



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## WINTER HAVEN

# Tower Chimes

Week of June 21, 2020

Issue 763

134 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

Lynn M. McCoy  
Director of  
Music Ministries

Emily G. Snyder  
Director of  
Student Ministries

Robin D. Miller  
Director of Finance &  
Administration

Connie J. Shipley  
Administrative Assistant

Rose S. Flynn  
Office Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant  
Director of Maintenance

Tonia L. Milbry  
Custodian

## WE HAVE RE-OPENED FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP

*For those of you who would like  
to join us, our worship times are:*

*9:00 am ~ Heart of Worship  
10:00 am ~ Traditional Worship*

*Please see insert for more information.*

## YOU CAN GET CONNECTED

Remember when you come back to worship that we have  
guest Wi-Fi available here at First Pres!



On your device, choose one of our two networks:

**First Presbyterian Main** in the sanctuary building ***OR***

**First Presbyterian Edu** in the education building and student center  
The password **Connect@1st** can be used for both networks.

## VBS ANNOUNCEMENT

### Hear ye! Hear ye! All ye Kings and Queens, Knights and Nobles!

Next Knights of North Castle VBS gathering **June 24** via ZOOM

By royal decree the difficult decision has been made to cancel the in-person summer gathering of knights known as VBS. All our knights instead have begun a summer quest at home, checking in twice monthly to be sure they are indeed armoring up with love, truth, and faith. On the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays, June -August**, First Pres castle will host ZOOM gatherings with VBS music, Bible stories, and prayer. Our knights, nobles, and their families connect via **ZOOM**, for Lower Elementary (PreK-1st) at 3 pm and Upper Elementary (2nd-5th) at 4 pm – Next gathering of knights, June 24. VBS crafts for the summer are still available in the church office; contact Rev. Sarah to arrange a pick-up.

Until then, it is joyfully advised to “*be strong in the Lord and the strength of His power*”, Ephesians 6:10 – Rev. Sarah, First Pres Castle.



# OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

## Sunday, June 21

- 9:00 am Heart of Worship (Sanctuary/Facebook Live)  
 11:00 am Worship (Sanctuary/Facebook Live)  
 7:00 pm High School Youth Group (Zoom)

## Monday, June 22

- 10:00 am Prayer Shawl (MH)

## Tuesday, June 23

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)  
 12:00 pm Men's Lunch (Zoom)  
 4:00 pm Music Director Search (Zoom)  
 5:00 pm Stephen Minister Leaders (MH)

## Wednesday, June 24

- 3:00 pm Virtual Bible School  
 Lower Elementary (Zoom)  
 4:00 pm Virtual Bible School  
 Upper Elementary (Zoom)  
 5:00 pm Confirmation (Zoom)  
 7:00 pm Middle School Youth Group (Zoom)

## Thursday, June 25

## Friday, June 26

## Saturday, June 27

- 2:00 pm Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)  
 4:00 pm Soup Kitchen (737)

## MILITARY

- |                    |                  |                 |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Zach Anaya         | Stephanie Gillie | KaitLin Marotti |
| Brenden Anderson   | Eddie Gray       | Mathew Massam   |
| Christian Anderson | Daniel Harp      | Shad Skinner    |
| Samuel Crockett    | Sean Harp        | Drew Stapor     |
| Zach Drum          | David Knowles    |                 |
| Robert Ferguson    | John Marotti     |                 |

## OUR FEEDING MINISTRIES



We are blessed to be able to continue serving the hungry of our community with bagged lunches during the week.

Our Saturday Soup Kitchen hasn't stopped either. We have available dates open in June, as well as all of July and August.

If you would like to serve the church by volunteering in either of these ministries, please call the office at 294-3121.

