

The Forever Fund

The Forever Fund is your opportunity to leave a very special gift for the Glory of God, as well as 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.

If you have photos or events you would like to see featured in The Link, please submit them to sharonv@fpccconroe.org.

Upcoming Events

February 2-9 - Family Promise

February 17 - Presidents' Day
(PDS/CISD Holiday)

February 15—Family Movie Night

February 22 - Mystery Dinner Theater

February 26 - Ash Wednesday Service

February 29 - Sew-a-thon

March 1 - Gospel Music Sunday

March 6-14 - PDS/CISD Spring Break

March 19 - Spring officially begins

March 28 - PW Spring Gathering



First Presbyterian Church of Conroe
2727 N. Loop 336 W.
Conroe, TX 77304

TO:



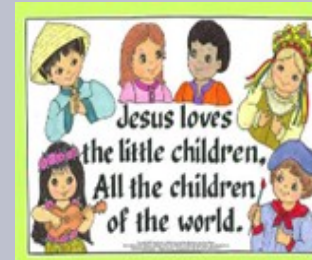
The Link

Your monthly newsletter from First Presbyterian Church of Conroe

February 2020

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Eleventh Annual Sew-a-Thon



Sew Much Love, the eleventh annual Sew-a-Thon, will be held from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 29th, in the Family Life Center. At this all-day event, ladies will make as many children's quilts as possible for Bags of Love. The bags are given to children in Montgomery County who are removed from their homes by Child Protective Services. These bags contain a quilt, a stuffed animal, age/gender-appropriate books, toys, games, and toiletry items. In 2019, 154 Bags were distributed.

Don't sew? No problem. We have a special place for you. A delicious lunch, prepared by Shirley Dukes and her team, will be served at 12:30 p.m. to all volunteers.

Items Needed for the Bags:

Baby shampoo	Baby wash	Baby lotion
Toddler brushes and combs	Toddler toothbrushes	Kid's toothpaste
Kids Shampoo & Conditioner	Body wash – Kids 3-in-1	Body Wash
Deodorant	Coloring Books (all ages)	Crayons
Brushes and Combs for youth	Journals	Books for all ages
Boy toys	Girl toys	Barbie dolls
Baby dolls	Soft blocks	Frisbees
Medium sized balls	Stuffed animals (small & medium)	Puzzle books (word search, crossword, etc.)

Registration for the event will begin on Sunday, February 9th.

(Article submitted by Joan Lowery)

The Story Behind Lee's Quilt



Although Lee Cruikshank did not often sew with the Mission Sewing Group on Wednesdays, she was a valuable member of the group. She would come by and pick up pre-cut squares of fabric and take them home with her. A few days later she would return with a beautiful quilt that she had made, using those squares.

Shortly before Lee died, her daughters sent her a quilt pattern and the fabric to make the quilt. She did not have an opportunity

to make it before she passed away. Her daughters donated the pattern and fabric to the sewing group.

Lee's daughters designated the Mission Sewing Group as the recipient of any donations that were given to the church in her name. As such, the sewing group decided to make the quilt and raffle it off. The proceeds will be donated to The Forever Fund, in memory of Lee. The winning raffle ticket will be drawn at the 2020 Sew-a-Thon, which will be held on February 29th. The raffle tickets for Lee's Quilt will be available beginning February 2nd. The registration forms for the Sew-a-Thon will also be available at that time.



Note: For more information on *The Forever Fund*, see the article on the back page.

(Articles and photos submitted by Joan Lowery)



The Columbarium Journey

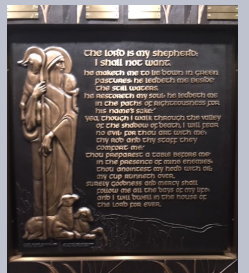
The road to completion of the FPC columbarium has been much longer than expected, and has had many unanticipated twists and turns. Numerous detours consumed more time, resources and efforts than we could have imagined. The good news is that we are getting close to our goal.

The actual columbarium was installed in its final designated location, which is in the renovated former storage room by the old kitchen. Carpet has been installed, along with painting, lighting and woodwork. An angel, in the form of Steve Tibbetts, appeared and graciously offered his time and considerable talents to construct the encasement of the columbarium.

