



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of March 8, 2015

Issue 533

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 8 WILL BE THE THIRD SUNDAY IN THE SEASON OF LENT

During the season of Lent, Dr. Negley and Dr. Harvey will be preaching through the Gospel According to John. As the weeks unfold, we will:



- ◆ focus on Jesus as the object of our faith (John 1:19-4:54)
- ◆ witness Christ's conflict with unbelievers (John, chapters 5-12)
- ◆ enjoy Jesus' fellowship with his followers (John, chapters 13-17)
- ◆ and remember His death, resurrection, and events which followed (John, chapters 18-21).

Bring your Bible, and join us each week in worship as we experience again the life-changing power of Christ's presence.



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).



**MOVE YOUR
CLOCKS FORWARD
BEFORE GOING TO
BED SATURDAY,
MARCH 7.**

After lunch, you can extend your fellowship time to the Playground.

Church calendar

Sunday, March 8 3rd Sunday in Lent

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. Playground Picnic (GR & Playground)
 5:30 p.m. HSYG (GSH)

Monday, March 9

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

Tuesday, March 10

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)
 5:30 p.m. Personnel (MCR)

Wednesday, March 11

8:45 a.m. MOM
 12:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds (MH)
 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids
 5:15 p.m. Confirmation (GSH)
 5:30 p.m. MSYG (GSH)
 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 12

7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells

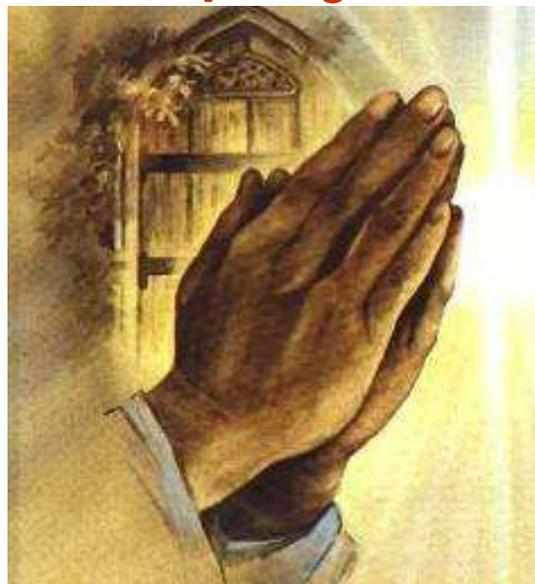
Friday, March 13

8:45 a.m. MOM

Saturday, March 15

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

Lord hear our prayers.



Remember in Prayer

members

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

In the hospital : Win Betrus, Jerry Dugger, Kathy Girouard, & Gene Marotti, Howard Rambeau, & Betty von Hahmann

Family and friends

Stephanie Blanchard	Gale & Swen Waters' friend
Katheryn Christie & family	Pen Tucker's friends
Stacy Crawley	Sue McClew's daughter
Kay Cunningham	Gale Waters' aunt
Marilyn Dorsey	Carol Carter's sister
Al Ellis	Jim Threlkel's friend
Cecily Faenza	Helen Champlain's niece
Raymond Fenstermaker	Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson
Wayne Harrison	Penn Tucker's friend
Jean Hehn	Ellie Threlkel's friend
Gladys Howard	Bob Howard's aunt
Abigail Ising	Rick & Pat Reass' great-niece
Erika Johnson	Lynn Oakley's friend
Pete Kent	Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
Geoff Lewis	David & Erin Emry's friend
Josh Lewis family	Lynn Oakley's friend
Lynda & Rick Lewis	Jonathan Owen's friends
Nan Mason	Harvey & Mary Ann Snivley's daughter
Blain & Cynthia Thompson-McCaleb	Carolyn Thompson's daughter
Lynniss Mincey	Judy Winfree's friend
Leslie O'Neal	Les & Alison O'Neal's niece
LaDonna Owen	Jonathan Owen's aunt
Sue Peters	Kit Threlkel's friend
Cal Quessenberry	Ann Quessenberry's husband
Peggy Seigler	Ellie Threlkel's friend
David Smith	Penn Tucker's friend



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.

