



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

Tower Chimes

Week of May 23, 2021

Issue 818

135 Years of Ministry

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

Jeremy T. Rath
Director of
Music Ministries

Emily G. Snyder
Director of
Student Ministries

Robin D. Miller
Director of Finance &
Administration

Connie J. Shipley
Administrative Assistant

Daryl D. Fenley
Director of Maintenance

Tonia L. Milbry
Custodian

THE SESSION HAS CALLED FOR A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOR THIS SUNDAY, MAY 23

Please join us at **10:30 am** in the sanctuary to hear the report of the Nominating Committee for the Class of 2022 and elect Deacons and Elders to the Class of 2024. **Please see inside for bios.**

This will be a **HYBRID FORMAT MEETING**. There will be an opportunity for members to attend, discuss, and vote **EITHER IN-PERSON IN THE SANCTUARY OR VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE**.

We need 101 members in attendance in these combined formats to achieve our quorum for this Congregational Meeting. Please plan to join us. The Zoom invite to join virtually will be emailed this Friday. Or you can follow the steps below.

1. go to <https://zoom.us/join>
2. enter Meeting ID **940 6375 8233**
3. click **Join**
4. click **Open Zoom Meeting**
5. enter your name and Meeting Password **637**
6. click **Join Meeting** and wait to join
7. see all your church family and wave "hi"



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 6-10 FROM 5:30 TO 8:00 PM



Save the date for this summer's
Vacation Bible School
where fearless kids shine God's
light at **Crocodile Dock!**
Each night we'll gather
dock-side for music, crafts, snacks,
games, and of course, engaging,
fearless Bible stories!
Register your child today!



We'll be needing YOUR help to prepare from supplies drives, volunteering to decorate, and joining us that week as a volunteer. Registration is live on our website. Questions? Contact Rev. Sarah, sbishop@firstpreswh.org or (863)294-3121.

Opportunities This Week

Sunday, May 23
PENTECOST
COMMUNION

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RECOGNITION

- 9:00 am Heart of Worship
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
9:25 am Children's Sunday School (CE)
10:20 am Congregational Meeting
(Sanctuary/Zoom)
11:00 am Traditional Worship
(Sanctuary/Facebook Live)
5:30 pm High School Youth Group (GC)

Monday, May 24

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
6:00 pm Associate Pastor Nominating
Committee (MH/Zoom)

Tuesday, May 25

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)
12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH/Zoom)
5:00 pm Stephen Minister Leaders (MH)
5:30 pm Stephen Minister Training (UR)
6:00 pm Stephen Ministers (MH)

Wednesday, May 26

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
10:00 am Adult Bible Study (MH/Zoom)
5:00 pm Confirmation Class (GC/737)
5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (GC)
6:00 pm Chancel Bells (MS)
7:00 pm Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)

Thursday, May 27

- 1:15 pm Chapel Bells (MS)

Friday, May 28

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
6:00 pm Confirmation Retreat

Saturday, May 29

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

MILITARY

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

Our Christian sympathy goes to Amy & Sawyer Speer upon the death of their father/grandfather, Bob Carolan who died on Saturday, May 8, 2021.

Remember in Prayer

MEMBERS

Marie & Roger Able	Jane Hayman	Bob McClew
Melvin & Debbie Anderson	Frances Heath	Pat Miller
Kathy Andrews	Kay Hedden	Edna Mitchell
Pat Berrell	Doris Hill	Richard Moots
Orrin & Helen Champlain	Bryan Howard	Arletta Oriani
Charlie Darte	Isobel Hubbard	Kline Roberts
Larry Davis	Jim Huff	John Schleifer
Marjorie DiLorenzo	Scott & Becky Irvin	Joyce Shirah
Zan Dismuke	Martha Johnson	Dale Smith
Dana Elmore	Dena Lancashire	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Bill Everhart	Eric Lindstrom	Gwen Waters
John Gray	Spike & Jane Lucia	Sug Zowarka
	Pat McCarty	
	Dick McCauley	

