

the chimes

Sunday Mornings

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

UPCOMING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



CHRISTMAS EVE. Join us in Fellowship Hall at 4:00pm for our interactive intergenerational “No Stress, No Fuss, Christmas” Worship. The Christmas story will unfold right before your eyes. Come see and hear the story of Christ’s birth. Sing and hear your favorite Christmas songs. Ideal for groups with young children and for worshipers who desire to drive home before dark. To participate, costume clothing and “animals” will be available for the Nativity characters: Mary and Joseph, angels, shepherds, sheep, cows, and donkeys. Wear a costume or choose an animal. If you prefer to be an observer, that’s okay, too! All ages are encouraged to participate (but it is totally optional). Bring friends and family for the late afternoon celebration of our Savior’s birth!

Worship in the sanctuary at 7:00pm includes the church organ, piano, handbell ringers, the Chancel Choir and guest instrumentalists, candlelight and the Lord’s Supper, with scripture focusing on Proclaiming Good News.

CHRISTMAS AFTER SUNDAY. Congregational Hymn Sing (10:45am) in the sanctuary. (No Church School) There’s still time to request a hymn that has special meaning for you. Email your request to Director of Music Ministries David Kipp at music@fpcbryan.org.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD. Celebration of the Lord’s Supper with visit of the Magi/Wisemen and the bringing of infant and adult diapers for the Brazos Church Pantry.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

“Every generous act of giving . . . is from above.”

— James 1:17



THE PERFECT GIFT. The Christmas Joy Offering celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, the truly “indefinable gift,” as well as the gifts of church leaders—past, present, and future. Envelopes will be available in the pews for your giving on **SUN, DEC 16 & 23**, and **CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC 24**. As important as gifts to loved ones are, the PC(USA) gives throughout the year through the Christmas Joy Offering, drawing us back to the manger and God’s perfect gift to us.



CHRISTMAS DAY POTLUCK DINNER

All are invited to the Church Library for a Potluck dinner on **CHRISTMAS DAY (Tuesday), DEC 25**, with lunch beginning at 12:45pm and concluding by 1:45pm. Individuals/households even slightly participating in FPC, related to, or visiting someone who is, are invited. Not every individual or household has a “group” to be with this holiday, so we’re creating the option for a “mixed group” at FPC. Ham and turkey will be provided. Bring a side dish and/or dessert. Reservations are preferred. To let us know you’re coming, contact Karen Berg or Ted Foote at 979.823.8073 or office@fpcbryan.org, tfoote@fpcbryan.org.

DECEMBER 25: CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
DECEMBER 24-26: CHILDREN’S CENTER CLOSED



Preaching Christ | Teaching Discipleship | Reaching Others

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

THANK YOU, FPC!

Dear Friends in Christ, **Mobility Worldwide Brazos Valley (MWBV)**, thanks you for your generous donation (\$6,000). With the mobility carts that are manufactured by our volunteers, MWBV seeks to reflect the love of God by giving the gift of mobility and dignity to leg disabled individuals in developing countries. Your contribution helps us continue to provide this gift to some of the estimated 70 million People worldwide who are in need.

Best wishes and blessings,
Ken Graalum, Board Chairman

Hello! I am so very grateful for your support (\$2,000) of **Hope Pregnancy Center!** Sometimes we see girls who know nothing more about Jesus than His name. They've come from other nations in which Christian churches are rare, or must even remain under the radar from the government. When they come to Hope, not only do we help them with the resources they need to choose life for their child, but they are hearing of—and experiencing—the love of Christ for the first time in their lives!

In praise to the Almighty One.
Carol Dodds, Executive Director

To our friends at FPC-Bryan, Thank you for giving the Gift of Health and donating (\$2,000) and ensuring the life-changing work of **Health for All**—which helps make sure there is a place for uninsured to come to and receive quality health care when there is no other source for them to get the care they need. You really are amazing!

Thank you for your support and investment,
Elizabeth N. Dickey, Executive Director

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 23 Joyful Waiting. Children enter into the joy of Mary and Elizabeth and plan to tell the good news.

Read with your children: Luke 1:39–45 (46–55).

