

We the People

of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, insure domestic Tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article. 1.

Section. 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section. 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People in each State, the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, not less than three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at least one Representative; and until such Enumeration shall be made, the Number of Representatives shall be apportioned among the States as follows: Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-Jersey four, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When Vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

Section. 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for a Term of six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote. Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if Vacancies happen by Death, Resignation, or otherwise, the Executive Authority of any State, where such Vacancies may happen, shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be also a Senator.

The Senate shall choose their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, who shall also be President of the Senate.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation.

Chief Justice of the United States shall preside, and no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Section. 4. The Trial of Impeachments shall be held by the Senate, and no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

First Press

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

MAY 2017 ISSUE • FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



CONFIRMING OUR FAITH

BY REV. DR. BOB FULLER • CO-PASTOR

A few years ago I was flying to a conference. Before we took off, the flight attendant approached a man sitting by himself in the exit row - mid cabin - and asked if he was willing to be responsible for opening the door in case of an emergency. She asked, “Are you willing to accept this responsibility?”

It is a pretty standard question, and most of the time people just say “yes” automatically. This gentleman said nothing. He looked at the door, pulled the instruction card out of the seat pocket and gave it a thoughtful examination. Finally, after a very awkward moment of waiting, the flight attendant said, “sir, do

you understand? If you cannot or are unwilling to do these things, we will have to find another seat for you.”

He looked up from his thoughts and said, “I understand, okay, I’ll do it,” as if he had just accepted a dangerous secret mission.

Even though his hesitation created an awkward moment, I appreciate the fact that this man took seriously the responsibility. The flight attendants message was clear: If you are going to sit here, there are certain responsibilities that you better be prepared to accept. She was asking him if - in the event of an emergency - he was willing to give himself away? Was he willing to deny his right to panic, or to save himself, or to flee for his own safety, or to avoid injury, and to do his duty at that exit? Was he willing to accept that responsibility?

Confirmation is about taking responsibility for your own faith and saying “yes” to both the joy and the challenges of discipleship. On May 21st, our eighth grade students will reach an important milestone in their walk of faith when they are confirmed as members of the church.

Confirmation is a formal process of the church, whereby young people confirm their own faith in Jesus Christ and declare for themselves their desire to be his disciples. It is the point when a young person says, “the gospel is not just something my parents believe—it’s what I believe.”

Confirmation Sunday is a wonderful celebration, but it is also a reminder that the Christian life is full of important choices. For a Christian, those choices are not always popular and they are not always easy. The temptations and social pressures of young adulthood can be overwhelming, and eighth grade is a time of difficult challenges.

It’s easy to call ourselves Christian, but are we willing to take responsibility for our spiritual growth and service? Knowing what Christ has done for us, are we wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him?

Billy Graham once said: Salvation is free, but discipleship costs everything we have. God wants you on His team, but it is a big responsibility. Are we willing to accept the responsibility of following Jesus, even if it means giving ourselves away? Thanks to all of our Confirmation teachers for their hard work leading these young people on this journey: Jobe Jackson, Ashley Jackson, James Schultz, Ellen Meadows, Mike Meadows, Emily Yergler and Colton Willis. Thanks also to all of our mentors, and the many adults and family members devoted to this process.

Our Confirmation students have made a courageous decision—to claim responsibility for their faith. Let’s remember to pray for these young men and women and support them with our love and enthusiasm.

- Bob

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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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WOC MAY COFFEE

Please join the Women of the Church for our annual May Coffee, honoring Past Presidents. It will be held at the home of Amanda Williams, 500 Terrell Road, in Terrell Hills, on Wednesday, May 3. All women of First Presbyterian Church are invited to attend and guests are welcome. Beneficiaries of this event include the FPC Children's Center and the FPC Children's Choir Program. Complimentary valet parking is available.

MAY 3 • 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

CITY WIDE WOMEN'S PRAYER

Join incredible women of San Antonio at First Presbyterian Church on Thursday, May 4, 2017 from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM for a city-wide women's prayer vigil. Learn more at: www.citywidewomensprayer.com.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."
Romans 15:13

MAY 4 • 9:30-11:30 AM • WESTMINSTER HALL

A NIGHT OF GREAT MUSIC AND DESSERT

Come hear FPC organist Dr. Jae Ha as he performs a full length recital program of organ masterpieces from the Baroque era through the 19th century. Following the program, join us for a dessert reception to cap off this evening of great music!

MAY 5 • 7:00 PM • FPC SANCTUARY

LITERATURE CIRCLE

It's 1944. A baby boy is born, a father is killed in an airplane strafing run, a dusty military footlocker is discovered in his deceased Mother's garage, and an unexpected letter arrives from overseas. Thus begins a mystery to be solved step by step by the local author, Conrad Netting IV—his "Delayed Legacy." Mr. Netting will review this true story of his emotional quest to understand his father's life and death—journey completed! Bring a friend and join us Tuesday, May 9, at 1:00 PM in the McCullough Room for a half hour social followed by this remarkable story. This is our last review before our summer break and a new list of great books will be available for the 2017-2018 Literature Circle year, starting September 12.

