



Tower Chimes

First Presbyterian Church Of Winter Haven Florida

Issue 287

August 23 & 30, 2009



www.firstpreswh.org

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Up Coming Fall Events!

Fall Sunday School for the children will begin on Sunday, September 13 following a brief presentation at Rally Day. Youth and Adult Fall Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 20.



The **September Playground Picnic** will be held on Sunday, September 13 at noon. The menu will be hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, dessert, and drinks. A suggested donation of \$3 per person is appreciated. Please RSVP to Amy Smith (294-3121) by Wednesday, September 9 if you plan on attending.

Our **Wednesday afternoon Christ Kids** program will begin on Wednesday, September 9 with snack out on the playground beginning at 3:00 p.m. All children ages four through fifth grade are encouraged to attend for an afternoon of music, crafts, Bible stories, recreation, and fun for all. Registration forms are available; please see Amy Smith for more information. We would love to have your child participate this year. See you on 9-9-09!



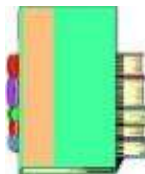
Presbyterian Women's Circles: Sarah Circle will begin meeting the second Monday, September 14 at 1:30 p.m. in McLeod Hall; Ruth Circle will begin meeting the second Monday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Geneva Room; Lydia Circle will begin meeting the second Monday, October 12 at 10:00 a.m. in McLeod Hall; Joy Circle will begin meeting the third Tuesday, October 20 at the home of Carol Carter.

PrimeTimers (for people 55+) will have their first meeting Monday, October 26, 2009 at 11:30 a.m. in McLeod Hall.



Choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 9, 2009 with Chancel Bells at 6:00 p.m. and Chancel Choir at 7:30 p.m.; Thursday, September 10 Chapel Bells will begin at 7:00 p.m. and Bell Ensemble will meet September 9 after Chapel Bells to decide when to begin. New members are always welcome!

A Preview of a Coming Attraction: Book Discussion Group on Tuesday evening October 13 at 7:00 p.m. you are invited to come to the McLeod Hall for a discussion of Garrison Keillor's latest book, *Life among the Lutherans*. Dr. Harvey will lead the review and question/answer session. Coffee and dessert will be served. The book should be available for check out from the Price Library beginning in early September. You also most likely may check it out through the Polk County Library Cooperative or purchase it on-line or in area bookstores.



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Church Calendar

Sunday, August 23

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Worship
 11:00 a.m. Blood Pressure Screening
 2:30 p.m. Messiah Association, UR
 5:30 p.m. HSYG Cookout

Monday, August 24

8:30 a.m. MOM
 10:30 a.m. Prayer Shawl, MH
 1:30 p.m. Friendship Callers, MCR

Tuesday, August 25

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, MCR
 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch, McLeod Hall
 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Geneva Room

Wednesday, August 26

8:30 a.m. M.O.M.
 5:30 p.m. FOCA
 5:30 p.m. MSYG Cookout

Thursday, August 27

7:00 p.m. Stamp Club, GR
 7:00 p.m. Overeaters, CE103

Friday, August 28

8:30 a.m. M.O.M.

Saturday, August 29

12:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Sanct/MH
 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep., Kitchen
 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen, 737 Building

Bag Lunch & Soup Kitchen Weeks of

8/3/09 & 8/10/09

579 Bag Lunches Given Out
 211 Fed at the Soup Kitchen

Family Emergency Donations

We are currently accepting donations of food items only for the Family Emergency Service. Please **DO NOT** bring clothing items at this time.

Chancel Choir News

The Chancel Choir is planning on going to Disney again for the Candlelight Processional during the Christmas Season. If you are not currently involved in singing but would like to be a part of this joyous experience, give Keith a call and let him know of your interest, you will be welcome. We are also inviting members of at least three church choirs in town to participate with us as well. The Chancel Choir is planning a choral retreat on one of the last weekends of October. This will be a fun event to help the choir bond and get better acquainted. Choir spouses will be welcome as well as others who may wish to come and give us a try. You are always welcome! Getting into a music group is one of the best ways to get to know people in a large church. Make this the year to get involved!

