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**“Ryan’s Night to Remember”**

*Dinner for the Homeless and Needy – September 18*

(Pittsburgh, PA, September 12) - In partnership with **Outreached Arms**, a ministry to Pittsburgh’s homeless, and **Atria’s Restaurants**, **First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh** will be hosting **“Ryan’s** **Night to Remember”** on **Tuesday, September 18** at 6 p.m. Approximately 130 homeless and needy individuals will be treated to an elegant, sit-down meal, entirely donated and served by Atria’s. A “mocktail” and appetizer reception will precede the dinner. Live music, featuring the Outreached Arms Choir and Isaac Adamiak on viola, will be offered throughout the evening. Volunteers have been securing donations for this event, including cut flowers and vases from Trader Joes. After the meal, each guest will receive a small gift.

This special September 18 event was the vision and passion of Ryan Cenk, one of the key Outreached Arms volunteers, who lost his battle with pediatric brain cancer last year. Ryan’s dream was to give people who have very little a special “night to remember.” The September 18 date was chosen because it is close to Ryan’s birthday.

At Ryan’s “Celebration of Life”, just before he died, he shared the following:

“I don’t know how much longer I’m going to be here… We don’t know what tomorrow brings, because only Jesus knows that. So I always tell people... If you are going to learn something from me – forget the past. If you are going to live in the past, you’re going to miss out on the future and the present, which is more important... I’m going to walk out of here with a smile on my face and say ‘I’m not giving up, because God never gave up on me.’”

An excerpt from this message will be part of a “card” that will be placed at each table setting.

For the last three years, Outreached Arms and First Presbyterian Church have partnered to serve those in need a hot meal in the church’s cafeteria each Tuesday night, preceded by Bible studies for men and women. The focus is on building relationships and sharing the love and hope of Jesus with these guests, many of whom gather on the steps of the church each day. Last year, we served more than 6,000 meals through this outreach and distributed more than 5 tons of food through our Walk-In Ministry food pantry.

For more information on “Ryan’s Night to Remember” or other services offered by First Presbyterian Church to our city’s most vulnerable citizens, call 412-471-3436 or email our senior pastor Rev. Tom Hall at thall@fpcp.org. You can also visit our website at [www.fpcp.org](http://www.fpcp.org).

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