

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of March 16, 2014

Issue 492

128 Years of Ministry

Dr. Steven R. Negley Senior Pastor

Dr. C. Alan Harvey Associate Pastor

Dr. Raymond M. Larson Minister of Visitation

Dr. James G. Manor Parish Associate

Amy L. McKee Director of Christian Education

Rachal H. Little Director of Student Ministries

David C. Brinson Director of Music Ministries

Ronda A. Lacy Director of Finance & Administration

Connie J. Shipley Administrative Assistant

> Rose Flynn Office Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant Director of Maintenance

Ann M. Quessenberry Custodian

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

March 16 is the Second Sunday in the church season known as Lent. Lent is the 40 day period leading up to Easter in which Christians prepare themselves to celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus. The forty days often begin with fasting on Ash Wednesday and include acts of penitent self-examination.



In their Lenten preaching, Dr. Harvey and Dr. Negley will be focusing on "Faithful Forties"; biblical stories which emphasize 40 days or 40 years in the lives of God's people. Please plan to make Lenten worship a part of your preparation for Easter.

SPLAP NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 16

Why? (SPLAP) St. Pat's Lunch And Party.

When? Immediately following the 11 o'clock worship service.

What to wear? Something green, of course!

What? Lunch in McLeod Hall – Shepherd's Pie, Salad,

Soda Bread, and Dessert.

For Children Only: Mac 'n' Cheese and Chicken

Nuggets.

What else? Fellowship and Fun for Everyone!

For Adults: Table Games and an Irish Sing Along.

For MSYG & HSYG: Scavenger Hunts.

For Children: Playground Time and Organized

Games.

Cost: \$6 for MSYG, HSYG, and Adults; \$3 for Children.

Please call the church office for reservations at 294-3121.



Church calendar

Sunday, March 16 Minute for Mission 3 Cents-a-Meal

8:50 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. OJ Fellowship (MH)

9:45 a.m. Sunday School-Children & Youth

10:00 a.m. Sunday School-Adults

11:00 a.m. Worship

12:00 p.m. St. Pat's Lunch And Party (MH)

4:00 p.m. Bach Festival (Sanctuary)

5:30 p.m. HSYG (SC)

Monday, March 17

8:45 a.m. MOM

6:15 p.m. Worship & Music (UR)

6:30 p.m. Christian Education (Off Site)

Tuesday, March 18

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)

9:30 a.m. Joy Circle (Off Site)

12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)

12:00 p.m. Finance (UR)

6:00 p.m. Local Mission (MCR)

6:30 p.m. Deacons (GR)

Wednesday, March 19

8:45 a.m. MOM

3:00 p.m. Christ Kids

5:15 p.m. Confirmation (SC)

5:30 p.m. MSYG (SC)

6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells

6:00 p.m. Evangelism (MCR)

6:30 p.m. Nominating Committee (GR)

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Open House (UR)

Thursday, March 20

3:00 p.m. Stephen Minister Training (UR)

7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells

Friday, March 21

8:45 a.m. MOM

Saturday, March 22

2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)

4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)



Remember in prayer

members

Audrey Hawk Maggie Beeland Judy Partain Michele & Neil Berger Liz Purnell Frances Heath Barbara Roberts Win Bertrus Doris Hill R. Otis Bice, Jr. Ranell Hillman Mary Ellen Rowker Lois Burrell Dave Ryan Ed Houston Millie Carrier Camille Howe Dorothy Ryan Harvey Snively, Jr. Joan Carruth Scott Irvin Jeff & Lisa Snyder George & Sylvia Chambers Dorothy Johnson Toni Krieger Tom Coffman Myrtice Stolz Norma Conner

Norma ConnerDena LancashireJean TannahillDon DingerAnne LeMacksLucy Jackson TeeterEunice DishmanDot LenfesteyHazel ThomasRich & Nancy DoblerPete & Judy LindsayGene & Carolyn Tho

Jerry Dugger Jeanne Estes

Dawn & David Fellows Lois Frakes

Phyllis Gilbert Marge Goodman Pete & Jean Harman Pete & Judy Lindsay
Spike & Jane Lucia
Rita Marcacci
Matt McGaffigan

