



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of November 9, 2014

Issue 518

128 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

David C. Brinson
Director of
Music Ministries

Dana H. Parrish
Interim Director of
Student 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



VETERAN'S DAY, NOVEMBER 11...

Is approaching and we thought it would be a good idea to compile a record for the church of all our members/friends, who are veterans or currently serving in our military forces.

Please e-mail this information to office@firstpreswh.org or call the church at 294-3121, with the following information...
Name of Vet, Branch of Service, Rank, and Date of Service or War (e.g. Korean, Desert Storm, etc.)

Thank you!



COME YE THANKFUL PEOPLE COME TO A HARVEST LUNCHEON

On Sunday November 16, 2014, in our festive McLeod Hall.

Hog Heaven Smokehouse will cater our meal of Brunswick Stew, Coleslaw, cornbread and Apple Cobbler. Chicken nuggets and macaroni & cheese will be available for children. Enjoy table conversation with your friends, a great meal and making the simple Nativity ornaments (Made with 4 craft sticks, 4 oak twigs, 1 shiny star, a peel off imprinted label, raffia and glue.) that will be given to guests who "Come To The Stable and to Bethlehem Square." The cost for adults is: \$9.50. Children 10 and under \$4.00.



Prepaid reservations are needed by Wednesday November 12 at noon.

Please complete the tear off attaching your check noting Harvest Luncheon, and place in the offering plate or come by the office to reserve your places for the Harvest Luncheon.

HARVEST LUNCHEON RESERVATION

Name: _____ Paid: \$_____ # of Adults: _____ # of Children: _____



Church calendar

Sunday, November 9

Outstanding Older Adult Award

- 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
- 10:30 a.m. Called Session
Receive New Members (ER)
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 12:00 p.m. New Member/Outstanding Older Adult Reception (MH)
- 5:30 p.m. High School Youth Group (SC)

Monday, November 10

- 8:45 a.m. MOM
- 10:00 a.m. Lydia Circle (MH)

Tuesday, November 11

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
- 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)
- 5:15 p.m. Personnel (MCR)
- 6:00 p.m. Saturday Nite Live Planning (MCR)

Wednesday, November 12

- 8:45 a.m. MOM
- 12:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds (MH)
- 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids
- 5:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group (SC)
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, November 13

- 7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells

Friday, November 14

- 8:45 a.m. MOM

Saturday, November 15

- 7:45 a.m. Youth Habitat Sod Laying
- 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
- 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)

Gloria Allen
Maggie Beeland
Win Betrus
R. Otis Bice, Jr.
Guy Bostick
Lois Burrell
Millie Carrier
Bob Carter
George & Sylvia Chambers
Helen Champlain
Tom Coffman
Norma Conner
Don Dinger
Jerry Dugger
Jana Easterling
Jeanne Estes
Marge Goodman
Pete & Jean Harman

Frances Heath
Doris Hill
Ranell Hillman
Ed Houston
Camille Howe
Dorothy Johnson
Toni Krieger
Ronda Lacy
Dena Lancashire
Dot Lenfestey
Judy Lindsay
Spike & Jane Lucia
Elaine Maltese
Rita Marcacci
Matt McGaffigan
Gladys Meier
Heidi Van Allen-Munoz
Joan Murphy

Nancy Neale
Joe Oriani
Dee Palmore
Judy Partain
Al & Marjorie Porter
Liz Purnell
Barbara Roberts
Mary Ellen Rowker
Dave Ryan
Dorothy Ryan
Martha Seney
Dean Shull
Barbara A. Smith
Carolyn Thompson
Ed Threadgill
Shirley Turner
Betty von Hahmann
Anne Windham

Remember in Prayer

members

In the hospital : Kathy Girouard

Military service

Aaron Ashley
James E. Baker
Ben Clark
Deborah Clark
Nathan Connor
Tim Davis
Leah (Doty) Fuscina
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

Bob Cameron
Katheryn Christie & family
Debbie Donley
Al Ellis
Debbie Greenarch
Wayne Harrison
Harper Hassett
Pam Heath
Jean Hehn
Pete Kent
Virginia Lynch
Nan Mason
Horacio & Maria Mottola
Bob Sammaro
Peggy Seigler
David Smith & family
Blain & Cynthia Thompson-McCaleb
Miss Tiffany
Gary Webb

