



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of March 20, 2016

Issue 576

130 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

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

PALM SUNDAY IS MARCH 20

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.



HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Palm Sunday	March 20	8:50 & 11 am	} Worship Services
Maundy Thursday	March 24	5:30 pm	
		6:30 pm	} Supper } Worship with Communion & } Tenebrae in the Sanctuary
Good Friday	March 25	12-3 pm	
Easter Sunday	March 27	6:30 am	} Chapel open for Prayers } Sunrise service at } MLK Park
		8:50 am	
		9:30-10:15 am	} Worship } Easter Breakfast in } McLeod Hall
		10:15 am	
		11:00 am	} Easter Egg Hunt on the } Playground } Worship



Church calendar

Sunday, March 20

Palm Sunday

3 Cents-a-Meal

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. Worship
 4:30 p.m. HSYG Music Rehearsal (GC)
 5:30 p.m. HSYG (GC)

Monday, March 21

8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
 3:00 p.m. Odd Month, Odd Monday Book Club (UR)

Tuesday, March 22

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, March 23

8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
 11:15 a.m. Preschool Music (CE)
 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells (MS)
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MS)

Thursday, March 24

Maundy Thursday

5:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Dinner (MH)
 6:30 p.m. Worship (Sanctuary)

Friday, March 25

Good Friday

8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
 12:00 p.m. Chapel Open Untill 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 26

9:00 p.m. Lilies Arrive/Arranged (Sanctuary)
 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)

YOUTH GROUP MEALS



Each week when we meet for Wednesday night middle school youth and Sunday night high school youth group we share a meal. It is an essential part of our ministry here at First Pres. Jesus dined with many and it is

a time to break bread and share fellowship. Sometimes the best conversations begin around the table.

If you are interested in preparing a meal in the new Golden Center kitchen for our youth or are interested in donating to our youth fund to help purchase these meals please contact Dana at dparrish@firstpreswh.org or call the office at 863-294-3121.

Remember in Prayer

members

Roger & Marie Able	Dorothy Johnson	Barbara H. Smith
Millie Carrier	Joey Johnston	Dale Smith
Helen Champlain	Dena Lancashire	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Dannie Dougherty	Spike Lucia	Carolyn Thompson
Jerry Dugger	Carole Marotti	Suzann Threadgill
Jana & Mike Easterling	Dick McCauley	Ted Threadgill
Jeanne Estes	Matthew McGaffigan	Shirley Turner
Bill Everhart	Lynniss Mincey	Gail Van Allen
Lois Frakes	Joan Murphy	Mike Vibrat
Marge Goodman	Joe Oriani	Nat West
Joyce Hayman	Norm Patrick	Lee Wilkinson
Frances Heath	Earle Roberts	Marie Williams
Doris Hill	Dorothy Ryan	Retha Wright
Camille Howe	Bob Sheffield	
Jim Huff	Barbara A. Smith	

IN THE HOSPITAL: John Maltese & Barbara Roberts

Relatives & Friends

Antonello family	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friends
Shelly Appleton	John & Marcia Eycleshimer's friend
Carlotta Bennett	Bethany Owen's friend
Lynda Burke	Shirley Hines' friend
Donna Campbell	Sarah Rennie's friend
Jerry Cooley	Susan Singleton's friend
Al Ellis	Jim Threlkel's friend
Raymond Fenstermaker	Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson
Kevin Gillooley	Debbie Sowards' friend
Terrell & Teresa Griffin	T. Michael & Charlie Stavres' friends
Joshua Harrison	Penn Tucker's friend
Jean Hehn	Ellie Threlkel's friend
Julia Hildebrand	Rick & Pat Reass' friend
Pete Kent	Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
Michelle Kirpach	Debbie Sowards' friend
Lindsey Kneubuler	John & Marcia Eycleshimer's niece
Nan Mason	Harvey & Mary Ann Snively's daughter
Amity McGee	Bethany Owen's friend
Durb Pearson	Tom & Jeri Oldt's friend
Selenia Rodas	Gene Aspy's friend
Linda Rowland	Rick & Pat Reass' friend
Bonnie Everhart Sawyer	Bill Everhart's sister
Tamara Sobczak	Rose Flynn's niece
Tommy Thompson	T. Michael & Charlie Stavres' friend
Scarlett Turner	Rick & Pat Reass' granddaughter
Kurt Vahle	Gale & Gwen Waters' friend
Marshall Wood	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend

Military



Robert Ferguson
 Stephanie Gillie
 Eddie Gray
 David Knowles
 Drew Stapor

10 Ways to Pray When you Can't Pray

Pray Anyway
 Choose to Listen
 Just Say His Name
 Have a Go-to Prayer
 Say a Prayer of Praise
 Pray for Someone Else
 Pray for a Heart of Prayer
 Have Someone Pray for You
 Read Different Prayers in the Bible
 Pray Different Bible Verses Over Your Life



3 CENTS-A-MEAL

We will collect the **3 Cents-a-Meal Hunger Offering** during worship services **THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 20.**

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



PALMS NEEDED

Small palms are needed for **Palm Sunday, March 20** for the children to wave.

If you have some you could bring in, please let Amy McKee know at 294-3121. Thank you!

REMEMBER ~ EASTER EGG HUNT



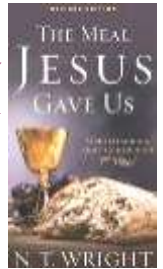
Join us on the front steps of the Christian Education Building on Easter Sunday, March 27 at 10:15 a.m. for an Easter Egg Hunt for children fifth grade

and below. Bring your baskets and get ready for a wonderful morning of Easter fun!

ODD MONTH, ODD (3RD) 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 3rd 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).**



Please call the church at 294-3121 to let us know if you plan to attend.

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



Come join fellow Presbyterian members for the 5th Annual Presbytery Group Day with the Rays. The Rays will play The Toronto Blue Jays, **Friday, April 29!** 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 fans.

The tickets are Lower Reserved Seats. Price for ticket is \$30 (up to \$60.00 value.) *Price includes a Rays Hat that can be picked up by showing ticket at the Redemption Center between Gate 3 and the 1st Base Food Court until the 5th inning.



Deadline to purchase is April 13.

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

ALL CHURCH RETREAT REGISTRATION

The All Church Retreat will be **May 14 and 15** at Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center. This weekend is for all members and friends of First Presbyterian Church. You are welcome to join us on Saturday and Sunday or just one of those days.

The theme this year is, **"The Same Power Lives in Us"** and we will focus on Romans Chapter 8 during the weekend. All ages are welcome to join in fellowship, fun, delicious food, and outdoor adventures. Please register by **Monday, May 2.** Brochures are NOW available.

Please contact Amy McKee at 294-3121 for more information.



CHECK OUT THE NEW ART GALLERY...

in the Spencer Reference Library hallway (north side of the sanctuary). You will find a display of paper cut originals designed by our church members. These paper cuts were our practice before working on the Lenten banners.

We plan to use this gallery to rotate various themed displays that are created by our church members. Displays could include photography, painting, needlecraft, mixed media, etc.



BRIGHT SUNDAY, APRIL 3, BUTTERFLY RELEASE

The Worship and Music Committee has approved purchasing butterflies to be released in memory of church members who have died since Bright Sunday, April 12, 2015, and for those who have sustained the loss of a **child, parent, sibling, or spouse since that date.**

As we have done for the past few years, if you would like to release a butterfly in memory of a loved one who died prior to, or after, April 12, 2015, or who is beyond the relationship guidelines mentioned above (for example, grandparent, aunt, cousin, son-in-law, etc.), you may purchase a butterfly for \$5.00.

So that we may have an accurate count of how many butterflies to order, please fill out the tear off form at the bottom of this page and drop in the offering plate or drop off at the church office.

Or, you can call the office at 294-3121 with your information.

Since the order for butterflies needs to be placed soon, *please have your orders in by Palm Sunday, March 20.*

Your name: _____ Deceased loved one: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Which worship service April 3: 8:50 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

2016 EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

It is time to order your Easter lily for **Easter Sunday, March 27**. Easter lilies are a yearly tradition to decorate the church on Easter Sunday.

To purchase a lily "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one or friend, please fill out this order form. The cost is \$12.00 per plant. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church and marked "Easter Lily Fund".

Place the order form and check in the offering plate, mail, or take to the church office by **Monday, March 21**. A complete listing will be available Easter Sunday. The Sanctuary Committee will again remove the yellow stamen from each lily so it will not bother your allergies.