Spike & Dentifer Vibral

Joan Murphy Max & Betty vonHahmann Nancy Neale Anne Windham

Randall Palmer Retha Wright
Dee Palmore

In the hospital: Anna Marie Barton



Military service

Aaron Ashley James E. Baker Ben Clark Deborah Clark Tim Davis Leah (Doty) Fuscia Eddie Gray Beau Gresham Chris Hagen Daniel Harp Sean Harp Coree Jones Terry Jones, Jr. Jackie Jung **David Knowles** Timothy Lee John Marotti Kaitlin Marotti Adam McPhail **Andrew Stapor** Keaton Thompson Jacob van Zandt

Charlotte Baker
Jerry Cooley
Luann Corby
Steve Crisman
Rodney Dugger
Millie Farthing
Thomas Francis
Arthur Girone
Clyde & Nancy Gray
Selma Griffith
Allen Hadley
Bryan Howard
John Katros
Bailee Kent
Geoff Lewis
Ruth Little
Sandy Neitsch
Julia Nichols
LaDonna Owen
Mike Parker

Geoff Lewis
Ruth Little
Sandy Neitsch
Julia Nichols
LaDonna Owen
Mike Parker
Warren Partain
Cliff Peno
Cassandra Pierce & family
Dottie Rhodes
Peggy Seigler

Brian Smith
David Smith
Kim Smith
Robert "Ned" Snively, Jr.
Scarlet Turner

Julie Valk & family

Friends and family

Rachal Little's friend
Susan Singleton's friend
Ron Damkjer's friend
Brian & Jennifer Boyce's friend
Jeff Bowen's friend
Squire & Punkin Smith's friend
Jim Francis' brother
Janet Golden's friend

Pam Gray's father & step-mother Mary Ann Snively's friend Morris Reddout's great-nephew Bob & Janet Howard's son

Lisa Endres father Nancy Chilton's niece Punkin & Squire Smith's friend

Rachal Little's mother
Sherie Ray's friend
Lia Gray's sister
Jonathan Owen's aunt
Julia Parker's son
Judy Partain's son
Helen & Orin Champlain

Jonathan Owen's friends Howard Beckert's sister Ellie Threlkel's friend

Ed & Donna Rounsley's friend Penn Tucker' friend Marilyn Sheffield & Cori Swango's friend

Jean Harman's son

Rick & Pat Reass' granddaughter
Penn Tucker's friends

Please help us visit our hospitalized members!

The tightening of HIPAA regulations has meant that we have missed visiting some of our members during their hospital stay. If you are a member or a friend of this congregation, or you have a family member admitted to any hospital, please call the church office and let the pastors know.

Thank you for helping us stay in touch with the congregation.

First Presbyterian welcomes back the

Bach Festival of Central Florida

They will perform, under the direction of Dr. Beth Gibbs,
Mass in G minor by Johann Sebastian Bach;
Psalm 117 by Telemann; and Chandos Anthems by Handel.
Come and enjoy this concert on **March 16 at 4:00** at
First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven



WE ARE Following the I AM

A series of Lenten Devotions for the Members and Friends of First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven



The Pastors and Program Staff members of our church will be providing daily devotions for the congregation to be used each day (excluding Sundays) in Lent 2014. The focus will be guided weekly by one "I AM" statement of Jesus. The six staff members will each reflect on the identity of Christ which is revealed in that scripture, and share their thoughts and a prayer in a brief written devotional. The week of **March 17** will be "I am the Light of the World."

You can join this Lenten devotional activity by having the daily thoughts e-mailed to you. If you receive the Tower Chimes by e-mail, this will come to you automaticly. If you do not receive your Tower Chimes by e-mail and want to receive the daily devotionals by e-mail, please send your request to office@firstpreswh.org. New devotions will also be posted daily on the church's Facebook page. Print copies can be picked up on Sunday for the six days which will follow.



Senior Housing Opportunities

PRIMETIMERS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS

This month we will discuss senior housing opportunities in Polk county. All church members and friends 55 years old and up are invited to join us for this informative gathering. Joyce Snively will be catering the meal. (\$8.00 per person)

When: Monday, March 24, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Where: McLeod Hall

What to Do: Call Carol Switalski at 845-5416 or the church office at 294-3121 to make your lunch reservation.



