



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

# Tower Chimes

Weeks of July 6 & 13, 2014

Issue 504

128 Years of Ministry

## YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT

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

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



All 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join us for a Youth Movie Night on **Wednesday, July 9, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.** We will still have drop-off and pick-up at the Student Center. Movie munchies will be provided and we will be watching “The Lego Movie ” which is a PG rated cartoon in the Movie Room. Join Ms. Amy along with Mrs. Harris and other youth volunteers for a relaxing evening in our very own theater.

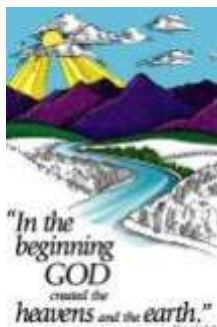
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## MID-SUMMER SERMON SERIES

As we celebrate our faith with the assistance of the new Glory to God Hymnals, Dr. Negley and Dr. Harvey will be focusing their July and early-August preaching on six of the fourteen Mighty Acts of God used to help topically organize the hymns and music.

Each week David Brinson will help us lift our voices in praise to God through one familiar hymn and one newer hymn from the new hymnal. As we worship God together this summer, we will be focusing on: The Triune God, Creation and Providence, The Life of Jesus, The Gift of the Holy Spirit, The Church, and a New Heaven and a New Earth.

We hope you will join us each Sunday at 8:30 AM or 10:30 AM as we worship our wonderful God.



## Church calendar

Sunday, July 6

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:20 a.m. OJ Fellowship (MH)
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. Called Session Mtg. to Receive New Members (ER)
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:30 a.m. New Member Reception (MH)

Monday, July 7

- 8:45 a.m. MOM

Tuesday, July 8

- 8:30 a.m. Kidz Summer Escape (CE)
- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
- 6:30 p.m. Personnel (MCR)

Wednesday, July 9

- 8:30 a.m. Kidz Summer Escape (CE)
- 8:45 a.m. MOM
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Movie Night (SC)

Thursday, July 10

- 7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells

Friday, July 11

- 8:45 a.m. MOM

Saturday, July 12

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

## Church calendar

Sunday, July 13

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:20 a.m. OJ Fellowship (MH)
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday, July 14

- 8:45 a.m. MOM

Tuesday, July 15

- 8:30 a.m. Kidz Summer Escape (CE)
- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
- 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)

Wednesday, July 16

- 8:30 a.m. Kidz Summer Escape (CE)
- 8:45 a.m. MOM

Thursday, July 17

Friday, July 18

- 8:45 a.m. MOM

Saturday, July 19

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

## Remember in prayer

### members

- |                          |                       |                     |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Anna Marie Barton        | Frances Heath         | Joan Murphy         |
| Maggie Beeland           | Doris Hill            | Nancy Neale         |
| Win Betrus               | Ranell Hillman        | Joe Oriani          |
| R. Otis Bice, Jr.        | Ed Houston            | Judy Partain        |
| Lois Burrell             | Camille Howe          | Liz Purnell         |
| Millie Carrier           | Dorothy Johnson       | Sharon Ramseyer     |
| George & Sylvia Chambers | Toni Krieger          | Barbara Roberts     |
| Tom Coffman              | Ronda Lacy            | Mary Ellen Rowker   |
| Norma Conner             | Dena Lancashire       | Dave Ryan           |
| Don Dinger               | Anne LeMacks          | Dorothy Ryan        |
| Jerry Dugger             | Dot Lenfestey         | Beverly Seagraves   |
| Jana Easterling          | Pete & Judy Lindsay   | Myrtice Stolz       |
| Jeanne Estes             | Spike & Jane Lucia    | Lucy Jackson Teeter |
| Fellows family           | Rita Marcacci         | Ed Threadgill       |
| Lois Frakes              | Don Martin            | Shirley Turner      |
| Phyllis Gilbert          | Anne McCauly          | Betty von Hahmann   |
| Marge Goodman            | Matt McGaffigan       | Gale Waters         |
| Pete & Jean Harman       | Heidi Van Allen Munoz | Anne Windham        |

