



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of April 3, 2016

Issue 578

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

BRIGHT SUNDAY IS THIS SUNDAY! APRIL 3RD IS THE DATE!

It has been interesting this year as people have been asking questions about Bright Sunday. My response is that it will be different from what we have done in the past. How many times have you heard me say that? Well, it is true again this time! I have been a little more secretive. The theme is:
“Pictures at a Christian Exhibition.”

Bring a fresh flower to put in our wooden cross!

Dress in your brightest and finest!

Come ready to giggle, laugh and smile!

Prepare to tap your foot, clap your hands, and have a good time in worship!

Watch as butterflies are released in memory of loved ones!

And best of all, guess who will not be wearing a Jesus wig this year ?!?!?!?

See you at 8:50 or 11 a.m. on
Sunday April 3, 2016!



Church calendar

Sunday, April 3

Bright Sunday

- 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, April 4

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

Tuesday, April 5

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

Wednesday, April 6

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
- 11:15 a.m. Preschool Music (CE)
- 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids (CR)
- 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class (GC)
- 5:30 p.m. Christ Kids Ringers (MS)
- 5:30 p.m. MSYG (GC)
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells (MS)
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MS)

Thursday, April 7

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

Friday, April 8

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

Saturday, April 9

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

IN THE HOSPITAL: Robert Ramseyer

Relatives & Friends

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Antonello family | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friends |
| Carlotta Bennett | Bethany Owen's friend |
| Chuck Bishop | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend |
| Reese Burdette | Dana Cole's cousin |
| 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 |
| Jean Hehn | Ellie Threlkel's friend |
| Julia Hildebrand | Rick & Pat Reass' friend |
| Pete Kent | Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew |
| Michelle Kirpach | Debbie Sowards' friend |
| 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 |

COME SEE OUR FIRST "SPRING RING"

Please join us in the sanctuary on **May 1st at 4:00 p.m.** for our first annual, First Presbyterian, "Spring Ring" program featuring 5 bell choirs. All three of our bell choirs will perform along with two guest choirs. The finale will feature all five choirs along with organ and audience participation in an arrangement of Joyful, Joyful! A reception will follow the program in McLeod Hall.



CALLING ALL MIDDLE SCHOOLERS!



Since music is booked before and after your middle school meeting time on Wednesdays, you are invited to join the Youth Music group. If you play an instrument, sing, or would like to try something new like a drum or mallet instrument please join us during our practice time on **Sundays at 4:30** and our praise time during the second Sunday 11:00 worship service. If you would like to learn to play the ukulele or guitar please contact Lynn McCoy at 294-3121.

Military



Robert Ferguson
Stephanie Gillie
Eddie Gray
David Knowles
John Marotti
KaitLin Marotti
Drew Stapor



*With
Heartfelt
Sympathy*

Our Christian sympathy goes to Tom Mulrooney in the death of his sister, Marian Spozio, who died Wednesday, March 9, 2016.

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.



YOUTH FLAMINGO FUNDRAISER 2016

It's that time of year again when our youth flock yards with a flamboyance of flamingos to raise money for our summer youth trips. Each trip is \$400-\$415. These summer trips allow our youth to grow in their faith and get to know Jesus on a deeper level. These trips are a priceless experience and one that we hope all can enjoy regardless of the cost.

If you are interested in having a friend's yard flocked you can purchase a flamboyance of flamingos for \$20 OR you can buy insurance to make sure that your yard is NOT flocked for \$40. Some have purchased a double flocking for \$40. All donations are welcomed and very much appreciated.

Call Dana in the office (294-3121) with names and addresses of yards you want to have flocked. We will also be collecting money and names in the Narthex after church each week until April 3.

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 294-3121, fill out this form and drop in offering plate with your check, or bring to church office.

Name: _____ **# Of Tickets:** _____



REGISTRATION FOR KIDZ SUMMER ESCAPE IS ON!!!

Kidz Summer Escape will be held **June 14 – July 21 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.** This program is for children ages three through kindergarten graduates. Registration is open now. A \$50 "reserve my spot" is due at registration with the final \$120 due on June 14. Everyday your child will enjoy a special craft that goes along with the theme for the week, recreation, snack, and lots of summertime fun. Please contact Amy McKee for more information (294-3121).

