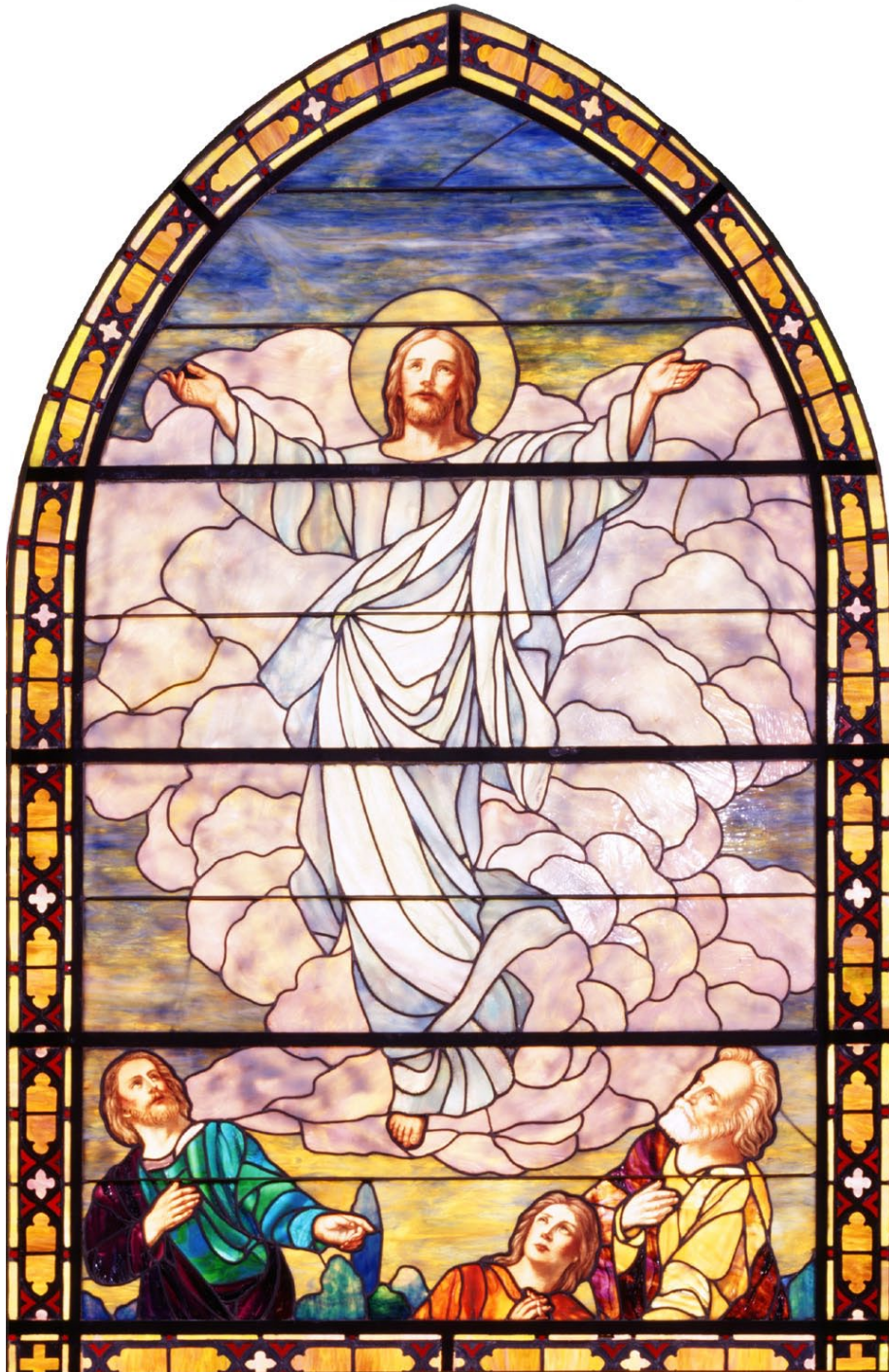




First Press

Living to Make Jesus Visible



Pastor's Pondering

Have a Faith that Flowers

By Rev. Trey Little, Senior Pastor



Spring has sprung! Is it too early to say that? Surely not! Fiesta is just around the corner—which reminds me, have you purchased your First Presbyterian Church medal? Thanks to the creative genius of Stuart Seal and the production perfection of Anne Folkes.

Anyway, I don't know about you, but I am ready for spring. In anticipation of the coming season, we have been preparing the soil in our flower beds and we have even planted a few seeds. There is something about planting a seed that still boggles my mind. How is that we can believe that a little tiny seed will actually grow and bloom into a beautiful flower or a delectable vegetable? We do so because we have witnessed it before. We do so because we have faith.

Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you" (Matthew 17:20).

Friends, do we have that kind of faith?

I am reminded of the story of a man who was sleeping at night in his cabin when suddenly his room filled with light and God appeared. Then God told the man He had work for him to do and showed him a large rock in front of his cabin. He explained that the man was to push against the rock with all his might. So, this the man did, day after day. For many years he toiled from sun up to sun down, his shoulders set squarely against the cold, massive surface of the unmoving rock, pushing with all of his might. Each night the man returned to his cabin sore and worn out, feeling that his whole day had been spent in vain.

Since the man was showing discouragement, the Adversary decided to enter the picture by placing thoughts into the man's weary mind: "You have been pushing against that rock for a long time, and it hasn't moved." Thus, he gave the man the impression that the task was impossible and that he was a failure. These thoughts discouraged and disheartened the man. The Adversary then said, "Why work yourself to death over this? Just put in your time, giving just the minimum effort, and that will be good enough."

That's just what the weary man planned to do, but first he decided to make it a matter of prayer and take his troubled thoughts to God. "God," he said, "I have labored long and hard in your service, putting all my strength to do that which you have asked. Yet, after all this time, I have not even budged that rock by half a millimeter. What is wrong? Why am I failing?"

God responded compassionately, "My friend, when I asked you to serve Me and you accepted, I told you that your task was to push against the rock with all of your strength, which you have done. Never once did I mention to you that I expected you to move it. Your task was to push. And now you come to Me with your strength spent, thinking that you have failed. Is that really so? Look at yourself. Your arms and legs are so much stronger and more muscular and your hands are calloused from constant pressure. Through opposition you have grown much, and your abilities now surpass that which you used to have.

True, you haven't moved the rock. But your calling was to be obedient and to push and to exercise your faith and trust in My wisdom. That you have done. Now I, my friend, will move the rock."

Spring may have sprung but I wonder if our faith is flowering. You see, spring will come and go, flowers will die and wither, but our faith must remain. It is our faith that will carry us through the difficult times in our lives. It is our faith that will give us that extra "push" to press on. It is our faith that will repel the Adversary. When everything seems to go wrong...just push. When the job gets us down...just push. When people don't react the way we think they should...just push. When our money is "gone" and the bills are due...just push. When we feel hopeless...just push.

And then **"be still and know that He is God"** and let him move those mountains in our lives.

Keep smilin' and keep lovin' and keep trustin'!