Family and friends

Larry & Candy Marshall's friend
Penn Tucker's friends
Marty Bentley's friend
Jim Threlkel's friend
Polly Wilson's friend
Penn Tucker's friend
Marty & Bob Bentley's granddaughter
Jan & Keith Ray's friend
Ellie Threlkel's friend
Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
Lynn Oakley's friend
Harvey & Mary Ann Snivley's daughter
Margaret Braun's friends
Marcia Keplinger's friend
Ellie Threlkel's friend
Penn Tucker's friends
Carolyn Thompson's daughter
The Swangos' friend
Matthew Gray's father

"COME TO THE STABLE and to BETHLEHEM SQUARE"

Saturday, December 13 at 6:30, 7:30 & 8:30 p.m.

..... Can't play an instrument or sing?
Performing isn't really your thing?
WE STILL NEED YOU!

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

BUY FOOD for the shops in BETHLEHEM SQUARE
BAKE delicious breads for the VILLAGE BAKERY
HELP IN THE KITCHEN preparing fruit, cheese, etc.

**SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX ON THE
"HELPER BOARD."**

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 the family &
friends of
Anna Marie Barton,
who died on Sunday,
November 2, 2014.

SATURDAY SOUP KITCHEN SIGN-UP SHEET IS POSTED IN McLEOD HALL



Dates in 2014 that we still have open for head cooks and helpers are: **November 15, 29, December 13, & 27.**

The 2015 calendar is also ready. Please sign up for dates when you or your group would like to serve as Head Cook or Helpers.

Thank you!

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL INFORMATION

Our 2014 Advent Devotional, *Reel Christmas – Discovering Christ or Religious Themes in Favorite Holiday Films* will be available starting on **Sunday, November 16** as a print version you can take home with you.



You may also view the devotional online daily on our church website blog at <http://www.firstpreswh.org/blog/> or our Facebook page starting the first Sunday of Advent, **November 30**. If you would like to receive the daily devotions via e-mail (the Advent Devotional will take the place of our staff devotionals during Advent), then please be sure to indicate below. Please fill out even if you already receive the current devotional.

Name: _____

E-mail address: _____

DEVOTIONALS ON OUR BLOG

For Lent in 2014, our staff published a daily devotional series to accompany our journey to the empty tomb. The response was so tremendous that the staff has continued to write these daily devotionals. Not a week goes by that someone doesn't comment about something someone had written, or how they not only read the devotionals everyday, but they also forward them to their family and friends. The staff thanks you for your continued interest and comments.

In order to have a better platform with which to offer these devotions, we have created a blog on our website. We encourage you to visit www.firstpreswh.org/blog everyday for the latest devotionals. Or visit the homepage and click "Blog" at the top of the page. On this blog you can view past devotionals, sort by a specific author, as well as month. This website is a welcome addition to our [still] new website, and will continually deliver God's message of love, hope, and peace to our community and the entire world.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We will be putting the Christmas trees up in the Sanctuary on **November 23rd at 2:00 p.m.** If you can join us, we would appreciate any and all help. We look forward to seeing you.



SIGN UP NOW FOR THE ALL CHURCH RETREAT!!!

Our All Church Retreat, *God Speaks Your Love Language* will be held February 7 & 8 at Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center. Members and friends of First Presbyterian Church are invited to join us for both days or just one day of Bible study, fellowship, enjoying the great outdoors, and a relaxing time away. Registration forms are located around the church or you may e-mail Amy McKee at amckee@firstpreswh.org or call 294-3121). The registration deadline is January 20.

We are looking forward to a wonderful retreat this year!



GENEROSITY SHOWS as We Share Faith Across the Generations

Early in the biblical story, we find the people of God being told to remember God's commandments and ordinances so that "you and your children and your children's children will revere the Lord all the days of their lives." (Deuteronomy 6:2) This is a wonderful description of how our church attempts to share faith across the generations.



Sunday mornings bring new opportunities each week for children, youth, and adults to experience their unique Sunday School programs, digging into the Word of God. Preschool children have their own class time. Children enjoy the Workshop Rotation in the Christian Education Building, Youth meet in the Student Center with our Director of Student Ministries and other faithful volunteers, and adults have three classes to choose from.

