



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of February 15, 2015

Issue 530

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
Director of
Student Ministries

Cheryce D. Harris
Interim Choir Director

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

SHROVE TUESDAY IS ALMOST HERE!!



Shrove Tuesday is quickly approaching! Please sign up now for an evening of laughter, pancakes, and fellowship. We will celebrate on **Tuesday evening, February 17 beginning at 5:30 p.m.** for a pancake supper prepared by Dr. Larson and his amazing flapjack crew.

Your entertainment awaits you after your meal. So grab your friends and sign-up now for Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Celebration. Reservations are due by noon on Monday, February 16.



Please call the church office at 294-3121 to reserve your spot or fill out tear off below!

ASH WEDNESDAY

In the service outlined for Ash Wednesday in the Book of Common Worship, the pastor is invited to make this statement:

Friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover (Easter) we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our lives in this holy mystery. We begin this season by acknowledging our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes. This ancient sign speaks of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and mark the penitence of this community.

We hope you will join your friends in Christ at our Ash Wednesday service, on **February 18 at 6:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary. You will hear the Word proclaimed and have the opportunity to be marked with ashes as you begin your own Lenten journey to the empty cross.

SHROVE TUESDAY CELEBRATION RESERVATION

Name _____ # of Adults: _____ # of Children: _____



Church calendar

Sunday, February 15

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
 12:00 p.m. Local Mission (MH)
 5:30 p.m. HSYG (SC)

Monday, February 16

6:15 p.m. Worship & Music (UR)
 6:30 p.m. Christian Education (GR)

Tuesday, February 17

Shrove Tuesday

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
 9:30 a.m. Joy Circle (Off-site)
 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)
 12:00 p.m. Finance (UR)
 5:30 p.m. Pancake Supper (MH)
 7:00 p.m. Deacons (GR)

Wednesday, February 18

Ash Wednesday

8:45 a.m. MOM
 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids
 5:15 p.m. Confirmation (SC)
 5:30 p.m. MSYG (SC)
 6:30 p.m. Worship
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 19

9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (UR)
 7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells

Friday, February 20

8:45 a.m. MOM

Saturday, February 21

2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)
 7:00 p.m. Saturday Nite Live (MH)



Our Christian sympathy goes to Tom Berrell & Rossanne Gorsky Upon the death of their sister/niece, Diane Berrell Borders, who died on January 23, 2015.



Remember in Prayer

members

Win Betrus	Ed Houston	Earle Roberts
R. Otis Bice, Jr.	Camille Howe	Mary Ellen Rowker
Guy Bostick	Dorothy Johnson	Dave Ryan
Lois Burrell	Toni Krieger	Dorothy Ryan
Millie Carrier	Dena Lancashire	Helene Schulz
George & Sylvia Chambers	Steve Luxford	Martha Seney
Helen Champlain	Elaine Maltese	Dean Shull
Norma Conner	Rita Marcacci	Barbara A. Smith
Don Dinger	Anne McCauley	Barbara Sweeney
Jerry Dugger	Bob McClew	Carolyn Thompson
Jana Easterling	Gladys Meier	Ed Threadgill
Jeanne Estes	Heidi Van Allen-Munoz	Penn Tucker
Bill Everhart	Joan Murphy	Shirley Turner
Kathy Girouard	Nancy Neale	Mike Vibral
Marge Goodman	Joe Oriani	Anne Windham
Pete & Jean Harman	Dee Palmore	Penny Zwicker
Frances Heath	Al & Marjorie Porter	
Doris Hill	Liz Purnell	

In the hospital: Betty von Hahmann

Family and friends

Dick & Nancy Shaw's friend
 John & Barbara Puckett's friend
 Carol Carter's sister
 Jim Threlkel's friend
 Helen Champlain's niece
 Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson
 Ellie Threlkel's friend
 Rick & Pat Reass' great-niece
 Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
 David & Erin Emry's friend
 Jonathan Owen's friends
 Harvey & Mary Ann Snivley's daughter
 Marile Weeks' friend
 Judy Winfree's friend
 Carolyn Thompson's daughter
 Les & Alison O'Neal's niece
 Jonathan Owen's aunt
 Bob Endres' mother
 Ann Quessenberry's husband
 Zan Dismuke's grandson
 Ellie Threlkel's friend
 Tom Oldt & Jeri Stewart's friend
 Jeff Bowen's friend
 Nell Speer's brother



Military service

Aaron Ashley	Sean Harp
James E. Baker	Coree Jones
Ben Clark	Terry Jones, Jr.
Deborah Clark	Jackie Jung
Nathan Connor	David Knowles
Tim Davis	Timothy Lee
Zach Drum	John Marotti
Leah (Doty) Fuscia	Kaitlin Marotti
Eddie Gray	Adam McPhail
Beau Gresham	Andrew Stapor
Chris Hagen	Keaton Thompson
Daniel Harp	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.



