

04.23.2019

# the chimes

## Sunday Mornings

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

### EASTER GRATITUDE . . .

Of course, the festival celebration last Sunday gives thanks and praise to God for the mystery and life-power which people experience and share from Jesus' resurrection beyond the grasp of death. Locally, also, gratitude is expressed to FPC staff members Karen Berg, David Kipp, Michelle Lassiter, Josh Giles, Kathryn Nachlinger, Pat Marsh (and the custodial crew), plus meal hosts Alice & Dick Hickerson and Vicki Gergeni, youth advisors Jessica Sahm and Jasen Petersen, and innumerable other church members who contributed as choir breakfast food providers, children's programming leaders, and worship ushers and facilitators. "It takes a village!" And this Holy Week was memorable in remembering the last week of Jesus' life and the transforming change God accomplishes in the blessing of Jesus' resurrection!

Grace and peace, *Ted*



"Easter lily with stamen crossed" Photo courtesy of John W. Ehman, 2019

### GIVE THE GIFT OF SIGHT



FPC's Mission Team will be serving in Quillabamba, Peru, from May 17-27. The past six years we have partnered with a Peruvian seminary to help construct and provide a building for the education of clergy. There were approx. 100 churches in that area and only two trained clergy. Local Peruvians donated land on a hillside about 20 miles outside of Quillabamba. With generous donations from the members of our church, mission gifts from an endowment, and local Peruvian donations and labor, the seminary campus was completed in 2017 (dormitory, bathrooms, showers, and kitchen).

In May, we will set up a medical clinic at the seminary for the people who live in remote villages and do not have access to medical services. Doctors, nurses, a physical therapist, a pharmacist, and student nurses have volunteered to help serve. Volunteers without medical training will also participate.

We were told by the nurses who have previously served on foreign medical mission trips, that **reading glasses make a huge impact**. Generic reading glasses can be purchased without a prescription (*i.e.* Walmart, Dollar Store, pharmacies, etc.). Many of these people cannot read, but they sew or do activities and/or work that is close up. Reading glasses will be well received.

Many of the people who will utilize this medical clinic live in very small villages, some that are not accessible by vehicle roads. They will travel 3-7 hours to go to this clinic in May. *Our goal is to have 500 pairs of reading glasses in each power level.* You are invited to provide the gift of better sight. You may make a monetary donation (make checks payable to FPC-Bryan, NOTE: "Peru Reading Glasses") OR you may purchase pair(s) of reading glasses and place them in the marked container on the table in the Indoor Patio.

Thank you, Peru Mission Team

**Preaching Christ | Teaching Discipleship | Reaching Others**

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

## BRAZOS CHURCH PANTRY NEEDS



During the month of April (to date), a total of 44 lbs. of donated goods were delivered to the **BRAZOS CHURCH PANTRY**—supported by member churches of all denominations throughout the Brazos Valley area. A heartfelt thanks for your never-ending generosity. The need continues. The Pantry truly appreciates FPC-Bryan's ongoing focus on personal hygiene items (soap or body wash, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, adult and infant diapers) as well as single-use and pop-top canned goods, bottled water, and healthful snacks for the Blessing Box! Next time you're out shopping, stop and pick up a few extras for our neighbors in need.

## FPC OBSERVES "BLUE SUNDAY"—A DAY OF PRAYER FOR ABUSED CHILDREN, MAY 5



**Voices for Children** is partnering with Department of Family and Protective Services, Brazos County Child Welfare Board, and Blue Sunday Child Abuse Prevention Initiative to promote child abuse prevention awareness through our faith-based initiative. On **MAY 5**, FPC-Bryan will observe the 25th Annual Blue Sunday—A Day of Prayer for Abused Children (and those who rescue them).

Child Abuse Prevention Month (April) began when a report about abused and neglected children caught the attention of President Ronald Reagan in 1983. Sadly, since that first Child Abuse Prevention Month, the number of abused victims has grown from 0.5 million children to over 6 million new reports of abuse along with 1600 child abuse related deaths annually. Blue Sunday Child Abuse Prevention is asking the faith community to pray on Sunday, April 28, 2019. Here are the facts:

- ♥ One in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday.
- ♥ Most child abuse incidents are drug and alcohol related.
- ♥ Within one year of aging out of the foster care system, 66% of victims will be homeless, in jail or dead.
- ♥ There are over 100,000 children waiting for adoption in the United States.
- ♥ How to pray for abused children on Blue Sunday:
  - ♥ Pray they will be rescued
  - ♥ Pray they are placed with caring people
  - ♥ Pray their minds and bodies can heal
  - ♥ Pray they find hope
  - ♥ Pray for those who rescue them
- ♥ Let's pray, educate ourselves, and volunteer until black and blue are just colors in a child's crayon box.

Blue Sunday Child Abuse Prevention Initiative is dedicated to helping communities reach out to abused children and to support those who rescue them. Voices for Children, CASA of the Brazos Valley is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children in foster care through powerful volunteer advocacy, ensuring each child is placed in a safe and permanent home. For more information about Voices for Children or this effort, please contact Executive Director Anjuli Renold, 979.822.9700 or [arenold@vfcbrazos.org](mailto:arenold@vfcbrazos.org).

## **Growing Disciples** Christian Education Ministries ([education@fpcbryan.org](mailto:education@fpcbryan.org))

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### 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 Sahm teaches this class.

