



# TOWER CHIMES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WINTER HAVEN  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MARCH 31, 2024 | ISSUE 955

## MAUNDY THURSDAY SUPPER & WORSHIP: MARCH 28 (CANTATA & COMMUNION)



At 5:15 pm we will gather for supper in McLeod Hall. On the menu is chicken potpie, garlic bread, salad, & dessert.

At 6:30 pm our Maundy Thursday service this year will transport us back to the Upper Room on that somber final Passover that Jesus celebrated with his friends. The chancel of our church will be transformed into the iconic image of Leonardo DaVinci's masterpiece, *The Last Supper*. Thirteen men from our congregation will portray the images of Jesus and the Twelve around the table that night. Each disciple will share a monologue; their own private thoughts on the evening and what is to come in the hours ahead. Interspersed between the monologues will be anthems sung by our Chancel Choir.

Following the drama, the cast, choir, and congregation will Celebrate the Lord's Supper together as God's redeemed people. You will not want to miss this unique worship experience as we present *The Living Last Supper* by composer Ruth Elaine Schram.

## GOOD FRIDAY: MARCH 29

The Chapel will be open for prayer and meditation on **Good Friday, March 29, Noon-3 pm.**

## EASTER SUNDAY: MARCH 31



The *Community Sunrise Service* will be held in Martin Luther King Jr. Park on Lake Silver at 6:30 am.

Here at First Pres we will serve Easter breakfast in McLeod Hall from 8:45 until 9:30 am. If you would be willing to help cook or serve at breakfast, please contact the church office.

The children's Easter Egg Hunt will be happening at 9:30 am. Meet on the Christian Education Building front steps.

We will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ at the 10 am Single Worship Service.

## 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.*

## STAFF

Dr. Steven R. Negley  
Senior Pastor

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

Jeremy T. Rath  
Director of  
Music Ministries

Robin D. Miller  
Director of Finance  
and Administration

Connie J. Shipley  
Administrative  
Assistant

Daryl D. Fenley  
Director of  
Maintenance

Tonia L. Milbry  
Custodian

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, March 31 EASTER

- 6:30 am Community Sunrise Service (MLK Park)
- 8:45 am Easter Breakfast (MH)
- 9:30 am Easter Egg Hunt (CE)
- 10:00 am Sanctuary Worship  
(Sanctuary/Facebook)

### Monday, April 1

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
- 5:30 pm Saturday Night Live Planning (ER)
- 6:00 pm Associate Pastor Nominating  
Committee (MH)

### Tuesday, April 2

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting (MH)
- 12:00 pm Men's Lunch (MH)
- 6:30 pm Session (MH)

### Wednesday, April 3

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)
- 1:00 pm American Mah Jongg (CE 102)
- 3:15 pm Christ's Kids (Playground)
- 5:15 pm Confirmation Class (GC)
- 5:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (GC)
- 6:00 pm Chancel Bells (BR)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir (CR)

### Thursday, April 4

- 1:15 pm Chapel Bells (BR)

### Friday, April 5

- 8:45 am Morning Out Mom (CE)

### Saturday, April 6

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



## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### MEMBERS

Ann Adams	Mike & Cheryce	Pat Miller
Jonye Briggs	Harris	Edna Mitchell
Kelly Butz	Ken Hart	Jeri & Tom Oldt
Orin Champlain	Jane Hayman	Arletta Oriani
Ellie Crowder	Shirley Hines	Sharon Ramseyer
Marjorie DiLorenzo	Wade Hoffman	Marilyn Schleifer
Rob Donaldy	Jim Huff	Dick Shaw
Dana Elmore	Scott & Becky Irvin	Marilyn Sheffield
Bill Everhart	Wiley Koon	Joyce Shirah
Gloria Goss	Joanie Kooser	Katie Sparr
Caitlyn Grady	Jill Kosmensky	Barbara Tackett
Lynne Grady	Ray & Gladys Larson	Pam Tallent-Blackburn
Pam Gray	Lynn Lassater	Jane & Tim Tillman
Heidi Munoz-	Carol Lind	Jennifer & Mike Vibral
Gutierrez	Pat McCarty	Gale & Gwen Waters

### FAMILY & FRIENDS

Wayne Berry .....	Bob & Judy Winfree's friend
Maureen Cain.....	Jeri Oldt's mom
Tammy Cowart .....	Tilly Montney's sister
Mason Dorsey .....	Bob & Carol Carter's nephew
Lisa Golden.....	Bethany Owen's friend
Cole Gorham .....	Tom & Polly Ritter's grandson
Brian & Anna Griffin .....	Marilyn Sheffield's niece
Hobby Jeffrey.....	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
Juan Joy.....	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
Brandy & Avery Koeppel.....	Lee & Pam Wilkinson's sister-in-law
Ada Lopez-Mendez .....	Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend
Khyla Martinez .....	Paul & Anne Montgomery's granddaughter
Dick McCauley.....	Bob Hines' friend
Ann Reddout .....	Pat Reass' friend
Jack Robinson .....	Gale Waters' cousin
Ginger Snively-Chad.....	Peggy Davis' friend
Randy Spiwak .....	Beth Koon-Spiwak
Steve Weeks.....	Zan Dismuke's friend

### PLEASE NOTE

We update the Family & Friends prayer list periodically. If there is someone who needs to remain on the list, please call the church office.

