



TOWER CHIMES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WINTER HAVEN
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 3, 2023 | ISSUE 927

HAPPY
LABOR
DAY

IN HONOR OF LABOR DAY, THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

FALL WORSHIP AT FIRST PRES



In discussing our *Summer Sundays Single Services*, the members of the Session have treasured the sense of fellowship in being together for worship. The Session has now decided for us to continue a single **10 am Sunday Worship Service** through the end of the year.

Our blended 10 am service will include the elements of worship that have helped our spirits soar to God for well over a century; prayers, scripture, sermon, and responses. And we will continue to be inspired in our weekly worship services by music from our Praise Band, Chancel Choir and Handbell Choirs, Jazzbyterians, along with piano and organ by Jeremy Rath.

We hope you will join us as First Pres in-person or on-line each and every Sunday at 10 am.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL, APOCRYPHAL JESUS RETURNS



Our Sunday School class, meeting in the **Geneva Room** starting **September 10 from 9:00 till 9:50 am**, continues its exploration of the Bible. Each Sunday, the class will be exploring 'apocryphal' or hidden writings about early Christianity, Jesus and his disciples. Join this fascinating class's interactive time with video lectures from a biblical scholar, guided conversations and visits from our pastors to answer your questions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN RETURNS



Sunday School will begin on **September 10** for our children (PreK-5th grade,) growing in God's love after the time with younger disciples in worship service (**10:15-11:00am**), meeting in **CE room 206**. And ART Sundays will be meeting in **Room 207**. Come grow with us.

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. 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, September 3

10:00 am Summer Sundays Singe Service
(Sanctuary/Facebook)

Monday, September 4 OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, September 5

9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)
12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH)
5:30 pm Saturday Nite Live Planning (MH)
6:30 pm Session (MH)

Wednesday, September 6

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

Thursday, September 7

1:15 pm Chapel Bells (BR)

Friday, September 8

8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)

Saturday, September 9

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

SOUP KITCHEN HELP NEEDED FOR THE FALL



Would you like to help love and serve those who hunger this summer? We need head cooks & helpers for **September**.

If you can help with this very important ministry, please sign up in McLeod Hall or call the church office.

SYMPATHIES



Our Christian sympathy goes to **Mary Ann & James Koon** upon the death of her mother, **Carol Ann Sargeant** who died on Monday, August 21, 2023.



Our deepest sympathy goes to **Gale & Gwen Waters** upon the death of his cousin, **Kathy Taber**, who died on Wednesday, August 23, 2023.



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

MEMBERS

Ann Adams	Jim Huff	Joe Oriani
Pat Berrell	Scott & Becky Irvin	Jackie Pinckney
Orin Champlain	Mary Ann & James Koon	Mary Ellen Porter
Ellie Crowder	Ray & Gladys Larson	Marilyn Schleifer
Larry & Peggy Davis	Beth Luxford	Dick Shaw
Jane Dickey	Pat McCarty	Joyce Shirah
Marjorie DiLorenzo	Sue McClew	Adam & Taylor Smith
Zan Dismuke	Amy, Joe, Jonathan, Timothy, & Grace McKee	Marcia Smith
Rob Donaldy	Pat Miller	Katie Sparr
Dana Elmore	Edna Mitchell	Kathy Taber
Bill Everhart	Heidi Munoz-Gutierrez	Barbara Tackett
Lynne Grady	Jeri & Tom Oldt	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Pam Gray		Jennifer & Mike Vibrat
Ken Hart		Jim Vobornik
Jane Hayman		Gale & Gwen Waters
Shirley Hines		

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Holton & Briley Adcock Jeff, Lisa, & Emily Snyder's friends
Jameson Adcock..... Jeff, Lisa, & Emily Snyder's friend
Katie Barris & family Lynn Oakley's friends
Dolores Clay-Barton..... Karen Gerber's sister
Mike Bell Bob & Marilyn Sheffield's friend
Donna Brannen..... Jill Kosmenschky's friend
Phillip Burkhart Lynn Oakley's friend
Nancy & Nicki Catania Diane Repass' friends
Caren Coleman Lynn Van Gundy's friend
Phillip Deblinger..... Greg & Mary Marrs' friend
Paul Gilliam Debbie Anderson's dad
Mitzi Gross Gale & Gwen Waters' cousin
Hap Hazelwood Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
Stephen Houmard Rick & Pat Reass' grandson
Juan Joy Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
Helen Lewis Jonathan Owen's friend
John Linn Sharon Mann's brother
Ada Lopez-Mendez Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
Khyla Martinez Paul & Anne Montgomery's granddaughter
Kile McKee Greg Marrs' cousin
Jo Morton Bob & Marilyn Sheffield's friend
Ed & Anne Neumyer Candy Marshall's friend
Dennis Ryan Lynn Oakley's friend
Ginger Stanley Lynn Oakley's friend
Karen Thompson Kristen Sheffield' mother
Lori Turner & family Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friends
Jack Tyler & family Becky Irvin's brother-in-law
Tara Wilks Gannon Olmert's friend

MILITARY

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

THE CHOSEN BIBLE STUDY



We will meet **Sunday, September 17** in McLeod Hall, **from 5:00 to 6:30 pm** (PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE.) Bring a covered dish to share OR bring your own meal as we enjoy fellowship together around the table.

