

the chimes

Sunday Mornings

9:20am Church School | 10:45am Worship in Sanctuary *(Child care provided.)*

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

For the year 2017, two "Volunteer of the Year" Awards were given. The **150TH ANNIVERSARY LEADERSHIP TEAM** received one of two awards during the Annual Meeting of the congregation on February 4. The second recipient **BETH MORRIS** was recognized during worship on February 28.

A group of faithful and dedicated church members under the direction and leadership of **VICKI GERGENI** and **NANCY SELF** worked tirelessly in 2017 planning for the 150th Anniversary Luncheon & Celebration held on November 19, 2017 and related display. Historical artifacts remain on display in the Patio. Not sure how long this display will remain, so stop by soon to check it out.



Beth has been a faithful member of FPC for thirty-seven years. During this time she has been the "Backbone" of our children's Christian Education, serving as follows:

1. Teaching children's Church School for over 30 years;
2. Teaching Vacation Bible School for many years;
3. Planning and participating many children's activities involving arts and crafts, such as, FPC's annual Christmas Children's Gift Making Workshop, Easter activities, and Carpenter's Kids (weekly summer program for elementary children);
4. Organizing and implementing fundraising projects for children to give back to the community such as the Brazos Church Pantry; and
5. Planning other seasonal children's activities at FPC.

We give thanks to those serving in these capacities for their ministry of caring and hard work.

"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." —1 Peter 4:10

THE BIG EVENT ANNUAL WORKDAY



SATURDAY · MARCH 24
Meet on the Patio at 9:00am

Students from Texas A&M will be here to tackle many of the much needed spring clean-up tasks. There is much to accomplish, and the Property Committee needs YOU to help! Come with wheel barrows, shovels, and rakes and work as your schedule allows to assist with putting fresh mulch in plant beds, filling low spots in lawn with topsoil, taking down the old portable building, cleaning and organizing the storage building, and applying water seal to bridge over creek and other wood surfaces.

UPDATE ON ASSOCIATE PASTOR VACANCY AND SEARCH PROCESS

1. At Session's February 25 Stated Meeting, the elders took action to request permission from Presbytery's Committee on Ministry that the congregation be authorized to meet for the purpose of electing an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (on or before May 6).
2. The Writing Team commissioned by Session (Bill Watson, Roger Reese, Cheryl Page, and Vickie Buenger) continues to work on the Ministry Information Form (MIF), completion of which is required before beginning a search. When they conclude, the document will be shared with both Session elders and the congregation for review and final edits; then a congregational meeting will be scheduled for electing an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

Preaching Christ | Teaching Discipleship | Reaching Others

First Presbyterian Church · Bryan, Texas | A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING



The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Offering will be received on **PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24**, and **EASTER, APRIL 1**. In 2017, \$2,143 was sent from our congregation to the

PC(USA) supporting Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.

THANK YOU, FPC!

Thank you for your generous support over the past year. Your gift of \$1,000 gives Hope Pregnancy Centers of Brazos Valley, Inc. the ability to help and minister to those experiencing unplanned pregnancies. Thank you for partnering with us. We value you, and we praise God for you!

Carol Dodds, Executive Director

BECOME A HOST FAMILY



The Mission Committee is extending to the congregation an invitation from **Academic Year in America (AYA)**. This nonprofit organization facilitates the placement of foreign-exchange students and is seeking host families for the 2018-2019 academic school year. Host families are needed for a total of 50 carefully screened students (15 to 17 years old) from Austria, Brazil, China, France, Germany, Italy, Korea, Spain, Switzerland and Vietnam. One such student in need of a host family is Lisa-Marie Reichert, a 15-year-old from Germany, who is scheduled to attend school here in the fall. For anyone wanting to expand their multicultural horizons by hosting a foreign-exchange student, this is a great opportunity.

To learn more about the organization and opportunities, visit www.academicyear.org. To learn more about hosting a student, contact local coordinator Garland Hancock, garlandhancock@hotmail.com or 254.216.0460.



CHICK FLICKS GATHER IN MARCH

Chick Flicks gather on **FRI, MARCH 23**, at 6:00pm in the church library and parlor for dinner and a movie (to be determined). The theme for dinner is Easter. Bring your favorite Easter side dish or dessert to complement the main entrée ham (provided).

All women are invited to this evening of fun and fellowship! Please contact Beverly Spencer, samraybev@mac.com or 979.846.3428, to be added to the email notification list and hear what movie the group will be watching on the 23rd.

Growing Disciples *Christian Education Ministries* (education@fpcbryan.org)

WANTED: EASTER CANDY

An Easter Egg Hunt will be held Easter Sunday morning, April 1 (during the church school hour). Organizers are seeking **wrapped candy (no chocolates, please!)** to fill eggs for the hunt. Place your donations in the marked box on the Patio. The children appreciate your generosity.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES

Sundays (9:20am to 10:20am); 3 Years Old thru GR 4 meet in Room 13. Beth Morris, Claire Schmidt, and Amber Fattig teach this class. GR 5-6 meet in Room 10. David Sahn teaches this class.

MARCH 18 Include in the Covenant. Children are assured that, according to Jeremiah, they are included in the covenant.

Read with your children: **Jeremiah 31:31-34.**

MARCH 25 A Difficult Week. Children review the stories of Holy Week, from Palm Sunday to Jesus' death.

Read with your children: **Mark 11:1-11; 15:1-39.**

WANTED: COLORFUL COMICS AND GROCERY ADS



2-5
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Call to the Family Circus
www.familycircus.com
"They made February a short month so spring can come sooner."
By Bill Keane

Colorful comics from Sunday's newspaper and **colorful grocery ads** from Wednesday's newspaper are being accepted for children's summer art projects during the weekly summer program Carpenter's Kids. Please bring your donations to the church and place them in the marked box located on the Patio.

