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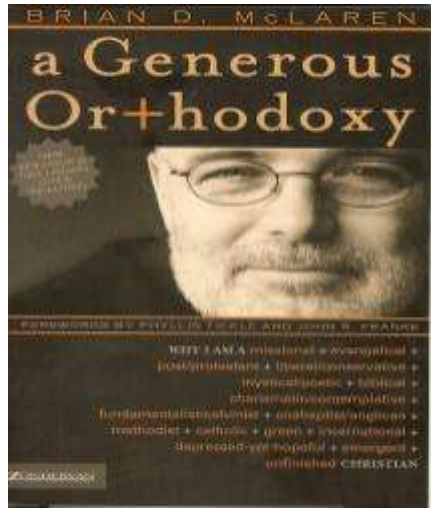
# Tower Chimes

## First Presbyterian Church Of Winter Haven Florida

Issue 289

September 20, 2009

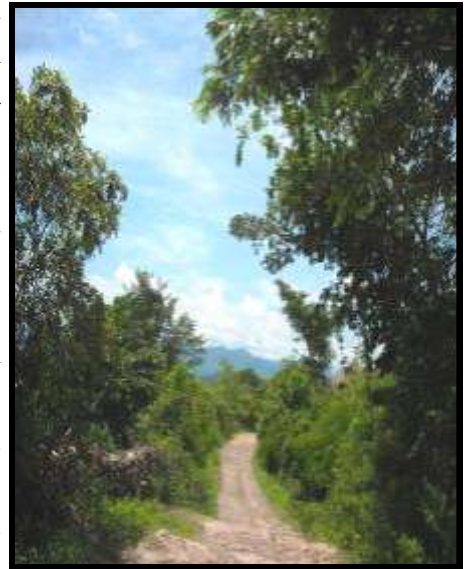
### Generous Orthodoxy Book Study



There's still time to join our Generous Orthodoxy book study. Dr. Negley will be leading the monthly study on the second Tuesday night of each month (6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.). For October, the group will discuss chapter 2 (Jesus and God B) and chapter 3 (Would Jesus Be a Christian?) of Brian McLaren's book. If you would like to be a part of the discussion, read ahead and join us in October.

### Come and See—Taste—and Hear About Mission Honduras 2009

As a thank you to all who prayed and paid for our trip, our 2009 Honduras Mission Team will be cooking and serving a congregational luncheon on Sunday, October 4 (World Communion Sunday). Please plan to join us in McLeod Hall at 12:15 p.m. for chicken and rice, tortillas, plantains, refried beans, and flan. There will be a Mission Show and Tell at each table (hosted by one of our 29 "2009 missionaries"). And the whole group will tell about our most recent Mission Honduras experience, with the help of a video and multi-media show captured and edited by mission team member Pam Baker. Mark your calendars and come and celebrate this wonderful mission partnership!



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## Church Calendar

### Sunday, September 20 Three Penny Partners

8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Worship  
12:00 p.m. Acolyte Training  
5:30 p.m. SHYG, SC

### Monday, September 21

8:30 a.m. MOM  
10:00 a.m. PW Steering, Annex  
10:00 a.m. Quilters, MH  
6:15 p.m. Cub Scouts, CE101

### Tuesday, September 22

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

### Wednesday, September 23

8:30 a.m. M.O.M.  
3:30 p.m. Christ Kids  
5:30 p.m. MS Youth, SC  
6:10 p.m. Chancel Bells, MS  
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, MS

### Thursday, September 24

10:00 a.m. J Manor, UR  
7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells, MS  
7:00 p.m. Overeaters, CE103  
7:00 p.m. Stamp Club, GR  
8:00 p.m. Bell Ensemble, MS

### Friday, September 25

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

### Saturday, September 26

9:30 a.m. Alpha Jewels, GSH  
2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep., Kitchen  
4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen, 737 Building

### Bag Lunch & Soup Kitchen Week of 9/7/09

213 Bag Lunches Given Out  
87 Fed at the Soup Kitchen

## Three Penny Partners

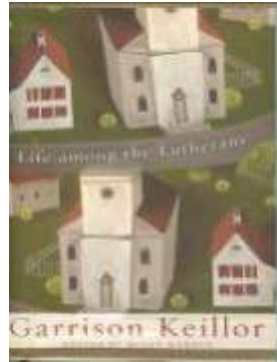
**Our Three Penny Partners** will be collecting the 3-Cents-a-Meal hunger offering during the worship service Sunday, September 20. Please bring your home collections to go toward our Soup Kitchen/Bag Lunch Ministry, Beth-El Farmworkers Ministry, and Honduras.



