



TOWER CHIMES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WINTER HAVEN
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | September 26, 2021 | ISSUE 836

FIRST PRES AT COMMUNITYFEST



CommunityFest Winter Haven is a free, family festival featuring local crafters, businesses, food vendors, entertainment, games, and more. First Presbyterian Church will be featured at a booth and will be running the Shooting Star Basketball Game. We will need a few volunteers, but more importantly, we would love to see you stop by the booth and say HI. This is also a great opportunity to bring a friend to the festival and invite them to learn more about your home church!

CommunityFest is from **11 am-4 pm on Saturday, October 2** in the Winter Haven Downtown Central Park.

SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE AND PICNIC!



On **Sunday, October 10 at 10 am**, we will come together as a church family for a **single worship service**. Immediately following worship we will gather for a picnic featuring great food, lots of fun, and time together to enjoy the company of this incredible community of faith. The cost is just \$4 for adults and \$2 for kids 12 and under and is payable at the door.

GOD IS HERE ALL YEAR MINI-VBS SUNDAY OCTOBER 10, 1 – 3 PM



The fun and excitement of VBS packed into a one day event for children (PreK-5th)! Following our 10 am worship service and community meal, kids will be invited to sing some VBS songs, create a fun craft, play some games, and learn a Bible Story; just like a day at VBS. Registration is on our website!

CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATES



The past year has reminded us all of the importance of staying in touch with those we care about. We are always looking to keep our directory current and are seeking to make sure we have your current information on file.

If you have a new phone number, home address, email, or additional contact info (such as a winter address), please contact Connie at the church office so we can make sure you stay informed. Thank you.

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. John F. Reiter
Interim
Associate 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

Gladys N. Valle
Office Assistant

Daryl D. Fenley
Director of
Maintenance

Tonia L. Milbry
Custodian

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 26

- 9:00 am Heart of Worship (Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
- 10:20 am Adult Bible Study (MH)
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
- 5:30 pm High School Youth Group (GC)

Monday, September 27

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
- 6:00 pm Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (MH)

Tuesday, September 28

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)
- 12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH/Zoom)
- 5:00 pm Stephen Leaders (MH)
- 6:00 pm Stephen Minister Leaders (MH)
- 6:15 pm Worship & Music (UR/Zoom)

Wednesday, September 29

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
- 10:00 am Adult Bible Study (MH/Zoom)
- 3:30 pm Christ Kids (CE)
- 5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (CE)
- 6:00 pm Chancel Bells (MS)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir (MS)

Thursday, September 30

- 1:15 pm Chapel Bells (MS)
- 4:30 am Praise Band Practice (Sanctuary)

Friday, October 1

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)

Saturday, October 2

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

A YEAR OF THE BIBLE YOU CAN STILL JUMP IN!

We are in the last quarter of our reading plan to explore the Bible. How has it been going for you? Have you been able to keep up with the schedule? Did you not join in at the beginning, but now want to get started? Did you start earlier this year, but are now struggling to get those readings in?

Don't worry! You can join at any point. If you have fallen behind and worry about catching up, just jump in where we are now. If this becomes an enjoyable spiritual discipline for you, you can always go back later and pick up the readings you missed. So again, we invite you to join us using the schedule in this Tower Chimes. Just pick a day and start discovering what God's Word might say to you today.



REMEMBER IN PRAYER MEMBERS

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Marie & Roger Able | Ed Gorsky | Pat McCarty |
| Melvin & Debbie Anderson | Pamela Gray | Dick McCauley |
| Kathy Andrews | Jane Hayman | Pat Miller |
| Pat Berrell | Frances Heath | Edna Mitchell |
| Tom Bracket | Kay Hedden | Richard Moots |
| Orrin & Helen Champlain | Bryan Howard | Arletta Oriani |
| Charlie Darte | Jim Huff | John & Marilyn Schleifer |
| Marjorie DiLorenzo | Scott & Becky Irvin | Joyce Shirah |
| Zan Dismuke | Martha Johnson | Dale Smith |
| Dana Elmore | Dena Lancashire | Katie Sparr |
| Bill Everhart | Judy Lindsay | Pam Tallent-Blackburn |
| | Eric Lindstrom | Gwen Waters |
| | Spike & Jane Lucia | Sug Zowarka |

