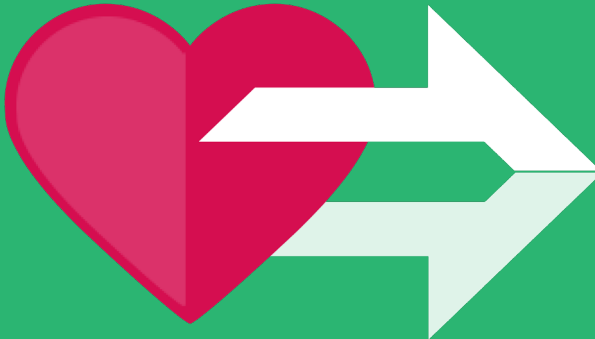


“...BEGGING US
EARNESTLY FOR
THE PRIVILEGE
OF SHARING IN
THIS MINISTRY
TO THE SAINTS...”

2 CORINTHIANS 8.4

BECAUSE
HE LIVES



WE
GIVE

BECOMING MORE GENEROUS AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



FPCFW.ORG/GIVE



BECAUSE HE LIVES, WE GIVE



“...BEGGING US
EARNESTLY FOR
THE PRIVILEGE
OF SHARING IN
THIS MINISTRY
TO THE SAINTS...”

2 CORINTHIANS 8.4

Dear Friends,

How much? How much gratitude do you have for God’s presence and provision? How much thankfulness is stored within your heart awaiting release in your life – in deed, in care, in generosity?

Too often we read stewardship brochures as invitations to fund the church’s mission. We assume that the brochure is asking, How much should I give to meet the church’s budget? Not at First Pres. We are far more interested in a more fundamental question, a basic question about discipleship.

The better question is, How much do I need to give - of my time, my talents, and my money – to express joyfully my gratitude to God? How will I live my life and share my substance in such a way to say thank you to God?

This brochure contains just a brief snapshot of the significant ministry we share at First Pres. I am so very thankful for our congregation’s passionate pursuit of faithfulness.

My prayer is that each of us will be blessed with gratitude, and moved to generosity, this year and always.

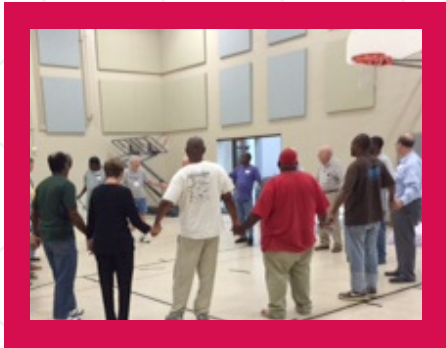
Godspeed,

WHY I GIVE...



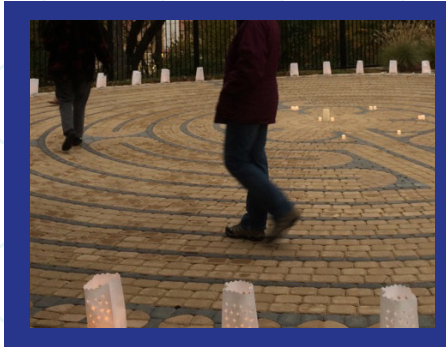
“We give our time and money to our church for many reasons. One big reason has to do with the youth program. We see how important it is to our children. They want to be involved in youth group fellowship, mission trips, Sunday school, serving as acolytes, bible study, youth conferences, the list goes on... They want to be at church because they feel safe, and they feel loved. Faith is important to them. They have made special relationships with friends, youth sponsors/teachers, and Josh. The youth group motto sums it up well... ‘Everyone’s welcome. Nobody’s perfect. Anything’s possible.’”

- Ashley and Thomas Parsons



“Giving is a way to show what we care about and another way to participate in what God is doing through First Pres here in Fort Worth, as well as around the world. I believe in our mission of inspiring disciples and engaging the world and want to be a part of helping the Church achieve it.”