# Remember in Prayer

## MEMBERS

- |                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Marie Able               | Frances Heath      |
| Melvin & Debbie Anderson | Kay Hedden         |
| Kathy Andrews            | Doris Hill         |
| Pat Berrell              | Shirley Hines      |
| Orrin & Helen Champlain  | Bryan Howard       |
| Carl Cheatham            | Isobel Hubbard     |
| Charlie Darte            | Jim Huff           |
| Marjorie DiLorenzo       | Martha Johnson     |
| Zan Dismuke              | Bill Johnston      |
| Yolanda Dyer             | John Kissel        |
| Jana Easterling          | Dena Lancashire    |
| Dana Elmore              | Eric Lindstrom     |
| Bill Everhart            | Spike & Jane Lucia |
| Jim Francis              | Pat McCarty        |
| John Gray                | Bob McClew         |
| Jane Hammette            | Edna Mitchell      |
| Jane Hayman              | Nancy Neale        |
| Joyce Hayman             | Lynn Oakley        |
|                          | Arletta Oriani     |
|                          | Barbara Roberts    |

## Relatives & Friends

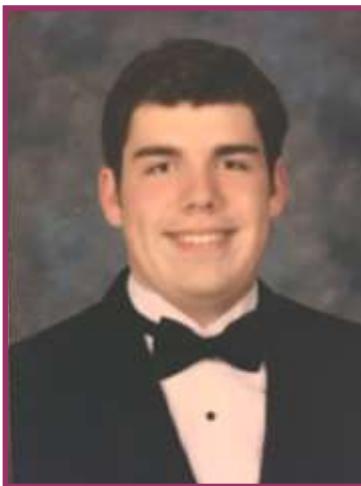
- |                        |                                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Belle Barris           | Lauren Schwenk's friend        |
| Jessica Benton         | Nikki Hoagland's cousin        |
| Joe Boyce              | Mary & Greg Mars' friend       |
| Sheri Braun            | Margaret Braun's friend        |
| Bob Carolan            | Amy Speer's father             |
| Katie Derthick         | Marile Weeks' great-niece      |
| Steve Dobler           | Rich Dobler's brother          |
| Jean Ann & Blake Doyle | Ben & Judy Tucker's friend     |
| Dottie Fairchild       | Bob Hines' sister              |
| Susie Fisher           | Becky Everhart's cousin        |
| Tom Francis            | Jim Francis' brother           |
| Allison Futch          | Lynn Oakley's friend           |
| Debbie Futch           | Lynn Oakley's friend           |
| Lynda Giles            | Polly Wilson's niece           |
| Paul & Betty Gilliam   | Debbie Anderson's parents      |
| Christy Hemenway       | Bob & Lisa Endres' friend      |
| Sidney Hilliard        | Tillie Montney's mother        |
| Kate Hurd & family     | Kathy Cheatham's friend        |
| Cherri Jordan          | Ed Smith's sister              |
| John Kluberg           | Nancy Dobler's brother         |
| Jim Marrs              | Greg Marrs' brother            |
| Carol Moore            | Roger & Marie Able's friend    |
| Jackie Murphy          | Lynn Oakley's friend           |
| Paula Penna            | Steven Lockhart's friend       |
| Sydney Alexis Rich     | Bill & Becky Everhart's friend |
| Joan Richter           | Lynn Oakley's friend           |
| Kristy Russ            | Tom & Jerri Oldt's friend      |
| Toni Shaw              | Candy Marshall's friend        |
| Jim Steele             | Bob Steele's brother           |
| Deborah Strother       | Sandy Hoffman's friend         |
| Andy Vogt              | Susan Singleton's friend       |
| Jeanie Williamson      | Jackie Pinckney's friend       |

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020!

We are so proud of all the accomplishments you have made over the years. We can't wait to see what your future has in store! Your First Pres Family wishes you blessings during this next chapter in your life!