FAMILY & FRIENDS

- Margy Allen.....Lynn Oakley's friend
 Margaret CarswellBarbara Puckett's friend
 Timothy GossPunkin Smith's friend
 Marilyn Harris..... Mike Harris' mother
 Chip Inman Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
 David Richardson Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
 Nancy Schack Candy Marshall's friend
 Diane Secord Gail Van Allen's friend
 Robbie Thompson..... Larry & Peggy Davis' friend
 Kelly Walker Tommy Oakley's sister
 Rolland Waters.....Gale & Gwen Waters' son
 Jess Wilkinson Lee Wilkinson's brother
 ArNelle WrightLynn Lasseter's daughter
 Bill Yost Connie Shipley's significant other

PLEASE NOTE

We update the Family & Friends prayer list periodically. If there is someone who needs to remain on the list, please call the church office.

MILITARY

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

WEEK 38



DAY	OLD Testament	NEW Testament Psalms
1	Isaiah 33, 34	Hebrews 2
2	Isaiah 35, 36	Hebrews 3
3	Isaiah 37, 38	Hebrews 4
4	Isaiah 39, 40	Psalms 106
5	Isaiah 41, 42	Hebrews 5
6	Isaiah 43, 44	Hebrews 6
7	Isaiah 45, 46	Psalms 107

TRUNK-R-TREAT: OCTOBER 24, 5-7 PM



Fun for all ages is just around the corner, with our annual Trunk or Treat event! Come with your best Halloween-themed car trunk and pass out candy in the church parking lot. Children are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes as well, safely collect candy and vote on their favorite, most original, and funniest trunk. Prizes for our best car-trunk will be awarded. Start brainstorming your ideas now!

Not able to join us? Donations of candy will also be collected at church.

COME MAKE MUSIC!



Chancel Choir and the Bell Choirs are ramping up for a fun-filled musical fall! Please consider joining us in sharing one of God's most beautiful gifts: music! The **Chancel Choir** meets on **Wednesday** evenings at **7:00 pm** in the Music Suite on the third floor and assists in leading hymns and sharing anthems in our **11:00 am** Worship Service. Our Bell Choirs also share musical offerings once a month in the **11:00 am** Worship Service. The **Chancel Bells** rehearse on **Wednesday** evenings at **6:00 pm** and the **Chapel Bells** rehearse on **Thursday** afternoons at **1:15 pm**. Feel free to contact Jeremy or chat with a choir member if you have any questions. No musical experience is required for any group – come and make a joyful noise! We'd love for you to join us!

OUR YOUTH GROUPS ARE BACK!



Our youth groups are back to meeting on **Wednesdays** and **Sundays** at **5:30 pm** in the Golden Center! Come join us for food, fun, faith, and fellowship! We are excited to see all of our youth during this great school year!

Middle schoolers meet on **Wednesdays**.
High schoolers meet on **Sundays**.

Please pray for a safe and fun year for all of our students and teachers as they have started back to school. We look forward to seeing you back at youth group in the upcoming weeks!

PRAISE NIGHT



Come out and join us in our first ever Praise Night on **Friday, October 29** at **7:00 pm** in the Sanctuary. The night will feature our First Pres Praise Band leading praise and worship songs telling the Gospel story in three parts: Glory, Rebellion, and Reconciliation. Dr. Negley will be there to share scripture and lead us in prayer. As the song *Come out of the Sadness* says; "Come out of sadness from wherever you've been; Come broken-hearted, let rescue begin; Come find your mercy, O sinner, come kneel; Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal." Come, join in praise of our Great God and sing of His great love for us through song. We hope to see you there!