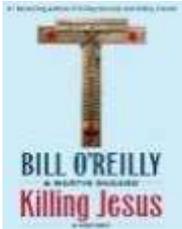
FINAL CALL FOR PRAYER CHAIN VOLUNTEERS

- 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 the new date of **March 15**.

SAVE THE DATE: OM, OM BOOK DISCUSSION CLUB

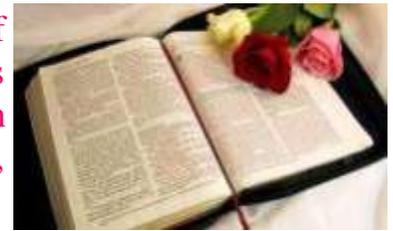


Our **Odd Month, Odd (3rd) Monday Book Discussion Club** will meet again on **March 16 at 3:00 p.m.** We will have some light refreshments and will discuss Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard's book, *Killing Jesus*. If you were at the January book review and indicated your intention to attend, there is 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.

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 **March 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 uncpair@gmail.com or call her at 318-1541

EASTER IS COMING!!!



We are collecting plastic Easter Eggs for our Easter Egg hunt which will be held on Sunday, April 5 at 10:25 a.m. Please bring in your **plastic eggs already filled with candy or small prizes (no chocolate please)**. You may drop off the eggs in the main office or in the basket in McLeod Hall. Please have them delivered by **Monday, March 30**. Little ones through fifth grade are invited to attend the hunt.

FOR SALE: LINCOLN TOWN CAR

The engine has seized up on the church's 1993 Lincoln Town Car, and the Session has voted to replace this part of our transportation ministry. We are offering to sell this car, "as-is".

If you might be interested in making an offer to purchase, please contact our Director of Maintenance, Sam Bryant, at the church (294-3121 or sbryant@firstpreswh.org).



Generosity Shows in Special Gifts and Weekly Offerings

The Mission Team rolled out of the driveway at 637 Sixth Street NW before sunrise one morning last summer, on their way to Miami to catch a flight to Honduras. At the end of a fabulous week there in ministry, even with the somewhat unpredictable departure schedule on their return trip, the team was confident that once they had touched down again in the US, the trusty church bus would be waiting to bring them back to Winter Haven.

The Lunch Bunch piled into the church bus and the new church mini-van (and another rented van, and three private cars graciously offered by church members) and headed toward their most recent destination – Margaritaville – for four hours of food, fun, and Christian fellowship.

The Middle School and High School Youth of First Presbyterian Church regularly fill the seats of church vehicles as they flock yards in their Flamingo Fundraiser, travel to Christian concerts at the Strawberry Festival or Rock the Universe, or enjoy their summer trips to Montreat or The Great Escape.

Our church owns and operates vehicles so that people of all ages can travel together in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ. And these vehicles show the generosity of the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church. A couple of years ago, we were able to purchase a 15 passenger mini-bus. The entry steps and middle aisle on this vehicle made it a perfect choice for use by all age groups in the church. Along with the proceeds from the sale of our older van and a transit bus which had been donated by a local bank, the majority of the purchase of the new bus was paid for through the generosity of two families within our congregation.

A few weeks ago, when our church's Lincoln Towncar (which had been donated to the church by two friends of our congregation out of their parents' estate) finally gave up the ghost, the Session agreed to replace this transportation workhorse with a late model 8 passenger mini-van. A family within our congregation donated one third of the purchase price, and the Session used the partial proceeds of a recurring gift that Paul and Jean Cate made to the church in their estate plans through the Community Foundation of Greater Winter Haven, to pay for the balance.

