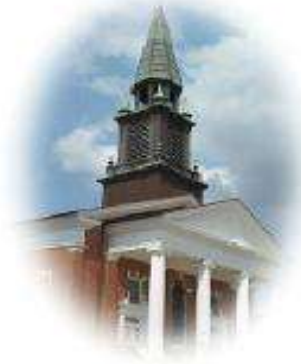


Tower Chimes

First Presbyterian Church

of Winter Haven Florida



January 17, 2010

Issue 306

124 Years of Ministry

Meeting of the College of Ordained Church Officers (COCO)

All members of our congregation who are ordained church officers—whether ordained as an elder or deacon here, or in any Presbyterian Church (USA) congregation—are invited to join us for supper on Sunday, January 24, 5:30 p.m. in McLeod Hall. We hope this gathering will help us celebrate the ministry that we share as ordained leaders in Christ's church.

We are planning an evening of fine food and Christian fellowship as we all get to know other ordained church leaders. Our agenda will include celebrating our newly ordained officers—those ordained and installed at the worship services January 10—sharing stories of our own ordination and a glimpse into the ministry we share at First Presbyterian Church. We will adjoin the COCO gathering by 7:00 p.m.

Talent Show

January 31, 2010 from 5:30 - 7:30p.m. in McLeod Hall

Head cook Roxanne McCann will be preparing a wonderful dinner and the talent show will follow. Master of Ceremonies Todd Dantzler will lead this year's show that features a wonderful list of very talented people from our very own congregation. It will be an exciting evening of fellowship as we celebrate the different gifts God has given us.

This all church event is a fundraiser for our youth programs and there is no cost to attend but any donations will be thankfully accepted.



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

We would be honored by your presence so please join us!

THANK YOU!



Church Calendar

Sunday, January 17 3 Penny Partners

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Bell Ensemble (MS)
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
5:30 p.m. HSYG (SC)

Monday, January 18

- 8:30 a.m. M.O.M.
10:00 a.m. PW Steering (EA)
6:30 p.m. CE Meeting (GR)

Tuesday, January 19

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, (MCR)
9:30 a.m. Joy Circle (EA)
12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)
6:30 p.m. Gen Orth Bk Stdy (MSL)
6:30 p.m. Deacons (GR)

Wednesday, January 20

- 8:30 a.m. M.O.M.
3:30 p.m. Christ Kids (CE)
5:30 p.m. MSYG (SC)
6:10 p.m. Chancel Bells (MS)
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (MS)

Thursday, January 21

- 9:00 a.m. Beth Moore Stdy (EA)
7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells (MS)

Friday, January 22

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

Saturday, January 23

- 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Preparation
4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)

Sunday, January 24

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Bell Ensemble (MS)
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. BP Screening (EA)
5:30 p.m. HSYG (SC)
5:30 p.m. COCO/Session (MH)
7:00 p.m. Session

Bag Lunch & Soup Kitchen Week of 1/4/10

Bag Lunches Given Out - **346**
Fed at the Soup Kitchen - **94**



We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of **Terry Smith**, who died on Sunday December 27, 2009. His service was held at Ott-Laughlin Saturday, January 2, 2010.

FIRST FACTS

Charlie Reineke had a role in Grace Lutheran School's Christmas play and his picture appeared in a mid-December issue of The News-Chief. **Bravo Charlie!**

Sarah Claire Smith was an ensemble player in the Hilton Head, South Carolina production of *My Fair Lady*, which ran from late November through Christmas. From all reports it was a first class production and Sarah Claire and the entire cast gave performances that Broadway would welcome. **Brava Sarah Claire!**

Anita Parish, former Director of Christian Education of FPC-WH, is retiring from active ministry after 30 years of service. She will be relocating to Florida, where her two grandchildren (twins) are expected to be born in May. She will be honored at a reception Sunday, January 24 following worship at First Presbyterian Church in Shreveport, Louisiana. Should you wish to extend your congratulations to her, you may send them to her at this address: c/o First Presbyterian Church, 900 Jordan Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101-4378. **We ask God's blessing upon Anita that she will enjoy a very happy retirement filled with the pleasures of being a doting grandmother.**



Three Penny Partners will be collecting the 3 Cents-a-Meal hunger offering during the worship service

January 17. Please bring your home collections to go toward our Soup Kitchen/Bag Lunch Ministry, Beth-El Farm-workers Ministry, and Honduras.

