



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of January 4, 2015

Issue 524

129 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

Dana H. Parrish
Interim Director of
Student Ministries

Cheryce D. Harris
Interim Director of Choir

Lynn McCoy
Interim Organist

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

NEW SERMON SERIES:

FAITHFUL LIVING IN THE HUNDRED ACRE WOOD

Many of us, younger and older, are familiar with the fictional “Hundred Acre Wood” and its inhabitants. Just the mention of Christopher Robin, Winnie the Pooh and his stuffed furry friends brings to our minds an array of characters and some very distinctive character traits.



Beginning on Sunday, January 4, Dr. Harvey and Dr. Negley will be looking at scripture through the influences of Pooh, Tigger, Eeyore, Kanga, and others in the Hundred Acre Wood to help us all consider faithful living in the place we all call home.

If you would like to share your interest and identification with these inspiring little friends, you are invited to bring your Pooh characters with you on specific Sundays.

On Sunday, January 4, bring your Winnie the Pooh dolls or characters with you to church.

SERMON
SERIES

Church calendar

Sunday, January 4

- 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
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 5:15 p.m. Youth Group Ice Skating (Off-site)

Monday, January 5

- 8:45 a.m. MOM

Tuesday, January 6

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

Wednesday, January 7

- 8:45 a.m. MOM
- 2:00 p.m. PW Bible Study Leaders Mtg. (MCR)
- 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids
- 5:30 p.m. MSYG (SC)
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, January 8

- 7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells

Friday, January 9

- 8:45 a.m. MOM

Saturday, January 10

- 9:00 a.m. Dismantle Decorations
- 1:30 p.m. MSYG Paint Ball (Off-site)
- 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
- 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)



Our Christian sympathy goes to John Strang & family in the death of his father, Carl Strang, who died on Friday, December 19, 2014.

Our warmest sympathy goes to Gus Badnell & family in the death of his father, Leonard Badnell, who died Monday, December 22, 2014.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Marcia Eycleshimer in the death of her father, Merlin Knauss, who died Wednesday, December 24, 2014.

Remember in Prayer members

Frances Asheim
Maggie Beeland
Win Betrus
R. Otis Bice, Jr.
Guy Bostick
Lois Burrell
Millie Carrier
George & Sylvia Chambers
Helen Champlain
Norma Conner
Don Dinger
Jerry Dugger
Jana Easterling
Jeanne Estes
Bill Everhart
Kathy Girouard
Marge Goodman
Pete & Jean Harman
Joyce Hayman

Frances Heath
Doris Hill
Ranell Hillman
Ed Houston
Camille Howe
Dorothy Johnson
Marcia Keplinger
Toni Krieger
Dena Lancashire
Elaine Maltese
Rita Marcacci
Dick McCauley
Matt McGaffigan
Gladys Meier
Heidi Van Allen-Munoz
Joan Murphy
Nancy Neale
Joe Oriani
Dee Palmore

Al & Marjorie Porter
Barbara Puckett
Liz Purnell
Barbara Roberts
Earle Roberts
Mary Ellen Rowker
Dave Ryan
Dorothy Ryan
Martha Seney
Sunny Shelton
Dean Shull
Barbara A. Smith
Carolyn Thompson
Ed Threadgill
Shirley Turner
Mike Vibral
Betty von Hahmann
Anne Windham
Penny Zwicker

Family and friends

Kerbi Blake
Stephanie Blanchard
Bob Cameron
David Curtiss
Blake Danials
Debbie Donley
Al Ellis
Raymond Fenstermaker
Donna Furtivo
Harper Hassett
Jean Hehn
Abigail Ising
Linda Johnson
Pete Kent
Ronda Lacy
Geoff Lewis
Brenda Marshall
Nan Mason
Blain & Cynthia Thompson-McCaleb
Gary McClelland
JJ Miller
Lettie Lane North
LaDonna Owen
Andrew Porter
Cal Quessenberry
Jake Reddout
Bob Sammaro
Peggy Seigler
Miss Tiffany

