

**Commitment  
Sunday is  
November 22**

*[See pages 2 & 12-13]*

**Midday  
Noels**  
returns in  
December

*[See article  
pages 8-9]*

**Redeeming  
The Crisis:  
Hunger &  
Homelessness  
Awareness  
Event  
coming  
Nov. 18**

*[See page 6]*



**FPC  
Local  
Missions:  
CAM**

perseveres  
through  
COVID-19  
to provide  
assistance  
and support

*[See article page 11]*

MADE FOR THIS  
*Moment*

**STEWARDSHIP 2021**



## Made for this Moment



Rev. Dr. Bob Fuller  
Senior Pastor

On October 14, 2020, Jobe and Ashley Jackson welcomed a new baby boy into the family and JW Jackson got a new baby brother. (See the birth announcement on [page 16](#).) We love to welcome new children into our church family, and celebrate the joy they bring.

JW and Pearce are the seventh generation of their family to be part of FPC San Antonio. They are descendants of the Newton family, who were founding members of the congregation. Samuel Newton, Pearce's and JW's ancestor, was one of the first elders of First Presbyterian Church of San Antonio (installed 1851).

I mention Pearce's birth because it has prompted new hope and a new perspective. In the year 2020, a year of unexpected trial, unrest and tribulation, the Lord blessed the Jackson family, and the First Presbyterian Church family with a reminder of His faithfulness.

Seven generations ago, God established First Presbyterian Church to establish a *"foothold of the gospel in San Antonio."* And, for seven generations, God has upheld that purpose. From generation to generation, the Lord has carried First Presbyterian Church through wars, depressions and even pandemics. And now, in spite of a health crisis, economic recession, social upheaval and political turmoil, God continues to remind us of his providential care. For seven generations, God has gathered, guided, fed and guarded his people so that we can Love Jesus Christ, Love One Another and Love the City.

When Louis Zbinden first arrived in San Antonio in 1971, a reporter asked him why he had moved his family all the way from North Carolina to lead a struggling downtown church in Texas. He answered, *"Because there are still people in San Antonio, and God still loves them."*

Even after 174 years, the Lord is reminding us that San Antonio still needs First Presbyterian Church. 2020 was a year of fear and division. 2021 will be the year for us to draw people together in the hope of Jesus Christ. 2020 was the year of isolation, distancing and separation. 2021 will be a year to bring the church and our people back together. 2020 was the year of health, economic, and social crisis. 2021 will be the year for FPC to be the hands and feet of Christ to people who have suffered these calamities.

God has given each one of us resources for this moment. He has made us by his grace, by his faith and by his love. He has equipped us with spiritual gifts, heartfelt passions, abilities, personalities, and experiences. As the Apostle Paul wrote, *"We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."* (Ephesians 2:10)

The Lord also brought us together, as a church, for this moment. Even though 2020 took all of us by surprise, the Lord was not surprised. From time eternal God knew what was going to happen, and members, pastors, officers, teachers, volunteers, staff—

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the Lord brought together, his people, *"for such a time as this."* And he didn't make any mistakes. There were no accidents. The Lord loves you, he made you and we are supposed to be here together.

No one can argue that 2020 took us by surprise. But we are going to be ready for 2021. This is our moment and we are going to take the lessons that we learned in 2020 and apply them to 2021. God has given us the vision, the means, the tools, the talent, and the people. We need every family in the church to share the blessings God has entrusted to our care.

Right now, each one of us needs to rise to this moment. I am asking each one of you to rise to this moment, knowing that our Lord has placed us here *For Such a Time as This*. Over the next few days, you will receive information about our Stewardship campaign for 2021. 2021 will our 175th anniversary of ministry in San Antonio. Whether you represent the seventh generation, or you are the first in your family to be part of FPC, you are important. God has a design for you. He has a plan and purpose for your life. He has a position for you on his team and a place for you at his table. The Lord made you for this moment by his Grace, by his Faith and by his Love.

**SOLI DEO GLORIA,  
- REV. DR. BOB FULLER**

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- 5 Save the Date:** Stand Sunday, Christmas Eve Services, Operation Christmas Child, Thanksgiving Office Closure
- 6 Save the Date:** Redeeming the Crisis - Church Spiritual Gifts Survey; Redeeming the Crisis- In This Together, Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week; GriefShare Surviving the Holidays; DivorceCare Surviving the Holidays; RESET Gathering, KEYS November, Youth Ministry Fellowship Night
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# Weekly Sunday Services

**Traditional Service:** 9:00 AM in the Sanctuary & Online

**Contemporary Service:** 11:02 AM in Westminster Hall & Online

**Online:** [www.fpcsanantonio.org/media](http://www.fpcsanantonio.org/media)

We have resumed in-person worship. Visit [fpcsanantonio.org/reunion](http://fpcsanantonio.org/reunion) for reopening guidelines. We will continue streaming the 9:00 AM & 11:02 AM services live on our webpage [fpcsanantonio.org/media](http://fpcsanantonio.org/media). Please refresh your browser at the start of the live service to join in. A recorded version of each service will be available online immediately following the close of service. On-campus communion has resumed on the First Sunday of each month.

- 9:00 AM - Traditional Service in Sanctuary & Online
- 10:00 AM - Sunday School Hour - Various Online & On-Campus options for Adults, Youth, and Children.
- 11:02 AM - Contemporary Service in Westminster Hall & Online

## Connect with FPC's Ministries

Ministries are still happening! We want to connect with you and continue to be the body of Christ in this unique time.

### Care & Prayer

- Care and Concern: Call 210-222-CARE (210-222-2273) for current list. Email [lisas@fpcsat.org](mailto:lisas@fpcsat.org) to join the email list.
- Request prayer and pray for others online at [fpcsanantonio.org/prayerwall](http://fpcsanantonio.org/prayerwall).
- FPC Virtual Prayer Room meets Wednesdays on Zoom from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Zoom Meeting ID: 826 9365 7302 | Password: 727274

### Children

- Parents, contact Rozlyn Miller at [rozlynm@fpcsat.org](mailto:rozlynm@fpcsat.org) for more information or to join the Private Facebook Group.

### Missions

- Connect with our FPC Missions Facebook Page ([www.facebook.com/fpcmissions](http://www.facebook.com/fpcmissions)).
- Visit [fpcsanantonio.org/global-missions](http://fpcsanantonio.org/global-missions) for the most recent updates from our partners.
- Join our 9:38 Mission Prayer Text line to receive weekly prayer updates. Email [lindsays@fpcsat.org](mailto:lindsays@fpcsat.org) with your mobile number to join.
- Contact Lindsay Selli at [missions@fpcsat.org](mailto:missions@fpcsat.org) for more information or to share ideas on how to help our community.

