



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of December 4, 2016

Issue 606

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

Kathy L. Jackson
Custodian

JOIN US FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, November 27 started **ADVENT**. Advent is the season of preparation for the celebration of Christmas, covering four Sundays. This year, we will be focusing our worship on "An Antiphonal Advent." The sermons for these four Sundays will focus on the Gospel of Luke, and how the good news of the birth of Christ was shared in song between the angels and a variety of earthly characters.



- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| First Sunday of Advent | The angel sings to Zechariah (Luke 1:13ff) |
| Second Sunday of Advent | Zechariah's two responses (Luke 1:67ff) |
| Third Sunday of Advent | The angel sings to Mary (Luke 1:26-37) |
| Fourth Sunday of Advent | Mary sings the Magnificat (Luke 1:47-55) |

We hope you will join us at **8:15am (Chapel)**, **9:30am (Praise and Worship)** or **11:00am (Sanctuary)** each Sunday in Advent as we add our voices to the good news of the season.



JINGLE JAVA JAM THIS SUNDAY

Please join us **December 4th at 4:00 p.m.** as we begin the Christmas season with a celebration of songs from around the world. The second annual Jingle Java Jam will bring you a variety of seasonal music sung and played by our talented church members.

We will have our choirs, bells, and a wide assortment of ensembles from children to adults that will share some of their favorite music with you. Don't miss out on this prelude to the Christmas season with special fellowship and special Christmas treats being served.

To make your reservation, please contact the church office by calling 294-3121, or emailing to office@firstpreswh.org.



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 4

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:15 a.m. Chapel Worship (Chapel)
 9:15 a.m. The Connection (MH)
 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
 9:30 a.m. Heart of Worship (Sanctuary)
 9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School (CE)
 11:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
 4:00 p.m. Jingle Java Jam (MH)

Monday, December 5

8:45 a.m. MOM

Tuesday, December 6

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
 6:00 p.m. Saturday Nite Live Planning (MH)
 6:30 p.m. Session (GR)

Wednesday, December 7

8:45 a.m. MOM
 10:45 a.m. Preschool Music (CE 103)
 11:45 a.m. Preschool Music (CE 103)
 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids (CE)
 5:30 p.m. Christ Kids Bell Ringers (MS)
 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells (MS)
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 8

1:15 p.m. Chapel Bells
 6:30 p.m. Praise & Worship Band (Sanctuary)

Friday, December 9

8:45 a.m. MOM

Saturday, December 10

2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)
 6:30 p.m. Come to the Stable and
 Bethlehem Square (Parking Lot & CM)
 7:30 p.m. Come to the Stable and
 Bethlehem Square (Parking Lot & CM)

Remember in Prayer

members

Roger Able	Marilyn Hearn	Anthony Premuto
Maxie Adams	Frances Heath	Doug Purnell
Olga Andrews	Doris Hill	Robert Ramseyer
Tom Brackett	Camille Howe	Keith Ray
Jonye Briggs	Jim Huff	Barbara Roberts
Millie Carrier	Joey Johnston	Earle Roberts
Helen Champlain	Toni Krieger	Dave Ryan
Tom & Anamarie Coffman	Dena Lancashire	Marilyn Schleifer
Charlie Darte	Jackie Lawn	Barbara A. Smith
Elaine Dustin	Spike Lucia	Barbara H. Smith
Jana & Mike Easterling	Elaine Maltese	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Jeanne Estes	Larry Marshall	Carolyn Thompson
Bill Everhart	Dick McCauley	Shirley Turner
Lois Frakes	Gladys Meier	Jim Vobornik
Bill Garrett	Lynniss Mincey	Lee Wilkinson
Evelyn Girouard	Bev Morris	Marie Williams
Margaret Goodman	Joan Murphy	Retha Wright
Jane Hayman	Ed Partridge	

Relatives & Friends

Peggy Argudo	Gene Aspy's friend
Larry & Carlotta Bennett	Bethany Owen's friend
Susan Bryan	Jim Francis' friend
Reese Burdette	Dana Cole's cousin
Lois Burns	Howard Rambeau's friend
Anna Clawson & twins	Linda & Andy Stavres' granddaughter
Allen Cofiori	Gale & Gwen Waters' friend
Kathy Champlain	Orrin & Helen Champlain's sister-in-law
Sarah Dubinsky	Linda Stavres' friend
Al Ellis	Jim Threlkel's friend
Raymond Fenstermaker	Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson
Pam Heath	Lynn Oakley's friend
Steve Hickman	Becky Delprado's brother
Richard Honer	Butz family's friend
Pete Kent	Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
Cydney Martin	Lynn Oakley's friend
Nan Mason	Harvey & Mary Ann Snively's daughter
Cynthia McCaleb	Carolyn Thompson's daughter
Marisa Middaugh	Gene Aspy's niece
Bridgett Middleton	Lynn Oakley's friend
Kate & Johnny Olson	Toni Barger's friend
Ashish Shaw	Lynn Oakley's friend
Colonel Sites	Lynn Oakley's friend
Kristy Turner	Rick & Pat Reass' daughter
Ed Walter	Bill & Becky Everhart & Rob Donaldy's friend
Debbie Webb	Jonathan Owen's friend
Marshall Wood	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend



Samuel Crockett	John Marotti
Zach Drum	KaitLin Marotti-Pitts
Robert Ferguson	Ashton Pitts
Stephanie Gillie	Shad Skinner
Eddie Gray	Drew Stapor
David Knowles	





ADVENT DEVOTIONALS 2016

‘Toyland—Remembering Favorite Childhood Toys Received at Christmas’
Hard copies are available on the tables at each side of the sanctuary and on the third floor table by the balcony.

If you are currently on the devotional email list, you will automatically receive the Advent Devotionals. If you would like to be added, please go to our website and click on “**Resources**”, then “**E-mail Publication Subscriptions**” and sign up for the “**Devotional**” there.



CHRISTMAS DAY SOUP KITCHEN

We are planning to share another wonderful Christmas Day meal for those in our area who are hungry. The dinner menu will include: turkey and gravy, ham, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, corn, cranberry sauce, bread, pie, cake, and Christmas cookies. **From 1:30–3:15 p.m.** we will be cooking side dishes, carving meat, cutting bread and desserts in the main church kitchen, and setting up the 737 building and tables for the meal. We will serve from **3:30–4:30 p.m.**



Volunteers are needed to

- Bake a ham or turkey at home, and bring it to the main kitchen by **2:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve** (the hams and turkeys can be picked up at the church on Sunday, **December 18**)
- Make a large green bean casserole (disposable baking pans can be picked up at the church on Sunday, **December 18**)
- Help with cooking and food and building prep. from **1:30 – 3:30 p.m. on Christmas Day.**
- Help serve the Christmas meal and clean up **3:30 – 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Day.**

If you would like to help with any of these portions of the Christmas Day Soup Kitchen meal, please sign up in McLeod Hall and plan to join us for this wonderful Christmas tradition here at First Pres.



2017 BREAD PICK UP LIST IS COMING SOON!

We are in the process of creating our 2017 Saturday bread pick-up list from Publix. If you are currently on the list and can no longer participate, or if you did not pick up bread in 2016 and would like to, please call Alan at 294-3121 to let him know.

CALLING ALL PRIMETIMERS

Church members and friends age 55 and up
Mark your calendars for the Primetimers Christmas Luncheon.

Monday, December 19, 11:30 a.m. in McLeod Hall

The program staff and pastors will be preparing and serving a lunch (\$8.00) which will include:

Chicken in Cream, Green Beans, Rolls, and Holiday Desserts.

There will be food, fellowship, and a Christmas Carol Sing-Along.

Please contact the church office at 294-3121, e-mail us office@firstpreswh.org or fill out the form below.



PRIMETIMERS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON RESERVATION

We will collect the money the day of the luncheon.

Name: _____ Number attending: _____

YOUTH TOY DRIVE 2016

It is that time of year again! Our high school and middle school youth will be collecting toys for the Salvation Army. We would love your help in this endeavor. We will have a basket in McLeod Hall on the counter. Please drop off your new toys Sunday at church, or Monday – Thursday 8:00-5:00 and Friday 8:00-2:00. Our last day for collecting these toys will be Friday, December 16.

We hope you will help us help children this year for Christmas. We of course welcome any toys, but ask that you also remember teens at this time. They are so often overlooked and we want to make their Christmas special as well.

Thank you for your help with our toy drive.



LADIES, JOIN ONE OF OUR CIRCLE MEETINGS

Lydia Circle meets the **2nd Monday of each month** in McLeod Hall.

The next meeting is **December 12 at 10:30** (please note the special time.) We will share our lesson followed by a potluck luncheon. If you have any questions, please call Sue McClew at 875-6176.



Joy Circle meets the **3rd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m.** at the home of Carol Carter. **December 20** is the next meeting.

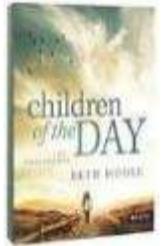
Study books are available for \$8.00.

Contact either Carol Carter at 299-4253 or Sue McClew at 875-6176 for your copy.

FALL WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY IS HERE

Children of the Day by Beth Moore

The New Testament believers carried the Spirit of God as they walked along the shores of Thessalonica, just as we carry that light today when we're grocery shopping, having coffee, or picking up children. Your circumstances and conditions are not coincidental in your journey. God's timing is impeccable. Join us for video/discussion study with author Beth Moore on the Thessalonian shores.