Peace,



Lent, Holy Week & Easter

Wednesday April 9 INTERSECTION DINNER at 5:30 p.m. Theme: Duct Tape Night followed by the Children's Choir Mini-Musical "Sticky Notes and Bible Quotes"

Thursday, April 17 - MAUNDY THURSDAY (see below)

Friday, April 18 GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
Evening worship service with Scripture and choral music drawn from the *Passion According to John* by composer John Ferguson at 6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Saturday, April 19 HOLY SATURDAY *Children's Easter Program* at 10:00 a.m. in Westminster Hall

Sunday, April 20 EASTER *Praise at the Pearl sunrise worship service* at 6:45 a.m. at the Pearl Brewery outdoor amphitheater; *Traditional worship services* at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary; *Contemporary worship service* at 11:00 a.m. in Westminster Hall

Childcare available for all events above. For reservations, contact Carrie Jowers at carriej@fpcsat.org or 210-271-2720 no later than two days prior to the event. Unfortunately, drop-ins cannot be accommodated.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL for elementary-age children, middle school, high school, or adults on Easter, April 20. However, there will be a Godly Play lesson for children ages 4-5th grade and a combined Sunday School for 2-3-year-olds from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

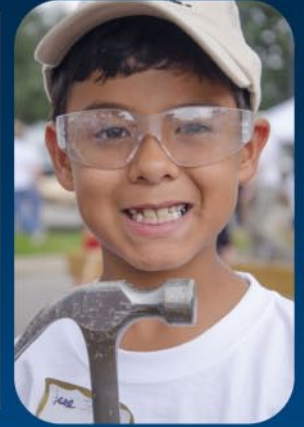
Maundy Thursday

Experience the drama that happens between the Hosannas of Palm Sunday and the Alleluia of Easter morning. Attend one of the two Maundy Thursday services on Thursday April 17. A noon service will be a traditional worship service in the sanctuary with communion. A special luncheon is planned following the Thursday morning Bible study ahead of the worship service.

On Thursday evening join us in Westminster Hall at 6:45 p.m. for a more interactive worship experience as we hear the texts from the Upper Room Discourse and share communion around a common table, decorated with symbols of this most dramatic week in the history of the world. This service is a great opportunity to invite neighbors, co-workers, and friends to come experience the drama of the Last Supper. There is no dinner planned ahead of this service.



ONE AMAZING AFTERNOON OF SERVICE



What is our motivation for Project 240 as an annual event in the life of our church?

Responding to God's lavish love for each of us, we are motivated by His call to serve our neighbors. We choose to actively seek opportunities to meet needs within our immediate community and beyond, whether the needs are spiritual or physical, for all believers and for all who do not yet believe.

How do we approach God with our desire to serve?

We pray for God to continually inspire our desire to serve, to strengthen our church family as a body of believers with many different spiritual gifts, and to join our hearts to serve our community. This year, we asked for finances to build the wooden wall frames of 5 houses, recognizing that we would need about 150 volunteers and a minimum of \$35,000 for the purchase of materials.

How does God work through His people at First Presbyterian Church of San Antonio, Texas?

We needed 150 volunteers, and God provided over 500. We needed a minimum of \$35,000, and God provided over \$40,000! This amount covered every dollar needed for construction materials and all other aspects of the event, with all Project 240-related bills paid in full and not a single penny necessary from other parts of the church budget. Most importantly, we see God at work as we grow in our own awareness and understanding of ourselves as a church. We have experienced how God's people can join together to extend his love throughout our city, and we are demonstrating to ourselves, to our city, and to our God that we want to be a church that "practices what it preaches" in living to make Jesus visible.



***"I PRAY THAT
CHRIST JESUS
AND THE CHURCH
WILL FOREVER BRING
PRAISE TO GOD.***

***HIS POWER
AT WORK IN US
CAN DO FAR MORE
THAN WE DARE ASK
OR IMAGINE."***

(EPHESIANS 3:20, CEV)

Dear Church Family,

We would like to sincerely thank each and every one of you who participated in Project 240 on March 2, 2014!

We loved seeing such a beautiful variety of ages and abilities involved in this FPC tradition. Some of you served as prayer supporters, others as financial supporters, and many served as event volunteers. A few of our mission partner agencies, such as Seton Home, and even a few tourists walking by after visiting the Alamo stopped by and joined in the fun!



Alyssa Payne (right)
FPC's Director of Missions
and Claire Plantenga (left)
FPC's Admin. Assistant to
the Director of Missions

This year, we set a record number of participants (over 500!) and despite a bit of chill in the air, our dedicated volunteers demonstrated a positive attitude and worked together to reach our goal. In fact, we actually finished all five houses in only 180 minutes, rather than 240!

Immediately following the event, the walls we built together were transported six miles southwest of FPC to a new neighborhood called "Cornerstone Village" which is currently under construction by Habitat for Humanity. Right now, five families are participating in Habitat's rigorous and empowering steps toward moving into a new house. In addition to maintaining full-time steady employment, they are earning a minimum of 300 "sweat equity" hours through constructing their own neighborhood. They are learning about home-ownership and financial management through required classes. **Becoming a Habitat home-owner definitely requires dedication and faith, but with their determination and the assistance of volunteers like you from all over our community, five families will be living within the walls we built before the school year begins this fall!**

Thank you so much for *"living to make Jesus visible"* this year during Project 240!

Sincerely,

Alyssa Payne and Claire Plantenga



ONE CHURCH, ONE GOAL, ONE CITY



Thank you to the members of FPC! We worked together as a unified team, enjoying fun and fellowship with one another as we built the wooden wall frames for five houses.



Thank you to the many members of FPC who participated in Project 240 by offering prayers both for the event and also for the important mission of Habitat for Humanity.

Chilly weather, but warm hearts!



The staff of Habitat did a fantastic job in helping us to learn how to build!



Thank you to our students and leaders.



Thank you FPC staff member Taylor Brandesky for creating our beautiful and inspiring Project 240 videos.





Thank you to Bonnie Diehl for organizing volunteers to bring snacks to serve in the Student Center during the event.



Throughout the afternoon, volunteers provided a variety of fun indoor activities for kids ages 0-10, with staff support from our FPC Caregivers, plus Carrie Jowers and Suzanna Frey. Thank you for providing quality, loving childcare!

Thank you to KEYS for helping to raise funds and provide volunteers in the Student Center.



The boys of our FPC Cub Scout Pack 502 generously offered to assist with some of the expenses of lunch through donating a portion of the proceeds from their popcorn fundraiser. Thank you to Randy Crider for his excellent leadership skills in arranging our delicious meal from Bill Miller BBQ!



Thank you to the Local Missions Committee for selling t-shirts.



Global Missions

Do Unto Others as You Would Have Done Unto You

Stuart Seal and The Golden Rule

By Suzanne Letch

FPC member, and Development Associate at Mission Road

At Mission Road's 2013 Annual Fundraiser, Shindig, First Presbyterian Church was recognized with the first ever "Golden Rule Award" to celebrate their long history of support for Mission Road. From dedicated Board Members, involved congregants, and strategic thinking leadership, Mission Road has been blessed by the church's embrace. A few weeks ago, Mission Road celebrated the award with a lunch, short program, and the unveiling of an original painting which will represent the church's special award.

FPC member Stuart Seal was chosen as the artist to design and execute the painting. An accomplished artist in multiple mediums and lifelong, very active member of First Pres, Stuart's parents were also intricately involved at Mission Road. Now Stuart and his lovely wife Sharon, carry on that tradition with their strong support.

Ed Moore, FPC Member and Chairman of the Mission Road Board and Toby Summers, President and CEO of Mission Road Ministries, shared the history of the remarkable FPC partnership. Linda Munoz, a member of the MRDC Finance Department, and her MRDC client foster daughter, Sheila, shared their story. Many longtime Mission Road supporters and FPC church members attended: Barbara Anne Stephens, Francis Warwick, Ken Finch, Shirley Kline, Polly Jackson Spencer, Martha Maynard, and Elaine Dunlap, to name a few. Rev. Trey Little gave an inspirational talk with one takeaway that we hope you will give a try: repeat the beloved Bible verse of the Golden Rule that we all know so well, then go out and truly live it, every day.

Thanks First Pres, for everything!



Join God's Mission in Malawi

Help Fight Poverty and Injustice in October

By Alyssa Payne, Director of Missions



First Presbyterian Church San Antonio has partnered with World Vision in 2013 to sponsor more than 250 kids in the village of Mutendere, Malawi. You are invited to meet these children and to witness how FPC's ongoing partnership with World Vision is helping the community discover their full potential as they tackle the causes of poverty and injustice.