Relatives & Friends

Carl Barrett	Don & Norma Martin's friend
Bryce Beckham	MaryBess Thompson's friend
Erin Cherry	Jonathan Owen's friend
Tommy Cooper	Jane Hammette's brother-in-law
Jaidyn Craft	MaryBess Thompson's friend
Connie Craig	Lynn Oakley's friend
Lynn Dangundy	Janis Barry's cousin
Wayne Emerick	Don & Norma Martin's brother-in-law
Susie Fisher	Becky Everhart & Rob Donaldy's cousin
Lynda Giles	Polly Wilson's niece
Ryan Hampton	Bill Lockhart's friend
Nonie Hicks	Bob & Cindy Steele's friend
Verona Jones	Lynn Oakley's friend
Margaret Katros	Lisa Endres' mother
Mary Lenari	Bill & Becky Everhart's friend
John Linn	Sharon Mann's brother
Pat Lynch	Roger & Marie Able's friend
Susan Marsh	Roger & Marie Able's friend
Sue Miller	Lynn Oakley's friend
Leon & Barb Murphy	Bruce & Kate Eelman's friends
Joyce Nunnallee	Nancy Dobler's cousin
Anne Ogburn	Janis Barry's cousin
Sandy Payne	Lynn Oakley's family member
Cindy Partlow	Marilyn Sheffield's cousin
Eddy Ruperti	Lynn Oakley's friend
Diane Secord	Gail Van Allen's friend
Chet Spires	Mary Ellen Rowker's friend
Jim Steele	Bob Steele's brother
Nicole Upson	Amy McKee's friend
Sam Vac	Marcie Dershimer's friend
Carol Wilhelm	Greg & Mary Marrs' friend
Julie Williams	Steve Negley's friend
Bud Willson	Mary Marrs' brother
John Willson	Mary Marrs' brother

CALLING ALL YOUTH!

Youth groups are meeting at the youth house. We are so excited to be socially distanced & safe in-person!

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. It is an 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.



UPDATE ON OUR STEPHEN MINISTER TRAINING CLASS

Our Stephen Ministers complete their training this week and prepare to be commissioned on **June 13** at our **11am** worship service. Pray for God to bless their caregiving and to work through them to bring hope and healing to people's lives.



Session Twenty (May 25) *Go - God is With You*. This session is a time for review and inspiration as our Stephen Minister trainees prepare to "follow Jesus" in their caregiving journey. They review what it means to be caregivers who are Compassionate, Full of Faith, Skilled, Trustworthy, and Christ-Centered. With the completion of their training, they are ready to provide quality, one-to-one caring ministry on behalf of our congregation. If you or someone you know could benefit from the listening ear, caring presence, and Christ-centered support of a Stephen Minister, talk to one of our pastors or Stephen Leaders.

TEXT TO GIVE THROUGH SECUREGIVE

To donate, you will text a **keyword**, (those options are below and special events will be added as they come.), then a **space**, and an **amount** to **863-243-6880**. Example: Text keyword **3cents 5** for gifting \$5 to *3 Cents-a-Meal*. An auto-response will confirm your gift offering. Respond **Y** to confirm and send. Save this number as a contact for future giving.

Keywords are:

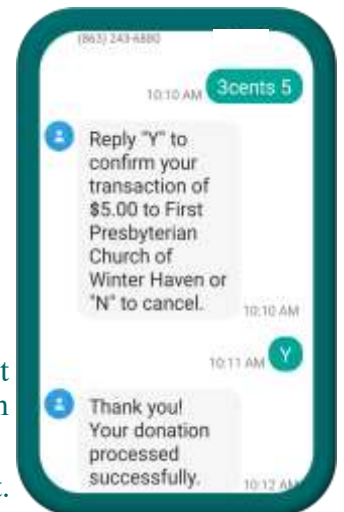
- Pledged (for your offering to be credited to your pledged amount for the current year)
- Offering (Non-pledge or undesignated gifts)
- Music (for Capital Music Campaign Organ/Music)
- 3cents (for 3 Cents-a-Meal)
- Memorial (for when donating in memory of someone)
- Special (for all other donations; example 1 time events)

If you are donating through Text To Give for the first time, you will receive a text containing a link to login or create your Secure Give account. Please save that login information.

