

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of September 24, 2017

Issue 638

131 Years of Ministry



Dr. Steven R. Negley
Senior Pastor

Dr. C. Alan Harvey
Associate Pastor

Dr. James G. Manor
Parish Associate

Lynn M. McCoy
Director of
Music Ministries

Evelyn W. McMullen
Interim Director of
Christian Education

Robin D. Miller
Director of Finance &
Administration

Leonard A. Mosiah
Director of Student
Ministries

Connie J. Shipley
Administrative Assistant

Rose S. Flynn
Office Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant
Director of Maintenance

Kathy L. Jackson
Custodian

COMMUNION TO THE FURTHEST PEW



Last year we began to extend invitations to homebound persons who would like to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. In anticipation of World Communion Sunday October 1, the pastors would invite persons who would like to receive communion in their home to contact us to schedule an appointment.

Pastors will be available: **Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings September 25, 27, 28, 29 and Monday through Thursday afternoons September 25-28.**

A deacon or elder will accompany a pastor. The visit will be 30-45 minutes. Please contact Dr. Negley or Dr. Harvey by calling 294-3121 to schedule a convenient time.

CIRCLE MEETINGS MEET ONCE A MONTH

Lydia Circle - Meets the 2nd Monday at 10 a.m. in McLeod Hall

Joy Circle - Meets the 3rd Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Carol Carter

We are using the PW Horizons Bible study titled: "*Cloud of Witnesses - The Community of Christ Hebrew*" written by the Melissa Bane Sevier. In nine lessons, the author invites us to explore major themes found in Hebrews, relate these themes to other parts of our faith tradition, and tie them together with the overarching motif of community.



The study books are available for \$10. Contact either Carol Carter at 299-4253 or Sue McClew at 875-6176 for your copy.

F unT imers

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 AT 11:30 A.M.

Come to First Pres as our new Director of Student Ministries, Leonard Mosiah will be our guest speaker. He will tell us about his background, family, and our youth group plans for the year.

Please make your reservation by Wednesday, September 20 by calling the church office at 294-3121, e-mailing the church at office@firstpreswh.org, or filling out this tear-off and dropping in the offering plate. Your only cost is the catered lunch.



Name: _____ # Attending: _____

OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, September 24 3 Cents-a-Meal

- 8:15 a.m. Chapel Worship
- 9:15 a.m. The Connection (MH)
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Heart of Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School (CE)
- 11:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- 12:15 p.m. Youth Committee (GC)
- 5:30 p.m. HSYG (GC)

Monday, September 25

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
- 10:30 a.m. Prayer Shawl (MH)
- 11:30 a.m. FunTimers (MH)

Tuesday, September 26

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

Wednesday, September 27

- 8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)
- 10:45 a.m. Preschool Music (CE103)
- 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids (CE)
- 3:45 p.m. Christ Kids Bell Ringers (MS)
- 5:30 p.m. Community Outreach (ER)
- 5:30 p.m. MSYG (GC)
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MS)

Thursday, September 28

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

Friday, September 29

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

Saturday, September 30

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

When "Pull Yourself Together" Doesn't Work!

You've heard it time and time again: "Pull yourself together. . . Cheer up. . . Tough it out. . . It's not that bad." Perhaps people have said it to you. Or perhaps you keep saying it to yourself. But it hasn't helped. You are still hurting. Things are coming apart, not coming together. Here's the good news: You don't have to go through your struggles alone. Help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers who will walk with you, listen to you, and provide confidential one-to-one care as you search through the pieces and find what is truly in your heart.

To learn more about Stephen Ministry for yourself or someone you know **call Pat Reass at 206-9914. Or you can talk with one of our other Stephen Leaders: Alan Harvey, Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, Les O'Neal, Barbara Perkins, or Jean Strang.** Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you.

Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Marie Able | Doris Hill | Barbara Roberts |
| Roger Able | Ranell Hillman | Earle Roberts |
| Maxie Adams | Camille Howe | Marilyn Schleifer |
| Kathy Andrews | Jim Huff | Joyce Shirah |
| Kathleen Avinger | Martha Johnson | Mary Alice, Emma, & John Skipper |
| Bill Brack | Joey Johnston | Barbara A. Smith |
| Tom Brackett | Peggy Kennedy | Barbara H. Smith |
| Henry Braun | Toni Krieger | Scott Strey |
| Helen Champlain | Dena Lancashire | Barbara Tackett |
| Tom Coffman | Jackie Lawn | Jay Tackett |
| Gail Damkjer | Kathy Lockhart | McKenzie Tackett |
| Jana & Mike Easterling | Spike Lucia | Pam Tallent-Blackburn |
| Jeanne Estes | Larry Marshall | Carolyn Thompson |
| Bill Everhart | Gladys Meier | Julia Trachy |
| Margaret Goodman | Lynn Mincey | Shirley Turner |
| Clyde Greene | Bev Morris | Lee Wilkinson |
| Jane Hayman | Joan Murphy | Judy Winfree |
| Joyce Hayman | Nancy Neale | Retha Wright |
| Frances Heath | Alison O'Neal | |
| Kay Hedden | Keith Ray | |

