



TOWER CHIMES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WINTER HAVEN
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 | ISSUE 975

CHOIR AND BELLS RETURN!



Our First Pres Musicians are getting ready to begin our fall season of music making and we would love to extend an invitation to YOU. Rehearsals will start on **Wednesday, September 4** for **Chancel Bells** and **Chancel Choir**, and **Thursday, September 5** for **Chapel Bells**. Please read below for more details.

Chancel Choir: We rehearse on **Wednesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:15** (later at times leading up to holidays/special events). Our rehearsals begin with a time of prayer, followed by vocal warmups, and then learning songs and anthems to share at the **10:00 am** worship service. We are an open group of people united by our passion to join our voices together in praise and worship. Our rehearsals are filled with joy, laughter, and music making. We extend an open invitation to you to come experience rehearsal with us (no commitment necessary!) Come make a joyful noise with us!

Chancel Bells: We are a group of people who love to ring out praise of our great God together. Chancel Bells rehearse every **Wednesday evening from 6:00 - 7:00** in the Bell Room on the third floor of the Sanctuary building. We (usually) ring the prelude at the **10:00 am** worship on the first Sunday of each month and offer special anthems at holidays and other services. Handbell music looks like piano music, but each ringer is assigned a certain number of bells/notes for the entire piece. It takes us all to create a beautiful piece of music. If you don't know how to read music, that is okay! – It is no excuse for you to try your hand at bell ringing! If you are interested in trying us out, we'd love to have you ring with us!

Chapel Bells: We rehearse on **Thursday afternoons from 1:15 - 2:15** in the Bell Room. We use the same bells and read the same type of music as the Chancel Bells, but our music quite a bit easier to play. If you've never rang bells before, this would be the group for you to start in and see how you like it! We offer music throughout the year at the **10:00 am** worship service.

We are so excited to start this choir season and hope you will join in making music with us! For more information, please call Jeremy at the church office or email him at jrath@firstpreswh.org.

SUMMER SUNDAYS SINGLE SERVICE

Our **Summer Sundays Single Service** continues through **September 1**, we will worship God starting at **10 am**.

Let's gather together to praise and worship our God.

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

Dr. Fred R. Halde
Parish Associate for
Visitation

Jeremy T. Rath
Director of
Music Ministries

Jenna Volpe Wall
Youth Team
Coordinator

Robin D. Miller
Director of Finance
and Administration

Connie J. Shipley
Administrative
Assistant

Daryl D. Fenley
Director of
Maintenance

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 1

10:00 am Summer Sundays Single Service

Monday, September 2

LABOR DAY

OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, September 3

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 4

8:45 am Morning Our Mom (CE)
 1:00 pm American Mah Jongg (CE 102)
 5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (GC)
 6:00 pm Chancel Bells (BR)
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir (CR)

Thursday, September 5

1:15 pm Chapel Bells (BR)

Friday, September 6

8:45 am Morning Our Mom (CE)

Saturday, September 7

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

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sunday School will begin for our children (PreK-5th grade) starting **Sunday, September 8** after the Time with Younger Disciples in the 10:00 am worship service. Class meets in **CE room 206**. And ART Sundays will be meeting in **Room 207**. We are excited for a year where together, kids experience God's greatest gift, being Simply Loved.

ADULT'S SUNDAY SCHOOL



Starting **September 8**, our Adult Sunday School will begin a new series, **The Story of the Bible**, meeting at **9:00 am** in the **Geneva Room**. In our fall lessons they will join a New Testament professor in videos discussing the four stages of the history, process, critical periods and even recovery of new ancient sources that were stitched together to form our Biblical canon.

CHRIST'S KIDS



Our faith-based after-school program, Christ's Kids starts **Wednesday, September 11 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 Preschool age through 5th grade can join.
 This year's registration is available on our church website.



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

MEMBERS

Ann Adams	Jane Hayman	Jeri & Tom Oldt
Orrin Champlain	Wade & Sandy Hoffman	Norm Patrick
Marjorie DiLorenzo	Scott & Becky Irvin	Sharon Ramseyer
Rob Donaldy	Joanie Kooser	Pat Reass
Dana Elmore	Jill Kosmensky	Dick & Nancy Shaw
Bill Everhart	Ray & Gladys Larson	Joyce Shirah
Gloria Goss	Lynn Lassater	Katie Sparr
Caitlyn Grady	Kyle Lease	Linda Stavres
Lynne Grady	Pat McCarty	Barbara Tackett
Pam Gray	Dick McCauley	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Heidi Munoz-Gutierrez	Pat Miller	Jennifer & Mike Vibral
Ken Hart	Edna Mitchell	Gale & Gwen Waters
		Lee Wilkinson