ANGEL CARE CENTER OF ELOISE



Angels Care Center continues to give out special kits to their patients and families, e.g. toiletry kits, first aid kits, children's kits, and senior bags. This is not possible without the donation of items to fill these kits! They have made and given out over 31,000 in the last 9 years!

But... in the last few months they have come up short of what is needed to fill the kits. This is a year round project and the need is great. They are in particular need of deodorant, disposable razors, small combs, quart and snack size zip lock bags, Band-Aids, washcloths, sunscreen, small hand sanitizer, and small samples from hotel/motels. Also, any and all items for the senior bags, whatever will make their senior citizens' lives easier and brighter: laundry soap, Lysol cleaning wipes, paper towels, mugs or plastic plates, bowls, teabags, oatmeal packs, crossword puzzles/activity pads, seasonal item/décor, gift cards (Walmart, restaurants, etc.) You can put these items in the Angels Care collection box located in McLeod Hall.



DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN TEXT TO GIVE?

To donate, you will text a **keyword**, (those options are below and special events will be added as they come.), then a **space**, and an **amount** to **863-243-6880**. Example: Text keyword **3cents 5** for gifting \$5 to *3 Cents-a-Meal*. An auto-response will confirm your gift offering. Respond **Y** to confirm and send. Save this number as a contact for future giving.

Keywords are:

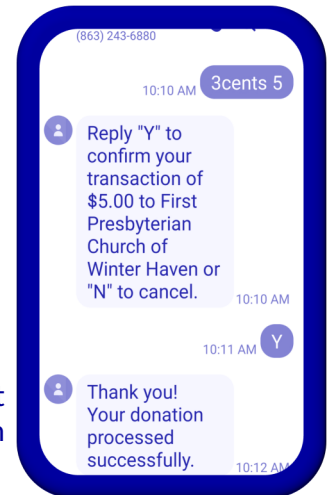
- Pledged (for your offering to be credited to your pledged amount for the current year)
- Offering (Non-pledge or undesignated gifts)
- Music (for Capital Music Campaign Organ/Music)
- 3cents (for 3 Cents-a-Meal)
- Memorial (for when donating in memory of someone)
- Special (for all other donations; example 1 time events)

If you are donating through Text To Give for the first time, you will receive a text containing a link to login or create your Secure Give account. Please save that login information.

You will then be asked to save your default payment information for giving by text. The system will confirm your donation and you will receive an email receipt.

The only time that you should have to enter your login or card information is the first time you donate through Text to Give. After your first transaction, your Secure Give account and card information will be recognized automatically and you will simply reply **Y**.

The next time you would like to give by text, simply type the keyword and amount to the number above and you will receive a request to confirm with **Y**.



WE HAVE AN EXTRA WAY OF GIVING!

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 or at rmiller@firstpreswh.org.

YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH...

just by shopping at this special Amazon link.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-0668481>

Your shopping will support **Winter Haven First Presbyterian Church**

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know with the same products, same prices, same service.
- Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.



MEN'S LUNCH GROUP

Each **Tuesday** the men of the church gather from **12:00-1:00 pm** for lunch together. 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 office@firstpreswh.org and ask to be added to the list.