Our first team from this congregation will travel to Malawi in April so you will hear a report from that team at the 1st Wednesday @ 1st Pres program May 7 (dinner at 5:30 p.m. in Westminster Hall; presentation at 6:30 p.m. in Covenant Hall; contact Nancy Berger at 210-226-0215 for details).

And here is some exciting news for you: registration is NOW OPEN for applicants who would like to be considered for a Vision Trip to Mutendere, Malawi October 4-14, 2014. Due to our limit of 12 travelers and a very high interest level in this trip, all applications will be submitted to the Global Missions Committee to ensure a fair selection process. We will begin conducting interviews to ensure we have a well-rounded group. The cost of the trip is about \$4,300. About half the cost of the trip is being covered by the church through the Global Missions Committee. We then ask participants to solicit prayer and financial support from inside and outside the church to raise the balance of about \$2,000 per participant. Partial scholarships will also be available from the church if needed, so that everyone who feels called is able to participate!

So join us in Africa! The deadline to sign up is April 11. You can apply to go or offer your financial support for others by contacting me, Alyssa Payne, Director of Missions, at First Pres (alyssap@fpcsat.org or 210-271-2742).



Good Friday
"Experience the journey
to the Cross through
Rich Music and Scripture"
6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Join us on Friday evening, April 18, as we experience the Passion of Jesus through music, scripture, and liturgy. Our observance of Good Friday prepares our hearts for the unspeakable gift of Christ suffering, His death, and His glorious resurrection.

This year, our Chamber Singers will present a musical set of responses to the scriptural text of the Passion drawn from John 18:1-19:42. These responses are composed and arranged by John Ferguson. John has recently retired from St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN and is nationally known as an organist and advocate of Christian hymnody. In this set of responses, he offers both choral settings of ancient and familiar hymn tunes to complement each passage of scripture.

This service will be the musical highlight of our Holy Week offerings. Come and experience these moving accompaniments to the Passion as retold through the Gospel of John.



*Please join us for the
Presbyterian Women's Birthday Coffee
honoring*

Our Past Presidents

*Wednesday, May 7, 2014
10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.
at the home of Leslie Bennett
615 Ciruela Street*

*Please reply to Manette Owen
210.930.4686 or dowen1@satx.rr.com*

Presbyterian Women About the Birthday Coffee



Spring is finally here and that means it's time for the annual Presbyterian Women's Birthday Coffee! This year's coffee will be held on Wednesday, May 7, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the beautiful home of Leslie Bennett, 615 Ciruela Street, in Alamo Heights. All women of the church are invited and you won't want to miss this opportunity to fellowship and celebrate with each other before summer begins! Childcare is available, and if needed, please contact Carrie Jowers at 226-0215 ext. 220 or carriej@fpcsat.org.

Have you ever wondered why this annual event is called the "Birthday Coffee?" Our coffee is held in conjunction with the Birthday Offering which is collected by Presbyterian Women organizations across the country each spring. In 1922, in celebration of their tenth anniversary, the Women's Auxiliary (PCUS) decided that an offering should be made to a definite cause. That year, the members of the Women's Auxiliary were challenged to give one penny for

each year of their life as a "birthday gift" to their chosen cause. Over the years, through this tradition known as the "Birthday Offering", Presbyterian Women have given more than \$29 million in support of mission projects throughout the world.

This year, our offering recipient will be Blue Corn Mother's Alliance, which provides a range of culturally appropriate services for Native American women of Albuquerque, New Mexico, who have experienced domestic violence. This multi-faceted program offers advocacy, crisis intervention, health, counseling and education services; and referrals for legal and shelter services for Native American women and children who have suffered domestic violence. Your gift to the Birthday Offering will help women heal from physical violence and promote a cultural mindset in which violence is unacceptable.

Presbyterian Women Proposed Slate of Officers 2014-2015

President – Ann Bunn
President-Elect – Ann Dennis
Vice-President of Circles – Julie Walthall
Vice-President of Directory – Georgia Heath
Vice-President of New Members – Meredith Park
Recording Secretary – Pat Brodeen
Corresponding Secretary – Nancy Puckett
Treasurer – Jeanne Douglas
Assistant Treasurer – Barbara Wood
Historians – Sara Parish & Amy Foster
Parliamentarian – Candy Wagner
Church Officer Nominating – Manette Owen
Immediate Past President – Susan DeKoch

Program Chairmen

Chairmen of Moderators– Kay Case & Barbara Winship
Christian Community Action:
House of Neighborly Service – Mary Bell & Pat O'Neill
HNS Gala Basket – Judy Kruger
Presbyterian Children's Home – Barbara Baldrige & Nancy Puckett
Nominating – Cynthia Robinson
Gift of Christmas – Darcy Collins & Barbara Dorsey

PW Circle Meetings in April

BIBLE Circle 112

Monday, April 21, 10:30am

FPC Geneva Rm

Chair: Ann Nelson, 824-5182

Co-Chair: Suzanne Thomas,
820-3245

BIBLE Circle 2/4

Monday, April 21, 1:30pm

FPC Rm 226

Chair: Char-An Witten, 341-1856

BIBLE Circle 5 Shawl Ministry

Friday, April 11, 12pm

FPC Rm 228

Chair: Caryl Gaubatz, 651-0208

Co-Chair: Jane Ann Temple,
828-7542

BIBLE Circle 6

Tuesday, April 15, 1:30pm

FPC Geneva Rm

Chairs: Martha Pigeon, 828-8993

Betty Anderson, 828-8838

Jane Warren, 493-5187

BIBLE Circle 7

Tuesday, April 15, 11:30am

Home of Judy Spencer, 227 Abiso

Chair: Meredith Park, 373-8180

Circle 8 Mom's Group

**Wednesday, April 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30,
9:30am-11:30am**

FPC Rm 108,

Chair: Brenda Leonard,

910-578-7104, Co-Chair: Sara
Parish, 394-0865

BIBLE Circle 9

Tuesday, April 15, 10am

St. Andrews Rm.

Chair: Pat Brannen, 735-4415

BIBLE Circle 11

Monday, April 28, 6:30pm

Home of Sheila Figueroa,

335 Wildwood Drive

Chair: Jean Swanson, 826-0766

Circle 13 Literature Circle

Tuesday, April 8, 1:30pm

FPC McCullough Rm

A Dog's Purpose by W. Bruce Cameron

Reviewed by Rev. Scott Simpso

Chair: Becca Price, 824-2603

BIBLE Circle 14

Monday, April 21, 12pm

FPC St. Andrew's Rm

Chair: Suzie Simpson, 455-7410

Circle 16 Marjorie McLernon

Sewing Circle

Wednesday, April 16, 9:30am

FPC Rm 228, Chairs: Lee Pressly,
735-0978, Corie Barlow, 481-1337

Circle 17 Edna Ralston Sewing Circle

Wednesday, April 9, 9:30am

FPC Rm 309, Chairs: Jeanne Baker,
494-0972; Gigi Duke, 695-4363

Circle 18 Care and Concern

Chairs: Char-An Witten, 341-1856

Paula Bondurant, 736-6632

Georgia Heath, 695-9511

Circle 19 White Cross Circle

Wednesday, April 2, 9:30am

FPC Rm 309

Chair: Janet Beauch, 673-3251

Circle 20 Circle of Service

Chair: Shannon McKelvey, 455-4520

BIBLE Circle 21

Monday, April 21, 6:30pm

Home of Karin Gabrielson,
129 W. Wildwood,

Chair: Andrea Taylor, 403-9442

Come to Luis's Graduation Celebration

Saturday, May 17, 2014

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services San Antonio Campus

6355 Whitby Rd. San Antonio

Food and fun provided!

