

## Presbyterian Day School Summer Fun

PDS Summer Fun has been  
moved to July 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>.



This date is still pending due to the circumstances we are facing. For the safety of our children and staff, we will continue to monitor the situation. We will keep you updated.

God bless and have a wonderful summer.

### Upcoming Events

June 20 - Summer officially begins

June 21 - Father's Day/Sr. Recognition

June 28 - Seasonal Music Sunday

July 6-10 Vacation Bible School (Virtual)

July 20-24 PDS Summer Fun

July 26-August 1 - Youth Home  
Mission Trip at FPC

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



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*

**June 2020**

### Spring Planting

Surely we can all agree that our FPC grounds are some of the most beautiful in Conroe. A large part of this is due to the efforts of volunteers who come out and spend their time sprucing things up as often as they can.



On Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, several volunteers came out for Spring planting at FPC. Thank you for your hard work. It looks amazing.

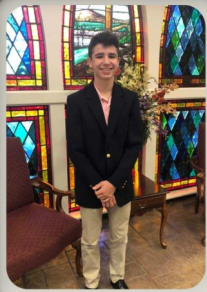
*(Photos by Shirley  
Dukes)*

*Inside this edition of The Link:*

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**Loving God • Investing in People • Living Generously**

### *Youth Confirmation and Ice Cream Social*



On May 24<sup>th</sup>, FPC opened its doors for the first time in ten weeks. Although the COVID-19 virus took us all by surprise (and closed our doors for far longer than expected), we were so pleased to re-open our Sanctuary in time to recognize six very special confirmands, along with their friends, families and mentors.

They were each presented a hand-stitched, framed certificate of Confirmation, which was made by Susan Das.



### **FPC 2020 Confirmands:**

*Jeselyn Graham ~ Mentor: Dana Corbit*

*Henry Quekemeyer, III ~ Mentor: Stephan Tibbetts*

*Morgan Smith ~ Mentor: Kevin Simon*

*Allison Spratt ~ Mentor: Yvette Smith*

*William Stewart ~ Mentor: Rusty Smith*

*Alexander Williams ~ Mentor: Jay Swoboda*



### *Registering for Church Services*

If you feel that you are ready to begin meeting in the Sanctuary for Sunday services, registration is available online and through the church office. Although this may not be a popular method, we are not allowed to have seating for large numbers of attendees just yet. We ask that those with internet access to please register online, and those without internet access can call into the church office Tuesday through Thursday at (936) 756-8884. Additional details can be found in the enclosed Pastor's letter.

### *Resuming Church Services: What to Expect*

As we prepare to open our doors for worship service, we would like to make you aware of certain guidelines set for by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

- ◆ Before entering services, you may have your temperature checked, and confirm that you are not experiencing any symptoms.
- ◆ Seating will need to be determined by the ushers. You may sit with your family/ household, but six feet of space is required between persons of differing households.
- ◆ Hand sanitizing stations will be provided at each entrance for your convenience.
- ◆ At-risk population is advised to continue with online worship services at home until we can get a real sense of how safe it is for us to meet in person again. ***At risk population are those 65+ or older, especially those with chronic lung disease; moderate to severe asthma; chronic heart disease; severe obesity; diabetes; chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; liver disease; or a weakened immune system.***
- ◆ All food that is served by the church must be individually wrapped; therefore, even something as simple as coffee and donuts will look a little different on Sundays.
- ◆ And last, but not least, hand washing should be done correctly, thoroughly and often. Please make sure you are doing your part to keep our surfaces clean.

We ask that you be patient with us as we make these transitions, as we are doing our best to abide by the law. It would be nice if we could just go back to "business as usual", but surely we all understand that safety is the overriding factor in making all of this work.

### *Child Care During Worship Services*

Due to the constraints we are currently under with COVID-19, we cannot provide child care during church services at this time. We do hope to offer this convenience just as soon as possible, so please watch for updates.

### *Your Comfort While in Services*

As we prepare to re-enter the building for worship services, there are many things to consider with regard to keeping everyone safe and healthy. As such, we will not be sitting in the cloth chairs or using the blankets and pillows previously provided. Therefore, if you tend to be chilly in the Sanctuary, please dress accordingly.

# GETTING TO KNOW YOU (TH)

**Brandon Veazey** is the son of Pauline and Brent Veazey. Brandon was inducted into the National Honors Society and is a Class of 2020 Conroe High graduate. In his high school career, he made the All-State Mixed Choir three times and made Region Band on French horn every year during high school.

