



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

## Tower Chimes

Week of December 2, 2018

Issue 694

132 Years of Ministry

Dr. Steven R. Negley  
Senior Pastor

Dr. C. Alan Harvey  
Associate Pastor

Rev. Sarah A. Bishop  
Associate Pastor for  
Christian Education and  
Family Ministries

Dr. James G. Manor  
Parish Associate

Lynn M. McCoy  
Director of  
Music Ministries

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

### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT THIS SUNDAY



We hope you will join us for worship during the Advent season as we are “Called by the Carols of Christmas”. On the four Sundays leading up to Christmas, the sermon and scripture will be joined with the sentiment expressed in some of our favorite carols of the seasons.

On **December 2**, the First Sunday of Advent our Carol Theme will be *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*. Communion will be celebrated at this single **10 a.m.** First Sunday Worship service.

On **December 9**, the Second of Advent, our Carol Theme will follow *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*.

The Carol Theme for the Third Sunday in Advent, **December 16** is *O Come O Come Emmanuel*.

On **December 23**, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we will focus on the Holy Family *In the Bleak Mid-winter*.

Let us prepare our hearts this Advent to celebrate the birth of the Holy Child of Bethlehem.

### ADVENT DEVOTIONS AVAILABLE DECEMBER 2

If you are receiving our daily devotions by email, you will also receive our Advent devotions. If you are not and would like to, go to <http://www.firstpreswh.org/resources/e-mail-subscriptions/> and click on resources to sign up. If you would like a hard copy, they are available in the narthex, each side of the Sanctuary, and in McLeod Hall.



### First Sunday First Pres Gathering

At the **Single 10:00 a.m. Worship Service** you will be able to catch up with all your First Pres friends. The service will feature a unique order of worship with elements from our other services such as: several opening songs with our Praise Band, a traditional anthem, Sermon, Time with Younger Disciples, and a closing music by one of our hand bell groups or ensembles.

At **11:15 a.m.**, we hope you continue fellowship with our First Pres family and friends, with a **Congregation-wide Fellowship Luncheon in McLeod Hall**.

No reservations requested or required. There will be plenty of food. Any leftovers will be used by our Saturday Soup Kitchen.

We hope you will join us for this great day of faith, friendship, and fellowship on **December 2**.



# OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

## Sunday, December 2 First Sunday of Advent Communion First Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School (CE)  
10:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Luncheon (MH)  
1:00 a.m. FunTimers (Bartow)  
4:00 p.m. Praise Band (Sanctuary)  
5:30 p.m. High School Youth Group (GC)

## Monday, December 3

8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)

## Tuesday, December 4

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)  
12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)  
6:00 p.m. Session/Dinner w/New Officers (MC)

## Wednesday, December 5

8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)  
3:00 p.m. Christ Kids (CE)  
5:00 p.m. MSYG Music (GC)  
5:30 p.m. MSYG (GC)

## Thursday, December 6

1:15 p.m. Chapel Bells (MS)

## Friday, December 7

8:45 a.m. MOM (CE)

## Saturday, December 8

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/MH)  
7:30 p.m. Come to the Stable and  
Bethlehem Square (Parking Lot/MH)

# Remember in Prayer

## MEMBERS

Roger Able	Kay Hedden	Andy, Sherie, & Kasey Ray
Kathy Andrews	Doris Hill	Jane Ray
Bill Brack	Bryan Howard	Barbara Roberts
Tom Brackett	Bob & Isobel Hubbard	Earle Roberts
Henry Braun	Jim Huff	Elsie Savant
Nancy Brooks	Martha Johnson	Beverly Seagreaves
Helen Butz	Joey Johnston	Joyce Shirah
Helen Champlain	Peggy Kennedy	Susan Heyer Singleton
Carl Cheatham	John Kissel	Mary Alice & Emma Skipper
Tom Coffman	Toni Krieger	Barbara H. Smith
Yolanda Dyer	Dena Lancashire	Mary Ann Snively
Mike & Jana Easterling	Kathy Lockhart	Christine Stevens
Bill Everhart	Spike Lucia	Scott Strey
Walter Ferguson	Candy Marshall	Jay Tackett
Ed & Rossanne Gorsky	Anne McCauley	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Clyde Greene	Jerry Mincey	Carolyn Thompson
Jane Hayman	Tillie Montney	Judy Winfree
Joyce Hayman	Bev Morris	Retha Wright
Frances Heath	Nancy Neale	
	Joe Oriani	
	Randall Palmer	