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Chad Anderson.....	Lynn Oakley's friend
Sara Cliett.....	Kalen West's friend
Pat Cokewell	David Lane's mother
Jenny Crane.....	Gail Van Allen's friend
Juan Joy.....	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
Ada Lopez-Mendez	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
James & Eileen Martin	Jane West's friends
Jeannie Martin.....	Rich Dobler's sister
Heather Nelson	Janet Howard's friend
Karen Sadler-Banks.....	Lee & Pam Wilkinson's friend
Charles Sample.....	Marilyn Sheffield's brother
Bob & Nikki Shade.....	Richard Elmore's friends
Craig Smith	Lynn Oakley's friend
Barbara Spinella.....	Greg & Mary Marrs' friend
Lyric Taylor	Arletta Orian's friend
Nadine Waters-Robbins	Gail Damkjer's friend
Danny Williams	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend

PLEASE NOTE

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

MILITARY

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



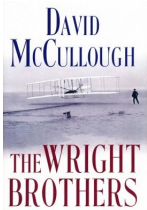
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9/2	Matt Minich Pat Bentley Richard White	9/8	Lindsay Thibodaux Dalton Weihrauch	9/19	Jose Batista
9/3	Cody Dugger Hal Jeffcoat Sawyer Speer	9/9	Brayden Olmert Frances Stapor	9/20	Mary Ann Koon
9/4	Lisa Centonze Sarah Pickos Kit Threlkel	9/10	Rick Reass Hunter Smith	9/21	Dolly Goetz Al Porter
9/5	Adam Cranmer James Miller Tom Nepute Jonathan Owen Kristen Siegel	9/11	Freya Abbott	9/22	Steven Barthel Mike Harris Scarlett Lockhart
9/6	Ben Tucker	9/12	Elizabeth Miller Amanda Jo Nicholson Jeremy Rath	9/23	Kathy Garner
9/7	Sherie Ray	9/13	Nancy Dobler	9/24	Pete Borowski John Clarke, Jr. Merle Griffin
9/8	Bill Taylor	9/15	Denise Cole	9/25	Sam Sheffield
		9/16	Jane Dickey Nell Speer	9/26	Nikki Gann Beth Koon-Spiwak
		9/17	Beckett Chilton Tricia Dugger	9/29	Jackson Gray
		9/18	Bo Palo	9/30	Bob Wilson

ANNIVERSARIES

9/6	Lynn & Tommy Oakley Pat & Rick Reass	9/8	Loretta & Ed Smith	9/21	Marty & Bob Bentley
9/8	Amy & Joe McKee Pat & Ken Miller	9/11	Bethany & Jonathan Owen	9/21	Peggy & Larry Davis
		9/17	Donna & Ed Rounsley	9/25	Charlie & T. Michael Stavres
		9/19	Lori & Quentin Roe	9/30	Marie & Hal Jeffcoat

SEPTEMBER BOOK CLUB



We will meet on **Monday, September 16** at **3 pm** in McLeod Hall as we discuss ***The Wright Brothers*** by David McCullough. We hope you will join us for this inspiring and truly American story of two brothers who changed history.

FUNTIMERS RETURNS!

Our next FunTimers event will be on **Thursday, September 19**. We will meet in McLeod Hall at **11 am** then travel to the historic Ybor City for lunch at Florida's oldest restaurant, ***The Columbia***. The cost is the price of your lunch. We will have you back at the church by 3 pm. Please RSVP by signing up in McLeod Hall or calling or emailing the church office. And bring a friend!



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, call **Connie Shipley at 863-221-2224**. Or you can talk with one of our other **Stephen Leaders: Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, or Lisa Snyder**. Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

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>.

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This newsletter is published weekly.
Church dated material, please deliver by 8/30/24.

Return Service Requested

Bag Lunch Ministry
We gave out 222 lunches
the week of 8/26/24.



Soup Kitchen Ministry
We fed 93 people on
Saturday, 8/31/24.



THE CHOSEN



You are invited to join us on **Sunday, September 8 & 22 from 5 - 7 pm** in McLeod Hall to watch season 4, episodes 7 & 8 from **The Chosen**, then discuss what we have seen. Please join us even if you haven't watched the series, we will help you catch up.

Please bring a covered dish to share and enjoy an evening with your friends from First Pres. Childcare will be provided.

SOUP KITCHEN HELP NEEDED



Would you like to help love and serve those who hunger? We need head cooks and helpers for all of **September 7 & 21 and all of October.**

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

YOUTH GROUPS HAVE RETURNED!

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

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



We gather in the Golden Center for Student Ministry (711 6th St, NW). Come join us for another awesome year of food, fellowship, and faith building!

SUNDAY NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking for a way to connect with our young families and support the youngest disciples here at First Pres? Join the Sunday Nursery Volunteers list. By adding your name to our



Nursery Volunteers list you will be contacted to be present in our Sunday Nursery as a second adult during the 10 am worship service. You'll be able to play, care for, and enjoy those little ones in CE room 203. It will be on a rotating and as needed basis.

If you are interested, please contact Rev. Sarah.