



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
WINTER HAVEN

# Tower Chimes

Weeks of December 27, 2015 & January 3, 2016 Issue 567

129 Years of Ministry

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR  
FROM YOUR STAFF AT FIRST PRES!!!

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

Lynn M. McCoy  
Director of  
Music Ministries

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



**AFTER CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST,  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27**

There is no Sunday School, but join us for fellowship with  
breakfast between **9:30 and 10:15 a.m.** in McLeod Hall.

**PLEASE NOTE MENU CHANGE:** There will be Sausage  
Biscuits and a variety of doughnuts including apple fritters,  
coffee, milk and orange juice. Cereal and doughnut holes will be  
available for children.

Donations will be gratefully accepted to defray the cost.



# Church calendar

## Sunday, December 27

8:50 a.m. Gathering Worship  
 9:45 a.m. Sunday After Christmas Breakfast (MH)  
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

## Monday, December 28

10:00 a.m. Poinsettia Delivery (MCR)  
 10:30 a.m. Prayer Shawl (MH)  
 1:30 p.m. Friendship Callers (MCR)

## Tuesday, December 29

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

## Wednesday, December 30

## Thursday, December 31

## Friday, January 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY OFFICE CLOSED

4:30 p.m. HSYG Camping (GC then Off-site)

## Saturday, January 2

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

## Sunday, January 3

8:50 a.m. Gathering Worship  
 9:45 a.m. OJ Fellowship (MH)  
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School-Children & Youth  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School-Adults  
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship  
 4:30 p.m. HSYG Music Rehearsal (GC)  
 5:30 p.m. HSYG (GC)

## Monday, January 4

8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)  
 10:00 a.m. Poinsettia Delivery (MCR)

## Tuesday, January 5

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

## Wednesday, January 6

8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)  
 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids (CE)  
 5:30 p.m. MSYG (GC)  
 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells (MS)  
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MS)

## Thursday, January 7

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

## Friday, January 8

8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)

## Saturday, January 9

9:00 a.m. Dismantle Christmas Decorations  
 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)  
 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)

# Remember in Prayer

## members

Roger Able	Camille Howe	Earle Roberts
Win Betrus	Jim Huff	Dave Ryan
Millie Carrier	Dorothy Johnson	Dorothy Ryan
Orrin & Helen Champlain	Joey Johnston	Barbara A. Smith
Jerry Dugger	Dena Lancashire	Barbara H. Smith
Mary Dukes	Steve Luxford	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Jana & Mike Easterling	Gladys Meier	Chuck Tate
Bob Endres	Lynn Mincey	Carolyn Thompson
Jeanne Estes	Jim Morris	Ed Threadgill
Bill & Becky Everhart	Joan Murphy	Shirley Turner
Marge Goodman	Joe Oriani	Gwen Waters
Frances Heath	Randal Palmer	Nat West
Doris Hill	Ann Reddout	Lee Wilkinson

## Family and friends

Jacob James Andrews	Augie Andrews' grandson
Carlotta Bennett	Bethany Owen's friend
Jerry Cooley	Susan Singleton's friend
John Doughty	Dena Lancashier's nephew
Al Ellis	Jim Threlkel's friend
Raymond Fenstermaker	Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson
Bill Gregory	Barbara Puckett's friend
Jean Hehn	Ellie Threlkel's friend
Julia Hildebrand	Rick & Pat Reass' friend
Pete Kent	Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
Tam Keys	Bethany Owen's mother
Mary Lou Knapp	Lynn Oakley's friend
Nan Mason	Harvey & Mary Ann Snively's daughter
Amity McGee	Bethany Owen's friend
Lettie Lynn North	Jean Strang's sister
David Richardson	Ellie & Jim Threlkel friend
Anthony Shepherd	Saturday Nite Live friend
Jimmy & Amanda Sites	Lynn Oakley's friends
Ann Steiner	Steve & Teresa Negley's friend
David Sumner	Bethany Owen's brother-in-law
Rick Tyler	Rick & Pat Reass' friend
Marshall Wood	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend



Robert Ferguson  
 Stephanie Gillie  
 Eddie Gray  
 David Knowles  
 Drew Stapor

## BREAK OUT!!!

Sometimes it's comfortable to do things the same old way: buy the same brand of breakfast cereal every week, drink from a favorite coffee mug every day, snuggle into that old sweater that's a little too small. But sometimes it's good to stretch into something new. Stephen Ministry may be where God is calling you to S - T - R - E - T - C - H.