## Relatives & Friends

John Alexander family	Lynn Oakley's friend
Wendy Andrews	Augie Andrews' friend
Dolores Clay Barton	Karen Gerber's sister
Don Breidert	Rose Flynn's friend
Lisbeth Bullington	Larry Davis' cousin
Janice Bullock	Kit Threlkel's friend
Reese Burdette	Dana Cole's cousin
Brenda Cape	Alan Harvey's friend
Katie Carter	Bob & Carol Carter's daughter-in-law
Al Ellis	Jim Threlkel's friend
Dale Szarflarski	Wade Hoffman's friend
Connie Flannigan	Marile Week's friend
Thomas & Carolyn Francis	Jim Francis' brother & sister-in-law
Mary Gamgemi	Lynn Oakley's friend
Alicia Glika	Diane Repass' friend
Diana Hagen & baby Liam	Debbie Anderson's friend
Pat Harmon	Marile Weeks' friend
Pete Kent	Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew
Eduardo Lopez	Gene Aspy's friend
Eve H. Mills	Gannon Olmert's cousin
Carol Moore	Roger & Marie Able's friend
Kris Polak	Sandy Hoffman's friend
Don Patchen	Bill Patchen's brother
David Satterfield	Heather Whitney's friend
Larry Schlosser	Don & Norma Martin's friend
Jim Smathers	Tom & Jeri Oldt's friend
Arnie Spangers	Marile Weeks' friend
Ken Stratford	Lynn Oakley's friend
Tibbs Swick	Amanda Olmert's father
Kristy Turner	Rick & Pat Reass' daughter

## FUNTIMERS DECEMBER OUTING Free Food AND Music

Join us **Sunday, December 2** after our First Sunday Fellowship Luncheon in McLeod Hall. Then, our church van and bus will leave at **1:00 p.m.** for the **Bartow Adult Concert Band Christmas** performance. This is the 29th season of 60 Musicians playing "Pops Concert Music". The concert is free, starts at 2:30 p.m., and lasts one hour.

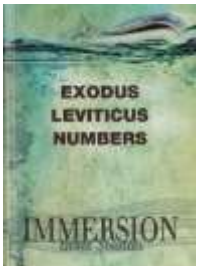
We hope you will join us **and** bring a friend. Please RSVP by **Friday, November 30** by calling the church office at 294-3121 or emailing us at [office@firstpreswh.org](mailto:office@firstpreswh.org).



Zach Anaya  
Brenden Anderson  
Christian Anderson  
Samuel Crockett  
Zach Drum  
Til Fellows  
Robert Ferguson

## MILITARY

Stephanie Gillie  
Eddie Gray  
Daniel Harp  
Sean Harp  
David Knowles  
John Marotti  
Mathew Massam  
Ryan Peardon  
KaitLin Marotti-Pitts  
Ashton Pitts  
Shad Skinner  
Drew Stapor



## ADULT DISCIPLESHIP *IMMERSION*

Join our **Wednesday** evening Bible study.

Join Rev. Sarah and additional leadership as we dive deep into scripture, continuing with the Books of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers.

Our adventure is **Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. December 5, 12, & 19.**

Questions? Contact Rev. Sarah at [sbishop@firstpreswh.org](mailto:sbishop@firstpreswh.org) or 294-3121.

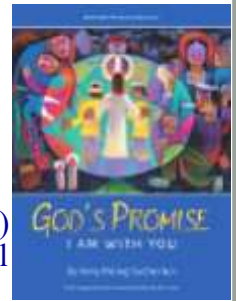
## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY

The Lydia and Joy circles current Bible study: *God's Promise – "I Am with You."*

**The Lydia Circle** meets on the **2nd Monday** of each month and will meet on **December 11 at 10 a.m.** in the back of McLeod Hall.

**The Joy Circle** meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month. and will meet on **December 18 at 9:30 a.m.** at the home of Carol Carter.

