



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of January 31, 2016

Issue 570

130 Years of Ministry

CHURCH-WIDE TALENT SHOW

When: Sunday, January 31st @ 5:00 p.m.

Where: McLeod Hall

Please come and support our youth for our annual Church-wide Talent Show. We are raising money for our summer trip. This fundraiser will help offset some of the cost of these trips. We have good food, and, fellowship along with great entertainment.

We will take donations at the door. Feel free to donate whatever amount God leads you to. We encourage you to grab a youth and ask how these summer trips have impacted their walk with Christ and how much fun they have in the process. These are life changing events that forever change these youth and their hearts for Jesus.

Please R.S.V.P. by contacting the office at 294-3121, office@firstpreswh.org, or email Dana at dparrish@firstpreswh.org.



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

SHROVE TUESDAY IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Reserve your spot now for Shrove Tuesday Survivor Challenge gathering on the island of McLeod Hall on **Tuesday, February 9 at 5:30 p.m.** Sign-up for delicious pancakes, sausage, and bacon prepared by Parson Larson and his dedicated crew of flapjack flippers.

During the evening several challenges await you. So pick your table team wisely and join us for a delightful feast before the fast! Reservations are due by Monday, February 8 at noon.

Please drop this tear off in the offering plate or call the church office at 294-3121.

Name _____ Number attending _____



Church calendar

Sunday, January 31

- 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
- 5:00 p.m. Church-Wide Talent Show (MH)

Monday, February 1

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)

Tuesday, February 2

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)
- 6:00 p.m. Saturday Nite Live Planning (MH)
- 6:30 p.m. Session (GR)

Wednesday, February 3

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

Thursday, February 4

- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Minister Training (UR)
- 7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells (MS)

Friday, February 5

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)

Saturday, February 6

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

Remember in Prayer

members

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Roger & Marie Able | Camille Howe | Dave Ryan |
| Win Betrus | Jim Huff | Dorothy Ryan |
| Millie Carrier | Dorothy Johnson | Bob Sheffield |
| 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 | Carolyn Thompson |
| Bob Endres | Lynnis Mincey | Ed Threadgill |
| Jeanne Estes | Bev Morris | Shirley Turner |
| Bill & Becky Everhart | Joan Murphy | Mike Vibral |
| Lois Frakes | Joe Oriani | Gwen Waters |
| Marge Goodman | Randal Palmer | Nat West |
| Frances Heath | Ann Reddout | Lee Wilkinson |
| Doris Hill | Earle Roberts | Marie Williams |

IN THE HOSPITAL: Joyce Hayman Family and friends

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Antonello family | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friends |
| Carlotta Bennett | Bethany Owen's friend |
| Bob Conley | Marile Weeks' friend |
| Jerry Cooley | Susan Singleton's friend |
| Mike Copeland | Jackie Pinkney's cousin |
| John Doughty | Dena Lancashier's nephew |
| Al Ellis | Jim Threlkel's friend |
| Linda Fellows | David Fellow's mother |
| Raymond Fenstermaker | Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson |
| Bridgett Goins | Lisa Endres' friend |
| Morgan Griffith | Everhart & Donaldy's friend |
| Jean Hehn | Ellie Threlkel's friend |
| Chris & Tracey Johnston | Jeremiah & Jaleeann Johnston's family |
| Pete Kent | Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew |
| Nan Mason | Harvey & Mary Ann Snively's daughter |
| Sharon & Hoyt Maulden | Judy Winfree's sister-in-law |
| Dawn Mayo | Saturday Nite Live helper |
| Amity McGee | Bethany Owen's friend |
| Lettie Lane North | Jean Strang's sister |
| David Richardson | Ellie & Jim Threlkel's friend |
| Anna Robinson | Punkin Smith's friend |
| Cash Sheaffer | Zan Dismuke's grandson |
| Bonnie Spires | Saturday Nite Live helper |
| Ann Steiner | Steve & Teresa Negley's friend |
| Jeannie & Ralph Weeks | Marile Weeks' brother & sister-in-law |
| Marshall Wood | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend |
| Wallace Wood | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend |

**10 Ways to Pray
When You Can't Pray**

1. Pray Anyway
2. Choose to Listen
3. Just Say His Name
4. Have a Go-to Prayer
5. Say a Prayer of Praise
6. Pray for Someone Else
7. Pray for a Heart of Prayer
8. Have Someone Pray for You
9. Read Different Prayers in the Bible
10. Pray Different Bible Verses Over Your Life



Military

- Robert Ferguson
- Stephanie Gillie
- Eddie Gray
- David Knowles
- Drew Stapor



The Session has called for a Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, January 31, at 10:55 a.m.** in the sanctuary to vote on the annual Terms of Call for the installed pastors, and to hear the report of the Nominating

Committee to elect deacons to fill two vacancies in the Class of 2016. (The names to be placed into nomination are Heather Whitney and Karen Alexander), to vote on the sale of the condominium which we have for sale.