For more details, contact Signe Fredrickson at 210-618-7067

or signe.fredrickson@pchas.org



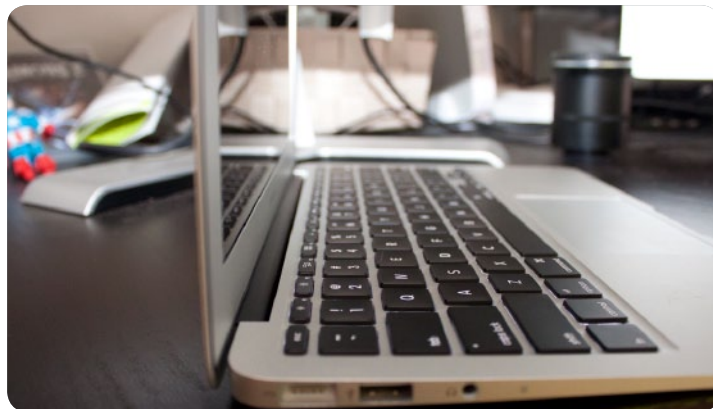
Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS) provides a variety of Christ-centered services to children in need and their families, including children age birth to 17 who have suffered from neglect, abuse and abandonment, or children whose families are experiencing some type of crisis, such as the death of a parent, divorce, illness, violence, homelessness, parental drug/alcohol abuse and other issues that threaten family stability. The main programs through which PCHAS provides services are: group homes, foster care, adoption services, child and family outreach, single-parent family support and education programs. Learn more at www.pchas.org.

Deacon's Ministry Staying in Touch

By Gordon Smith, Vice Moderator, Deacons

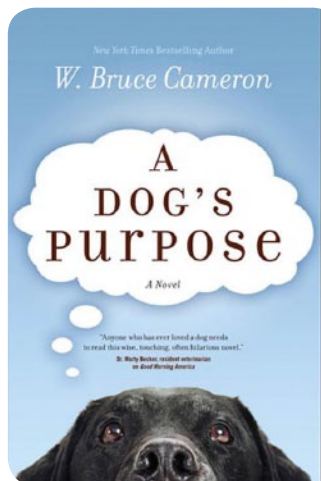
The Deacons of First Presbyterian Church contact other church members in a variety of ways, such as visiting members at home, visiting members in a hospital or rehabilitation facility, delivering seasonal flowers, mailing notes or letters to members, or telephoning members. Once a year, Deacons also make a special attempt to call each member to pray with the member. All of these contacts require accurate contact information for our members, but sometimes the contact information in the published church directory gets out of date.

Have you been contacted by a deacon within the past year? If not, it could be because the church does not have your current contact information. But even if the hard copy directory may be out of date, did you know that the church also has an on-line directory that is accessible to all members?



The on-line directory is accessible via the Login link on the top right of the church website, www.fpcsanantonio.org. Actually the member section of the website is much more than just a directory! For example, you can also view upcoming events at the church and even sign up for events.

I would encourage everyone to register for the site if you haven't already and then to check out your contact information and specify any corrections if necessary. The corrections will be made and then we will be able to contact each other more easily!



Literature Circle

Reviews A Dog's Purpose

Bring a friend to Rev. Scott Simpson's review of W. Bruce Cameron's book, *A Dog's Purpose*, at the FPC Literature Circle meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in the McCullough Room at 1:00 p.m. This book relates the dog's search for his life purpose over the course of several reincarnations. The story touches on the universal quest for an answer to: Why are we here?

Grab a Basket and a Buddy

Children's Easter Program April 19

Join us at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, April 19, the day before Easter, to get a head start on our celebration of the empty tomb. Parents, grandparents and children alike enjoy this fun morning with singing, a dramatic storytelling of the resurrection, and a chance for the children to hunt for Easter eggs! This is a great opportunity to invite neighbors and friends with young children. Questions? Contact Suzanna Frey at suzannaf@fpcsat.org.



Children's Ministry
Family Serve Day

Families with elementary-aged children are invited to join us on
Sunday, April 27, 2014
RSVP to Suzanna Frey (suzannaf@fpcsat.org) by April 24

Younger and older siblings are welcome to participate with their parents,
or they can stay at FPC for Sunday school and extended care.
Families may choose any of the two Serve options below.

CAM	HNS or Respite Care
Meet at 9:30 a.m. to prepare sandwiches and deliver them to CAM. Families will return in time to attend an 11:00 a.m. worship service.	Meet at 10:30 a.m. in the Nutrition Center for directions and to split into groups Families can plan to attend the 9:30 a.m. worship service.



*For more information about the serve day or to RSVP for your family please
contact Suzanna Frey at suzannaf@fpcsat.org.*

On Sunday, April 27, families will have the opportunity to serve together during our Family Serve Day. This is a great opportunity to not only learn about mission work, but to actually be a part of serving others. Families will have the opportunity to choose to visit one of three places for the morning. Families can choose to visit Respite Care, House of Neighborly Services, or Christian Assistance Ministries. Below is the schedule for the morning:

Schedule for families visiting

Respite Care or HNS

9:30 - Worship together as a family in the sanctuary
10:35 - Meet in the Nutrition Center for instructions and directions
10:45 - Leave for Respite Care and/or HNS
12:00 - Dismissal

Schedule for families visiting CAM

9:30 - Meet in Nutrition Center to make PB&J sandwiches
9:50 - Walk over to CAM
10:00 - Tour and visit with CAM staff
10:30 - Return to church for worship at 11.

[Please NOTE: There will be no regular elementary Sunday school classes on this day.]

If you would like to find out more about any of these ministries you can visit their websites listed here:

Respite Care: www.respitecaresa.org

House of Neighborly Services:

www.hnstoday.org,

CAM:

www.christianassistanceministry.org

Children's Ministry

Joy Ministry Supports Autism Walk in April

By Carrie Jowers, Associate Director of Children's Ministry



If you have not had a chance to meet her, I would like to introduce you to Josie Nash. Josie is 13 years old and attends 7th grade at Alamo Heights Junior School. Josie is raising money for the 10th Annual Autism Walk, sponsored by Any Baby Can. Josie knows a lot about autism. Her brother Elliott, who is 15 and a 9th grader at Alamo Heights High School, was diagnosed with autism.

I asked Josie if I could have a few moments with her to discuss how her fundraising was coming along and to talk to her about her brother Elliott.



What gave you the idea to raise money for Walk for Autism? We attended the walk last year and I wanted to do more to help them raise more money.

What is the money you raise being used for? The money goes to therapy for children with autism and helps provides families the training tools they need for their children that have been diagnosed with autism.

How would you describe your brother Elliott? Elliott is always happy. Elliott's great talent is art. He is awesome at replicating famous artwork. Children with autism all have a hidden talent that we need to try and find

and bring out of them. One of Elliott's pictures is hanging at the San Antonio Country Club's Pool & Grill. Elliott is also very brave and not afraid of trying new things. He rode the Great White at Sea World and he has been parasailing with our dad.

Speaking of brave, you spoke at the Hat Luncheon regarding Elliott that had 600 people in attendance; how was that? I loved it and it was very special to me to be able to share with others about my brother.

What would you like to share with your Church Family about Elliott? I believe that Elliott is doing a great job overcoming autism, with God's help. I believe that if we work hard and pray to God then blessings will flow. God's promises are real and I am a witness to them every day. When I see my brother master those goals that we have been told he may never be able to achieve. I call them miracles! I truly believe that he has been healed by the blood of Jesus" who died on the cross for our sins, He took all our troubles away. For this, I thank God every day!

On behalf of First Presbyterian Church, thank you Josie for making Jesus Visible! Clearly, the kingdom of Heaven belongs to you and Elliott!