Making FIRST PRES Your FIRST CHOICE for Sharing Your Talents

Creating the Lenten Banners ~ An Artist's Statement

The Lenten Banners (paper cuts) are done on white photographer's background paper. It is heavy in weight and comes in many large format sizes. This one is actually one of the smaller sizes, being 4'5" wide. Our panels are 10' long. The color behind the cutouts is called a non-woven fabric. It's kind of a cross between paper & fabric. When I was a kid we called it "magic paper" because it could be washed & used for cleaning cloths. This texture is often found in shopping bags now. The use of color behind the cutouts was done because of the roundels on the wall behind them. Most artists who do these large cut paper designs hang them freely from the ceilings. Since we had a different space to use, it seemed to me that the liturgical color of the season would be right.

In consultation with the Worship and Music Committee, I devised a 3 part series of banners, but knew I would need help with the hanging (engineering) part. That's where Steve Negley, Ross Kosmensky, and Sam Bryant came in. I am so grateful for their leadership in that role.

As I drew, and revised drawings, I soon realized that I didn't want to remove the Lenten portion (the cross seen from above, with the crown of thorns, and the shroud) even when the Easter portion was to be displayed. Easter IS joyous, and I chose to express it with huge Easter lilies, three of them, representing our triune God. But I didn't want us to loose sight of the Cross. I didn't want us to forget what Christ did for us. Did for me. Did for you. So I planned to only cover up 2/3 of the first banner, allowing enough to be seen so others would know it was intentional. The Easter banner would be backed with a bright, joyful yellow, and echo the beautiful display of real lilies in the sanctuary.

Bright Sunday has become an important tradition in our congregation. This had to be a part of the banner series too. So the drawings moved on to another 1/3, but still not covering the cross and the purple. Butterflies taking flight upward was the choice I made because of their symbolism with rebirth and joy, and again echoing other elements in the sanctuary. In consultation with Alan Harvey, it was decided not to go with a solid color but rather to paint in a random manner using pastel colors with liquid watercolor. I did paint the two panels next to each other (in my garage) so they would continue the symmetrical design, but I did not intend to paint color for each butterfly separately. Again, it is a background behind the paper cuts. (Much to my husband Len's disapproval at first.)

The transferring of design from a 9" x 12" sketch book to a 4 1/2' x 10' canvas (paper) does take a large space and a large straight edge/ruler. (Thank you, Sam.) I used the floor in the big Sunday School room, measuring on my hands and knees, then fastened a pencil to a yard stick and drew standing up in sock feet on the large paper. It worked. After I had drawn one it went to committee (true Presbyterian style) for cutting. Next the committee people traced it on another paper of equal size, marked "x's" so they knew which parts were to disappear, and cut the second one. When cut, the only other step was to attach the backing fabric. We used rubber cement, but only enough to hold it together. I still like the feeling of movement in the art works. Care had to be taken to flip the second cutout so it would be a reflection of the first when hung.

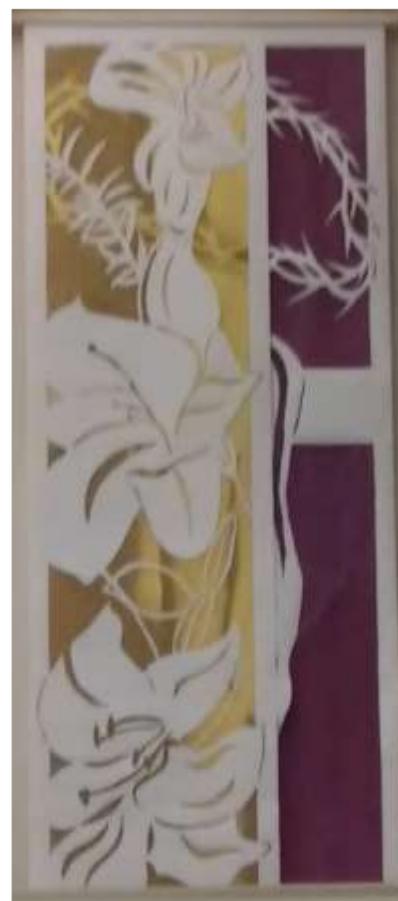
My big thanks to all those "Cut-Ups" who joyfully gave their time to help make this expression of faith possible. They are the Art Choir. And their names are: Heather Whitney, Donna Pollard, Brenda Darte, Nancy Shaw, Beth Luxford, Linda Stavres, Sue Henry, Sharon Mitchell, Cheryl Price, Lyn Swart, Margaret Braun, Lydia Rennie, Sarah Rennie, Sue McClew, Lynn McCoy. Thank you so much. You are the nucleus of a new Art in the Church committee!

