

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of March 9, 2014

Issue 491

127 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



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT



March 9 is the First 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.

We will have Holy Communion in both worship services on the **First Sunday in Lent.** 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.



Holy Communion

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 the 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.

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 be automatic. 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.

Week 1 > John 6:35 I AM the Bread of Life
Week 2 > John 8:12 I AM the Light of the World
Week 3 > John 10:11 I AM the Good Shepherd
Week 4 > John 11:25 I AM the Resurrection and the Life
Week 5 > John 14:8 I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life
Week 6 > Revelation 21:6 I AM the Alpha and the Omega

If you want to receive the daily devotionals by email, please send your email request to office@firstpreswh.org.

Church calendar

Sunday, March 9 Communion

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 5:30 p.m. HSYG (SC)

Monday, March 10

8:45 a.m. MOM

0:00 a.m. Lydia Circle (MH-Back)

6:00 p.m. Nominating Committee (MCR)

Tuesday, March 11 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR) 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)

6:30 p.m. Personnel (MCR)

Wednesday, March 12

8:45 a.m. MOM

12:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds (MH)

3:00 p.m. Christ Kids

5:15 p.m. Confirmation (SC)

5:30 p.m. MSYG (SC) 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 13

9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (EA)

6:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study (EA)

6:30 p.m. Stephen Minister Training (UR)

7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells

Friday, March 14

8:45 a.m. MOM

Saturday, March 15

9:00 a.m. Stephen Minister Training (UR)

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

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

7:00 p.m. Saturday Nite Live (MH)

Don't forget to move your clocks forward Saturday night, March 8, before going to bed.



Remember in prayer

members

Karen Alexander Anna Marie Barton Marge Goodman Maggie Beeland Michele & Neil Berger Cheryce Harris Audrey Hawk Win Bertrus R. Otis Bice, Jr. Frances Heath Lois Burrell Doris Hill Ranell Hillman Millie Carrier Joan Carruth Ed Houston George & Sylvia Chambers Camille Howe Peggy Chun Scott Irvin Jean Clemmons Dorothy Johnson Tom Coffman Toni Krieger Norma Conner Dena Lancashire Don Dinger Anne LeMacks Eunice Dishman **Dot Lenfestey** Rich & Nancy Dobler Jerry Dugger Spike Lucia Jeanne Estes Jim Manor Dawn & David Fellows Rita Marcacci Mary Firment Matt McGaffigan Lois Frakes Joan Murphy Gary Gardner Nancy Neale

Phyllis Gilbert Randall Palmer Dee Palmore Pete & Jean Harman Judy Partain Liz Purnell Barbara Roberts Mary Ellen Rowker Dave Ryan Dorothy Ryan Bill Siegel Harvey Snively, Jr. Jeff & Lisa Snyder Myrtice Stolz Jean Tannahill Lucy Jackson Teeter **Hazel Thomas** Jean & Carolyn Thompson Pete & Judy Lindsay Julia Trachy Ed & Suzy Threadgill **Shirley Turner** Jennifer Vibral Max & Betty vonHahmann Anne Windham Retha Wright

Friends and family



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 Rodney Dugger Millie Farthing Arthur Girone Clyde & Nancy Gray Selma Griffith Allen Hadley Bryan Howard John Katros Bailee Kent **Geoff Lewis** Ruth Little Julia Nichols LaDonna Owen Mike Parker Warren Partain Cassandra Pierce & family **Dottie Rhodes** Peggy Seigler Brian Smith David Smith Kim Smith Robert "Ned" Snively, Jr.

Scarlet Turner

Julie Valk & family

Anna Wilkenson

Mary Wilkenson

Rachal Little's friend Susan Singleton's friend Ron Damkjer's friend Jeff Bowen's friend Squire & Punkin Smith's friend 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 Lia Gray's sister Jonathan Owen's aunt Julia Parker's son Judy Partain's son 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

Shirley Hines' niece

Shirley Hines' sister

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.