A new training class is starts February 4, 2016. Contact Pat Reass at 206-9914 or Mary Marrs at 662-4647 today to find out more about this ministry.



# Welcome New Members



Steven & Jennifer Barthel  
Tristan & Manderley  
303 20th St. SW  
Winter Haven, FL 33880  
407-319-8065



Jacob & Ginnie Hodges  
Oliver  
125 12th St. SE  
Winter Haven, FL 33880  
901-264-7425



Larry & Pat Lincoski  
965 La Quinta Blvd  
Winter Haven, FL  
33881  
401-3659



John & Marilyn Schleifer  
251 Patterson D16  
Haines City, FL 33844  
419-9811

## NO CHRIST KIDS



We will not have Christ Kids during the Christmas holidays.  
Please join us again on January 6 at 3 p.m.

The Earl and Countess of Grantham  
of Downton Abbey  
cordially invite you to a  
Farewell Tea  
on Sunday January 24, 2016  
at half past three o'clock  
in the afternoon  
in McLeod Hall  
of First Presbyterian Church  
Reservations are required!  
Please complete the form below or  
e-mail Carson care of  
aharvey@firstpreswh.org.

Name(s)

\_\_\_\_\_ gladly accept the invitation for the  
Farewell Tea. Please include the  
name of each person attending.

## POINSETTIA DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Extend the Christmas spirit by taking poinsettias to our elderly and shut-ins. Come to the church on **Monday, December 28 after 10 a.m.** to take the plants to as many people as you would like. Need more info? Call Ray Larson @ 294-3121.



## COMMITTEE CHAIRS IMPORTANT ANNUAL REPORT REMINDER



Please remember that annual reports are due to the church office by **Friday, January 15, 2016**. Please e-mail to office@firstpreswh.org.

## FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Everyone is invited to join us for Movie Game Night on Friday evening, **January 22 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.** Please bring your favorite covered dish to share and enjoy an evening of food, fellowship, and fun with your friends from First Pres.

See you all on January 22 in McLeod Hall!



# PRIME TIMERS CAR (AND BOAT) SHOW

Calling all Prime Timers (members and friends of First Pres. ages 55 and up) to our Car (and Boat) Show.

We will gather on **Monday, January 25, at 11:30 a.m.** in McLeod Hall for a wonderful lunch and a time of fellowship. Catered lunch will cost \$8.

Dr. Steve Negley will start us on a trip down memory lane. Then, we will journey out to the parking lot to enjoy cars and boats from years gone by.

If you have a classic car or boat that you'd be willing to bring for the event, call or email Steve (294-3121) or [snegley@firstpreswh.org](mailto:snegley@firstpreswh.org) and let him know to save you a parking space.



To make lunch reservations, call the church office at 294-3121.



## SAVE THE DATE ~ JANUARY 31

Church wide talent show and youth group summer trips fundraiser.

## 2016 ADVENT DEVOTIONAL ~ PLEASE HAVE YOUR STORY AND PICTURE SUBMITTED BY JANUARY 31, 2016

'Toyland' – Remembering Favorite Childhood Toys Received at Christmas is the theme for the 2016 Advent Devotional, which we hope will extend to Epiphany (January 6, 2017).