IN THE HOSPITAL: Bryan Howard Relatives & Friends

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Mike & Linda Bechtel | Marie Able's sister & brother-in-law |
| Reese Burdette | Dana Cole's cousin |
| Al Ellis | Jim Threlkel's friend |
| Raymond Fenstermaker | Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson |
| Donna Stuart-Jackson | Becky Everhart's friend |
| Pete Kent | Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew |
| Linda & Joseph | John & Marilyn Schleifer's daughter & grandson |
| Fred Meier | Sarah Rennie's father |
| Morgan Moats | Edna Mitchell's granddaughter |
| Julie Gibson Smith family | Carolyn Thompson's friend |
| Kristy Turner | Rick & Pat Reass' daughter |
| John Waters | Gale & Gwen Waters' nephew |
| Marshall Wood | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend |



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



Our Christian sympathy goes to Carol Carter in the death of her brother, Jack Dorsey, who died Wednesday, September 13, 2017.

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 Golden Center kitchen for our youth or are interested in donating to our youth fund to help purchase these meals, please contact Leonard at Imosiah@firstpreswh.org or call the office at 294-3121.

JOIN ONE OF OUR YOUTH GROUPS

If you are a middle or high school student, we would love for you to join us for youth group each week in our youth house, The Golden Center. **Middle School** meets each **Wednesday night from 5:30-7:30** and **High School** 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 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 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. Upcoming events being planned are: a Chain of Lakes canoe cookout and Ice Skating. 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!



CALLING ALL MUSIC MAKERS



If you have been looking for a way to become more involved in worship at First Pres, love music and good fellowship, have we got a deal for you! Our new music season is in full swing rehearsals for chancel choir, bells, youth, and children's music. If you are not able to commit to a weekly rehearsal we can still use you in a small ensemble or as a soloist!

We have also had requests to start a brass and woodwind choir. If you play or played an instrument in High School and you are interested in dusting it off and playing or loaning it for use in the church, please contact Lynn at lynn.mccoy@firstpreswh.org.

SOUP KITCHEN OPPORTUNITES



October 7: need Assistants.
October 21 & November: need Head Cook and Assistants

Won't You Help Us Feed Hungry People?

Please Sign Up On The Bulletin Board In The Narthex Or
On The Deacon's Board In McLeod Hall.

God Bless You and Thank You!



THANK GOD FOR OUR YOUTH! (AND ADULTS!)

When the winds stopped blowing on Monday afternoon, the First Pres church buildings had been spared any major damage from Hurricane Irma, but the grounds were littered with branches, moss, and leaves.

On Tuesday morning, after the church staff checked and emptied refrigerators and freezers, we decided to hold a workday on Wednesday to address the outdoor clean-up. **Leonard Mosiah, our Director of Student Ministries** texted our church's Middle School and High School youth to ask for help.

On Wednesday, at 9 a.m., fifteen adults and thirty youth and children arrived at the church with rakes and willing hands. During the next four hours this small army of **volunteers mastered the mountain of debris** and made **God's house and grounds** ministry ready.

Many thanks to these eager servants of God. Our church is blessed to have disciples of all ages who live out their faith here and throughout the community.





WHAT DO STEPHEN MINISTERS DO?



Stephen Ministers are members of First Presbyterian Church who have gone through 50 hours of training to provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to people who are facing a crisis or simply going through a difficult time.

Your Stephen Minister will meet with you once a week for around an hour to listen to you, care for you, pray with and for you, and provide emotional and spiritual encouragement. Men are matched with male Stephen Ministers, women are matched with female Stephen Ministers.

To find out more about how you or someone you know could be matched with a Stephen Minister, **call Pat Reass at 206-9914. Or you can talk with one of our other Stephen Leaders: Alan Harvey, Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, Les O'Neal, Barbara Perkins, or Jean Strang.**

SEPTEMBER 24, OCTOBER 1, NOVEMBER 26, DECEMBER 10 & 31 WILL FINISH THE YEAR FOR SANCTUARY FLOWERS

There is also space to sign up for placing flowers in the narthex if the sanctuary flowers for your desired date have already been selected by someone else.

