



*First Press*

**IT'S TIME FOR THE HNS GALA**

**FEBRUARY 2016 ISSUE • FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**





# DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?!

BY REV. DR. RONALD SCATES • INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR

Easter—the grand miracle of Christ’s bodily resurrection—comes early this year. That means Lent—that 40 day period between Ash Wednesday and Easter (excluding Sundays) is almost upon us. Time to take down the Christmas tree. But also time to think about our lives in Christ. Historically, Lent has been a contemplative, self-reflective time for many Christians. Not a time to become self-absorbed, but particularly a time to take stock of one’s life in a spirit of repentance over one’s fallen sinful nature, but also mixed with gratitude to the Savior who’s passion and resurrection leave us with all the hope in the world and for the next. Traditionally, Lent at FPC has been a time when

we invite the congregation to read a book together, alongside a sermon series of Biblical texts that relate to the book either overtly or covertly. You may remember that last year we read John Stott’s magnum opus, “The Cross of Christ,” and your preaching team looked at Jesus’ cross from six different angles.

This year your Worship Planning team is encouraging us to read together John Ortberg’s book entitled “The Life You Always Wanted.” John is a good friend and fellow ECO pastor at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church near Stanford University. This book zeroes in on six different spiritual disciplines that, when practiced faithfully, are guaranteed to make Jesus more visible in and through your lives and mine. This will be a corporate discipling exercise involving pulpit and pew and beyond. If you’re a part of a Sunday School class, you might consider using the Ortberg book during the six Sundays in Lent as your curriculum (there are study questions included in the book). Likewise if you’re in a small group, or in a one-on-one discipling relationship with someone, think about making this your Lent-en focus. Or how about starting a small group just for Lent with some friends and using this book as your catalyst? As we, as a congregation, move through Lent toward The Grand Celebration Of The Empty Tomb, this book and sermon series will hone us in the area of some key spiritual disciplines that will not only make Easter more joyously meaningful, but also equip us to walk the entirety of our life’s journey more faithfully and effectively to the very end, and all to the glory of God!

We’ll order cases of the book, and they will be available in the Mauze Lobby—or feel free to buy your own copy on-line or at a bookstore.

I hope you’ll join us on this Lenten journey as FPC—the newest oldest Presbyterian church in the city—celebrates its 170th year of following Christ from its base at 4th and Alamo. Stay strong in Him.

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First Press is published monthly by the First Presbyterian Church San Antonio Communications Team. Deadline to submit content: the 10th of the previous month.

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with any questions.

EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING FOR PROJECT 240!

2016 will be our fifth year to partner with Habitat for Humanity in our annual all church service event.

On April 3rd after worship, we'll share lunch together then transform our FPC parking lot into a construction site filled with fellowship, framing materials, and fun. Our goal is to build the frames of 5 houses in 240 minutes (or less!). No construction expertise is necessary and everyone is welcome to participate. Children over age 5 are welcome to build alongside parents, and childcare is provided for the event if you register online. God has blessed our initial fundraising efforts, so we only need another \$15,000 to reach our goal of \$38,000 for this event.

Please register online now and make sure to indicate if you want a \$5 lunch, and one of our NEW 5-year anniversary t-shirts for \$5!

**CHALLENGE:**  
Build frames of 5 houses in 240 minutes (or less!)

**DONATIONS:**  
We have already raised over \$22,000 toward our \$38,000 goal! All donations are welcome—so please help us reach our goal by March 1.

**EVENT DATE:**  
April 3, 2016, following worship services and lunch.

**HOW TO SIGN UP:**  
Sign up to donate and/or register through our church website at [www.fpcsanantonio.org](http://www.fpcsanantonio.org).

**ABOUT PROJECT 240:**

- Habitat for Humanity is an ecumenical Christian organization driven by a desire to put faith into action. Each house serves as a vehicle for witnessing God's love through helping people in our own community to have a simple, affordable place to live.
- Building as an all-church team allows us to get to know each other, to work side-by-side, and to learn together about how we can directly respond to our shared call from God to serve others.

APRIL 3

- No construction experience is necessary! We'll have Habitat for Humanity staff guiding us through every step. The lumber will be pre-cut by Habitat, delivered to our church parking lot, and ready for construction.
- All ages and skills are included in this event through various roles. There's truly something for everyone!
- Do you prefer to not swing a hammer? Call the Missions Department (210) 226-0215, and they will help you find another opportunity so that you can use your own unique gifts to be involved. We need people to bring dessert, to make sure the builders have plenty of water and lemonade, along with many, many other valuable roles in order to have a successful event.
- Do you have little ones? We'll have childcare available for kids ages 0-7, though children 5 and older can participate alongside parents. They'll have a great time rotating through fun activities planned by our fantastic FPC Family Ministry staff.

