



FIRST PROTESTANT CHURCH OF NEW BRAUNFELS CONNECTION

Where everybody is somebody, and Jesus Christ is Lord Fall 2018



Mae Kraft, Volunteer Coordinator Retires

This month, we celebrate Mae Kraft and her 23 years of faithful service to First Protestant Church, as she retires. The sacrifice of her time, love and energy is not something that can ever be replaced. Having her in the church office has given us the benefit of her smile, her laughter, wisdom and especially her knowledge of the history of this church and it's people. She will always be an invaluable treasure to us.





FIRST PROTESTANT CHURCH OF NEW BRAUNFELS

172 West Coll Street
New Braunfels, Texas 78130
Church Office (830) 609-7729
First Protestant School (830) 606-4110

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First Protestant Church Staff Directory Church Office Phone (830) 609-7729

**Please note that some of our email addresses have changed.
The Church Staff can be reached by email using the addresses below.**

Rev. Daryl Higgins - Senior Minister	Ext. 16	daryl@firstprotestant.com
Rev. Phil Brown - Associate Minister	Ext. 20	phil@firstprotestant.com
Rev. Chuck Huckaby - Minister of Congregational Life	Ext. 18	chuck@firstprotestant.com
Denise Marshall - Director of Children's Ministries	Ext. 26	denise@firstprotestant.com
Jill Rodriguez - Director of Lay Ministry	Ext. 13	jill@firstprotestant.com
Joey M. Martin - Director of Music & Fine Arts	(c) 512-787-2269	JoeyMartin512@gmail.com
Sheenae Hernandez-Garcia - FP School Director	606-4110	sheenae@firstprotestant.com
Doreen Schaeffer - Business Manager	Ext. 12	doreen@firstprotestant.com
Jerald Schroeder - Director of Operations	Ext. 21	gerald@firstprotestant.com
Mae Kraft - Volunteer Coordinator	Ext. 19	mae@firstprotestant.com
Melanie Gillum - Administrative Assistant	Ext. 52	melanie@firstprotestant.com
	Ext. 10	

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9-12 & 1-4, Friday 9-12 & 1-3

Where Everybody is Somebody, and Jesus Christ is Lord

Please enjoy your newsletter in full color online at firstprotestant.com.

Your Next BIG



Global Impact Celebration 2019 February 6-10 Help Wanted!

We are gearing up for our 2nd Annual GIC
and your help is needed to make it a success!
Are you able to say **YES** to:

- Providing a room for a missionary or missionary couple during the GIC?
- Helping provide transportation for a missionary during their stay?
- Baking a breakfast casserole, streusel or muffins, etc. for one or more of our breakfasts during our morning missionary meetings?
- Making sandwiches and/or soup, or dessert for a welcome lunch?
- Heading up a team(s) to set up the breakfasts (3) or lunch during the GIC?

Please contact **Sue Saur** (GIC Coordinator)
at sweetandsaur@aol.com and say



!!!



God's Gift for You this Holy Season

by Sue Saur

I'll admit, I've never been much of a Hallmark Christmas movie fan; as far as I'm concerned, if you've seen one, you've seen them all. In just under 2 hours, all the characters' problems are tied up neatly with a Christmas bow, beneath a strategically placed mistletoe, topped off by a snowflake falling on cue. According to an article I read recently, I am right!

A husband and wife team of Hallmark writers admitted to creating and continuing this successful model: a high power, corporate female is summoned back to her small hometown, where a crisis puts her at the mercy of a handsome blue-collar widower, who fixes her car, finds her briefcase---etc. and then he, with the nudging of his family and friends, takes her under his protective wing just before Christmas. Over the course of a week, she is baking cookies with his mother, counseling his young daughter, and slowly falling in love with the guy who is showing her "what Christmas is all about." She ultimately decides to leave corporate America behind and they live happily ever after, as the church choir sings, "Joy to the World" in the background. (cue the music!)