MAY 9 • 1:00 PM • MCCULLOUGH ROOM

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

We have a tradition of celebrating our young people when they are ready to make a commitment to the life of the church in a formal way. Join us as the students will be received publicly in worship on Confirmation Sunday, May 21, 2017. These students will also be joined by their parents, mentors and officers of the church, as we celebrate them at a Confirmation Dinner on Monday, May 15 in Westminster Hall. At this dinner, students read their faith statements and take their vows of membership.

MAY 21

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join us for a week at "Hero Central," as we discover God's strength and the power we gain through Him! Online registration is now open to all children from 4 years old to 5th grade at www.fpcsanantonio.org/vbs-17. Children ages 2-3 are also welcome, however, a parent or guardian must volunteer to assist at VBS.

If you would like to volunteer at VBS or have any questions, please contact Becky Prichard (beckyp@fpcsat.org).

JUNE 19-23 • 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

HOLY LAND TOUR

Join Ron and Anne Scates, along with friends Jim Denison and Mike Fanning, as they lead a trip to the Holy Land in November. It will be an "In His Steps" tour of Israel that Mike and Jim are famous for. They are profound, great men of faith, with a tremendous sense of humor, and you will be thoroughly informed, encouraged, and blessed by their leadership. The dates of the trip are November 12-21, 2017.

The website where you can get all of the details is: www.mikefanning.com/ron-scates-israel-2017.html

This will be a truly life-transformational trip, and you'll never read the Bible the same way again. Plus, you will be back in time for Thanksgiving with plenty to be thankful for!

NOVEMBER 12-21

URBAN PLUNGE

Come serve with us here in San Antonio. Those who are finishing 5th-8th grade are welcome to join! Each summer the middle school blocks out a week and dedicates it to serving others in the loving name of Jesus Christ. The week is filled with community service, fun, games, studying scripture, great speakers, and more fun and games. The 2017 trip served numerous mission organizations in San Antonio! The cost is \$150, and \$50 reserves your spot.

JUNE 4-9

WELCOME YOUR NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS FOR 2017

The life of the congregation is enriched by the many different kinds of service that members offer. This represents an expression of Paul’s great picture of the church as the body of Christ, with each member contributing to the health of the whole. (I Corinthians 12).

On April 9th, the Congregation voted in the following Elders and Deacons to serve our church in the year ahead. A formal installation will take place at services on Sunday, June 11th. If you happen to see them, please express your appreciation for their commitment and dedication to serving as leaders of First Pres!

ELDERS IN CLASS OF 2020

Jim Daniell
Katie Farrimond
Wendy Garcia
Butch Gerfers
Rick Jordan
Martha Maynard
Russell Williams
Betsy Zachry

DEACONS IN CLASS 2020

Kay Beth Barr
Robert Dullnig
Townsend Durbin
Lawrence (Larry) Fischer
Lee Folkes
Carl (Triple) I. Fuhrmann III
Sallie Guy
Erika Picard
Sarah Quirk
Carter Ray
Laura Sasser
Harry Schwethelm
Andrea Taylor
Joyce Alcala Valdez
Nicholas Valenti
Leslie Walter
James Wolff

ELDER IN CLASS 2018

Mike Munroe

DEACON IN CLASS 2019

Mark Meador

COLLEGE TOUR SPRING 2017

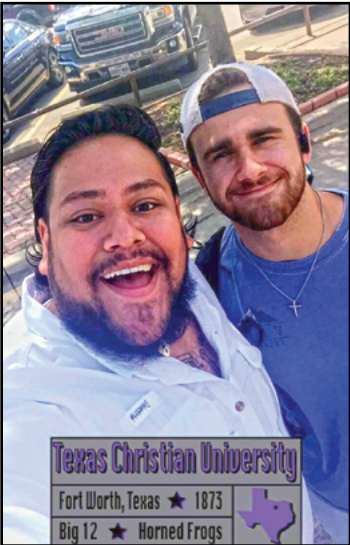
This spring, FPC University Ministries was able to reach out to our home-grown students from afar. The Texas University Tour took place April 4-6, in which our University and Young Adult Associate Alex Solorio toured around Texas to see our students where they thrive!

From Houston all the way to Texas Tech, and all in between, our ministry was able to engage our students where they are, and encourage them in the University they are proud to call home. It is a great way for our Church not only to go beyond the city limits of San Antonio, but also encourage those to continue to be a light right where they are, where God has called them to be.

“The College Tour was a Great way for me to connect with my home church, and served as a reminder that I had people back home that loved and supported me.”

- Ian Miller, Abilene Christian University

We look forward to seeing our college students return during summer and pray for those that are interning in their respective fields, working at summer camps, or continuing their education throughout the summer. Thank you for your continued support and prayers for the college ministry!





FPC MISSIONS DEPARTMENT LOCAL AND GLOBAL

The FPC Missions Department has had a very busy and exciting March! After reviewing large numbers of funding applications, the Local and Global Missions Committees have decided on funding amounts for our 2017-2018 mission partners. The Global and Local Missions Committees have completed funding decisions that total \$387,500!

