

**A Holiday Family Promise Success Story**

“Dear Friends,

This has been an incredible year for me and my children. There was a time, this year, when things became very hard for us, and I honestly didn't have anywhere to turn. I found myself with few options, but then I was given hope! This year, I found Family Promise and saw that, with courage and effort, I could do many things and have many options for me and my children. Due to your support, this year you have forever changed the lives of this one family and we will never be able to thank you enough! We are so grateful for the many gifts you have given us and for helping me to become an even better mother. Because you cared this year, my family now has many new and wonderful years ahead.”

**Thank you for supporting  
Family Promise of  
Montgomery County!**

*(Submitted by Tom and Joan Lowery)*



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

TO:

**Upcoming Events**



January 1 - New Year's Day (Office Closed)

January 20 - Youth Soup Kitchen

January 27 - Annual Chili Cook-off

February 3-10 - Family Promise at FPC

March 10 - Daylight Saving Time Begins

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



# The Link

*Your monthly newsletter from First Presbyterian Church of Conroe*

**January 2019**

***Accommodating Schedule for Ministry/  
Committee Meetings***

FPCC Ministry/Committee meeting times are changing in February 2019 to better accommodate busy work-week schedules and child care logistics for people who wish to participate in the vibrant ministry/committee activities of our church.

The change should also make it easier for anyone who cannot attend meetings during the week or at night. Starting February 3<sup>rd</sup>, all Ministry/Committee meetings will occur on the first Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided, at no cost, by the Fellowship Committee prior to the meetings. Child care will also be provided, at no cost, during lunch and meeting times.

This schedule will be adjusted as needed to avoid holiday conflicts. If you are interested in participating in a particular Ministry/Committee, please let the church office know. We welcome new and continuing contributions to this important part of the life of the church!

*(Article submitted by Sally DeStefano)*

***A Shout Out to All Who Make  
Our Church Grounds Beautiful***

There are very few things that everyone can agree on; however, the beauty of our church grounds is undeniable. Landscaping like this does not just happen; it takes the hearts, hands and efforts of many.



We'd like to offer a special "thank you" to David Corbit and Berkeley Services, who so generously donated 32 flats of 18 plants for our landscaping. That's over 500 plants! Thanks also go out to the crew that Mr. Paul Evans put together: Shirley Dukes, Joanne Tralmer, Chuck Pohla and Chris Kattner. Your work is very much appreciated. Thanks also to B.C. Linton for her tireless efforts to keep our landscaping looking beautiful.

*(Article submitted by Paul Evans)*



## PDS Teams with FPC for a Special Presentation



Recognize anyone in this beautiful Christmas scene? Yep, Dr. Green read the *Christmas Story* to our PDS children while parents and church members reenacted the story of Christmas. Thanks to Paul Evans, who played the role of a wise man and Brandon Folts, who played the piano as we all sang Christmas carols. What a special time together. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from PDS!

(Article and photo submitted by Janet Klem)

## Additional FPC Holiday Cheer



## 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](mailto:stephan_tibbetts@mac.com).



## Holiday Bell Ringers Spread Christmas Cheer



Special thanks go out to all of our bell ringers that volunteer to spread Christmas cheer at Sam's Club, in Conroe, each year.

Here is a fun photo of just what that looks like, as Dr. Michael Dwyer and friend jingle in style.

(Photo submitted by Roy Kessler)

## First Presbyterian Church Members Contribute to the Community In Generous Ways



More than 14,000 meals a year are served to the needy and hungry in Montgomery County by the members of First Presbyterian Church – Conroe. The primary recipients of this mission are guests of the Salvation Army, the Conroe House of Prayer, Family Promise of Montgomery County and clients of Meals on Wheels. Many church volunteers are involved in these and other efforts, some for many years and others more recently who are new to our church. Our youth also participate in these activities. The Feed the Hungry mission is a vibrant example of how the Body of Christ can regularly reach out in love to those less fortunate, to provide a warm meal and caring fellowship.



Salvation Army. Lunches are provided every Monday to needy men, women, and children by 4 to 5 FPCC cooking teams who arrive at 9:00 a.m. to cook, serve, and clean up. Between 110 and 180 meals are distributed on what is jokingly referred to as "Meatball Monday" for the traditional menu served.

Conroe House of Prayer. On the second Tuesday every month, FPCC provides breakfasts to 50 to 75 people gathered for a sing-along, sermon, and full breakfast. The 4-6 member cooking team bring food already prepared, and serve it to men, women, and children of all ages. This program for the needy and homeless includes not only food and spiritual nurturing, but also warm blankets and clothing.

Family Promise. Several times a year for one full week, FPCC members host families who would otherwise be homeless. Volunteers provide transportation, food, meal preparation and service, as well as hosting for dinner. Other volunteers "sleep over" with the guests in our Family Life Center, serving breakfast snacks the next morning before the families leave for school, job search, and other activities to help them become self-supporting. We are blessed to have a facility with showers, separate sleeping areas, play areas, and a commercial kitchen that serves the needs of these families.



Meals on Wheels. For more than 25 years, FPCC members have helped provide hot meals and other food every weekday morning to shut-ins. Other services such as transportation, referrals, and pet food are also extended to these "stuck-at-homers."



(Article and photos submitted by Sally DeStefano)