Donor(s): _____

In Memory of: _____

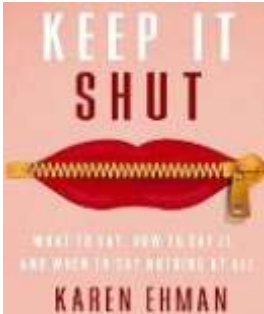
In Honor of: _____

Number of plants ordered: _____ I will pick up my lily after the 11:00 a.m. service Easter Sunday.

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ I would like my lily delivered to a shut-in.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

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 uncpair@gmail.com.

The up-coming meeting dates are:
March 31, April 14, and possibly April 28.

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.

CLASS OF 2019

The Nominating Committee has the responsibility of suggesting men and women to serve on the Session and the Diaconate. Your responsibility is to provide the names of those whom you feel meet the high standards of character required for these offices. These persons must have the time available to SERVE, the commitment to Jesus Christ to SERVE, and the ability to LEAD this congregation and its spiritual and physical growth for our Lord's sake.

Please prayerfully consider your recommendations (which may include yourself.) Your signature is not required.

These recommendations will be considered by the Nominating Committee which will present a slate for election. We are to elect five Elders and five Deacons to three-year terms to replace those retiring this year. We are also to elect five at-large members to serve on next year's Nominating Committee.

Names(s) for consideration as:

ELDER

DEACON

1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1.
2.
3.
4.



Please place in the offering plate or mail to the church office.

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.

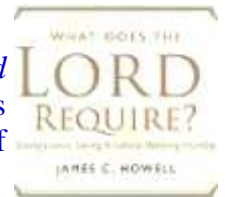
Elementary aged children Workshop Rotation will focus on Symbols of Holy Week with Storytelling, Cooking, Science, Art, Games, and Library over the next six weeks.



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.

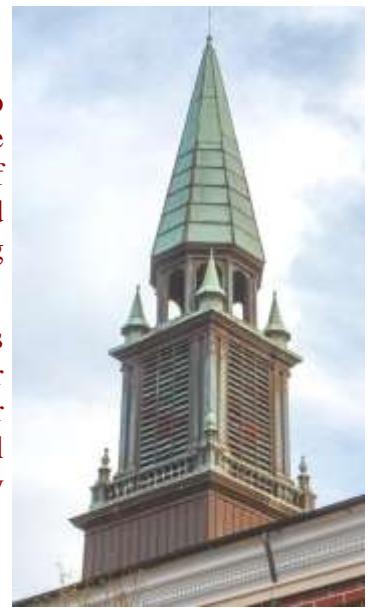


Join us for Sunday School!

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!



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!

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:



The Caregiver's Compass: The Caregiver's Compass is a common thread in the training and service of our Stephen Ministers. The symbol in the center of the compass is a Chi-Rho, an ancient symbol for Christ. It reminds Stephen Ministers of the Christ centered nature of their caring ministry. The four points of the compass guide Stephen Ministers to be compassionate, full of faith, skilled, and trustworthy. Continue to pray for our Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders as they use this compass as a guide for their ministry, always striving to provide Christ-like care on behalf of our congregation.

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!

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 3/18/16.

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Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 235 bag lunches the week of 3/7/16.

Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 75 people on 3/12/16

MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 24, DINNER 5:30 P.M.

Family Style Menu: Baked Ham, Macaroni and Cheese, Green Beans, Baked Beans, Cornbread Muffins, Assorted Cookies, Coffee, Tea, or Lemonade.

Cost: \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children ages 5 – 10. Children 4 and under eat for free.

Reservations required by Monday, **March 21**. Call the church office at 294-3121 or complete reservation form in bulletin and Tower Chimes.



MAUNDY THURSDAY RESERVATIONS

Name: _____ # of Adults: _____ # of Children: _____

EASTER BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 27 at 9:45 a.m.



Menu: Ham and cheese strata, "Georgia Ice Cream" grits (battered or with cheese), doughnuts, orange juice, milk, and coffee. For children, cereal & mini donuts.

A suggested donation of \$4 per adult and \$2 per child is thankfully accepted.

Please reserve Easter Breakfast by **Monday, March 21**.

Name: _____ # of Adults: _____ # of Children: _____