### KEYS: Older Adults

- Friday Morning Zoom Meetings each week at 11:00 AM. Zoom ID 570 618 8075. No Password. This will be our weekly online meeting whether we have a scheduled speaker or not.
- Request to join our private Facebook Group or get more information by emailing [joem@fpcsat.org](mailto:joem@fpcsat.org).

### University

- Email [alexs@fpcsat.org](mailto:alexs@fpcsat.org)
- Connect with us on Instagram & Twitter @fpc\_umin & Facebook ([www.facebook.com/2TenSATX](http://www.facebook.com/2TenSATX)).

### Young Adults

- Watch [fpcsanantonio.org/ya](http://fpcsanantonio.org/ya) for updates.
- Contact Carrie at [carrie@fpcsat.org](mailto:carrie@fpcsat.org) or Mitchell Moore at [mitchellm@fpcsat.org](mailto:mitchellm@fpcsat.org) for more info.

### Youth

- Instagram @fpcsayouth and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/fpcsayouth](http://www.facebook.com/fpcsayouth))
- Visit our FPC Youth webpage [fpcsanantonio.org/youth](http://fpcsanantonio.org/youth) for additional updates.
- Email Alex Clary at [alexc@fpcsat.org](mailto:alexc@fpcsat.org) for more information.

## Fall Ministry Guide

Visit [fpcsanantonio.org/fall2020](http://fpcsanantonio.org/fall2020) for the full ministry opportunities at FPC this semester for Adults, University, Youth, and Children.

## Sunday Classes

**Various On-Campus & Online Options | Most classes meet during 10:00 AM Sunday School Hour**

[fpcsanantonio.org/children-sundays](http://fpcsanantonio.org/children-sundays)

[fpcsanantonio.org/youth-sundays](http://fpcsanantonio.org/youth-sundays)

[fpcsanantonio.org/adults-sundays](http://fpcsanantonio.org/adults-sundays)

[fpcsanantonio.org/uni-sundays](http://fpcsanantonio.org/uni-sundays)

## Church Offices Open - Call (210) 226-0215

We have resumed our regularly scheduled business hours. The campus will be accessible by FPC members for necessary business and ministry. However, the doors will be locked. (Just call the staff receptionist to let them know you are here.)

## Bob's No Fear Podcast

**Dates: Every Other Week**

Sr. Pastor Bob Fuller shares a message of hope and victory through the "No Fear" podcast episodes on the FPC San Antonio Podcast Channel. He shares a short devotional passage and reports on important news related to the FPC community. Bob is joined by new co-hosts, Alex Clary (Director of Ministries to Youth and their Families) and Alex Solorio (Director of University Ministries.)



What can you do to  
**HELP  
CHILDREN**  
in the foster care system?



## Stand Sunday

**Date:** Sunday | November 8

On Stand Sunday, Christians stand for the children and families in foster care. As a result of the fallout from COVID-19, we expect to see a significant influx of children into the foster care system. Prayerfully consider where your place may be in serving these vulnerable children. We can make a difference—one church, one family, one child at a time. Email the L.O.V.E. Initiative Coordinator, Teresa McCaleb, at [tbmccaleb@gmail.com](mailto:tbmccaleb@gmail.com) for more information.



## Christmas Eve Services

**Date:** Thursday, December 24

**Location:** FPC Sanctuary

Celebrate the birth of our Savior with family and friends at any of our four in-person services or live online at [fpcsanantonio.org/media](https://fpcsanantonio.org/media). 2:30 PM - Communion Service; 5:00 PM - Family Service; 7:30 & 10:00 PM - Candlelight Services. All services will be live online, except the 10:00 PM time will be a recording of the first candlelight service.



**GOOD NEWS.  
GREAT JOY.**

*Pack Shoeboxes. Change Lives.*

### Shoeboxes Due Sunday, November 15

Everyone is invited to pick up an OCC box today or any time on or before November 8. Please take them home and fill them up according to the instructions in the box. You may also "Adopt a Box" for \$30 to have the Children's Ministry staff pack a box for you (make checks out to FPC). Boxes are due back to FPC by Sunday, November 15 to be sent to Samaritan's Purse. For more information contact [rozlynm@fpcsat.org](mailto:rozlynm@fpcsat.org).





## Redeeming the Crisis Church Spiritual Gifts Survey

[fpcsanantonio.org/gifts-survey](https://fpcsanantonio.org/gifts-survey)

One of our first steps in REDEEMING THE CRISIS is to gather information. We are working to inventory our congregation to assess the skills, resources, relationships, connections and spiritual gifts we can bring to bear for the sake of our community. The Spiritual Gift Survey takes us to the step of personal investment, and will help us to learn how the Lord has designed and gifted each of us to show His mercy in this moment. You will be hearing a lot more about REDEEMING THE CRISIS. The Lord is summoning us to REACH OUT to our city, to REACH IN to one another and to REACH UP to the Lord Jesus Christ in prayer and worship.



**REDEEMING THE CRISIS**  
neighbors & neighborhood

## In This Together Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week

**Date:** Wednesday, Nov. 18  
**Time:** 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
**Location:** Christian Assistance  
Ministry Parking Lot

First Pres will be partnering with CAM, SA Hope, Any Woman Can, Canines for Christ, Faith Based Institute, and several other churches and organizations to help raise awareness for hunger and homelessness in San Antonio. Lunch will be hosted on Wednesday, Nov. 18 in the CAM parking lot and we welcome all our FPC family to join in fellowship with our neighbors. Contact Lindsay Selli at [lindsays@fpcsat.org](mailto:lindsays@fpcsat.org) for more information.

## GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays

**Date 1:** Wednesday, November 11  
**Time:** 6:30 PM **Location:** Zoom

**Date 2:** Sunday, November 15  
**Times:** 10:00 - 11:30 AM or  
12:15- 1:45 PM  
**Location:** Room 310

GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays is a seminar offering help and hope for those who are grieving a loved one's death. It's filled with helpful tips for dealing with emotions, traditions, and social gatherings during the holiday season. We have three options for attending the seminar: Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 6:30 PM online via Zoom, or in person on Sunday, Nov. 15 in Room 310 after each service at 10:00 AM & 12:15 PM. Please register online at [griefshare.org/holidays](https://griefshare.org/holidays) for one of our seminars and to order the \$5 workbook. Contact Joe Moore at [joem@fpcsat.org](mailto:joem@fpcsat.org) for more information.

