

the chimes

Sunday Mornings

Church School (on-site/Zoom as arranged by classes) | 10:45am live-streamed Worship in Sanctuary; viewable from www.fpcbryan.org

153 YEARS
1867-2020



**of Being Family
Among All of God's People**

First Presbyterian Church
Bryan, Texas

Original Charter November 24, 1867

The Longest Night SERVICE

This season, you are invited to a VIRTUAL “The Longest Night | Blue Christmas”—a service of Wholeness in Advent in a time when we may be separated from loved ones by distance or by death or experiencing a sense of loss in other ways. For many, the holidays are a time of remembering. Through sharing in song, scripture, prayer, and a time of remembrance, we tend to our souls and uplift one another in the hope and spirit of the holidays. This service will be available on our YouTube Channel, Facebook page, and church website homepage early to mid-December.

First Presbyterian Friends,

We approach Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas of 2020 knowing full well that the outbreak of COVID-19 which changed faith-community, school, business, government, manufacturing and service industries, and recreational routines in March is still with us eight months later – and has re-intensified.

Presently worship continues on Sundays at 10:45 a.m., both on-site and live-streamed, with a link to the live-streamed service available on the church’s homepage and YouTube icon (upper right) after the live-streaming. Adult Sunday School, youth meetings, and other adult group and committee meetings are often in “hybrid” form, with on-site gatherings and Zoom participation in “real-time.”

Before this weekend, Session Elders have authorized an email and U.S. mail vote on a report from the Congregation’s Nominating Committee to supplement the on-site meeting of the congregation following worship this coming Sunday, November 22.

Advent and Christmas plans are being made with the same considerations and styles under which the church is currently operating (some on-site, some “remotely” over internet), with contingency plans for Advent and Christmas, should contagious numbers increase and community gatherings be curtailed.

What could be adversely affected if each member household is not paying attention is the **budget building efforts for ministries in 2021**. Even though the dedication of financial estimate of giving cards on (November 22) will be hampered due to COVID-19 affecting on-site worship attendance, we will have a part of the worship service (on-site AND remotely) for dedicating ourselves to ministry in 2021. If you are not present this Sunday to leave a commitment card (even with a zero-dollar amount), please prayerfully consider your discipleship in 2021 and return the card by U.S. Postal Service mail OR by physically delivering it to the church. Each one of us is an essential part of Christ’s ministry through this church.

Gratefully, *Ted Foote* (cell: 918.520.7820)

Preaching Christ | Teaching Discipleship | Reaching Others

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

PAPER GOODS DRIVE FOR STILL CREEK

The Mission Committee's sponsored Paper Goods Drive this month for Still Creek Ranch is underway. Place your donations of COPY PAPER, FACIAL TISSUES, PAPER TOWELS, and TOILET PAPER on the marked table in the Indoor Patio thru MON, NOV 30. Thank you for your help!



REACHING OUT TO OUR NEIGHBORS

The first Sunday of each month, including SUN, DEC 6, is known as FPC's "Stock the Pantry" Sunday (the Brazos Church Pantry, that is). If you miss this Sunday, you are invited to bring your donated goods to the Patio anytime you are at the church or to the church office on weekdays. At the top of The Pantry's needs are toilet paper, personal hygiene products, and non-perishable foods. Monetary donations are also very much appreciated. When you are out shopping this week, pick up extra items to share. Thank you for your generosity!



MISSION COMMITTEE SPONSORS THE SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE

Once again, FPC has the opportunity to share in providing a wonderful Christmas for families in Bryan-College Station through THE SALVATION ARMY. An Angel Tree will be set up on the FPC Patio on SUN, NOV 22. The Angel ornaments on the tree provide the name, sex, age, sizes, and wish list for a child that you can help. Please consider "adopting" an ANGEL from the FPC tree and enjoy the experience of Christmas shopping at its best! Place your gifts for your "angel" near the tree in the Patio by FRI, DEC 11. ***During this time of COVID-19 precaution, if you prefer not to select your Angel "in person," please email Keith Halsell, halsell@verizon.net, to assist you with adopting your Angel.

THANK YOU, FPC!