The Global Missions Committee has agreed to disperse funding to the following partners: Agape (Russia), Youth with a Mission (Tyler-Worldwide and Hungary), Serge Global (Burundi), AMO Mexico, Food for the Hungry (Worldwide), Vets with a Mission (Vietnam), The Outreach Foundation (Syria and Iraq), RPC Haiti, World Vision (Malawi), and the Good Shepherd Ministry (Mongolia).

Meanwhile, the Local Missions Committee also met and approved funding for: The Christian Dental

Clinic, NAMI, Presbyterian Children's Home (San Antonio Campus), Young Lives, The Porch Ministry, South Texas Alliance for Orphans, Servant Partners, The Presbyterian Habitat Cluster House, Project 240, Loaves and Fishes, SAMM, Mission Road, and Morningside Ministries.

The Missions staff and committees are excited for the year ahead and to see how Christ moves in San Antonio and throughout the world, as FPC continues to support and pray for our mission partners.

Thank you to all who came out swinging for Project 240. This event is a success because of our FPC Family!



LOAVES AND FISHES UPDATE BILL YOUNG AND THE LOAVES AND FISHES TEAM

On March 31st, we served 157 meals and had 37 volunteers working to make Christ more visible to our city's population. These volunteers came from FPC, several Christian based schools, and civic clubs from around our community. While we still have a number of committed volunteers from our church and the Methodist Church in Universal City, we are beginning to have a number of volunteers from Grace Church and other Lutheran Churches in the area.

The last four months we have had a five-person Christian Band offering live faith-based music for our guests. This band has been a great blessing. Having a stage at our new location is working well.

Our total food cost and paper/supplies for the month of March was \$289.87. This cost doesn't include the \$250 of donated fried chicken provided by Bush's Fried Chicken, or the generous bread and desserts

donated by Costco, Panera Bread and others. Starting next month, we will add a fresh green vegetable to the menu and, for the first time, we will offer freshly cooked hamburgers.

Moving forward, we continue to look for more ways to improve our operations so we can serve healthy food in a cost-effective way. Even though our operations have moved across the street to Grace Lutheran facilities, Loaves and Fishes continues to be a ministry of First Presbyterian Church. We depend on our FPC support in many ways. Check out the website signup page, and get involved on May 28th by donating a casserole, a salad, fresh fruit, or by stepping in to help serve and care for our guests.

Save the Date: May 28th Loaves and Fishes, volunteer online at www.fpcsanantonio.org/laf.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH | BY LINDA RITTENHOUSE, PRESIDENT



The annual Spring Luncheon for Women of the Church was a wonderful success in all respects. It was a very special time to celebrate as we witnessed the power of Christ through the words of our gracious speaker, Susan Kerr. We owe her our deepest gratitude for sharing with us the story of her walk of faith and the lessons in her book, *Intersections of Grace: Reflections on a Life of Faith*. I have included pictures from that very memorable day for everyone to enjoy. Also, those of you who would like to order a DVD of Susan's presentation may do so by filling out a DVD request card located near the receptionist's desk. Please write "WOC Spring 2017 Luncheon Video" on the card along with your name, mailing address, number of copies and amount paid. DVDs are \$4 each and check or cash may be given to the receptionist. On checks, please memo "WOC Spring 2017 Luncheon Video" and make payable to FPC. The DVDs will be mailed to you. Alternatively, you may call the church and inform the receptionist of how many copies you would like, along with your name and mailing address and then send a check to the church.

I hope everyone had a joyful Easter filled with the blessings of the Risen Christ. Women of the Church enjoyed many opportunities to help provide food during the Easter Season, including both food and staffing for the Children's Easter Program. What a wonderful celebration as the Easter story was retold at this children's event about the joy of new life and renewal! Many thanks to Bunkie Shed, Circle 20 Service Circle, and numerous members of our group

for their faithful service in this and so many aspects of our church life.

I would also like to express sincerest thanks to our Circle Moderators who have faithfully taught our current studies this year. Heartfelt appreciation is extended to June Eubank, who has served as the Women of the Church Moderator Chairman, and to all the Moderators who have attended the monthly meetings at which they review and discuss the lesson. Afterward, using their individual gifts, they instruct the members of their respective circles. Thank you, Moderators, for making Jesus visible through the teaching of God's word.

Women of the Church now look forward to our annual Coffee to be held on Wednesday, May 3 from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM. Amanda Williams has graciously offered to open her lovely home at 500 Terrell Road for our final event of the year. All women who belong to First Presbyterian Church are invited to attend and guests are also welcome. It will be a joyous occasion as we celebrate our Past Presidents and another year filled with multiple service projects, treasured friendships and many blessings. Our beneficiaries for this year's offering include the FPC Children's Center. We sincerely thank Candy Wagner and Cynthia Robinson, May Coffee Chairmen, as well as their committee, and we extend heartfelt appreciation to our hostess, Amanda Williams.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the honor

given me to serve as President of Women of the Church this past year. I appreciate very much the trust placed in me and also the love and support bestowed upon me as I journeyed through this time. Particularly, however, I am thankful for the many, varied and sincere efforts of service to carry out God's kingdom on earth from the members of our wonderful group of women. You truly worked and succeeded in showing the love of Christ to our church, the

local community and the greater world. Well done, women of the church! Many blessings to you in the months and years to come as you keep your charge to make Jesus visible at First Presbyterian and beyond.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH CIRCLES