The study books are available at a cost of \$10.00. See or call either Sue McClew (875-6176) or Carol Carter (299-4253) to purchase your copy. Both groups are open to any and all women of the church interested in fellowship and Bible study.



## BUSY WITH CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS? NEED SOME "ME" TIME?

Our youth has set aside a day to help you! Announcing our very own

### PARENTS DAY OUT!

On **December 15**, starting at **noon** you can drop off your children at the church in McLeod Hall and **pick them up at 5 p.m. promptly.**

For a kind donation we will take care of your children (potty trained to 5th grade) while you get stuff done. All proceeds go towards our middle and high school youth trips.

For more information contact Leonard Mosiah on 863 294 3121.



## MORAVIAN LOVEFEAST

Have you ever so enjoyed something that you wanted your loved ones and friends to share that same experience? I, Alan, have and since I knew it would be impossible to take all of you to experience the Christmas Lovefeast at Home Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the Worship and Music approved a plan set forth by Lynn and I to attempt to recreate that event here.



The Lovefeast has its origin in the lives of early Christians who gathered to break bread together symbolizing union, fellowship and love. You may have heard the other name for this gathering as an agape meal. The custom of the Lovefeast originated in Marienborn, Germany, in 1747, and was celebrated in this country by Moravians in 1753. The service includes a variety of music, scripture and prayers. The meal includes a hot sweetened coffee with cream or cocoa with a slightly sweetened and spiced bun. The service concludes with candlelight reminding all that Christ said, "I am the light of the world" and "you are the light of the world – let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

Please plan to join us for this special service on **Sunday, December 16 at 4 p.m.**

## MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH WINTER RETREAT!

### Cedarkirk: January 19-21, 2019

Come join us on our First Pres Student Winter Retreat! We will be going to Cedarkirk and staying in the climate-controlled lodging. We would love to see you during this amazing weekend of fun, memories, and an opportunity to grow closer to God. Fun activities include canoeing, campfires, wall climbing, zip lines, and more! This trip is under your own student leadership, so you know it will be fun and relaxed.

Please contact Leonard at 312-678-7764 or [leonardmosiah@gmail.com](mailto:leonardmosiah@gmail.com) for more information. The cost is just \$125 per person which covers transportation, lodging, and meals.



# What WE do – Thanks to YOU

## A celebration of generosity and ministry

As Advent and Christmas are on the horizon, we know that a wonderful new church year is preparing to unfold. Soon our pews will be filled with people gathering by the light of the Christ Candle to hear the good news of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ. And as we have done for well over a century, First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven's doors will be open to tell that story. What a wonderful way to be reminded of the ministry of a church that shares the good news of God's presence each day of the year.

Thanks to the generous support of the friends and members of our congregation, our church is always ready and able to live out our purpose of ministering to the world in the name of Jesus Christ. What began with the good news of a Savior sent to us, has become our reason for being Christ's church. When we celebrate how we have told of Christ's presence in each of our lives this year through worship, study, service, and fellowship, we give witness to our purpose as Christ's church.

### OUR PURPOSE

*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 the Session, 2003

Now, as this year draws to a close, the Session of our church will soon meet to adopt our annual church operating budget for 2019. I am writing to ask your assistance in completing this task.

We hope that you feel God is calling you to be a generous partner with us in accomplishing our purpose as Christ's followers into the future. So that we may make our plans for another year of working our God's purpose here in Winter Haven, we invite you to indicate that support by prayerfully considering and completing an estimate of giving card for the year 2019.

First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven operates with a unified church budget. This means that the ministry that we conduct through all our program areas falls under a single church budget, which is supported by the generosity of our members and friends in their tithes and offerings. **Every person** who gives in support of this budget **is a partner in everything** that we do.

The strength of a unified budget rests in the fact the Session makes decisions of overall significance, so that each area of ministry can function without the constant concern of how to raise funds for items which are common to and crucial for the overall life of Christ's church here. (e.g. The *worship and music area* can stay focused on God-directed worship and inspiring music, rather than trying to pay the utilities so that there will be lights and air-conditioning on Sundays, to raise money to maintain instruments, or take bulletins out for printing. The *youth program* can focus on ministry with and for young people, rather than having to raise money for the salary of the Director of Student Ministries, or providing space for our regular youth group activities, etc.)

