



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of April 19, 2015

Issue 539

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

NOW IS THE TIME TO SIGN UP TO FLOCK YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, & NEIGHBORS

Are you wondering how you can support the youth group AND put a smile on your neighbor's face? Well, wonder no more because the answer is here – participate in our Flamingo FUNdraiser! It is as easy as 1, 2, 3:

Step 1: Look for the sign up table as you leave the Sanctuary after either Sunday Service starting **April 12.**

Step 2: Order flamingos to the yard of your choice.

Step 3: Relax and enjoy the show!

ONE flocking costs \$20.00, or you can send
THREE flocks for \$50.00.

For those of you who want to ensure your house does NOT get flocked, you can purchase flamingo insurance for \$40.00.

We want to do everything we can to make our summer trips as affordable for our students as possible. Please consider how you can get involved and support our youth group's summer retreats. Also, please call Dana Parrish (294-3121) if you are interested in donating to the trips or sponsoring a student!

THE SALE HAS STARTED.



Church calendar

Sunday, April 19

3 Cents-A-Meal

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
 5:30 p.m. HSYG (SC)

Monday, April 20

8:45 a.m. MOM
 6:15 p.m. Worship & Music (GR)

Tuesday, April 21

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)
 6:30 p.m. Deacons (GR)

Wednesday, April 22

8:45 a.m. MOM
 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids
 5:15 p.m. Confirmation (GSH)
 5:30 p.m. MSYG (GSH)
 5:30 p.m. Community Outreach (?)
 6:00 p.m. Director of Music Search (MCR)
 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, April 23

7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells

Friday, April 24

8:45 a.m. MOM
 7:00 p.m. Bowling Night (Cypress Lanes)

Saturday, April 25

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



Our Christian sympathy goes to Gregg Marris upon the death of his father, Gene Marris who died on Friday, April 10, 2015.



Remember in Prayer

members

David Alexander
 Win Betrus
 R. Otis Bice, Jr.
 Guy Bostick
 Lois Burrell
 Millie Carrier
 George & Sylvia Chambers
 Norma Conner
 Don Dinger
 Jerry Dugger
 Jana Easterling
 Jeanne Estes
 Bill & Becky Everhart
 Kathy Girouard
 Marge Goodman
 Pam Gray
 Pete & Jean Harman
 Frances Heath
 Doris Hill

Ed Houston
 Camille Howe
 Dorothy Johnson
 Dale Keplinger & family
 Mary Ann Koon
 Toni Krieger
 Dena Lancashire
 Steve Luxford
 Elaine Maltese
 Rita Marcacci
 Gregg Marrs
 Gladys Meier
 Heidi Van Allen-Munoz
 Joan Murphy
 Nancy Neale
 Dee Palmore
 Liz Purnell
 Howard Rambeau
 Earle Roberts

Dave Ryan
 Dorothy Ryan
 Helene Schulz
 Judith Shull
 Barbara A. Smith
 Alee Swango
 Barbara Sweeney
 Carol Switalski
 Chuck Tate
 Carolyn Thompson
 Ed Threadgill
 Ben Tucker
 Meg Tucker
 Penn Tucker
 Shirley Turner
 Betty von Hahmann
 Roy Williamso
 Anne Windham

Family and friends

Edwin Alexander
 Stephanie Blanchard
 Margaret Boylston
 Jane Cain
 Teresa Camp
 Margaret Carswell
 Katheryn Christie & family
 Sue Conterno
 Jerry Cooley
 Kelly Coolidge
 Mary Francis Nettles-Covey
 Kay Cunningham
 Marilyn Dorsey
 Al Ellis
 Cecily Faenza
 Raymond Fenstermaker
 Cailyn Graves
 Jean Hehn
 Abigail Ising
 Weston Jackson
 Pete Kent
 Bill & Amy Lewis
 Josh Lewis
 Lynda & Rick Lewis
 Sandy Lewis & family
 Nan Mason
 Blain & Cynthia Thompson-McCaleb
 Ruth Norton
 LaDonna Owen
 Cal Quessenberry
 Elouise & Ken Seaman
 Peggy Seigler
 Rita Tice