Thank you for always thinking of Henderson School staff. They "loved" The Coffee Lab. It was a unique way to show appreciation to our teachers, something that put a huge smile on their faces. It is such a blessing to partner with your congregation. Thank you! Danielle Legg, Principal

A huge thank you to those of you who contributed CROP Hunger Walk by walking separately and apart or monetarily supporting a walker benefitting Church World Service and, locally, Brazos Church Pantry. FPC-Bryan exceeded its \$250 goal. Hopefully, we'll be able to walk together next year.

Judy Hughson, FPC's CROP Hunger Walk Coordinator

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR



FPC's Presbyterian Women invite you to participate in a reverse Advent Calendar, which encourages us to think of others by giving (instead of receiving). Find a box, bag, or basket for your home, and fill it with items (see list below). Each day add an item (or more) from your pantry (or purchased) to your "Advent" box. Please donate regular sized cans and 1 lb. packages of dry ingredients.

No glass, please! This is a list of suggested items, feel free to add additional items as you desire.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Nov 15 box of cereal | Nov 28 box of crackers |
| Nov 16 peanut butter | Nov 29 package of rice |
| Nov 17 stuffing mix | Nov 30 package of oatmeal
(instant or regular) |
| Nov 18 boxed potatoes | Nov 01 package of pasta |
| Nov 19 macaroni and cheese | Nov 02 spaghetti sauce |
| Nov 20 can fruit | Nov 03 chicken noodle soup |
| Nov 21 can tomatoes | Nov 04 tomato soup |
| Nov 22 can tuna | Nov 05 canned corn |
| Nov 23 dessert mix | Nov 06 can mixed veggies |
| Nov 24 jar of applesauce | Nov 07 can pinto beans |
| Nov 25 can sweet potatoes | Nov 08 can green beans |
| Nov 26 toothbrush/toothpaste | Nov 27 can beans |

Bring your collection to the marked table on the Indoor Patio of the church by FRI, DEC 11. Boxes will be delivered to Brazos Church Pantry to arrive in time for their distribution before Christmas!

THE 2020 ANNUAL Christmas Gift Making Workshop

for all children K-GR 6

is VIRTUAL

At your home. At your convenience.

*Parents and grandparents,
watch your inbox for details!*

For more information, contact Kathryn Nachlinger,
knachlinger@gmail.com



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Men gather for breakfast on THU, DEC 3 (and usually the first Thursday of each month) at 6:30am for fellowship and great food... for early risers, this is a great way to get to get your day going. Contact Alyn Jordan, alyn@jordanhome.net, to receive email notifications or to let us know you're coming.

YOUTH HAPS

Youth Ministries (youth@fpcbryan.org)



YOUTH SPOTLIGHT



ADAM ESPINOZA is 16 years old, a junior at Bryan High School, a competitive swimmer, active in FPC's Youth Group, and... an aspiring chef! This Halloween, Adam prepared a Halloween-themed dinner for 25. Everyone went for seconds! Here in his own words are how Adam became interested in cooking: "At first, my journey into the world of culinary arts started off as a sarcastic remark. 'Well I don't want to eat bricks of ramen every day in college as my dinner.' I then saw this extremely bizarre dish, known as squid in pasta or spaghetti al nero di seppia. There was something about it that screamed, 'If you can prepare me, you can prepare anything.' One day, I hope to prepare, serve, and eat this dish. After that, who knows where I'll go?"

SUNDAY YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (GR 6-12)

NOV 29 & DEC 6
NO YOUTH GATHERINGS

DEC 13, TBD (whether onsite or Zoom)

MISSION OPPORTUNITY!

DEC 12, 7:30am to 10:00am

Service Opportunity at Brazos Valley Food Bank. Meet at the church at 7:30am. Youth return to the church for pick-up by 10:15am. *Youth, see your inbox for details!*

The youth of First Presbyterian are on Instagram!

Go to: <https://www.instagram.com/fpcbryantx1867/>

Find our new Facebook page "FPC Bryan Youth"

CORNY CHURCH JOKE OF THE WEEK

Q: How do groups of angels greet each other? (see below)

A: Halo, halo, halo.