If you are in interested in helping Josie reach her goal of raising \$3,000 or if you would like to walk on her team, Elliot's Angels, please visit <http://getmeregistered.com/homepage.php?id=5851>.

The 10th Annual Walk for Autism is Saturday, April 12, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. at the AT&T Center.

The Rhythm and Beauty of Godly Play

By Rachel Maurer

First Presbyterian Church is blessed to have two incredible Sunday school classes for children four years old up to Kindergarten: Traditional Sunday School and Godly Play. Godly Play, which began at First Presbyterian Church in 2002, is held beneath the Sanctuary in one of the oldest parts of the church. It is a Montessori method of telling Bible lessons. Godly Play is intentional in the way the materials are arranged, the order of activities and the words used to tell the lessons. The teachers receive special training and all types of children enjoy Godly Play.

"Godly play is an environment full of acceptance, joy and lessons of our Lord. Our son loves his Sunday mornings with Mr. Byrd. Because Ryan has learned Biblical stories through play, he remembers the lessons. It is a place where Ryan can learn, socialize and have fun while my husband and I enjoy our worship time in the sanctuary. We are grateful for Godly Play!"

Amy Higgins

I WONDER...

These are two words that describe Godly Play and are spoken often in class. The children are INVITED to wonder about God and Jesus. The children are WELCOMED every Sunday, one by one, into Godly Play with a personal greeting from a Godly Play teacher. They transition into the circle where they prepare to hear the lesson by getting the room, their minds and their hearts ready.

"In Godly Play, language and symbol and even physical space are used to stimulate the children's active participation in story and ritual, and to awaken their creativity for the learning of the language of the Christian tradition."

Nancy Nowak (Godly Play teacher for many years)

Part of getting the room ready is to change the huge wall CALENDAR of the CHURCH YEAR. Throughout the year the children learn about the purple getting ready times for Advent and Lent. They learn about the white times of Christmas, Epiphany, Easter and Eastertide. They have fun with the red-hot Pentecost Sunday and enjoy showing the cake with sprinkles as we celebrate the church's birthday. They also learn about the joy of the many green-growing Sundays.



"I am amazed by my children's understanding of the liturgical calendar, and their integration of the stories that are "wondered" about."

Amy Hendrick

Next it is the storyteller's time to give the lesson. The storyteller uses intentional words and materials to tell the lesson. The lessons also highlight the seasons of the church year. There is a desert box to tell some of the Old Testament lessons. The parables are in special old golden boxes and told on felt backdrops. The children learn about Creation, the Holy Family, the Great Family, Moses, Jonah, Daniel, King David, Advent, Epiphany, Baptism, the Parables, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and many more lessons. We have more lessons to teach than weeks to teach them!

"Kate really learned...and came home retelling the stories."

Micki Philbin

After the lesson, the children are invited into conversation with I WONDER questions. Through these discussions the children go deeper with the stories as they transition from a head to a heart understanding. The children then are

invited to RESPOND to the lesson by either working with the materials from that day's lesson, a previous lesson or art response. In the art response area children CHOOSE the art supplies they would like to use for their response to the lesson that was just given.

"We invite the children to "work" with the stories again on their own in class. We play and the children become full of the stories. We tell the stories, knowing that the stories and parables provide a map of how to live and a lens through which to see God's presence in their lives, and that young children learn best through play."

Nancy Nowak

Next it is time for FEAST. The children share a feast in community with their friends. The children serve each other and wait to enjoy the feast until after everyone has had a turn saying what they are thankful for to bless the snack. This is a time to share about their week and to celebrate. The children then enjoy a time of music. They end their time in Godly Play with an individual blessing from the teacher.

"I think what Blake enjoyed most was the feeling of community and the consistency of relationships. I love Godly Play because it's a wonderful opportunity to expose young children to the wonder of God and his love for us shown throughout the Bible in an intentional, worshipful way. The teachers clearly love serving in their roles. I love that they are well trained and fully invested in what they do. Every aspect of their time together has meaning and purpose. We also feel like it helped each of our children prepare for and feel like an active participant in worship in "big church."

Ellen Meadows

There is a rhythm to Godly Play. It is a wonderful way for children to learn about their faith and to foster their relationship with God and Jesus in a calm and unhurried environment. In this intentional environment the children are learning what it means to be a Christian.

Want to learn more about Godly Play? Visit www.godly-playfoundation.org.

A Parent's Godly Play Reflections

By Jenny Crider

As I take a moment to think about Godly Play, I am grateful each of my three children have participated in it. Godly Play has been such a blessing for them. Each of our chil-

dren is so different, yet Godly Play has been a perfect fit for all.

Godly Play has a special approach where all kids are invited to listen to the story and answer the "I wonder" questions. It is perfect for those who are more quiet and reserved in a class setting. It allows for the smaller groups where each child is comfortable answering or not answering. I found my most quiet child much more comfortable and willing to participate in answering the questions. Whereas, my child who doesn't hesitate to share was taught to be patient and let others share their answers first.

I have always been touched by how the teachers greet each child before they go into class. Each child is called by name, just as God calls us. Each is recognized and reminded they are loved and a special child of God. As a parent, there is nothing more comforting than seeing that moment as you drop your child off for the first time or the hundredth time.

Godly Play has also been a strong foundation in teaching them God's word. They have learned the stories, and I even find them teaching the stories to us. It has encouraged them to ask questions as we go about our day and carry conversations at the dinner table. I have also learned to ask the "I wonder" questions when I'm needing more than just a one word answer.

As I'm writing this realizing my youngest only has one more year of Godly Play, I find it bittersweet. What a blessing Godly Play has been in building a foundation for our children to grow in Christ. We are truly grateful to the teachers who have been there every Sunday building relationships with our children, teaching them God's word, and still calling them by name long after they graduated Godly Play.



Young Adult Ministry

Passions of Millennials

By Hannah Monroe, Young Adult Intern



Given that there has been a lot of recent focus on the uniqueness of the millennial generation, one of the largest questions is “What do they even care about?” This question points to an even deeper uncertainty, “How can I relate to these people who seem to be so different from me and my generation?”

Granted, I, as one person, cannot speak to everything that all Millennials care about, but here are some things I’ve noticed we value:

- **Community:** We desire to be a part of a group of people that is honest with each other about areas of brokenness and the need for support and hope. We want to build intimate relationships with others and we value honesty and vulnerability in those relationships.

- **At First Pres:** The young adults attend small groups and Sunday school classes where they interact more closely with others who desire to make deeper personal relationships through honesty and vulnerability.



- **The “meat” of scripture:** We want to explore the words of the Bible and understand what those words mean for our lives. We want to discover the truth of scripture for ourselves and to be able to discuss the tough topics too.

- **At First Pres:** The small groups and Sunday school classes also provide opportunities to dig into the scripture more and in a group that is small enough to foster conversation about what the scripture can mean for our own lives.

- **Serving others:** We want to contribute to the welfare and wellbeing of others. We want to experience life with people who are different from us to bless them and grow ourselves.

- **At First Pres:** Both The Rock (the young-married couples’ class) and College and Career (the University students’ and single young adults’ class) sponsored Christmas families through First Pres and participated in Project 240 by working together on building house frames.

- **Justice:** This can mean anything from serving the urban poor to advocating for education reform, from fighting human trafficking to purchasing organic or fair trade food, from volunteering with a local organization to supporting international missions.

- **At First Pres:** The College and Career Sunday School Class for university students and young adults has been exploring topics of justice through a book study on Red Letter Revolution by Tony Campolo and Shane Claiborne. This study has provided a space to

apply the truth of scripture to our own lives and have conversations surrounding justice issues like immigration and environmentalism.

- **Giving:** There is some research that states that this generation is the most giving. We desire to give of our time, talents, money and energy to support organizations and causes we believe in.