I say I'm not a fan, but this year, I decorated the tree and drank some cocoa while writing Christmas cards with my friends, er, the Hallmark characters from Small-town, America. This reality has caused me to wonder why that same storyline told in dozens of slight variations has drawn me—and millions of others back in, movie after sappy movie. I mean, I already have my "prince of a blue-collar husband" and the farmhouse, and the farm; even the faithful dog. But while we live a comparatively, simple life, I can fall into the "busyness" trap as easily as the next corporate gal. The attraction, I've decided, what draws her, what draws each of us, is what she receives from her time in that small town; it's the

escape from the rat race.

It's **REST**.

For hundreds of years, we have been singing hymns at Christmas time; about the weariness of mankind, and God's promise of rest. Ponder these words written in what we would consider simpler times:

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old--from angels bending near the Earth to touch their harps of gold.

Peace on the Earth, goodwill to men

from heaven's all gracious King
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurl

And still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world. Above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing, and ever o'er its Babel sounds, the blessed angels sing

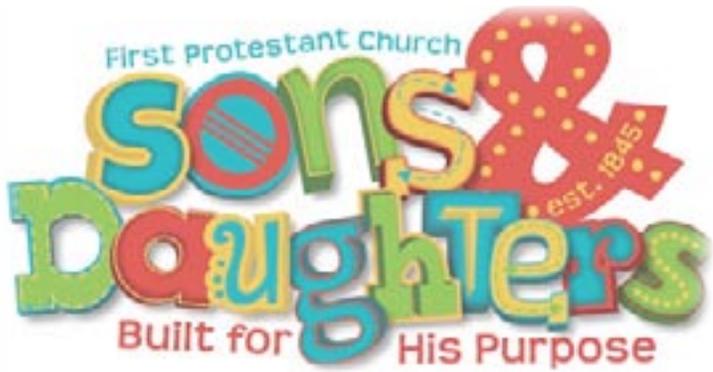
O ye beneath life's crushing load
Whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way,
with painful steps and slow,

**Look now for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing**

**O rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing!**

My prayer for your family and mine is that we allow ourselves to receive His gift of rest this Christmas season.

Merry Christmas!



*by Denise Marshall
Director of
Children's Ministry*

Sons and Daughters Children's Ministry has been busy this fall. We kicked off the school year by having a Last Splash at Landa Park in August, where we discussed God's purpose for our new year, swam, ate snacks and strengthened friendships. A spaghetti supper and registration event for Sunday school and "Blessings of the Backpacks" were held in September where we blessed a record 117 backpacks on September 9th. Our first "Hands and Feet" trip was to Eden Hill Nursing Home in October where we brought a ton of sunshine and smiles to the residents there and ended the month by passing out candy from our Heritage House porch to the Trick or Treaters downtown on Halloween.

In addition, many of our students and parents began practicing in October for our "Lessons and Carols" performance for Wassailfest in December! The children's performance went well and could not have taken place without the help of all involved. FPC's 2nd Annual Adventskranz and breakfast in December, hosted over 130 people who made advent wreaths, enjoyed food and fellowship and additional crafts for the young ones. Many thanks to all the adult Sunday school classes that contributed with food, serving and crafts.

Our midweek Wednesday activities continue to grow in participation and a new series on the 23rd Psalm will start after the Christmas break on January 9th.

Many thanks to everyone for their support, volunteer hours, and prayers for our ministry. We would not be able to accomplish any of these things without our