FOUR WEEKS OF WISDOM SERMON SERIES

For the two more weeks Drs. Harvey and Negley will be preaching from the Wisdom Literature of the Bible, found in the Old Testament books of Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs. Dr. Negley will be preaching this Sunday from Job..

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.

MISSION HONDURAS 2016



We are tentatively planning our summer mission trip to Honduras for JUNE 11-18, 2016. This mission adventure is open to youth members of the First Pres. family who have completed 9th grade, and adults. If you are interested in possibly joining the mission team this summer, you are encouraged to attend the...

**HONDURAS MISSION EXPLORATORY MEETING
on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, from 8 PM – 9PM in McLeod Hall.**

If you are interested in the trip, but cannot attend the meeting, please contact Dr. Negley via email (snegley@firstpreswh.org).

YOUR GIFTS PACKAGE FOR STEPHEN MINISTRY

Faith, mercy, teaching the faith, encouragement, or knowing: Do one or more of these gifts describe you? If so, check out Stephen Ministry, our congregation's one-to-one caregiving ministry.

A new training class starts **Thursday, February 4 at 6:30.**

Please contact Pat Reass at 206-9914 or Mary Marrs at 662-4647 today to find out more about what you can do for the Lord.



COME TO THE WATERS...

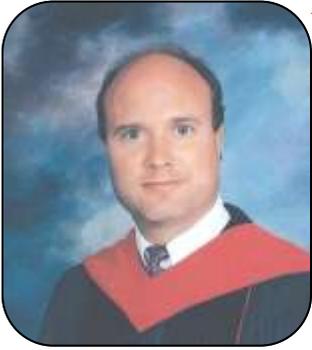


the Presbyterian Women's Bible Study for 2015-2016, will be a rich exploration of water stories in both testaments. "Just as water nourishes our bodies, so the scriptures on water nourish our souls." Join one of the Circles for interesting lessons and Christian fellowship.

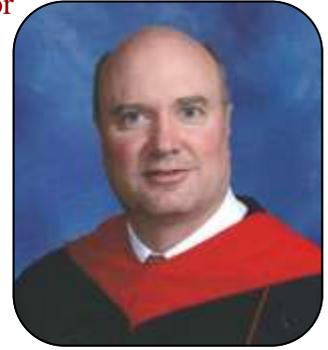
Lydia Circle is the **second Monday of the month. The next meeting will be February 8, 2016.**

Joy Circle is the **third Tuesday; next meeting, February 16, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.** at Carol Carter's.

LET'S CELEBRATE 20 YEARS OF MINISTRY UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF DR. STEVE NEGLEY



February 15, 1996 marked the return of former Associate Pastor Steven R. Negley as the congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven welcomed him to the position of Senior Pastor/Head of Staff. That was twenty years ago!



On Sunday, February 21, 2016, we would like to celebrate these years at a reception honoring Steve and Teresa. The reception will follow the eleven o'clock service in McLeod Hall. A basket will be available to collect your best wishes and any remembrances you may wish to share with Steve.

We are grateful to God for these twenty years and we look forward to more years of his faithful leadership and service. In the meantime, it is time to party and so come and join us for punch and refreshments.

PAPER CUTTING



The paper cutting group met again on Monday, January 18th and completed the first layer of the Lenten banners. We will meet again on **Thursday, March 3rd at 6:00 p.m.** to cut the next layer of banner. If you would like to join us and try the art of paper cut, please call Lynn and we will have supplies for you to start your own project.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:



All Church Retreat: **May 14 & 15** at Cedarkirk Camp Conference Center.

Vacation Bible School: *Cave Quest – Following Jesus the Light of the World*, **June 20-23 from 6:15 – 8:30 p.m.**



SANCTUARY FLOWER CALENDAR

The new 2016 Flower Calendar is posted.

There is space to sign up for placing flowers in the narthex on a given Sunday, when the sanctuary flowers for your desired date have already been selected by someone else.

Never given sanctuary or narthex flowers before and wonder what to do?

Follow these simple instructions:

1. Sign your name on the calendar for the date you wish to give flowers. If the sanctuary spot has already been selected, then you can choose to have your floral arrangement in the narthex for the same date.
2. Complete this step by giving your phone number and identifying your florist.
3. If giving sanctuary flowers and you would like to use the church's brass urn, please ask Ann or Sam for the glass liner and deliver it to your florist or ask the florist to pick it up at the church.
4. Place an order for flowers from your preferred florist.
5. Call Connie at the church office (294-3121) no later than Wednesday prior to your chosen date and inform her as to how you wish for the acknowledgment of flowers to read in the bulletin.
6. Request that the florist deliver the flowers to the church by noon on Saturday and have them include a name on the arrangement so that we know by whom they are given and where they are to be placed.