Concerts on CARTER CREEK

Concerts on Carter Creek closes the 2017-2018 concert season with Russian pianist **ILYA YAKUSHEV** on **SUN, MARCH 18**, at 5:00pm in our sanctuary. With many awards and honors to his credit, Yakushev continues to astound and mesmerize audiences at major venues across the world. In addition to his many recitals, he has performed as a piano soloist with numerous symphony orchestras across the country (and beyond.)

A few volunteers are needed to provide non-sweet refreshments (e.g. fruit, cheese, veggies/dip) for the post-performance reception. Please contact Cheryl Page (979.219.1505 or cpage8@suddenlink.net) if you can help.

NOTE: For thirty-four seasons, Concerts on Carter Creek has fulfilled its mission, with the original funding generously provided by the John G. Otts, Jr. Estate. Funding is also provided by the Gilbert and Thyra Plass Arts Foundation and the Concerts on Carter Creek contributors who love exceptional music.



YOUTH Haps



Eric Peterson, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, (youth@fpcbryan.org)

FELLOWSHIP, SERVICE

SUN, MARCH 25. Youth gather for dinner at 6:00pm in Carter Creek Foyer, then head to the sanctuary to rehearse for youth-led Easter morning worship.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Weekly Bible study is held from 7:00pm to 8:00pm, Room 401. Leaders alternate between **ERIC PETERSON**, who is using *So Great a Cloud of Witnesses: A Survey of Church History* curriculum, and Youth **RACHEL PRATT** who is using *With All Boldness and Freedom: A Survey of the New Testament* curriculum.

Presbytery Youth Connection Council and FPC youth thank you, the congregation, for your donations of 40 lbs. of dog food and approx. 50 t-shirts. These items were contributed to and used in Youth Conclaves' mission project: making dog toys and assembling pet care packages for Houston area shelters caring for animals displaced during Hurricane Harvey. FPC Youth **TABITHA CURTISS, HAVEN CURTISS, ADAM ESPINOZA, HANNAH WERTZ**, and sponsors **JACKIE ZIMMERMAN** and **ERIC PETERSON**, along with other youth and adults from churches across the presbytery, made over 500 dog toys from the donated t-shirts.

Thank you for your generosity!



YOUNG Adult News

Eric Peterson, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, (youngadults@fpcbryan.org)

BIIN (Brazos Interfaith Immigration Network) is hosting a **Family Planning Legal Clinic** on **SAT, MARCH 24**, 9:00am-Noon. Young adults will help set up the room, provide/make snacks, and help with the children. We'll meet at BIIN (107 Williamson Drive in Bryan) at 9:00am.

A **Young Adults Planning Lunch** for summer events is set for **SUN, MARCH 18**. Gather at the front of the sanctuary at the conclusion of worship to choose a venue for lunch/planning.



CARING & SHARING

The prayerful support and sympathy of the congregation are extended to the families and friends of Bunny and **RON DOUGLAS** following Ron's death on February 27.

"I am the resurrection and the life," saith the Lord. —John 11:25

First Presbyterian Friends, The overwhelming response to set up a reception after the "Celebration of Life" for Carolyn Dudley was so heartwarming. It said a lot of how she made friends. Thank you for being so generous of your time and efforts. Alison, Carolyn's daughter, was so impressed by the generosity of all of you. Thank you, Dave Lyons



Please notify the church office at 979.823.8073, when you have news to share in the newsletter, or if you or someone you know is in the hospital, is scheduled for admission, or was recently hospitalized. When admitted, please list First Presbyterian Church, as your church affiliation. If you would like to be visited by one of our hospital visitors, please agree to be included on the Pastoral Care List. Your church family wants to minister to you whenever you are ill, especially when you are in the hospital, and they can only do this if you inform them of your needs.

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Church Office Hours
M-F, 8:30am to 4:30pm

Visit us on the web
www.fpcbryan.org

"Like" us on



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Presbyterian Women of New Covenant invite all women to **SPRING GATHERING: Caring for All God's Children** on **SAT, APRIL 14, 9:30am-2:00pm**, at Spring Branch Presbyterian Church, Houston. Toiletries, small washcloths, backpacks, and cleaning supplies are being received for Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services. Register by April 7 (\$16). Walk-in (\$20). To register, go to www.pbynewcovenant.org (under Ministries tab). To carpool, contact Janice Bradshaw, janicebradshaw@suddenlink.net or 979.777.5475.

Blow out the candles,
Wish away,
you are the
superstar of the day.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- ♥ Harry Green
- ♥ Madison Hodges
(granddaughter of Peggy & Ken Telg)
- ♥ Gladys Wilding
- ♥ Marjorie Wright

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 03/15 Cadie Davison | 03/22 Elizabeth Anderson |
| 03/15 Leon Russell | 03/22 Sherry Hinnant |
| 03/16 Alexis Cravatt | 03/22 Betty Williams |
| 03/16 Mary Beth Hendler | 03/23 Marjorie Wright |
| 03/18 Helen Reese | 03/28 Harrison Wood |
| 03/18 Jo Monroe | 03/29 Preston Dempsey |

**MEMBERS & FRIENDS
IN THE
MILITARY**

- ★ Christian McKinley
- ★ Ryan Ratcliffe

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

covering news and events from **MARCH 29 – APRIL 11**.
the deadline for the next issue of the newsletter,
The Chimes (incl. the April Calendar),
is **NOON, SUN, MAR 18**.
Submit content to: office@fpcbryan.org.

ABOUT SUNDAY WORSHIP



- MARCH 18** Acts 16:11-18
- MARCH 25** Mark 11:1-11