## ANGELS CARE CENTER OF ELOISE: RUBY TUESDAY GIVE BACK



Thank you for your support of Angels Care of Eloise, the free faith-based medical clinic.

On the first Sunday and Monday of each month, the Angels Care will earn 15% of your lunch, dinner, or take out meal from Ruby Tuesday. Please join them on **April 7 or 8** as the clinic depends on community support for its existence. Make sure you tell your server that you are there for Angels Care. (It can't be done if you are using coupons or discounts.)

### MILITARY

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

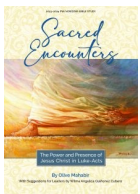
# ALL-CHURCH RETREAT APRIL 13-14 AT CEDARKIRK



Registration is open for a weekend away with our theme, **Building Blocks of Life: The LEGO Movie Building the Body of Christ**. Scan the QR Code and register today. Weekend and day rates available for families and individuals.

Contact Rev. Sarah with any questions or see this year's brochure.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDIES



The *Lydia and Joy Circles* Bible Study is **Sacred Encounters** by Olive Mahabir.

The *Joy Circle* meets on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month. The next meeting is on **April 16, at 10 am** at Carol Carter's.

The *Lydia Circle* meets on the **3rd Thursday** of each month. The next meeting is on **April 18 at 10 am** in McLeod Hall.

Our circles are open to any and all women of the church interested in fellowship and Bible study.

## SAVE THE DATE: VBS JUNE 9-13

We'll be gathering around the campfire at **Vacation Bible School's Camp Firelight**. Save the date and be sure to join us as a camper or counselor at this Summer Camp Adventure with God! Registration is open on our website.

## CHRIST'S MOMS

Gather with other young moms and kids as we enjoy food, fun, crafts and good company on the third Tuesday of every month at **4:30 pm**. Our next meeting is **April 16** in our Education Building room 102.



## FUNTIMERS

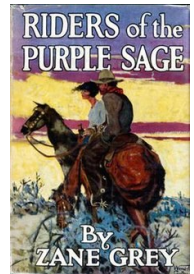
Our next FunTimers event will be on **Wednesday, April 17**. We will meet in McLeod Hall at **10:00 am** then travel to the Polk Museum of Art. There we will enjoy the **Rockwell/Wyeth: Icons of America** exhibition. After that, we will go to lunch and return to the church by **2 pm**. The cost is the price of your lunch. Please RSVP by signing up in McLeod Hall or calling or emailing the church office. And bring a friend!



## MAY BOOK CLUB

We will meet on **Monday, May 20** at **3 pm** in McLeod Hall as we discuss **Riders of the Purple Sage**, by Zane Grey.

We hope you will join us for this novel set in Utah in the 1800s. A ranch-owning heroine lives in a Mormon community amid rustlers, gunmen, church and small community politics.



## CLASS OF 2027

The Nominating Committee has the responsibility of suggesting men and women to serve on the Session and the Diaconate. Your responsibility is to provide the names of those whom you feel meet the high standards of character required for these offices. These persons must have the time available to SERVE, the commitment to Jesus Christ to SERVE, and the ability to LEAD this congregation in its spiritual and physical growth for our Lord's sake. Please prayerfully consider your recommendations (which may include yourself.) Your signature is not required.

These recommendations will be considered by the Nominating Committee which will present a slate for election. We are to elect five Elders and five Deacons to three-year terms to replace those retiring this year. We are also to elect five at-large members to serve on next year's Nominating Committee.

### ELDER

### DEACON

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 1. _____ | 1. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 2. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 3. _____ | 3. _____ |

Please place in the offering plate or mail to the church office.

# FIRST PRES PICTORIAL DIRECTORY CONTACT INFORMATION FORM

The membership committee has decided that we will produce a new church pictorial directory in house. When completed, every church family will have at their fingertips pictures, addresses, and contact information for the entire congregation.

You can submit your photo in a JPG or PNG format (not PDF) to [cshiple@firstpreswh.org](mailto:cshiple@firstpreswh.org). If you prefer, a committee member or church staff will be happy to take your picture on Sunday after worship, or during office hours.

We would also like to be sure we have your most current contact info. So please email, along with your picture, or fill out this form:

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Members: \_\_\_\_\_

FM Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

FM Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

FM Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

FM Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## SOUP KITCHEN HELP NEEDED



Would you like to help love and serve those who hunger? We need head cooks & helpers for **April 13 and going into May**.

If you can help with this very important ministry, please sign up in McLeod Hall or call the church office.

## AMERICAN MAH JONGG

Please join us for the fascinating game of **American Mah Jongg**. Spend a fun and relaxing couple of hours in fellowship with your First Pres family. We meet weekly on



**Wednesdays from 1 to 3 pm** in the **Christian Education Building** in room **102**.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### MEN'S LUNCH GROUP



Every **Tuesday**, the men of the church gather from **12:00-1:00 pm** for lunch together in McLeod Hall. This fellowship group offers men an opportunity to build friendships and grow in faith.