Don't miss out on a popular FPC tradition—  
SIGN UP NOW!

LITERATURE CIRCLE

The FPC Literature Circle invites you to join us Tuesday, February 9 in the McCullough Room when Jane Hansen will review the classic book, "Life on the Mississippi." Written by Mark Twain, the author, the book is actually a memoir of Twain's real life as Samuel Clemens, the apprentice, as a steamboat pilot on the great Mississippi River before the Civil War. The book gives us a vivid history of the river and the constantly changing shape and form making navigation a challenge from St. Louis to New Orleans. Later, Twain relates the competition of railroads which caused steamboats to become passe. A fascinating story of America and the progression of our countries history.

FEBRUARY 9 • 1:00 PM

SPRING FLING TASTE OF THE ORIENT

On April 2, 2016, First Presbyterian Church will be hosting the third annual fundraiser for the Children's Center at the home of Sarah and Will Quirk at 110 Lynwood Ave, 78212. This promises to be a fun evening of food, wine, music, and fellowship—all for a great cause! The evening is open to all church members, school families, and their guests. One hundred percent of the proceeds benefit the Children's Center. Come out for dinner, drinks, music, silent auction, large item raffle, and Children's Center Parent Only Raffle. Awesome classroom projects will be available from each classroom for bids! So save the date and watch for more details to follow!

APRIL 2

"SEARCHING THE RUINS"

Come hear author Manuela Stafford (I. B. Hunger) present her memoir to KEYS. Manuela is a naturalized American citizen who now lives in New Braunfels, TX. Please make luncheon (\$8) reservation by calling the church.

Read more on page 12.

FEBRUARY 26 • 11:00 AM

PW SPRING LUNCHEON

Save the date for the Presbyterian Women's Spring Luncheon 2016! Melanie Shankle, author, blogger, and native Texan, will be the featured guest. Tickets are \$20 and reservations are required. Contact Holly Youngquist at [youngquist.holly@gmail.com](mailto:youngquist.holly@gmail.com) or 210-857-8180. Monday, April 4 11:30 AM (doors open at 11:00) Westminster Hall

APRIL 4 • 11:30 AM

SHERIFF SUSAN PAMERLEAU TO SPEAK TO KEYS

Arrange your schedule and save the date for Friday, March 11! Our speaker will be the Bexar County Sheriff, Susan Pamerleau. This occasion is open to the community, so feel free to invite others to attend. Advance reservations are only needed for those who plan to stay for lunch (\$8). Call (210) 226-0215.

Learn more on page 13.

MARCH 11 • 11:00 AM



# IT'S HNS GALA TIME AGAIN!

## THE ROARING 20'S AT THE PEARL STABLES

**C**ome join us for the 11th Annual House of Neighborly Service GALA at the Pearl Stables on Friday, February 26, at 6:00 pm. It will be a celebration with great food, fun and fellowship AND you will be helping the Westside community supported by HNS for almost 100 years. Dinner, Silent and Live Auctions and lively music are part of this festive evening. Tickets are \$75 each, \$140 per couple, and will be available beginning January 12th. There will be a table in the Mauzé Lobby on Sundays from January 25th through February 21st.

Your support makes it possible for HNS to continue to reach out to others less fortunate. First Presbyterian Church has supported the many programs such as Kid's Place, a child development center for children under five years old. The Parent Education program provides in-home training and skills for parents in this community, as well as CPS-referred families who need to improve their parenting skills. The Senior Program provides healthy, nutritious meals for seniors three times per week; Bible Studies, exercise classes, health screenings and other informational classes, crafts and other activities are some of the opportunities for learning and fellowship. The Food Distribution Program provides boxes of food for persons or households in need through the weekly Breadline and Food Pantry.

The mission of House of Neighborly Service is to provide opportunities which encourage, educate and empower families of the Westside community, a place where basic needs are met, where dreams are nurtured and where neighborly support is a way of life. HNS serves others while preserving their dignity and building community together.

Last year we had seven tables from First Pres and we hope to do even better this year. Come and enjoy this special event—you will not only have a GREAT time, but your support will make a difference in the lives of many people in a significant way. ALL proceeds from ticket sales and live and silent auction items will go directly to the mission and ministries of House of Neighborly Service. Funds have been raised to underwrite ALL costs of this event!

Invite your "FRAN" network—friends, relatives, associates and neighbors, to come and join in the fun and help to make Jesus visible by sharing in the ministry of House of Neighborly Service. The theme this year is "The Great Gatsby" and the "Roaring 20's", so if you have always wanted to dress as a flapper, this is your opportunity. Some will come in costume, but it is not required. Contact Rosemary Engstrom (699-0408) or Pat O'Neill (275-5821) for tickets or information.