BIBLE CIRCLE 1/12

Monday, May 15 • 10:30 AM
FPC: Geneva Room
Lunch (optional): \$8.00
Chair: Suzanne Thomas 846-3240/
suzannethomas54@gmail.com
Moderator: Grace Labatt
Study: *Women of the Bible* by Ann Spangler and Jean Syswerda

BIBLE CIRCLE 2/4

Monday, May 15 • 12:00 PM
FPC: Room 226-Red Room
Lunch: Bring Pot Luck
Chair: Char-An Witten
hm: 341-1856/c: 602-7085
Study: *Her Name is Woman* by Gien Karssen

SHAWL MINISTRY CIRCLE 5

Friday, May 19 • 12:00-1:00 PM
FPC: Room 228
Members bring food to share
Chairs: Jane Ann Temple 414-9956;
Kay Weber 288-5290

BIBLE CIRCLE 6

Tuesday, May 16 • 1:30 PM
FPC: Geneva Room
Chair: Mimi Hart, 822-0809
Study: *Intersections of Grace* by Susan Kerr
Topic: *God's Word*, ch. 11 & 28

BIBLE CIRCLE 7

Tuesday, May 16 • 11:30 AM
Hostess: Mary Ellen Mauze
(203 Primrose Place 78209)
Bring sack lunch
Chair: Mary Ellen Mauze,
memauze@gmail.com
Moderator: Jeanne Dullnig
Study: *Intersections of Grace* by Susan Kerr
Topic: *God's Word*, ch. 11 & 28

CIRCLE 8 MOM'S GROUP

• Tuesday, May 2 • 7:30 PM
Mom's Night Out Dinner
(El Machito 7300 Jones
Maltsberger Rd in the Quarry)
• No meeting at church this month
Chairs: Sara Parish 394-0865/
sara23sc@hotmail.com, Lilly
Gretzinger 601-0575/lilly@bunn
group.com, Meg Walker 601-7745/
meg@aladdinleans.com

BIBLE CIRCLE 9

Tuesday, May 16 • 10:00 AM
Meet at Oakwell Farms Party House
Chairs: Jan Magnus 829-5866;
Pat Brannen 735-4415
Moderator: Members of Circle 9
Study: *Intersections of Grace* by Susan Kerr
Topic: *God's Word*, ch. 11 & 28

BIBLE CIRCLE 11

Monday, May 22 • 6:30 PM
At the home of Jackie Richards,
hostess (16330 Axis Trail 78232)
Dinner provided by various circle
members
Chair: Karin Gabrielson 843-2475
Moderator: TBD
Study: *Intersections of Grace* by Susan Kerr
Topic: *God's Word*, ch. 11 & 28

LITERATURE CIRCLE 13

Tuesday, May 9 • 1:00 PM
FPC: McCullough Room
Chair: Jeanne Browning 824-3921
Book: *Delayed Legacy* by Conrad Netting
Reviewer: Conrad Netting

BIBLE CIRCLE 14

Wednesday, May 17 • 5:30 pm (dinner)
Hostess: Marilyn Morris-Etheredge
(209 Elizabeth Rd. 78209)
Chair: Marilyn Morris-Etheredge

861-4314/mmorris.etheredge@
yahoo.com
Moderator: Amy Robinson
Study: *Women of the Bible* by Ann Spangler and Jean Syswerda

MARJORIE MCLERNON SEWING CIRCLE 16

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

EDNA RALSTON SEWING CIRCLE 17

Wednesday, May 10 • 9:30 AM
FPC: Room 309
Lunch: Bring \$1 for soup provided by kitchen, members bring dessert
Chair: Jeanne Baker 494-0972
Vice Chair: Gigi Duke 695-4363

CIRCLE 18 CARE AND CONCERN

No meeting date
Chairs: Char-An Witten hm: 341-1856 c: 445-0724, Georgia Heath 695-9511

CIRCLE 19 WHITE CROSS CIRCLE

Wednesday, May 3 • 9:30 AM
FPC: Room 309
Lunch: The kitchen makes soup (bring \$1) and provides water and coffee, a member will provide dessert
Chair: Janet Beauch 673-3251

CIRCLE 20 CIRCLE OF SERVICE

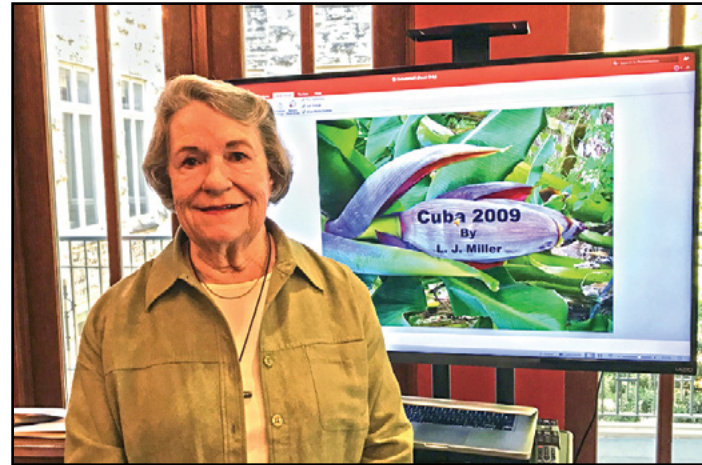
No meeting date
Chair: Bunkie Shed 824-6690

