



TOWER CHIMES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WINTER HAVEN
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 22, 2024 | ISSUE 978

THE CHOSEN



You are invited to join us on **Sunday, September 22, 5 - 7 pm** in McLeod Hall to watch season 4, episode 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.

A FANNY CROSBY HYMN FESTIVAL

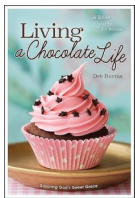


You may not be familiar with the name of Fanny Crosby, but her hymn texts have helped shape the faith of thousands of Christians around the globe.

Fanny was a 19th-century American hymn writer, poet, musician, and missionary. She penned more than 8,000 hymn texts and gospel songs; some of which include: *To God Be the Glory*, *Blessed Assurance*, and *Rescue the Perishing*. Blinded by a physician when she was just a baby, Fanny did not let her blindness hinder her music or her incredible faith.

Come hear her fascinating story and sing her songs on **Sunday, September 29 at 2:00 pm** in the Sanctuary.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



The *Lydia and Joy Circles* have begun a new Bible Study: **Living a Chocolate Life** by Deb Burma.

The Joy Circle meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month, next meeting **October 15, at 10:00 am** at Carol Carter's house.

The Lydia Circle meets on the **3rd Thursday** of each month, next meeting **October 17, at 10:00 am** in McLeod Hall.

Our circles are open to any and all women of the church interested in fellowship and Bible study.

FUNTIMERS (OUR 55+ FELLOWSHIP GROUP)



Come out and enjoy a Classic Car Show and luncheon on **Monday, October 21, from 11:30 am to 1 pm**.

We'll spend a little time around the lunch (menu: sandwiches, chips, cookies, and drinks.) tables in McLeod Hall then head out to the parking lot to take a trip down memory lane with some jewels from the past. The cost is \$6.

Call or email the church office so we can plan for lunch. Then come and join the fun and fellowship with your church friends and family.

TRUNK OR TREAT



We are planning another incredible afternoon of candy, fellowship and fun. We will be hosting our annual Trunk Or Treat on **Sunday, October 27 from 5 to 6 pm**.

We are in need of decorated trunks and candy. If you can bring your decorated vehicle, please sign up in the church office or on the board in the Narthex. You can also drop off bags of candy in McLeod Hall.

Please come join the fun! Any questions can be sent to Rev. Sarah, sbishop@firstpreswh.org.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 22

- 8:00 am Chapel Worship
- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School (GR)
- 10:00 am Sanctuary Worship
- 10:15 am Children Sunday School (CE 206)
- 5:00 pm The Chosen Bible Study (MH)
- 5:30 pm High School Youth Group (GC)

Monday, September 23

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

Tuesday, September 24

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

Wednesday, September 25

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
- 1:00 pm American Mah Jongg (CE 102)
- 3:15 pm Christ's Kids (Playground/CE)
- 5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (GC)
- 6:00 pm Chancel Bells (MH)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir (MH)

Thursday, September 26

- 1:15 pm Chapel Bells (MH)

Friday, September 27

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)

Saturday, September 28

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

FALL WORSHIP



Members and friends of First Pres are able to choose to worship in the chapel at **8:00 am**, OR the sanctuary (hope springs eternal) at **10:00 am**.

We focus on the same scriptures at both Sunday services as we sing, pray, and reflect together on God's Word each week. (There will not be a children's Sunday school offered during the 8:00 am hour, but the pastors will include *A Time with Younger Disciples* in the service with any children who might attend.) Both Sunday worship services include a variety of styles of offering our praise to God through music. We hope you will join us this fall at one of our worship gatherings.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We are in need of help bagging lunches for our hungry community. If you would like to join other volunteers on the **first Monday of each month at 10 am**, please call the church office.



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

MEMBERS

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

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Chad Anderson	Bryan Howard	Heather Nelson
Wayne Berry	Juan Joy	Ann Reddout
Sara Cliett	Tamara Keyes	Jack Robinson
Pat Cokewell	Khyla Martinez	Karen Sadler-Banks
Diane Conaly	Ada Lopez-Mendez	Charles Sample
Tammy Cowart	James & Eileen Martin	Bob & Nikki Shade
Jenny Crane	Jeannie Martin	Craig Smith
Mason Dorsey	Khyla Martinez	Ginger Snively-Chad
Cole Gorham	Dick McCauley	Barbara Spinella
Brian & Anna Griffin		

MILITARY

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

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

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



ADULT'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Adult Sunday School has begun 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.



