



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

# Tower Chimes

Week of January 3, 2021

Issue 798

135 Years of Ministry

## COMING ATTRACTIONS IN JANUARY

*The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated Sunday, January 10, 2021. Prepare your heart to come to the Lord's Table.*

## JANUARY CHILDREN'S VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

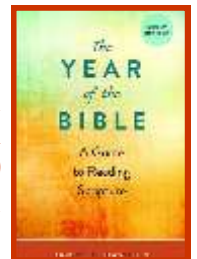


Join Rev. Sarah in our virtual Sunday School classroom in **January** beginning on the **10th** with Jesus and His disciples sharing the good news! Our lessons will include links to make playdough at home, as well as marble mazes and some time to pray.

Visit the link on our church website.

## 2021 ADULT BIBLE STUDY & PREACHING THEME TWO opportunities to discuss A Year of the Bible

Join your pastors and church family as we take the year to read the Bible beginning in Genesis and the Old Testament through Revelations and the New Testament. In each month, we will alternate between chapters in the Old and New as well as the Psalms. A reading plan can be followed by picking up your copy of *A Year of the Bible* for \$10 from the church office or download the reading plan from our church website. We also invite you to join a class for deeper discussion!



Classes will be **Sundays at 10:20 am starting January 10** as well as **Wednesdays at 10 am starting on January 13.**

## DAVE RAMSEY'S FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

**Starting January 13, 2021—Wednesdays—6 PM**



Worried about this year's financial impact and wanting to build a healthier conversation around money in your household? Need help and support in creating a family budget and getting real about planning for the future? Just want to be honest about questions with those who have been there for financial blunders? Then it's time for Financial Peace!

Join Pam and Lee Wilkerson for this 9 week class to talk about these issues and so much more. No judgement and no shame as we start Wednesday, January 13, meeting in McLeod Hall at 6pm. You need to register early to get the work binder and the benefits of membership to FPU. Sign up NOW before the class starts at [fpu.com/1124153](http://fpu.com/1124153)

Dr. Steven R. Negley  
Senior Pastor

Rev. John F. Reiter  
Interim Associate Pastor

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

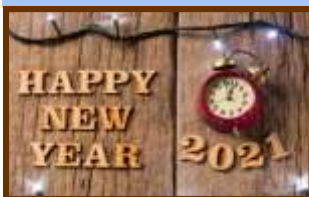
Emily G. Snyder  
Director of  
Student Ministries

Robin D. Miller  
Director of Finance &  
Administration

Connie J. Shipley  
Administrative Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant  
Director of Maintenance

Tonia L. Milbry  
Custodian



# Opportunities this Week

## Sunday, January 3

- 9:00 am Heart of Worship  
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)  
11:00 am Traditional Worship  
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)

## Monday, January 4

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)

## Tuesday, January 5

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)  
12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH/Zoom)

## Wednesday, January 6

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)  
4:00 pm Christ Kids (CE)

## Thursday, January 7

## Friday, January 8

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)

## Saturday, January 9

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

## BLANKETS GALORE!

Our sincere thanks to the young ladies from Barbara's Centre for Dance for their donation of 160 blankets.

This annual tradition of caring and generosity is greatly appreciated and will be distributed as part of our Soup Kitchen ministry.



# Remember in Prayer

## MEMBERS

Marie & Roger Able	Jane Hammette	Dick McCauley
Melvin & Debbie Anderson	Mike Harris	Bob McClew
Kathy Andrews	Jane Hayman	Edna Mitchell
Marty Bentley	Joyce Hayman	Richard Moots
Pat Berrell	Frances Heath	Bethany Owen
Jonye Briggs	Kay Hedden	Barbara Roberts
Orrin & Helen Champlain	Doris Hill	John Schleifer
Carl Cheatham	Bryan Howard	George Seagreaves
Charlie Darte	Isobel Hubbard	Bob Sheffield
Dave Davidson	Jim Huff	Joyce Shirah
Marjorie DiLorenzo	Scott & Becky Irvin	Dale Smith
Zan Dismuke	Martha Johnson	Joel & Barbara H. Smith
Jana Easterling	Dena Lancashire	Christine Stevens
Dana Elmore	Eric Lindstrom	Jean Strang
Bill Everhart	Spike & Jane Lucia	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
John Gray	Candy Marshall	Mike Vibrat
	Anne McBride	Gwen Waters
	Pat McCarty	Sug Zowarka