- Claire O’Connor



“We have both always been a part of a church community, except for that all too common break in our twenties. However, it was not until coming to First Presbyterian Church as still-young adults that our lives of faith really began to grow. We and our children, Nick and Emily, as they grew up in this Church, have been nurtured and challenged by the faith community that is First Presbyterian. We give in gratitude for the many opportunities to serve and to grow, and to experience the blessings of the First Presbyterian community. Our giving is a part, and an important part, of our faith journey. We are excited for the future of the First Pres!”

- Vernon and Bronwyn Rew



PENN STREET ARTS CONCERT SERIES



Music and song in the church's 1917 Kimball "Patricia Organ" began in 1921. In 1982 Dan Garland led a major rebuild to enlarge and keep it cohesive tonally and mechanically. Today the combined chancel and gallery organs total 133 ranks, with a total of 7,333 pipes. To those of us listening it simply means being engulfed and lifted by the swell of music!

Plan to enjoy this fine instrument during Penn Street Arts in 2019 which includes plans for an Arts Festival with a Jazz band, the Westminster Choir, and guest concert organist Ken Cowan.

Details at <http://fpcfw.org/concert-series>

INSPIRING DISCIPLES...



A year after the Category 4 hurricane ripped through south-central Texas, many residents remain unable to live in their homes. FPC gathered 20 youth and 13 adults in June to work on two projects in the Rockport area. They removed damaged siding, replaced rotted wood, attached new sheathing, siding, and trim! After a week of hard work, FPC had responded with over 1,180 hours of physical and mental exertion on their worksites.

"The work we did was very rewarding but the devastation that is still down there is overwhelming. I believe this area will need help for years to come," said one participant.

HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF MISSION TRIP





UNDER CONSTRUCTION, *Overwhelmed by Blessing*

SANCTUARY RENOVATION

With your generous donations and contributions through planned estate giving, a committee was asked to initiate renovations to the Sanctuary centered around two mandates: 1) rectifying audio issues and 2) general updating

Great progress has been made toward achieving these objectives:

- Update the audio system
- Move the chancel and the Lord's Table forward toward the congregation to produce a more intimate place of worship and to express our sacramental theology
- Relocate the choir to the west end of the sanctuary in a semi-circular fashion, facing the congregation
- Space the pews farther apart to allow easier movement



- Install an ADA compliant lift to provide access for individuals to participate in worship services
- Refresh lighting and paint to provide a lighter and more modern Sanctuary

Our congregation is truly blessed to have the leadership and resources to accomplish these goals!



COMMUNITY

“AND THE KING WILL ANSWER THEM, ‘TRULY I TELL YOU, JUST AS YOU DID IT TO ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE WHO ARE MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY, YOU DID IT TO ME.’”

MATTHEW 25.40

WE KEEP ENGAGING...

This verse from Matthew’s Gospel speaks to the many ministries housed at Community Crossroads in which our congregation engages neighbors in outreach and compassion. More than 100 church volunteers give of their time and energy to provide a welcoming and hospitable space that addresses the needs of hunger, clothing, dental care, infant care, fellowship,



worship and Bible study. Community Crossroads enjoys rich partnerships with local agencies who work in employment, direct services and art therapy with the neighbors who frequent our ministries.

This fall we mark seven years at the 1516 Hemphill location, and, as you know, the Community Crossroads Renovation Committee is working

diligently to expand and renovate the building to meet our growing numbers of participants and to offer new ministries of accompaniment and hope. Our congregation, through its generous support of Community Crossroads ministries, truly inspires disciples while engaging the world.

CROSSROADS

First HAND Ministry

Faithful volunteers provide food and clothing to neighbors in need through the First HAND ministry at Community Crossroads. 10,336 bags of groceries have been distributed YTD, an average of 646 sets per month.

4,992 sack lunches have been distributed YTD, an average of 624 per month. They are distributed three days a week and bags of groceries are distributed twice a week.

Volunteers pick up food donations from local grocers and the Tarrant Area Food Bank.