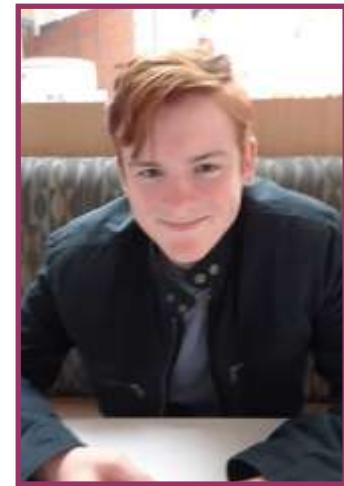
**Becca Alexander**  
Discovery High School



**Cameron Badnell**  
Winter Haven High School



**Adam Frost**  
Winter Haven High School



**Sam Garner**  
Tampa



**Lindsey Ivey**  
Winter Haven High School



**Brock Johnston**  
Winter Haven High School



**Jacob Linn**  
The Vangaurd School



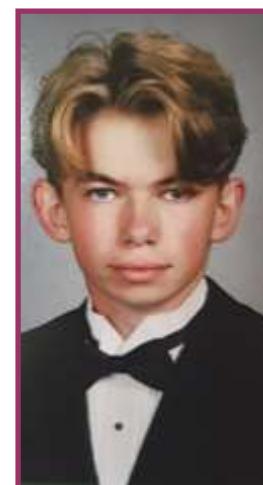
**Dillon Powell**  
Lakeland Christian School



**Jack Scamehorn**  
Winter Haven High School



**Ryan Seney**  
Winter Haven High School



**Ariston Walker**  
Winter Haven High School



**Dalton Weihrauch**  
Summerlin Academy

# A Plan for Re-Opening First Presbyterian Church to Public Worship

June 2020

When confronted by COVID-19, a highly contagious airborne virus which posed a significant threat to the health and safety of the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven, the Session suspended the gathering for public worship, initiating virtual worship services exclusively beginning March 22, 2020.

With a continued concern for the health and welfare our church family, seeking to maintain robust virtual worship while also providing the safe opportunity for those who wish to again assemble in God's house for praise and prayer, the Session appointed a Task Force on the Re-Opening of First Presbyterian Church for Worship, and re-entry in public gatherings.

Moving toward opening the doors of God's house once again for services of public worship, the Task Force met for prayerful research and reflection on two questions:

- 1) What criteria should be used for allowing the return to public worship?
- 2) What will public worship look like as we first return?

On June 2, 2020, the Session met for discussion on the Task Force recommendations and adopted the following **Plan for Re-opening**:

- 1) Guided by Polk County statistics on the efforts to combat the COVID-19 virus, as evidenced in a steady or downward trend in the number of new COVID-19 hospitalizations and in the percentage of positive cases (as compared to total tested) reported, **the church re-opened our doors to those who wish to attend in-person worship on Sunday, June 14, 2020.** (We are also continuing our vibrant virtual on-line worship experience on FaceBook Live)
- 2) **As we return to public worship in our church facility, we have implemented the following measures** to provide for the health and safety of our sisters and brothers in Christ.
  - a) Our worship schedule includes 2 Sunday worship services in our sanctuary - **Heart of Worship at 9:00 am and Traditional Worship at 11:00 am.** (This time change for Heart of Worship service allows for thorough cleaning between services.)
  - b) The second-floor exterior doors leading to the walkway to the CE building will remain open to increase the flow of fresh air into our ventilation system.
  - c) All worshipers will be greeted under the porte-cochere at the west entrance with a brief health questionnaire.
  - d) All worshippers will be asked to complete or bring a daily attendance card.