OCTOBER

BIRTHDAYS

10/1	Ben Garner Nicholas Larson Steve Luxford Ariston Walker Lee Wilkinson	10/10	Kasey Ray	Bill Siegel	
10/2	Ruth Dunham Dick Shaw Kyle Von Hahmann	10/11	Matthew Gray Ken Hart Lynn Oakley Cori Swango	10/26	Martha Burke Bill G. Roe, II
10/3	Mele Souza Sophie Maggard	10/12	Susan Kahley	10/27	Leah Melvin Jon Powell
10/4	Pam Baker Karen Gerber	10/14	Brenda Darte	10/29	Julie Dantzler Rossanne Gorsky Martha Johnson James Powell Steve Stapor Gwen Waters
10/5	Tilley Montney Jeff Snyder	10/15	Susan Smith	10/30	Kathy Lockhart Dick McCauley Mike Seney Pam Wilkinson
10/6	Karen Alexander Nicole Roe	10/17	Annette Whitney	10/31	Richard Baker Caitlyn Grady Sara Koon Dorian Miller Ed Mitchell J. P. Powell
10/7	Whitney Dunham	10/18	Bob Hines Arletta Oriani Brittaney Roe		
10/8	Buddy Kahley Jill Kosmensky Jessica Wilson	10/19	Joan Chilton		
10/9	Michael Baragona	10/21	Chelle Doyel		
10/9	Laura Gaye Dunham	10/22	Jonye Briggs Mary Alice Kennedy		
		10/23	Mark Bostick Olivia Glenn Howard Rambeau		
		10/23	Pat Vobornik		
		10/24	Jenna Volpe		
		10/25	Bob Bentley		

ANNIVERSARIES

10/1	Mike & Amy McGee	10/17	Ed & Rossanne Gorsky	10/24	John & Cheryl Marchetti
10/2	Jared & Chalsey Lockhart	10/20	Buddy & Susan Kahley		Leland & Elizabeth Miller
10/9	Pete & Missie Snively		David & Theresa Kalb	10/25	Gannon & Amanda Olmert
10/10	Steven & Chelsey Lockhart		Brent & Megan Robinson	10/26	Scott & Rusty Hart
10/11	Bill & Susan Taylor	10/21	Thom & Amanda Rivers	10/28	Dick & Anne McCauley
10/15	Keith & Marjorie Putnum	10/23	Sam & Kristan Sheffield	10/31	Don & Norma Martin

STRESSED? FEELING DOWN? NEED ENCOURAGEMENT?



Stephen Ministers don't just provide care for people experiencing a major crisis. They also provide care and support for people weighed down by the little things in life. If you're feeling down, lonely, stressed or discouraged, you could benefit from the care, support, and encouragement of a Stephen Minister. It's free. It's confidential. And it will really make a difference in your life!

To find out more, contact **Connie Shipley** at 863-221-2224 or one of our other Stephen Minister Leaders, **Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, or Barbara Perkins**.

FLOWER CHART IS 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.

First Presbyterian Church
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Permit No. 1162
Lakeland, FL

This newsletter is published weekly.
Church dated material, please deliver by 9/24/21.

Return Service Requested

Bag Lunch Ministry
We gave out 139 lunches
the week of 9/13/21. 

 **Soup Kitchen Ministry**
We fed 62 people on
Saturday, 9/18/21.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY



The Lydia and Joy circles are beginning a new Bible Study:
What My Grandmothers Taught Me by Merryl Blair.

The Joy Circle meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month at **10:00 am** on Carol Carter's back porch.
The Lydia Circle meets on the **3rd Thursday** of each month at **10:00 am** in McLeod Hall.

The study books will be available at a cost of \$10. Contact either Lynn Swart at (863)293-5561, 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.

SAVE THE DATE! COME TO THE STABLE: A LIVING NATIVITY STROLL DECEMBER 11, 6-8PM



It feels strange to talk about Christmas when it is still so hot, but it will be here in no time. Please put **December 11** on your calendar now for a special evening of music, fellowship, and an opportunity to see and hear the Christmas story come to life. Come to the Stable: A Living Nativity Stroll!

CHRIST'S KIDS: WEDNESDAYS, 3:30-5:30PM



We are so excited to be back with our **Christ's Kids**! Any child 4 years through 5th grade is invited to join us every **Wednesday** from **3:30** till **5:30 pm**. Meeting on our playground then doing some amazing Bible study and music, our kids will grow in their faith this year. Registration forms are now available on our church website. Contact Rev. Sarah with any questions.