IT'S EVERYONE'S FAVORITE TIME OF YEAR...

That's right, flamingos are coming! Sales will begin Sunday morning, **March 30**. Mark your calendar, and start planning who you want to flock this year!



LADIES, COME JOIN US FOR LYDIA AND/OR JOY CIRCLE

Lydia Circle meets on the **second Monday of each month at 10 a.m. in McLeod Hall**. Joy Circle meets on the **third Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at Carol Carter's house.**



This year's study is titled "An Abiding Hope - The Presence of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy" from the Horizons Bible Study program.

ATTENTION ALL GRADUATING SENIORS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

Applications for the First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven College Scholarship are available. If you are interested in applying for either of our two scholarships, please contact Rachal Little at rittle@firstpreswh.org or 294-3121 to pick up your application.

Applications are due March 31 by 4:00 p.m.



IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN FOR EASTER EGG CANDY!!!

The Christian Education Committee is collecting plastic Easter Eggs with individually wrapped candy (no chocolate) or small prizes inside. These may be dropped off in McLeod Hall or the church office till **Friday, April 18.**



We will host our Eggstravaganza Easter Egg hunt on Easter Sunday at 10:25 a.m.

THE ALL CHURCH RETREAT...



"Finding Your Piece in God's Puzzle" - Your Personality and the Spiritual Life - The Person God Made You to Be will be held at Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center on April 5 & 6. We are looking forward to an amazing weekend with all of our First Presbyterian friends.

Registration forms are available in the Narthex, CE Building, or McLeod Hall for your convenience. Sign up now to reserve your spot for this terrific weekend. For additional information, please contact Amy McKee at 294-3121 or amckee@firstpreswh.org.

FIRST FACTS

Church members **Ed and Sharon Mitchell** were recognized recently by Theater Winter Haven as "Hamhocks of the Month", for their dedication over the past seven years volunteering as ushers, will call, ticket sales, and house managers. We know how much they do here at the church, and congratulate them for being praised also by folks in the community. **Well done, Sharon and Ed!**

The newly remodeled wrestling room at Winter Haven High School was recently dedicated to **Charlie Darte.** The plaque in the room reads:

"In recognition of Coach Darte's dedication to the wrestlers of the Winter Haven community and the sport of high school wrestling. Former, present and future wrestlers thank you for the lessons learned in this room as they apply to our adult lives".

BECOME A FRIENDSHIP CALLER



Would you like to "DO MORE" faith wise? We have a great place for you to make your wish become a reality! Become A FRIENDSHIP CALLER. What will you be asked to do? Simply be and do what you normally do; call on friends and neighbors to share your friendly self!

Come to our next gathering which is on the fourth Monday at 1:30 p.m. in the church office. If that won't work, call Ray @ 294-3121.

OUR STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE READY TO CARE FOR YOU!

Stephen Ministers are members who have been through extensive training and provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to people who are experiencing a difficult time. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and provide weekly support for you as long as your need persists.



If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by calling Pat Reass today at 206-9914, or ask one of our Stephen Minister Leaders: *Alan Harvey, Ray Larson, Steve Negley, Barbara Perkins, or Jean Strang.*

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to bring God's love and care into your life.

Celebrating Generosity with Adult Fellowship

A description in Acts (2:42) of the early church says that the members "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Here at First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven, we feel that fostering Christian fellowship is part of our purpose together. When it comes to our senior adults, one of the fellowship opportunities is our PrimeTimers.

From October – April, this group of people ages 55 and up gather once a month for food and fellowship. On the fourth Monday of the month during the program year, McLeod Hall becomes the meeting place for PrimeTimers. Carol Switalski contacts folks and takes care of the reservations. Joan Carruth decorates the tables. Mary Ann Snively helps coordinate with the caterer. Marie Williams handles the money. And when the people all come together, wonderful fellowship happens.

During the 2013-2014 PrimeTimers program year, the group has already enjoyed:

A conversation with County Commissioner Todd Dantzler A Thanksgiving/Christmas meal with a holiday sing-a-long



Still to come for our Primetimers will be:

A program on Senior Housing Options in Polk County March 24











A time with County Commissioner Ed Smith April 28



The senior adults of our church pay for their own meals in the PrimeTimers program. The generosity extended through the tithes and offerings of our members make sure that McLeod Hall and the church kitchen are open and ready to host this and other fellowship events for people across the age spectrum in our church. Together we are making sure that we can all get together as the family of God.