## Relatives & Friends

Bruce Bachman	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
John Brack	Bill & Doris Brack's son
Curtis Capers	Pat McCarty's friend
Connie Craig	Lynn Oakley's friend
Sherry Dart	John & Doris Brack's friend
John & Muriel Davis	Dick & Anne McCauley's friends
Susie Fisher	Becky Everhart & Rob Donaldy's cousin
Donald Gatlin	Pat McCarty's friend
Bonnie Gaudet	Bob Howard's sister
Lynda Giles	Polly Wilson's niece
Jaimee Haley	Bill & Becky Everhart's friend
Louie Herman	Judy Lindsay's brother
Lynda Holyk	Paul Montgomery's sister
Lottie Johnson	Lynn Oakley's friend
Verona Jones	Lynn Oakley's friend
Mary Lenari	Bill & Becky Everhart's friend
Susan Lobdell	Jonathan Owen's friend
Sue Miller	Lynn Oakley's friend
Don Nash	Jeff Bowen's friend
Michael Oriani	Joe Oriani's brother
Sandy Payne	Lynn Oakley's family member
Paula Penna	Steven Lockhart's friend
Joan Richter	Lynn Oakley's friend
Eddy Ruperti	Lynn Oakley's friend
Jane & Mario Scarpa	Judy Winfree's friends
Toni Shaw	Candy Marshall's friend
Barbara Sjolander	Judy & Richard Moot's friend
Bennie Spangers' family	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
Jim Steele	Bob Steele's brother
Nicole Upson	Amy McKee's friend
Sam Vac	Marcie Dershimer's friend

## MILITARY

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

## NEW SOUP KITCHEN NEED

Do you have any UNOPENED wrapped plastic cutlery sets just sitting around your house? We can use them for our Soup Kitchen carry outs that we've been providing on Saturdays. If you would like to donate them, please bring them to the church kitchen.

## CHRIST KIDS - WEDNESDAYS AT 4 PM

Christ Kids – our faith-filled and safe, after-school program for children 4 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade is going on. The fun happens **Wednesdays at 4:00 pm** with a majority of out-door activities and Bible study.

Permission slips for children are on the church website, so spread the word and don't forget to join us as an Adult Volunteer!

Questions? Contact Rev. Sarah via email [sbishop@firstpreswh.org](mailto:sbishop@firstpreswh.org) or call the church office 294-3121.



## CALLING ALL YOUTH!



Youth groups have started meeting (socially distanced & safe) in-person again! We are so excited to be gathering outside the youth house and can't wait to see all of you soon.

**MSYG meets Wednesdays from 5:30 until 7:30 pm**

**HSYG meets Sundays from 5:30 until 7:30 pm**

Come join us for food, fellowship, and faith building. We can't wait for another awesome year with our youth!

If you have any questions or would like to sign up to provide a meal for our students, please contact Emily Snyder at 224-4403 or [esnyder@firstpreswh.org](mailto:esnyder@firstpreswh.org).

## MEN'S LUNCH IS HYBRID, TUESDAYS AT NOON

You can join us socially distant in McLeod Hall.

OR

Join us virtually on Zoom. If you are not already receiving the Zoom invite, please contact the office at 294-3121 or [office@firstpreswh.org](mailto:office@firstpreswh.org) and ask to be added to the list.



## 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?

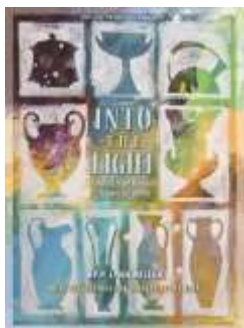
Want to share with a friend a taste of worship with First Pres?

Then visit 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 as videos after worship as well.

The church website at [www.firstpreswh.org](http://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.