## DivorceCare: Surviving the Holidays

**Date:** Wednesday, November 11  
**Time:** 6:00 PM  
**Location:** Room 226

DivorceCare: Surviving the Holidays is a seminar for people experiencing separation or divorce who are facing the holiday season without their former spouse. It's filled with practical strategies from a biblical perspective for dealing with the changes and emotions that come with the season. Please feel free to connect with Butch Gerfers at 210-862-9998 or [gerfers@flash.net](mailto:gerfers@flash.net), if you have any questions or would like more information.

## FPC Youth Ministry Fellowship Night

**Date:** Sunday, November 15  
**Time:** 5:30 - 7:00 PM  
**Location:** Off Campus Location TBD

Come join us on Sunday, November 15 from 5:30-7:00 PM for food, fellowship, and a message! All grades 6-12 are invited. Social distancing will be observed, all food preparers will observe precautions, and masks are required. Contact Alex Clary for location and more info at [alexc@fpcsat.org](mailto:alexc@fpcsat.org).



## Reset Gathering

**Monday | November 16 | 7:00 PM**  
Westminster Hall & Live Stream  
[fpcsanantonio.org/reset](https://fpcsanantonio.org/reset)

RESET: A ministry for university students and young adults. We meet monthly for large RESET gatherings to grow in our relationship with Christ as we walk with one another in fellowship and study God's Word together. Join a group today! Our next RESET Gathering will be Nov. 16 from 7:00-8:15 PM in Westminster Hall and online at [fpcsanantonio.org/reset](https://fpcsanantonio.org/reset). Contact Mitchell Moore ([mitchellm@fpcsat.org](mailto:mitchellm@fpcsat.org)), Carrie Everson ([carriee@fpcsat.org](mailto:carriee@fpcsat.org)), or Alex Solorio ([alexs@fpcsat.org](mailto:alexs@fpcsat.org)) for more details.

## KEYS November

Friday Mornings Zoom Meetings each week at 11:00 AM. Zoom ID 570-618-8075. No Password.

### Fridays | 9:30 AM

Friday Fitness with Jacqi Crow

### Friday, Nov. 6 | 11:00 AM

Global Missions Partners Wilian & Erly Santos

### Friday, Nov. 13 | 11:00 AM

Jessicah Holloway, Director of Morgan's Wonderland Camp

### Friday, Nov. 20 | 11:30 AM

Veterans' Day Theme

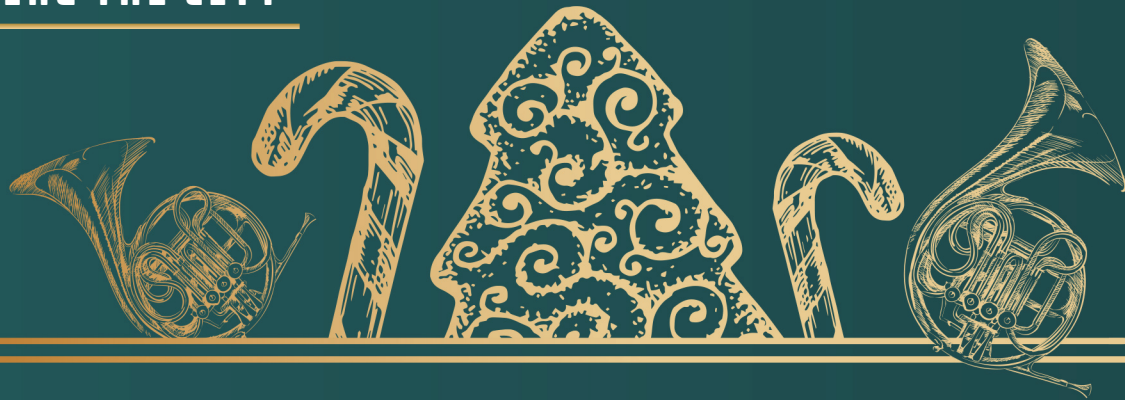
### Friday, Nov. 27 | 11:00 AM

NO KEYS, Happy Thanksgiving

More information on [page 21](#).







# A Safe Celebration of Midday Noels

TOM DOOLING Minister of Music

**W**e are once again excited to offer Midday Noels concerts in December, our holiday 'gift to the city' with a variety of creative musical offerings. As you might imagine, accessibility and safety are two of our highest priorities as we make plans for our concerts this year. In addition to in-person attendance, all three concerts will be streamed live at [fpcsanantonio.org/noels](https://fpcsanantonio.org/noels) and will be available for viewing on our Youtube.com channel after the concert. Utilizing our 'state of the art' live-streaming equipment, you will be able to see and hear all the performances with high quality video and audio.

For those that choose to attend in-person, we will have limited distanced seating available in our sanctuary similar to that utilized during worship on Sunday mornings. Additional measures such as increased sanitation and air-purification will be employed before and during the concerts. We will ask everyone to wear a mask when entering and exiting the building, as well as during the concert.

All our concerts will be free and open

to the public. In an effort to safely manage the capacity of our facility, we will be using a free on-line reservation system for in-person attendance. We ask that you reserve a free ticket by visiting [fpcsanantonio.org/noels](https://fpcsanantonio.org/noels). In a few quick and easy steps, you will be able to either print your ticket or save it to your smart phone. You can reserve up to 2 tickets per person - parties of 4 or more can contact Brittanie Salazar at 210-271-2730 for group tickets. The concerts will begin at 12 Noon and doors will open at 11:30 AM. Entry to the concerts will be through the Alamo Street Sanctuary doors. Those needing additional assistance should use the Avenue E entrance. When you arrive to the sanctuary, we will briefly scan your free ticket as an usher takes you to the next available seating area in the sanctuary. In order to maximize our limited seating, we will not be able to honor special requests for seating other than those that require mobility assistance. At the end of the concert, the usher will dismiss the audience by row beginning with the back of the sanctuary and moving forward. We ask that you do not congregate in public areas while you are in the facility to ensure the safety of all our guests.



Following the concert, we will be offering 'Grab and Go' lunches (\$5), available on the sidewalk just outside our sanctuary doors. Due to the safety considerations of serving a hot lunch to large crowds, we will not be offering a seated lunch option this year in Westminster Hall. Rest assured that we will look forward to bringing that back in future years.

I'm really excited about our concert line-up this year. Here is just a brief description of the programs you can look forward to:

### **Thursday, December 3** **"Shimmering Songs and Sparkling Singing"**

Our FPC Chamber Singers present four beautiful choral pieces of the season, interspersed with captivating vocal solos that span diverse genres including opera and popular song.