We will dig deeper into the background stories as they relate to scripture and hear from their Biblical consultants! For this study we will watch the Bible Roundtable Discussion for Season 1, Episode 4.

We will also be putting together *The Chosen Bible Study Cookbook* soon! Join us to learn details. We look forward to seeing you!

FUNTIMERS (OUR 55+ FELLOWSHIP GROUP)



Trivia and Potluck will be held in McLeod Hall on **Thursday, September 21** from **11 am to 2 pm**. Please bring your favorite dish or dessert to share. Chicken tenders will be provided. After lunch, each table will compete in a fun game of Trivia.

Please RSVP by signing up in McLeod Hall, or calling or emailing the church office. And bring a friend!

CHOIR AND BELLS HAVE RETURNED!



Our First Pres Musicians have begun our fall season of music making and we would love to extend an invitation to YOU. If you are interested in joining us, please see our rehearsal schedule below:

Chancel Bells rehearses every **Wednesday evening** from **6:00 - 7:00** in the Bell Room.

Chancel Choir rehearses on **Wednesday evenings** from **7:00 - 8:15** in the Choir Room.

Chapel Bells rehearses every **Thursday afternoon** from **1:15 - 2:15** in the Bell Room.

NEW THIS FALL: CHRIST'S MOMS

Welcoming our newest fellowship and prayer group, Christ's Moms will begin meeting **Tuesday, September 19** from **5:30 to 7pm** in **CE room 102**.



This monthly group of young moms will be invited for fellowship, support and advice on the third Tuesday of each month.

YOUTH GROUPS HAVE RETURNED!

The **High School Youth Group** meets on **Sundays** from **5:30 until 7:30 pm**.

The **Middle School Youth Group** meets on **Wednesdays** from **5:30 until 7:30 pm**.



Come join us for another awesome year of food, fellowship, and faith building! If you have any questions or would like to sign up to provide a meal for our students, please contact Emily Snyder at 863-224-4403 or esnyder@firstpreswh.org.

MEN'S LUNCH GROUP

Every **Tuesday**, the men of the church gather from **12:00-1:00 pm** for lunch together in McLeod Hall. This fellowship group offers men an opportunity to build friendships and grow in faith.



We hope that you will join us. This gathering is hybrid; meaning you can come in person or join by Zoom. To receive the Zoom invite, please contact the office by phone or email and ask to be added to the list.

HOW TO EASILY ACCESS SECURE GIVE

Go to our Church website 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 or email rmiller@firstpreswh.org.

THE FLOWER CHART IS POSTED IN NARTHEX



You are invited to sign up for your important Sunday worship dates. Please be sure to call or email the church office the week before with bulletin information.

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This newsletter is published weekly.

Church dated material, please deliver by 9/1/23.

Return Service Requested

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 163 lunches
the week of 8/21/23.



Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 96 people on
Saturday, 8/26/23.

SEPTEMBER ORGAN AND PIANO RECITAL



Come join us on **Sunday, September 10** at 4 pm in the Sanctuary for a recital given by our Director of Music Ministries, **Jeremy Rath**.

Jeremy will play a variety of music composed and arranged by American composers on the pipe organ and piano here at First Pres. Be sure to bring your singing voices, too, as there'll be a few hymns and songs for audience participation.

There will be a free-will offering at the door which will be split between our children's music ministry and the Museum of Winter Haven History. The Museum is in the process of restoring an 1890's Steinway Grand Piano and proceeds from this concert will go towards its restoration.

CHRIST'S KIDS RETURNS

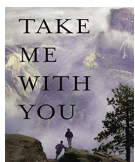
Our faith-based after-school program, Christ's Kids starts **Wednesday, September 13** at 3:15 pm on the playground. At Christ's Kids, our mission



is to develop and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ while fostering and building relationships with the church community. This is achieved through supporting developmental relationships and growth of the children in our community, expanding biblical knowledge through stories, music and movement as well as serving and caring for other children of God while participating in helping the larger community.

Your child doesn't want to miss it! Kids PreK through 5th grade are able to join. Visit our website for this year's registration or contact Rev. Sarah at sbishop@firstpresw.org

BOOK CLUB



We will meet on **Monday, September 18** at 3 pm in McLeod Hall as we discuss **Take Me With You** by Catherine Ryan Hyde.

In this time of fellowship, we will discuss the story about good people doing their best to survive.