



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of May 10, 2015

Issue 542

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

MOTHER'S DAY IS MAY 10

Please plan to join us in worship on **Sunday, May 10**, as we thank God for the women in our lives, and celebrate **Mother's Day**.

The prayers for the day will focus on these blessings. Sally Doty and her children Jamie and Jason will be sharing a special vocal prelude, and a men's chorus will provide our anthem.



CALLING ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF FIRST PRES THE 10 TO 2 LUNCH BUNCH

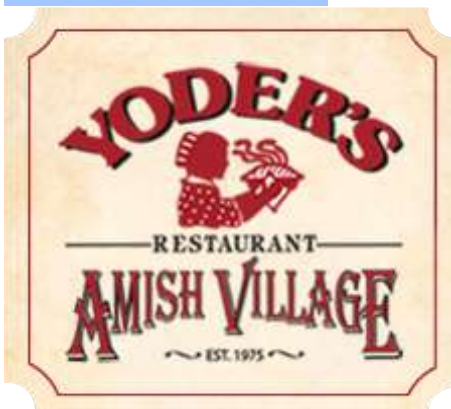
...will be heading out on **Monday, May 18** to Yoder's Restaurant and Amish Village in Sarasota

With a little further to travel, and the possibility of a slightly longer wait – we will have a special time.

We will leave the church at 9:00 a.m. and return at 3:00 p.m.

While there, we will enjoy table fellowship with our Christian friends and fabulous Amish food (fried chicken, pot roast, or other home cooked favorites, and a slice of one of the 25 varieties of homemade pies.) All you need to pay for is your lunch.

Call at 294-3121 or email the church at office@firstpreswh.org to reserve your seat on the church bus or van.



Remember in Prayer

Church calendar

Sunday, May 10 Mother's Day

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, May 11

8:45 a.m. MOM
12:30 p.m. Lydia Circle-Offsite

Tuesday, May 12

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)
6:00 p.m. Personnel (MCR)

Wednesday, May 13

8:45 a.m. MOM
12:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds (MH)
5:15 p.m. Confirmation Supper with Session (MH)
5:30 p.m. MSYG (GSH)
6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells
6:15 p.m. Director of Music Search (MCR)
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 14

7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells

Friday, May 15

8:45 a.m. MOM

Saturday, May 16

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



members

David Alexander
Win Betrus
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
Toni Krieger
Dena Lancashire
Steve Luxford
Elaine Maltese
Rita Marcacci
Carole Marotti
Greg Marrs
Gladys Meier
Heidi Van Allen-Munoz
Joan Murphy
Nancy Neale
Dee Palmore
Jen Perry
Liz Purnell
Ann Quessenberry
Howard Rambeau
Earle Roberts

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

Family and friends

Jerry Cooley
Marilyn Dorsey
Al Ellis
Raymond Fenstermaker
Cailyn Graves
Wayne Harrison
Jean Hehn
Abigail Ising
Pete Kent
Nan Mason
Lynn Mincey
Lynn Mincey
LaDonna Owen
Sharon Pettit
Chris Rafool
Eloise & Ken Seaman
Peggy Seigler
David Smith
Blain & Cynthia Thompson-McCaleb
Rita Tice

Susan Singleton's friend
Carol Carter's sister
Jim Threlkel's friend
Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson
Andrea Cardona's friend
Penn Tuckers' friend
Ellie Threlkel's friend
Rick & Pat Reass' great-niece
Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
Harvey & Mary Ann Snively's daughter
Judy Winfree's friend
Judy Winfree's friend
Jonathan Owen's aunt
Lorretta Traviss' friend
Betty Stephens' friend
Becky Everhart's friends
Ellie Threlkel's friend
Penn Tucker's friend
Carolyn Thompson's daughter
Orrin & Helen Champlain's friend



Military service

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

Our Christian sympathy goes to Ann Quessenberry upon the death of her husband, Cal Quessenberry, who died on Thursday, April 30, 2015.