# CLUSTER HOUSE PROJECT

BEGINS FEBRUARY 26 • VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

“Living to make Jesus visible.” What a simple, concise statement to define the path and priorities of First Pres! It’s a motto, goal, objective and mission statement all rolled into one...and it’s equally applicable to our congregation as a whole, and each individual worshiper. It is reflective of our past endeavors as well as a beacon to light the way forward. Powerful!!

Most of us are familiar with the support First Pres provides to Habitat for Humanity-San Antonio through participation in Project 240. First Pres’ association with Habitat began shortly after Habitat opened their doors in San Antonio in 1976, even providing office space in our church for several years before they were able to procure their own offices. In years past, First Pres had generously stepped up to full sponsorship of an entire house. For the past several years, however, we have combined our giving with other Presbyterian churches in the area to sponsor the Presbyterian Cluster House each year. This sponsorship encompasses a significant commitment of dollars and volunteer support hours. To provide a full-house sponsorship in 2016 (which will be the Cluster’s 21st house!!) requires a benevolence of \$55,000. Though never an easy bar to reach, each year the monies do come together through the generosity of the congregations and the Lord’s grace! What is becoming increasingly difficult to meet is the requirement for on-site volunteers to complete the Cluster House.

Habitat’s build-schedule is amazingly fast and efficient! Once the infrastructure is in place (streets, water, electricity, foundation, etc.) a house is completed in seven weeks, from erecting the framed walls (which we help build!) to landscaping! Though some construction activities are occurring each day (Tuesday-Saturday), our volunteer activities are focused on Fridays and Saturdays. Each one of those days has specific tasks and objectives; erecting walls, roofing, installing doors and windows, painting, interior trim work, landscaping, etc.

The 2016 Presbyterian Cluster build schedule has been finalized with Habitat for our sponsored house. Build days will be on Fridays and Saturdays from February 26th through April 30th (excluding Easter weekend of March 25-27). There are no specific skills or talents required, just a willingness to pitch in!

For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Fred Wall at [fredkwall@aol.com](mailto:fredkwall@aol.com) or 210-887-2434.



# “A Time to Love” Ecclesiastes 3:8

I have observed God’s love in the members of PW as they have generously and selflessly devoted their lives to service, prayer, and the study of God’s word. As I write this article in early January, I continue to appreciate those who made Jesus visible in December. A special thank you is extended to all PW angels, far too many to name, who baked cookies for the Christmas events, donated food, helped with serving, adopted families, made monetary contributions, and so much more. We are especially grateful to the following PW Chairmen for their leadership during the Christmas season.



**LELLAN LANE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN’S HOME



**KARIN GABRIELSON**  
CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER



**SARA PARISH**  
CHRISTMAS CRAFT PROJECT



**MAGGIE HARDWICK AND SUE CUNNINGHAM**  
CHRISTMAS FAMILIES MINISTRY



**PAT JOHNSON**  
CHANDLER HOME  
CHRISTMAS PARTY

**JANET WERNLI**  
MORNINGSIDE MANOR  
CHRISTMAS PARTY

## THE CHRISTMAS FAMILIES MINISTRY BY MAGGIE HARDWICK

Thanks to everyone who adopted a family. Because of you, a family has been blessed and has had a rich Christmas. Making Jesus visible is the primary objective of our giving, and I believe that we were able to accomplish just that. As usual, it is more blessed to give than it is to receive, although by the response I was able to witness in the families that I delivered to, I can tell you that for them, receiving was a great blessing!

With the cheerful encouragement of our PW President and the help of very giving members,

we were able to adopt thirty families and bless them in the name of Jesus. Many thousands of dollars in gift cards and presents were given by FPC in Jesus’ Name. We had several ever so positive reports by members who personally visited and delivered gifts, who were blessed with the smiles of the children and tears of joy from the parents. We would also like to thank the staff who so gladly contributed and gave of their time and talent. May all the praise be especially to God from whom all blessings and abilities flow.