## PW Steering

Presbyterian Steering Committee will meet Monday, September 21 at 10:00 a.m. in the Edinburg Annex.

## Book Discussion



### Book Discussion Group: *Life among the Lutherans* by Garrison Keillor

On Tuesday evening, October 13 at 7:00 p.m. you are invited to come to the back of 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. Those planning to attend are encouraged to pay particular attention to the character, Pastor David Ingqvist and to activities within the church. The book is now available for check out from the Price Library. You also most likely may check it out through the Polk County Library Cooperative or purchase it on-line or in area bookstores.

## Remember in Prayer

### Winter Haven Hospital

LaFoye Schuldt

### In Need of Your Prayers:

Richard Ashby	Jerry Maranda
Anna Marie Barton	Grayce McNamara
Barbara Bissett	John Metzgar
Geraldine Chilton	Joan Murphy
Peggy Chun	Jeanne Parks
Sondra Cole	Judy Partain
Rich & Buddie Daniel	Jackie Pinckney
Eunice Dishman	Dee Palmore
Helen Dunaway	Rick Reass
Helen Gross	Dave & Bonnie Ryan
Marge Goodman	Lafoye Schuldt
Marilyn Hearn	Marguerite Sowards
Harold & Mary Hosier	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
Kathryn Marshall	

### Friends & Relatives:

Brenda Chandler	(Carol Anne Golden's friend)
Charles Crews	(Phyllis Gilbert's friend)
Jon Gardner	(Gary & Pat Gardner's grandson)
Barbara Greathouse	(Michelle Morgan's mother)
Barbara Grimes	(Lois Frakes' friend)
Richmon Goggans	(Kathy Michael's friend)
Faye Harris	(Kay Gray's friend)
Fernando Huentes	(Pastor in Suapa Honduras)
Joanne Iewns	(Gene Aspy'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)
Laurie Miller	(Kathy Michaels' daughter)
Don Price	(Barbara Crowder's cousin)
Dana Richardson	(former pastor)
Joan Russell	(Bob Hines' friend)
Bill Shockley	(Betty Johnson's friend)
Ann Tullis	(Carol Anne Golden's friend)
Scarlett Turner	(Judy Winfree's mom)
Anne Vega	(Rick & Pat Reass' granddaughter)
Charlene Verworn	(Susan Wales' friend)
Carol and Harvey White	(Roxanne McCann's mother)
	(Gary Gardner's sister and brother-in-law)

### In Military Service:

Eddie Gray	Michael Dobler	Ryan Beissinger
Jacob Spence	Derek Shelton	Adam Bass
Leah (Doty) Fuscia	Adam McPhail	David Knowles
Sean Harp	Daniel Harp	Brian Parrish
James E. Baker	Jarrett Abbott	Aaron Ashley
Chris Hagen		

## Condo For Sale

**Condo For Sale**—The church is selling the condominium unit (700 Mirror Terrace NW, # 504) left to us in the will of Helen Clauson. Any person interested in purchasing the condo should contact the church treasurer, Jay Gray, (jgray@nctgroup.com) by September 25.

## Worship, Christian Education and Youth Ministries

## Fall Sunday School



**Sunday, September 20**  
**9:45 – 10:45 a.m.**

**Preschool Children** will meet in CE 108 at 9:45 for their fabulous Sunday School time filled with singing, crafts, and a Bible Story.

**Children in kindergarten through fifth grade** will *Dig into the Bible* this Fall with their Workshop Rotation. During this six week lesson, children will be able to experience the Bible story through computers, art, science, storytelling, cooking, and movies.