3 CENTS-A-MEAL THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

The children collect the **3 Cents-a-Meal Hunger Offering** during worship services this **SUNDAY**. This offering is divided between our Soup Kitchen/Bag Lunch Ministry, Beth-El Farm-workers Ministry, and Honduras.

WE ARE WRAPPING UP THE SERMON SERIES, FAITHFUL LIVING IN THE HUNDRED ACRE WOOD

Dr. Harvey and Dr. Negley have been 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, **bring Piglet this Sunday, February 15** for the last in this sermon series.



YOUTH SUMMER TRIP DEPOSITS DUE BY FEBRUARY 17



High school youth group: Let us know rather quickly whether or not you plan on attending Montreat the week of July 19-25. We need a deposit of \$50.00 to secure your spot.

Middle school youth group: The Great Escape will be the following week of July 31-August 4. We will need your deposit of \$100 to secure your spot for this week.

We would love for you all to join us this summer as we seek a deeper relationship with Jesus and have a blast doing it! If you have never been to these retreats ask other youth that have been to share their experience with you.

Email Dana @ dparrish@firstpreswh.org with any questions or concerns you may have.

10 TO 2 LUNCH BUNCH GOES TO MARGARITAVILLE

Join other members and friends of First Pres for a weekday lunch outing.

We will:

- Meet at the church at **10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 23.**
- Take the church bus to Jimmy Buffet's Margaritaville Restaurant at Universal City Walk in Orlando
- Enjoy a leisurely meal and fellowship (the Cheeseburger in Paradise is hard to beat, unless it's by the seafood)
- Have you back at the church by 2:00 p.m.
- All it costs is the price of your own lunch.



To save your space at the lunch table, call Carol Switalski at 845-5416 or the church office at 294-3121.

HSYG IS GOING TO THE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL & CONCERT



Saturday, February 28th our high school youth group will be going to the Strawberry Festival for the day. We will end our day watching Mercy Me in concert. The fee for entrance to the festival is \$10.00 plus money for food you might want to purchase for the day. We will meet at the youth house at 11:00 a.m. to leave and head over to Plant City. We can ride the bus over and walk around for a bit before the concert begins. The plan is to head home after the concert. Email Dana at dparrish@firstpreswh.org if you plan on going.

Generosity Shows Through Supporting Our Youth

Our church is an amazing group of people full of generosity. In just two services Sunday, February 1, 2015 we collected \$707.02 that will go directly to our Soup Kitchen. That will help fund three Saturdays of soup kitchen. Thank you all for your help feeding the hungry people of our community. We collected over 150 soup cans that went to The Mission here in Winter Haven. The wonderful part of Souper Bowl of Caring is that all the proceeds go directly to local missions.

Our annual youth “Souper Bowl” flag football game was held the same day. We could not have asked for more beautiful weather. We changed it up a bit this year and mixed the teams with youth and Geezers. Fun was had



by all. We had over twenty spectators that came to cheer us on. The winners of the day were the hungry people in our community. The day was kind of, well, perfect! Thank you to our church for showing up in a big way donating soup cans and money.



Our Youth Talent Show was a huge success. On top of the fact that we have an especially talented group of church members, they helped us raise \$1023.00 for the evening which goes into our youth account and helps pay for

the summer retreats the youth go on every summer. Thank you for all of your support. These retreat accounts allow all of the youth an opportunity go.



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WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

What good is your Faith? James forces us to face the implications of faith. Be inspired to put your faith into action in practical ways as you get to know both the man and the Book of James. Join Beth Moore as she explores such concepts as joy, hardship, faith, wisdom, single-mindedness, the tongue, humility, prayer, and more.

This interactive study features seven sessions of personal, daily assignments and eight group sessions with video. There are multiple levels of participation available. The dates for this study are **February 19, March 5 and 19, April 2, 16, and 30 at 9 - 11 a.m.** in the Edinburgh Annex. For more information and to request a workbook, please email Lia Gray at unpair@gmail.com or call her at 318-1541

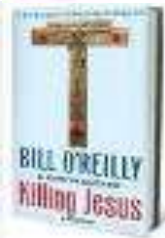


PLAYGROUND PICNIC IS BACK

Playground Picnic will be held after church on **Sunday, March 8**. Join us for "Sandwich" Sunday where we will provide all of the fixin's for a delicious sandwich. Donations are accepted. Please let Amy McKee know if you will join us around 12:15 in the Geneva Room on Sunday, March 8 (294-3121 or amckee@firstpreswh.org). After lunch, you can extend your fellowship time to the Playground.