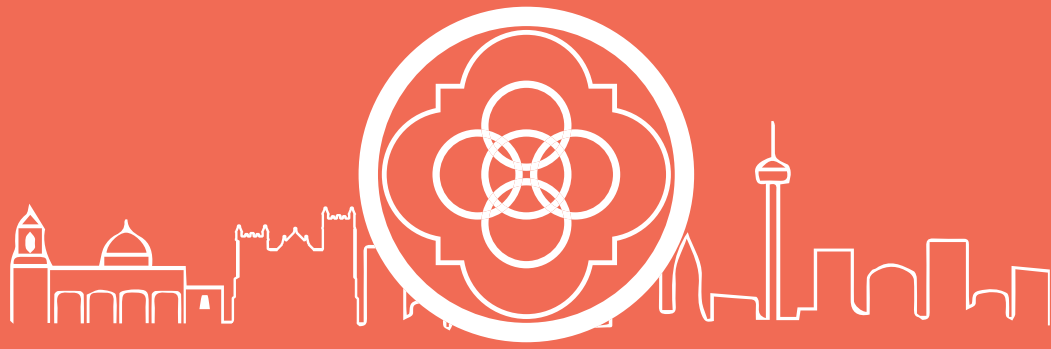
### **Thursday, December 10** **"Sound the Trumpet!"**

Our highly skilled organist, Dr. Jae Ha, is joined by Brandon Pauley, professional trumpeter and Adjunct Instructor of High Brass at Schreiner University. Jae's musical presentations are always a highlight of our series and not to be missed!

### **Thursday, December 19** **"Christmas with the Petersen Family"**

We are excited to welcome The Petersen Family, a YouTube sensation, from their home in Branson, Missouri. For the first time in Midday Noels history, we will present this renowned family ensemble in a live-streamed performance from Branson to both our in-person and on-line audience. The Petersens have developed an international reputation for their interpretations of popular song, gospel, and bluegrass classics. A staple of the Branson entertainment landscape, they've been ranked as the #1 show in the area by TripAdvisor.





# REDEEMING THE CRISIS

Light Will Rise

## Food Drive Celebration



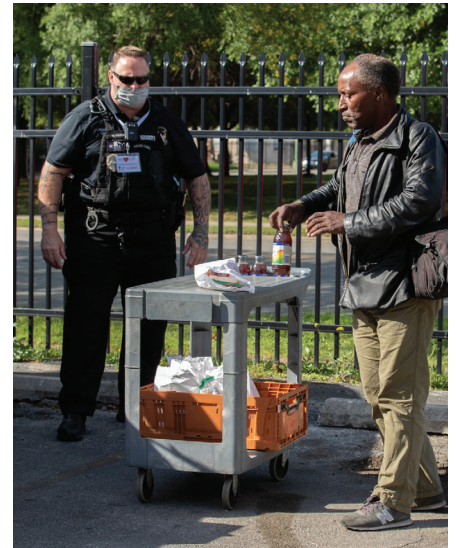
**W**e had over 25 volunteers from FPC help with distributing food on Saturday, October 17 in partnership with Catholic Charities. 1,061 families and 4,606 total people were served! An estimated 75,000 pounds of food were given out! Thank you FPC for your faithfulness in this moment!





# Local Mission Update: Christian Assistance Ministries (CAM)

DAWN WHITE-FOSDICK  
President/CEO of CAM



**T**hroughout this COVID-19 period, CAM remained open to share the love of Christ by providing immediate assistance and encouragement to people in crisis. We have adapted to this “new normal” by moving operations outside and prioritizing the unsheltered homeless, financial assistance for prescriptions and food. CAM has never been more needed. We are blessed to meet the needs of people, often at 4 to 5 times the service levels before COVID-19.

weekly clothing (including new hygiene, underwear and socks); groceries (monthly for those not homeless and every two weeks for those without a car); financial assistance for utilities, ID recovery, and prescriptions; free mail service; monthly outdoor clothing pantry (3rd Saturday of each month); porta potties, hand washing stations, drinking water, and showers. Our NW location resumed normal hours on October 1st and is open Tuesday through Thursday. We have done all of this without our regular, hundreds of volunteers and with new COVID safety protocol.

the peace with us. We even hired security with an initial concern this might cause some problems; and yet, we see our clients so grateful for him as an additional blessing and help to them. Our staff experience many “God Bless you’s” and smiles that lift us up from our worries.

We have been blessed by support from thousands of individuals, many churches, and increased coordination with other city ministry partners. We have made our facilities available to other partners to serve downtown. For example, on October 10, we coordinated with Faith Based Institute and FPC to host Loaves and Fishes.

For updates on our services and needs, please visit our website [christianassistanceministry.org](http://christianassistanceministry.org). Please continue to pray for our staff, clients and God’s abundant provision. God is good!



This year CAM has provided over \$100,000 in rental assistance; 5,000 lunches per month;

This year, CAM will likely serve over 70,000 people, 20,000 more than usual. We are seeing a higher rate of homeless clients (about 50% versus 25% historically). We have been blessed by relationships with those we serve who (of course) know these are hard times and are so grateful to be able to count on us daily, like “MD” who helps us clean up the campus and brings fresh vegetables from his small garden. Other clients offer helpful advice and suggest better processes to be more helpful to those we serve. Folks like Miranda, Joe or Henry help keep others in line and keep





NOW  
IS THE  
*Time*

USE GOD'S GIFTS FOR GOD'S PURPOSES

# MADE FOR THIS *Moment* STEWARDSHIP 2021

- ▶ **Pray.** Ask God to open the door for you to give generously to the ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Think about what the ministry of FPC means to you and what it has meant to the people and history of our city. Pray that God's love would take over our lives and challenge us to respond in this moment as never before.
- ▶ **Make a Faith Commitment.** A Faith Commitment is a plan to support the work of the church financially in 2021. Trust that God is at work in the church and that the gifts that you give will not be wasted, but will be used to spread God's Word and His love.
- ▶ **Take the Spiritual Gift Survey ([fpcsanantonio.org/gift-survey](https://fpcsanantonio.org/gift-survey)) and Get Involved in a Church Ministry.** Find a way to serve God by serving others and sharing your faith in a hands-on way. Work through the ministries and projects of the church. God wants to mobilize your passions and talents for His love and glory.

## REACH UP

2020 has been a year of fear and division. 2021 will be the year for us to draw people together in the hope of Jesus Christ. The great commission is to make disciples, and our mission as a church is to make disciples who love Jesus Christ, love one another, and who love the city. We can reach up to God because he first reached down to us. Through our ministries of worship and discipleship, we turn people's attention to God, leading them to his glory and giving them a vision of light beyond the darkness and distress of the daily news. This is our moment to show the world what it means to *Glorify God and enjoy him forever, even now.*

## REACH IN

2020 has been a year of isolation, distancing and separation. 2021 will be a year to bring the church and our people back together. Celebration of our 175th anniversary is going to provide both the motive and the occasions for our church family to celebrate, remember and grow together in fellowship. As we build our own relationships as a church family, we want to make sure that we have the resources to enrich families, support marriages, comfort people who are grieving, and walk with people through crisis. This is a time for us to reach in and reconnect in care and concern. This is our moment to show the world what it means to love one another as Christ has loved us.



# COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 22

Brochures and Commitment Forms will be sent to covenant partners and available online at [www.fpcsanantonio.org/give](http://www.fpcsanantonio.org/give). Commitments can be made by doing one of the following:

1. Visit our website at [www.fpcsanantonio.org/give](http://www.fpcsanantonio.org/give).
2. Download the FPC App and go to the "Give" section.
3. Fill out a commitment form and bringing it to the service of dedication on Sunday, November 22. You may also mail it to the church office, drop it off, or place it in the offering plate on any Sunday.



## REACH OUT

2020 has been a year of health, economic, and social crises. 2021 will be the year for FPC to be the hands and feet of Christ. For 175 years, First Presbyterian Church has been a leader in providing hope in difficult moments. The need is great and through our local partnerships and ministries of our church, we are reaching and addressing homelessness, domestic violence, mental health issues and family breakdown. Through our global mission partners, new and old, we are building up the church around the world and are carrying Christ's hope and truth to the nations. Isaiah 58:10 says, "*satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then your light will rise in the darkness.*" This is our moment to let the light of Jesus Christ rise and to show the world what it means to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

## COMMITMENT CARD

In response to God's generous gift and by faith,

I/we \_\_\_\_\_

will support the ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church of San Antonio by:

☐ Committing to the following gift for the 2021 budget

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ PER (Please check one)

☐ WEEK ☐ MONTH ☐ YEAR ☐ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

FOR ANNUAL TOTAL OF: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Committing to pray for the missions and ministry of the church.

☐ Committing to take the Spiritual Gifts Survey and get involved in a Church Ministry.

PLEASE PRINT NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_



# Global Mission Update : Haiti

**H**aiti is a country of 11 million people located on the Eastern side of the Island of Hispaniola

which it shares with the Dominican Republic. It achieved independence from France in 1804, making it the second oldest independent country in the Americas. The name Haiti is derived from a French word denoting mountains or “heights”,

which refers to mountainous character of the landscape. The highest point on the island is Pic La Selle which stands at 8,793 ft, slightly higher than the tallest peak in Texas, Guadalupe, at 8,750 ft.

In the early 20th century, the United States occupied Haiti from 1915-1934, and during this time the Haitian constitution was penned by future President, Franklin D. Roosevelt. After the departure of U.S. Marines, the country has experienced either political turmoil or authoritarian rule for much of the past 80 years. The current President, Jovenel Moise was elected in 2017, and his term has been

marked by periods of social unrest. Currently, Haiti is classified as High Risk – Do Not Travel by the U.S. State Department.

**As it often is in the face of adversity**, the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ thrives. Our mission partner is the Rev. Octavius Delfils of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Haiti (or in French - Eglise Presbytérienne Réformée). A 2007 graduate of Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, he leads a congregation in the Delmas section of Port-au-Prince. His congregation meets in a large tent located on the property of the Adoration Christian Centre,







a school operated by Word and Deed, a mission agency associated with Christian Reformed congregations in the United States and Canada.

## Recently we received an outline of the goals for the ministry for 2021. They include:

- Proclaim the gospel of God's sovereign salvation through the work of Christ and the operation of the Holy Spirit in all its fullness in the church and around Port-au-Prince, not only in word but also being accompanied by deeds of love to God and man which must flow from it.
- Warn the unbelieving of eternal punishment and pray by God's grace that they understand the gospel, repent, believe, and live redeemed lives.
- Help establish an indigenous presbytery in Haiti to provide overseeing, fellowship, discipleship and instruction, and to make the gospel known in the culture.
- Train and ordain elders and deacons.
- Teach a solid program in Reformed theology.
- Translate two reformed books from English into French or Creole and publish them.
- Train children and youth in VBS, clubs and conferences.
- Train and encourage people to read the Bible, live a faithful Christian life and be involved in the ministry of the church.

## How can you respond as a Covenant Partner at First Presbyterian Church, San Antonio?

- o Become informed of the work in Haiti by visiting the website: **[www.rpc-haiti.org](http://www.rpc-haiti.org)**  
Also follow the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Haiti **on Facebook**.
- o Pray for the advancement of the work of Presbyterian and Reformed Pastors in Haiti, including for the successful formation of an indigenous Presbytery for the Haitian church.
- o Consider sponsoring a student at the Adoration Christian Centre which you can do at **<https://wordanddeed.org/ways-to-give/child-sponsor>**
- o Contact Lindsay Selli at **[lindsays@fpcsat.org](mailto:lindsays@fpcsat.org)** and indicate your interest in becoming a mission Champion for the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Haiti.

# Children's Ministry Advent 2020

ROZLYN MILLER

Ministry Director to Children and their Families



## NEW BABY

We have a new baby to celebrate with First Pres! Our church is happy to welcome a handsome little fella! Pray for this family as they grow! If you wish to send this new baby a card or gift please contact Rozlyn Miller and we will let you know what is on their wish list!



**Pearce Brunner Jackson**  
Born 10/14/2020 | 6 lbs 7oz  
19 inches long

FPC Families,

**T**his year we have made the incredibly difficult choice to not host an Advent Festival on campus. In light of COVID-19, our committee feels as if this event would be more of a risk than serve its purpose. However, Advent's core purpose is the celebration of our Savior's birth, as we ring in another holiday season and sing praises to the King of Kings who came into the world as an innocent baby! The message of Christmas this year is that when all things fall away, we still have Jesus! We are not forsaken, we are not forgotten, and all that we do it to be done for His glory. This Advent you will have a chance to reflect on this idea and principle as a family. We encourage you to celebrate Advent and to walk with members of your family through the Advent season with a special book provided along with a kit our committee would like to give you so that you may assemble an advent wreath at home! Please contact Rozlyn Miller to reserve your kit. Pick up will be on November 29 and anytime after that week on campus. May the Lord give you a sweet holiday this year!