We were fortunate to receive a donation of three of the small arched stained-glass windows to include in the room, for which Steve constructed small pillars to display them. At this time, he is continuing to construct the cherry wood surround.

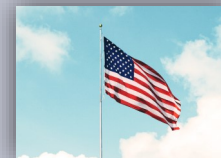
A formidable challenge at this point is solving the problem of rain coming into the room when we have torrential downpours. The Building and Grounds members are spending significant numbers of hours to solve this problem. Once solved, we hope this will be the last hurdle.

The next step will be for the niche holders to choose which niche(s) they will own. When the method for choosing the selection is confirmed, the niche holders will be notified and a certificate or ownership, including the niche location, will be provided. If you have not yet seen the columbarium, you are encouraged to do so. It is beautiful piece of art and not only fills its intended purpose, but also brings another lovely addition to our already beautiful facility.



*(Article submitted by Shirley Dukes,
Columbarium Committee)*

Flag Dedications



If you would like to sign up for a flag dedication, there is availability in the new year. These dedications serve as an opportunity to honor veterans, those currently serving in the Armed Forces, or First Responders. Families who have a member that was active in the community or the church are also welcome to fly a flag in their honor.

The flag is 4x6 feet and the cost is \$35, payable to FPC. The flag flies for a minimum of six weeks, day and night, and is made of high quality nylon fabric. When the flag is retired, it will be presented to the family that sponsored the honoree. There is also the option to have the flag enclosed in a custom made box, which is an additional \$35. If interested in a flag dedication, please sign up in the church office or send your name and contact information to stephan_tibbetts@mac.com.



Presbyterian Day School

Save the Date.. Fiesta 2020

When: Friday, February 28th,
at 6:00 p.m.

Where: Lone Star Community Center, in
Montgomery.

The theme is "Boots and Bling". There will be a live and silent auction, barbeque will be served, and we'll have a live band. Come join the fun!

To purchase tickets, go to: www.auctria.com/auction/bootsandbling2020

There is a Mystery Afoot!



Yes! There is a mystery to be solved, and you are invited to join in the fun as we all work to solve it. "Love is a Deadly Verse" is a dinner theater presentation that will take place on Saturday, February 22nd,

at 5:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The cast is comprised of well-known FPC thespians! The audience will be instrumental in solving the mystery. Dinner will be served, and seating is limited, so save the date! Stay apprised, as more details are forthcoming.

Church Office Alarm

In the upcoming weeks, we will begin to arm the alarm system in the front office area. We would ask that those who need to enter the office, please do so during normal business hours. That would be Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you have a special situation, please contact Sharon or Yvonne, so they can assure your entry will not set off the alarm.

One Call Now

On occasion, the church uses online notifications for significant information and events. We will soon begin rebuilding our One Call Now list, and will provide instruction on how to opt in for these notifications if you choose to receive them.



Movie Night February 15th

Don't forget to mark your calendars now for Movie Night! We will be showing the movie "Up", in the FPC parking lot, from 6:30-9:00 p.m.

As always, free hot dogs and popcorn will be served. We hope you will plan to join us for this fun evening out.

Youth Tree Planting at Point Aquarius



Youth Chili Cookoff:

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

The FPC 2020 Youth Chili Cookoff was a total success in every aspect! From the great tunes we were able to enjoy, to the amazing chili entries, it was a fun evening for all.



More Chili Cook-Off Fun...



HOT



Even More Chili Cook-Off Fun...



The youth group, along with Mark and Dena Sowden, send a special thank to everyone who worked so hard to make this event possible. This includes our WNL kitchen crew, Dana Corbit, Yvette Smith, Kristi Swoboda, Gary Weinburger, Steve Tibbetts, Allen Haines and the band *Sound Therapy*, Roy Kessler and the counters, all the Cook-off teams, everyone who came out to support the youth. Also, a special shout-out to our amazing emcee, Jay Swoboda. All of you made this event the success that it was.

We raised \$7,172! That will go a long way toward helping keep mission trips affordable for our youth. We thank you so much for your generosity.

(Article and photos submitted by Dena Sowden)