**Middle School and High School Youth** meet at 9:45 a.m. in the Student Center as they share in discussions that focus on the major events and teachings in Jesus' life. Both groups meet together for a time of prayer and fellowship and then break into two separate groups for sharing. These classes are taught by a rotation of volunteers from our congregation.

**Adults have two choices for  
 Adult Fall Sunday School**

**The Perspectives Class** will continue their discussion on Who is Jesus/Who was Jesus by Marcus Borg. Dr. Jim Threlkel and Mr. Glenn Thomas facilitate this class. Please meet in CE103 starting on September 20 for this class.

**First Pres 101** will be led by Dr. Steve Negley and Dr. Alan Harvey. This class will focus on the history of First Presbyterian, history of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., mission, ministry, and enjoy a church tour. All are welcome to attend. This class meets in the rear of McLeod Hall.

## Youth Activities



Just a reminder that the High School and Middle School youth groups will be going bowling at the end of the month! High Schoolers will be bowling together at Cypress Lanes on Sunday, September 27 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Please meet at the

Student Center and bring some friends! Cost is \$10.

Middle Schoolers will be bowling on Wednesday, September 30 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Recreation Station in Lake Wales. Please meet at the Student Center by 5:30 p.m. and bring some friends, cost for this event is \$10.



**PARENTS** please make sure your students turn in a signed copy of the "Youth Group Consent and Approval Form". If you need another one they are available online at [www.firstpreswh.org](http://www.firstpreswh.org) just click on the youth link and download it. Also, if you are an approved volunteer and would like to help chaperone this event please contact Josh at (863) 232-7337 or [jpeters@firstpreswh.org](mailto:jpeters@firstpreswh.org). Thank you for all you do!

## Youth Calendar

**September 20:** HSYG 5:30-7:30 p.m.

**September 23:** MSYG 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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

**Movie/Game Night** will be held on Friday evening, September 18. All are welcome to attend an evening of Christian fellowship, food, and fun with your friends from First Presbyterian. Please bring a covered dish to share. After dinner the children have their own movie night while the adults stay in McLeod Hall and play games.

**There will be a brief Acolyte Training** session for those children who have entered the first grade or those in older grades who are interested in acolyting. Don't forget the Acolyte Sign-up sheet is located on the CE bulletin board in the Christian Education building.

**Christ Kids** started on September 9. All children ages four through fifth grade are invited to join us for this weekly afternoon program. We meet every Wednesday from 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Please contact Amy Smith at 294-3121 for more information.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

637 6th Street NW  
Winter Haven, FL 33881

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office@firstpreswh.org

### 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 09/18/09

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### **ADVENT DEVOTIONAL—RESERVE YOUR COPY NOW!**

**The 2009 Advent Devotional is going to be unlike any we have previously done! The cover and the three page appendix will be in full color!**



This may be a keepsake issue for many of you. Especially as we are under some tight budgetary restrictions this year, we want to be good stewards of our resources. Sometimes we have many copies of the Advent devotionals left over and with the cost of paper, color printing and distinctive assembling, we want to avoid that situation this year. ***We want everyone who wants a copy to have one as well as those who may visit with us during the holiday season!***

Printing of the devotionals will begin in the next couple of weeks so please call the church office 294-3121 to reserve a copy or complete the tear off found in the bulletins on Sundays, September 13 or 20. Thanks for your cooperation!

## *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 **Chalsey Martin**, a young member of our congregation who was baptized and confirmed in our church, describes the experience:

I was so fortunate to be a part of Mission Honduras 2009. I cannot even begin to explain how the experience touched me. I had never been to Honduras before; I had never even left the country before. I had never even flown before. From the start, the trip was exciting for me. I was preparing a year ahead of time to take this trip to Honduras, I even made 100 bracelets that said "Vaya con Dios" meaning "Go with God" to give to the children. Thankfully, I am fluent in Spanish and was excited to be immersed in a country that only spoke Spanish.