# THE Gift OF Christmas

## SHARE THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS WITH A FAMILY IN NEED.

**G**ift of Christmas matches FPC covenant partners with needy families in San Antonio who are screened by House of Neighborly Services and Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services. Please prayerfully consider, either with a group or individually, "adopting" one of these families and sharing the joy of Christmas

with a less fortunate family. Information and Family Request Forms will be available at the Ave. E. porte-cochere entrance every Sunday in November. Completed forms are requested by December 2. Visit [fpcsanantonio.org/christmas-giving](http://fpcsanantonio.org/christmas-giving) or contact Cassie McMillan for more information at [cassiehager39@gmail.com](mailto:cassiehager39@gmail.com), 210-254-8558.



## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**Donate from Amazon Wish List  
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Volunteer in KRL**

Visit [fpcsanantonio.org/krl](http://fpcsanantonio.org/krl)  
or email [lindsays@fpcsat.org](mailto:lindsays@fpcsat.org)



BETSY ZACHRY

President, Women of the Church

# Women of the Church

*“For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love He predestined us to be adopted as His sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will...” Ephesians 1:4-5*

*“But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved.” Ephesians 2:4-5.*

I was just reflecting on these verses and they never cease to amaze me. You and I are among the billions of lives that have walked this planet since creation and the Creator knew us before we were formed! Isn't that amazing? Doesn't that give you comfort? So, no matter the situation in this fallen world, He has us! I just had to share with you because every time I get “concerned” about the state of our country I have to remember He's in charge, you and I are still His children, and you and I are still loved by the Creator.

It is hard to believe that as you read this we are in the month of November! On Wednesday, Oct. 28, we celebrated our wonderful Pastors and Staff at the WOC Staff Appreciation. Four extremely capable ladies: Pat Stanley, Toni Legrand, Anne Scates, and

Judith McNeel, insured these wonderful people within our Church family feel loved and appreciated.

The Gift of Christmas family sign-up begins this month, 1st – 29th, with Co-Chairs Cassie McMillan and Janet Pritchett. This year we have more families needing assistance from House of Neighborly Services (HNS). Presbyterian Children's Home and Services (PCHAS), a new recipient, is hoping to open in December two of the eight new duplexes they are building for single families in addition to five efficiency apartments for youth who have aged out of foster care. There are optional ways to safely make deliveries to each family, Cassie and Janet are happy to connect you directly with them. As you might imagine with COVID, many of those living on the edge need additional support this year. Please consider adopting as a Sunday School class,





small group, or a couple of families joining together, to make a difference in someone's Christmas. What a wonderful opportunity to show love for Christ by loving our city!

November is also "Operation Christmas Child." If you have never filled a shoe box, it is sooooo much fun! Sandy Moore and Nona Hall have ambitiously aimed for sending 500 boxes this year! Grab a box or boxes at the Church, pick the gender/s and age range of the child/ren and let your imagination run wild with all the fun surprises you can pack into a shoe box! Contact Nona at: [tagittagit678@icloud.com](mailto:tagittagit678@icloud.com) or 210-274-2643. FYI, November 15th is the deadline to return a filled box or donate money for others to purchase on your behalf.

Morningside Manor Christmas parties, typically held in early December, will be modified this year. Donations of warm socks with grippy bottoms, lap blankets, pre-packaged food items and lotions are greatly appreciated to fill gift bags for 107 precious ladies and gentlemen. A donation box is set-up by the receptionist's desk to receive donated items through November 20. Janice Wilson and Laura Johnstone are co-chairing these parties.

I wish to thank the beautiful hands

that provided 15 lunches to Habitat for Humanity builders on October 2. Thank you Circle 1/12 for purchasing those meals and to Suzanne and John Thomas for delivering them. It is my hope we can continue to help H4H a few more times over the year—if your Circle is interested in providing for a build (10, 15, 30 people) please contact me at: [betsyz@swbell.net](mailto:betsyz@swbell.net) or 210-262-1236.

October 20th saw us prepping Christmas crafts for the 107 residents of Morningside Manor. These beautiful and fun reminders of the "reason for the season" will be delivered along with gift bag goodies to these precious people. Thank you to Sara Parish and Circle 8 for providing these fun crafts!

That same evening we gathered in small groups to try an innovative approach to Ladies Night Out. Nancy Scheifele and her committee are creative and adaptive women! Sixty women, five houses—you do the math! Everything was held outside, socially distanced, everyone brought their own food and drink, and we were TOGETHER! Albeit in a smaller, more intimate manner, but these are good baby-steps! Thank you to house hosts: Judith McNeel (LNO Committee helper—Kim Smith); Brooke Peacock

(Martha Smith); Deborah Rogers (Deanna Rickabaugh); Pat Johnson (Shelley Bass); Nancy Scheifele (Maggie Burnett).

Finally, a BIG 'thank you' to all who attended—in person or online—the Fall "Ties that Bind" Legacy Luncheon on Monday, September 28. We heard Barbie and Doug Beach speak about their journey with a family member dealing with mental illness. Their message was impactful and touched everyone who heard their message. We also collected \$1,100 at the Luncheon to benefit NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)! Online giving was connected to our Women's page, however we are unable to track those gifts.

If you have any questions or observations about Women of the Church, I would love to hear from you. My contact information: [betsyz@swbell.net](mailto:betsyz@swbell.net) or 210-262-1236. Don't forget what a blessing you are—come be a blessing to others!



## PRAYER COMMITTEE

# THANKSGIVING DEVOTION

---

As we gather as families for this Thanksgiving meal, we often give thanks for the bountiful meal prepared with love. Let us also remember to thank God for all His blessing in our lives. Remember to thank Him for our church family and for what He is doing in the life of First Presbyterian and all the ministries this church supports. Thank Him for the leadership in our congregation and the staff and all those that make this church run smoothly and fulfill its calling to Love Jesus Christ, Love One Another, and Love our City.

Our prayers at the dinner table will take many forms. Some families will take this mealtime to share sentence prayers in which each person has an opportunity to tell God something for which he or she is thankful. Some may read a favorite family prayer or look one up that may have historical significance and may also read the proclamations given by President Washington (<http://www.leaderu.com/humanities/washington-thanksgiving.html>) or by President Lincoln after the civil war (<http://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/speeches/thanks.htm>).

On most of our smart phones there is a Bible app that offers special devotionals for a few days leading up to Thanksgiving Day. This helps us prepare our hearts to focus on thanking God for our many blessings.

Many families will take this time to share with those who have less, doing a shift at the food bank, or volunteering for many of the ministries of FPC, making the day less about us, but more about God.

