



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WINTER HAVEN

T o w e r C h i m e s

Week of October 18, 2015

Issue 558

129 Years of Ministry

Dr. Steven R. Negley
Senior Pastor

Dr. C. Alan Harvey
Associate Pastor

Dr. Raymond M. Larson
Minister of Visitation

Dr. James G. Manor
Parish Associate

Amy L. McKee
Director of
Christian Education

Dana H. Parrish
Director of
Student Ministries

Lynn M. McCoy
Director of
Music Ministries

Ronda A. Lacy
Director of Finance &
Administration

Connie J. Shipley
Administrative Assistant

Rose Flynn
Office Assistant

Sammy D. Bryant
Director of Maintenance

Ann M. Quessenberry
Custodian

YOUTH CORN MAZE TRIP!

We will take a trip to the corn maze in Lakeland at the end of the month.

High school will go **Sunday, October 18** after the **11:00 a.m. church service**. Bring money for lunch as we will eat before we leave.

Middle school will take our trip **Saturday, October 24**. We will meet at the Golden Center (youth house) at **2:00 p.m.**

Cost of admission is \$6 plus any money you want for snacks while you are there. It is always a blast to run in the corn maze at night and spend time with friends.

Let Dana know if you plan to attend. You can email her at dparrish@firstpreswh.org or call at 863-412-2897.

We hope to see you all there.



FALL-BULOUS TIMES AWAIT YOU AT FALL FEST!

Come join the festivities on **Wednesday evening, October 28**. There will be games, crafts, prizes, candy and fall-bulous fun for children fifth grade and younger. The Youth of the church help to run the activity booths along with faithful volunteers. Kids are invited to wear non-scary Halloween costumes. The fun begins with pizza at **5:30 p.m.** and the festival from **6 - 7:15 p.m.** Please **RSVP for dinner by Monday, October 26 at 294-3121**.

Also, be sure to bring in **INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED CANDY** or small prizes to be passed out at the various booths. Candy **MUST** be individually wrapped.

We are looking forward to a great night!

RESERVATION DUE BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 26.

Name: _____ # Adults: _____ # Children: _____



Church calendar

Sunday, October 18

3 Cents-a-Meal

- 8:50 a.m. Gathering Worship
- 9:45 a.m. OJ Fellowship (MH)
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School-Children & Youth
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School-Adult
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 2:00 p.m. HSYG to Corn Maze (GC)

Monday, October 19

- 8:45 a.m. MOM
- 6:15 p.m. Worship & Music (UR)

Tuesday, October 20

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (MCR)
- 12:00 p.m. Men's Lunch (MH)
- 6:30 p.m. Deacons (GR)

Wednesday, October 21

- 8:45 a.m. MOM
- 3:00 p.m. Christ Kids (CE)
- 5:00 p.m. Memorial Garden (MCR)
- 5:30 p.m. MSYG (GC)
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells (MS)
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MS)

Thursday, October 22

- 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (UR)
- 7:00 p.m. Chapel Bells (MS)

Friday, October 23

- 8:45 a.m. MOM

Saturday, October 24

- 2:00 p.m. MSYG to Corn Maze (GC)
- 2:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen Prep (Kitchen)
- 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen (737)

Remember in Prayer

members

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Roger Able | Ed & Joan Houston | Ann Reddout |
| Win Betrus | Camille Howe | Earle Roberts |
| Millie Carrier | Jim Huff | Dave Ryan |
| Orrin Champlain | Dorothy Johnson | Dorothy Ryan |
| Norma Conner | Joey Johnston | Barbara A. Smith |
| Jerry Dugger | Dena Lancashire | Barbara H. Smith |
| Mary Dukes | Steve Luxford | Marcia Strang |
| Jana & Mike Easterling | Elaine Maltese | Pam Tallent-Blackburn |
| Jeanne Estes | Gladys Meier | Chuck Tate |
| Bill & Becky Everhart | Lynnis Mincey | Carolyn Thompson |
| Marge Goodman | Jim Morris | Ed Threadgill |
| Frances Heath | Joan Murphy | Shirley Turner |
| Doris Hill | Randal Palmer | Gwen Waters |
| Ranell Hillman | Barbara Puckett | Lee Wilkinson |