## A Plan for Re-Opening ~ Continued

- e) Out of concern and care for all who gather for worship, all worshipers ages three and older will be required to wear a face covering (covering mouth and nose) while inside the church buildings.
- f) Hand sanitation stations will be located throughout the church facility with all encouraged to use upon entrance and exiting facility and other designated area (water fountains, restrooms, elevator buttons, stair rails, etc.)
- g) All paths leading to the worship space will be marked with six-foot separation stripes.
- h) The sanctuary will be marked with “worship sites for family units” (a single person, couple, or family grouping) with 8-foot separation in all directions for safe social distancing. (The first row of the balcony will be left vacant)
- i) Ushers (observing a six-foot separation) will escort worshipers to the next available worship site, filling the sanctuary from front to back, to minimize contact in passing by other worshipers.
- j) The worship services will be shown by livestream video in McLeod Hall, which will have worship site seating in 8-foot separation for over-flow or late-arriving worshipers.
- k) Worship will be modified by restricting singing and choir, in accordance with best practices, to reduce the threat of airborne virus spread.
- l) Following worship, ushers will dismiss the congregation starting at the back of the sanctuary and proceeding to the front, encouraging those who need to use the elevator to proceed to that location with safe distancing and asking those who can traverse the stairs to proceed to the north or south side stairwells.
- m) Immediately after the sanctuary is vacated following the Heart of Worship service, sanitation teams (our custodian, Tonia, and trained volunteers – all of whom will wear protective eye wear, masks, and gloves) will disinfect all surfaces which have been touched in preparation for the arrival of the next worshipers.
- n) The pastors will have exited immediately following the benediction via the front doors and proceeded to the porte-cochere for socially distanced farewells to worshipers.
- o) Children will be asked to worship with their parents, and childcare will not be provided.

The Session will continue to monitor the progression of the COVID-19 virus in our community, and will meet regularly to discuss any modifications to our public worship plan. The Session will also be making decisions on the resumption of other in-person activities here in our church facilities. We look forward to our continued life together as Christ's body.

## WE SAY GOOD BYE

It's not been a secret, but farewell time is soon approaching. After 5 years of wonderful ministry in our midst, **Lynn McCoy**, our Director of Music Ministries is heading off to her lake cabin in Minnesota in early July to begin her retirement. (Lynn's children and grandchildren will all be within a few hours of her summer place, while her parents, brother/sister-in law, and nephew live down here near her Winter Haven winter home.) We'll see Lynn in the cold months!

As a farewell, the Session is asking you to send Lynn a card (you can send it to her home or we will be collecting them here at the church to hand her in a basket on **July 5**. Lynn will be making cross-country trips towing her camper, so gas and restaurant gift cards might be a nice touch as a love gift. We are also planning a **FAREWELL DRIVE-BY on Sunday, July 5** following the 11 am service. Lynn will be located under the porte-cochere, and you can drive by and wish her well from 6 feet away.



Please help us celebrate all that Lynn has meant to our church!



## LOCAL MINISTRIES NEED OUR HELP-RECAP

The ministries supported by our church can use our help now more than ever. The Deacons have been in contact with those ministries to inquire about their current needs. If you wish to help, please consider the needs of this valuable partner in our community and reach out to them directly.

Meals on Wheels (299-1616)

Volunteer for Meal Delivery, Kitchen Prep & Packing, Thrift Store.

Polk Training (956-1620)

Day Training Program for adults with developmental disabilities.

Project Love (280-6947)

Donations of gift cards to Publix, Aldi, or Walmart.

The Mission (299-2348)

Need premade meals in large chef pans to serve about 100 people for lunch.

Habitat for Humanity (292-2256) Receiving donations 9-10 am and 2-4 pm Tuesday through Friday.



## HOW ARE YOU DOING?

**Are you going through a difficult time?**



Grieving the loss of a loved one?

Diagnosed with terminal or life-threatening illness?

Recently lost a job or retired?

Stressed by being a caregiver?

Financial strain?



Stephen Ministers are members of First Presbyterian Church who have received special training to provide high quality, confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to hurting people.

If you, or someone you know, are sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone.

***Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.*** Galatians 6:2

To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or someone you know, call Connie Shipley at 221-2224.

**Or you can talk with one of our other Stephen Leaders: Alan Harvey, Mary Marrs,  
Steve Negley, Barbara Perkins, or Jean Strang.**

# REMEMBER ~ FIRST PRES IS LIVE ON FACEBOOK!

Heading out of town but still desire to be part of this worshiping community on Sunday?