## PW CIRCLES FEBRUARY 2016

### BIBLE CIRCLE 112

- Monday, February 15 • 10:30 AM
- FPC Geneva Rm
- Lunch \$8.00
- Chair: Suzanne Thomas, 820-3245
- Moderator: Grace Labatt

### BIBLE CIRCLE 2/4

- Monday, February 15 • 1:30 PM
- FPC Rm 226
- Chair: Char-An Witten, 341-1856

### CIRCLE 5 SHAWL MINISTRY

- Friday, February 19 • 12:00-1:00 PM
- FPC Rm 228
- Chair: Caryl Gaubatz, 651-0208
- Co-Chair: Jane Ann Temple, 414-9956

### BIBLE CIRCLE 6

- Tuesday, February 16 • 1:30 PM
- FPC Geneva Rm
- Chair: Mimi Hart, 822-0809

### BIBLE CIRCLE 7

- Tuesday, February 16 • 11:30 AM
- Restaurant TBD
- Moderator: Lynnda Barnes
- Chair: Linda Delano, 614-208-3600

### CIRCLE 8 MOM’S GROUP

- Wednesday, February 10 • 9:30-11:30AM
- FPC Rm 108
- Snacks Provided
- RSVP for childcare 2 days prior to Sonya Wright at sonyaw@fpcsat.org
- Chair: Sara Parish, 394-0865

### BIBLE CIRCLE 9

- Tuesday, February 16 • 10:00 AM
- FPC
- Hostess: Janice Wilson
- Chair: BJ Neal, 260-9638
- Co-Chair: Lucille Lammert, 832-8414

### BIBLE CIRCLE 11

- Monday, February 22 • 6:30 PM
- 335 E. Melrose Dr.
- Hostess: Sheila Figueroa
- Chair: Suzanne Norton, 287-1392

### CIRCLE 13 LITERATURE CIRCLE

- Tuesday, February 9 • 1:00 PM
- McCullough Rm
- Book Review: Life on the Mississippi by Mark Twain
- Reviewer: Jane Hansen
- Chair: Jeanne Browning, 824-3921

### BIBLE CIRCLE 14

- Wednesday, February 17 • 6:00 PM
- 530 Olmos Dr. East
- Hostess: Marti Taylor
- Contact Chair: Marti Taylor, 334-9684

### CIRCLE 16 MARJORIE MCLERNON SEWING CIRCLE

- Wednesday, February 17 • 9:30 AM
- FPC Rm 228
- Chair: Lee Pressly, 735-0978

### CIRCLE 17 EDNA RALSTON SEWING CIRCLE

- Wednesday, February 10, 9:30
- FPC Rm 309
- Chairs: Jeanne Baker, 494-0972
- Gigi Duke, 695-4363

### CIRCLE 18 CARE AND CONCERN

- No date
- Chairs: Char-An Witten, 341-1856
- Georgia Heath, 695-9511

### CIRCLE 19 WHITE CROSS CIRCLE

- Wednesday, February 3 • 9:30 AM
- FPC Rm 309
- Chair: Janet Beauch, 673-3251

### CIRCLE 20 CIRCLE OF SERVICE

- No date
- Chair: Bunkie Shed, 824-6690

### BIBLE CIRCLE 21

- Monday, February 15 • 6:30 PM
- For location contact Co-Chairman.
- Co-Chair: Francis Warrick, 408-1775

## PROVIDING CHRISTMAS FOR TWO FAMILIES BY SUZANNE THOMAS

We adopted two families this year, one with my circle and another small one on our own. The need for both families was so great. Our circle family consisted of a single mom with three darling children. The oldest daughter, age 10, attends Kipp Academy and her brother, age 9, goes to the neighborhood school. Their little sister, age 4, is in a childcare program. The father abandoned the family when she was born, and the mother is the sole breadwinner. We had to visit them after 7:00 in the evening because they don’t get home until that time with the mother’s work schedule. The older two children spoke excellent English and they were very respectful and shy at first but warmed to us quickly. They were so sweet and so appreciative of all that we brought them. The situation of the second family was just heart-breaking. When I contacted the young mother, she told me that they were moving back to Mexico to be close to

family. Her husband has cancer and has been undergoing treatment so the wife has also been the sole provider. The husband had just been told that the treatments were not working and there was nothing they could do for him. They have two young sons, ages 5 and 2. I rushed to get some of the things on their wish list, and we went to see them the night before they left for Mexico. What a pillar of strength that young woman was! Her faith was amazing, and we prayed with them for complete healing and safety. I am so thankful that Maggie Hardwick was with us with her excellent Spanish. We all shed tears as we said good-bye to that darling family. We were so grateful for the opportunity to do something for these hard working women and their precious families.

It is with a thankful heart that I wish all of you a February filled with blessings and a Happy Valentine’s Day!



# KEYS OLDER ADULT MINISTRY BY PAT MCCLEARY

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY, HAPPY PRESIDENT'S DAY AND HAPPY GROUND HOG DAY!



I hope everyone has had a good start to the New Year and has stayed well! "Keep Moving Fitness" has resumed so that everyone can carry out their New Year's resolution to exercise. In January, we learned who is a year older when we celebrated January birthdays at Fort Sam Houston Golf Club; heard Danny Thompson tell us about electronic news gathering by helicopter; and learned about "San Antonio Then and Now" by Paula Allen. Now please come and join us as we move on to February!