On Wednesday afternoons we offer a mid-week Christian Education program for the children of the church. Children gather out on the playground beginning at 3 p.m. and enjoy a time of Christian fellowship, Bible study, crafts, music, snack, and recreation during Christ Kids.



Our Morning Out Mom Program meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. We have two dedicated caretakers who provide a loving, caring, and Christian environment for children walking through age 3.



Vacation Bible School is held once a year during the summer for a week long adventure where the kids have a blast learning about God and how much He loves them! We usually have nearly 100 children participate and around 50 volunteers. Children from our church as well as the surrounding area are invited to attend.

Our Annual Fall Festival is always held the Wednesday before Halloween. During this evening we offer games and crafts for the children of the church and our community. All are invited to attend this fall-bulous free event.

When we add to that the All Church Retreat at Cedarkirk, the Presbyterian Women's Circle Groups, and the Men's Lunch, seasonal and year-long adult Bible Studies, and other events, through the generosity of the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church, we have invested over \$100,000 in financial resources in Christian Education over the past year, touching people in our church across the age spectrum. The gifts of our congregation have helped us provide curriculum and supplies for weekly classes, seasonal events, the services of a full time Director of Christian Education, and several part time employees in our nursery/Morning Out Mom program.



Our church also focuses special attention on youth (grades six through twelve) as they are preparing to enter adulthood, and make the faith of their parents and grandparents into their own faith. Every week, our middle and high school students meet together for youth group. These two hours of fellowship each Sunday and Wednesday night help foster Christian fellowship and spiritual growth in the hearts and lives of sixth through twelfth graders. Our students share a meal, play games, spend time with one another, and learn more about God and what it means to be a believer. Youth group is the heart and soul of our Church's youth program, and each week we minister to 30-40 students.



One of the most exciting things about being in youth group is going on summer trips. Montreat and The Great Escape are the places where many of our student's spiritual lives begin to flourish.

At Montreat, our high schoolers travel up to the mountains of North Carolina and get to experience God with hundreds of peers. They enjoy speakers and musicians from all over the country, and they build relationships with friends from different states. Not only is this a great conference atmosphere, but Montreat is a place where our high schoolers build relationships with each other. Our church's students grow closer to God and each other because of this summer trip, and it is one that everyone looks forward to.



The Great Escape is the perfect place for our middle school students to experience God, meet new friends, and bond with each other. Located just outside Ocala, this camp is tailor-made for middle schoolers with big recreation, ropes courses, two pools, a game room, and the annual Crud War! Our students also enjoy two worship experiences a day with speakers and musicians who have a huge heart for this age group. The Great Escape is a week of fun, fellowship, and faith for the younger members of our youth group.



Our church is blessed with outstanding young disciples. The middle and high school youth groups are filled with students who desire to know God and build relationships with one another, and because of your generosity, we are able to minister to every teen that comes to our doors.

Through the generosity of the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church over the past year, we have invested over \$50,000 in Youth Ministry, which has been used to enrich the lives of our middle and high school students. The gifts of our congregation have helped us provide curriculum and supplies for weekly meetings and seasonal events, as well as trips and summer conferences, and the services of a full time Director of Student Ministry.

Generosity shows as we are sharing faith across the generations, so that we, and our children, and our children's children will be able to know, love, and serve the Lord our God.

FIRST PRES



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE IMPORTANT DATES

Habitat for Humanity Sod Day **November 15, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Please let Dana know by **November 5th** if you are able to make this event by November 5th and bring permission forms with you the day of. The more hands we have, the faster the work will be. **PARENTS...** Please let me know if you are able to volunteer **November 15th** the day of the Habitat Sod Day. Habitat for Humanity requires that we have one adult per five students. This would be a huge help. This information to the Habitat volunteer coordinator before we go that day.

Thank you all for your continued service in Christ.

