

## Humble Beginnings Sunday, March 9, 1939



It was the height of the great depression. Conroe, a rural logging community, was still struggling to find its identity. A small group of faithful Christians met together in a High School Auditorium.

At that unlikely time and in that unlikely place, they each pledged to support and to participate in the work of a new congregation—the First Presbyterian Church of Conroe. Through their sustained work and the blessings of God, and through the work of successive generations, the congregation continues this mission today. And is preparing to carry this ministry into the distant future.

From humble beginnings, the First Presbyterian Church of Conroe has been committed to the great work of a Christian community, the work of worshiping God, providing opportunities for education, caring for the diverse peoples within our community, and maintaining a physical presence in Montgomery County.

*“You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.”*  
*2 Corinthians 9:11-12*

## The Forever Fund: How will the program 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 Forever Fund is your opportunity to leave a very special gift for the Glory of God – a gift that generates income for use by future generations. This has been described as an opportunity to continue paying your annual pledged gift to the church, even beyond the foreseeable future.

You can contribute to the Forever Fund by making gifts of money, investments, and testamentary gifts. Our Forever Fund Committee can talk with you about the investment and use of the funds. This endowment fund will provide an extraordinary opportunity for future generations.

In addition to the Forever Fund, you may make a large gift to the church for other use and purposes. Large gifts will be invested and managed similarly to the Forever Fund, but the identity and purpose will be preserved with integrity for future generations.

We hope that you will participate in the Forever Fund by writing a check to the First Presbyterian Church and indicating Forever Fund on the line at the bottom. We ask that your gift be in addition to your annual pledge. If you are interested in giving or pledging to give more than \$10,000, we encourage you to contact Danny Ball, Fred Kate, Anne Spinks, or Ron Bailey.



*Loving God - Investing in People - Living Generously*

# FOR THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

## The Forever Fund *A Permanent Fund Program*



### *The First Presbyterian Church Conroe, Texas*

A planned giving program to ensure a continuing revenue stream to the First Presbyterian Church - Conroe for the next 25 years and beyond to support our ongoing Christian Ministry.

*“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” Hebrews 13:16*

## Worship

From its humble beginnings, the First Presbyterian Church of Conroe has upheld the Biblical Faith of the Reformed Tradition. The style of music and the dress of participants has always reflected its time, but the Biblical foundations of worship continue even today.

The congregation is also moved by the deeply held value of inviting others to participate in worship with us. Some of this is reflected in the church's locations—from the school auditorium, to the original sanctuary near downtown Conroe, and now on North Loop 336 West. The congregation has also used technology to reach into the community—from radio broadcasts of the worship services to live-streaming on the internet.



*“Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth! Say among the nations, “The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.”  
Psalm 96:9-10*

## Education

In the 1830s, Presbyterians came to Texas as missionaries. They travelled great distances and endured unimaginable hardships. Their writings tell us that the most compelling reason for the journeys was to create an opportunity for their children to receive an education.

In the 1930s, the First Presbyterian Church of Conroe was organized in the auditorium of a public school. The importance of supporting education is deeply woven into the identity of the church. Countless members have volunteered as tutors and mentors. The congregation has hosted English as a Second Language (ESL) classes that were opened to the community.

Today, FPC is home to the Presbyterian Day School (PDS), one of Montgomery County's premier providers of early childhood and preschool education. Each year, more than 100 children (toddlers through kindergarten) and their families are blessed through the work of the PDS teachers and staff.

The church's commitment to Christian Education is seen in the wide variety of programs, events, and activities. Childcare is provided free of charge for families attending church activities, the Youth are actively engaged in Bible Studies and mission projects. Presbyterian Women Circles (small groups) and Bible Studies are open to the congregation and the community.

## Caring for Souls

The responsibility to care for others is deeply woven into the identity of the First Presbyterian Church of Conroe. The decision to move the church to its current location was driven, in part, by a compelling desire to be located close to people who would be here in the future.

Within and from these walls, the congregation works tirelessly to support others in need. Working in partnerships with others, the church hosts *Family Promise*, a program helping homeless families transition to being housed. We collectively prepare and serve more than 14,000 meals each year. We prepare quilts for distressed children, provide Christmas gifts for seafarers, and much more.

The congregation also cares for its own family as well. This support is visible through organized programs; including Stephen Ministry, small groups, and home-communion teams. This support is lived out in life-long friendships and partnerships. The First Presbyterian Church can be known for our love for God and our love for each other.

*“Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?”  
“And the King will answer them,  
‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’” Matthew 25:37, 40*