



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

# Tower Chimes

Week of February 21, 2016

Issue 573

130 Years of Ministry

## 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 so come and join us for punch and refreshments.

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

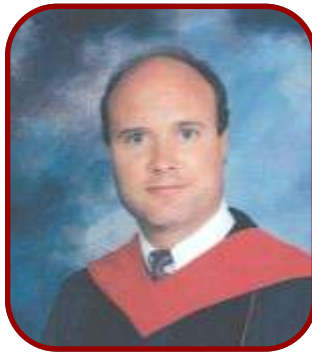
Ronda A. Lacy  
Director of Finance &  
Administration

Connie J. Shipley  
Administrative Assistant

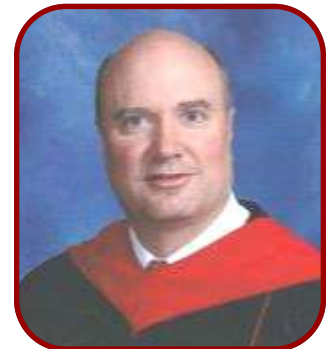
Rose Flynn  
Office Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant  
Director of Maintenance

Ann M. Quessenberry  
Custodian



**THEN**



**NOW**



# Church calendar

**Sunday, February 21**

**2nd Sunday in Lent**

**3 Cents-a-Meal**

**Confirmation Bibles Presented**

- 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
- 12:00 p.m. Dr. Steve Negley Reception (MH)
- 4:30 p.m. HSYG Music Rehearsal (GC)
- 5:30 p.m. HSYG (GC)

**Monday, February 22**

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
- 10:30 a.m. Prayer Shawl (MH)
- 12:00 p.m. Busy Moms of Faith (GR)
- 1:30 p.m. Friendship Callers (MCR)

**Tuesday, February 23**

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
- 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)
- 5:30 p.m. Stephen Minister Leaders (MH)
- 6:15 p.m. Worship & Music (MS)
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministers (MH)

**Wednesday, February 24**

- 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)
- 5:30 p.m. Community Outreach (MCR)
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells (MS)
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MS)

**Thursday, February 25**

- 5:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training (FFR)
- 7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells (MS)

**Friday, February 26**

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

**Saturday, February 27**

- 7:45 a.m. Presbytery Meeting-Van Leaves (Beth-El)
- 9:00 a.m. Stephen Minister Training (UR)
- 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
- 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)

# Remember in Prayer

members

- |                        |                 |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Roger & Marie Able     | Doris Hill      | Bob Sheffield         |
| Win Betrus             | Camille Howe    | Barbara A. Smith      |
| Millie Carrier         | Jim Huff        | Barbara H. Smith      |
| Helen Champlain        | Dorothy Johnson | Pam Tallent-Blackburn |
| Jerry Dugger           | Joey Johnston   | Carolyn Thompson      |
| Mary Dukes             | Dena Lancashire | Ed Threadgill         |
| Jana & Mike Easterling | Spike Lucia     | Shirley Turner        |
| Jeanne Estes           | Lynnis Mincey   | Mike Vibrat           |
| Bill & Becky Everhart  | Joan Murphy     | Nat West              |
| Lois Frakes            | Joe Oriani      | Lee Wilkinson         |
| Marge Goodman          | Earle Roberts   | Marie Williams        |
| Frances Heath          | Dorothy Ryan    |                       |

IN THE HOSPITAL: Anne Burch  
Family and friends

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Antonello family        | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friends         |
| Shelly Appleton         | John & Marcia Eycleshimer's friend     |
| John & Judy Cameron     | Ben Tucker's sister & brother-in-law   |
| Donna Campbell          | Sarah Rennie's friend                  |
| Jerry Cooley            | Susan Singleton's friend               |
| Mike Copeland           | Jackie Pinkney's cousin                |
| Keith Damkjer           | Ron Damkjer's brother                  |
| Al Ellis                | Jim Threlkel's friend                  |
| Raymond Fenstermaker    | Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson           |
| Morgan Griffith         | Everhart-Donaldy's friend              |
| Jean Hehn               | Ellie Threlkel's friend                |
| Julia Hildebrand        | Rick & Pat Reass' friend               |
| Chris & Tracey Johnston | Jeremiah & Jaleean Johnston's family   |
| Misty Jones             | Lynn Oakley's friend                   |
| Pete Kent               | Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew       |
| Lindey Kneubuler        | John & Marcia Eycleshimer's niece      |
| Nan Mason               | Harvey & Mary Ann Snively's daughter   |
| Sharon & Hoyt Maulden   | Judy Winfree's sister & brother-in-law |
| Amity McGee             | Bethany Owen's friend                  |
| Wanda Morrison          | Connie Shipley's friend                |
| Durb Pearson            | Tom & Jeri Oldt's friend               |
| Anna Robinson           | Punkin Smith's friend                  |
| Linda Rowland           | Rick & Pat Reass' friend               |
| Cash Sheaffer           | Zan Dismuke's grandson                 |
| Bonnie Spires           | Saturday Nite Live helper              |
| Marshall Wood           | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend          |