Our sincerest sympathy goes to Carole Marotti in the death of her husband, Gene Marotti, who died Thursday, April 30, 2015.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL EVEREST IS COMING QUICKLY



We would love for all of the children of the church and their friends to experience God's Mighty Power this summer, **June 14-18 from 6:15-8:15 p.m.** All children ages four through fifth grade graduates are invited to attend. Registration forms are available in the Narthex or you may register online at: <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/fpcwh2015>.

We need adults as well as teenagers to help bring it all to life. If you are interested in helping to decorate and transform McLeod Hall, we need your assistance. If you'd like to be a Crew Leader and take the children around to their various stations we need your help there as well. Please let Amy McKee know if you're interested in helping out (294-3121 or amckee@firstpreswh.org).



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DEAR WINTER RESIDENT:



As always, it has been a pleasure being with you this winter. It's that time of year when you head back to your northern home. We will miss you and hope you have a wonderful and safe summer.

Please notify the church office at 294-3121 or office@firstpreswh.org when you leave so we change your contact information to your summer home.

We look forward to seeing you next fall.

In His Grace, First Pres

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LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU ...

In John 15:12, Jesus says, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Loving and caring for one another is not just the pastor's job--it's something Jesus calls us all to do! **Stephen Ministry** is a ministry in which people with special gifts for caring ministry can put those gifts to use in an organized way, bringing Jesus' love and care to those who most need it.



If you--or someone you know--are going through a difficult time, contact **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 located in the Centennial Room, narthex, and balcony hallway.

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with focused, confidential, one-to-one Christian care and to help you experience the healing power of Christ's love in your life.

JOIN US FOR A MISSION HONDURAS LUNCHEON SUNDAY JUNE 7



The 20 members from our 2014 weeklong mission to Honduras invite you to join them for some of the tastes and stories from their adventure. The Mission Team will be preparing a Central American meal, and hosting a luncheon for our congregation on **Sunday, June 7, immediately following our single 10 a.m. worship service.**

You will have one of our Honduras Mission Team members as your table leader. We will be sharing our experiences through words and photos. Let us know if we can save a seat for you at the table by calling (294-3121) emailing the office (office@firstpreswh.org), or dropping this reservation form in the collection plate.



Name: _____ Number Attending: _____

Generosity Shows in Our Weekly Worship of God

All four of the gospel writers, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, tell us that very early on Easter Sunday morning, the women went to the tomb, hoping to prepare the body of the crucified Jesus for a proper burial. Instead of finding his lifeless body, they discovered that he had been raised from the dead, and they spread the good news to all who would listen! For nearly two thousand years, the followers of Jesus have gathered on Sunday, the day of resurrection, to worship God as we continue to share the good news of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ.

Each and every Sunday (hurricanes permitting) for over nearly 130 years, the congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven has opened the doors to our sanctuary for the worship of God Almighty. Our worship services are based around the Bible, God's Word as the teaching of the apostles throughout the ages. We share in times of silent and spoken prayers. We lift our praises in song. The act of assembling allows us to find the strength and fellowship of other people of the faith.

The generosity of our church family shows each week as we open the door to God's house so that any who wish to worship may join us. Opportunities for weekly worship are made possible through the offerings and God's tithes that the members and friends of First Presbyterian church generously contribute to the church budget. These gifts keep the doors open, and the sanctuary building air conditioned, and maintained. Our generous gifts pay for the costs associated with preparing bulletins and worship supplies. Our gifts to the church budget provide salaries so that our church can have the preaching and worship leadership of ordained pastors and our full time organist/ director of music ministries.

Thank you for your generous part of making the worship of God Almighty possible each and every Sunday here at First Presbyterian Church.