- **At First Pres:** Young adults participate in the larger life of the church by singing in the Sanctuary choir, playing on the worship team, becoming Nursery Angels and teaching Confirmation.

This is certainly not a comprehensive list, but it is meant to give you an idea of the interests of Millennials. While reading this list you might have thought, “I care about some of those things too!” If that’s the case, you have more in common with Millennials than you might have thought.

By realizing those intergenerational similarities we can expand our relationships. As you hopefully read last month, a healthy church is one that is made up of different generations. We all need to partner with each other to increase our abilities to do these things on the list and more. For example, students at Trinity University have also benefited from the service of adults in our congregation through the InterVarsity (IV) Christian Fellowship “Real World Dinners”. During these dinners, members of First Pres have offered their time and wisdom to provide students with valuable life skills and lessons while keeping God at the forefront. What a wonderful opportunity to learn from and serve each other!

Together we can grow the community, increase our ability to dig into the “meat” of scripture, multiply our potential to serve, amplify our capability to seek justice and add to our capacity to give. Let’s partner together to build the Kingdom!

Serve@FPC

Give Blood April 6

First Pres will hold a blood drive Sunday, April 6, 2014, from 9:00 a.m.-noon in the Geneva Room. All donors will receive a chance to win a pair of plaza level Spurs tickets (parking pass included), a Fiesta medal, and a mini-physical. You can donate blood if you are 16 years old weighing at least 120 pounds (with parental consent form) or at least 17 years old, weighing at least 110 pounds and in good general health. Donors must present photo ID, last four digits of their social security number, and their birth date. Contact Alyssa Payne at 210-271-2742 or alyssap@fpcsat.org for details.

Middle School Summer Mission Trip

in San Antonio June 8-12, 2014

To register:

www.fpcsanantonio.org/middle-school
(mission trip tab)

High School Summer Mission Trip in New Orleans

“Project Homecoming” Current 8th-12th graders
July 6-July 12

To register: www.fpcsanantonio.org/high-school
(mission trip tab)

Holy Smoke 2014

Fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio
Sunday, May 4, 2014, At First Presbyterian Church
San Antonio, Dinner 5:30-6:30 p.m., Program begins
at 6:45 p.m., Featuring musical entertainment

Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door
Children 4-5 years \$5; children 3 and under free
Make checks payable to SA Presbyterian Cluster
Habitat; write Holy Smoke on memo line. Bring
checks to Nancy Berger at the reception desk or mail
to First Presbyterian Church, 404 N. Alamo, San
Antonio, Texas 78205-1918

Contact Alyssa Payne at alyssap@fpcsat.org or
210-271-2742 for details

"Out of Chaos, Hope," and FPC's Disaster Assistance Connection

By Joe Rust

Over the past few years, you have read often in the press either praise or damnation for the work of FEMA in disaster relief in the United States.

FEMA is the Federal Emergency Management Agency, a subset of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

And, you have read of how teams from your First Presbyterian Church have gone to New Jersey to help in disaster relief in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy or to the town of West, Texas, to aid after an explosion at a fertilizer plant.

Further, you are involved almost daily in discussions of how church members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) are sorting out their identity.

But, it's not likely you have heard of NVOAD or PDA or of how a long-time congregational leader at First Presbyterian Church (FPC) has become who what we might dub "Mr. Disaster Assistance" in our midst.

NVOAD is the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, a non-profit national organization of voluntary organizations "active in disaster whose combined mission is to work together to minimize loss of life, property damage, human suffering and social disruption caused by disaster through mitigation, education, preparedness, response and recovery efforts."

PDA is Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the arm of our denomination involved in addressing disaster relief in our nation.



Harvey Howell at FEMA HQ in Washington, D.C. for Hurricane Irene, August 2011.

Our church member, "Mr. Disaster Assistance," is Harvey H. Howell, an independent oil operator in our city who holds a large handful of volunteer effort responsibilities, including being a PDA national response team member, chair of the national VOAD long term recovery group committee and chair of the Texas VOAD long term recovery committee.

It is not the purpose of this article to show how these disaster relief organizations dovetail into each other in governmental and citizen volunteer operations to bring help after a disaster, but to point out that there is a quiet superstructure of relief work in operation after each tragedy. It might be easier to explain how all the acronym organizations of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal fit together than to explain the relief organization network addressed here.

The point is that the network exists for your benefit. The work might be bundled together under the guidepost of PDA: "Out of chaos, hope."



Harvey Howell in Fairbanks, Alaska, in PDA response to Yukon River flooding, August 2009.

Just one example of the work of the network was that in 2008, as a response to Hurricane Ike, a mandatory evacuation of more than a million people was coordinated at Brooks City Base in San Antonio. This was the largest disaster mandatory evacuation operation ever to take place in Texas, and it went almost unheralded. First Presbyterian Church was involved in this operation, as a shelter was set up at our church. A special coin was minted to commemorate the operation and some members of our church still hold those coins, awarded to those working in the operation. The Brooks-FPC connection was Harvey Howell.

Harvey Howell was as clueless as we are about disaster relief when in 2006, after Hurricane Katrina, he was invited, as moderator of the diaconate of First Presbyterian Church, to a PDA session on how church members of our denomination could help out in disaster relief. From that one meeting, Harvey developed a volunteer agenda in disaster relief which has become near to his life's work.

Today, as "Mr. Disaster Assistance" within our earshot, he is involved in setting up training for volunteer disaster assistance following wildfires in Colorado and in February was involved in a meeting of the national VOAD board of directors, convened in Indianapolis to assess the progress in addressing work yet to be taken in Hurricane Sandy relief. The national VOAD conference will be held in Indianapolis this month.

Harvey Howell always is eager to discuss how your church is so directly involved in disaster relief in your country, just one element in which we are living to make Jesus visible. We invite you to engage him in a conversation about this in a hallway at the church. You will find it to be one of the most beneficial discussions you have held in a long time. You can learn how all these acronyms fit together and you just might become one of the warriors in his battle to fight for disaster relief.



Harvey Howell with PDA Volunteer Village Managers in Smithville, Texas (Bastrop Fires), April 2012.



KEYS (Keeping Everyone Young in Spirit) Older Adult Ministry

Fiesta Is Afoot

By Pat McCleary, Director, Older Adult Ministry



May Christ's promise be with you as we celebrate Holy Week and Easter with renewed energy and awareness of God's love for us. May each of you find love as you celebrate with your families and friends at church or wherever you may be.

After a busy March that found many of us participating in the Project 240 Build, listening to excellent Friday speakers, watching "Memories on Review: Tales from WWII, celebrating March birthdays, serving at the Book Bank, enjoying a movie, sponsoring the new AARP Smart Driving Course, exercise class, bridge, Mah Jongg, and wonderful fellowship, it's time to slow the pace down for April!



Friday, April 4 – Trip to King Ranch

Get to bed early, as we start check-in at 7:00 a.m. as the bus leaves promptly at 7:30 a.m. for a great day of fun and fellowship! There will be morning coffee and snacks at the church to take on the bus.

Friday, April 11, 11:30 a.m. – Fiesta @ First!

We'll celebrate APRIL BIRTHDAYS and FIESTA, beginning with a social hour on the patio and music by Mariachi's. Wear your Fiesta clothes—we'll pick a few examples of sartorial splendor and reward those winners with special Fiesta medals. Then we'll adjourn to Westminster for one of Maurilio's delicious Mexican lunches. Birthday guests are complimentary, others \$12/person. Reservations are requested by Tuesday noon, April 8. After lunch Mah Jongg will be played, and we will also fill Easter Eggs for the Children's Easter Egg Hunt.