You will then be asked to save your default payment information for giving by text. The system will confirm your donation and you will receive an email receipt.

The only time that you should have to enter your login or card information is the first time you donate through Text to Give. After your first transaction, your Secure Give account and card information will be recognized automatically and you will simply reply **Y**.

The next time you would like to give by text, simply type the keyword and amount to the number above and you will receive a request to confirm with **Y**.



Class of 2022 Nominating Committee At-Large

LAURA FROST was born in Harlingen, TX, graduated from Baylor University, and earned her Master's in Counseling and Development from North Texas University. She has worked as a teacher, school counselor, and part-time MTSS coordinator. Laura was raised by wonderful Christian parents along with a nurturing group of family friends at Southland Baptist Church in San Angelo, TX. Laura and Rob met at Baylor and were married in 1995. Rob, Laura, Adam, and Ava moved to Winter Haven in 2006 and chose First Presbyterian Church for their programs for children and families and their outreach to the community. Laura has served in VBS, as a Sunday School teacher, a Deacon, and as a search committee and nominating committee member.

MIKE HARRIS was born in Newark, OH and raised in Melbourne, FL. He attended Emmanuel Methodist Church where his father was a church leader and his mother was the choir director. Mike graduated from Florida State University with a degree in MIS and moved to Winter Haven in 1987 where he began his career with Scotty's as a computer programmer/analyst. That same year, he married his college sweetheart, Cheryce Powers. Their daughter, Rachel, was born in 1993. After continuing his career with Watkins Motor Lines and FedEx, Mike retired from IT in 2019 and went to work as a school Network Manager for Polk County Public Schools. Mike and Cheryce started attending First Presbyterian Church in 1989. Since then, Mike has served on the Diaconate, Nominating Committee, and several Music Director search committees. Mike is very active in the music program as a choir member, soloist, instrumentalist, and leader of the Jazzbyterians. Mike also maintains the church's computers and network and oversees our website. Outside of church, you can often find Mike playing locally in one of his bands.

DILLON POWELL was born in Columbia, MD and moved to Florida at a young age. He was raised in Winter Haven where he joined First Pres and was baptized by Dr. Negley. Since then, he has been heavily involved in the life of the church with the youth group, soup kitchen volunteering, a search committee, and Dillon's personal favorite, joining the church's praise band during his freshman year of high school in which he still plays in today. He recently graduated from Lakeland Christian School in the spring of 2020. He currently is attending college at the University of Florida in Gainesville where he is pursuing a major in Journalism. Dillon is very thankful for all the opportunities granted by the church to grow as a Christian and as a person and looks forward to serving on the Nominating Committee.

TOM OLDT was born in Michigan and came to Florida as an infant. The Oldts joined First Presbyterian Church in 1947 and Tom's earliest memories include being tended to in the nursery (now the chapel) by church women who became like second mothers. He became a Cub Scout and then a Boy Scout with Troop 121, earning his Eagle at age 15, and was active in the church's youth group during high school. At the University of South Florida, from which he graduated, Tom participated in the Methodist Student Union. During the Vietnam War, he served in the U.S. Navy. After college he worked as a research librarian at The Washington Post, covered Congress as a writer for The Energy Daily, was a reporter for the St. Petersburg Times and a reporter and later a columnist for The Ledger, to which he currently contributes a monthly interview. In a short second career, he taught history, economics, and government at Winter Haven High. For the past 27 years he has served as a registered representative and general securities principal in the investment business and sits as an arbitrator for the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). Tom has served on a number of community boards and is currently president of Historic Ritz Theatre. He and his wife Jeri were married by Steve six years ago. In years past Tom has been a choir member, a Honduras mission trip participant, an associate pastor search committee member, an Elder and a member of the nominating committee. He occasionally plays the Deagan chimes and the sanctuary piano for services.