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

## THIS IS WHAT OUR STEPHEN MINISTER TRAINEES ARE LEARNING

Our Stephen Minister training class has begun. We ask you to keep our Stephen Minister trainees in your prayers as they nurture their gifts and acquire new skills so that they can bring Christ's love and care to hurting people on behalf of our congregation. Also pray for our Stephen Leaders who will guide them through their training.

Here is what our Stephen Ministers are learning currently:

*Process versus Results in Caregiving:* Our trainees learn the key understanding that they don't have to (and indeed can't) fix whatever problem it is that their care receiver faces. God is the caregiver; the Stephen Minister is the caregiver.

*Assertiveness~Relating Gently and Firmly:* This class explores the topic of assertiveness, using Jesus as the model for assertive behavior. They take a look at the differences between passive, aggressive, and assertive behavior.

\*\*\*\*\*

**AND REMEMBER, IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEEDS HELP...**

connect with one of our Stephen Ministers, by calling **Pat Reass at 206-9914**, or talk with one of our other Stephen Minister Leaders: **Alan Harvey, Ray Larson, Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, Les O'Neal, 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 there to care!**





## 3 CENTS-A-MEAL

We will collect the **3 Cents-a-Meal Hunger Offering** during worship services **THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21.**

This offering is divided between our Soup Kitchen/Bag Lunch Ministry, Beth-El Farm-workers Ministry, and Honduras.

## SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT IS FEBRUARY 21

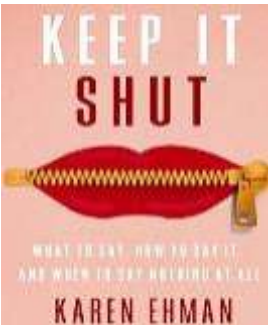
On **February 14**, First Pres marked the First Sunday in the season of Lent. This forty day period of penitent self-examination leads up to the celebration of Easter.

During Lent, Holy Week, and Easter, Dr. Harvey and Dr. Negley will focus their preaching on stories from the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, as they are reflected in the beautiful stained glass windows of our church.

We hope you will join us throughout Lent as we follow our Lord Jesus to the cross, the empty tomb, and beyond.



## NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



The Thursday women's Bible study group is at 9 a.m. in the Upper Room. The study is titled *Keep It Shut: What to Say, How to Say It, and When to Say Nothing at All* by Karen Ehman. Come for discussion, Bible study, and amazing fellowship with the women of First Presbyterian.

Friends and neighbors are always welcome as well. Books can be purchased for around \$10. Please contact Lia Gray for more information at 318-1541 or [unccpair@gmail.com](mailto:unccpair@gmail.com).

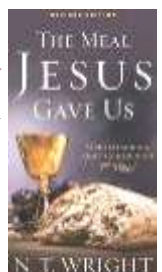
The up-coming meeting dates are:

**March 3, March 17, 31, April 14, and possibly April 28.**

## ODD MONTH, ODD (3<sup>RD</sup>) MONDAY BOOK DISCUSSION CLUB



Because a number of us enjoyed the Downton Abbey Farewell Tea on January 24, 2016, we did not have a January meeting. We will resume meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of March, which is **March 21 at 3 p.m. in the back of McLeod Hall**. The March meeting will be a "two-fer," making up for January and observing Holy Week. We will examine and review two books: **Jan Karon's newest release in the Mitford series: *Come Rain or Come Shine*** and **N. T. Wright's *The Meal Jesus Gave Us* (revised edition)**.



## FIRST FACT

Congratulations to T. Michael Stavres as the new Assistant City Manager for Winter Haven.