Heard something lovely said or played in worship and would like to hear it again?

Want to share with a friend a taste of worship with First Pres?

Then visit the our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FPCWinterHaven/>! Every Sunday we will be live-streaming the **9:00 am Heart of Worship and 11:00 am Traditional** worship services on our Facebook page. These services will be available by video after worship as well.



The church website at <https://www.firstpreswh.org> will also continue to have recordings of Sunday's worship on the main page. Scroll down to "Latest Videos" at the bottom.

Either way, there are opportunities to worship with your church family when you cannot be present in person.

## YOUTH GROUP ZOOM WILL CONTINUE THROUGH SUMMER



During this challenging time, our youth groups are meeting weekly by Zoom meetings. We are doing lessons and enjoying each other's company on video chats until we can start meeting in person again.

**High School: Sunday at 7 pm  
Middle School: Wednesday at 7 pm**

**Emily Snyder** has also created an Instagram account where she is posting devotionals every few days to keep your hearts filled with a little bit of Jesus during this crazy time! The account can be found on Instagram if you search **fpcwh\_youth**. If you don't have an account, but still want to receive the devotions, here is the link: [instagram.com/fpcwh\\_youth](https://instagram.com/fpcwh_youth).

## FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE THROUGH SECUREGIVE

Go to our Church website at [www.firstpreswh.org](https://www.firstpreswh.org) and click on give (top right), you will be re-directed to <https://app.securegive.com/firstpreswh> or you can go directly to the SecureGive website, <https://app.securegive.com/firstpreswh>.

Robin Miller is available to assist you during office hours at 863-294-3121 or email [rmiller@firstpreswh.org](mailto:rmiller@firstpreswh.org).

## TEXT TO GIVE AT SECUREGIVE: 863-243-6880

1. Donor texts the keyword and amount (ex. Tithe 100 –**There must be a space between the keyword and amount**, to the above number. Other keywords can be: three cents or other.)
2. First time text donors receive a text with a link to sign into their SecureGive account or create a new one. A quick video with Robin walking through these steps is on our website.
3. Donor signs in or creates an account and saves a default payment method to be used for text giving.
4. When this is complete, donor receives a confirmation that their first text donation has been processed. They will also receive an email receipt.



The next time the donor would like to give by text, they simply type the keyword and amount and will receive a request to confirm with Y. After replying, they will receive a text confirmation that their donation was processed and will receive an email receipt every time they give.

\*\*We recommend that the donor save *First Presbyterian Church* text number as a contact in their phone for future use\*\*

\*\*Donors can text a question mark "?" to be sent helpful tips.

\*\*Donors can text STOP to de-activate text giving from their phone. If they have texted STOP at any point, they must text START to get re-started.

**Robin Miller** is available to assist you during office hours at 294-3121 or email [rmiller@firstpreswh.org](mailto:rmiller@firstpreswh.org).

First Presbyterian Church  
637 6th Street, NW  
Winter Haven, FL 33881  
863-294-3121  
FAX 863-294-1105  
[www.firstpreswh.org](http://www.firstpreswh.org)  
[office@firstpreswh.org](mailto: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 6/19/20.

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

**Bag Lunch Ministry**

We gave out 109 bag lunches  
the week of 6/8/20.

**Return Service Requested**

**Soup Kitchen Ministry**

We fed 90 people on 6/13/20.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE CARD**  
**One form is necessary for each person attending.**

For the safety of all entering the church facilities for in-person worship, please complete this brief survey. (If you answer yes to any of the questions, please return home and join us for virtual worship on Facebook Live.)

[ ] Yes [ ] No Have you had a fever, dry cough, or shortness of breath in the last 14 days ?

[ ] Yes [ ] No Have you been in close contact with someone who has a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

[ ] Yes [ ] No Have you traveled to a COVID-19 hotspot in the past 14 days?

Name (Please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for helping us provide for the safety of the entire church family.**