Al & Marjorie Porter's daughter
John & Barbara Puckett's friend
Larry & Candy Marshall's friend
Meredith Curtiss' stepson
Jonathan Owen's friend
Marty Bentley's friend
Jim Threlkel's friend
Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson
Robert Donald's friend
Marty & Bob Bentley's granddaughter
Ellie Threlkel's friend
Rick & Pat Reass' greatniece
Gale & Gwen Waters' friend
Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
Director of Finance & Business Administration
David & Erin Emry's friend
Jeri Stewart & Tom Oldt's friend
Harvey & Mary Ann Snivley's daughter
Carolyn Thompson's daughter
Jeri Stewart & Tom Oldt's friend
Rick & Pat Reass' friend
Jean Strang's sister
Jonathan Owen's aunt
Al & Marjorie Porter's grandson
Ann Quessenberry's husband
Morris Reddout's son
Marcia Keplinger's friend
Ellie Threlkel's friend
The Swangos' friend



Military service

Aaron Ashley
James E. Baker
Ben Clark
Deborah Clark
Nathan Connor
Tim Davis
Zach Drum
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.



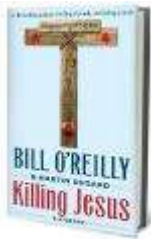
MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR ANNUAL TALENT SHOW

Can you sing or act? Play an instrument? Dance or juggle? The youth groups have begun searching for acts for the Talent Show, which will be held on **Sunday, January 25**.

If you have a talent and would like to share it with your church family, please contact Dana Parrish at dparrish@firstpreswh.org or call the church office at 294-3121.

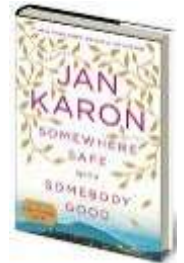
COMING IN 2015: OM, OM BOOK DISCUSSION CLUB

Plans are underway for an **Odd Month, Odd (3rd) Monday Book Discussion Club** to meet for the first time on **Monday, January 19** in the Upper Room. We will have some light refreshments and we will discuss Jan Karon's new book, *Somewhere Safe with Somebody Good*.



On **March 16** we will discuss Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard's book, *Killing Jesus*.

Currently only the afternoon session at **3:00 p.m.** is viable. Please contact Alan immediately at the church (294-3121) to express your interest and to indicate your time preference and plans to attend. Three copies of the titles are now available for checkout in the library. You may contact Jonathan Owen about ordering a personal copy.



A MOUNTAIN OF BLANKETS FOR NEIGHBORS IN NEED



On Tuesday December 30, 2014, Barbara's Center for Dance's staff, students, and family members came to present blankets for our neighbors in need to be distributed through the Saturday Soup Kitchen. The blanket collection is a year long project for the girls and this year's "mountain" was made of 100 afghans, bedspreads, blankets, and throws.

Pictured are Dr. Negley, who accepted the blankets on behalf of the church and commended the girls and their families for their glad and generous hearts in sharing with neighbors in need, and the dancers, ranging in age from five to eighteen. In addition, Barbara's Center for Dance looks forward to preparing and serving a meal to our Soup Kitchen guests soon.

SANCTUARY FLOWER CALENDAR

The new 2015 Flower Calendar is posted.

New with this calendar is space to sign up for placing flowers in the narthex on a given Sunday, when the sanctuary flowers for your desired date have already been selected by someone else.

Never given sanctuary or narthex flowers before and wonder what to do?

Follow these simple instructions:



1. Sign your name on the calendar for the date you wish to give flowers. If the sanctuary spot has already been selected, then you can choose to have your floral arrangement in the narthex for the same date.
2. Complete this step by giving your phone number and identifying your florist.
3. If giving sanctuary flowers and you would like to use the church's brass urn, please ask Ann or Sam for the glass liner and deliver it to your florist or ask the florist to pick it up at the church.
4. Place an order for flowers from your preferred florist.
5. Call Connie at the church office (294-3121) no later than Wednesday prior to your chosen date and inform her as to how you wish for the acknowledgment of flowers to read in the bulletin.
6. Request that the florist deliver the flowers to the church by noon on Saturday and have them include a name on the arrangement so that we know by whom they are given and where they are to be placed.

Any other questions, please call Alan or Connie. **Thank you!**

GENEROSITY SHOWS IN THE WORK OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven operates with a unified church budget, as the ministry that we conduct through all our program areas falls under a single church budget (managed by the Session), which is supported by the tithes and offerings of our members and friends. As we move into a new year (our 129th year of ministry), the Session is in the process of seeing how the generosity of our members and friends will enable and enhance our ministry.