Church Calendar

Sunday, August 30

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Worship
 3:30 p.m. Mission Team Reunion, MH
 5:30 p.m. SHYG, SC

Monday, August 31

8:30 a.m. MOM

Tuesday, September 1

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, MCR
 10:00 a.m. Hospice, CE 103
 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch, McLeod Hall
 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Geneva Room
 5:00 p.m. Hospice, CE 103
 7:00 p.m. Session, GR

Wednesday, September 2

8:30 a.m. M.O.M.
 5:30 p.m. MSYG, SC

Thursday, September 3

7:00 p.m. Overeaters, CE103

Friday, September 4

8:30 a.m. M.O.M.

Saturday, September 5

2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep., Kitchen
 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen, 737 Building

Prayer Shawl Knitters

Prayer shawl knitters will meet at 10:30 a.m. in the back of McLeod Hall on Monday, August 24.

Honduras

The Honduras Mission Team will have a Reunion on Sunday, August 30 from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in McLeod Hall. The Mission Team and their family members are invited as we share stories from our adventures in Honduras, and make plans for our October 4 congregational luncheon.

Remember in Prayer

In Need of Your Prayers:

Anna Marie Barton	John Metzgar
Barbara Bissett	Joan Murphy
Geraldine Chilton	Jeanne Parks
Peggy Chun	Judy Partain
Sondra Cole	Jackie Pinckney
Rich & Buddie Daniel	Len Porter
Eunice Dishman	Rick Reass
Helen Dunaway	Dave Ryan
Helen Gross	Marguerite Sowards
Marge Goodman	Bert Schulz
Esther Huehn	Myrtice Stolz
Mary Pat Harding	Hazel Thomas
Ann & Al Hays	Shirley Thompson
Marj Howe	Ben Tucker
Dick Kingham	Sandra Turley
Jared Lockhart	Ann Wilford
Bob Lindstrom	Judith Winjum
Grayce McNamara	

Friends & Relatives:

Barbara Greathouse	(Michelle Morgan's mother)
Barbara Grimes	(Lois Frakes' friend)
Faye Harris	(Kay Gray's friend)
Jim Joiner	(Carol Anne Golden's friend)
A.J. Kayntma	(Lois Frakes' friend)
Frances Lilly	(Gloria Allen's mother)
Dick Madaus	(Dale Smith's friend)
Pat Marshall	(Larry & Candy Marshall's sister-in-law)
	(Kathy Michaels' daughter)
Laurie Miller	(Barbara Crowder's cousin)
Don Price	(former pastor)
Dana Richardson	(Bob Hines' friend)
Joan Russell	(Betty Johnson's friend)
Bill Shockley	(Carol Anne Golden's friend)
Ann Tullis	(Judy Winfree's mom)
Scarlett Turner	(Rick & Pat Reass' granddaughter)
Anne Vega	(Susan Wales' friend)
Charlene Verworn	(Roxanne McCann's mother)
Carol and Harvey White	(Gary Gardner's sister and brother-in-law)

In Military Service:

Eddie Gray	Michael Dobler	Ryan Beissinger
Jacob Spence	Derek Shelton	Adam Rooney
Leah (Doty) Fuscia	Adam McPhail	David Knowles
Sean Harp	Daniel Harp	Brian Parrish

Rally Day Breakfast

Rally Day will be held on Sunday, September 13 beginning with breakfast at 9:30 a.m. The menu will be omelets, bacon, biscuits, donuts, cereal, milk, and orange juice. This fellowship breakfast allows everyone a chance to learn about the exciting Sunday School programs offered this Fall at First Presbyterian, as well as provide a time to catch up with everyone after a busy summer. A sign up sheet is available in McLeod Hall.



M.O.M

Our Morning Out Mom Program is looking for a baby bed with movable sides. Should you have one you no longer need, please call Amy or Anne at the church (294-3121). Thank you!

Worship, Christian Education and Youth Ministries

Summer Sunday School for Children through Adults (May 31 – August 30)

Children of the Church are invited on an adventure of Shows, Songs, and Stories with Dr. Harvey. All children ages three through fifth grade graduates are invited to experience this hands-on faith journey with Dr. Harvey.

Middle School and High School Youth continue their focus with e|Merge 3.0. Feel free to bring a friend and drop in this summer at the Student Center.

The Perspectives Class continues their focus on “Current Hot Button Issues” and how they relate to Christianity. Dr. Jim Threlkel and Glenn Thomas facilitates this class. Please meet in the Geneva Room.

Where TV Land Meets Bible Land is led by Dr. Steve Negley. This class goes on an interactive faith journey through favorite TV shows of the past. Please meet in the back of McLeod Hall.