FRIENDSHIP CALLERS

Visitation Ministry-- A Tangible Way to Share Our Faith

First Presbyterian Church has had a blessed ministry of visitation for a very long time. Take a moment to think about it; a visitation ministry is truly a tangible way of sharing our Saviour Christ's compassion and as a demonstration of our faith in the caring way which Jesus lived.

A Visitation Ministry in our church follows the lead of the Messiah, our pastors, and a devoted group of volunteers who work in concert with our Minister of Visitation. I overheard a volunteer say out loud, "I love doing this so much I would pay for the opportunity to visit those whom we visit."

I know there are some of our members who would like to be a Friendship Caller but. . .! It is true that there are some who hesitate to volunteer because they may not be comfortable visiting those who had been in hospitals, a nursing home, or any other long-term care situation. They feel as if they might not know what to say, should they stand or sit, how long to stay, what if they already have a visitor – and the questions begin.

None of the above should stop you from becoming a Friendship Caller. Our Friendship Callers meet once a month where we have opportunities to learn how to make our visits. We learn from each other as we review and discuss the different situations we may have with our visits. In our monthly meeting we can share our concerns without sharing the name of the people we visit. The Friendship Caller can look over the list of our friends who could and/or should be visited.



Whenever we meet to discuss our visits, we remind our visitors to respect the privacy of the person they are visiting. There should not be any discussion of the person's private affairs, appearance, or their condition.

Visitation Ministry is a wonderful way to share our faith with others. Perhaps more is the growth we ourselves experience as we become more comfortable in our visiting with our shut-in friends and members.

Should you wish to join our Visitation Ministry, simply get in touch with Ray Larson, our Minister of Visitation. Ray will explain everything and answer your questions

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THE REORGANIZATION AND REACTIVATION OF THE PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

The Prayer Chain Ministry is under the supervision of the Congregational Care Committee. This ministry is distinct from the calls that come into the church for individuals or families to be placed on the church's prayer list that is printed in the bulletin and the church's newsletter, *Tower Chimes*.

This ministry could be described as crisis intervention. Volunteers have consented to offer special prayers immediately for individuals or families at times when crises become known, e.g. a serious or very risky operation, a tragic accident, a complicated pregnancy, etc. At times the person(s) requesting prayer may not wish to divulge certain particulars of the situation and we respect their privacy. In those circumstances we will not pry or solicit more information than they are willing to share freely and have shared with others dedicated to this ministry. We will lift the individual or persons up in prayer with the confidence that God knows their situations and needs even better than we do, but nevertheless we want to assure them that he/she is or they are being remembered in and supported by our prayers.

Jane Ray has agreed to serve as the Coordinator of this ministry. Those desiring that the prayer chain be activated are asked to call Jane at 318-1833 and to let their request be made known. Once Jane has been informed of the prayer concern, she will activate the prayer chain.



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!!!

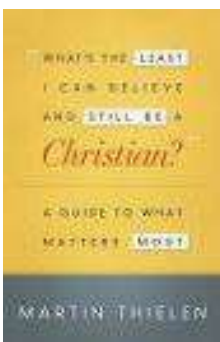
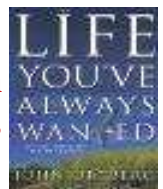
Children ages three and four gather in Room 108 for their own Sunday School time of crafts, snack, Bible lesson, and fun.

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.



First Presbyterian Church
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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 5/8/15.

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Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 287 bag lunches the week of 4/27/15.

We gave out a total of 1,193 bag lunches in April.

Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 90 people on 5/2/15.

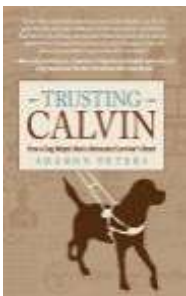
We fed at total of 335 people in April.

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 also contact Jonathan Owen by seeing him on Sunday, calling him at 318-9944, or e-mailing him at jonathan.owen.cu2r@statefarm.com about ordering a personal copy.

Trusting Calvin
How a Dog Helped Heal a Holocaust Survivor's Heart