Brandon is undecided on where he will go from here, but has been accepted by the University of North Texas, University of Texas at Austin, and Baylor University. He plans on majoring in music performance, with a career goal of being a professional musician while writing music on the side.

Brandon is one of the four musician interns you see singing during worship. He was invited to join the music ministry on the behalf of Brandon Folts, and has been a welcome addition ever since. We're excited to see what the future holds for him.



## TO KNOW YOU (TH)

### *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance: Thank You*

Thanks go out to everyone who contributed to the One Great Hour of Sharing during Easter. FPC actually doubled their giving from last year, having collected \$2,750, much of which has been used in assisting with difficulties COVID-19 has caused for many. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance continues to be on the front lines, representing those in need. Thank you to the congregation for your outstanding response.

### *Transitional Office Hours*

As of June 1, we will begin to transition back into the office. For safety's sake, employees have been working primarily from home up to this point. We ask that if you visit the church, you wear a mask, and sanitize your hands when you check in at the front office. Starting out, office hours will be Tuesday through Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### *Entering/Exiting the Building*

Just a reminder that everyone should continue to enter/exit the church and day school through the doors in the Narthex. This will allow us to keep everything sanitized and disinfected to the advantage of everyone who is working on our campus.

# CONGRATULATIONS!

Despite the very immediate threat of rain, the Fellowship Committee pulled off an ice cream social on the FPC lawn area to help the families celebrate this special occasion. Fortunately, the trees provided some much-needed shade, and a slight breeze made it a pleasant event for all.



(Photos submitted by Shirley Dukes and parents)

### ***FPC Church Programming***

*You do not need to have a Facebook account to watch these videos.*

#### **Sundays:**

- 10:00 AM Sunday Morning Worship Service**  
Facebook Live ([www.facebook.com/fpcConroe](https://www.facebook.com/fpcConroe))
- 11:00 AM Fellowship Sunday School** (Cara Wood)  
Zoom Room Meeting ID: 267 960 141  
(Password: 330714) <https://zoom.us/j/267960141>  
(or call +13462487799, 267960141#)
- 3:00 PM Intermediate Grade Sunday School**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82565858919>
- 6:30 PM Youth Sunday School**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86141523860>

#### **Mondays:**

- 1:00 PM Monday Afternoon Bible Study**  
Zoom Room Meeting ID available from Marty Taylor

#### **Wednesdays:**

- 9:30 AM FPC Staff Meeting**  
Zoom Room Meeting; ID is available by invitation
- 1:30 PM Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)**
- 3:00 PM Chancel Choir**  
Zoom Room Meeting ID: 332 284 801  
<https://zoom.us/j/332284801> (or call +13462487799, 332284801#)
- 6:00 PM The Spark** (Youth Event) Family Life Center

**Fridays, Saturdays and Mondays:** FPC Offices Closed

### ***Welcome Back! (...sort of)***

For the past few months, people asked me *when* we will reopen the church's facilities. Today I am writing to tell you *how* we are going about reopening.

The good news for us is that the Health Department has been tasked with determining the practices we are required to follow. The bad news is that we have several lists of practices we are required to follow: lists for all employers, and lists for churches, restaurants, childcare facilities and schools. You can learn more about these requirements from the Texas Department of State Health Services (<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/opentexas.aspx>).

The work of reopening the church has begun! However, we are very limited in what we are allowed to do. So, for now, here is some of what you can see:

**Sunday Morning Worship** is open for a limited number of seats. To open the doors, and to ensure our compliance with the distancing rules, we ask that you have a ticket for admission. These are available by registering at the FPC website (<https://fpconroe.org/registration/tickets-for-worship-service>), or by calling the office on Tuesdays or Wednesdays (936) 756-8884.

**Face Book Live** broadcasts of our worship services have never been more important to the life of the church. Everyone who is included in the list of individuals at a high risk is strongly encouraged to continue worshipping online.

**Church Offices** are reopening on a shortened schedule. Beginning this week, the FPC office will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Everyone who comes to the church is required to check-in at the office. You will find staff and volunteers wearing face coverings when outside of our offices. We encourage others to wear one as well.

**Zoom Rooms** will continue to be used for many (most) of our meetings and activities. Because of a recent update to their software, Zoom Rooms will require a password. Please check with the person who convened your event for the password. If your event was set up by someone on staff, your password is probably the church's zip code (77304).

Please know that I am very grateful for your patience as we continue the work of reopening the church. Your continued support, generosity and encouragement are sincerely appreciated.

All the best,  
Dr. David H. Green