- MAY 5 A New Disciple.** Children discover that God works through all kinds of people, even people like Saul.  
Read with your children: Acts 9:1-20.
- MAY 12 The Good Shepherd.** Children consider what it means that God guides them day and night.  
Read with your children: Psalm 23.

## CHURCH LADIES LUNCH & FELLOWSHIP



All women are invited to **Third on Main**, Downtown Bryan, on **WED, MAY 15**, at 11:30am, for fellowship and good food. Church Ladies usually meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at a local restaurant.

For more information, contact Becky Alter, 979.776.8907 or [alter@suddenlink.net](mailto:alter@suddenlink.net).

## FROM THE BOOKKEEPER



Some of you may already pay your bills online through your bank's Automatic Payment Option. Even though your donation to First Presbyterian Church

isn't technically a "bill," you can still set it up to have your financial institution/bank to send one-time or recurring gifts to the church. This is a convenient way to make a one-time gift or fulfill your estimate-of-giving. Most banks and credit unions offer this as a free service. When setting up "bill pay," your bank will ask for the address and telephone number of the church. Where it requires an account number, you can enter your name and/or Giving Number.

If you have questions, please contact Church Bookkeeper Donya Ragle, 979.823.8073 or [bookkeeper@fpcbryan.org](mailto:bookkeeper@fpcbryan.org).

## YOUTH Haps

Youth Ministries ([youth@fpcbryan.org](mailto:youth@fpcbryan.org))

### FELLOWSHIP

Youth meet most Sunday evenings at 6:00pm for dinner in Carter Creek Foyer followed by games, activities, and study. For details, call or text Youth sponsors Jessica Sahn Petersen (979.220.2513) and Jasen Petersen or email [youth@fpcbryan.org](mailto:youth@fpcbryan.org).

### CHURCH SCHOOL

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

**MAY 5** **Changed Eyes.** Youth examine God's intervention in Saul's life and, like Saul, begin to view the world through changed eyes. **Acts 9:1-20**

**MAY 12** **Ground of Our Trust.** Like the psalmist, youth find that well-being comes through entrusting their lives to God. **Psalm 23**



## YOUng Adult News

Young Adult Ministries ([youngadults@fpcbryan.org](mailto:youngadults@fpcbryan.org))

### YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP LUNCHESES

Young Adults gather most weeks after worship on most Sundays for fellowship and lunch at local restaurants! Following worship, 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!

**MAY 5** C&J Barbecue, College Station

**MAY 12** Mother's Day (no lunch)

For more information about the lunches or young adults, contact Tammie Keesee, [tdsprott@gmail.com](mailto:tdsprott@gmail.com).

### CARING AND SHARING

The prayerful support and sympathy of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of **ROSE VANARSDDEL** following her death on April 21. Expressions of love may be sent to: Elizabeth VanArsdel, 324 Paseo De Peralta, Santa Fe, NM 87501 or Jon Van Arsdel, 1916 Roanoke NE, Rio Bravo NM 87124

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

ALL WOMEN OF FPC  
are invited to  
**PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN'S  
BIRTHDAY TEA  
AND OFFERING**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28**  
3:00pm—4:30pm on the Patio

- ✚ Installation of PW Coordinating Team Officers
- ✚ Announcement of HONORARY LIFE MEMBER
- ✚ Delicious Birthday Refreshments

The 2019 Birthday Offering benefits Disaster Response Team (Presbytery of Charlotte, NC), Effingham Child Development Center (IL), Presbyterian Homes and services of Kentucky, Inc., and Wings of Refuge (Iowa Fall, IA). Donations for FPC's local service project will contribute to improved signage inside and outside the church facilities.

*God is Faithful*  
*Dios es fiel*  
하나님은 신실하시다



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](http://www.fpcbryan.org)



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 05/02 Sam Humphries    | 05/08 Margaret Meece     |
| 05/03 Andrew Humphries | 05/09 Jack Currie        |
| 05/04 Bradley Norris   | 05/12 Susan Martin       |
| 05/04 Wally Simpson    | 05/13 Lynn Adams         |
| 05/06 Mary Arnold      | 05/14 Michael Martin     |
| 05/07 Henry Schmidt    | 05/15 Christian McKinley |
| 05/08 Aiden Byrnes     |                          |



- ♥ Elizabeth Arnold  
(granddaughter of Mary Arnold)
- ♥ Madison Hodges  
(granddaughter of Peggy & Ken Telg)
- ♥ Leroy & Wanda Kipp  
(parents of David Kipp)
- ♥ Adrian Rogers  
(son of Heidi Linder & Bill Rogers)
- ♥ Marjorie Wright

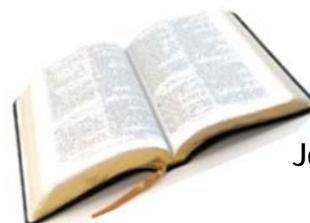
- ★ Christian McKinley
- ★ Ryan Ratcliffe

**MEMBERS & FRIENDS  
IN THE  
MILITARY**

**NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE**

The deadline for the next issue of the newsletter, The Chimes, and covering news/events from **MAY 16-29**, is **SUN, MAY 5**.  
Submit content to: [office@fpcbryan.org](mailto:office@fpcbryan.org).

**ABOUT SUNDAY WORSHIP**



- MAY 5**  
John 21:1-19
- MAY 12**  
John 10:22-30 (lectionary)  
*(to be announced)*