Please remember these important points:

1. Include your best contact number.
2. Include the name of your florist.
3. Tell your florist that the arrangement *must* be at the church by **Friday, 1:00 p.m.**
4. Call the office the week before to give bulletin information (294-3121.)

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 Kathy 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 **1:00 p.m.** on Friday 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!



Worship (and more) on the Lord's Day at First Pres



8:15 a.m. Chapel Worship

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

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

A Praise and Worship service is held in our sanctuary. Along with scripture, sermon, and prayers, a 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 is 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.

DON'T MISS THE CONNECTION

9:15—10:45 A.M.

Fellowship time in McLeod Hall offers a coffee bar type selection with different flavored creamers, pastries, etc. It is a gathering place before (or after) worship, and between worship and Sunday School for some.

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.



SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES



For Kids: We are getting to know some amazing Bible characters this fall: Hannah, Samuel, Saul, David, and Solomon. Short videos, music, art, and Bible activities will keep the kids coming back for more!

If your family attends the 9:30 a.m. service, kids age 4 and older worship with their families for the first part of the service. After the "Time with Younger Disciples," age 4 through grade 5 may be dismissed to the Christian Education building for music and classes until 10:45 a.m.

If your family attends the 11:00 a.m. service, come to the CE Building for music and classes from 10:00 until 10:45 a.m.

For Adults: From **9:30 until 10:30 a.m.** in the Geneva Room is the Perspectives Class. A low-keyed round table discussion group of adult Christians who learn and grow from shared insight and perspectives. Discussions are led by Dr. Jim Threlkel and Mr. Glenn Thomas. Study topics follow the outline of great books. We start the study of Luke Timothy Johnson's *Living Jesus: Learning the Heart of the Gospel*.

Also for Adults: *What Do We Believe? In Words & Images*. We will study the creeds of the church for 3-weeks. The banners in McLeod Hall are a backdrop for our study as we consider the way the church interpreted scripture through the ages. We will meet in the back of McLeod Hall **September 24 from 9:30 until 10:30 a.m.**

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 9/22/17.

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Return Service Requested

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 251 bag lunches
the week of 9/11/17.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

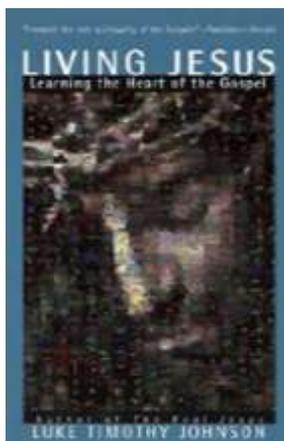
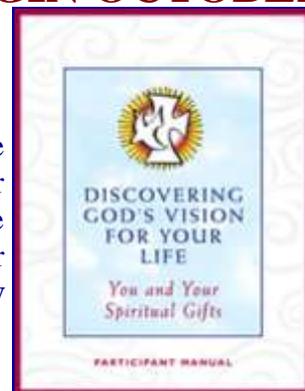
We fed 70 people on 9/16/17.

TWO NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN OCTOBER 1

DISCOVERING GOD'S VISION FOR YOUR LIFE: YOU AND YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

To whom are spiritual gifts given? What is the purpose of spiritual gifts? How can I be sure which particular spiritual gifts I have? Are spiritual gifts permanent or temporary? What does the Bible say about each of the spiritual gifts? The above questions are just a few of the ones a new Sunday School Class to be offered in our congregation will answer. Beginning on **Sunday, October 1**, the class will meet **every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.** for 8 weeks in Room 207 of the Educational Building.

There is a fee of \$12 to cover the cost of the book.



Who is the real Jesus? How can we experience the mystery, complexity, and richness of his spirituality and teachings in our lives today? In this gently instructive and inspiring guide, Luke Timothy Johnson leads us to a deeper understanding and practice of classic Christian spirituality and faith. Translating his biblical scholarship into simple, elegant language, he offers a compelling and wise reflection on the real Jesus--not the reconstructed historical figure but the resurrected Christ, a living savior we can encounter every day.

Living Jesus elucidates the mystery of Jesus' resurrection and its central role in the Christian experience. It explores the diversity and fullness of the New Testament views of Christ, revealing how each book's perspective can deepen our understanding of Jesus. Profoundly insightful, *Living Jesus* offers valuable lessons on how we can accept the Gospels' powerful invitation to an authentic Christian spirituality. Join us in the Geneva Room from **9:30 until 10:30 a.m.**