David Alexander's father
 Gale & Gwen Waters' friend
 Barbara & John Puckett's friend
 Pam Gray's friend
 Brian & Jennifer Boyce's friend
 Barbara & John Puckett's friend
 Penn Tucker's friends
 Marcia Smith's cousin
 Susan Singleton, friend
 Marcia Smith's friend
 Gene & Carole Marotti's friend
 Gale Waters' aunt
 Carol Carter's sister
 Jim Threlkel's friend
 Helen Champlain's niece
 Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson
 Andra Cardona, friend
 Ellie Threlkel's friend
 Rick & Pat Reass' great-niece
 Lori Roe's friend
 Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
 Bob & Judy Winfree's friend
 Lynn Oakley's friend
 Jonathan Owen's friends
 David & Erin Emry's friends
 Harvey & Mary Ann Snively's daughter
 Carolyn Thompson's daughter
 Marjorie Porter's friend
 Jonathan Owen's aunt
 Ann Quessenberry's husband
 Becky Everhart, friends
 Ellie Threlkel's friend
 Orrin & Helen Champlain's friend



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
 Bradley Mudd
 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.

3 CENTS-A-MEAL THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 19

The children will 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.



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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. The next Bible study will be **April 21**.

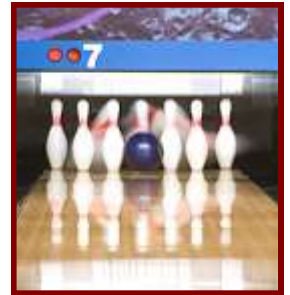
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FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT

On **Friday evening, April 24** we will have a Family Bowling Night. Reservations are required. Please contact Amy McKee by Monday, April 20 if you plan on joining us (294-3121 or amckee@firstpreswh.org).

We will meet at Cypress Lanes on Dundee Road from 7-9 p.m.

The cost per person will be \$6 and includes shoe rental and 2 hours of bowling. We are looking forward to a fun evening out with our First Pres family!



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GET YOUR RAYS TICKET BEFORE THEY SELL OUT FOR...



PRESBYTERY of TAMPA BAY night with the Rays. The Rays will play The Texas Rangers, **Friday, May 8!** Game begins 7:10 p.m. We will leave Winter Haven no later than **4:00 p.m.** The church bus will be full at 15 ballers.

The tickets are Lower Reserved Seats. Price for ticket is \$25 (up to \$50.00 value) **Deadline to purchase is April 26.**

To come root the Rays on, call the church office or just come by to place your order.

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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 last date for this study is **April 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.

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KIDS SUMMER ESCAPE

Kidz Summer Escape registration has started. If you have a child/children who would be interested in attending our six week summer long program on Tuesdays and Thursdays from **June 9 – July 16** from 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., please consider enrolling them in this fun summer program. Children ages three through kindergarten graduates are invited to attend.



A donation of \$170 covers the cost of the program with a \$50 "reserve my spot" donation due at time of registration. **Registration closes on May 1.** If we do not have 20 children registered, we will not be able to have the program this year. For more information, please contact Amy McKee at 294-3121 or amckee@firstpreswh.org.



HALLELUJAH!

Thank you to all of you who came to join the Chancel Choir on Easter to sing the Hallelujah Chorus. The response was overwhelming, and the sound of the mass choir was glorious. It was a beautiful ending to our Easter service. Praise the Lord!

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A BRIGHT AND SUNNY THANK YOU FROM STEVE NEGLEY

Each year our church leaders (and a small group of faithful First Pres. folk) take part in the Community Easter Sunrise Service at Martin Luther King Park on Lake Silver. This ecumenical service is supported by a dozen or so churches across our city.



This year, I preached the sermon, and our own Sarah Claire Smith sang two incredible solos. (And First Pres. member Squire Smith shared his talents handling the sound equipment as he has done for several Sunrise Services). I want to thank Sarah Claire and Squire for helping make this such an incredible worship service for our community.



AND, I want to thank the dozens upon dozens of members from our church who came out to attend the Community Easter Sunrise Service. As the sun came up and I could see your smiling faces scattered throughout the crowd, my heart soared. Thanks, First Pres, for being so supportive of this community celebration.

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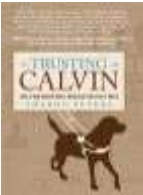
THANK YOU TO OUR LILY DELIVERERS!



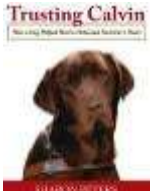
A huge thank you to those who helped deliver our Easter lilies! We didn't have as many come out to take all those beautiful lilies, but those who did, were blessed by God our heavenly Father. Visitation Ministry is a wonderful way to show our faith.

