreswh.org. Be sure to indicate which circle you wish to join.

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 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!

Outstanding Older Adults 2020

Born in Old Towne, Maine as one of three girls raised by a devout Baptist mother – this honoree was never far from church as a child, and she stayed very close to the church as an adult (and preacher’s wife.) She met her husband, Ray, when he was a seminary intern pastor and she was an executive assistant for the director of the Bangor Eastern Medical Center. They married in less than a year, and over 50 years and 5 children later they are still enjoying life as husband and wife. She was a partner in raising her 5 kids (Lynn, Susan, Kenny, Laura, and Tim), and worked outside the manse for the Cincinnati Board of Education, in the office at Watson and Watson, and then in the City Clerk’s Office, from which she retired here in Winter Haven.



This honoree is an amazing seamstress (Halloween costumes, wedding gowns and bridesmaid dresses, and a baptismal gown that has become a treasured family heirloom), a phenomenal cook, and hostess. She has served on our Fellowship and Hospitality Committee, logging countless hours in the church kitchen, the Session, Stephen Ministry, and she is a faithful member of our church’s Monday Morning Counting Crew.

We are pleased to honor **GLADYS LARSON** as one of our 2020 Outstanding Older Adults.



Our second honoree was born in Ocala, Florida, and moved to Winter Haven when she was 4 years old. She graduated from Winter Haven High School and went to work for GTE. She married her husband Ralph in 1957, one year after high school. They raised three wonderful children, Steve, Mike, and Diane. She was a charter member of the St. John’s United Methodist Church where she taught Sunday School, directed VBS, and was active in circles and prayer groups. She returned to school and received her degree in nursing from PCC in 1977, and then went to work at Winter Haven Hospital, for 25 years, ending her career in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit. She then also worked for a time at Good Shepherd Hospice. Ralph died in 2011, and our honoree started attending First Pres.

She stays very involved in the lives of her 3 children, 10 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. She cooks, gardens, travels, and loves time with friends and family. An ordained Deacon, she also gives time to our Living Nativity, VBS, Membership and Congregational Care Committees, Sanctuary Committee, Nominating Committee, and she watches the phones every Tuesday morning so that the church staff all meet together (and she often brings the staff home-baked goodies!).

We are pleased to honor **NELL SPEER** as one of our 2020 Outstanding Older Adults.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



Ken & Sue Henry
366 Terra Nova Blvd.
Winter Haven, FL 33884
989-725-8224



Meghan & Geoff Hunter
Brett & Brianna
109 Inconnu Ct.
Poincianna, FL 34759
321-352-0353



Amanda & Thom Rivers
Walter & Katie
100 Hillside Ct.
Winter Haven, FL 33884
863-258-1830

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 5th 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 or call the church office 294-3121.

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.



AVAILABLE FOR LOAN

Over the years, church members have donated wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs, potty chairs, and other medical equipment to the church. They are available to loan to people in the First Pres family who have a short-term need.

If you wish to borrow some useful equipment, contact the church office at 294-3121 and a staff member can help you go through available items.



IT IS THAT TIME ~ POINSETTIA ORDER FOR 2020

Poinsettias are a yearly tradition to decorate the church on Christmas, “in honor of” or “in memory of” a loved one or friend. This year the poinsettias will be in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 20. Please fill out the order form below. The cost per plant is \$10 and checks, marked “poinsettia fund”, should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church. Place the order form and check in the offering plate, mail it, or take it to the church office by Monday, December 14.

A complete listing will be available Sunday, December 20.

IMPORTANT ~ PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Donor(s): _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____



I will pick up my poinsettia after the 9 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

I would like my poinsettia delivered to a shut-in.

Number of plants ordered: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____



Did you know?

Amazon Smile enables you to support First Pres and its ministries while you shop for Christmas.

Simply shop for gifts at smile.amazon.com/ch/59-0668481 to generate donations.



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.

DECEMBER

Birthdays

12/2	Ron Damjker Teresa Renney	12/11	Mike Lyons Zane McCann		Cynthia Stroupe Weston Thibodaux
12/3	Henry Chilton Bruce Eelman Daphne Gray Edward Jordan		Jane Ray Dave Sparr	12/23	Cecilia Linn Kyle Meadows
12/4	Jack Scamehorn	12/12	Kaylie Arnold Bill Lockhart Jackie Pinckney	12/24	Judy Fitzgerald Ryan Johnson Mary Anne Knowles
12/5	Janie Hammette Amanda Rivers Alee Swango Jane Tillman	12/13	Dawn Fellows Peggy Kennedy	12/25	Carol Roe
12/6	Avery Lockhart Steve Saterbo Ginger Schreier	12/15	Merry Stewart Borowski Micah Darte Lia Gray	12/26	David Alexander Patti Forum Calen Nowroozi
12/7	Christina Maness		Lynn Lasseter Griffin Powell Margaret Way	12/27	Rusty Hart
12/8	Margaret Dantzler	12/16	Marty Bentley Jean Bostick Randy McCann Kim Powell	12/28	Stephanie Cornejo Madison Thomas
12/9	Bob Helmick Katie Rivers Lorraine Todd		Geoff Roe	12/29	Christine Burow Wiley Koon, Sr. Glenda Parrott
12/10	Marile Weeks	12/18	Megan Kosmensky	12/30	Heather Bogdahn Ella Chilton Keith Putnam Terry Rayfield
12/11	John Gray Austin Johnston	12/19	Lou Parrott	12/31	Steve Sowards

Anniversaries

12/05	Joey & Krista Endres Josh & Jessica Lockhart	12/23	Jim & Ellen Zeller
12/09	Russell & Lynn Aaron	12/26	Steve & Laura Dunham Drew & Lindsay Stapor
12/16	Jim & Daphne Gray Ray & Gladys Larson	12/27	Mike & Martha Seney
12/18	Carl & Kathy Cheatham	12/28	Bob & Carol Carter
12/20	Wiley & Sara Koon Steve & Teresa Negley	12/29	Howard & Cheryl Beckert Gale & Gwen Waters
12/21	Jose & Alison Batista	12/30	Richard & Pam Baker Pete & Merry Stewart Borowski
12/22	Nat & Jane West	12/31	Dean & Sonja Jackson Paul & Anne Montgomery John & Tracy Scheck
12/23	Orrin & Helen Champlain Larry & Pat Lincoski		

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 11/27/20.

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

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 134 bag lunches
the week of 11/16/20.

Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 75 people on 11/21/20.

Come to the Stable A Living Nativity Stroll

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 6 - 8 PM

In order for this night of outdoor music, hot chocolate, and living the Christmas story to be possible, we need YOU.

All ages and abilities are invited to be part of telling the Christmas story, as we need angels and shepherds as well as a few wise people!

Be part of an hour performance (6 or 7 pm) where we tell the story three times that hour all outdoors and you choose your costume that night.

Just let Rev Sarah (863-294-3121) or Kelli Ivey (kivey@tampabay.rr.com; 863-206-1615) know your interest and we'll see you that night at 5pm.

And share the invitation to family and friends via Facebook to Come to the Stable.