## THANKSGIVING PRAYER

by Mary Fairchild

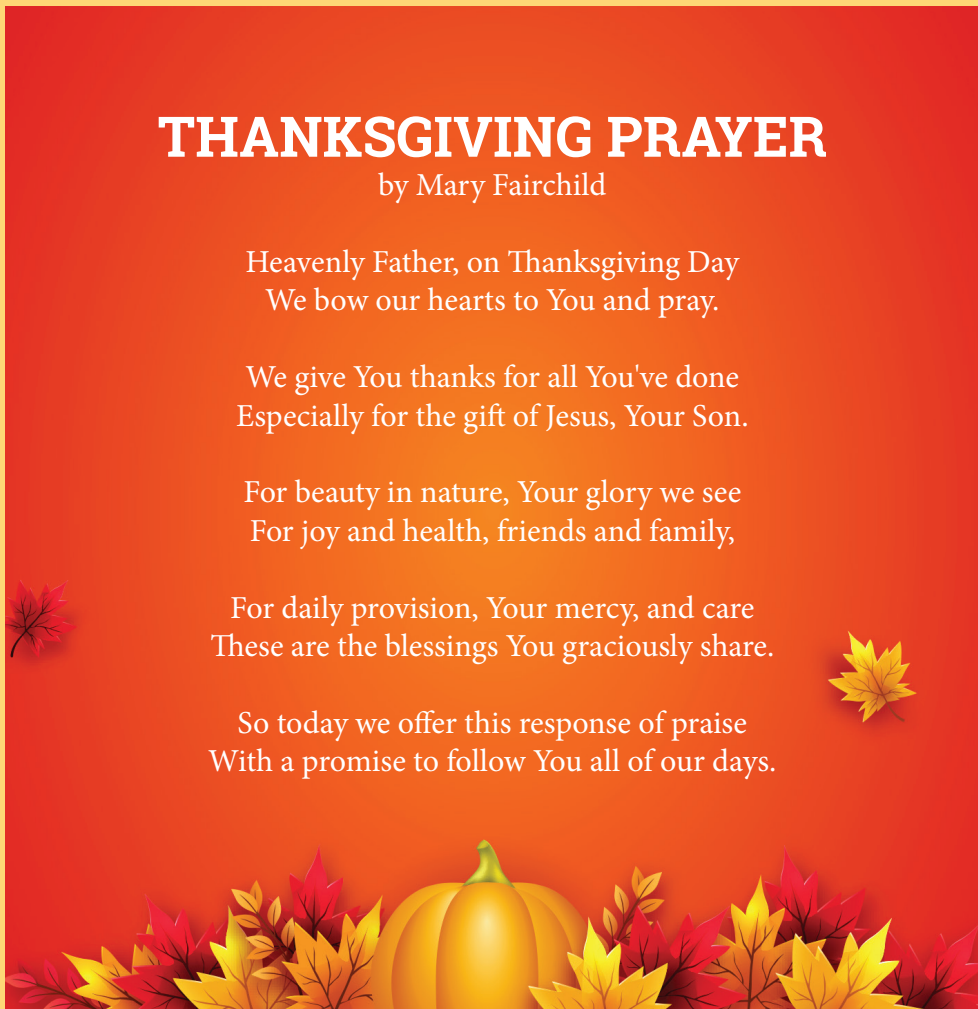
Heavenly Father, on Thanksgiving Day  
We bow our hearts to You and pray.

We give You thanks for all You've done  
Especially for the gift of Jesus, Your Son.

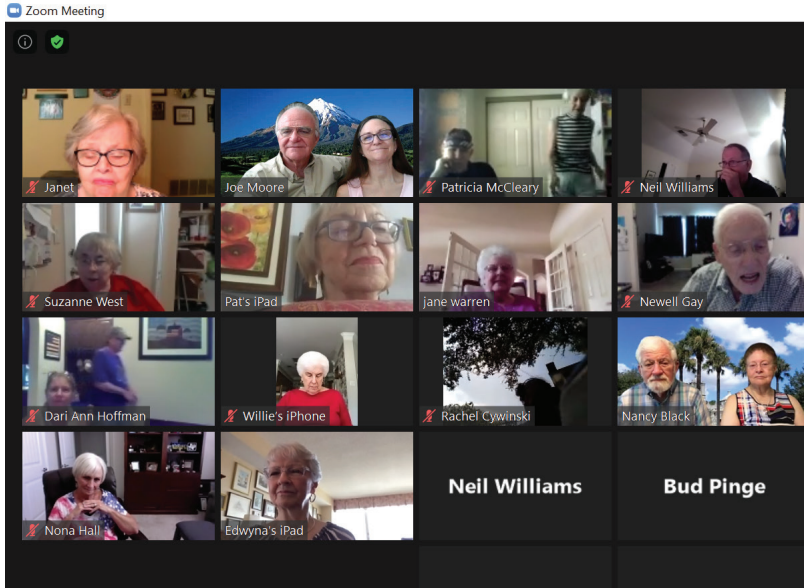
For beauty in nature, Your glory we see  
For joy and health, friends and family,

For daily provision, Your mercy, and care  
These are the blessings You graciously share.

So today we offer this response of praise  
With a promise to follow You all of our days.







**REV. DR. JOE MOORE**  
Minister for older adults and  
congregational care.

## Keeping EVERYONE Young in Spirit

**M**ake a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. Like Psalm 100, November reminds us to be thankful! If you need help with Zoom feel free to contact me at 802-734-2329 or [Joem@fpcsat.org](mailto:Joem@fpcsat.org).

### JOINING US BY ZOOM IN NOVEMBER:

**Fridays | 11:00 AM**

**Zoom Meeting ID 570 618 8075**

**Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5706188075> (no password)

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| <b>Nov. 6</b>  | Global Mission Partners Wilian & Erly Santos           |
| <b>Nov.13</b>  | Jessica Holloway, Director of Morgan's Wonderland Camp |
| <b>Nov. 20</b> | Veteran's Day Theme                                    |
| <b>Nov. 27</b> | Happy Thanksgiving! No KEYS meeting                    |

### PLANNING FOR DECEMBER:

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Dec. 4</b>  | Dr. Emily Lindsey, Assistant Curator and Excavation Site Director, Rancho La Brea |
| <b>Dec. 11</b> | Virtual Christmas Party   |

**AARP DISCOUNT:** If your AARP Safe Driving Class insurance discount is expiring. You can take the class online at [www.aarpdriversafety.org](http://www.aarpdriversafety.org).

**FRIDAY FITNESS WITH  
JACQI CROW:  
Fridays | 9:30 AM**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6199532743?pwd=aHRoaWNZdWtpMjJFa3dHSWVCYkl1UT09>

**Meeting ID: 619 953 2743  
Passcode: Strength**

We were fortunate to find Jacqueline Crow to conduct an online via Zoom fitness program for us. We received her contact information through Morningside Manor. All reviews of Jacqi's class have been glowing. Someone said, "she does such a good job online, I can't wait until we can continue in person."