HYMNS FROM GLORY TO GOD

Saint Patrick was born around 380 A.D. in what is now Scotland. He was raised in a Christian home, but was kidnapped when 16 years old by raiders who took him as a slave back to Ireland. Six years later he escaped and returned home to his family. One night he had a dream where he saw an Irishman pleading for him to come evangelize in Ireland. He entered the priesthood and followed God's call back to the land of his pagan kidnappers.

At the time, Irish High King Laoire was trying to stem the spread of Christianity; to that end he decreed that no one shall light a fire until the pagan spring festival was launched by the lighting of a fire on Slane hill. Legend says that Saint Patrick defied this edict; he climbed Slane hill and lit a fire on Easter Eve to honor God despite the threat of death. It was said that the fire could not be doused by anyone but Patrick. King Logaire was so impressed with Patrick's brave devotion, he let him continue his missionary work unhindered. It was also on the Slane hill that Patrick used the shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity.

An 8th Century monk named Dallan Forgaill penned the



words to *Be Thou My Vision*, as a tribute to St. Patrick's wholehearted loyalty to God. Many years later the hymn became associated with an ancient Irish folk tune called *Slane*. It entered into Christian worship and quickly became a favorite of many.

Since 1933, *Be Thou My Vision* has appeared in Presbyterian Hymnals. For whatever reasons, the editors of the 1990 hymnal removed the fourth verse of *Be Thou My Vision* which begins "High King of Heaven." In *Glory to God* we have the restoration of the original, and its fourth verse.



YOUTH GROUP

MARK YOUR MARCH CALENDAR

March 16: Montreat Mtg., 5:15 pm

HSYG, 5:30-7:30 pm

March 19: Confirmation, 5:15-6:30 pm

MSYG, 5:30-7:30 pm

The Great Escape Mtg, 7:40 pm

March 23-30: No youth groups

SPRING BREAK!!!



Middle School Youth Group (MSYG) is for all students in grades 6-8. We meet every Wednesday from 5:30-7:30 pm in the Student Center for dinner, games, fellowship, and a lesson about God's love and what it means to be a young believer.

High School Youth Group (HSYG) is for anyone in grades 9-12. Our meetings are **Sunday nights from 5:30-7:30 pm** in the Student Center. We enjoy dinner, games, fellowship, and discuss God, our relationship with Him, and other relevant topics in the lives of high school age students.

For more information regarding our youth groups or to RSVP for any of these events, contact Rachal Little at 294-3121 or rlittle@firstpreswh.org.

CLASS OF 2017

CLASS OF 2017

The Nominating Committee has the responsibility of suggesting men and women to serve on the Session and the Diaconate. Your responsibility is to provide the names of those whom you feel meet the high standards of character required for these offices. These persons must have the time available to SERVE, the commitment to Jesus Christ to SERVE, and the ability to LEAD this congregation and its spiritual and physical growth for our Lord's sake.

Please prayerfully consider your recommendations (which may include yourself.) Your signature is not required.

These recommendations will be considered by the Nominating Committee which will present a slate for election. We are to elect five Elders and five Deacons to three-year terms to replace those retiring this year. We are also to elect five at-large members to serve on next years Nominating Committee.

Names(s) for consideration as:

ELDER DEACON 1. 1. 2. 2. 3. 3. 4. 4. 5. 5.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Please place in the offering plate or mail to the church office.





At 8:50 a.m., members and friends of First Presbyterian Church are invited to attend The Gathering. This service is held in the sanctuary. The piano is the primary instrument for leading in congregational music with a variety of instruments adding special touches from week to week. The prayers in worship and the flow of the service help the congregation gather in God's love. The Gathering ordinarily lasts 50 minutes and will conclude with the Benediction at 9:40 a.m.

At 9:45 a.m. children & youth Sunday School and 10:00 a.m. adult Sunday School. At 11:00 a.m., you are invited to attend our later morning worship. This service is held in the sanctuary with music and responses regularly led by our chancel choir and accompanied by organ and piano. In the tradition of our church, cultivated over the last few decades, a full liturgy gives the congregation opportunities for spiritual enrichment and the sense of God's love and grace. This worship service ordinarily lasts one hour and concludes with the Benediction at 12:00 p.m.