## RICK CAVENDER BAND

Friday, February 5 • 10:45 AM

The ever-popular Rick Cavender, known both for his musical abilities and his television presentations on behalf of the Cavender Auto Family, returns to offer songs from "The Stars of Texas." Band members will be Rick Ramirez, Keith Harter, Tammy Frost and Tommy Meneses. We are getting a head start on Rodeo so be sure to wear your cowboy boots and hats. Don't miss this exciting performance! Your check is your reservation and should be made payable to FPC with "Rick Cavender" notation on the memo line and mailed to the attention of Pat McCleary. Only \$15 per person, and includes the performance and lunch. Please make reservations by noon on Monday, February 1.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Friday, February 12 • Arrive 11:00 AM  
Oak Hills Country Club

Come and celebrate Valentine's Day and February birthdays with the sumptuous buffet at Oak Hills Country Club, located at 5403 Fredericksburg Road. The cost to you is only \$20/person, and this year we will recognize and celebrate members with birthdays; however, they WILL NOT be complimentary due to increased costs. Arrangements have been made to play bridge and Mah Jongg after lunch at Oak Hills. Your check is your reservation and should be payable to FPC with an "Oak Hills" notation in the memo line. Reservation deadline is noon Monday, February 8 (No refunds

after this date). Please contact us if you need a ride.

## HAMBURGER BAR AND MOVIE

Friday, February 19 • 11:30 AM

A hamburger lunch (\$8) will be served followed by the movie "The Book Thief." Make your reservation by calling Phyllis Griffin at 210-226-0215

## "SEARCHING THE RUINS" MEMOIR

Friday, February 26 • 11:00 AM

Come and hear Manuela Stafford's memoir: "...I.B. Hunger lived with her family less than 40 miles from Dresden, Germany when WWII changed their lives forever. Fleeing East Germany in cattle cars, surviving a refugee camp, and discovering a strange country led to the heartache as her family broke under the stress of war-torn Germany. Her memoir captures a rarely told story—how a child discovers her own path in pre- and post-war Germany. The book captures the history of that time which affects her family who loses land, wealth and freedom as Communism takes over East Germany and forces them to flee to the American Zone in the South (Stuttgart)." The author, Manuela Stafford (I. B. Hunger) is a naturalized American citizen who now lives in New Braunfels, TX. Please make luncheon (\$8) reservation by calling the church.

## NEWS FROM SAREADS

Word from SAReads Book Bank is that Barnes and Noble's Holiday Book Drive netted some 6000+ nice new books donated for needy San Antonio kids! This is outstanding and means there will be plenty of opportunity for FPC folks to help with labeling and sorting.

Of interest also is that SAReads distributed many, many holiday books to Boys Town, The Arc of S.A., and the Down Syndrome Association, so that the young people had lots of good books to read over their Christmas vacation.

We would love to have additional volunteers join us at the book bank on the second and fourth Tuesday mornings

each month. It is really fun and a great community service. Contact Jane Warren at 493-5187 for details.

## THANK YOU FOR BOOKS AND MAGAZINES BUD DAVENPORT

As we start a new year, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all of the KEYS/FPC members who have contributed books and magazines to the Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital. As most of us know, it is not very enjoyable to sit in a waiting room or lie in a strange bed with nothing to do.

Thanks to your generous donations, I have given 3,170 books and magazines this past year to the inpatients and outpatients at the hospital. I am sure the patients have enjoyed the reading material, and I know that the San Antonio Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution and I, truly appreciate your donations. Please keep those books and magazines coming throughout the New Year. It is a wonderful ministry.

Thanks again, Bud.

## GAMES MAH JONGG

Friday, February 26 • 1:00 PM

## BRIDGE

Friday, February 26 • 1:00 PM

## KEEP MOVING FITNESS

Friday Mornings, February 19 and 26  
Student Center Second Floor

## "SOUTHERN CHARM" FALL TRIP

Join KEYS for a fall trip, featuring Charleston, Savannah and Jekyll Island. We will be traveling with Collette travel and there will be an informal informational meeting on Tuesday, February 9 at 1:00 PM to answer questions. The presentation will be done by Mike Sprute, District Manager. Brochures are available from Pat McCleary and in the Mauze Lobby.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## HISTORY OF FIESTA MEDALS

Friday, March 4

Come and hear Anne Folkes who is regarded as the "Queen of Fiesta Medals."

## SHERIFF SUSAN PAMERLEAU TO SPEAK TO KEYS

Friday, March 11 • 11:00 AM

Arrange your schedule and save the time and date for March 11! Our speaker will be the Bexar County Sheriff Susan Pamerleau. This occasion is open to the community, so feel free to invite others to attend. Advance reservations are only needed for those who plan to stay for lunch (\$8). Call (210) 226-0215.