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



Jared & Skylar Dial
Eli & Reed



Cynthia Halde
Fred



Kyle Lease



Penny Mincey
Jerry



Suzie Moraco



Paul Rubner
Debbie

UPDATE FOR OUR AIR-CONDITIONING AND ELECTRICAL SERVICE

Dear Members,

I'd like to provide an update on the current power situation at the church sanctuary, which is preventing us from using the space. After investigating, we've confirmed that the main power supply from TECO is functioning properly, and there are no issues on their end. The problem lies where the electrical feed enters our main switch gear that distributes power across the campus. The main breaker has failed and is experiencing what's known as phantom electrical pulses, causing it to trip repeatedly.

We've been working closely with both our electrician and an electrical engineer to explore all viable options for powering the existing breaker while a long-term solution is put in place. Due to the age of our electrical system, we tried installing a reconditioned breaker, but unfortunately, it made the situation worse. As a result, we had to reinstall the original breaker to maintain some level of normal operation while we continue to work toward a permanent fix.

Our current situation is that we are in discussions with the manufacturer of the main breaker (Square D Company), and they are working on designing a workaround. This would involve replacing the outdated breaker with a modernized one, but it requires reconfiguring some internal components of the main distribution system. Unfortunately, the lead time for this permanent solution is estimated to be 6-8 months.

In the meantime, we have been working with the electrical engineer and electrician to find a temporary bypass for the main breaker that complies with all safety codes and won't impact the rest of the electrical systems. This temporary solution would involve modifying the existing breaker to function as a switch. By doing so, we would still maintain the necessary protections required by electrical codes at all sub-panels and implement a lockout/tagout procedure on the main distribution panel.

This approach should allow us to resume normal operations until the new breaker is designed and installed. Once we've finalized all the necessary verifications, we expect to complete this temporary solution within the next two weeks.

We are currently facing a significant challenge, and we are doing everything we can to resolve the situation as quickly as possible. While we wish this were a simpler issue, it is unfortunately a rare and complex one, requiring more time than usual to fully understand and safely address. Rest assured, we are working diligently to resolve it and will continue to keep everyone updated on our progress.

In Christ,

Gannon Olmert

Chair of Buildings and Grounds Committee

First Presbyterian Church
637 6th Street, NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881

863-294-3121
www.firstpreswh.org
office@firstpreswh.org
Facebook.com/FPCWinterHaven

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

This newsletter is published weekly.

Church dated material, please deliver by 9/20/24.

Return Service Requested

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 236 lunches
the week of 9/9/24.



Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 175 people on
Saturday, 9/14/24.

CHRIST'S KIDS



Our faith-based after-school program, Christ's Kids continues **Wednesdays at 3:15 pm** on the playground till 5:30pm. Preschool age through 5th grade kids will remember *'we are God's accomplishments, created in Christ Jesus to do good things'*. (Eph. 2:10) Contact Rev. Sarah for more information.

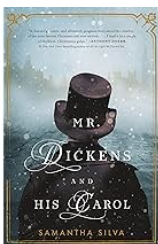
YOUTH GROUPS

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!

NOVEMBER BOOK CLUB



We will meet on **Monday, November 18 at 3 pm** in McLeod Hall as we discuss **Mr. Dickens & His Carol** by Samantha Silva.

We hope you will join us for this charming, comic, and ultimately poignant story about the creation of the most famous Christmas tale ever written, A Christmas Carol.

SOUP KITCHEN HELP NEEDED

Would you like to help love and serve those who hunger? We need head cooks and helpers for **every October Saturday.**



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

CHOIR AND BELLS



Chancel Bells rehearses every **Wednesday evening** from 6:00 - 7:00 in McLeod Hall.

Chancel Choir rehearses on **Wednesday evening** from 7:00 - 8:15 in McLeod Hall.

Chapel Bells rehearses every **Thursday afternoon** from 1:15 - 2:15 in McLeod Hall.

For more information, please call Jeremy at the church office or email him at jrath@firstpreswh.org.