Family and friends

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Peyton Battilla | Hadley Owen's friend |
| Christine & Emily | Beverly Seagreave's daughter & granddaughter |
| Jerry Cooley | Susan Singleton's friend |
| John Doughty | Dena Lancashire's nephew |
| Al Ellis | Jim Threlkel's friend |
| Raymond Fenstermaker | Gale & Gwen Waters' grandson |
| Jean Hehn | Ellie Threlkel's friend |
| Mary Ann Kelly | TD Sowards' friend |
| Pete Kent | Charley & Nancy Chilton's nephew |
| Nan Mason | Harvey & Mary Ann Snively's daughter |
| J. David Richardson | Ellie & Jim Threlkel friends |
| Rick & Pat Tyler | Rick & Pat Reass' friends |
| Marshall Wood | Jim & Ellie Threlkel's friend |

Military

- Robert Ferguson
- Stephanie Gillie
- Eddie Gray
- David Knowles
- Drew Stapor



Our Christian sympathy goes to the family and friends of Anne Windham upon her death on Saturday, October 3, 2015.

Our warmest sympathy goes to Barbara Puckett in the death of her husband, John Puckett, who died Thursday, October 8, 2015



3 CENTS-A-MEAL THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

The children collect the **3 Cents-a-Meal Hunger Offering** during worship services this **SUNDAY**. This offering is divided between our Soup Kitchen/Bag Lunch Ministry, Beth-El Farm-workers Ministry, and Honduras.



THE RECORDER CONSORT

...will start rehearsals on **Sunday, October 18th at 2:00 p.m.**

We welcome new players.

A recorder will be provided.

Come and enjoy this new music fellowship!



FALL WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

Jonah: Navigating a Life Interrupted by **Priscilla Shirer**

What do we do when God interrupts our lives? Many times, like Jonah, we run! In this 7-session Bible study, Priscilla redefines interruption and shows that interruption is actually God's invitation to do something beyond our wildest dreams. When Jonah was willing to allow God to interrupt his life, the result was revival in an entire city. The cost of this book is \$12.77.



Meeting dates are:

**Thursdays, 9 - 11 a.m., October 22, November 5 & 19,
December 3, January 7 & 21.**

Contact Lia Gray to reserve your study booklet at:
Uncpair@gmail.com or 318-1541.

COME TO THE WATERS...

the Presbyterian Women's Bible Study for 2015-2016, will be a rich exploration of water stories in both testaments. "Just as water nourishes our bodies, so the scriptures on water nourish our souls." Join one of the Circles for interesting lessons and Christian fellowship.



Joy Circle is the **third Tuesday; HOWEVER, IN OCTOBER THEY WILL MEET ON THE 27TH, at 9:30 a.m.** at Carol Carter's.

Lydia Circle is the **second Monday; next meeting, November 9 at 10 a.m.** in McLeod Hall.



OM, OM BOOK DISCUSSION CLUB

Our **Odd Month, Odd (3rd) Monday Book Discussion Club** will meet again on **November 16 at 3:00 p.m.** We will have some light refreshments and will discuss Carlo Devito's book, *Inventing Scrooge*.

Please call the church office at 294-3121 if you plan to attend. Copies of this title have been ordered and should be in our library soon. You may also contact Jonathan Owen by seeing him on Sunday, calling him at 318-9944, or e-mailing him at Jonathan.owen.cu2r@statefarm.com about ordering a personal copy.

GIFTED TO CARE

Spiritual gifts are gifts to give away. God gives them to us, and we use them to serve others. How are you using your gifts right now? Are you looking for a new way to use them? If your spiritual gifts include one or more of the following--faith, mercy, teaching the faith, encouragement, or knowing--consider Stephen Ministry, our congregation's one-to-one caregiving ministry. This may be just what you've been looking for! Watch for more details about upcoming training starting after the first of the year.



Making FIRST PRES Your FIRST CHOICE for Christian Fellowship

Do you recall the lyrics to the children's song, *The More We Get Together*? If not, then please let me refresh your memory. They are:

*The more we get together
Together, together
The more we get together
The happier we'll be
Cause your friends are my friends
And my friends are your friends
The more we get together
The happier we'll be*



Those words really apply to **everything** we do in the church. Let's consider the following examples.

Those who create prayer shawls could easily complete them at home, but they welcome the time to come together to catch up with other prayer shawl makers who crochet or knit, to see one another's progress and to enjoy conversation as they work.

Those who attend Sunday school classes look forward to reconnecting with the class members to learn what has been happening in their life the past week and what their plans are for the week ahead. For all Sunday school class members, but particularly with our children's Sunday school and Christ Kids' meeting on Wednesday afternoons, this may be the only time they will see one another each week.

Those who work in the Saturday Soup Kitchen show their concern for the poor and welcome the chance to prepare a nourishing meal for our guests. If they did not know one another when they arrived, they become acquainted and find joy in this particular ministry.