## ALL CHURCH RETREAT REGISTRATION

The All Church Retreat will be here before you know it. The dates are **May 14 and 15** at Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center. Registration forms will be available within the next few weeks. Please prayerfully consider joining us for Saturday and Sunday or just for the day, on either day. We promise you fun, fabulous food, fellowship, small group Bible study, outdoor exploration, and so much more. Once you go, you will want to go every year. Stay tuned for more information coming your way!



# Making *FIRST PRES* Your *FIRST CHOICE* for *Christian Fellowship*

A description in Acts (2:42) of the early church says that the members “devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” Here at First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven, we feel that fostering Christian fellowship is part of our purpose together.





From the children at Christ Kids, the Middle School and High School young people at their weekly youth fellowship groups, and across the age spectrum with adult friends and members, First Pres provides opportunities for Christian Fellowship.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The youth want to thank you all for your donations of non-perishables and money to support Souper Bowl of Caring. In just a few minutes after church Sunday, February 7 we collected \$480.89 that will go directly to our Soup Kitchen. Through your caring hearts and generosity we also collected over 200 non-perishable food items that were donated to the Salvation Army's Family Emergency food bank.

The youth are forever grateful for the support of our church family and your commitment to help those in need right here in our community.



## COME TO THE WATERS...



the Presbyterian Women's Bible Study for 2015-2016, is 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 March 14 2016.**

Joy Circle is the **third Tuesday.**

**The next meeting will be March 15, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. at Carol Carter's.**

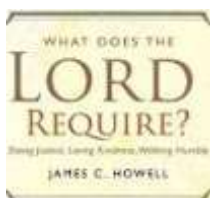
## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

**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** Workshop Rotation will focus on Symbols of Holy Week with Storytelling, Cooking, Science, Art, Games, and Library over the next six weeks.

**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.

*Jesus > Religion:* Life isn't about us. It's about Him. No more white-knuckling, teeth-gritting effort and comparison. We can never earn salvation, deserve God's blessing, or climb our way to heaven. Jesus is greater than trying harder, doing more, and being good enough.

Full of grace and hope, this Bible study points beyond the exhausting cycle of performance and routine to the freedom of following Christ and living as part of His church. Jefferson Bethke creatively moves us from things that can never satisfy our souls to the joy of being truly known and deeply loved. Join Lia Gray as she facilitates this study in Room 207 of the Christian Education Building beginning on Sunday, February 21 through April 3.



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.

## COME WORSHIP WITH US

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 YOU PORTRAIT SITTING FOR OUR CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Sign up online on the church website at [firstpreswh.org](http://firstpreswh.org), our Facebook page, or before and after church in the narthex. Please sign up ASAP to lock in your preferred date.

March photography sessions are: **March 10 & 11**, 1:00–8:00 pm and **March 12** 10:00 am–5:00 pm. Plan to be here for about an hour.



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.



### Free Portrait Pick Up In The Office On Weekdays

You will need to sign that you received your portrait.

The following folks may pick up their free portrait in the church office on weekdays: Anderson, Aspy, Beckley, Bowen, H. Butz, Carter, Chas. Chilton, Dustin, Eycleshimer, Ferguson, J. Gray, Heyer-Singleton, Hines, Howard, Hubbard, Kenner, Kingham, W. Koon, McGee, McClew, Meier, Olmert, Owen, Patchen, Porter, Rounsley, Dennis Smith, H. Snively, Snyder, Stavres, Swart, Volpe, J. Whitney, Zowarka.

## Our Purpose Statement

First Presbyterian Church  
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Winter Haven, FL 33881  
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www.firstpreswh.org  
office@firstpreswh.org

*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 2/19/16.

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### Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 261 bag lunches the week of 2/8/16.

**Return Service Requested**

### Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 110 people on 2/13/16

## THE 10 TO 2 LUNCH BUNCH...

will be heading out on **Monday, February 29** to Hollerbach's Willow Tree Café in Sanford.

With a little further to travel, and the possibility of a little longer wait – we will have a special time. We will leave the church at **9:00 a.m.** and return at **3:30 p.m.**

While there, we will enjoy table fellowship with your Christian friends and fabulous German food (various versions of schnitzel, bratwurst, weisswurst, hungarian goulash, potato pancakes, riesen brazen, sweet red cabbage, salads ,and more.) All you need to pay for is your lunch. Call (294-3121) or email the church office to reserve your seat on the church bus or van.