In 2018, the extent to which we have shared our resources so that the church could be the church is revealed in our budget. If we look at one area, Facilities operations and maintenance, we see that it represents over \$140,000 of our budget, in addition to the salaries of our Church Custodian and Director of Maintenance. (These costs are monitored annually by the Buildings and Grounds Committee.) That means that providing space for all that we do, insuring that space, and appropriately maintaining that space costs almost \$20,000 a month just so that we can all share in ministry here.

Our 2018 budget can be viewed line by line to reveal how we have generously invested in our shared ministry.

## OUR 2018 OPERATING BUDGET

Missions (national/international, through Presbytery, Synod, Honduras, and General Assembly)	\$24,000
Deacons Funds (local missions)	26,200
Stephen Ministry	1,000
Pastors' Fund (Congregational Assistance)	2,000
Congregational Care	800
Per Capita Support of Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly	32,600
Honduras	1,000
International Mission (Strang)	3,000
Office Operation	38,400
Christian Education Programs	5,000
Youth Ministry Programs	8,000
Volunteer Screening	2,000
Library Supplies	100
Adult Fellowship/ FunTimers	300
Evangelism/Community Outreach	2,000
Hospitality and Fellowship	9,000
Membership	600
Stewardship	200
Properties and facilities operations	142,550
Worship Supplies	2,000
Music—Music Maintenance	6,000
Personnel (Salaries and Benefits)	691,227
<b>Total 2018 Operating Budget</b>	<b>\$997,977</b>

Our investment in the Worship of God throughout the Year \$350,000



Our investment in Christian Education and Nurturing Disciples \$250,000



Our investment in In-reach and Outreach (Pastoral/congregational care and Evangelism) \$200,000



Our investment in Mission and Benevolences \$190,000



Our total church budget for 2018 represents nearly \$1,000,000 of our treasures, much of which has been generously donated by all of us in the partnership we share as a church of Jesus Christ. The prayerful support and extravagant generosity of our congregation makes ministry happen.

# DECEMBER

## *Birthdays*

12/2	Ron Damjker Teresa Renney	12/11	Jane Ray Dave Sparr	12/22	Lou Parrott Cynthia Stroupe Weston Thibodaux
12/3	Henry Chilton Bruce Eelman Daphne Gray Lisette Levasseur	12/12	Kaylie Arnold Bill Lockhart Elizabeth Mosiah Jackie Pinckney	12/23	Cecilia Linn Kyle Meadows
12/4	Jack Scamehorn	12/13	Dawn Fellows Peggy Kennedy Beverly Seagreaves	12/24	Judy Fitzgerald Ryan Johnson Mary Anne Knowles
12/5	Janie Hammette Alee Swango Jane Tillman	12/15	Merry Stewart Borowski Micah Darte Lia Gray Lynn Lasseter Griffin Powell Margaret Way	12/25	Kathy Jackson Carol Roe
12/6	Helen Butz Avery Lockhart Steve Saterbo Ginger Schreier	12/16	Marty Bentley Jean Bostick Randy McCann Kim Powell	12/26	David Alexander Patti Forum
12/7	Christina Maness	12/18	Geoff Roe	12/27	Rusty Hart
12/8	Caroline Beckley Margaret Dantzler	12/19	Megan Kosmensky	12/28	Stephanie Cornejo Madison Thomas
12/9	Bob Helmick Lorraine Todd	12/20	Renee Parrish	12/29	Christine Burow Wiley Koon, Sr. Glenda Parrott
12/10	Marile Weeks	12/21	Mark Turner	12/30	Ella Chilton Keith Putnam Terry Rayfield
12/11	John Gray Austin Johnston Michael Lyons Zane McCann	12/22	Maggi Helmick	12/31	Barbara Roberts Steve Sowards

## *Anniversaries*

12/05	Josh & Jessica Lockhart	12/26	Steve & Laura Dunham Kline & Barbara Roberts Drew & Lindsay Stapor
12/09	Russell & Lynn Aaron	12/27	Mike & Martha Seney
12/16	Jim & Daphne Gray Ray & Gladys Larson	12/28	Bob & Carol Carter
12/18	Carl & Kathy Cheatham	12/29	Howard & Cheryl Beckert Gale & Gwen Waters
12/19	Andrew & Linda Stavres	12/30	Richard & Pam Baker Pete & Merry Stewart Borowski
12/20	Wiley & Sara Koon Steve & Teresa Negley	12/31	Dean & Sonja Jackson Paul & Anne Montgomery John & Tracy Scheck
12/21	Jose & Alison Batista		
12/22	Nat & Jane West		
12/23	Orrin & Helen Champlain Larry & Pat Lincoski James & Ellen Zeller		

## IT IS THAT TIME ~ POINSETTIA ORDER FOR 2018

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 23**.