*Lessons and Carols
at Wassailfest*



Women's Ministries

From the Desk - of Alice Boettger
President Women's Ministries

The Key to Christmas Tea



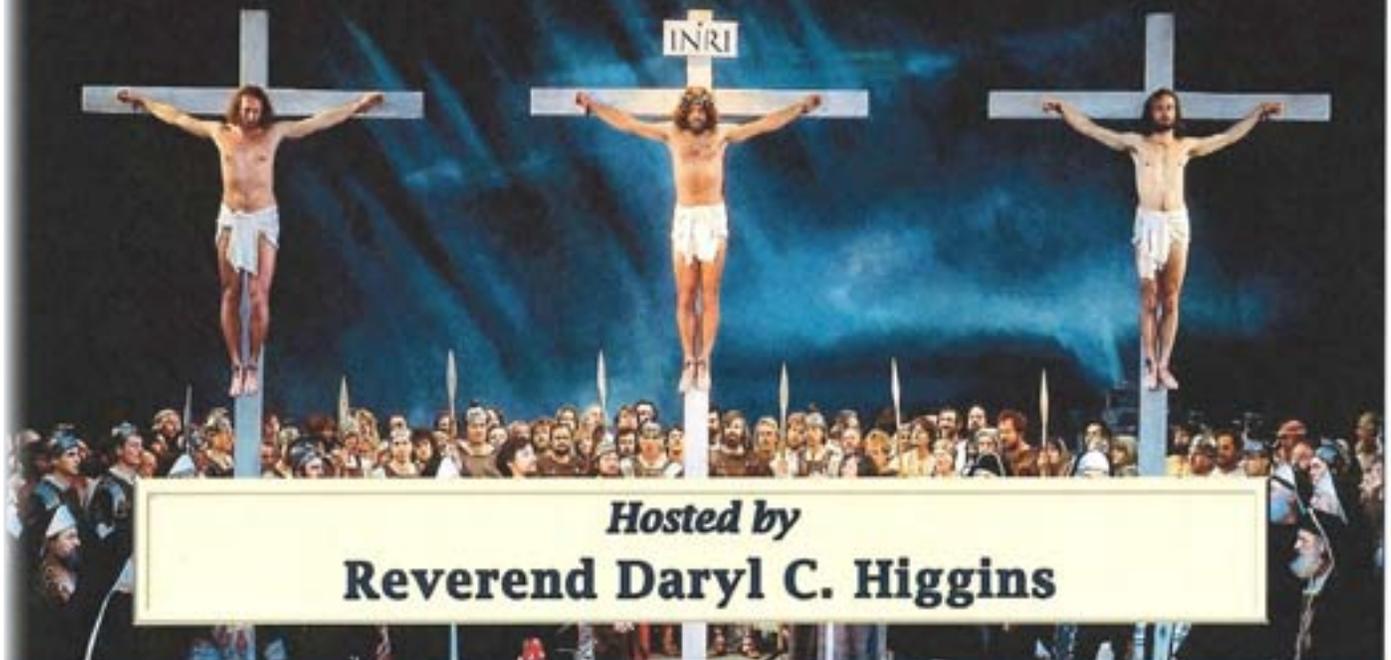




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FOR A BROCHURE WITH FULL DETAILS, CONTACT OR DETACH & MAIL or EMAIL TO:

Rev. Daryl Higgins
1926 Lance Circle
New Braunfels, TX 78130
Tel: (830) 708-5889
Email: daryl@firstprotestant.com

Name: _____
Address: _____
City _____
State _____ Zip Code _____
Tel: _____
Email: _____

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New Building Brings About Transition

Several years ago, a Strategic Planning Committee was convened to develop a plan to meet the future needs of First Protestant Church. Primarily, they focused on needed facilities and outlined what an ideal campus would look like to accommodate current and future programming. It soon became clear that in order to utilize the current space to its full potential, the church and school would be better served by having independent dedicated buildings. Licensing regulations for the school were becoming barriers in doing ministry during school operating hours and sharing space was impacting negatively on both programs.

In the near future, we will be opening our new school and acquiring the currently occupied areas. These areas will undergo a minimal makeover to provide more accessible and secure space for our ministry programs. This will undoubtedly be a time of transition, but also promise.

There seems to always be a guarantee in life that change will happen. It is something we tend to become anxious about because we are not in control. The good news is that through change, God provides for the future. If we trust in God, then we are promised that all things will work together for good.