First HAND clothing ministry filled 358 requests for clothing for children and adults, including special requests such as work boots and attire appropriate for job interviews.

The Clothing ministry also supplies school uniforms for local elementary schools. First HAND strives to embody Hospitality, Advocacy, Nurture, and Dignity.

Worship On Wednesdays

Worship On Wednesdays (WOW) provides a weekly worship service, free community dinner, and Bible classes for children, youth, and adults on Wednesday evenings. The weekly average attendance has been 96, with over 2600 since January.

The WOW band provides energetic music, and the celebration of the Lord's Table occurs monthly. WOW participants engage in outreach in the community, including a partnership with the Downtown Rehab.

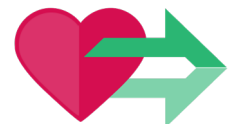


Salt & Light Dental Ministry

Salt and Light Dental Ministry serves an average of 29 people a month with free dental services during their clinics. They have served 202 people so far this year. Volunteers and a contracted dentist provide much-needed hygiene and dental services from case manager referrals.

Formula and Diapers

Church volunteers have provided formula and diapers for 344 families YTD, and an average of 43 per month, some with more than one child per family. FAD is open on the third Monday morning of the month.



HUNGER ACTION CONGREGATION



This year, First Presbyterian will join other Presbyterian churches as a Certified Hunger Action Congregation. This designation recognizes that we care deeply about issues of hunger and food security and participate in hunger alleviation, education, and advocacy.

Education about global and community food insecurity begins with our youngest members. Three dozen elementary and middle school children engaged in hunger awareness and education for one week this summer through Mission on the Move. Every fall, FPC youth and church volunteers assemble more than 25,000 meals for undernourished children around the world with an organization called Kids Against Hunger.

ENGAGING THE WORLD...



In the Spring of 2018 even with our large building, we could barely squeeze in all the vendors, community service providers, and social and health agencies that spilled onto the front lawn of our campus to greet and serve over 450 neighbors who are experiencing homelessness. Over 100 volunteers have contributed to the success of this annual event as we not only host but also coordinate the over 60 organizations who participate.

These volunteers included barbers, optometrists, pet caretakers, physicians, veterinarians, social workers, potential employers, and the Tarrant County court system, where guests reconciled past tickets and violations in an arrest-free zone.

HOMELESS CONNECT



TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH



To Haiti... January Solar Site Survey

Four members of our congregation, in partnership with Solar Under the Sun, traveled to Haiti in January to conduct a Solar Site Survey in the small mountainous village of Cherident. The ultimate goal was to install a solar energy system for a newly constructed high school.

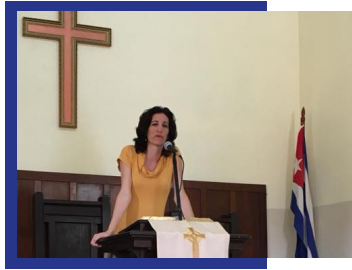
The purpose of the site survey trip was to assess the energy needs of the school and surrounding community and build and develop relationships through shared worship and fellowship. Prior to this trip, the children of our congregation prepared sewing kits for our Haitian brothers and sisters, as a symbol of God weaving our lives together.



To Haiti... April Solar System Installation

A five-person team returned to Cherident, Haiti to install a solar energy system in this high school that serves over 700 students. This 10-room facility was rebuilt to replace the school destroyed in the 2010 earthquake.

Embarking on the largest project of its kind for the Solar Under the Sun ministry, the team was surprised to be greeted by over a dozen local people ready to lend a hand, installing lights and outlets in every classroom, along with two outdoor security lights. After Sunday worship, the entire Cherident congregation walked to the school to bless the new power system. Let There Be Light!



To Cuba... April Christian Partnership

FPC sent six members of the congregation to the Presbytery of Matanzas in western Cuba for seven days to renew the partnership between our congregation and three sister congregations.