Those who come to Middle School and High School Youth Groups appreciate the chance to get together with their friends, a number of whom may attend different schools. Their time together to share a meal, to share faith and to share fun is one of true fellowship.

Those who come for bell or choir rehearsals on Wednesdays or Thursdays welcome the opportunity to make a joyful noise to the Lord. They derive joy in praising God and serving as worship leaders. They are committed to sharing their talents as they also enjoy one another's company.



Those who serve as Stephen Ministers come together to review the progress being made through their caring relationships. They gather together for prayer and support. As with others who have gone through similar circumstances, in this case the fifty hours of training, a special bond has developed amongst the members. They stay on task but appreciate the camaraderie they enjoy.

Those who gather on Sunday mornings for The Gathering service or the Traditional Worship service at eleven o'clock have selected places where they like to sit. Balcony sitters may appreciate the view from on high. Others on the floor level may have chosen certain seating for better lighting or being more removed from an air vent. Some may gravitate to the back or the front, the sides or in the middle. They have become acquainted with those seated around them and they welcome the opportunity to exchange pleasantries on Sunday mornings before worship begins.

Those who look forward to spending time at table with family members or friends are the ones who sign up for special events ... such as the After Christmas, Easter and Rally Day Breakfasts, the Patriotic Sing Along and Lunch, the Maundy Thursday Dinner, the Fall Festival, the Youth Sponsored Trivia Night, the All Church Talent Show and Dinner. Those arriving early will save spots for others planning to attend. They enjoy sharing a meal at church with their family members and friends. On Sunday mornings, folks gather around the coffee urns and the orange juice table to sample the goodies and enjoy OJ fellowship between The Gathering and Sunday school.

Those who prepare comfort food are pleased to participate in this valuable ministry to those who have been hospitalized or suffered the loss of a family member. They also have discovered that they enjoy cooking together. Those who preside at funeral receptions realize the importance of providing a setting for those grieving to be greeted by those who share their sorrow. They work well together and appreciate the opportunity to serve.

Those who love food and adventure have boarded our church vehicles for road trips to restaurants. The 10-2 Lunch Bunch has a ball chatting to and from the chosen restaurant as well as being at the table together. Our PrimeTimers venture out less and come to McLeod Hall for an interesting program and lunch. It is always fun to greet, meet, and eat!



What we see in all of these descriptions and other examples that space does not permit us to list is Christian Fellowship. The church provides us with many opportunities to come together and as the song says: *"The more we get together The happier we'll be."* These and other activities explain why Making FIRST PRES Your FIRST CHOICE for Christian Fellowship is a good thing!

YOUTH GROUP



If you are a middle or high school student we would love for you to join us for youth group each week in our new and improved youth house, The Golden Center. Middle school meets each Wednesday night from 5:30-7:30 and high school meets each Sunday night from 5:30-7:30. During this time we spend time together sharing meals, growing in Christ, playing games, and having LOTS of fun!

Once a month we will meet outside the Golden Center to be the hands and feet of Jesus to help people in our community. We have laid sod for Habitat for Humanity, worked in our soup kitchen feeding the homeless, and bagged countless bag lunches for our bag lunch ministry. These are just a few ways we are the hands and feet of Jesus.

Sometimes we get together simply to have fun. We have been to the corn maze in the dark, Fun Spot, pool parties, camp outs, paint balling and so much more. If you are looking to connect with young people your age while developing a deep relationship with Christ come and join us. We would love to have you!

FALL 2015 SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, (9:45 A.M.) & ADULTS (10 A.M.)

A Nursery is available for children 2 and younger during the 8:50 Gathering, Sunday School hour, and 11 a.m. worship service.

Children ages three through fifth grade will meet in the new children's music room, Room 103 of the Education Building from **9:45 - 10 a.m.** with Ms. Lynn.

Preschool Children will meet in Room 108 for a morning of crafts, snacks, Bible stories, and playtime with their preschool friends.

Elementary aged children will enjoy the Workshop Rotation this Fall with Science, Movies, Art, Cooking, Storytelling, Games, and Library time!!

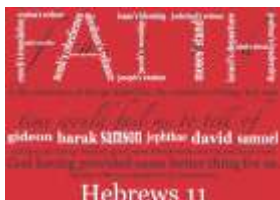
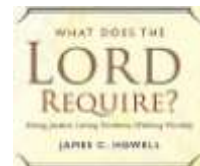


Middle school and High school youth meet every Sunday morning in The Golden Center for Sunday School from **9:45 - 10:45 a.m.** During this time we meet and have fun and eat good food while learning about and growing in our faith in Christ. Come join us.

