

the chimes

Sunday Mornings

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



On **WED, DEC 5**, all are invited to the Patio at 6:00pm for a soup & salad supper followed by a **"BLUE CHRISTMAS"** worship at 6:45pm in the sanctuary – a **service of remembrance and hope** for loved ones lost to us or separated from us by death, estrangement, divorce, or other life circumstances. Through sharing in song, scripture, prayer, and a time of remembrance, we care and support one another in "Being Well" Together in Advent. The evening is open to all who are facing the holidays with difficulty, without loved ones, or who desire to pray for self and others.

2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Treasurer Rick Page and the Stewardship and Finance Committee urge all households to send in a response card related to the 2019 church budget. Three categories are options:

- 1) WEEKLY; MONTHLY; QUARTERLY; SEMI-ANNUALLY; ANNUALLY
- 2) Contribute similarly to 2018, but prefer not to estimate an amount.
- 3) Cannot make a 2019 financial gift estimate at this time, but commit to prayer, giving, and support of First Presbyterian Church of Bryan, as able.

Please return your response as close to **SUN, DEC 9**, as possible, or call Church Bookkeeper Donya Ragle. Only the church's Treasurer and the Bookkeeper know about households' giving information. Thank you very much!

CHRISTMAS PLAY, DECEMBER 16

During worship on **SUN, DEC 16**, several members of the chancel choir will "portray the proclamation" through a dramatization, "A Gift for Tammy." This play's story line carries a theme of Christmas as a life-changing outreach to God's people who feel on the fringes of society and "barely holding on."

The Friday night (**DEC 14**) dress rehearsal at 7:00pm in the sanctuary is open to the public for those unable to be in worship on the 16th.



Please join us with your hearts and voices for an evening of caroling to some of our church members as we gather to sing carols and distribute poinsettias. **Invite others to join you in singing—the more the merrier!**

We'll warm up our voices on the Patio on **SUN, DEC 16**, at 3:30pm. Light refreshments will be available. At 4:00pm, we'll depart for the various locations to spread Christ's love in song — ". . . Christ the Savior is born."



CHRISTMAS DAY POTLUCK DINNER

12:45pm to 1:45pm

Ham and turkey provided.

Participants are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP to Ted Foote, tfoote@fpcbryan.org, or call the church office, 979.823.8073.

2018 ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

"TOGETHER in Advent"

(See the insert in this issue for the full schedule of worship and gatherings during Advent and Christmas.)

Preaching Christ | Teaching Discipleship | Reaching Others

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



The **Peru Medical Mission Trip** is scheduled for **May 17-27, 2019**. Participants do not need to be able to speak Spanish or have a medical background. A willingness to serve is what is most needed. This year's team will be limited to 27 participants. Some will be doctors or nurses, PA's, physical therapists, pharmacists, dentists or medical students. Others will be interpreters, teach and play games with children, help fit reading glasses, or assist wherever needed.

To participate, prospective team members must submit a completed application and a \$250 deposit by January 15, 2019. Applications will be reviewed, and notifications sent out by January 30, 2019. Individuals need to be aware of their physical limitations. Peru is an amazing country with much to see and do; however, once outside of Lima team members will travel and work in rural areas within the Andes mountain range. High altitude and hilly terrain can be limiting, handicap accessibility does not exist in buildings. Applicants will need to see their doctors to ensure that they will be physically able to participate on this trip.

Each team member will be responsible for paying the following expenses:

- Transportation to and from Houston Intercontinental Airport and possible parking fees;
- Round trip airfare between Houston and Lima (\$900-\$1,200) and trip insurance;
- Registration Fee: \$250 (due with application)
- In-country per diems (hostel accommodations, meals and transportation) = \$825;
- Optional: Personal purchases and side trips (i.e.: Machu Picchu train, hotel & tour = \$500).

The application for this trip will soon be available at FPC-Bryan's website www.fpcbryan.org/mission-outreach, where you can also view pictures from previous mission trips.

Those with questions, please contact Marilyn Maynard Wright (979.777.8082) or Trish Burk (979.220.4955).

THANK YOU, FPC!

Dear FPC-Bryan,

Thank you for your recent donation of \$3,000 to Voices for Children. VFC has seen another year of growth, and we thank you for your part in furthering our goal of providing a steady, friendly face for abused or neglected child in the overloaded foster care system. This past fiscal year, our CASAs donated over 6,000 advocacy hours serving 204 abused or neglected children, navigating 75 of these children into safe, permanent, and nurturing homes. Thank you for partnering with VFC to improve the lives on children and families in Bryan!

Best regards,

Anjuli Renold, Executive Director

PRIME TIME CHRISTMAS PARTY!



Gather in the Church Library and Parlor on **THU, DEC 13**, at 11:30am, for the Prime Time (60+ big-hearted, spirit-filled folks) Christmas Party. They gather for great food, fellowship and holiday shenanigans. Pork loin roast provided. Bring your favorite side dish and a friend. For the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift valued between \$5 and \$10. Contact Ted or Karen, office@fpcbryan.org, for details.