## WANTED — VOLUNTEERS & CANDY

Once again KEYS Adults have the opportunity work with the Children's Ministry to continue the FPC Children's Easter Program. The event brings lots of fun and excitement to the children of the church! We are responsible for providing individually wrapped Easter candy for filling approximately 1500+ Easter Eggs. If you would like to donate candy or money to purchase candy, please bring it to KEYS meetings or leave at the receptionist's desk. The eggs will be filled after lunch on Friday, March 11.

## SUSAN L. PAMERLEAU

Susan is the Sheriff of Bexar County. The Office of Sheriff serves as the chief law enforcement officer for the county and is also responsible for all judicial support including court security and oversees the operations of the Bexar County Adult Detention Center. She was elected to the position on November 6, 2012.

As Sheriff, Pamerleau has pledged her commitment to the people of Bexar County, enacting guiding principles to ensure the Sheriff's Office is run professionally and with operational excellence. Her number one priority as Sheriff is public safety, on a strong foundation of stewardship of tax-payer dollars; improvements in jail operations; and family violence prevention initiatives, a topic on which she is a nationally-recognized speaker.

Prior to being elected Sheriff, Pamerleau served 32-years in the United States Air Force, retiring as a Major General. After retirement from the Air Force, she also served as Senior Vice President at USAA, a Fortune 150 company, and serves on the board of directors for Government Personnel Mutual Life Insurance Company.





CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS 2015 • *In honor of*

Oralia Alcala  
**The Alcala family**

Field and Lynnda Barnes  
**Blaire and Brandon Brimer, their marriage**

David and Kay Beth Barr  
**Our children:**  
**Kyle and Rhianon Barr**  
**Ashley Barr and fiancé Jobe Jackson**  
**Grandson: Lane William Barr**

The Bereans Sunday School Class  
**Jerry and Maggie Hardwick**

Barbara Burns; Suzanne and John Thomas  
**Sally Hadigian**

Mary Frances Churchill  
**Manette and David Owen**

Dean and Lois Elson  
**FPC Members**

Peggy Foote  
**Jim and Mary Falconer, their 65th wedding anniversary**

Friends  
**Rob Shelton, in appreciation of Teaching Bridges and the Adult Bible Class**

Ann Fryburger  
**David Maurer Family**

Myna Gathers  
**Sheriff Jim McCaslin, his years of service to Swisher County**

Kay Kutchins  
**Tom Dooling, Jae Ha, and all Music Ministry**

Lillian Ann Lehr  
**Ralph Lehr, Jr**  
**Stephen and Susan Lehr**  
**Ann and Chuck Bunn**  
**Lilly and Alan Gretzinger**  
**Elizabeth Kreager**

Cindy and Chip Lutz  
**Our parents**

Walt and Janice Magnus  
**Rev. Ron Scates**  
**Rev. Scott Simpson**  
**FPC Staff**

Amelita and David Mauzé  
**Our parents, our grandparents, and our son George**

John Michael McGarraugh  
**Anne McGarraugh**

Josie, Amelia and Grayson McGarraugh  
**Dorothy McGarraugh**

Carolyn and Jack Meyer  
**Jeanne Douglas**

Charlotte and Martha Milner  
**Anne and Ron Scates**

Susie Moore  
**The Session of FPC**  
**Chuck and Ann Bunn**  
**Members of First Class**

Her Thursday Bible Study group  
**Emily Peeples**

Nancy C. Puckett  
**Scott and Suzie Simpson**

Nancy Puckett  
**Ron and Anne Scates**

Ann and Paul Smith  
**The Ministers and Staff of FPC**  
**Kum Ja and Dick Park**  
**Harriett Manclark**

Dr. Donna E. Smith  
**Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ward, their 72 years of marriage**

Helen and Graham Smith  
**Bob Collins**

The Matt Terry Family  
**Anne and Ron Scates**  
**Suzie and Scott Simpson**

Suzanne and Ted Terry  
**Anne and Ron Scates**  
**Suzie and Scott Simpson**

Joan Thaggard  
**Susan Kerr**

Suzanne Thomas  
**Circle 112**

Richard and Barbara Warren  
**Our nieces, nephews, and their children**

Sidney and Kaye Wilkins  
**Our Ministers and Staff**

John and Edie Wright  
**Our Parents:**  
**Johnny and Melinda Wright**  
**Jim and Julie Balloon**

Linda and Tommy Wright  
**Hazel Wright**

Kip and Louis Zbinden  
**Our children**

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS 2015 • *In memory of*

Oralia Alcala  
**My husband, Hazale ‘Chalo’ Alcala**

The Archer Family  
**Robert R. Archer**  
**Anita N. Lindsay**  
**Pearl N. Nordan**