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SAVE THE DATE: OM, OM BOOK DISCUSSION CLUB



Our Odd Month, Odd (3rd) Monday **Book Discussion Club** will meet again on **May 18 at 3:00 p.m.** We will have some light refreshments and will discuss Sharon Peter's book, *Trusting Calvin, How a Dog Helped Heal a Holocaust Survivor's Heart*. If you were at the January or March 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.

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VBS WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT

Vacation Bible School – Everest will be held June 14-18 from 6:15-8:30 p.m.



Please mark your calendars for this exciting week!

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STRESSED? DISCOURAGED? LONELY? SAD? DON'T SUFFER ALONE. HELP IS AVAILABLE.



Sometimes we fall into a trap where we think it's a sign of weakness to ask for help. So when we're stressed, discouraged, lonely, or sad, we try to keep our struggles hidden and are reluctant to ask for help. 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 provide confidential one-to-one care, encouragement, and support to help you through a tough time. Find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking 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.



Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you or someone you know!

Generosity Shows in How We Proclaim the Good News

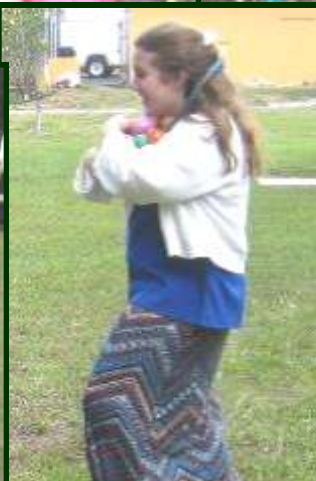
In the “Great Ends of the Church,” a century-old mission statement in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), we find that one of the reasons the church of Jesus Christ exists is to “Proclaim the gospel for the salvation of humankind.” Our congregation has lived out this calling in so much of what has been done in ministry over our first 128 years, as generations of disciples of Jesus Christ have served and worshipped God here. In recent years, our congregation has used this old mission statement to remind us of our purpose as Christians together, and we have rephrased this first “Great End” as “Sharing the good news of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ.”

Sharing the good news of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ was the heart of our Easter Celebration.

From the hallelujahs of the choir and congregation (and the massive choir this year for the Hallelujah Chorus) – to the affirmation of all worshippers that “Christ is risen indeed,” we continue to proclaim the gospel and celebrate what God has done for us in Jesus Christ.

This message of Easter inspires all Lord’s day worship as we assemble each Sunday morning (the day of the resurrection) to share the good news of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ. Lynn McCoy, Cheryce Harris, and Pat Nepute, working as our interim church musicians, use their talents to direct and inspire our church’s various choirs, as they then lead our congregation in praising God through song. Dr. Steve Negley, Dr. Alan Harvey, and Dr. Ray Larson help us to focus on God each week through their words and the Word.

Opportunities for worship are made possible through the offerings and God’s tithes that we regularly contribute to the church budget. These gifts have kept the doors open and the good news proclaimed in this church each week for 129 years. If you feel that God is calling you to join with others in sharing the good news of what God has done for you in Jesus Christ, then invite someone to join you each Sunday morning as we start our week in the worship of God.



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!!!

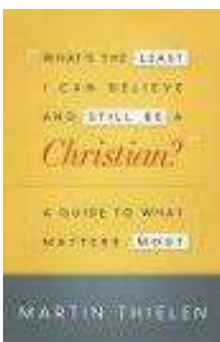
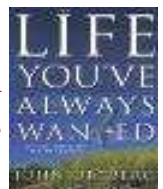
Children ages three and four gather in Room 108 for their own Sunday School time of crafts, snack, Bible lesson, and fun.

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



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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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 4/17/15.

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

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 292 bag lunches the week of 4/6/15.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 90 people on 4/11/15.

Return Service Requested

«Mailing Name»

«Address 1»

«Address 2»

«City» «State» «Zip»

CALLING ALL PRIMETIMERS

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



Our next PrimeTimers is **Monday, April 27 at 11:30 a.m.** in McLeod Hall for food, Christian fellowship, and a conversation with Dana Parrish, our Director of Student Ministries.

Dana will tell (and show) about our crunch's youth ministry program. After lunch, the group will also take a tour of our newly renovated Student Center. Joyce Snively will be catering. Call the church office at 294-3121 or e-mail to office@firstpreswh.org to reserve a seat at the table.