CIRCLE 21 WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE GROUP

Contact Chair for meeting date/location
Dinner: Members provide buffet dinner and dessert
Chair: Andrea Taylor 403-9442/
paladianpl@aol.com
Moderator: Member rotation
Study: *Intersections of Grace* by Susan Kerr
Topic: *God's Word*, ch. 11 & 28

KEYS OLDER ADULTS

BY JOE MOORE, DIRECTOR



In 1963, under the administration of John F. Kennedy, May was proclaimed "Senior Citizens Month". The title changed to "Older Adult Month" and more recently to "Older Americans Month." Whatever we call it, the spirit and purpose has not changed. May is the month that we recognize and honor those who have been blessed with many years. FPC is blessed with many who have life and faith experience that has enriched us all. We are thankful and we should celebrate our Older Adults, not just in the month of May, but every day. Words of wisdom from older adults, "Eventually you reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it," or "Experience is the thing that is left when everything else is gone."

KEYS is actively involved in celebrating Older Adults every week, and we invite everyone to join us!!

In April, we enjoyed hearing from Rev. Lorna Jean Miller about her work with the Presbyterian Church in Cuba, and we celebrated Fiesta and April Birthdays with a visit from King Antonio, Mariachis, Fiesta Medals and a great lunch prepared by our kitchen staff.

KEYS Friday on site programs begin with a Speaker at 11:00 AM and lunch is served at Noon. You can come for the speaker only, or you can join us for lunch at \$8

per person. To make your reservation contact Stephanie Garcia at 210-271-2753, or stephanieg@fpcsat.org.

COMING IN MAY:

MAY 5 FITNESS

BILL HOWLAND — ALIR (ACADEMY OF LEARNING IN RETIREMENT)
Through volunteerism, ALIR, believing in lifelong learning, recognizes and utilizes its members' wealth of experience and abilities to achieve educational stimulation in the arts, history, literature, languages, and sciences. Mr. Howland will present the many opportunities for learning through the ALIR programs.

MAY 12 FITNESS

RICH GARZA-CHAPLAIN OF THE SPURS

Rich Garza has served as the co-chaplain with the San Antonio Spurs for 17 seasons. A former standout on the collegiate gridiron, he went on to have professional careers in the National Football League and the United States Football League.

BRIDGE AND MAH JONGG

MAY 19

BIRTHDAY LUNCH-MILANO'S AT WURZBACH

We will enjoy Italian cuisine from a specially-selected menu that will be available to us at the restaurant. Lunch is complimentary for May Birthdays; all others will be \$12 pp. Meet at the restaurant at 11:30 AM, or sign up for the van leaving FPC at 10:30 AM.

MAY 26

FITNESS

PATRICK COBB-MEMORIAL DAY

Patrick is a chaplain at Fort Sam and Son-in-law to Char-Ann Witten. We look forward to celebrating Memorial Day with him.

BRIDGE AND MAH JONGG

SAVE THE DATE:

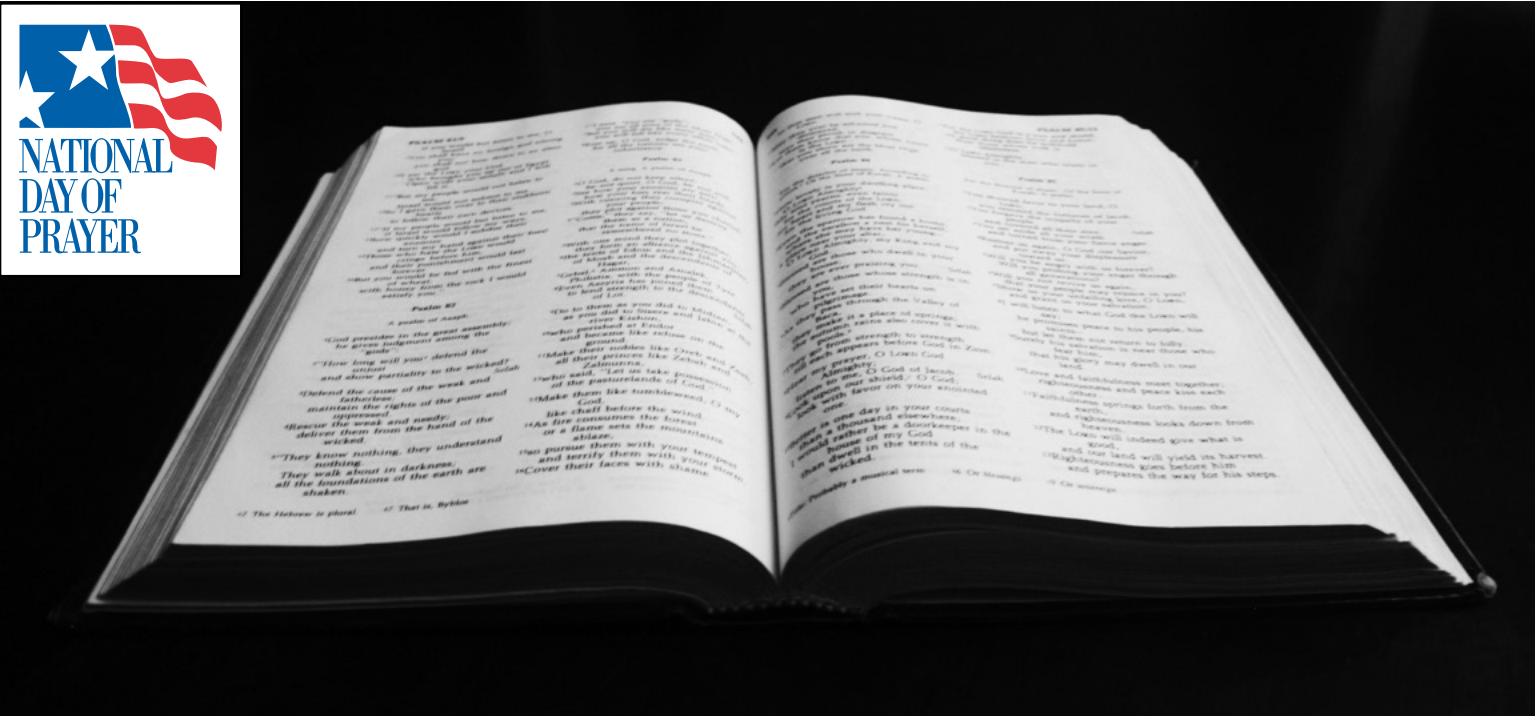
JUNE 2

Save the date for a presentation by the Extended Run Players from the University of the Incarnate Word.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US AT THE WITTE

in June for the Whale Exhibit, contact Stephanie at 210-271-2753 or stephanieg@fpcsat.org. We can get a group rate of \$18. No date set yet, just looking for interest.





PRAYERS IN YOUR DAILY DEVOTIONALS FOR THE NATION

1 Timothy 2:1-6: “I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life, in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Jesus Christ, who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony borne at the proper time.”

2 Chron. 7:14-15: “If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.”

NATION

Thank you, Lord, for our country and our freedoms. Thank you for the blessings and abundance you have poured over these United States throughout our history: our shelter, our food, our energy, and the sacrifices others have made on our behalf.

Lord, we confess our sins and our willful disobedience as a nation and we humbly ask for your forgiveness, grace and mercy in Jesus’ Name. Help us to live lives that are loving and peaceful, spreading the Good News of the Gospel throughout the land, in Jesus’ name.

We pray for the Body of Christ in America and throughout the world. Put into the Church a hunger for God’s Word each day, both as written in the Holy Scriptures and interpreted by Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Set a fire in the hearts of church members to be in intimate relationship with Jesus.

We pray for our educational systems, especially our youth, that all may learn skills, respect, and responsibility. May all develop godly reasoning and behavior.

Lord, we pray for all immigrants to our nation, that Jesus Christ may be revealed to them as Lord and Savior, and as the source of the freedoms that they desire.

We pray for those who don’t know Jesus as Savior.

May all Christians in our nation be a united voice for Christ. May our prayers be heard by our leaders, as the voice of God’s wisdom and encouragement.

We pray for our nation that we may respect each other, our laws, and further the cause of peace and unity.

We pray for God’s provision and hope, for all who are unemployed and underemployed.

We pray for God’s protection from terror threats and acts of terror against the United States.

GOVERNMENT

We pray for the President, the Cabinet, Congress, and the Supreme Court Justices, for their moral courage, for God’s

leading in far-reaching decisions, which will affect future generations. May God’s will prevail in the challenges and circumstances facing our leaders—the economy, national debt, education, national security, and foreign relations.

We pray boldly for godly leaders, who seek God’s heart and will for America.

May our elected officials lead in a spirit of unity and civility with servant hearts, putting aside pride and self-interest.

We pray for our leaders who do not know Christ as Savior; may their hearts be filled with a desire to seek His saving grace.

May each political candidate conduct a campaign of integrity, gifted with wisdom, truth, leadership messages and moral values.

MILITARY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

We pray for the safety of all U.S. troops and police, serving at home and in other countries. We pray that you give them courage, strength, and hope for each day.

We pray that each of the troops and police will be guided by your wisdom.

May they always act in fairness and justice.

We pray for all wounded warriors, for their healing and provision, and for their families.

We pray for all returning troops, as they continue their service, or return to civilian life.