### Family and friends

- |                           |                                   |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dorothy Anderson          | Brandy Gray's grandmother         |
| Rusty Beery               | Ruth Dunham's nephew              |
| Deana Bland               | Nanette Rodgers friend            |
| Ivan Brooks               | Nell Speer's friend               |
| Corbin Family             | Spike & Jane Lucia's friends      |
| Dana Derr                 | Roy & Nancy Williamson's daughter |
| Marilyn Dorsey            | Carol Carter's sister-in-law      |
| Bill & Billy Doty         | Jim Doty's father & brother       |
| Al Ellis                  | Jim Threlkel's friend             |
| Ernie & Norma Fimon       | Ruth Dunham's sister              |
| Ruth Gilchrist            | Bob Howard's cousin               |
| Randy Griner              | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend     |
| Clyde Gray                | Pam Gray's father                 |
| Bryan Howard              | Bob & Janet Howard's son          |
| Bailee Kent               | Nancy Chilton's niece             |
| Pete Kent                 | Nancy Chilton's nephew            |
| Geoff Lewis               | Punkin & Squire Smith's friend    |
| Sharon Maulden            | Judy Winfree's sister             |
| George & Ruth Norton      | Gail & Gwen Waters' friend        |
| Gladys Owen               | Jonathan Owen's grandmother       |
| LaDonna Owen              | Jonathan Owen's aunt              |
| Joe Ruggiero              | Elizabeth Peters' friend          |
| Sal Sammaro               | Marcia Keplinger's son-in-law     |
| Peggy Seigler             | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend     |
| David Smith & family      | Penn Tucker's friends             |
| Robert "Ned" Snively, Jr. | Jean Harman's son                 |
| Gordon Tannahill          | Dave Tannahill's father           |



### 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

### 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.**

*Our Christian sympathy goes to Lisa Endres and family in the death of her father, John Katros, who died Friday, June 27, 2014.*



First Presbyterian on the web has a new look! Visit our website! [www.firstpresch.org](http://www.firstpresch.org)

Walter Hayes's own award-winning Clark-Nickel-Powell designed our stunning new website. Check it out!



## THE 10 TO 2 LUNCH BUNCH RIDES AGAIN

Join other members and friends of First Pres. for a week-day lunch outing.

We will meet at the church at 10 a.m., take the church bus to a restaurant that is within an hour's drive, enjoy a leisurely meal and fellowship, and have you back at the church by 2 p.m. All it costs is the price of your own lunch.

Our next outing is planned for **Monday, July 28.**

We will be travelling to the Columbia Restaurant in Celebration.

Call the church office (294-3121) to get you name on the list.



## THEY CAME, THEY MOVED DIRT, THEY LAID SOD, AND GOD'S HOUSE (AND GROUNDS) ARE MORE BEAUTIFUL.

Many thanks to the dozens of youth and adults who gave of their time, effort, and talents at our Dirt Pile Party/Landscape Party at the Student Center and 737 buildings. On Wednesday evening, June 18, 35 folks (including over 20 of our middle school and high school youth) came and moved three mountains of dirt, leveling the flower beds, and preparing yard for sod. We also want to thank church member Gannon Olmert and his employer, Tucker Construction, for providing a wonderful earthmover and operator for the evening. With the heavy equipment and the small army of shovels, rakes, and wheelbarrows, the crew finished all their prep work on Wednesday night.



Then, more than 25 people, some of the same youth and adults, and some new blood too, arrived at 7:30 a.m., Saturday, June 21, to lay 10 pallets of sod. By 10 a.m., the lawn surrounding our Student Center was ready to receive the wonderful rains that followed for several nights. Thanks, everyone, for giving such fine care to our church grounds!

## Our Patriotic Luncheon and Sing Along...

was a great success thanks to: Marjorie DiLorenzo, Patty Gessler-Forum, Louise & Jenna Volpe, and Bob & Judy Winfree, who set up, cleaned up, and collected money; to Sam Bryant, and Ann & Cal Quessenberry for set up and clean up; to David Brinson and Alan Harvey for leading the Sing Along; to Connie Shipley for preparing the song sheets, and to Jack Snively, Randy von Hahmann, and the folks of Hog Heaven Smokehouse for catering the event. It was a wonderful prelude to celebrating July 4th!