These generous special gifts have made it possible for our groups to get out and about in mission and ministry as we have two safe, reliable (paid-off) church vehicles at the disposal of all church groups. In the past twelve months, the travel log on our church bus shows the Presbyterian Women travelling to Disney for a luncheon; adults in the 10-to-2 Lunch Bunch dining in Tampa, Celebration, Lakeland and Orlando; youth attending events in North Carolina, Ocala, Orlando, and Cocoa Beach; and the Mission Team making it to Miami airport and back. And this doesn't reflect the monthly local excursions by church groups.

While the purchase of the two most recent vehicles has been accomplished largely through one-time gifts to the church, keeping these vehicles on the road is how generosity shows in the regular financial giving of our congregation. The tithes and offerings of our friends and members help to insure and maintain all our church facilities and equipment, so that we can engage in ministry where and when God calls. Thank you for your generous support of the ministry that we share here (and there) as Christ's church.



10-2 LUNCH BUNCH ROAD AGAIN

On Monday morning, February 23 we loaded up the church van, church bus, a 12 passenger rental van, and 3 personal vehicles and headed toward Universal City Walk for lunch at Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville. Lunch was filled with delicious foods such as a cheeseburger in paradise, volcano nachos, and coconut shrimp. We had the largest group ever attend a 10-2 Lunch Bunch with over 45 folks joining us for lunch out. Planning is underway for our next outing, so be sure to watch the Tower Chimes for more info. Thanks to everyone who attended, we look forward to our next adventure.



A WONDERFULL TIME WAS HAD BY ALL IN OUR SOUP KITCHEN

Thank you to the local companies who generously donated to our special Valentine's Day soup kitchen. We were able to serve up a delicious and nutritious meal that was made with love.

- Noble Juice donated 9 cases of tangerine and blood orange juice.
- Dole Berry Company (formerly Sunny Ridge) donated five cases of fresh blueberries.
- Wish Farms sold us three large flats of berries at a whole sale price.
- The Winter Haven Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, starring our own Dick Shaw mad a special appearance.
- Publix donates all of the bread and desserts so faithfully, every single week .



IMPORTANT...
HEAD COOKS ARE NEEDED FOR MARCH 21 & 28.
PLEASE CALL ALAN AT 294-3121 TO SIGN UP.

2015 EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

It is time to order your Easter lily for Easter Sunday, April 5.



Easter lilies are a yearly tradition to decorate the church on Easter Sunday. To purchase a lily “in honor of” or “in memory of” a loved one or friend, please fill out the order form below.

The cost is \$12.00 per plant. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church and marked “Easter Lily Fund”. Place the order form and check in the offering plate, mail, or take to the church office by **Monday, March 30**.

A complete listing will be available Easter Sunday.

The Sanctuary Committee will again remove the yellow stamen from each lily so it will not bother your allergies.

EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

Donor(s): _____ Number of plants ordered: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

In Memory of: _____ In Honor of: _____

I will pick up my lily after the 11:00 a.m. service Easter Sunday.

I would like my lily delivered to a shut-in.

CLASS OF 2018

The Nominating Committee has the responsibility of suggesting men and women to serve on the Session and the Diaconate. Your responsibility is to provide the names of those whom you feel meet the high standards of character required for these offices. These persons must have the time available to SERVE, the commitment to Jesus Christ to SERVE, and the ability to LEAD this congregation and its spiritual and physical growth for our Lord’s sake.

Please prayerfully consider your recommendations (which may include yourself.) Your signature is not required.

These recommendations will be considered by the Nominating Committee which will present a slate for election. We are to elect five Elders and five Deacons to three-year terms to replace those retiring this year. We are also to elect five at-large members to serve on next years Nominating Committee.

Names(s) for consideration as:

ELDER

DEACON

1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1.
2.
3.
4.

Please place in the offering plate or mail to the church office.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN BEFORE THE COMMUNION TRAYS ARE PASSED TO YOU?