When the time actually came I could not believe it was here. We all awoke on Saturday morning bright and early ready to go to the Orlando airport. I recognized many of the faces from the congregation, but a lot of us were strangers to each other. I immediately knew that we would leave Honduras as more than strangers when Mr. Rich so kindly gave me his seat so I would not sit alone on my first flight. We were supposed to fly out of Miami at 10:50 a.m. and arrive a mere 15 minutes later (there is a 2 hour time difference) in Honduras at 11:05 a.m., haha, however, our flight was delayed so our hosts were waiting patiently as we arrived about 45 minutes late. We arrived in Toncontin International Airport in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The view flying in was breathtaking. We met our Honduran hosts Alex and Noel. Alex and Noel live in Tegucigalpa and were our lifeline to the country. Immediately they were very friendly and helpful. Myself, Jared Lockhart, Jacob Dantzler, and Josh Peters hopped in Alex's car, and by the end of the week were known as "Alex's Passengers." That night we settled into the Hotel MacArthur which is where we would be staying that night, and the following Thursday and Friday night. My roommate for the week was Ms. Amy Smith, who was by far the best roommate!

On Sunday morning after a traditional Honduran breakfast at Wendy's we drove two hours to a little village called Nacaome. Nacaome impacted me in more ways that I can explain. Sunday night we were welcomed into the Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nacaome. Pastor Gloria and her congregation welcomed us into their church as family. Pastor Negley gave a wonderful sermon that said "Although we are different, we are similar; How? In Christ." It was a completely different experience than many of us were used to. The church service consisted of a lot of singing, clapping, and tambourine playing. A song I especially remember required that everyone got out of their seats and walked around shaking the hands of the others. I was so excited to return to Nacaome after that night.



The next morning, Monday, after meeting in the lobby of our new Hotel Real Vista Hermosa at 6:30 in the morning, we left for Moropocay. We were not aware of what was in store. Moropocay is a small village on what seemed like the top of a mountain. We traveled winding, gravel roads uphill to reach the small village of Moropocay. Immediately there was a line of people seeking medical attention. Dr. Moreno and his daughter Alejandra live in Honduras and are very generous to give their time to be with us and help with the brigades. There were many children

seeing the doctors, and playing on their see-saw that lacked seats. It was such a wonderful thing to see their eyes light up from such small things as bubbles, or tying yarn in a braid, or the small bracelets that I wish I'd made more of. It was so amazing to see the little girls laughing as I tried to teach them to jump-rope on one foot. The strong men in our group had the privilege of hauling large boulders up from the river to the church to add another room to the church. They also made cement from the river water and used stones to create the wall.

Tuesday some of us went to Las Crucitas. Upon arriving in Las Crucitas, much to our dismay there was nobody waiting for us at the church. It was apparent that a Medical Brigade would not occur on this day. We were upset that we could not provide them what we had anticipated. However, we got the opportunity to walk in the church, and leave the toys and clothing that we had brought for them. Dr. Moreno, the doctor that was with us in Honduras agreed that he and his family would return to Las Crucitas on Sunday, the day after our Mission Team returned to the United States, and do the brigade that we had wished to do. It was so meaningful to our team, as we were upset that we could not treat those that needed it. It really showed how Dr. Moreno truly cares. We left Las Crucitas on Tuesday and made our way to Nacaome, a mere five minutes from where we stayed. In Nacaome, since we were not anticipating going until Wednesday, we were able to paint the inside of the church there. We would return the following day. The other group returned to Moropocay to continue with the construction team and successfully built a foundation for the new room on the church. Unfortunately I was unable to see the outcome, but anticipate the pictures!