DEC 30 NO CHURCH SCHOOL

JAN 6 Following the Light. Children join the magi in worshipping Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Read with your children: Matthew 2:1-12.

JAN 13 Beloved. Children grow in faith as they know themselves beloved by God, as Jesus was..

Read with your children: Luke 3:15–17, 21–22.

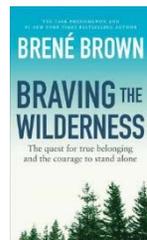
PRIME TIME RINGS IN THE NEW YEAR

2019

Lively and spirit-filled adults (60+) gather monthly for a meal and fellowship at 11:30am in the Church Library and Parlor. Mark your calendar

for **THU, JAN 10, 2019**. We'll warm up with soup/chili, cornbread, and salad. Bring your favorite New Year's side dish or dessert. For more information, email Ted Foote, tfoote@fpcbryan.org, or Karen Berg, office@fpcbryan.org or call 979.823.8073.

CARE TEAM & PRAYER PARTNERS



Care Team and Prayer Partners meets monthly on the 3rd Wednesday and begins a new study on **WED, JAN 16, 2019**, in the church library at 3:30pm. We will be reading **Braving the Wilderness** by Brené Brown. The book is about the quest for true belonging and the courage to stand alone. "True belonging

doesn't require us to change who we are, it requires us to BE who we are." Social scientist Brené Brown, PhD, LMSW, has sparked a global conversation about the experiences that bring meaning to our lives—experiences of courage, vulnerability, love, belonging, shame, and empathy. The cost of the book is \$17. To order a copy of this book and/or know more about this ministry, contact Sharon Bowling, bowlijd@verizon.net or 713.907.1406.

NOMINATE A "VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR"



Volunteers are essential to the ministry of FPC-Bryan. They contribute countless hours to the work of this congregation in so many ways — serving on the Session/Foundation, teaching

Church School, ushering, singing in the choir, ringing bells, answering telephones, and more! Each year, the Volunteer of the Year is honored for his/her contributions to the church at the annual congregational meeting.

Previous recipients included **JACK CURRIE, MICHAEL WESP, DIANE NORMAN, JOHN HALSELL, KATHRYN NACHLINGER, KATHRINE MACNEIL, CHERYL MORENO, PROPERTY COMMITTEE, CHANCEL & HANDBELL CHOIRS, KATHY BURDETT, and ALLYN JORDAN**. If you know an individual who has served the church well in 2018, you can submit your nomination with a brief narrative supporting your nomination to Karen Berg in the church office, office@fpcbryan.org, or mail to First Presbyterian Church, 1100 Carter Creek Parkway, Bryan, 77802, by Sun., Jan. 16, 2019. Submit your nomination today!



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!



JAN 6, 2019
Fish Daddy's, College Station

JAN 13, 2019
Razoo's, College Station

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

YOUth Haps



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

YOUTH SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP

Youth meet weekly on Sunday evenings beginning at 6:00pm for dinner in Carter Creek Foyer followed by games, activities, and study. For more information, call or text Youth sponsors Jessica Sahm Petersen (979.220.2513) and Jasen Petersen or email youth@fpcbryan.org.



No youth fellowship activities
SUN, DEC 23, 30, JAN 6, 2019

CHURCH SCHOOL

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

DEC 23 Magnificat. Youth discover that one young person's story—Mary's story or their own—can change the world. Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)

DEC 30 NO CHURCH SCHOOL

JAN 6 Discernment and Destinations. Youth, with the magi, will explore what it means to seek God's guidance and journey in faith. **Matthew 2:1-12**

JAN 13 Claimed and Named. Youth explore God's claim on their lives and consider how this claim leads to actions of faith. Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

FROM YOUR TREASURER

2018 FINANCIAL GIVING. Thank you for your giving to date. This is a reminder to all members who have submitted estimates-of-giving for this year. Two weeks are left to fulfill your commitment for this year. As always, the cash flow for our church operating budget becomes urgent as we approach the end of our fiscal year.