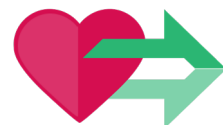
The partnership affirms and builds on the unity of the Presbyterian Church under Jesus Christ through a mutual exchange of people, Christian education and Bible study, cultural understanding and financial support. Over 50 US Presbyterian congregations have partnered with Cuban congregations. This was our third trip to Cuba.



To El Salvador... August Water to the Thirsty

Thousands of the world's thirsty have received clean water and learned about God's love for them since FPC began partnering with Living Water International in 2012.

Our gift of sustainable water has reached some of the poorest communities in India, Ethiopia and Haiti. Ten members of FPC's mission team worked tirelessly to teach hygiene and share Bible stories, along with drilling a 185-foot water well for a small community in rural El Salvador.



WHY DO YOU GIVE?

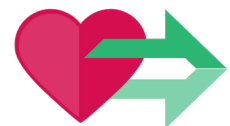


You see the exciting programs and mission in the life of our church. We encourage you to have a conversation with your family and prayerfully reflect on your reasons for giving to First Presbyterian Church. Use the space below to record those thoughts in your own words, through a Bible verse, a poem, or art. Cut out this page and share it at worship on Commitment Sunday, or pin it to your refrigerator and be reminded of why you give.



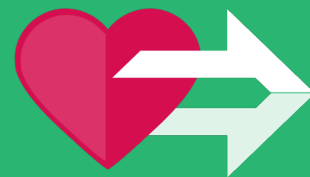
SHARE ONLINE!

If you choose to share your thoughts online, visit FPC on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter and/or use **#FPCGIVE**



WHY DO I GIVE?

BECAUSE HE LIVES, WE GIVE



“...BEGGING US EARNESTLY FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF SHARING
IN THIS MINISTRY TO THE SAINTS...” 2 CORINTHIANS 8.4

YOUR PLEDGE

You will receive a pledge card, like the one shown here, in a separate mailing. After prayerfully considering your pledge to the church, there are two ways to submit it:

1. Visit FPCFW.ORG/GIVE and complete the secure form.
2. Turn in a completed pledge card to the church office or bring it to worship on **Commitment Sunday, October 28**. Extra cards will be provided that day if needed.

BECAUSE HE LIVES WE GIVE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PLEDGE CARD

You may submit your pledge at worship on October 28, online at WWW.FPCFW.ORG/GIVE, or in the church office. Want to change your pledge later? Just call the office at 817.335.1231.

Please print:
Because pledging brings joy and includes me/us in the church's ministry, in 2019 I/we will strive to give an annual total of \$ _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____

Pledge will be paid:

- Weekly
- Bi-Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annually

I wish to receive offering envelopes:

- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly

YES: I am increasing my pledge this year.

This pledge is a joint commitment for our household.

Office Use Only:
Fam# _____
Payment recv'd with pledge card: \$ _____ Ck# _____
Dated _____

You know the difference God makes in your life.
Just imagine the difference we can make together
when we respond to Christ's love for us!

OCTOBER 21

Celebrate FPC
ministries and mission
at 9 and 11 a.m.
worship.

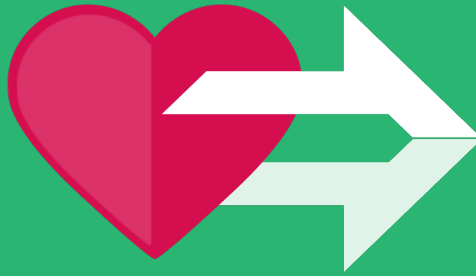
OCTOBER 22

Pledge cards
arrive in your mailbox
this week.

OCTOBER 28

COMMITMENT
SUNDAY. We offer
our pledges as an
act of worship.

BECAUSE
HE LIVES



WE
GIVE

STEWARDSHIP AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



First Presbyterian Church
Inspiring Disciples...
Engaging the World

1000 Penn Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102



SCAN

OR GO ONLINE TO
[FPCFW.ORG/GIVE](https://www.fpcf.org/give)