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 17**.

A complete listing will be available **Sunday, December 24**.

### 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: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



### **DON'T MISS THE CONNECTION 9:15-10:45 A.M.**

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

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES!**

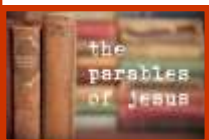
**Children's Sunday School** for PreSchoolers through 5<sup>th</sup> grade happening in the CE Building, **9:30 a.m. (9 a.m. on the First Sunday.)** Our children will activate faith with *Spark Lectionary* curriculum. Each class will engage the Biblical story of the day through creative, hands-on activities, interactive games, and crafts. Sunday School for preschoolers and kindergartners will meet in Room 101. Our elementary students will meet after music in Room 206. Sunday School ends at 10:30 a.m.



**First Sundays** – Sunday School at **9 a.m.** and sharing musical talents in worship at **10a.m.**

### **Adult Educational Opportunities – Sunday mornings and more!**

#### **Perspectives Sunday School Class – 9:30am in the Geneva Room**

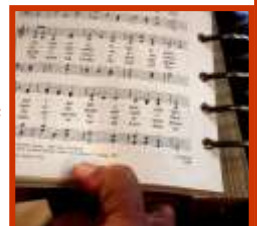


This discussion-based class is guided by Dr. Kenneth Bailey's lectures on the Parables of Jesus. Join Glenn Thomas and other leaders for this engaging class at **9:30 a.m.** in the Geneva room. Perspectives **DOES NOT** meet on First Sundays.

#### **Advent – “O Come, O Come: Emmanuel”**

#### **Reflections on Four Seasonal Hymns**

This Advent, beginning **December 2**, adults will be encouraged to discuss the importance of four Advent hymns, explore their meaning and learn more about the hymn writers. These seasonal hymns will also be reflected in this year's Advent sermon series by our Pastors. Join **Richard Baker** and other facilitators for this class in CE Room 207 at **9:30 a.m.**



(For 11 a.m. worship services.)

If you would be interested in helping welcome, greet, seat, and assist people at worship, we could use your assistance as an usher.

Please contact the church office at 294-3121 or [office@firstpreswh.org](mailto:office@firstpreswh.org).

## Our Purpose Statement

First Presbyterian Church  
637 6th Street, NW  
Winter Haven, FL 33881  
863-294-3121  
FAX 863-294-1105  
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 11/30/18.

Non-profit Org.

U.S. Postage Paid

Permit No. 1162

Lakeland, FL

### Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 215 bag lunches  
the week of 11/19/18.

Return Service Requested

### Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 120 people on 11/24/18.

## ***PARTICIPANTS NEEDED***

### ***Come to the Stable and Bethlehem Square***

First Presbyterian Church's annual outdoor nativity presentations followed by social gatherings in Bethlehem Square; i.e., McLeod Hall.

**Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> - performances at 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.**

**We need:** actors and actresses of all ages, back-stage crew members to set-up and take down the sets, dressers to assist the performers with their costumes, men to direct parking for our guests, front-of-the-house greeters and costumed servers for our social gathering in addition to cooks to provide the food and kitchen helpers to arrange the food and make beverages for our guests. **Please select your "role" and sign-up now!** (Musicians - please sign up in the choir room.)

**You are invited to CHECK the sign-up board in the Narthex to see how you can be a part of our annual celebration of the birth of Jesus.**

All ages are welcome to participate in the performances;

however, we also need adults and even some teens to assist in the non-acting roles.

In addition, there is **one more way you can be a part of making our nativity a success:**  
**Attend one or more of the performances and invite your friends and neighbors to join you!**

***"Come to the Stable and Bethlehem Square"***  
***is a wonderful way to begin the celebration of the Christ child's birth!***