## HAVE YOU GOT SEWING SKILLS?

Do you like projects that involve only cutting the fabric according to the pattern and sewing the pieces together? Would you be happy if you did not need to make buttonholes or insert a zipper? If your answers to these questions are: "Yes," then your help is needed as we plan for "Come to the Stable 2014!"



The Community Outreach Committee (formerly known as the Evangelism Committee) will supply the fabric, patterns and thread. We recognize the need for more costumes and we would like to increase the wardrobe before the busyness of the fall. If you have questions or are willing to sew, then please call Nancy Shaw at 875-4077. Thank you!

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP YOUR CHURCH WELCOME FIRST TIME VISITORS?

Would you like to join with the Deacons and Elders in participating in this important ministry? Currently we have need of volunteers for Sundays July 6, August 3 & 10, September 7 & 14, and October 12, 19, & 26. If you have more questions or if your answer is "Yes," then please call Alan at the church office (294-3121). Thank you!



# *Celebrating Generosity at Weird Animals Vacation Bible School 2014*

This year, the fun began on Sunday, June 22 and we wrapped up on Thursday, June 26. Our theme was Weird Animals: Where Jesus' love is one-of-a-kind. We had a terrific group of children ages four through fifth grade graduates with an amazing team of dedicated volunteers.

During the week the children learned about Jesus healing the ten lepers, Jesus reaching out to the Samaritan woman, Jesus washing the disciples feet, Jesus' death and resurrection, and Ananias bravely helping Saul. Each day we had a new Bible point to learn as well. A few examples are: Even when you're left out . . . Jesus loves you and Even when you're afraid . . . Jesus loves you.

We averaged nearly 70 children each night with around 60 volunteers helping out as well. It has been a truly blessed week at VBS!

When you ask the children what their favorite part is, you will get all sorts of different answers. At least one or more of the stations is their favorite. Each night they were able to visit various stations including: Sing & Play Stampede, One-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, Untamed Games, Critter Café, KidVid Cinema, Imagination Station, and they wrapped up each night with a closing song.

Thanks to the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church, we are able to provide a Vacation Bible School program for the children of the church as well as the community. Expenses for the program include: VBS curriculum, additional supplies & décor, salaries for our Program Staff who take active participation roles during the week, utilities, cleaning, and additional costs associated with the week long program.

We were extremely blessed to have so many volunteers this year. Our adult support has been phenomenal and various members of the middle school and high school youth groups have been actively involved all week long.

We hope you all will take a few minutes and enjoy some photos from the week long adventure. The children also collected money for Heifer International. Our goal this week was to purchase a Water Buffalo for a needy family through Heifer International.

**Thank you all for your faithful support to our  
summer Vacation Bible School Program!**





## ACTIONS OF THE 221<sup>ST</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

The highest governing body of the Presbyterian Church (USA) met during June in Detroit, Michigan. While there was much ministry coordinated at this General Assembly, a few of the actions of the Assembly have drawn the most attention, including two actions regarding marriage. The following report comes from our denomination's news service:

"The 221st General Assembly (2014) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) agreed to grant pastors discretion in determining whether or not to conduct same-gender marriages in civil jurisdictions where such marriages are legal. The action effectively removes the ban on Presbyterian pastors marrying same-gender couples in those jurisdictions.

The Assembly approved sending out for presbytery approval a constitutional amendment to W-4.9001 of the PC(USA)'s *Book of Order* that would change the constitutional definition of marriage from "between a man and a woman" to "between two people, traditionally between a man and a woman."

The vote on the authoritative interpretation – which takes effect immediately – was 371-238 or 61 percent to 39 percent. The vote on the proposed constitutional amendment – which goes to the denomination's 172 presbyteries for ratification – was 429-175 or 71 percent to 29 percent. A majority of the presbyteries must vote approval of the measure for it to take effect.

Commissioners apparently agreed with speakers who argued that ministers must have pastoral discretion around marriage decisions, particularly in the 19 states and the District of Columbia where same-gender marriage is legal.