Youth Calendar

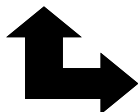
August 23: End of Summer HSYG Cookout, 5:30 p.m.

August 26: End of Summer MSYG Cookout, 5:30 p.m.

August 30: Youth Usher at 10:00 a.m., Worship Service

If you have any questions please contact Josh Peters at jpeters@firstpreswh.org or (863) 232-7337.

*mark
your
calendar*



Thank You From Our Youth

On behalf of the High School Youth Group, we would like to extend a very big thank you to Mrs. Marjorie Roe, Mr. Joseph & Mrs. Martha Burke, and the rest of the Roe family for sharing the Roe family beach house with us! August 11 & 12 the High School Youth from our church were privileged to go on a retreat to the Roe Family Beach House. While there the youth enjoyed fellowship in God’s beautiful creation, fun and games, and an evening devotional studying the Bible.



The following is taken from the Roe Family Beach House website:

“We offer our private family beach house for your stay. We do not hold a 'formal' relationship with our visitors..... everyone is a part of our extended family, which dates back to our first visitors, Charlie and Dodie Johnson. They were walking the beach on one of their visits to Vero back in the 1970s, and came up the boardwalk to inquire about renting the house. Marjorie Roe, the owner, designer and builder, replied "We only rent to friends and family", to which Charlie replied, "Then, perhaps, we can become friends"?

The rest is history. The Johnson family returned every year to spend winters at our family beach house, enjoying their family reunions there. And today, their children partner with us in providing that same 'family experience' to you!” It is our prayer that Mr. Willard & Mrs. Marjorie Roe’s vision of the beach house was remembered as it served as a place of fellowship, fun, and devotion for our church family. We could not have asked for a better location for our trip and are very grateful for the generosity of the Roes and the Burkes in donating their wonderful home to us for a couple of days. Thank you especially to Martha Burke for setting up this event!



Summer Sermon Series

Sundays through August 30, Dr. Negley and Dr. Harvey will be preaching from texts which lead us in understanding the life and faith of Peter, Paul, and some of the Marys. We hope that you will enhance the worship experiences by undertaking your own journey through the stories of the lives of these faithful followers of Jesus.

For the whole story of **Peter** (Simon) – you can begin by reading any of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John).

Paul (Saul) appears briefly in chapters 8 and 9, and then Paul plays a minor role in the shadow of Peter until chapter 13, and Paul’s first missionary journey. The spotlight then shifts to Paul. In Acts chapter 15, Peter and Paul are both important voices at the Jerusalem Council.

Mary is a fairly popular name in the New Testament, and stories of the different Marys are powerful illustrations of faithfulness.

Please join us in learning about and from these people who walked the discipleship path with Jesus, as we focus on stories of Peter, Paul, and the Marys.

Service of Wholeness

Service of Wholeness with Holy Communion will be at 6:00 p.m. on September 13 in the Chapel.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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FOCA



Bread Baking with Alan



Cross stitch with Nancy



Advent Banner with Pam



Flower Arranging with Peggy



Woodworking with Mark

Our Purpose

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 08/14/09

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Festival of Church Artisans

The Festival of Church Artisans will be 3/4 over by the time you read this. We have had a great time enjoying table fellowship and our respective workshops. Pam Baker has led the Advent Banner Making Workshop and their work will be displayed beginning the First Sunday of Advent, November 29. Nancy Dobler has guided a number of beginning and experienced counted cross stitchers in making Chrismons, which will decorate a tree for the Advent-Christmas seasons. Peggy Davis has instructed a class in Flower Arranging for Church and Home and the group made an arrangement for worship for Sunday, August 16. Alan Harvey did a food demonstration and those in that workshop prepared bread for Communion for Sunday, August 16. The Woodworking Group led by Mark Sanders has crafted four new plant pedestals which will be stained and polyurethaned this week. The mural/backdrop painting class taught by Mary Ellen Porter begins on Wednesday, August 19 and their work is to be completed by August 26. It has been a successful event and we thank all of the instructors and participants for their work in beautifying God's house.

First Presbyterian Connections Board

The Membership Development Committee has undertaken a new project to bolster communication within the congregation. The board is in McLeod Hall, near where the coffee pots are positioned. You are invited to post notices on the bulletin board to inform the congregation if you are having a yard sale, if you are wanting to give a possession away, if you have services you are willing to provide, if you are in need of community service hours, if you are looking for work, etc. Each notice is to have the member or friend's name, phone number and the date it was placed on the board. Ordinarily notices will be removed no more than two weeks after posting. Those wishing to leave a long-standing notice on the board need to speak to Dr. Harvey or Barbara Crowder, Chair of the Membership Development Committee. We hope this will serve the needs of our congregation and facilitate better communication between our members and friends.

With Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to **Dorothy Leavitt** upon the death of her father, Eric Wyndham Bull on Tuesday August 11, 2009; we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of **Antoinette "Toni" Brink** who died on Friday August 7, 2009, in Falmouth, Massachusetts.

Come and See...

What God is doing in the lives of our youth!

“For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

On Sunday, August 9, 2009, the young people in our church gathered and led us in a worship service as we celebrated the Good News of the Gospel and reflected on where God has brought us and on God’s plan for our futures. There were many youth that had a role in service that day as they served as ushers, greeters, joined the gathering music group, and lead us in worshipping our God.



Some of the youth planned and wrote parts of the liturgy for this service and we are very grateful for the use of their gifts and abilities to glorify God. Nick Elmore lead the congregation in the call to worship. Will Butz lead us in the prayer of confession and in a unique prayers of the people as he invited the congregation to come forward and write or draw their prayers to God. Paige Butz lead us in the assurance of pardon while Kenneth vonHahmann lead the offering and the blessing of tithes and offerings. Jacob Dantzler took on the tough task of leading the children’s message. Tori Harper, Chelsea Beaver, and Lindsay Snyder shared a message with the congregation of how God has worked through the

Body of Christ at First Pres to shape and guide them on their journeys of faith. Tori, Chelsea, and Lindsay shared three very different stories of faith and how God has worked in each of their lives through First Presbyterian Church. They also shared how they are encouraged by that journey of faith as they start another part of their lives as all three will be attending college this fall. The charge and benediction, written by Rachel Harris, challenge us as Christians to continue on our journeys of faith.

“Today in worship you have been asked to reflect on who we are. I ask you now to take a moment to reflect on who you are and who you were. Think back to your teenage years. What things did you like or dislike? What things were you good at and what were you not so good at? What was your favorite subject in school? What kind of clothes did you wear? Now think about your life as a Christian. What experiences led you to God? Why are you in worship right now? Today we as a group have explained a small portion of our story, but the Christian story is collective.



We are all part of the same body of Christ, whether we are eleven or seventy, four or ninety-four. We are a community. I charge you, I charge us, to go into the world this week and share the love of Christ, not as individuals, but as one unified group.

Go in peace, and may the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion and fellowship of the Holy Spirit abide with you forevermore.”

If you would like more information on what is happening in our youth ministry program or if you would like to get involved as a volunteer or providing a meal for the youth group, please contact Director of Youth Ministry Josh Peters at (863) 294-3121 or jpeters@firstpreswh.org.



Mission Honduras 2009 — In Their Own Words

From June 20-27, 2009, our congregation sponsored a 29-member mission team to the country of Honduras. This group was our church's sixth week-long mission adventure over the past 11 years, in partnership with the churches in the Presbytery of Honduras and the Presbytery of Tampa Bay. The generous support of our congregation has made this continuing ministry possible. God is doing marvelous things in the lives of our members and our Honduran Christian brothers and sisters. Here's how Will Butz, a young member of our congregation who was baptized and confirmed in our church, describes the experience:

Will Butz

Mission Honduras 2009 was an incredible experience. The Honduran people are absolutely amazing. They are the kindest, friendliest group of people I've ever met. We all grew close to Alex and Noel over the week; viewing them not as merely interpreters, but as friends and brothers in Christ. The people in the villages did not stand around idly and watch as we worked. No, they labored to improve their church and community. The pastor of the church in the village of Moropocay traveled an hour on foot each day to join us at the worksite. They were there when we arrived, and worked after we had left. Their smiles, whenever I picture a Honduran, they always have a smile. The children, the adults, the hotel guard holding the shotgun. It did not matter if it was hot, humid, or pouring down rain. They always wore a grin. The most incredible thing to me about these incredible people was their faith. We spent two nights in worship with Pastor Gloria in Nacaome. The people there were just so full of the Lord's Spirit. We could not understand the music and most of the words, but we could see God's presence among them. These people who the world may consider poor are rich where it counts, in faith.





Thank you, members and friends of First Pres., for the prayerful and generous support of Mission Honduras.