What was your favorite childhood toy received at Christmas? Raggedy Ann and Andy Dolls? A bicycle? CandyLand, Clue, Life, Monopoly or Operation games? An Easy Bake Oven? A Tickle Me Elmo? A GI Joe? A baseball and glove or a football? Barbie and Ken dolls? In two or three paragraphs tell us about your favorite childhood toy received at Christmas, who brought it or gave it to you, your excitement, etc. Then as in previous years, we will add scripture and a brief prayer.



If you are willing to write for this devotional, then please sign up in the narthex.

## DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR OUR 2016 CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY PORTRAIT SITTING

THERE ARE THREE CONVENIENT WAYS TO SIGN UP:



- \* Sign up online on the church website at [firstpreswh.org](http://firstpreswh.org).
- \* Sign up on our Facebook page.
- \* Sign up before and after church in the narthex.



Please sign up ASAP to lock in your preferred date. Plan to be here for about 1 hour.



The photography sessions are here at the church on:

- |        |                    |
|--------|--------------------|
| Dec 28 | 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm. |
| Dec 29 | 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm  |
| Jan 14 | 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm  |
| Jan 15 | 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm  |
| Jan 16 | 10:00 am – 5:00 pm |



# *Making FIRST PRES Your FIRST CHOICE for Giving Your First Fruits to God in 2016*

First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven operates with a unified church budget. This means that the ministry that we conduct through all our program areas falls under a single church budget, which is supported by the tithes and offerings of our members and friends. **Every person** who generously gives of their first fruits in support of this budget **is a partner in everything** that we do (from preaching to teaching, to the care of our own children in the nursery and the children in Honduras through international mission.)

In our 2016 operating budget, the extent to which we generously share resources so that the church can be the church is revealed.

## **Dream Budget for 2016**

### Benevolences:

World Mission in Presbytery (Honduras), Synod, and General Assembly	\$34,000
Presbytery of Tampa Bay Per Capita (Shared operating expenses)	\$25,000
Deacon's Fund (Local Mission)	\$25,000
Congregational Care	\$ 1,000
Stephen Ministry	\$ 2,000
International Mission (Strangs)	\$ <u>3,000</u>
<b>Subtotal Benevolence</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>

### Personnel:

Pastoral Staff (salaries and benefits)	\$240,000
Program Staff (salaries and benefits)	\$188,000
Support Staff (salaries)	\$225,000
Nursery Staff (salaries)	\$ 16,000
Worker's Comp Insurance, Employer Payroll Taxes	\$ 34,000
Controlled Disbursements	\$ <u>25,000</u>
<b>Subtotal Personnel</b>	<b>\$728,000</b>

### Office/Administrative

Printing, Postage, Supplies	\$ 21,100
Phones, Equipment, Misc	\$ <u>13,900</u>
<b>Subtotal Office/Administrative</b>	<b>\$ 35,000</b>

Properties Buildings and Grounds	\$ 27,000
Utilities	\$ 37,000
Insurance	\$ 81,000
Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance/Other	\$ <u>12,000</u>
<b>Subtotal Properties</b>	<b>\$157,000</b>

## Dream Budget for 2016, continued

Program Committees	
Christian Education	\$ 6,000
Youth Ministry	\$ 7,000
Worship and Music	\$ 6,000
Other Committees	\$18,000
<b>Subtotal Committees</b>	<b>\$37,000</b>

**Total needed to fully fund First Presbyterian Church's ministry in 2016: \$1,047,000**

A unified church budget is all about partnership, as each member of the church shares as a partner in the overall ministry of the church. (No one person can take sole credit for the sharing of faith or the works of charity, leaving someone else responsible for the sidewalks and sewer lines.) Each time any of us drops a dollar in the plate, we have helped every area of ministry.