Wednesday, I was able to return to Nacaome. I was so excited to help with the brigade, but even more excited to be able to do crafts and play with the children. We had such a great time playing “Pato, Pato, Ganso” or “Duck, Duck, Goose” and playing soccer. The children were so eager to just be around us. They were supposed to be at school, but pointed out to us that the Medical Brigade was more important that day. They were also curious if we would be returning the following day. Sadly, not all of us were. A very awakening moment for me was when we gave out punching balloons. Unfortunately we did not have enough for all

of them. So I split the girls into a group and two groups of boys. We advised them to share, and after a little practice they did. A little girl named Pamela then came up to me and said “We want you to keep the balloon.” I told them it was a gift for them. However, she then told me “We will fight if we keep it because we can’t agree whose house to keep it at.” I was in such shock because these children, who do not have much, were willing to give me back the gift we gave them to avoid fighting with each other. I let them know I would leave their gift in the church so they could share it when they came to church. I also had the opportunity to talk with some of the adult women. They were so interested in where we were from and wanted to know all about me.

That night we were able to once again go to the church in Nacaome. However, this night was different from the first night we attended church. The first night we went to church, we sat by each of the others in the Mission Team not knowing anybody. However, we now had made friends in Nacaome and we were all dispersed among our Honduran family. Once again, it was a lot of singing, and clapping, and tambourine playing. Although different from what I’m used to, I enjoyed watching them so immersed in their songs; and wishing that I knew all the words to sing. Leaving Nacaome brought me to tears. I had made many friends, both young and old alike. I am truly waiting to return.



Thursday was our last day of Mission work. Some of us went to a village called La Venta. La Venta is the hometown of Pastor Juan Rodas, the president of the presbytery in Honduras and our host Alex’s dad. We were able to give medical attention to approximately 160 people, and those that unfortunately could not be seen were not sent home empty handed. They received clothing, toys, shoes, glasses, and other things. We were able to give them these things thanks to the donations of many of those in the congregation, along with those who were part of Mission Honduras 2009. The other group returned back to Nacaome to add a second coat to the inside of the church, and to paint the front façade of the church.

Friday we became tourists in Honduras. We went to a place called Valle de Angeles, “Valley of the Angels.” There we purchased many gifts for friends and family, as well as mementos to remember our time in Honduras. After leaving Valley of the Angels, we ate dinner that night at a place called “Asados el Gordo” loosely translated to “Grill the fat,” or something similar. It was one of the favorite places of our host Alex. We were able to meet the families of our hosts and enjoy a lovely dinner while hearing the touching story of Dr. Moreno. It was a time of joy, and of sadness for we knew our time in Honduras was coming to an end. We followed dinner with dessert on the roof of the Hotel MacArthur to celebrate the Zwicker’s 43rd Wedding Anniversary, and to enjoy the view of Tegucigalpa at nighttime. It was an especially memorable time.

A The next morning we awoke and made our way to the airport. We all gathered in our original cars and made our last trip across Tegucigalpa. Alex and Noel had VIP passes to accompany us all the way until we got on our planes. Most of us enjoyed a lovely “breakfast” at McDonalds! It was exciting to find that McDonalds not only served DOUBLE—BIG MAC’S, but also FRIED CHICKEN! We picked up some last minute souvenirs and made our way to the waiting area to board our planes. All too soon, our group was called to board the plane. My last memories in Honduras include tearful goodbyes and many hugs to our new friends. They were tears of joy to have met them, and tears of sadness to be leaving.



So now, here I am, back in the United States. I am so grateful for the many blessings God has given me and continues to give me. Although I came back to my many luxuries and my dearly missed family I have here in the States, I was secretly wishing that my time in Honduras was not over. I now reminisce on the memories that play in my mind from Honduras. “Alex’s passengers” learning two new songs in a car ride from dinner. One song, named “The Donkey Song” was quickly a hit among our group. The other song was a Christian song, “Alabaré a mi señor” or “Praises to my Father,” that seemed to stay within our car and I wish I had had the courage to sing it in our Honduran church. I think back to the culture differences, the pointing with their lips that I just had to bring back to the U.S. with me. I think of the hand games that a little girl, Pamela, taught me that I will teach my niece. I think back to the new words I learned along the way, for example, “BACHE!” means “pothole” of which we saw and avoided many. Although I wrote this much, it still does not even touch the surface of my time in Honduras. I cannot wait for my return to Honduras, and as I sit here, tearfully remembering the wonderful week spent there and witnessing how God’s love is shared among so many people, I know that although I went to help those in Honduras, they too helped me.

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