

KEYS OLDER ADULTS

BY JOE MOORE, DIRECTOR OF OLDER ADULT MINISTRY

Although Christmas preparations begin showing up earlier and earlier, December will always be my Christmas month. I am looking forward to my first Christmas in San Antonio and at FPC. I realize that things may be a bit different this year and that I might not need my winter coat and gloves to decorate outside. As I wonder how Christmas could change for me, I am thankful that one thing will never change, the message of the angels to the shepherds, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Together with the leadership team and all of the KEYS fellowship, I want to wish you a Merry Christmas!!

KEYS will celebrate together with a Christmas Party on December 2nd. We are looking forward to hosting a Choral group from Alamo Heights High School under the direction of Angus McLeod. The festivities begin at 10:45 with "punch and cookies". Around 11:00 AM we will enjoy a Christmas Concert presented by the Choir and a few sing along carols as well. Lunch will be served at noon. Reservations can be made through Stephanie Garcia at stephanieg@fpcsat.org.

We are excited again this year to participate as a group in The Gift of Christmas. Our family of five includes three children, a daughter six months old, and two sons four and five years old. You can still join in with us up through December 11th. Thanks to Nona Hall, Geri McCorkindale and Suzanne West for their time and effort invested in this project. This experience reminds us how much more blessed it is to give than receive.

As this year comes to a close my prayer is that we will take time to reflect on God's Blessings as we anticipate the New Year to come.

Keep On Trusting,
Joe Moore
Director of Older Adult Ministry

RECENT KEYS EVENTS

We are continuously grateful to Doug and Judith McNeel for opening their home once again for our October Picnic. The weather was awesome, the hospitality was warm and embracing, and the music was amazing. "Thank you" does not seem adequate to express our appreciation!!

On November 4 we were privileged to have Major General Angela Salinas join us for a celebration in appreciation of our Veterans. General Salinas spoke from experience as one who has served with care and compassion for those who have served. It was a joy to watch as she addressed each veteran individually while she handed out our small token of appreciation. We were deeply touched by her visit with us. (below)



November 11 brought together the Literature Circle and KEYS with John Kerr, author of "The Silent Shore of Memory." Our group of more than 50 enjoyed the conversation with John and the lunch that followed. John is a member of First Pres and we are privileged to have him available to us.

On November 18 we traveled to New Braunfels to visit the Sophienburg Museum and to celebrate November Birth-

days at Gennaro's Italian Resturant. In 1844, Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels and a group of emigrants set out from Germany to start a colony in the Republic of Texas. On March 21, 1845, he and his band of pioneers founded New Braunfels, named for his hometown in Germany. Prince Carl chose a hill overlooking the beginnings of the town and began his plan to build a castle on the site for his fiancée, Lady Sophia, Princess of Salm-Salm. He returned to Germany to bring Sophia to Texas, but she refused to leave. Prince Carl chose his fiancée over Texas and stayed in Germany to marry Sophia. He never returned to Texas. Today the Sophienburg Museum and Archives stands on the hill chosen long ago by Prince Carl.



On November 28 we enjoyed wrapping gifts with Elf Louise. Elf Louise provides toys for children who otherwise might not have a Christmas gift. After wrapping, we lunched together at Acadiana Restaurant. This was a wonderful opportunity to make Jesus Visible! (above)

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2:
KEYS annual Christmas Party (pictures coming January!)

December 9 and 23:
Games at 1:00 PM

January 6:
Tom Jackson as President Abraham Lincoln. On Friday, January 6th, join us as KEYS begins our New Year with a good friend Tom Jackson. Tom will introduce us up close and personal to Abraham Lincoln through his living history presentation in character as the 16th President of the United State. Other January highlights include San Antonio Fire Chief Charles Hood on the 13th, Birthday Lunch at Fort Sam Houston on the 20th, and Lorna Jean Miller speaking to us about the Church in Cuba on the 27th.

January 13:
San Antonio Fire Chief Charles Hood

January 20:
Birthday Lunch at Fort Sam Houston

January 24:
Rev. Lorna Jean Miller The Church in Cuba

January 6, 13, and 24:
Keep Moving Fitness

February 3:
Save the date to see Rick Cavender and His Band "A Tribute to George Strait." More details to come!!