The table must be covered with the under tablecloth. The bread must be cubed and put into plastic bags. The bread trays must be collected. The cups must be put in the holders of the trays and filled with grape juice. The bread, bread trays, and filled cup trays must be transported to the sanctuary as well as those prepared for the station from which the sacrament will be served in the balcony. The table must be set with these trays, the loaf of bread, the chalice, and the pitcher. Once these are in place the table is veiled.

After communion has been served for The Gathering Service at 8:50 a.m., there is tidying up and re-setting the table for the 11:00 a.m. service. Once communion has been served, the table must be cleared of all the trays, chalice, pitcher, and cloths. These are taken downstairs to be washed or cleaned and then returned to their storage places in the kitchen and elsewhere.

A lot happens before and after the communion trays are passed to you! We have a skeleton crew of faithful volunteers who serve you in this way, but **we need more!** Please consider this invitation to serve and if you feel that you are being called to assist in this important act of ministry, then please call Alan at the church office at 294-3121. Thank you!

OUR STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE READY TO CARE FOR YOU!



We all go through times in our life when we could benefit from a little extra care and attention. That's what Stephen Ministers are for. Stephen Ministers are members of *First Presbyterian Church* who have been trained to provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to people who are going through a difficult time. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and provide weekly support for you as long as your need persists.

If you would like to find out more about Stephen Ministry for yourself or someone you know (possibly a friend, neighbor, coworker, or relative) talk with or call **Pat Reass at 206-9914**. Or talk with one of our other Stephen Minister Leaders: **Alan Harvey, Ray Larson, Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, Barbara Perkins, 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 ready to bring God's love and care into your life.

LADIES, JOIN ONE OF OUR BIBLE STUDY CIRCLES!!!

The two groups for our Presbyterian Women are the Lydia Circle and the Joy Circle. The Bible Study for this year is based on the Acts of the Apostles. Circle study leaders Jana and Carol will be using the Interpretation Bible Series as a resource for this look at the church in the power of the Holy Spirit. Bring your Bible and plan to join with other women of faith.

Jana Easterling leads the Lydia Circle on the **2nd Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m.** in the back of McLeod Hall. **AND...**

The Joy Circle meets the **3rd Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m.** at Carol Carter's house. Call Carol at 299-4253 if you need directions.



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.



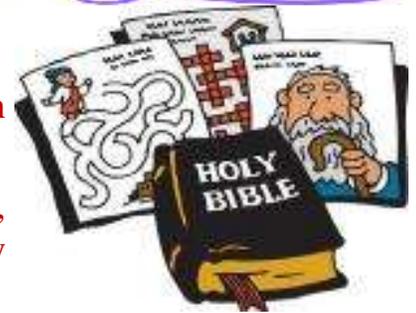
At **11:00 a.m.**, you are invited to attend our later morning worship. This service is held in the sanctuary with music and responses regularly led by our chancel choir and accompanied by organ and piano. In the tradition of our church, cultivated over the last few decades, a full liturgy gives the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

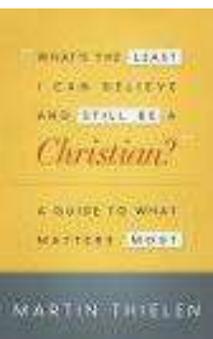
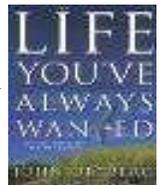
Children ages three and four gather in Room 108 for their own Sunday School time of crafts, snack, Bible lesson, and fun.

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 Girl Scout House 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 3/6/15.

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Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 250 bag lunches the week of 2/23/15.

We gave out a total of 927 bag lunches in February.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 60 people on 2/14/15.

We fed at total of 320 people in February.

Return Service Requested

CALLING ALL PRIMETIMERS

(friends and member of First Pres in the 55 and up age group.)

Our next Primetimers is **Monday, March 23 at 11:30 a.m.** in McLeod Hall.

Come and enjoy great fellowship and a wonderful lunch catered by Joyce Snively.

Then enjoy Sue McClew's presentation of her 2014 Presbyterian Women Global Exchange to the Caribbean.



We will wrap up by 1:00 p.m.

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