The direction of the authoritative interpretation debate was set by Teaching Elder Brian Franzen of San Jose Presbytery, who said, "The church has to be a place that welcomes all people. The only way to do that is to allow pastors to use their conscience." The desire to grant pastors greater discretion on marriage decisions outweighed the concern of those backing Teaching Elder Jim Miller of Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery who said "the fragile unity of the church is at stake."

Other opponents argued against the measure on theological grounds. Teaching Elder Ben Beres of Miami Valley Presbytery said the church "needs a faithful theology of marriage, I can't find [biblical] support for same-sex marriage."

The full text of the authoritative interpretation (of W-4.9000) of the *Book of Order*:

"Worship is a central element of the pastoral care of the people of God (W-6.3001, W-6.3010) in which a teaching elder's discernment of the leading of the Holy Spirit is indispensable. The necessity of ensuring the exercise of freedom of conscience in the interpretation of Scripture (G-2.0105) in the planning and leadership of worship has deep roots in our Reformed tradition and theology. Because a service of marriage is one form of such worship, when a couple requests the involvement of the church in solemnizing their marriage as permitted by the laws of the civil jurisdiction in which the marriage is to take place, teaching elders have the pastoral responsibility to assess the capabilities, intentions, and readiness of the couple to be married (W-4.9002), and the freedom of conscience in the interpretation of Scripture (G-2.0105) to participate in any such marriage they believe the Holy Spirit calls them to perform.

"Exercising such discretion and freedom of conscience under the prayerful guidance of Scripture, teaching elders may conduct a marriage service for any such couple in the place where the community gathers for worship, so long as it is approved by the session; or in such other place as may be suitable for a service of Christian worship. In no case shall any teaching elder's conscience be bound to conduct any marriage service for any couple except by his or her understanding of the Word, and the leading of the Holy Spirit."

The Assembly — like its Assembly Committee on Civil Union and Marriage Issues — was careful to protect the consciences of pastors on both sides of the same-gender marriage issue. In addition to the protective language at the conclusion of the authoritative interpretation, the Assembly included a clause in the proposed amendment stating: "Nothing herein shall compel a teaching elder to perform nor compel a session to authorize the use of church property for a marriage service that the teaching elder or the session believes is contrary to the teaching elder's or the session's discernment of the Holy Spirit and their understanding of the Word of God."

The Assembly also reached out to Presbyterians who will certainly struggle with the proposed new definition of marriage. The words "traditionally between a man and a woman" were added by an amendment offered by Teaching Elder John Wilkinson of Genesee Valley Presbytery. "Anything we can do to support those who hold to the traditional understanding of marriage, we should do," Wilkinson said. Teaching Elder Paul Roberts of Pittsburgh Presbytery, founder of the conservative Confessing Church Movement, supported Wilkinson's suggestion, calling it "really inclusive language."

A move to appoint a task force to study the issue of same-gender marriage for two years rather than take any action at this Assembly failed 372-237 or 61 percent to 39 percent.

At a press conference following the votes, General Assembly Moderator Heath Rada said he expects to spend much of his time during the coming year seeking to reconcile Presbyterians who disagree on same-gender marriage. "When Presbyterians gather, they tend to talk more about what holds us together — the same faith in Jesus Christ." An experienced mediator, Rada said he hopes to use those skills to hold the church together."

The Session of our church will be discussing these actions, and hopes to be in conversation with each of our members as we move forward in mission and ministry together as First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven.



## FIRST PRES SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS APPROACHING

As we move into the summer, the Middle School and High School Youth here at First Presbyterian will be hitting the road for exciting conferences, and getting together for wonderful special events.

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From July 12th through the 19th the High School Youth will be attending the Senior High Youth Conference in Montreat, NC.

From July 29th through August 3rd the Middle School Youth will travel to Ocala, FL for The Great Escape.

Watch the bulletin for other activities being planned by our Youth Leadership Team for the High School and Middle School Youth in June and July.

## LOCAL MISSION SUPPLIES NEEDED

When you are out and about, please consider picking up some of these items for a few of our local missions:

- **Family Emergency Services** - Food pantry items.
- **Soup Kitchen** - Travel sizes of soap, shampoo, conditioner, tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorant, razors.
- **Angels Care** - Food pantry items, travel sizes of soap, shampoo, conditioner, tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorant, razors, bible themed coloring books, crayons, small books, stickers, wash cloths, band aids, wet wipes, antibacterial soap, antibiotic ointment.