MSYG will work the soup kitchen **November 22.**

Youth Live Nativity performance is **December 13th at 8:30 p.m.** Be here by 8:00 p.m. Rehearsal for this event is **December 10th at 5:30 p.m.** Dinner will be provided.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

School is back in session, and so are our Wednesday afternoon meetings for the First Pres Middle School Youth. All young people in grades 6, 7, and 8 are invited to join us on **Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.** in the First Pres Student Center (711 Sixth Street NW). There will be **FOOD** (supper is provided) **FELLOWSHIP** (the 737 building is open for basketball, four square, carpet ball, and general hanging out with friends) **FUN, FAITH, AND FRIENDS** (we have a great group of adults who will help you and your friends explore the Christian faith and learn more about loving and serving God.) We wrap up at 7:30 p.m. Bring a friend and be sure to attend.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

All 9th thru 12th grade young people are encouraged to join our High School Youth. The group meets on **Sunday nights, from 5:30p.m.-7:30 p.m.** in the Student Center, 711 Sixth Street NW.

WHAT WILL YOU FIND? Supper with your friends, time to catch up with your friends, some games and laughs with your friends, bible study and Christian service with your friends.

Come out each Sunday and make some new friends in Christ at our High School Youth.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED US HAVE A FALL-BULOUS FALL FEST!

We appreciate each and everyone of you who helped set-up, clean-up, decorate, and attend the event. Thanks to everyone who donated prizes and candy too!



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 **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!

CONNECT With Us at Sunday School!

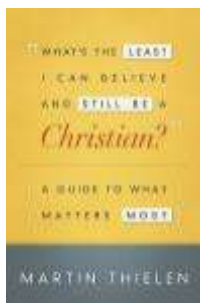
Children ages three and four gather in Room 108 for their own Sunday School time of crafts, snack, Bible lesson, and fun.

Children in kindergarten through fifth grade will rotate through Art, Science, Cooking, Storytelling, Computer, and Movies on Sunday mornings. The theme changes every 6 weeks. On October 26 they begin the Good News rotation.



The Youth of the church, those in Middle School and High School are invited to come hang out in the Student Center from 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. We have a variety of volunteers who will lead this engaging class filled with faith-building, friendship, fun, food, and great times.

Connect - Grow - Thrive meets in Room 207. The class has been studying the book, *The Life You've Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People* by John Ortberg. All are invited to join in this discussion filled class. Members of the class take part in leading the discussion each week.



The Perspectives Class meets in the Geneva Room and is facilitated by Dr. Jim Threlkel and Glenn Thomas. They are focusing on Martin Thielen's book, *What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be A Christian?* Everyone is invited to join in this thought-provoking discussion time. Pastor and author, Martin Thielen, has compiled a list of ten things people need to believe and ten things they don't, in order to be a Christian. This lively and engaging book will be a help to seekers as well as a comfort to believers who may find themselves questioning some of the assumptions they grew up with.

Dr. Steve Negley's class meets in the back of McLeod Hall. The topic is: **Mastering the Basics in I John**. This eight-week study will take the class on a journey through a little book (I John) tucked near the back of the New Testament. Long before C.S. Lewis and his look at "Mere" Christianity, a writer named John was putting pen to papyrus and helping early Christians explore the essential elements of their faith. Addressing a congregation where faith and practice had taken some wrong turns, John shared the good news of how things could move in the right direction. Bring your Bible and be prepared to explore how we can walk in the Light and walk in love; test the spirits and be aware of antichrists; live as children of God who love one another; and revel in how God's love inspires our love.



First Presbyterian Church
637 6th Street, NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881
863-294-3121
FAX 863-294-1105
www.firstpreswh.org
office@firstpreswh.org

Our Purpose Statement

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 11/7/14.

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

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 377 bag lunches the week of 10/27/14.

We gave out a total of 1,314 bag lunches in October.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 120 people on 11/1/14

We fed at total of 436 people in October.

Return Service Requested

«Mailing Name»

«Address 1»

«Address 2»

«City» «State» «Zip»

PRIME TIMERS NOVEMBER LUNCHEON

Calling all Prime Timers (our friends and members age 55+)



Come and join us for food and fellowship at our November gathering. The catered lunch (Joyce Snively's open faced roast turkey sandwich with gravy, cranberry sauce, and dessert) will be served at **11:30 a.m. on Monday, November 17**, in McLeod Hall. The cost for the meal is \$8.00.

The program for the day will be speaker **Anne McCauley** in costume speaking on General Rochambeau's Help to George Washington 1781.

Call Carol Switalski at 845-5416 or the church office at 294-3121 to reserve your space at the table!