Wanted: Candy and Volunteers

KEYS once again have the opportunity to work with the Children's Ministry to help with the Children's Easter Egg Hunt. We are responsible for providing individually wrapped Easter candy for filling approximately 1500–2000 plastic Easter Eggs. If you would like to donate candy or money to purchase candy, please bring it to the KEYS meetings or leave at the receptionist's desk. The eggs will be filled after lunch. This is always wonderful fun!



Friday, April 18 – Good Friday

No speaker program or lunch today

Friday, April 25 – Battle of Flowers

Church closed for the Battle of Flowers parade day and a holiday. Enjoy the parade and Happy Fiesta!



LOOKING AHEAD

Friday, May 2, 11:00 a.m. – Major Cheryl Buchn
US Air Force T-38 Instructor Pilot on “Teaching at 30,000 feet and .9 Mach”

Sunday, May 4, 10:30 a.m. – HalfTime Hosting
In honor of Older Adult Week, KEYS will host a special HalfTime Reception. More details to come.

Friday, May 9, 11:00 a.m. – Nicole Carver
From Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

Sunday, June 29
Patriotic Celebration at Festival Hill
Trip to Round Top, Texas
Watch for details

Remember Reservations

Please make reservations by the Tuesday before each Friday program by calling the church office at 226-0215. If you are on the permanent list for lunch, you need to call if you cannot attend. Regular programs begin at 11:00 a.m. (unless otherwise specified), followed by lunch (\$7)

Bridge will be played after lunch Friday, April 11

Please contact Katy Bedunnah if you would like to play.

Mah Jongg will be played after lunch on Friday, April 11 and April 25 Off church campus. New members are welcome; please contact Nancy Black at 210-493-1609.

Book Bank Back in Business

Happily, we are again working on books at the SAREads Book Bank. The facility at FirstMark Credit Union has been nicely



renovated after the flood of last spring, so we have heat and AC when needed and a fresh space for the 7500 brand new books that were donated to SAREads by customers of Barnes and Noble. We're sorting and labeling these to be donated to SAREads by customers of Barnes and Noble. We're sorting and labeling these to be distributed to children in needy school districts. These young people have very few books of their own at home. And SAREads is eager to expose children to the joys of reading, and importantly, their goal is to have all San Antonio kids reading at grade level by third grade. Owning lovely books is a way to encourage this. We can always use more helpers, so if you are free on the 2nd and/or 4th Tuesday of each month, we would to have you join us in the fun! Contact Jane Warren at 210-493-5187 for more information.



Moments to Hold Close Every Letter

By Manny Rodriguez



I have a co-worker from Cyprus, and her accent is delightfully strong. She makes a simple two-syllable word become an entertaining complex sentence. She has not mastered the concept of silent letters within a word, which I often tease her about. The last time I joked with her she quickly responded, "Give every letter a chance to

be heard." Brilliant. Isn't that what our Father has for us, "his letters"? "For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb." We were created with a specific mission, a specific purpose, and no two missions are alike. No one is meant to be silent. So go out there and be heard.

You and your family are cordially invited to the



**FPC
Annual
Baby Brunch**

**Sunday, April 13, 2014
9:30 a.m.
In the Geneva Room**

RSVP to suzanna@fpcsat.org or 210-271-2721



Who Doesn't HAVE TIME for HALF TIME?

(1/2 an HOUR for the WHOLE church,
right in the MIDDLE of the morning)

Attention Sunday School classes, PW Circles, small groups, life groups, groups of friends...

Please consider volunteering to host our Sunday morning time of fellowship. It is truly one of the easiest commitments you'll ever make! Quite simply, the task is to welcome everyone just as you would welcome a guest to your home. Hosts are asked to:

- circulate in the fellowship area from 10:30-11:00 a.m., wearing a "Half Time" host button
- greet as many people as possible
- make an effort to meet people they don't know
- facilitate introductions among others
- monitor traffic flow and try to ease up congestion
- model kindness and hospitality

Hosts and hostesses are the catalysts that create an environment of fellowship. It's a fun and very important community-building ministry.

Interested? Contact Amy Zesch at 824-4567 or amy.zesch@gmail.com.

First Cup Readings — April, 2014

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 & Claire Averyt

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 John 3; 5:24; 1 John 5:1-12
- 2 John 4:1-42; Luke 19:10; Matthew 11:28-30; Psalm 25;
1 John 1:8-10
- 3 John 4:43-5:15; Psalm 103
- 4 John 5:16-47; Romans 10
- 5 John 6; Isaiah 55

Come gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove, with light and comfort from above; be Thou our Guardian, Thou our Guide o'er every thought and step preside. To us the light of truth display, and make us know and choose Thy way. Plant holy fear in every heart that we from God may ne'er depart. Lead us to holiness, the road which we must take to dwell with God; lead us to Christ, the Living Way, nor let us from His pastures stray. (Simone Browne, Hymn writer 1680-1732)

- 6 John 7; 3:31-36
- 7 John 8; 1 Peter 5:8; Ephesians 6:10-18
- 8 John 9; 2 Corinthians 4:1-6
- 9 Isaiah 40:10-11; John 10; Psalm 23
- 10 John 11; 1 Corinthians 15:35-58
- 11 Isaiah 6:1-10; John 12
- 12 John 13:1-17; Galatians 5:13-15; Ephesians 6:5-8;
1 Peter 4:10; 5:2

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand. The shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land; A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way, from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day. Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see the very dying form of One Who suffered there for me: And from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess—the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness. (The Hymnbook, No. 190)

- 13 John 13:18-38; Proverbs 16:18; 11:2; Titus 1:10-16
- 14 John 14; Romans 8:1-17
- 15 John 15:16:4; 1 John 3
- 16 John 16:5-33; Romans 8:28-39
- 17 John 17; 1 John 4
- 18 John 18:1-27; Matthew 10:17-42
- 19 John 18:28-19:42

Face to face with Christ, my Savior, face to face what will it be, when with rapture I behold Him, Jesus Christ, who died for me? What rejoicing in His presence, when are banished grief and pain; when the crooked ways are straightened and the dark things shall be plain. Face to face oh, blissful moment! Face to face to see and know; face to face with my Redeemer, Jesus Christ who loves me so. Face to face I shall behold Him, far beyond the starry sky; face to face in all His glory, I shall see him by and by. (The Baptist Hymnal, #212)

- 20 John 20; 1 Corinthians 15:1-28
- 21 John 21; Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1
- 22 Joel 2:28-32; Jeremiah 31:31-34; John 7:37-39; Acts 2;
Romans 8:5-17
- 23 Acts 3; Romans 1:16-32; Revelation 3:14-22
- 24 Acts 4:1-22; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 18:19-20;
Mark 9:35-41; John 14:1-14
- 25 Psalm 2; Acts 4:23-31; Romans 8:26-28; Psalm 4; 17:6-7;
Ephesians 6:18-20
- 26 Acts 4:32-37; 2:44-45; Deuteronomy 15:1-18;
Proverbs 3:27-28; Psalm 145

O Breath of life, come sweeping through us; Revive Thy Church with life and power. O Breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us, and fit Thy Church to meet this hour. O Wind of God, come bend us, break us, till humbly we confess our need. Then in Thy tenderness remake us, revive, restore; for this we plead. O Breath of love, come breathe within us, renewing thought and will and heart: Come, Love of Christ, afresh to win us, revive Thy Church in every part. (The Church Hymnary, #339)

- 27 Acts 5:1-11; Proverbs 25:14; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11;
Ecclesiastes 5-6; Psalm 15
- 28 Acts 5:12-42; Psalm 40; Romans 8:31-39
- 29 Acts 6:1-8:3; Mark 8:34-38; Revelation 6:9-11; 14:13
- 30 1 Kings 16:23-33; John 4:1-42; Acts 8:4-25;
Matthew 10:7-8