CARSON WEEKS was born in Lakeland, FL and grew up in Lake Wales. He retired from Florida's Natural Growers (Citrus World) in Lake Wales after 48 years as Vice President of Planning and Logistics. He is married to Kay Gray Weeks and has 2 children and 4 grandchildren. Carson has been a member of First Presbyterian since 1973. He served as a Deacon in the mid 70's. Carson and Kay have volunteered for VBS for the past several years and they currently are teaching children Sunday School. He is also a regular Usher. Carson, like many others in our congregation, bleeds Orange and Blue and loves Gator Football Season (mostly). He also loves golf, fishing, and spending time with family and looks forward to more of this in retirement.

Class of 2024 Deacon

PHILLIP BATISTA was born in Winter Haven, FL, and has been living there with his mother and father for the past 21 years. He has been attending the church as far back as he can remember and is currently enrolled at Polk State College to be an elementary school teacher. Along with being enrolled in college, he is employed at Publix at Southeast Plaza, Morning Out Moms at First Presbyterian Church, and has been volunteering with the middle school youth group for the past 3 years. He is looking forward to working with the community that was a huge part of his life in his middle school and high school years and getting to know everyone.

WARREN GLENN was born in Monroe, NC. He moved to Haines City, FL at the age of 5. He was raised in a Christian family and attended First Missionary Baptist Church, which is now known as Landmark Baptist Church. His hobby was, and still is sports. He graduated from Haines City High School where he received several awards for his athletic accomplishments in baseball and football and continued playing men's league softball and flag football for many years. Warren began his first job at Circus World in 1981, and later became the ride supervisor there. In 1984, he began doing commercial construction and after 7 years of this he began doing marine construction. After 6 years, he decided to start his own marine construction company, Premier Docks. Warren married Charlene in 1989 and they just celebrated their 32nd anniversary. They have three children, Nick (28), Olivia (20), and Luci (9), 2 dogs, 4 cats, and 2 horses. Warren's extra time is spent doing Dad stuff with Luci who loves playing ball or fishing, or hanging out with the dogs outdoors. He has also earned the title "Horse Show Dad" and assists with trailering the horses to competitions with Olivia. If he has any down time left, it's spent watching football, his favorite action movies, and television shows, cooking out and going golfing.

BILL LOCKHART and his wife Kathy love First Presbyterian Church and especially the people. Bill was fortunate to work as the Interim Church Educator and Youth Director for First Presbyterian for a period of time. He started his professional life as a public school educator in Atlantic Beach, Florida in 1978, married Kathy in 1980. And after careers in manufacturing sales, banking/financial services, and building supply exporting, Bill returned to education and served as a Social Sciences teacher, negotiator with Polk Education Association on behalf of Polk County teachers during a major contract dispute, high school baseball and soccer coach, dean of students, and assistant principal until retiring from education in December of 2018. Bill loves the book of Romans, is thankful for God's grace and forgiveness, and is humbled by the gift of the Holy Spirit. Bill loves working with young people and is active with FPC youth. Bill has previously served as a Deacon, Elder, and Sunday School Teacher. He is now filling an open seat on the Diaconate and is active with our Middle School Youth Group on Wednesday nights. Bill and Kathy have two sons, Josh (married to Jessica, and father to Cole and Luke) and Jared (married to Chalsey, and father to Luke and Scarlett).

ANTHONY "TONY" PREMUTO was born in St. Petersburg, FL. He graduated from Boca Ciega High School in 1982. Due to financial limitations following the death of his father, he chose to continue cooking in the restaurant industry that he began at the age of thirteen in his uncle's restaurant. Tony continued to do so for over forty years. In 1990 he married his wife Karen, who he had a crush on twelve years earlier when she was his sister's roommate in college. They have four children, Elizabeth, Holly, Ashley, and Michael, ranging in ages from fifteen to twenty eight. They began attending First Presbyterian Church when their daughter Ashley became involved in their youth program through a friend, and in 2014 became members. It has become their church home in more ways than one, and God willing, shall remain so for many years to come.