2019 ESTIMATES-OF-GIVING. FPC members who wish to PREPAY their 2019 "Estimate of Giving" in the year 2018 are asked to make these payments BEFORE year-end 2018. **In order to meet IRS requirements, all 2018 budget contributions AND all 2019 "Estimates of Giving" PREPAID in 2018 are to be received in FPC's Business Office by NOON on THU, DEC 27, 2018.**

For information on your 2018 or 2019 giving, please contact Church Treasurer Rick Page, 979.224.7200, or Bookkeeper Donya Ragle, bookkeeper@fpcbryan.org or 979.823.8073.

STEWARDSHIP 2019 UPDATE. "Thank you" to those of you who have already submitted your 2019 estimate-of-giving card for the 2019 Annual Ministries Budget. Approx. thirty giving units have yet to return their cards. Estimate-of-giving cards may be turned in at any time to the church office during the week, placed in an offering plate on Sunday, or mailed to the church office, ATTN: Bookkeeper.

Questions may be addressed to Stewardship & Finance Committee Elders: **ERNIE WRIGHT, GLENN MATHEWS, CHET HARRIS;** Moderator Cheryl Page; Church Treasurer **RICK PAGE;** or **PASTOR TED.** They will be more than happy to answer any questions.

With appreciation for each of you,
Ernie Wright, Glenn Mathews, Chet Harris
2019 Stewardship Campaign Elders
Rick Page, Church Treasurer

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

CHANCEL FLOWERS for 2019. Flowers in the chancel are gifts from church members and friends. To participate in this flower ministry, you may reserve your Sunday on the Flower Calendar next to Pastor Ted's office. The Chancel has space for two arrangements each Sunday to honor a loved one or a special occasion. The cost is \$50.00 per arrangement. On the Sunday that you provide flowers, you may take them with you to share with others. Make your check payable to: First Presbyterian Church (MEMO: Chancel Flowers and the date). Thank you! The Worship Committee



CARING & SHARING

Congratulations to **CAROLYN WINDHAM & WILL FOX** on their marriage on December 1 at Marriott Country Club in Bryan. Parents are **ALISON & BRIAN WINDHAM.** Carolyn & Will's address is: 2710 Lodden St, Lake Charles, LA 70605.



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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office@fpcbryan.org
Church Office Hours
M-F, 8:30am to 4:30pm
Visit us on the web
www.fpcbryan.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

STOCK THE BRAZOS CHURCH PANTRY – SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2019

BRING GIFTS OF INFANT AND ADULT DIAPERS.

Next time you're out shopping, please pick up a few extras for those in need in the Brazos Valley.



- | | | | |
|-------|--------------------|-------|------------------------|
| 12/19 | Clark Neely | 01/01 | Jessi Ball |
| 12/21 | Justin Chatham | 01/01 | Amber Black |
| 12/22 | Kathryn Nachlinger | 01/03 | Pete Criaco |
| 12/23 | Heather Hermann | 01/05 | Frank Elliott |
| 12/23 | Marianna Krauter | 01/06 | Reese Jordan |
| 12/23 | Martha Russell | 01/06 | Elena Mora-Boellstorff |
| 12/23 | Josh Telg | 01/08 | Kathy Sustaire |
| 12/24 | Molly Painter | 01/09 | Charley Bankston |
| 12/27 | Blayne Cochrane | 01/12 | Scott Ball |
| 12/30 | Edwin Hlavaty | 01/13 | Bill McKinley |
| 12/30 | Lois Cox Swanson | 01/14 | Eugenia Williams |
| | | 01/15 | Esther Carrigan |
| | | 01/15 | Judith Childs |
| | | 01/15 | Vicki Gergeni |
| | | 01/16 | Ken Burnett |
| | | 01/16 | John Lee |



- ♥ 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**

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

The deadline for the next issue of the newsletter, The Chimes, covering news/events from **JAN 17-30, 2019, is NOON, SUN, JAN 6, 2019.**
Submit content to: office@fpcbryan.org.

ABOUT SUNDAY WORSHIP

- DEC 23** 1 John 4:7-12
- DEC 30** Congregational Hymn Sing
- JAN 6** Matthew 2:1-12
- JAN 13** Luke 3:15-22