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]

Church Register Changes

BAPTISMS

- **John Paul Summers III**, son of John and Rebecca Summers, born July 3, 2013, in San Antonio, TX. Baptized in the Traditional Worship Service on February 16, 2014. Trey H. Little, officiating pastor.
- **Katherine Stuhr (Quinn) Eckelmann** received adult baptism in the Traditional Worship Service on February 23, 2014. Trey H. Little, officiating pastor.
- **Samantha Anne Verheul** received adult baptism in the Traditional Worship Service on February 23, 2014. Trey H. Little, officiating pastor.
- **Angelica Kattriya Phoummypard** received adult baptism in the Contemporary Worship Service on February 23, 2014. Ruthie Seiders, officiating pastor.
- **Alyssa Lee Phoummypard**, daughter of Angelica Kattriya Phoummypard, born on July 13, 2013 in Amarillo, TX. Baptized in the Contemporary Worship Service on February 23, 2014. Ruthie Seiders, officiating pastor.
- **Janniella Lexie Luna**, daughter of Javier David Luna, Jr., and Serena Marie Martinez, born March 12, 2013, in San Antonio, TX. Baptized in the Contemporary Worship Service on February 23, 2014. Ruthie Seiders, officiating pastor.

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Discover First Class

February 9, 2014:

- Bill Davisson Wyckoff by Transfer of Letter
- Mary Bess (Chaney) Wyckoff by Transfer of Letter

February 16, 2014:

- Allyson Rae (Thompson) Allen by Transfer of Letter
- John McCall Averyt by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Robert K. Baugh by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Carol (Pickett) Baugh by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Betty Elam Brauner by Transfer of Letter
- Donna (McCue) Collier by Reaffirmation of Faith
- William E. Collier by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Robert Caldwell Crosby by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Katherine Stuhr (Quinn) Eckelmann by Profession of Faith

- Robert E. Frankland IV by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Sharon L. (York) Gentry by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Meredith (Brant) MacIntire by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Scott Christopher MacIntire by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Gregory Charles Massari by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Margaret (Calvert) Massari by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Mark T. Nadeau by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Julie (Wiggins) Nadeau by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Douglas Lee Raney by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Kathryn Kelly (Birmingham) Raney by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Hu B. Rhodes by Transfer of Letter
- Carroll Wayne Schubert by Transfer of Letter
- Patricia Louise Schubert by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Forrest Sparks, Jr. by Transfer of Letter
- Vietta B. Sparks by Transfer of Letter
- Samantha Anne (Katz) Verheul by Profession of Faith
- Leslie (Sebesta) Walter by Reaffirmation of Faith
- John Hansford White III by Reaffirmation of Faith
- Amy (Patton) White by Reaffirmation of Faith

February 23, 2014:

- Cheryl Nicole (Johnston) Buehn by Transfer of Letter
- John Wayne Allen by Transfer of Letter
- Bruce Craig Petersen by Transfer of Letter
- Kris Diane (Wiese) Petersen by Transfer of Letter
- Brian Joseph Eckelmann reinstated per his request, February 16, 2014

MARRIAGES

- *Andrew Thomas Miller and *Eve Marie Wallace married in the Sanctuary on February 15, 2014; Pastor Don Guthrie of First Baptist Church of San Antonio and Trey H. Little, officiating pastors.
- *Timothy John Blazi and Heather Ashley Kuhn married in the Sanctuary on February 22, 2014; Ruthie Seiders, officiating pastor.

DELETIONS (Deaths, Certificate of Transfer)

- Joelis (Jo) Utley, died February 15, 2014
- Jack Williams Bessellieu, died March 1, 2014
- Ashley Drake Mertz who was Ordained and Installed as Pastor of Evergreen Presbyterian Church of Dothan, AL on March 2, 2014; now a member of South Alabama Presbytery

*denotes non-member

Session Meeting Minutes *Session at its regularly Stated Meeting on March 10, 2014:*

- Approved the Consent Agenda (approval of minutes from previous session meeting with corrections, received the deacon's minutes, approved changes to the Church Register, approved February's financial statements, and received committee minutes).
- Received the Clerk's report.
- Received a report from the Church Relations Committee.
- Received a report from the Stewardship and Finance Committee regarding year-to-date financials through February 2014.
- Received a report from the Connections Committee.
- Voted to approve a request for the Diakonia Emmaus Community to hold their July 19 Gathering at FPC with communion.
- Received a report from Ben McCaleb on the Presbytery meeting held in Austin on February 28 and March 1, 2014.
- Adjourned with prayer.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FEBRUARY 2014

Operating Fund Budget	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Over/(Under)
Total Revenues	\$743,351	\$766,712	(\$23,361)
Total Operating Expenditures	\$591,833	\$604,965	(\$13,132)
Total Benevolences	\$87,222	\$85,972	\$1,250
Net Income/Loss	\$64,296	\$75,776	(\$11,480)

Giving for the month exceeded budget. Thank you. We still have a long way to go. The ministries and benevolences of FPC depend on your gifts. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Janet Slayden, Church Business Manager, at 210-271-2751, or Butch Gerfers, Church Treasurer, at 210-862-9998.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH SAN ANTONIO

Living to Make Jesus Visible

404 North Alamo Street
San Antonio, Texas 78205-1918
210-226-0215 www.fpcsanantonio.org



Pastor Trey Little's Twitter Handle: @treylittle

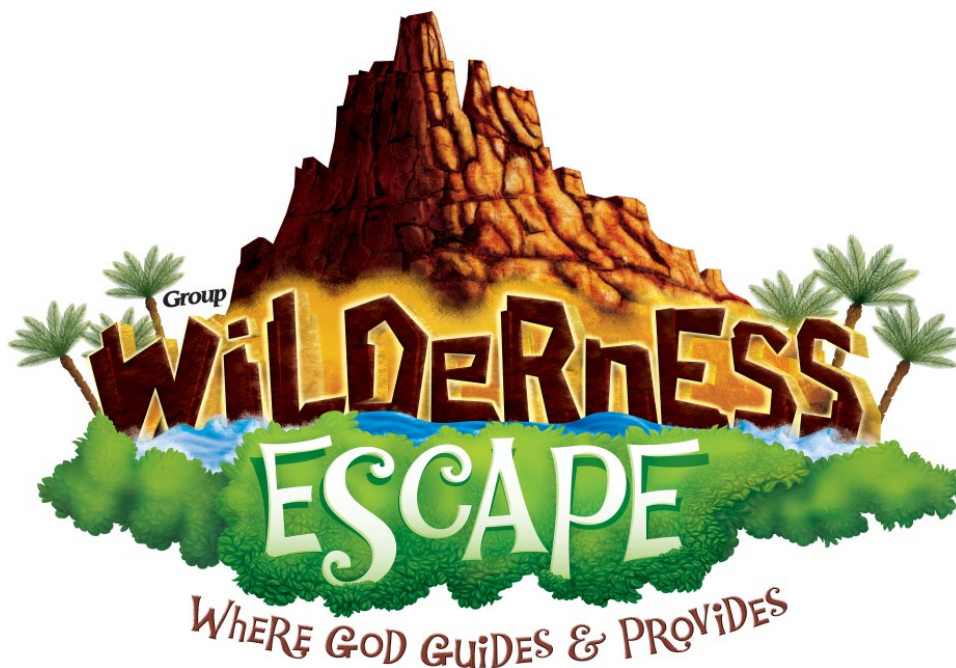


First Presbyterian Church's Twitter Handle: @FPCSanAntonio

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchSanAntonio

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 169

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED



VBS 2014
Coming
June 22-26
2014

For details info contact
Suzanna Frey at
suzannaf@fpcsat.org
or 210-271-2721

Register at
fpcsanantonio.org/vbs2014