Any other questions, please call Alan or Connie. Thank you!

Making *FIRST PRES* Your *FIRST CHOICE* for Feeding Hungry People

Jesus, in chapter 25 of Matthew's gospel (Matthew 25:31-46), gives the church a part of its mission statement as he tells the parable of the sheep and the goats. "I was hungry", the Lord says in this parable, "and you gave me something to eat." Those instructions from our Lord to His disciples formed the basis for our church's Saturday Soup Kitchen.

Every Saturday, since February 7, 2004, our congregation has hosted the hungry in Winter Haven to a delicious hot meal. This weekly "gift of food to the least of these" is now averaging over one hundred diners each and every Saturday (The number of diners that first February Saturday in 2004 was under thirty). And God is blessing this work.



A portion of every tithe and offering to our church is placed in the Deacon's Fund. The Deacons allocate some of these resources to purchase the food for the Saturday Meals. Our church also uses one third of the Three Cents a Meal Hunger Offering (collected monthly) to help fund our Saturday Soup Kitchen and our Bag Lunch Ministry. Hundreds of our church members work with our Saturday Soup Kitchen each year.

From time to time, community groups partner with us in this vital ministry. Our Christian sisters and brothers from Grace Lutheran Church, Beymer Memorial United Methodist, St. John's United Methodist, Christ Community Church, regularly take part in providing the food, funds, and labor to keep this outreach of love active.

And again this year at Christmas, the girls and young women who study dance at Barbara's Centre for Dance here in Winter Haven, held a blanket drive to help us provide blanket to our Soup Kitchen guests during the cold winter months.

On December 21, students from Barbara's Centre for Dance presented Dr. Negley 132 blankets for the benefit of people who dine at our Saturday Soup Kitchen.



We are thrilled to have so many mission partners in our community working with us to meet the needs of our neighbors. On behalf of our church, please thank these partners for working with us in reaching out with Christ's love. And, if, in addition to your financial support of our church budget, you feel that God is calling you to "Make First Pres. Your First Choice for Feeding Hungry People", you are welcome to sign up in McLeod Hall on the Deacon's bulletin board to come and share your talents in the Saturday Soup Kitchen.

IN PREPARATION FOR BRIGHT SUNDAY 2016!

In Your Mind Is There A Missing Stained Glass Window?

In the chapel and sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, you will find a series of stained glass windows depicting scenes from the life of Jesus. In the chapel, you will find these scenes: Jesus' Birth, Jesus as a Boy in the Temple, Jesus as the Good Shepherd, Jesus Praying, Jesus Entering Jerusalem and Jesus Presiding at the Last Supper.

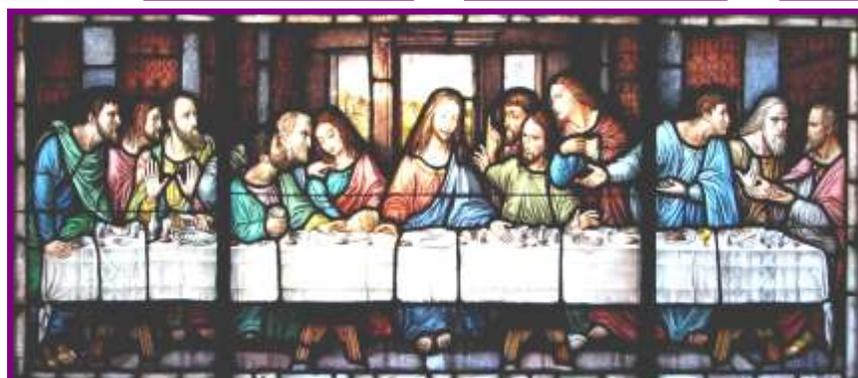
In the narthex, you will find stained glass windows of Jesus' Crucifixion, Jesus' Resurrection and Jesus' Ascension. Of course, in the sanctuary we see the open armed Christ of the Christ window with the invitation facing the street, Come to Me"

Imagine that we were going to commission another stained glass window to add to the series. Is there one other scene that you believe is needed to make the series complete? What story in the life of Jesus would that be? What would Jesus be doing? Please complete the form below and place in the offering plate. Thanks!

STAINED GLASS WINDOW IDEA

Scene or Story: _____

Scripture Reference (optional): _____



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.