WE HAVE SEVERAL OPTIONS FOR ADULTS TO ENJOY THIS FALL

Raising Christ-Centered Children will meet in Room 101 of the Christian Education Building. Teachers for this class are Bob and Carol Carter and Gannon Olmert. This class will meet for 6 weeks, with a Marriage Class starting on **November 1**.

The Perspectives Class will start a new series on the book—*What Does the Lord Require? Doing Justice, Loving Kindness, Walking Humbly*, by James C. Howell. This class is facilitated by Dr. Jim Threlkel & Glenn Thomas and meets in the Geneva Room.



Dr. Negley will lead **Faith as a Verb** - Chapter 11 of the Biblical book of Hebrews shows snapshot after snapshot of faith in action. Join us as we use this one chapter, and the rich list of heroes and heroines of our faith, as our starting point for weekly conversations about how we live faithful lives as God's people. This class meets in the back of McLeod Hall.

Have Your Second Cup of Coffee on Us - Coffee House Chat will meet in the Girl Scout House at **10 a.m.** We will offer a brief devotion, coffee, and goodies. Come enjoy fellowship with your First Pres friends!



FALL/WINTER/SPRING WORSHIP



At **8:50 a.m.**, members and friends of First Presbyterian Church are invited to attend The Gathering. This service is held in the sanctuary. The piano is the primary instrument for leading in congregational music with a variety of instruments adding special touches from week to week. The prayers in worship and the flow of the service help the congregation gather in God's love. The Gathering ordinarily lasts 50 minutes and will conclude with the Benediction at 9:40 a.m.

At **11:00 a.m.**, you are invited to attend our later morning worship. This service is held in the sanctuary with music and responses regularly led by our chancel choir and accompanied by organ and piano. In the tradition of our church, cultivated over the last few decades, a full liturgy gives the congregation opportunities for spiritual enrichment and the sense of God's love and grace. This worship service ordinarily lasts one hour and concludes with the Benediction at 12:00 p.m.

We hope you will join us in worship, study, and fellowship!

FRIENDSHIP CALLERS

We have need of some who would like to become a little more involved in the life and ministry of our church. You are invited to look into becoming a Friendship Caller. You do not need any special talent or the giving of a lot of your time to this vital ministry. You need the gift of wanting to lift another who is lonely and/or cannot get out on their own.

Please call Ray, or one of our present Friendship Callers: Bill Allen, Orrin & Helen Champlain, Ed & Joan Houston, Joey Johnston, Phyllis Legg, or Kline Roberts. We have many friends and members who would love to welcome your visit.



PLEASE HELP US VISIT OUR HOSPITALIZED MEMBERS!



The tightening of HIPAA regulations has meant that we have missed visiting some of our members during their hospital stay. If you are a member or a friend of this congregation, or you have a family member admitted to any hospital, please call the church office and let the pastors know.



Thank you for helping us stay in touch with the congregation.

LOCAL MISSION SUPPLIES NEEDED

When you are out and about, please consider picking up some of these items for a few of our local missions:

- **Family Emergency Services** - Food pantry items.
- **Soup Kitchen** - Travel sizes of soap, shampoo, conditioner, tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorant, and razors.
- **Angels Care** - Food pantry items, travel sizes of soap, shampoo, conditioner, tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorant, razors, Bible themed coloring books, crayons, small books, stickers, wash cloths,



Our Purpose Statement

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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 10/16/15.

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
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Lakeland, FL

Bag Lunch Ministry

We gave out 365 bag lunches the week of 10/5/15.

Return Service Requested

Soup Kitchen Ministry

We fed 90 people on 10/10/15.

MEN'S LUNCH – SPECIAL SPEAKER

The Tuesday Men's Lunch Group will be hosting **Andy Ray**, Deputy Chief of the Auburndale Police Department on **Tuesday, October 27** for a discussion on "Law and Order in the US Today." All men are invited to bring a lunch and join us **from noon – 1 p.m.** for this special Men's Lunch.



CALLING ALL PRIMETIMERS

(our church members and friends in the 55 and up age group)
The **FIRST PRIMETIMERS GATHERING** for this fall will be **EDUCATIONAL AND NUTRITIONAL.**

Plan to join us on **Monday, November 2 at 11:30 a.m.** in McLeod Hall for Christian fellowship and a brief program on "The History of Barbeque". **THEN** at 12:15 we will put what we have learned into practice as we will head out to **Hog Heaven Smokehouse's** new location for a BBQ lunch. We have reserved "The Shack" (the private dining room at Hog Heaven) for our group's dining pleasure.