*wherever
you are,
be all there*

Growing Disciples

Christian Education Ministries (education@fpcbryan.org)

CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHOOL CLASS

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

DEC 9 Prepare the Way. Children, after hearing John's proclamation, begin preparations for celebrating Jesus' birth. **Luke 3:1-6**

DEC 16 Good News to the People. Children explore ways to answer John's challenge to change. **Luke 3:7-18**

CONGREGATION HYMN SING, DECEMBER 30



During worship on **SUN, DEC 30**, we will have a congregational hymn sing. What that means is YOU GET TO PICK THE HYMNS FOR THAT SUNDAY. Have you ever thought "I wish we could sing that hymn?" Well now is your chance! Email music@fpcbryan.org by **TUE, DEC 18**, and we will incorporate as many hymns as possible into the morning worship. If we don't sing your suggested hymn on the 30th, we will save it for a future worship time. Now's your chance! Let's sing some of your favorite hymns!



YOUng Adult News

Youth & Young Adult Ministries (youngadults@fpcbryan.org)

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP LUNCHES

Young Adults gather most weeks after worship on Sundays for fellowship and lunch at local restaurants! Following worship (on most Sundays), Tammie and/or Charley Keesee will be at the front of the sanctuary (near the chancel) to greet young adults (18-39). Come as often as your schedule allows!

DEC 9 Coco Loco, Bryan

DEC 16 Razoo's, College Station

For more information about the lunches or young adults at FPC, contact Tammie Keesee, tdsprrott@gmail.com.

YOUTH Haps



Youth & Young Adult Ministries (youth@fpcbryan.org)

YOUTH SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP

Youth gather weekly on most Sunday evenings usually beginning at 6:00pm for dinner followed by games, activities, and study. **Watch for emails and/or texts with details!**

SUN, DEC 9, 6:00pm. Meet in CCF for supper/fellowship

SUN, DEC 16, 6:00pm. Meet in CCF for supper/fellowship

CHURCH SCHOOL

Youth meet in Room 403, Sundays, 9:20am-10:20am.

Dec 9 **Preparing the Way.** Youth are challenged by the story of John the baptizer to seek forgiveness from God and dare to prepare the way of the Lord. **Luke 3:1-6**

DEC 16 **Metanoia.** Youth acknowledge the materialism of our culture and explore how John's call of metanoia beckons us to selfless lives. **Luke 3:7-18**

For more information, call or text Youth sponsors & church school leaders Jessica Sahm Petersen (979.220.2513) and Jasen Petersen or email youth@fpcbryan.org.

CARING & SHARING



Joy & Ken Upham (former members) remember their time at FPC-Bryan with fondness and even though they have been gone for some time, wanted their friends here to know they

are moving and hope to stay in touch. You can be touch with them by phone at 501.329.2575 or send them a note at: 2421 College Ave, APT 146, Conway, AZ 72034.

To my friends and beloved church family at FPC, I offer my sincere gratitude for your prayerful support of me and my family as we journeyed through my surgery and extended health concerns. Your cards with such comforting words of support, and your prayers kept me confident of God's healing mercies even in the most difficult of days. As always you exemplify all that Christ is calling us to be as community for one another and I cherish you.

With heartfelt thanks,
Rev. Marie Mickey

WELCOME NEW MEMBER



ANTON LEONTYEV comes to us by profession of faith and baptism on November 25. Anton is a PhD grad student at Texas A&M. In his own words, "I don't have many relatives here, aside from my wife, Stephanie and my daughter

Francesca. My journey is a bit odd: I have been raised in, broadly speaking, atheist/agnostic family. But I have always been drawn to faith. We have always put a lot of emphasis on learning and books, so when I moved to America, it was a matter of which church/confession makes best sense to me, theology-wise. I studied a lot of them and my final choice was—Presbyterian! And FPC-Bryan was so welcoming and wonderful, I decided to stay." Anton's address is: 7301 Harvey Road, #260, College Station 77840. He can be reached at 337.534.1800 or a.g.leontiev@gmail.com.

Welcome, Anton and family!



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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1100 Carter Creek Pkwy
Bryan TX 77802-1129
Ph. 979.823.8073
Fax. 979.822.7063
office@fpcbryan.org

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

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www.fpcbryan.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



BIRTHDAY WISHES TO . . .

12/07 Don Spencer	12/12 Wayne Hayenga
12/08 Margaret Anderson	12/13 Ina Copus
12/08 Josh Wesp	12/16 Carol Dunham
12/10 Shelley Espinoza	12/17 Madeline Hendler
12/10 Becky Jobling	12/17 Rusleen Maurice
12/11 Rachel Pratt	12/19 Clark Neely



- ♥ Madison Hodges
(granddaughter of Peggy & Ken Telg)
- ♥ Leroy & Wanda Kipp
(parents of David Kipp)
- ♥ Rev. Marie Mickey
- ♥ John "Mack" Prescott
- ♥ Marjorie Wright

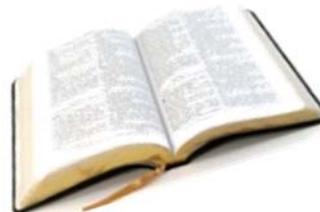
- ★ Christian McKinley
- ★ Ryan Ratcliffe

**MEMBERS & FRIENDS
IN THE
MILITARY**

ABOUT SUNDAY WORSHIP

DEC 9
Micah 5:2-5a

DEC 16
Zephaniah 3:14-20



NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

The deadline for the next issue of the newsletter, The Chimes (incl. Jan. 2019 Calendar), covering news/events **DEC 20, 2018 – JAN 12, 2019**, is **NOON, SUN, DEC 9.**

Submit content to: office@fpcbryan.org.