**Remember, KEYS is not an exclusive club for older adults. Everyone is welcome to attend on Fridays and to join us on other activities as well, "Keeping EVERYONE Young in Spirit."**

# FIRST CUP READINGS NOVEMBER, 2020

Dear Family in Christ,

*First Cup* is designed to assist you in the habit of daily Bible reading and prayer. The name is to remind you that as you reach for your first cup of morning coffee or tea, reach also for your Bible and prayer list. The prayers at the beginning of each week are taken from hymns, sometimes found in obscure hymnals in my library. They are intended to be read as your beginning prayer, to focus your mind on the daily readings that follow. May this spiritual discipline strengthen you as you face each day.

Blessings and love in Christ, Sandy Sturch



Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

- 1 Acts 19:1-20; 20:13-38; Revelation 2:1-7;  
1 John 4:1-6; 2 John 4-11
- 2 James 2:5; Revelation 2:8-11; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27;  
Romans 5:3-5; James 1:1-12
- 3 Revelation 2:12-17 (see Num. 22-25); 2 Peter 2
- 4 1 Kings 16:29-34; 18:1-4, 17-21; 19:1-4; 21:5-23;  
Revelation 2:18-29; 2 Peter 3:9
- 5 John 15:1-8; Luke 12:35-40; Revelation 3:1-6;  
7:9-17; 2 Timothy 3:1-5
- 6 Revelation 3:7-13; Matthew 23:13-39;  
1 Corinthians 3:16-17; Ephesians 2:19-22
- 7 Revelation 3:14-22; Matthew 19:16-30;  
James 1:9-11; Hebrews 12:1-13

*O Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end; Be Thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend. I shall not fear the battle if Thou art by my side, nor wander from the pathway if Thou wilt be my Guide. O Jesus, Thou hast promised to all who follow Thee that where Thou art in glory, there shall Thy servant be. And Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end; Oh give me grace to follow my Master and my Friend. (Hymns for the Family of God, #402)*

- 8 Isaiah 6:1-5; Ezekiel 1; Revelation 4; 1:4-6;  
Genesis 1:1; Colossians 1:15-23
- 9 John 1:29-39; Revelation 5; Psalm 33;  
Philippians 2:1-11
- 10 Zechariah 1:8-17; 6:1-8; Revelation 6;  
Hebrews 11; Matthew 10:17-42
- 11 Revelation 7:1 - 8:5; 21:3-5; Psalm 23:1;  
John 10:11-18; Colossians 2:2-4, 12
- 12 Revelation 8:6 - 9:21; Romans 1:18-32;  
2 Timothy 3:1-5; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13
- 13 Revelation 10-11; Daniel 2:44; 7:14, 27; Psalm 2
- 14 Matthew 2; 3:13-4:11; Revelation 12-13:1a;  
Job 1:9-11; Luke 10:18; 1 Peter 5:8-11

*Work for the night is coming, work through the morning hours; work while the dew is sparkling, work 'mid the springing flowers. Work when the day grows brighter, work in the glowing sun; work for the night is coming, when man's work is done. Work till the last beam fadeth, fadeth to shine no more; work while the night is dark'ning, when man's work is o'er. (The Hymnbook, #297)*

- 15 Revelation 13:1b-18; Luke 21:8-19; Romans 5:1-5;  
15:4-6; 2 Corinthians 6:3-10
- 16 Revelation 14; Jeremiah 25:15-38;  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43; Galatians 6:7-8

- 17 Revelation 15-16; Luke 12:35-40; Joel 2:13-14;  
Hebrews 12:14-29
- 18 Revelation 13:1-9; 17; John 16:33; Psalm 33; 37
- 19 Revelation 18; 6:9-11; Hebrews 11
- 20 Revelation 19; Matthew 22:1-14; 25:1-13;  
2 Thessalonians 2; John 3:16-21, 36
- 21 Revelation 20; Matthew 25:31-46; Romans 2:1-16;  
2 Corinthians 5:1-10

*Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne: Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own. Awake my soul and sing of Him who died for thee; and hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity. Crown Him the Lord of life: who triumphed o'er the grave, who rose victorious to the strife for those He came to save; His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high, who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die! (Hymns for the Family of God, #345)*

- 22 Isaiah 60; 62; John 14:1-6; Revelation 21
- 23 Genesis 3:21-24; Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26-29; 3:5,  
11-13, 21; 7:1-3; 22:1-21
- 24 Joel 1; Psalm 80:8-19; Zechariah 14; Matthew 24
- 25 Joel 2:1-27; Jeremiah 31
- 26 Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:17-21; Romans 10:5-13
- 27 Joel 3
- 28 Amos 1-2; Leviticus 20:11-12

*O Master, let me walk with Thee in lowly paths of service free. Tell me Thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care. Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love. Teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way. Teach me Thy patience! Still with Thee in closer, dearer company, In work that keeps faith sweet and strong, In trust that triumphs over wrong. In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way, in peace that only Thou canst give, With Thee, O Master, let me live. (Worship in Song, #43)*

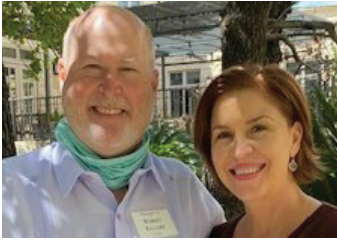
- 29 Amos 3-4; Deuteronomy 11:8-32
- 30 Amos 5:6-6:7; 9:8; Jeremiah 44:24-28; Matthew  
7:21-27; Revelation 3:14-22



# FIRST CUP PRAYER LIST

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. (Romans 8:26).

[illegible]



**Robert & Sandra Kilgore**  
join by Reaffirmation of Faith. Robert is Special Counsel with Gardner Law Firm. They are both looking forward to fellowship with others and developing their faith through learning. Sandra is a substitute teacher with Alamo Heights ISD.



**Molly Mitchell**  
joins by Reaffirmation of Faith. Molly is a Digital Editor for HEB. Molly and Eric Schluter met at FPC and will marry next year. She is looking forward to finding more ways to be involved, and having this faith family of believers for their family.



**Eric Schluter**  
joins by Reaffirmation of Faith. Eric is a Sales & Systems Engineer with Beckwith. Eric is a "reserve World Champion at wild hog wrestling" in Sabinal, TX. He is looking forward to learning about FPC's local missions.



**Nancy Darnell**  
joins by Reaffirmation of Faith. Nancy's daughter, Jenny Crider, worked on turning Howard Hughes ship into a deep water drilling rig. Nancy is a retired editor, and is looking forward to getting involved in Stephen Ministry.

## CONNECT WITH US!

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