Our ministry plans for 2015 are reflected in the proposed operating budget.

Dream Budget for 2015

Benevolences:

World Mission in Presbytery (Honduras), Synod, and General Assembly	\$ 34,300
Presbytery of Tampa Bay Per Capita (Shared operating expenses)	\$ 24,898
Deacon's Fund (Local Mission)	\$ 24,802
Congregational Care	\$ 1,000
Stephen Ministry	\$ 2,000
International Mission (Strangs)	\$ 3,000
Subtotal Benevolence	\$ 90,000

Personnel:

Pastoral Staff (salaries and benefits)	\$ 238,091
Program Staff (salaries and benefits)	\$ 186,618
Support Staff (salaries)	\$ 223,130
Nursery Staff (salaries)	\$ 15,750
Worker's Comp Insurance, Employer Payroll Taxes	\$ 33,600
Controlled Disbursements	\$ 25,211
Subtotal Personnel	\$ 722,400

Office/Administrative

Printing, Postage, Supplies	\$ 21,100
Phones, Equipment, Misc	\$ 13,900
Subtotal Office/Administrative	\$ 35,000
Properties Buildings and Grounds	\$ 27,000
Utilities	\$ 37,000
Insurance	\$ 81,000
Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance/Other	\$ 12,000
Subtotal Properties	\$ 157,000

Program Committees

Christian Education	\$ 5,900
Youth Ministry	\$ 7,000
Worship and Music	\$ 6,000
Other Committees	\$ 17,840
Subtotal Committees	\$ 36,740

Total needed to fully fund First Presbyterian Church's ministry in 2015: \$ 1,041,140

We hope that generosity will show in our combined giving toward our 2015 operating budget. Please let the Session know of your plans for generous giving by returning the "estimate of generosity" card that was mailed to you, or that you will find in the pew on Sunday. Thanks for helping us show God's love in all that we do as a church of Jesus Christ.

As we move into 2015, our generosity will show in ministry as each of us takes part in walking as a disciple of Jesus Christ. **Thanks for helping us show God's love in all that we do.**



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



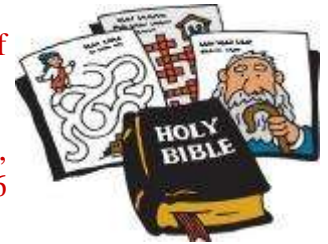
At **8:50 a.m.**, members and friends of First Presbyterian Church are invited to attend The Gathering. This service is held in the sanctuary. The piano is the primary instrument for leading in congregational music with a variety of instruments adding special touches from week to week. The prayers in 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.

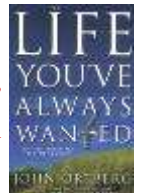


Children in kindergarten through fifth grade will rotate through Art, Science, Cooking, Storytelling, Computer, and Movies on Sunday mornings. The theme changes every 6 weeks. On October 26 they begin the Good News rotation.



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 new topic is *Unlocking the Parables from a First Century Middle-Eastern Perspective*. Bring your bible and be prepared to explore how the stories Jesus told can speak to us today.



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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 1/2/15.

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Lakeland, FL

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 254 bag lunches the week of 12/15/14.

We gave out 214 bag lunches the week of 12/22/14.

Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 93 people on 12/20/14.

We fed 41 people on Christmas Day.

We fed 103 people on 12/27/14.

SIGN UP NOW FOR THE ALL CHURCH RETREAT!!!



The All Church Retreat is quickly approaching. The dates are **February 7 & 8** at Cedarkirk Camp & Conference Center. Everyone will enjoy this time away either for one day only or both days. We will have group Bible study, fellowship, games, outdoor fun, & so much more. This is a great time for all ages.

Please let Amy McKee know by **January 20** if you plan on attending or have questions (294-3121 or amckee@firstpreswh.org).

We are looking forward to a wonderful retreat this year!



IMPORTANT DATES FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Please check your calendars for Montreat **July 19-25**.

Dana will need a firm confirmation by **January 20** to register for the trip.



JOIN US FOR FAMILY NIGHT AT CHICK-FIL-A

We will have First Pres Family Night on Friday, **January 23 from 6:30-8 p.m.** at Chick-fil-a on Cypress Gardens Blvd.

Please let Amy McKee know if you will be joining us (294-3121 or amckee@firstpreswh.org).