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY



The Lydia and Joy Circles Bible Study is  
*Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*  
by P. Lynn Miller.

*The Lydia Circle* meets on the **2nd Monday** of each month and will meet on **January 11 at 10:00 am** in McLeod Hall and by Zoom.

*The Joy Circle* meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month and will meet on **January 19 at 9:30 am** in McLeod Hall and by Zoom.



## WHAT'S NEW WITH SECUREGIVE?

With each transaction, there are fees charged by the credit card processing companies. Securegive now has a "Separate Fee Offset" option when giving online. This option, if chosen, will increase the transaction to help offset transaction fees, the fee amount will be calculated based on the selected payment method. These fees are up to 2.5% of the transaction depending on the card used (the amount will be shown once the option is chosen).

New donors will see this as one of their options and they must select yes or no. If you are currently using the online service you will need to go into your account and update your information, as it is not automatic.



The total amount will be considered a donation and will appear on your quarterly statement. If you have any questions, call Robin, (863)294-3121.



## SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE CARD

**Couples may use one form, please include both names.**

**Heart of Worship at 9:00 am; Traditional Worship at 11:00 am**

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.)

Individual #1   Individual #2

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

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

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

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

First Time Visitor Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dear Friends and Members of First Pres:

Knowing that “maintaining public worship” is one of the Great Ends of the Church, your pastors and Session members have prayerfully attempted to offer safe and spiritual opportunities for worship during this trying year.

We suspended in-person worship in March and celebrated on-line worship together each Sunday in the early days of the pandemic.

We kept our vibrant virtual worship as an option for our congregation as we re-opened the sanctuary to in-person worship in June. At that time, among our guidelines for in-person worship we:

Asked all worshippers at our 9 and 11 am services to maintain social distancing while entering and exiting, and while seated for worship.

Required face coverings to be worn while in the building for Sunday worship.

Asked people not to sing.

Last month, we amended our guidelines to allow singing while we continued to wear face coverings.

After hearing concerns about the experience of in-person worship from a number of participants, we are further amending our worship participation guidelines as follows:

**People who wish to attend in-person worship at 9 AM will be asked to:**

Maintain social distancing while entering and exiting, and while seated for worship

Wear a face covering while entering, exiting, and moving around in the building for worship. Once people are seated, socially distanced from all people except those in their chosen seating group, they may remove their face mask, if they choose, for that portion of the worship service.

If any person wishes to sing hymns or responses, we ask that you replace your face covering while singing.

**And people who wish to attend in-person worship at 11 AM will be asked to follow our current worship guideline which include:**

Requiring all worshippers to maintain social distancing while entering and exiting, and while seated for worship.

Requiring face coverings to be worn while in the building for Sunday worship.

Worshippers are invited to sing while wearing face coverings.

We hope that these modifications will allow all of us to safely worship God in a style that is meaningful and helpful in your faith life. And of course, our vibrant virtual worship experience will keep us all connected.

In Christ,  
Steve Negley

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 1/1/21.

Non-profit Org.

U.S. Postage Paid

Permit No. 1162

Lakeland, FL

#### Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 120 bag lunches  
the week of 12/14/20.

We gave out 112 bag lunches  
the week of 12/21/20.

**Return Service Requested**

#### Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 70 people on 12/19/20.

We fed 70 people on 12/26/20.

## LOCAL MINISTRIES NEED OUR HELP

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 these valuable partners 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)

Call to see how you can help this program for adults with developmental disabilities.

#### Project Love (280-6947)

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

#### The Mission (299-2348)

Donations of 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.

## STRESSED? FEELING DOWN? NEED ENCOURAGEMENT?

Stephen Ministers don't just provide care for people experiencing a major crisis. They also provide care and support for people weighed down by the little things in life. If you're feeling down, lonely, stressed or discouraged, you could benefit from the care, support, and encouragement of a Stephen Minister. It's free. It's confidential. And it will really make a difference in your life!

To find out more, contact Connie Shipley at 863-221-2224 or one of our other Stephen Minister Leaders, **Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, or Barbara Perkins.**