If you would like to attend please contact Lia Gray at uncpair@gmail.com or call 318-1541. Optional study books are \$18. We will meet in the **Golden Center on 6th Street between the Christian Education and Soup Kitchen buildings.**

All meeting times are from 9am - 11am and will meet: December 1 & 15, January 12 & 26, February 9 & 23.

REMEMBER THE ANGEL VAN MINISTRY

The Angel Van is a service deacons provide for adults who have no means of transportation to and from our Sunday worship.

Those who would like to take advantage of this service need to call the office at 294-3121 by noon on Fridays. Your request will be relayed to the deacon driving on that Sunday and the deacon will contact you by telephone on Saturday to confirm your desire to be transported and to arrange the time of pick up for our Worship Service at 11 a.m. Please let us know if we can be of service to you.



THE 2017 FLOWER CHART WILL BE UP SOON!!!

Keep an eye out for the announcement of the new flower for 2017.



OUR CHRISTMAS BANNERS ARE IN PLACE

As we look forward to the most wonderful time of the year, we are reminded of our Lord coming into this world as an innocent little baby. But we also remember the young woman who became His mother, and the confusion of the man who was to help raise this Child he knew wasn't his own. We remember what must have been a rigorous trip to pay their taxes with no reservations for a place to stay and no doctor on call when her delivery was imminent.

What went through their heads? We remember the stars. And the STAR! And all who saw it--shepherds, wise men, and it had to be--ordinary people like you and me. The anticipation, the joy, the wonderment, the gift. I hope that you will see some or all of that in this art piece. It was a pleasure to design and supervise the cutting of the Advent banners this season.

I am grateful to those who helped, at very short notice, to assist with the paper cutting, the background affixing, and the hanging. Len and I shall miss you all this Christmas season as we experience our first Asheville, NC Christmas, but we do plan to worship again in Winter Haven in January and February. Merry Christmas!

Mary Ellen Porter



IT IS THAT TIME ~ POINSETTIA ORDER FOR 2016

Poinsettias are a yearly tradition to decorate the church on Christmas, “in honor of” or “in memory of” a loved one or friend. This year the poinsettias will be in the sanctuary on **December 18**.

Please fill out the order form below. The cost per plant is **\$11** and checks, marked “poinsettia fund”, should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church. Place the order form and check in the offering plate, mail it, or take it to the church office by **Monday, December 12**.

A complete listing will be available
Sunday, December 18.

IMPORTANT ~ PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Donor(s): _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

_____ I will pick up my poinsettia after the 9 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

_____ I would like my poinsettia delivered to a shut-in.

Number of plants ordered: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____



CONNECTING WITH OUR SERVICES VIA LIVESTREAM & VIDEOS OF PAST SERVICES

Some of you have wondered if you could see our services when you are unable to come to church on any given Sunday. Or maybe you wished you could experience a service that touched you in a certain way again. Now you can!! Below are instructions how to connect with our live stream account.

Live or Latest Completed Service

1. Using any internet browser, go to livestream.com/accounts/8377156.
2. Click on the latest service, which will be the top left item. NOTE: If this is your first time, you will be prompted to set up an account using email or Facebook.
3. Click the play button.



All Completed Services

Go to firstpreswh.org and page down to the "**Latest Videos**" section. Click on one to open the video page. NOTE: Older services can be found by clicking on the "All Videos" link above the videos on the page. Click the "**Play**" button.



DON'T FORGET YOUR DIRECTORY

Please keep in mind that mailing them costs \$3.40 each.
So, we'd like for you to pick up your copy.

You can pick up your directory in the Edinburgh Room.

They are in the Edinburgh Room in a box labeled with the family name in alphabetical order.



3 OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE THE CONNECTION



Are you looking for an opportunity to share in fellowship with other members and friends of First Pres? If you answered, "YES" then we have a perfect opportunity for you. We are looking for folks to help "Oversee the Connection" time on Sunday mornings. We need your help setting out the food on platters and making sure that the trays have enough goodies on them throughout the morning.

The actual Connection time runs from 9:15-10:45 a.m. We would need your help starting around 8:30 a.m. to get all of the goodies out on trays. Please contact the church office at 294-3121 and speak to Alan Harvey or Amy McKee for more information. Thank you in advance for your faithful service!

ARE YOU A TECHIE???

If technology is your thing, we have a place for you in our musical praise!! We are in need of people who would like to learn about our sound system and help during the worship services to make sure all our praise is heard!

We will be holding a training session so contact Lynn at 701-570-1485 and let her know if you are willing to join the Sunday rotation in the sound booth. **PLEASE!!**



STAGE SET-UP FOR PRAISE & WORSHIP

ORDINARILY ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON-EVENINGS

- I can help set up stage and put on skirting
- I can help with displaying banners and paraments
- I can help move podium, communion table, musician stands, and stools

Name: _____ Best Contact Information: _____



3

DON'T MISS THE CONNECTION

9:15 – 10:45 a.m.