Field and Lynnda Barnes  
**Judge Robert F. Barnes**  
**Forrest H. Sparks**

David and Kay Beth Barr  
**Our Parents:**  
**Mr. and Mrs. William Herschel Barr**  
**Mr. and Mrs. William Joseph Brunner**  
**Our brothers:**  
**Phillip Henry Barr**  
**William Waddell Brunner**

Ann and Chuck Bunn  
**Mary and Charles Bunn**  
**Ralph Lehr**

Pat Brannen  
**Betty Jordan**

Debby and J.D. Bowen  
**Dr. Richard G. Ryan**

James D. Bruton  
**My wife, Helen**  
**Two sons, Mark and Peter**

Mrs. George V. Burkholder  
**Dr. George V. Burkholder**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Schneider**  
**Dr. and Mrs. Theodore M. Burkholder**  
**Mrs. Margaret Maxson**

George and Kay Case  
**Our parents**

Susan and Bill Chandler  
**Our parents and our grandparents**

His family  
**Bond Davis**

Jeanne and Gary Douglas  
**George A. Knapp**

Dean and Lois Elson  
**In memory of our parents:**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Lee Roy Elson**  
**Mr. and Mrs. George F. Howe**

Dean and Lois Elson  
**The founding members of FPC**

Peggy Foote  
**My parents, J.B. and Dorothy Foote**

Charlotte Hains  
**Elizabeth Dee Pappas**

Marshall and Shelly Smith Harrell  
**Our parents:**  
**Marshall and Mary Lee Blackburn Harrell**  
**Judge Tillman and Virginia Baxter Smith**

June Khym, Georgia and Mike Heath  
**Our loved ones**

Laura Johnson  
**Belton Kleberg Johnson**

Paula and Clyde Johnson, III  
**Clyde Johnson, Jr.**  
**William and Didi Rainey**

Kay Kutchins  
**Blair “Bruzzy” Reeves**  
**Ernest and Henrietta Stevenson**  
**Dr. Leroy Yarbrough**  
**Freeman and Kathryn Overton**

Ruth Kutnic  
**My husband, Paul J. Kutnic**  
**My Father, Melchor Lopez**  
**My Mother, Josefa Lopez**

Lillian Ann Lehr  
**Ralph E. Lehr**

Ralph Lehr, Jr, Stephen Lehr, and Ann Bunn  
**Our father, Ralph Lehr**

Cindy and Chip Lutz  
**Our grandparents**

Walt and Janice Magnus  
**Our beloved parents and grandparents**

Pat and Richard McCleary  
**Loved ones**

JoLynne Meador  
**Orvis Meador, Jr.**  
**Jo and George Musselman**  
**Mildred and Orvis Meador, Sr.**  
**Jack and George, Jr. Musselman**  
**John Meador**

Carolyn and Jack Meyer  
**Betty Meyer**  
**Tom Gish**

Charlotte and Martha Milner  
**Martha and Dick Bell (Charlotte’s parents)**  
**Martha and Dick Groenendyke (Charlotte’s grandparents)**

Diana Morehouse  
**Loved ones**

The Peeples Family  
**Anna Erickson Wise**

Dolores Perrine  
**Robert E. Perrine**  
**Ruth and John Stiehler**  
**Ann and Everett Perrine**

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Peterson  
**Parents:**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hines**  
**Brother:**  
**Mr. Warner Hines**

Martha Pigeon  
**Brad Pigeon**

Nancy and Courtenay Puckett  
**Glenn Puckett**

Mary Redpath  
**Donald and all my other loved ones**

Sallie Riester  
**Al Riester**  
**Eric Riester**

Dr. and Mrs. Mark C. Rittenhouse  
**Dr. and Mrs. Norman H. Jacob, Jr.**

Deborah and David Rogers  
**A. Jackson Rogers**

Bill and Linda Ruhmann  
**Our son, Brad Ruhmann**  
**Jean Smith**

The Searcy Family  
**Lawrence Searcy**

Dr. Donna E. Smith  
**Dr. and Mrs. W. Donald Smith**

Joan and Al Thaggard  
**Mr. and Mrs. Will Tips**  
**Dr. and Mrs. Alvin Thaggard**

Suzanne and John Thomas  
**Our fathers:**  
**Thomas Burns**  
**R. C. Thomas**

Jane and Robert Warren  
**Bryan C. Warren**

Jane, Robert and Liam Spence Warren  
**Spence Warren**

Barbara S. Warren  
**My sister, Becky Patton**

Richard and Barbara Warren  
**Our Parents:**  
**Harvey and Jean Smith**  
**Les and Marjorie Warren**