We hope you will join us in worship, study, and fellowship!

PLEASE JOIN US AT ONE OF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

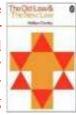
Preschool Children – Meet in Room 108 for their very own time of Bible stories, craft, and snack time.



All children in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to attend Route 52: A 52-Week Bible Journey – just for kids! The children explore the Bible with hands-on crafts, food, Bible study, and lots of fun with their friends. Children are divided into two groups: kindergarten through second grade and third through fifth grade. We gather for music from 9:45-10 a.m. in Room 101 and depart from there.

Middle School & High School Youth - meet in the Mary Spencer Reference Library at 9:45 a.m. for Soul Pancake. There is discussion, activity time, and of course BREAKFAST. Come hungry, come happy, and come hang out with Rachal Little and a variety of faithful volunteers on Sunday mornings.

The Perspectives Class – facilitated by Dr. Jim Threlkel and Mr. Glenn Thomas continues the second part of their study on The Old Law, The New Law by William Barclay. The class spends their time in The New Law. The words of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount have moved and challenged men and women since He first spoke them. Here they are explained, simply and clearly, showing how Jesus mixed honesty with compassion and helped people to inject good into life. This is the New Law. This study raises questions about war and peace, God and materialism, and about fostering essential relationships and values. This class meets in the Geneva Room in the CE Building.





Join Connect - Grow - Thrive as they begin Unfinished in 2014 ... "So you believe in God. Now what? Just before he left, Jesus sent his followers into the world with a revolutionary mission: to change the world by proclaiming God's truth and demonstrating his incredible love. But the single task he gave us to accomplish remains unfinished. In this small group Bible study, best-selling author Rich Stearns takes you and your small group on a breathtaking journey to rediscover the critical mission of Christ in our world today and the richness of God's calling on our lives. Why are you here, what is your purpose, and where do you fit in the bigger story God is writing?" This class meets in Room 207, please feel free to drop in anytime. Newcomers are ALWAYS welcome!

Sundays with Steve, God Talk in the Family of Faith - As people of the Christian faith, we talk about our faith. Questions and answers abound. Dr. Steve Negley invites you to join in a class that will explore the biblical texts that help us to answer some of the questions we face in life: How can we find God?

What are we doing here?

Why doesn't God do something about evil? What does God want with us? Is God against us?

...to name a few.

Bring your Bible and your God-given curiosity to the back section of McLeod Hall on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. to join in this exploration of faith.

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 3/14/14.

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

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 161 bag lunches in the week of 3/3/14.

> Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 75 people on 3/8/14.

Return Service Requested

GLORY TO GOD, THE PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL

Over a period of three and a half years, the Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song met regularly to sing, discuss, and consider thousands of hymns and songs to be included in the new Presbyterian hymnal. In 2012, the new hymnal was presented to the General Assembly and it was commended for use within the church. In late 2013, the hymnals were printed and began to be used in worship. After thorough discussion and consideration, the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven has adopted the new Presbyterian Hymnal *Glory to God* for use in worship.

OUICK FACTS

- Glory to God contains 853 hymns, compared to 605 of the current Blue hymnal.
- 65% of the Blue hymnal is in Glory to God; which basically means, if there is a hymn you like in the Blue hymnal... it's in *Glory to God*.
- The 65% of the Blue hymnal only constitutes 50% of the new hymnal.
- This means there are over 400 new hymns in the Glory to God!

To raise the funds necessary for Glory to God, the Session has approved the selling of dedications for each hymnal. Each dedication will be attached to the inside cover of the hymnal and will cost \$20.

"What about the Blue hymnals?"

If you or your family purchased a Blue hymnal dedication, you will be encouraged to take that hymnal home after Glory to God is adopted in mid-April. The Worship and Music Committee will label all the blue hymnals for pick-up.

We hope that you will consider purchasing a hymnal in honor or in memory of a loved one. Please fill out the forms below and return them to the office.

Glory .	to	God	Hy	mnal	D	ed	ica	tic	n
	-								

Your Name:	Amount: \$	
Please circle one - In Memory of or In Honor of:		