SAVE THE DATE: OM, OM BOOK DISCUSSION CLUB



Our **Odd Month, Odd (3rd) Monday Book Discussion Club** will meet again on **March 16 at 3:00 p.m.** We will have some light refreshments and will discuss Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard's book, *Killing Jesus*. If you were at the January book review and indicated your intention to attend, there is no need to call the office.

Please call the church office at 294-3121 if you plan to attend. Copies of this title are now available for checkout in the library. You may contact Jonathan Owen about ordering a personal copy.

THE PRAYER CHAIN IS BEING REACTIVATED

- The Prayer Chain was a ministry of the Congregational Care Committee.
- This ministry functioned as a prayer request was made known, calls were made to the Prayer Chain members, who would remember the person(s) and the situation(s) in their prayers.
- The Prayer Chain is being reactivated by the Congregational Care Committee.
- Jane Ray has volunteered to serve as the Coordinator and we currently have five team leaders.



If you would like to be involved in this important ministry of prayer, then please call Alan at the Church Office (294-3121). Volunteers will be added to the teams and once the teams are assembled we should be ready to receive and respond to prayer requests. The goal is to have this ministry ready to begin no later than **March 1**.

DID YOU TAKE PICTURES OF COME TO THE STABLE AND TO BETHLEHEM SQUARE? WOULD YOU SHARE THEM WITH US?

THIS IS THE BEST WE HAVE AT THIS TIME.



Circumstances unforeseen and technical difficulties prevented us from getting a photographic record of this event. If you have some pictures that you are willing to share we would greatly appreciate having copies. You may e-mail these to the office: cshipley@firstpreswh.org. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

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.



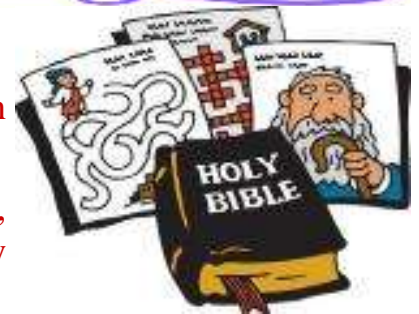
At **11:00 a.m.**, you are invited to attend our later morning worship. This service is held in the sanctuary with music and responses regularly led by our chancel choir and accompanied by organ and piano. In the tradition of our church, cultivated over the last few decades, a full liturgy gives the 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!!!

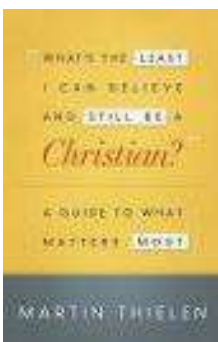
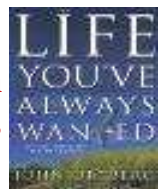
Children ages three and four gather in Room 108 for their own Sunday School time of crafts, snack, Bible lesson, and fun.

Children in kindergarten through fifth grade will rotate through Art, Science, Cooking, Storytelling, Computer, and Movies on Sunday mornings. The current theme is "*Joshua Leads the People*".



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.



Our Purpose Statement

First Presbyterian Church
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Winter Haven, FL 33881
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FAX 863-294-1105
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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 2/13/15.

Non-profit Org.
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Lakeland, FL

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 236 bag lunches the week of 2/2/15.

Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 90 people on 2/7/15.

SOMETIMES IT'S HARD TO ASK FOR HELP



We're brought up to be strong, self-sufficient, independent people. We tend to think that if we ask for help, it is a sign of weakness. So we try to keep our struggles hidden, stuffed deep inside. However, that's not God's plan. Galatians 6:2 says "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." God wants us to care for others--and allow others to care for us in our time of need.

If you're sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. (It's confidential too!) Find out more about Stephen Ministry talking with or calling **Barbara Perkins** at 956-1138. Or talk with one of our other Stephen Minister Leaders: **Alan Harvey, Ray Larson, Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, Pat Reass, or Jean Strang**. You can also use one of the three Request Form Boxes (pictured right) located in the Centennial Room, narthex, and balcony hallway.



Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!