## NEW STEPHEN MINISTER REQUEST FORMS

Located in the narthex, Centennial Room, and hallway leading to the balcony are safe and secure boxes for making a Confidential Request for a Stephen Minister. Forms and pens are also held by the box making it convenient for individuals to request a Stephen Minister. The Stephen Minister request forms may also be found in the pew pockets. Just so you will know what you are looking for, a picture of the box is printed here. Look for these boxes!

Your Stephen Ministers hope this system will make it easier to be assured that your request is kept confidential by being deposited in a locked box.



## SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL-THROUGH AUGUST 24

We know that folks travel a lot during the summer months but we still want to provide a time of Christian Education on Sunday mornings for all ages.



Children ages three through fifth grade graduates can join Amy McKee and Carrie Bilancio as we travel through – What's in the Bible?, a DVD adventure this summer. Please meet in the Movie Room from 9:30-10:20 a.m. every Sunday, June 1 – August 24. We will have snacks, crafts, and movies!

This summer, the Middle & High School Youth and Adults are invited to join Dr. Steve Negley & Youth Volunteers in the back of McLeod Hall for "Where TV Land Meets Bible Land," an interactive DVD journey through classic TV shows and Bible times. This class will meet from 9:30-10:20 a.m. every Sunday, June 1 – August 24.



## SUMMER WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE HAS BEGUN

For this summer, First Presbyterian church continues to offer two varied opportunities for worship. **Both Sunday morning worship services help us focus on God through the same scripture and sermon and both include a Time for Younger Disciples.**



At **8:30 a.m. (NOTE THE EARLIER SUMMER TIME)**, 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 helps the congregation gather in God's love. The Gathering ordinarily lasts 50 minutes and will conclude with the Benediction at 9:20 a.m.

At **9:30 a.m. (NOTE THE EARLIER SUMMER TIME)** everyone is invited to come to McLeod Hall for our Sunday School opening time. After prayer together, children and adults will be dismissed to their own summer classes.

At **10:30 a.m. (NOTE THE EARLIER SUMMER TIME)** 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 11:30 am.

**RECAP: THE NEW SUMMER HOURS (8:30/9:30/10:30) BEGAN ON SUNDAY, JUNE 1 AND RUNS THROUGH LABOR DAY WEEKEND.**

## 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 7/4/14.

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### Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 257 bag lunches in  
the week of 6/16/14.

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We gave out 273 bag lunches in  
the week of 6/23/14.

**Return Service Requested**

### Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 95 people on 6/21/14.

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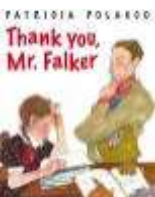
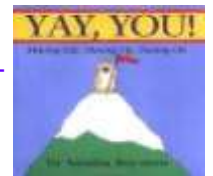
We fed 108 people on 6/28/14.

## GOOD NEWS FOR GOD'S CHILDREN, THIS SUMMER'S SERMON SERIES RECAP OF BOOKS



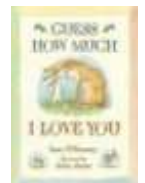
*Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*, written by Mem Fox and illustrated by Julie Vivas. The first American edition was published in 1985 by Kane/Miller Book Publishers, La Jolla, California. ISBN 0-916291-04-9.

*YAY, YOU!*, written by Sandra Boynton. Published by Little Simon, 2001. ISBN-13: 978-0689842832.



*Thank you, Mr. Falker*, written by Patricia Polacco. Published by Philomel Books, 2001. ISBN 978-0-399-25762-9.

*Guess How Much I Love You*, written by Sam McBratney and illustrated by Anita Jeram. Published by Candlewick Press. ISBN 978-0-7636-4175-7.



*Horton Hears a Who*, written and illustrated by Dr. Seuss. Published by Random House. ISBN 0-394-80078-8.

*John, Paul, George & Ben*, written and illustrated by Lane Smith. Published by Hyperion Books for Children. ISBN 0-7868-4893-6.