Richard and Barbara Warren  
**Our friend, Mr. Wilford Lee Stapp**

Carol and David West  
**Bond Davis**  
**W.G. West**

Neil E. Williams  
**My mother, Helen Williams**

Jean Rogers Winchell  
**My parents:**  
**Napier and Mary Jean Rogers**

Barbara Winship and Family  
**Eldon Winship**

John and Edie Wright  
**Vance Whitson Lanier**

Linda and Tommy Wright  
**Mary Helen Goodnight**

Edwyna Yarbrough  
**Dr. Leroy Yarbrough**

Ciara, Lindsay, Arden, Jake, and Grant  
**Dr. Leroy Yarbrough (Opa)**

Kip and Louis Zbinden  
**Our Parents**



# HISTORY CORNER BY BILL COGBURN

## WOOL CLIPS FOR THE RED CROSS...AND EXACTLY WHAT IS A WOOL CLIP?

Many of us today might be amazed at the extraordinary lengths that some folks went to during WWII to help the war effort.

First Pres women have always had a reputation of stepping up when help is needed, so it's not surprising that they jumped on board when the Red Cross put the word out.

One such effort became known as "the wool clips collection project." These "wool clips" have nothing to do with the shearing of sheep. The "clips" are excess woolen material snipped off the bottom of men's new trousers in tailoring establishments.

During the WWII years, there were over sixty men's stores and tailoring shops in San Antonio, and every one of them volunteered to donate their woolen scraps. After they were sorted and graded by the First Pres Women's Auxiliary,

they were delivered to a shop in La Villita where they were further processed and bundled before being sold by the pound to dealers. The dealers sold them to clothing manufacturers where they would be rewoven and used to make new clothing. This became a nation-wide war effort and all of the proceeds went to the Red Cross.

The First Pres Women's Auxiliary members met in the First Pres basement every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons during the war years, to grade and sort these wool clips. The committee was headed by Mrs. Manfred J. Gerhardt and assisted by Mesdames Charles Roos, J. V. Adams, Emma C. Gregory, Henry Hart, Clarence Jennings, Max Friedrich, H. R. F. Helland, J. D. Schimmel, Dick Prassel, J. D. Morrow, J. B. Chadwick and Claude Williams.



Source: October 4, 1942, San Antonio Light; photo courtesy UTSA Libraries Special Collections

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY | DECEMBER 2015 PRELIMINARY

OPERATING FUND BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	BUDGET YTD	OVER/(UNDER)
TOTAL REVENUES	3,950,573	4,588,482	(637,909)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES	3,119,867	3,670,786	(550,918)
TOTAL BENEVOLENCES	431,578	431,578	0
FUND TFR FROM OPERATING RESERVE	0	0	0
NET INCOME/LOSS	377,779	0	377,779

Again, many thanks to this most gracious congregation. Your faithful generosity enabled us to finish the year well. While revenues were well below budget, so were operating expenditures and benevolence outlays at year's end. At Monday's Session meeting, \$337,187 of the surplus shown above was used to bring total benevolences outlays to \$790,115, or 20 percent of total revenues. The remainder was allocated to Operating Reserves to be used as needed throughout the year to cover temporary cash flow needs. Of great significance, the Christmas Eve offering was one of the largest in recent years, totaling nearly \$26,000, split evenly between our Habitat for Humanity "Project 240" this Spring and our ongoing support of persecuted or displaced Christians in Iraq and Syria. Given all the significant events of 2015, this congregation and its future have been blessed in so many ways that only one response is fitting: To God be the Glory!

### MOMENTS TO HOLD CLOSE | DOES IT MATTER? | BY MANNY RODRIGUEZ



Since Valentine's Day is around the corner, I'm sure many of us are looking for the perfect gift for our loved ones. Several years ago I found just that gift for my wife. I brought it home, so excited with my triumph.

Our daughter Jessica was nice enough to offer to put it in a gift bag. My goodness the number of gift bags she searched through trying to locate the right one, and don't even get me started on the tissue paper to accompany it. The colors, the sizes, the textures, glitter versus non-glitter. At this point I had reached my end. "Just throw it in the bag Jessica—the gift is what's important. How it is

wrapped doesn't matter." Jessica quickly responded, "But it matters to Mom." Wow, I could have been knocked over with a feather. This is the most important person in my life that I want so desperately to please, so even if I don't understand why it's important, if it matters to her you are absolutely right it matters to me. From that point forward I have always worked to make sure the gift looks pretty. Brothers and Sisters I do not proclaim to understand all of our Heavenly Father's purposes or reasoning, but I do know this, I want to please Him and make Him happy, so even if I don't understand it all, if it matters to Him then it matters to me.









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