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.

First Presbyterian welcomes back the

Bach Festival of Central Florida

Who 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
637 6th Street, NW Winter Haven, FL 33884





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!







"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

The Junior League of Greater Winter Haven held their 2nd Annual Light Up the Night 5K race on February 21. First Presbyterian Church had great participation with the following church members finishing in the top 3 of their age brackets: 1st Dillon Powell, 2nd Griffin Powell. Ava Frost 2nd, Rob Frost 3rd, Amy Powell 3rd and Teri Reineke 3rd. Great job First Pres crew!



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 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 Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven has adopted the new Presbyterian Hymnal Glory to God for use in worship.

THE PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL

QUICK 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.

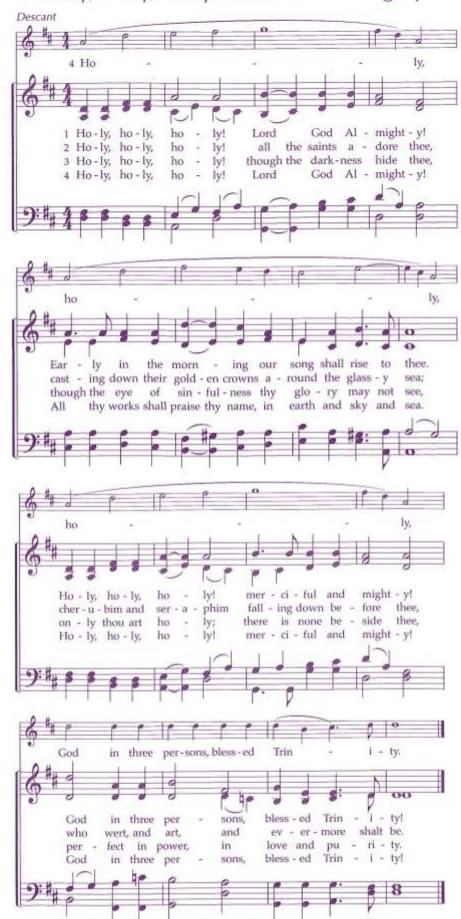
"What about the Blue hymnals?"

• 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.

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

1 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!





For one of the most popular hymns in the world, *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty* almost quietly disappeared from history. Only by God's providence was it was saved.

Reginald Heber (1783-1826) was a Bishop in the Church of England. In preparation for Trinity Sunday in 1826, he wrote *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty*. Later that year, Heber died unexpectedly at age 43. While going through some of his papers, his wife found a small collection of his writings. She recognized the beauty of the hymn and passed it to noted musician John B. Dykes, who then arranged the hymn as we know it today.

The hymn has its inspiration from several sources including the Sanctus of the Latin Mass, and Revelation 4:1-11. In this passage John catches a glimpse of Heaven and witnesses the creatures that speak day and night of the glory of God.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty first appeared in a Presbyterian hymnal in 1869. Since then it has practically never left and it has stood the test of time in our denomination, and many others around the world.

YOUTH GROUP

MARK YOUR MARCH CALENDAR

March 9: HSYG, 5:30-7:30 pm

March 12: Confirmation, 5:15-6:30 pm

MSYG, 5:30-7:30 pm

March 16: Montreat Mtg., 5:15 pm

HSYG, 5:30-7:30 pm

ELDER

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

The Great Escape Mtg, 7:40 pm

MSYG, 5:30-7:30 pm

March 23-30: No youth groups

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.

DEACON

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:

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.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



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 Talk-Sheets. 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 /7/14.

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

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 187 bag lunches in the week of 2/24/14.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 68 people on 3/1/14.

Return Service Requested

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 or complete the tear off form below and place in the offering plate on Sunday.

SPLAP - St. Pat's Lunch And Party

Name:	Adults:	MSYG/HSYG:	Children:
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