At the appropriate time, after Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and before Bright Sunday, the hanging crew began their magic. Remember that the movie screens also are being used each Sunday, so we had to be sure that nothing was going to catch and tear as they were raised and lowered. And most of you probably wouldn't know about little secret rooms up above the two double doors at the front of the sanctuary, the one on the left being accessed by crossing over ABOVE the choir loft! These are the spaces where Steve and Sam used winches to pull up the banner simultaneously so it wouldn't lean too much to one side. Of course there were a lot of people on the floor in the sanctuary yelling instructions to them! Allen, Lynn, Amy McKee, and me! We are grateful.

It is our hope that these pieces will be able to be stored loosely rolled up and used again. It is also possible, should they become too ratty, to trace them again, or do something else with them.

Thank you to the Worship and Music Committee for allowing me to begin to share the gift that God has given to me with the congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven. And thank you to each of the individuals who have spoken with me about your interest and excitement in the project. Your love overwhelms me. I look forward to working more with you on several other expressions of faith

Mary Ellen Porter



OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!

I would like to take this time to thank all the children and youth who have been participating in our second Sunday music worship. What a joy it is to work with your children! A special thank you to the parents for getting your children to practice on Wednesdays and/or Sundays and for putting our second Sunday 11:00 a.m. worship service as a priority on your calendar.



We will continue our second Sunday through the summer. If you have family visiting, please invite the children to join us during Sunday School for practice. Youth and Jr. High practices on Sunday afternoon at 4:30. We'd love to have new singers and players! Joyfully, *Lynn McCoy*

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.

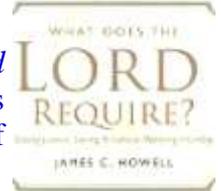
Elementary aged children's Workshop Rotation will focus on Symbols of Holy Week with Storytelling, Cooking, Science, Art, Games, and Library over the next six weeks.



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!



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:

Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief: Our Stephen Ministers are exploring one of the more common situations in which they may minister—caring for those experiencing grief. They learn about the shock, recoil, and rebuilding stages of grief and what forms of caregiving are right at each stage. They will also look at the many types of losses—in addition to the death of a loved one—that can cause grief and how they can provide care in those instances also.

Dealing with Depression: The Stephen Minister's Role: This week, our Stephen Ministers learn the characteristics and symptoms of mild, moderate, and severe depression. They learn when a mental health professional needs to be involved and how to connect a depressed person with a mental health professional. They also practice skills appropriate to giving care to those who are mildly to moderately depressed.

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 4/1/16.

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Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 285 bag lunches the week of 3/21/16.

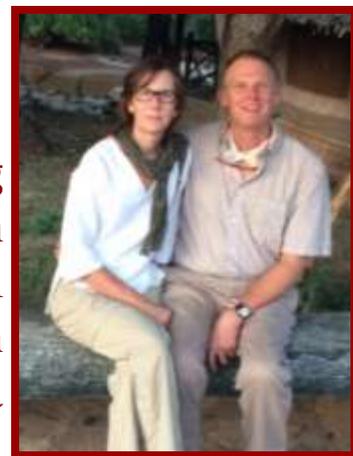
Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 94 people on 3/26/16

COMING ATTRACTION:

A son of our congregation, **Rev. Dr. Fred Foy Strang** and his wife **Dr. Cecily Strang**, will be our guests on **Sunday, April 10**. They will tell us about their special mission project: The Training Center for Massai church leaders in Kenya and Tanzania. Our church has made a gift to help with the construction of this new facility.



Fred Foy will be preaching here that Sunday and he and Cecily will be sharing a presentation of their current ministry projects at a special assembly during the Sunday School hour. We are excited about their visit. You will not want to miss hearing what God is doing through them for the Massai, with our help, for God's glory and the expansion of His kingdom!