Remember in Prayer

Winter Haven Hospital:

Kay Hedden
Buddie Daniel
Ed Gorsky

In Need of Your Prayers:

Anna Marie Barton	Marcia Keplinger
Barbara Bissett	Al Kersbergan
Ann Burch	Bob Lindstrom
Millie Carrier	Janice Maranda
George & Sylvia Chambers	Jerry Maranda
Orin Champlain	Kathryn Marshall
Geraldine Chilton	Joan Murphy
Alice Colgrove	Jean Parks
Buddie Daniel	Judy Partain
Eunice Dishman	Dee Palmore
Jerry Dugger	Marguerite Sowards
Helen Dunaway	Andy Stavros
Twila Forsyth	Myrtice Stolz
Bob Gerber	Hazel Thomas
Helen Gross	Sandra Turley
Mary Hosier	Max von Hahmann
Mary Pat Harding	Ann Wilford
Al & Ann Hays	
Dick Kingham	

Friends & Relatives:

Dan Ahern	(Susan Singleton's friend)
Kerbi Blake	(Al and Marjorie Porter's daughter)
Beau Florence	(Bob & Marilyn Sheffield's friend)
Jon Gardner	(Gary & Pat Gardner's grandson)
Ben Jordon	(Carol Anne Golden's friend)
John Mann	(Bob Hine's friend)
Art McNamara	(Nancy Shaw's brother)
Linda Partlow	(Bob & Marilyn Sheffield's cousin)
Marilyn Pletcher	(Merry Stewart Borowski's friend)
Mickki Reass	(Rick Reass' mother)
Dana Richardson	(Bob Hine's friend)
Edna Haynes Scarborough	(Phyllis Gilbert's friend)

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	Bridgette Thompson	Chris Turner
Keaton Thompson		

Prayer List Reminder: At the beginning of each month, the prayer list will be updated to reflect the current needs. If you have a prayer need, please fill out the Prayer Request form, which you will find in the Narthex or church office, and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office. The names will be included on the current Prayer List in Tower Chimes. The list will be updated the first of each month. You must renew requests to be included in the following month.

A Generous Orthodoxy study group will resume Tuesday, January 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the Mary Spencer Reference Library. We will cover chapters 5,6, and 7.

Mark your calendars for the Annual All Church Retreat at Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center. This year, come enjoy the sights, sounds, and refreshing outdoors at Cedarkirk, February 5-7, 2010. The theme is **Holy Mind, Body, and Spirit**. More information to come soon!

**Walking in a Winter Wonderland at First Presbyterian Church
on Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.**

Preschool Children will meet in CE108 for their fabulous Sunday school time filled with singing, crafts, and a Bible story.

Children in kindergarten through fifth grade will focus on *Daniel in the Lions' Den* this Winter 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 will meet 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.

Adult Sunday School Classes

The Perspectives Class will continue their discussion on *Who is Jesus* by Marcus Borg. Dr. Jim Threlkel and Mr. Glenn Thomas facilitate this class. Feel free to drop in even if you didn't participate last year. This class meets in the Geneva Room.