There have been several suggestions and assumptions circulating regarding the use of these areas and their upcoming availability. These suggestions and inferences are not without merit. However, nothing has been determined or defined. The staff has begun to evaluate and plan a transition to include relocation of the children and youth ministry departments as well as provide additional meeting space to accommodate adult ministry demands. This transition will be the first of several as we move to maximize our facilities for shared use among church programs while minimizing the impact to our programming. This plan will be presented to the church council for approval in 2019.

First Protestant Church is on the verge of realizing the first phase of the Strategic Planning team, with the construction of the new school, and it is an exciting time to be part of this historic and long awaited project. Please be in prayer for the speedy completion, smooth transition, and next phase of renovation as we continue to provide for spiritual growth of our community.

(Pictures on the following page)



New Building Brings About Transition...



'TIS THE SEASON TO SPREAD LOVE AND CHEER

by Jill Rodriguez, Director of Lay Ministry

The Pastoral Care Board, combined with Lay Ministry, filled and distributed approximately 70 Christmas bags to our shut-in members and those residing in care facilities. The bags included: hot chocolate mix, oatmeal packs, peanut butter crackers, peppermints, candy canes, Kleenex packs, lip balm and hand lotion. Many thanks to those who donated items and cash to help fill these bags. Christmas can be a lonely time for our shut-in members. The delivery of a bag and a visit from church family can make a huge difference during their Christmas season. Pictured below are the ladies who helped to assemble the gifts (Gay Wimberley, Anne Buck, Fritzie Cox). A big thank you to them for giving of their time to make this project possible.



Proverbs 16:31 Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained in the way of righteousness.

Meet Our New Members

by Mae Kraft, Volunteer Coordinator



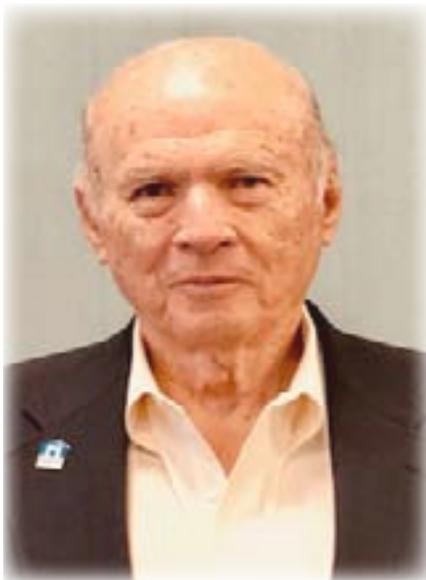
Fredericka "Fritzie" Cox
1692 Kimberly Dawn
New Braunfels, TX 78130



William Shawn Jurica
435 Ogden Lane
New Braunfels, TX 78130



Charlene Johnston
4106 Hunter Road
San Marcos, TX 78666



Harry and Barbara Thorley
3812 Pheasant
Schertz, TX

New Member Class - April 2018

Nick and Pamela Allen

Mindee Engler

Slater Smith

John (J.R.) & Eryn) Putalavage

Bill & Corrie Merris

Mary Ann Jones .. by letter of transfer

Gail Engler

Debbie Farmer

John & Linda Kachsitk

Julia Parris

Dave Welch



FIRST PROTESTANT
CHURCH OF NEW BRAUNFELS

CHURCH COUNCIL AND BOARDS
JANUARY 1, 2019 – DECEMBER 31, 2019

Council Executive Committee

President	Lee Graham
Vice President	Brian Coulombe
Secretary	Florence Borchers
Treasurer	Jeff Albrecht

Council Members At Large

Ron Hamel	Kaia Schroeder
Mike Jaroszewski	Carol Hafer
Carol Burr	Laura Buske
Chris Beabout	

Board of Finance:

Jeff Albrecht	Alice Cross
Barry Polston	Keith Buck
Chris Humphries	Shirley Kivlin

Board of Global Outreach:

Kolette Palacios	Kim Griffith
Rodney Fischer	David Smith
Shawn Wimberley	Kaye Polston

Board of Fine Arts and Music:

Vicki Hamel	Jennifer Graham
Linda Dietert	Bob Peterman
Sharon Weideman	Suzanne Markgraf

Board of Pastoral Care:

Gay Wimberley	Marlene Moore
Anne Buck	Fritzie Cox
Susie Seekatz	Debbie Reininger

Board of Christian Education

Cathy Fischer	Jessi Harlow
Chesney Tompkins	Laura Nuhn
Deanna Hafer	Kim DeMore

Board of Hospitality:

Dell Halm	Laurel Evans
Lucille Koehler	Carol Herr
Cindy Biggs	Bonnie Engler

Contagious Christians

Jon Duckworth	Trent Tompkins
Renee Huckaby	Eric Marshall
Gene Challenner	Gordon Schroeder

Board of Nomination:

Carroll Lindeman	Carol Burr
Betty Kyle	Gordon Schroeder
Charles Saur	Denise Mund

Salvation Army:

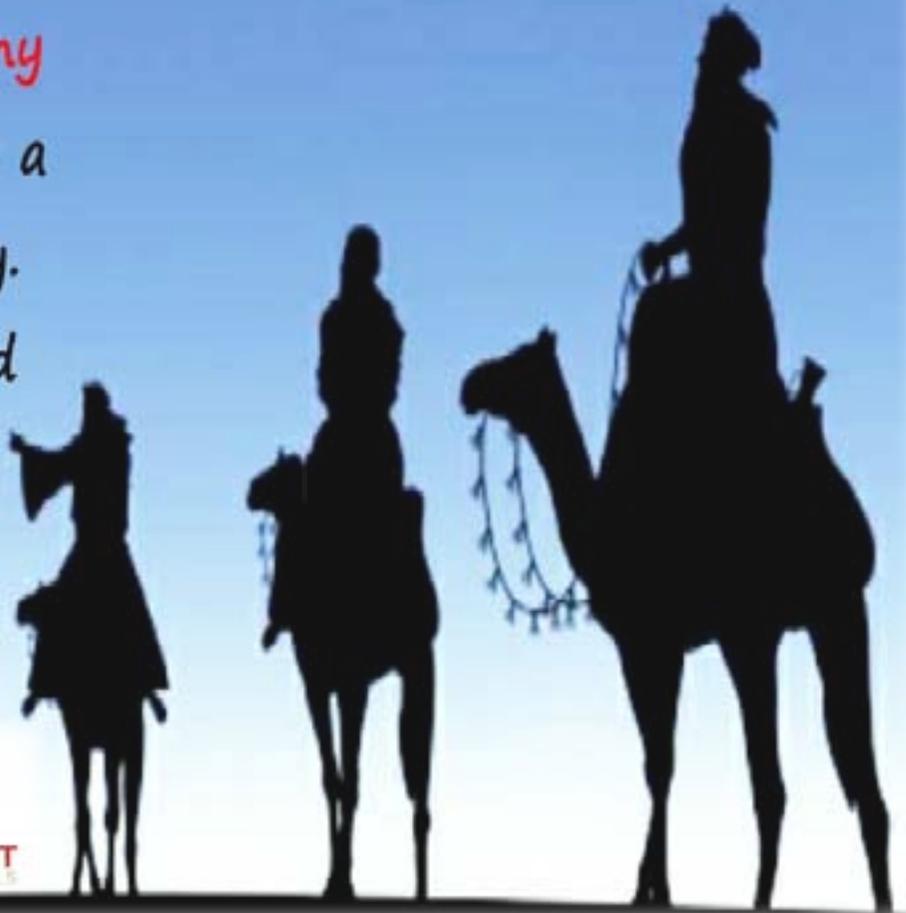
Gene Challenner, Gordon Schroeder

New Year, New Start, New You?

At the first **Epiphany**
the **Wise Men** made a
journey of discovery.
Why not join us and
explore your own
journey of spiritual
discovery this New
Year?



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CHURCH OF NEW BRAUNFELS



First Protestant Church
172 West Coll Street
New Braunfels, TX 78130

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