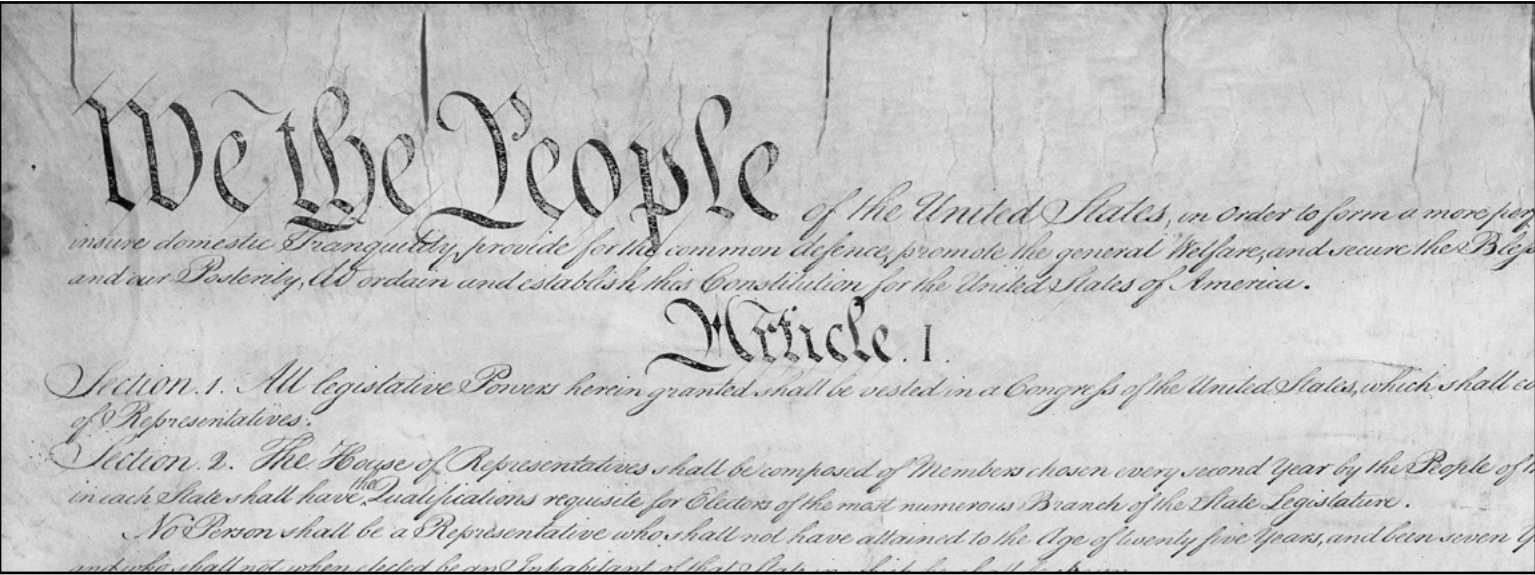
We pray especially for those suffering from PTSD, that Jesus will bring healing to their spirits.

We pray for the families whose loved ones have sacrificed their lives in military service and law enforcement for our safety. May these families be comforted in Christ’s loving care, during their grief, and in their future.

1 Peter 5:6-7: “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.”

Psalms 46: “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. He says, ‘Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.’ The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.”

PRAYERS FOR OUR NATION, GOVERNMENT, AND MILITARY



PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES ON MAY 4, 2017, THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

- The Annual Prayer Breakfast to be held at Trinity Baptist Church’s Tripoint Center. Breakfast served from 6:45 to 7:15, \$10.00, music 7:15 to 7:30, and program 7:30 to 8:30. Register at www.dayofprayersa.com
- At San Antonio City Hall from 11:30, special music, and 12:00 to 1:00 prayers for the nation and to call upon the Lord for blessings, mercy and forgiveness.

BEYOND THE STAINED GLASS | BY ALEX SOLORIO, UNIVERSITY/YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY ASSOCIATE



Church, let us come to the table. Let us remember what last month means to us and let us be reminded of the mission that we are ALL called to do. I have a saying in our college and 20's class, "Renovate," that I say quite often. "The most consistent thing in this world is the inconsistency of mankind." Since the beginning of scripture we have sought out curiosity and our own desires. This is a phenomenon that we struggle with even now. Thus we look to the cross. We look to the cross to give us strength when we have none. We look to the cross when we are lost and cannot find our way. We look to the cross when we lack discipline and need

to be refined. We are reminded that it is at the foot of the cross where the battle was won. Scripture reads, "But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed." This was the sacrifice given, this was love on display for the world to see, and this is where the injustice that took place in the Garden of Eden was brought justice. The wages of sin is death, and it took a man to live the life we could not live and die a death we couldn't so that justice could have its day. By this act we are no longer a slave to our sin and WE can be considered righteous in His grace. Affirming and confirming in our hearts that Christ is Lord, Savior, and King! Let us walk in obedience to his word. So I say again, Church let us come to the table, let us partake in

communion and as a response, to commit and submit our lives to our Savior. That means that we stand firm in our faith, and though this world desires to push back on what we believe, I'd rather be a good and faithful servant that desires refinement while being loving and gracious, than being politically correct to an inconsistent world. Church, let us come to the table to remember that we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior. Let us go beyond the stained glass of our church and reach out to those in need. Let us not be ashamed to declare that Christ is Risen and HE IS COMING BACK!!! I leave with this quote. "When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and could say, 'I used everything you gave me.'" -Grace and Peace