Ancient Israel and Early Judaism - Join discussion leader Bob Hubbard in a study of the history, literature, and religion of ancient Israel and early Judaism as presented in the pages of the Old Testament. This will not be your typical Bible study class! It will center around a lecture series presented on DVD by Professor Amy-Jill Levine of Vanderbilt University Divinity School. Although this is a college level course, Dr. Levine has a delightful and very down-to-earth teaching style that anyone will be able to understand and learn from. This class will run for 24 weeks, through May 23, 2010. Each lecture lasts about 30 minutes and will be followed by class discussion or question time. The DVD will be started PROMPTLY at 9:55 a.m. in the Edinburg Annex, so please be in your seats by then, with your seatbelts fastened, so you don't miss any of the scenery on this fascinating and eye-opening journey through the pages of Part One of the world's best-selling book.

Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World written by Joanna Weaver will be the book study led by Lori Grode beginning on Sunday, January 10. The class will focus on finding intimacy with God in our busy lives. Books will be available for purchase. This class meets in CE 207.

Debriefing and Review of "Twas the Night before the First Christmas"

On Tuesday, January 19, at 5 p.m. in the back portion of McLeod Hall, there will be a meeting to debrief and review *'Twas the Night before the First Christmas*, our Living Nativity Scene 2009. All chairpersons and coordinators are asked to attend. If you cannot be present, kindly write out your review, identify problem areas and offer suggestions for improvement or e-mail these to Alan at aharvey@firstpreswh.org. We look forward to this time to review and to make plans for next year's event. Thank you!



Coming Soon!!!

The Annual Souper Bowl of Caring Collection will take place on Sunday, February 7. The excitement continues that afternoon from 2 - 4 p.m., with the annual adults vs. youth flag football game at St. Joseph Catholic Church.



Youth Schedule

January 17	HSYG 5:30—7:30 p.m.	Student Center (Talent Show Preparation)
January 20	MSYG 5:30—7:30 p.m.	Student Center
January 24	HSYG 5:30—7:30 p.m.	Student Center (Service Project for Prime Timers)
January 27	MSYG 5:30—7:30 p.m.	Student Center

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

As we begin a new year, it is exciting to start off with a new Stephen Ministry class. There are eleven who are now training to become care receivers, meeting each Wednesday and Thursday. Please remember them and the trainers in your prayers as they begin this thirteen week journey. Thank you.

Stephen Leaders

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
637 6th Street NW
Winter Haven, F33881
Phone: 863-294-3121
E-mail: 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

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Summer months and holidays published bi-weekly
Church dated material, please deliver by 01/16/2010

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Tampa Bay Presbytery's Super Saturday for Church Leaders will be Saturday, January 23 at First Presbyterian Church in Lakeland. All elders, church leaders, pastors, educators and lay leaders are invited to attend. The conference will be held from 8:00 – 3:30 p.m. For more information on the event, please contact Amy Smith.

The Christmas Eve Offering for Medical Benevolence—As of Monday, January 11, we have received \$4,746.23 toward this offering. If you have not already contributed and would like to do so, please enclose your money in a special envelope or designate your check accordingly. We hope to have all of these monies in by January 31. Thanks.

Come and Join One of the Choirs

If you like to make music, the Music Program is waiting for you! The Chancel Choir is making music from 7:30 to 9:00 every Wednesday evening in the Music Suite, and anyone who can sing from high school age and up is invited. You don't have to be a professional at music, just be able to sing a part and have a desire to participate in worship!

The Beginning Bell Choir meets on Thursday evening from 7:00 to 8:00 pm and is always ready for new members. If you want to ring but haven't learned any music basics yet, we will teach you. Bells are fun to play and are ideal for those who don't want to sing in a group. Come join us and see how easy it is! Advanced ringers who may have played in another church may wish to consider the Chancel Bell Choir.

If there is interest, I would be happy to begin another recorder group in the church. Any age from about 10-12 and up would be welcome to join. The recorder is easy to play and a softer instrument which has a wide range of music in its repertoire. Don't worry if you don't have a soprano or alto recorder, we will get you one. They are very inexpensive. Please accept my personal invitation to become a singer, ringer or player. Together we will continue the fine tradition of music here at First Presbyterian Church, Winter Haven.

Larry Albright
Interim Organist/Director