MARILYN SHEFFIELD was born in Tupelo, MS. She married her high school sweetheart, Bob, and they attended the University of Mississippi. She has two grown children who were married in First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven and four grandchildren baptized in our church. Marilyn has helped with First Pres Vacation Bible School and also been a part of serving in the soup kitchen. With a teaching degree from Ole Miss and an Education Leadership Masters Degree from Arkansas State, she has enjoyed a career in teaching, coaching and administration with Polk County School District. Recently retired from the school district, after 30+ years, Marilyn is enjoying spending time with the grands, tennis and biking, reading and relaxing. She feels that it is an honor to be a candidate for Deacon in her church.

Class of 2024 Elder

ERIN CRANMER is the daughter of Jay and Lia Gray and grew up in Winter Haven attending First Pres with her family. She graduated from Winter Haven High School in 2006 and went on to attend the University of North Carolina, where she met her husband, Adam. Adam and Erin graduated from UNC in 2011 with Masters of Accounting degrees. Following college, Erin and Adam lived in Washington, DC before moving to Denver, CO for Adam's career. On February 22, 2017, their son Winston Cranmer was born (on their third wedding anniversary). Adam and Erin moved back to Winter Haven in the summer of 2019 to be closer to family and the amazing community support they have here. Erin is also currently serving on the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee and enjoys cooking and spending time at the beach.

JACKIE DUGGER was born and raised in Michigan and moved to Winter Haven as a very young child. She had a wonderful childhood, which included being baptized and raised in First Presbyterian Church. She graduated from Winter Haven High School and following graduation enrolled at The University of South Florida, graduating with master's degrees in both Physical Education and Guidance Counseling. In 2010, Jackie retired from the Guidance Department at Winter Haven High School after serving 41 years with the Polk County School System. She has one son, Jay. He and his wife, Tricia, have given her 2 grandchildren, Sarah (13) and Cody (10), of whom she is very proud.

GANNON OLMERT grew up in High Springs, FL outside of Gainesville and graduated from Santa Fe High School in 1998. He then attended Auburn University for three years before returning to Gainesville to complete his degree in Building Construction at the University of Florida in 2003. Gannon had grown up with his wife Amanda in High Springs, and they married in October of 2003. Gannon and Amanda have three children: Landon (14), Brayden (12), and Garren (8). Gannon was raised in the First Baptist Church of High Springs where he remained a member until both he and Amanda moved to Polk County in 2004 for MM Parrish Construction Company. He worked with them for 12 years and is now President of A.O. Construction Company in Winter Haven. Upon arriving in Polk County, Gannon and Amanda joined the First Baptist Church of Auburndale and were members there until they joined First Presbyterian of Winter Haven. Gannon has been a member of First Presbyterian Church for almost 11 years, and all of his children were baptized here in September 2013. This will be Gannon's second term on the session, and he is also active in the community serving on several boards. "I am honored to be nominated to serve my church in this capacity."

MADELYN "LYN" SWART grew up in Grand Rapids, MI and was raised in the Reformed Church. She graduated from Michigan State University and taught 2nd and 3rd grades in Grand Rapids for almost 18 years. In 1985, Lyn and her late husband Bill, purchased a travel agency in Winter Haven. They worked together for many years with Lyn planning and escorting day trips and group tours. Lyn joined First Presbyterian Church shortly after moving to Winter Haven. In 1999, she returned to her "first love", teaching. She taught kindergarten and 1st grades at Eagle Lake Elementary School and retired in 2014. Since joining First Pres, Lyn has taught Sunday School, led music for the pre-school Sunday School classes, helped with Summer Vacation Bible School and served as Circle leader for Presbyterian Women. She is currently a member of the Congregational Care Committee and the Chancel Bell Choir. Lyn is honored to be asked to serve the church as Elder.