### First Presbyterian Church *Estimate of Generosity for 2016*

Last Name

First Name(s)

Envelope #

Address

City

State

Zip Code

In gratitude for God's love, I/we make the following *estimate of generous support* of the church, its local mission and commitment to Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly:

(The amount of this *estimate* may be increased or decreased if your circumstances change.)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_: Per Week  Per Month  Per Year

I/we want contribution envelopes:

Yes

No

*For where your treasure is  
there will your heart be also.*  
Matt 6:21

Signature

As we move into 2016, our generosity will show in ministry as each of us takes part in walking as a disciple of Jesus Christ and making FIRST PRES our FIRST CHOICE for sharing our first fruits. Thanks for helping us show God's love in all that we do.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Children ages three through fifth grade will meet in the children's music room, Room 103 of the Education Building from 9:45 - 10 a.m. with Ms. Lynn.



**Preschool Children** will meet in Room 108 for a morning of crafts, snacks, Bible stories, and playtime with their preschool friends.

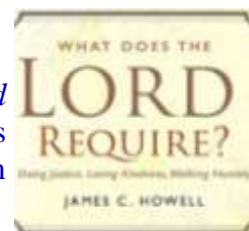
**Elementary aged children** will enjoy the Workshop Rotation with Science, Movies, Art, Cooking, Storytelling, Games, and Library time!! Special prizes will be offered all year long for attendance. This first 2016 Rotation will be: People Who Made a Difference.



**Middle school and High school** youth meet every Sunday morning in The Golden Center for Sunday School from 9:45-10:45. During this time we meet and have fun and eat good food while learning about and growing in our faith in Christ. Come join us.

## Adults Class Options (10-10:45 a.m.)

**The Perspectives Class** will continue their discussion on the book - *What Does the Lord Require? Doing Justice, Loving Kindness, Walking Humbly*, by James C. Howell. This class is led by Dr. Jim Threlkel and Mr. Glenn Thomas and meets in the Geneva Room, Room 106 of the CE Building.



Join Howard Beckert starting on Sunday, January 10 for 6 weeks of **Faith-Based Family Finances**. This intriguing class will cover such topics as: Stewardship, Common Sense Financial Principles, Budgeting, Freedom From Debt, and Passing It On Before You Pass On. This class is meant for adults of all ages and stages of life. We will meet from **10-10:45 a.m. in Room 207** for discussion each week. Bring your friends and your questions. This is sure to be a very beneficial class for all. We look forward to you all joining us starting on.

What began as a series of 'talks' on the radio by the devout Christian layman and brilliant college professor C. S. Lewis, has become a foundational book for many millions of Christ's followers over the years. "Ever since I became a Christian I have thought that the best, perhaps the only, service I could do for my unbelieving neighbors was to explain and defend the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times." So Lewis begins this literary journey. Our class will read (five to ten pages a week) and reflect on Lewis' **Mere Christianity (What One Must Believe to be a Christian)**. If you have read this work before, come and share what elements in our faith has touched your heart and soul. If you have not had the opportunity, join with us for the first time as we explore topics such as The Three Parts of Morality, Christian Marriage, Forgiveness, Faith, Hope, Charity, Obstinate Toy Soldiers, Nice People or New Men, from the fertile and faithful perspective of C.S. Lewis. Dr. Negley will lead the class which meets in the back section of McLeod Hall.