An extended fellowship time in McLeod Hall which offers a coffee bar type selection with different flavors, creamers, pastries, etc. It is a gathering place before (or after) worship, and between worship and Sunday School for some. Videos of church activities will play on a loop in McLeod Hall. Hosts circulate in McLeod Hall and the CE Building to greet and assist people in making connections with others in one of the worship or Christian Education options.



HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT OUR THREE WORSHIP SERVICES?

8:15 a.m. ~ Chapel Worship

A traditional worship service held in our chapel. The service follows the same order as the 11:00 a.m. worship service, but does not have a Chancel Choir. Musical ensembles offer special music on many Sundays. A Time with Younger Disciples is included if we have children in attendance.



9:30 - 10:25 a.m. ~ Heart of Worship

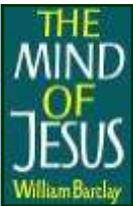
A Praise and Worship service held in our sanctuary. Along with scripture, sermon, and prayers, the praise band helps the congregation in adoring and showing reverence to God. Following the Time with Younger Disciples, children are invited to join Ms. Lynn in music and then to join in their own Children's Sunday School Classes.

11:00 a.m. ~ Sanctuary Worship

A traditional worship service held in our sanctuary. The service follows the same order as the 8:15 a.m. Chapel Service, and includes music from the Chancel Choir and the organ, as well as other instruments and groups.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

9:30 a.m. – Adult



The Perspectives Class studies, **The Mind of Jesus** by William Barclay. Please join this class in the Geneva Room at 9:30 a.m. “Jesus suffered, doubted, hoped, feared, dreamed, wept, knew loneliness, planned, and built. William Barclay achieves in **The Mind of Jesus** his aim “to make the figure of Jesus more vividly alive, so that we may know him better and love him more.” This class is facilitated by Dr. Jim Threlkel and Glenn Thomas.

Bill and Kathy Lockhart will facilitate *Advent Conspiracy*, a DVD series focusing on taking a stand against commercialism during the Christmas season. *Advent Conspiracy* invites individuals, families, groups, and entire churches to substitute compassion for consumerism by practicing four simple but powerful, countercultural concepts: Worship Fully—because Christmas begins and ends with Jesus! This class will meet December 4 – 18 in Room 207.



9:45 – Children

On Sunday mornings all children age three through fifth grade have a special music time with Ms. Lynn from **9:45 – 10 a.m.**

At 10 a.m. the Preschool Children (ages 3 and 4) meet in Room 101 for their own time of Bible lesson, craft, snack, and playtime.

The **Elementary children** (kindergarten through fifth grade) are invited to experience a brand new Sunday School curriculum called **252 Basics**. This new curriculum is designed to provoke discovery and invite kids into a new understanding of how to grow in relationship with Jesus. We look forward to you all joining us on Sunday mornings!



First Presbyterian Church
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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 12/2/16.

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 1162
Lakeland, FL

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out
191 bag lunches the week of 11/21/16.

Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 105 people on 11/26/16.

THE STABLE IS WAITING

The stable is in place waiting for a special night when a baby will be born. Shepherds will see the star, wonder at its meaning and come to the stable. Far off in another land, wise men will see the star and journey to the stable bringing gifts...a King is born!

Come and celebrate His birth under the stars at First Presbyterian Church on Saturday, December 10 at 6:30 and 7:30 in the evening. Then join us for food, drink and fellowship in Bethlehem Square. Live music and animals will complete this special experience.



COUNTING DOWN TO.....

Come to the Stable and Bethlehem Square on Saturday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

WE NEED YOUR HELP – PERFORMERS -

CHILDREN and TEENS - we need you to be shepherds and angels.

PARENTS - we have costumes for you to accompany your youngsters on stage and make the 7:30 PM performance truly a “family” performance.

MUSCIANS, sign-up in the choir room for costumed roles for both performances.

NOT “INTO” WEARING COSTUMES ON STAGE?

You can perform **back-stage roles** either prior to, during or after the performances – check the board in the Narthex for opportunities **FOR MEN AND WOMEN.**

Need something even different but equally important?

We need food for our guests. The shops in Bethlehem Square will serve a wide variety of treats...some only require a trip to the grocery store, while others need some assembling or baking.

PLEASE CHECK THE BOARDS IN THE NARTHEX and ADD YOUR NAME.

NOTE: Costumed roles are listed on the library side and non-costumed roles, along with food needs, are listed on the opposite side. *Come to the Stable and Bethlehem Square* is our Christmas gift to our community!

We are promoting it county-wide and want it to be our very best effort.

We're counting on you!