JAY TACKETT was born in Winter Haven, FL. He was baptized at First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven. Jay attended Winter Haven High School and Polk Community College. He met and married his wife of 31 years Dorrie, also from Winter Haven and they had one daughter, Mackenzie, who graduated from UCF and now resides in the West Palm Beach area. Jay works in the Optical field where he has been for 34 years. He resides in the house he and Dorrie built in Polk City. He is also an Eagle Scout from First Pres Scout Troop 121. Jay is honored to be nominated and is looking forward to serving the church.

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.

2021 ADULT BIBLE STUDY ~ THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE

Join your pastors and church family as we take this year to read the Bible. Each month we alternate between chapters in the Old and New as well as the Psalms. Download the reading plan for the whole year from our church website or follow the plan below. We invite you to join a class for deeper discussion! Classes are **Sundays at 10:20 am** as well as **Wednesdays at 10 am**. If you can't join us in person, you can join us virtually for each class by following the steps below.

SUNDAY CLASS

1. go to <https://zoom.us/join>
2. enter Meeting ID **959 6689 0482**
3. click **Join**
4. click **Open Zoom Meeting**
5. enter your name and Meeting Passcode **637**
6. click **Join Meeting** and wait to join
7. see your church family and wave "hi"

WEDNESDAY CLASS

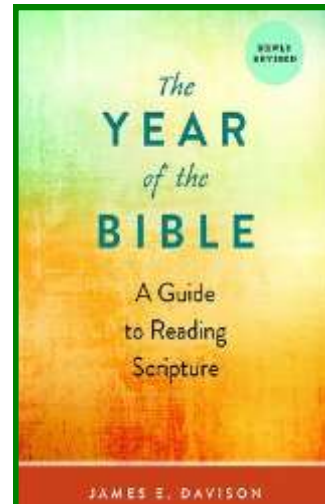
1. go to <https://zoom.us/join>
2. enter Meeting ID **927 8723 9542**
3. click **Join**
4. click **Open Zoom Meeting**
5. enter your name and Meeting Passcode **637**
6. click **Join Meeting** and wait to join
7. see your church family and wave "hi"

Reading Plan For Week 20

Below is a breakdown list of readings to prepare for this week's class. Class will be loosely structured as gathering, prayer, sharing your questions, and discussion on that week's reading led by a pastor.

WEEK 20

DAY	OLD Testament	NEW Testament Psalms
1	2 Samuel 19, 20	1 Corinthians 8
2	2 Samuel 21, 22	1 Corinthians 9
3	2 Samuel 23, 24	1 Corinthians 10
4	1 Kings 1, 2	Psalm 55
5	1 Kings 3-5	1 Corinthians 11
6	1 Kings 6, 7	1 Corinthians 12
7	1 Kings 8, 9	Psalm 56, 57



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 5/21/21.

Non-profit Org.

U.S. Postage Paid

Permit No. 1162

Lakeland, FL

Return Service Requested

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 73 bag lunches
the week of 5/10/21.

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 50 people on 5/15/21.

GET REWARDED WITH SMILES – VOLUNTEER! Meals on Wheels—Summer Drivers Needed

Volunteering for Meals on Wheels is a great way to make a huge impact in a short amount of time. By delivering meals you bring nutritious food and a friendly visit to seniors and people with disabilities in your community. Anyone can deliver meals, and it's a great volunteer opportunity for individuals or groups of friends. Most volunteer 1 day a week or month, and some substitute or help seasonally.



Call 863-299-1616, email susan@mealsonwheelspolk.com, fill out an online volunteer application at <https://mealsonwheelspolk.com> or visit our office at 620 6th ST NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881. Sign up today and find out how easy and rewarding it is to bring nutrition and independence to your neighbors!