We hope that you will join us. This gathering is hybrid; meaning you can come in person or join by Zoom. To receive the Zoom invite, please contact the office by phone or email and ask to be added to the email list.

### FOR CHILDREN

Sunday School continues for our children (PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade) growing in God's love after the time with younger disciples in worship service (**10:15-11:00am**), meeting in **CE room 206**. And ART Sundays will meet in **Room 207**. Come grow with us.



### FOR ADULTS

Our current adult Sunday school class series is **The History of the Bible: The Making of the New Testament Canon**. It meets at **9 am** in the Geneva Room.



Together we will explore the foundational New Testament books, and answer basic questions about when, their purpose, and why they were finally collected into the Bible as we know it with video lectures from a University of North Carolina Professor of Religious Studies. Come learn with us this year and grow deeper in your faith.

## THE 2024 FLOWER CHART IS POSTED IN NARTHEX



You are invited to sign up for your important Sunday worship dates. Please be sure to call or email the church office the week before with bulletin information.



# APRIL

## BIRTHDAYS

4/2	Porter Flemming Kenny Lasseter	4/13	Marci a Eycleshimer	4/24	Clara Nell Dantzler Lydia Rennie
4/3	Glenn Thomas	4/14	Amena Roe	4/25	April Porter
4/5	Richard Bogey Drew Fenley Brooke Gunderson Glynn Swango Kalen West	4/15	Perry Oakley Tom Ritter	4/26	John Marchetti
4/7	Brandy Gray Caden Kok	4/16	Steven Dunham McCree Stults	4/17	Pat Campbell
4/8	Jacob Dantzler	4/17	Scott Hart	4/28	Carolyn Greene Sandy Hoffman Kyle Seney Lucas Volpe
4/9	Mal Boland	4/18	Heather Linn	4/29	Alice Colgrove Marilyn Sheffield Alexandra Turner
4/10	Julius Windham	4/19	Joni Gann Jane West	4/30	Deane Briggs Cindy Curry Judy Denlinger Remy Jacobson Dale Johnson Ryan Seney Ellen Tate
4/11	Quentin Roe Mike Speer	4/20	Jay Gray Roxane McCann Julie Valk		
4/12	Ellie Crowder Charlene Glenn Meg Strang	4/21	Kevin Grady Corbin Hart Marcia Strang		
4/13	Debbie Sowards	4/22	Harper Roe		
		4/23	Kimberly Gaines		
		4/24	Kelly Butz		

## ANNIVERSARIES

4/1	Neal & Anne McBride	4/17	Dick & Susan Wales
4/4	Tom & Jeri Oldt	4/22	Ted & Paula Threadgill
4/6	Stephen & Beth Luxford	4/23	Michael & Meredith Baragona
4/7	David & Marcie Dershimer	4/25	Joe & Martha Burke
4/10	Carson & Kay Weeks	4/26	Shorter & Marcia Strang
4/12	Lauren & Zane Schwenk		

## OUR STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE READY TO CARE FOR YOU!



Stephen Ministers are members of First Presbyterian Church who have been through extensive training and provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to people who are experiencing a difficult time. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and provide weekly support for you as long as your need persists.

If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by calling **Connie Shipley** at the church office. **Or you can talk with one of our other Stephen Leaders: Mary Marrs, Steve Negley, or Lisa Snyder.** Our Stephen Ministers are ready to bring God's love and care into your life.

## HOW TO EASILY ACCESS SECURE GIVE



Go to our Church website 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>.

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**This newsletter is published weekly.**  
Church dated material, please deliver by 3/29/24.

**Return Service Requested**

**Bag Lunch Ministry**  
We gave out 222 lunches  
the week of 3/18/24. 

 **Soup Kitchen Ministry**  
We fed 110 people on  
Saturday, 3/23/24.

## BRIGHT SUNDAY



For over two decades, we have celebrated Bright Sunday on the Sunday after Easter with joy and laughter.

This year our Bright Sunday Service will be celebrating worship around the theme **ALIVE** with our Confirmation Class members leading worship with Pastor Sarah, Jeremy, and the First Pres Praise Band; you won't want to miss it.

This **single worship service on April 7 will be held at 10 am**, and will conclude with a **butterfly release** in the Memorial Garden. Please plan to join in celebrating us all being **ALIVE** in Christ Jesus on this wonderful Sunday!

## LAST CHANCE TO ORDER BUTTERFLIES



In memory of church members who have died since last Bright Sunday, April 16, 2023, and for those who have sustained the loss of a child, parent, sibling, or spouse since that date, we will release butterflies following our **single worship service at 10 am on Bright Sunday, April 7.**

If you would like to release a butterfly in memory of a loved one who died outside of the parameters mentioned above (for example, before last year's Bright Sunday and/or grandparent, aunt, cousin, son-in-law, etc.), you may purchase a butterfly for **\$5.**

Please turn in form by **Monday, April 1.**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Deceased Loved One: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Butterflies: \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_