Caroling, you say? Yes! Why yes, we can! It will look and feel a bit different this year! You are invited to record a video of you and/or your family singing or playing on your favorite instrument a carol of your choice. Text your video to Rev. Béghin, 832-413-3012, by FRI, DEC 11. All submissions will be compiled into a video and made available on our YouTube Channel, Facebook page, and church website for all to enjoy!

CARING AND SHARING

The prayerful support and sympathy of the congregation are extended to CHRISTY & AARON BECKER, and their children, EMILY & JOHN, following the death of Christy's mother, Barbara Lee Gentle, on November 12.

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

Congratulations to STEPHANIE & ANTON LEONTYEV on the birth of Charlotta Alexandra on November 5. Proud big sister is Francesca.

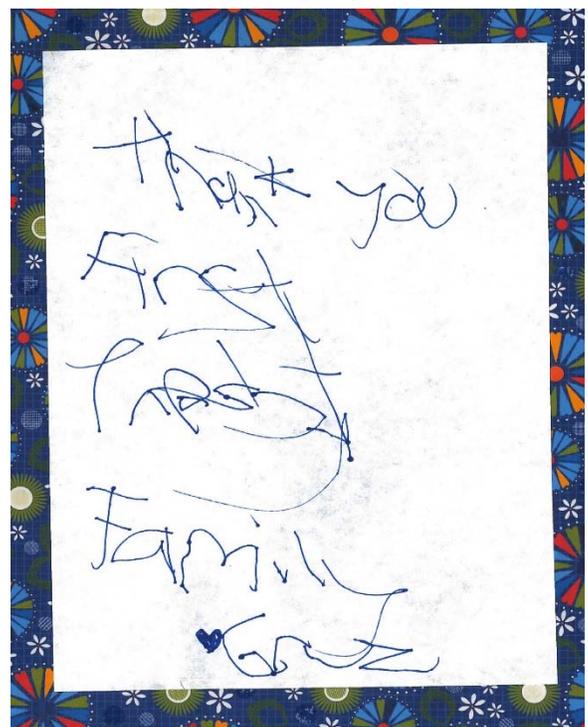
"I am fearfully and wonderfully made..."—Psalm 139:14

First Presbyterian,

Thank you so much for thinking of me! It will be so nice to have a Starbuck break as finals approach and school gets busier! Hope to be back worshipping in church in Spring 2021.

Julia Stover, TAMU Student

The "thank you" below was received from CRUZ GARCIA, son of MINDI & ANDREW MALY, for the high school graduation gifts he received from FPC.





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
facebook



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

11/26	Andrea Ratcliffe	12/08	Margaret Anderson
11/27	Denny Cole	12/08	Josh Wesp
11/27	Charles Samuelson	12/10	Shelley Espinoza
11/28	Emma Wertz	12/10	Becky Jobling
11/29	Brandon Norris	12/11	Rachel Pratt
11/30	Velma Burnett	12/12	Wayne Hayenga
11/30	Ronen Renold	12/13	Ina Copus
12/01	Cody Cravatt	12/16	Carol Dunham
12/03	Brian Currie	12/17	Madeline Hendler
12/04	Emily Becker	12/17	Don Saylak
12/04	Ronda Harris	12/21	Justin Chatham
12/04	Leroy Schoenemann	12/22	Kathryn Nachlinger
12/05	Janice Haverland	12/23	Heather Hermann
12/07	Don Spencer	12/23	Marianna Krauter



- ♥ Dave Burdett
- ♥ Velma Burnett
- ♥ Madison Hodges
(granddaughter of Peggy & Ken Telg)
- ♥ Ester Hubacek
- ♥ Josh Kipp

- ★ Josh Kipp
- ★ Christian McKinley
- ★ Ryan Ratcliffe



ABOUT SUNDAY WORSHIP

- NOV 29 Genesis 2:18-23; Luke 1:26-28
- DEC 6 Exodus 40:34-38; Luke 2:8-18
- DEC 13 Isaiah 2:1-4; Matthew 2:1-12
- DEC 20 Isaiah 7:1-17; Luke 2:10-20



NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE
The deadline for the December issue of the newsletter, The Chimes, is **NOON, SUN, DEC 13**.
This newsletter will be distributed **WED, DEC 16**, and cover news from **DEC 24, 2020 thru JAN 13, 2021**.
Submit content to: office@fpcbryan.org.