# Join us for Sunday School!

# January

## B irthdays

1/1	Orrin Champlain Jim Francis Adam Frost Kathy Girouard Caitlin Seney	1/9	Loretta Traviss 1/10	Rob Baker Annette Chilton Sophia Chilton Stella Chilton		Marilyn Riggs Ed Smith Taylor Threadgill 1/18	Sug Zowarka
1/2	Joan Carruth Erin Cranmer Heather Whitney		Michael Premuto Christine Stevens Carol Switalski	1/19	Connor Clinch Kim Salomon Taylor Thompson		
1/3	Allison Burke Shawn Swango	1/11	John Adams Trey Braswell Chad Pearson Charlie Reineke	1/20	Sarah Jorgensen James Morris 1/21	Emma Cornejo John Reineke	
1/4	Ally Britt Meredith Curtiss Jana Easterling Ann Reddout		Adam Snively 1/12	George Dunham Candy Marshall Carley Rabern	1/22	Janet Paxton Martin Paxton 1/23	Reed Hoagland
1/5	Megan Kennedy Norma Martin		1/13	Dana Cole Jackie Dugger Brent Parrish Allison Ray Kay Weeks Phyllis White	1/24	Bob Beale Sam Garner 1/25	Kyle Bentley Dorothy Johnson
1/6	Philip Batista Susan Braswell Suzanne Cole Rick Dantzler Chloe Miller Betty Shinn Betty Stephens		1/14	Brooke Dismuke May Kimbrell Donna Sherrard	1/26	Gloria Allen Bud Shinn Retha Wright 1/27	Callie Clinch Ava Frost Aaron Lock
1/7	Dianne Dougherty Mary Firment Amanda Olmert Lisa Snyder		1/15	Katie Sparr Jessica Strang	1/28	Jay Tackett Devin Thompson Gale Waters 1/29	Kathy Deloach Danny Miller
1/8	Peter Coppini Shauna Gann Rob Helmick Nanette Rodgers Rebecca Wilson		1/16	Meredith Clem Elaine Maltese 1/17	Nichole Gainey Jackie Lawn 1/18	Becky Irvin Ethelyn Line 1/30	Jerry Mincey Thomas Negley
1/9	Elizabeth Duce				1/31	Nicholas Jax Andrea Stevens	

## A nniversaries

1/1	Robert & Marilyn Sheffield	1/26	Bill & Maxie Adams
1/5	Jay & Lia Gray	1/26	Argyle & Christine Stevens
1/7	George & Krysti Rowker	1/29	Jay & Trisha Dugger
1/21	Matt & Sharon McGaffigan	1/30	Scott and Becky Irvin
1/25	George & Sylvia Chambers		John and Meg Strang



## 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!**

## Youth Group

If you are a middle or high school student we would love for you to join us for youth group each week in our new and improved youth house, The Golden Center. **Middle School Youth Group** meets each Wednesday night from 5:30-7:30 and **High School Youth Group** meets each Sunday night from 5:30-7:30. During this time we spend time together sharing meals, growing in Christ, playing games, and having LOTS of fun!

Once a month we will meet outside the Golden Center to be the hands and feet of Jesus to help people in our community. We have laid sod for Habitat for Humanity, worked in our soup kitchen feeding the homeless, and bagged countless bag lunches for our bag lunch ministry. These are just a few ways we are the hands and feet of Jesus.

Sometimes we get together simply to have fun. We have been to the corn maze in the dark, Fun Spot, pool parties, camp outs, paint balling and so much more. If you are looking to connect with young people your age while developing a deep relationship with Christ come and join us. We would love to have you!

## SPRING LAKE TOWERS CONDO, A 55 PLUS COMMUNITY, FOR SALE

The Spring Lake Towers condo that was given to our church by the estate of Boyer & Helen Clauson, will soon be on the market. The Session has decided to offer this sale to members of our congregation before listing the unit.

We are asking \$45,000 for the 2 bedroom/2 bath condominium.

Members interested in more information are encouraged to contact Ronda Lacy, our church's Director of Finance and Administration at [rlacy@firstpreswh.org](mailto:rlacy@firstpreswh.org) or 294-3121.



First Presbyterian Church  
637 6th Street, NW  
Winter Haven, FL 33881  
863-294-3121  
FAX 863-294-1105  
www.firstpreswh.org  
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 12/18/15.

Non-profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
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#### Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 276 bag lunches the week of 12/14/15.

#### Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 97 people on 12/19/15.

**Return Service Requested**

## CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

Our Christmas Eve offering will be directed toward medical missions around the globe.



**Christmas Eve  
Offering**

We are still collecting the money that will be divided between 3 medical clinics sponsored by the Medical Benevolence Foundation in Haiti, Africa, and Asia, and the Pena de Horeb Clinic operated by Dr. Moreno in Honduras.