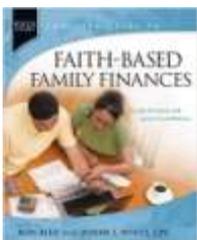
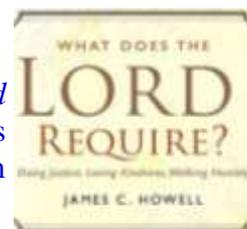
Elementary aged children will enjoy the Workshop Rotation with Science, Movies, Art, Cooking, Storytelling, Games, and Library time!! Special prizes will be offered all year long for attendance. This first 2016 Rotation will be: People Who Made a Difference.



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.

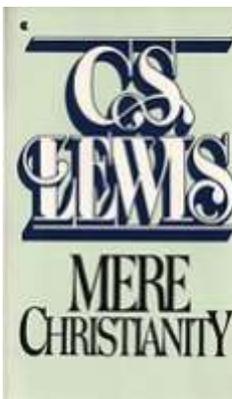
Adults Class Options (10-10:45 a.m.)

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.

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.



Join us for Sunday School!

FEBRUARY Birthdays

2/1	Susan Owens Gary Salomon	2/11	Brian Parrish	2/21	Don Cook
2/2	Karen Clarke Bob Gerber Evelyn Girouard Jake Tackett Leah Weeks	2/12	Ron Dunham Jeanne Estes Kenny Harp Phillip Kenner Dave Ryan Mike Vibral		Lucille Freeman Donna Rounsley Squire Smith
2/3	Charlie Roe Marjorie Roe Sarah Slocum	2/13	Cheryl Marchetti Leland Miller Eric Roe Bob Turner	2/22	Lynn Aaron Graham Lock Doug Rollins Susan Singleton Gail Van Allen
2/5	Kevin Britt Paige Butz	2/14	Carl Cheatham Marj Crittenden	2/23	Casey Cheatham Bill Everhart Kathryn McAllister
2/6	Zan Dismuke Ann King Steve Lockhart Jackson Parrish Tracy Scheck	2/15	Lucas Johnston TD Sowards	2/24	Richard Moots Teresa Negley Drew Powell Hunter Shinn
2/7	Tom Wales	2/16	Les Dunson Jenna Johnston Kaden Rabern	2/25	Roger Able Bill Patchen Thom Rivers Kassady von Hahmann
2/8	Steffan Bentley Chase Reineke Gee Roe, III Argyle Stevens Kelly Walker	2/17	Marie Able Michelle Calvin	2/26	Walter Ferguson Betts Huff Addison Robinson Nat West
2/9	Augie Andrews Kevin Thomas	2/18	Paul MacDonald Kristan Sheffield	2/27	Joseph Badnell
2/10	Ethan Boland	2/19	Matt McGaffigan Edna Mitchell	2/28	Pam Gray
2/11	Lesley Johnston	2/20	Dorrie Tackett Norman Warren		Jane Hayman

Anniversaries

2/2	Gus & Shannon Badnell	2/17	Ross & Jill Kosmensky
	George & Kelly Butz	2/19	Ron & Kris Dunham
	Greg & Shelly Prather	2/21	Hunter & Jennifer Smith
2/4	Ed & Joyce Reints	2/22	Adam & Erin Cranmer
2/11	Bob & Shirley Hines	2/24	Robert & Lisa Endres
2/12	Fred & Kathy Deloach		Jeremiah & Jaleean Johnston
2/14	Ray & Tracy Garcia		

COME WORSHIP WITH US WORSHIP

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!



**Join the
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!

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

* Sign up online on the church website at firstpreswh.org.

* Sign up on our Facebook page.

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



March photography sessions have been added:

March 10 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
March 11 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
March 12 10:00 am – 5:00 pm



All families will receive a \$10 coupon the day of their scheduled photography, plus if you donate a food item, or cash for our food ministry the day of your photo session, you will receive another \$5.00 coupon (one per household) towards your portrait order.

All individuals and families sitting for a portrait receive a free portrait. Regular attenders and winter residents are encouraged to have their photos taken.

First Presbyterian Church
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Winter Haven, FL 33881
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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 1/29/16.

Non-profit Org.
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Lakeland, FL

Return Service Requested

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 336 bag lunches the week of 1/18/16.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 94 people on 1/23/16

We fed 396 people in December.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING



Each year the youth collect soup cans and money to donate to a local food pantry and our very own soup kitchen. Super Bowl Sunday we have our own "Souper Bowl" of Caring. We will be collecting these items until February 7th. **February 7th** we will be playing our flag football game at **Polk State soccer fields at 2:00 p.m.** This game is fun to watch as the youth play against "The Geezers". We encourage you to come out to play or cheer us on and bring your donations with you.

Our soup can collection spot will be in McLeod Hall. Please help us raise money for the hungry in our community.

Author, Charles Martin said, "Indifference is the sin of this age." Let's not be indifferent to the suffering of those in need in our very own community.

"What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day, stay warm and eat well"-but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless." James 2:14-17