MOMENTS TO HOLD CLOSE | THANK YOU SIR, MAY I HAVE ANOTHER? | BY MANNY RODRIGUEZ



Stacie and I recently spent the weekend with two of our children in college. We were together in public and someone's child was misbehaving. Our daughter looked at me and asked, "Do you know what you would have done to me at that age if I acted like that?" I responded a little meekly and embarrassed, "I know, it would not have been pretty." And she quickly replied, "I want to thank you for that. I want to thank you for being hard on me, disciplining me, and even at times I was mad at you for doing it, telling me no. As I look around the campus the last few years, I can easily tell which of my classmates did not have parents that did this for them, and now they are paying a severe price. Thank you, Daddy." I must confess—I was shocked. That's not at all what I expected to hear. But then I had to reflect, have I ever thanked my parents for disciplining me? More importantly, have I ever thanked my Heavenly Fa-

ther for doing so? I can recall so many instances in my life when I felt as though He either wasn't listening, had me endure too much, or things just did not seem fair only to realize later how much those exact things worked to my advantage. Not one of us would be unnecessarily cruel or mean to our children, yet we might absolutely challenge them or push them because we know that doing so is for their benefit. Doesn't it stand to reason that our Lord does the same in our own life, and that much like a child we resent it while we are going through it, but hopefully we grow to appreciate it once we see the results. I know when I coached I found myself being harder on the kids with more potential, perhaps God views it comparably and if so we should view each challenge as a Heavenly badge of courage. I suppose it's true that smooth seas do not create skilled sailors.

WELCOME NEW STAFF | KRISTINA HENDERSON, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES



Kristina was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas. She moved to Central Texas seven years ago, living in San Marcos, Kyle, and Austin where she built her background in Finance and Human Resources. Her most recent employer of four years was at the University of Texas System, developing Human Resource practices and Benefits administration across the 14 UT institutions. In November 2016, Kristina decided to return back to her roots, where in her spare time she enjoys the bond she has with her dog Ozzy, trying Pinterest recipes, serving her community, and reading. Kristina refers her relationship to God as a consistent walk, where daily talks with God are routine. She is the only child to parents who are actively involved in a local Church and the community. Kristina is very excited to have begun her journey here at FPC, where she has already grown fond of the wonderful staff.

WELCOME NEW STAFF
REV. JOHN DEARMAN, ASSISTANT PASTOR



John is the new Assistant Pastor at FPC San Antonio, who is working as the Pastor for Christ of the Hills, the new church plant in Boerne, Texas. John grew up as a Presbyterian in Austin, Texas and he is the oldest son of Kathy and Dr. Andy Dearman, professor of Hebrew and Old Testament. John found his own way to faith through mission trips with his high school youth group, and mission became central to God's call on his life. He went on to the University of Texas at Dallas to receive a BA in history.

Still feeling God's call to mission, he went to Bolivia for two years as a missionary, met a beautiful Presbyterian girl and got married to Vanessa there in Bolivia. The couple returned to Austin to answer the call to seminary, fully expecting to return to the mission field after seminary. In God's sense of humor, he had other plans for John, and while completing the MDIV at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary John felt a surprise call to ordained ministry. God led him to First Presbyterian Church of Conroe, where he was an associate pastor for over five years. John loves Jesus, and is passionate about the Word of God, The Holy Spirit transforming lives, and helping people to mature in discipleship as followers of Christ. He has four kids, Andrew (8), David (8), Gracielle (4), and Naomi (2) and his hobbies include soccer, racquetball, grilling, camping, and spending time with the family. He is excited about what God is doing at Christ of the Hills Church in Boerne, and looks forward to partnering with you to build God's kingdom.

First Cup Readings – May, 2017

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 our libraries. 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 Leviticus 8, 17; Hebrews 9:11-28; Matthew 5:17;
Romans 8:1-17
- 2 Hebrews 10:1-25, 7:26-28, 9:11-14; Matthew 26:26-29;
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
- 3 Hebrews 10:26-39; 2 Peter 2; Matthew 12:31-32;
Ephesians 4:30-32
- 4 Hebrews 11; Isaiah 7:9b; Revelation 6:9-11;
1 Peter 1:1-12
- 5 Hebrews 12:1-3; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Philippians 2;
Galatians 6:9
- 6 Hebrews 12:4-13; 2 Corinthians 4-5:10; Psalm 94

*More like the Master I would be, More of His meekness, More
humility; More zeal to labor, more courage to be true, More
consecration for work He bids me do. More like the Master is
my daily prayer; More strength to carry crosses I must bear;
More earnest effort to bring His kingdom in; More of His
Spirit, the wanderer to win. More like the Master I would live
and grow; More of His love to others I would show; More self
denial like His in Galilee; More like the Master I long to ever
be. (Worship in Song, No. 277)*

- 7 Hebrews 12:14-17; Ephesians 4:17-5:20
- 8 Hebrews 12:18-29 (see Exodus 19-20);
Philippians 3:7-4:1; 2 Peter 3:10-18
- 9 Hebrews 13:1-6; Romans 12:9-21; 1 Corinthians 5:1-12,
6:9-11; Matthew 6:24
- 10 Hebrews 13:7-25; 1 Thessalonians 4-5
- 11 James 1:1-8; Romans 5:1-5; Job 28:20-28; Psalm 90:12;
Proverbs 1:7-8, 21:30
- 12 James 1:9-11; Psalm 49; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 18:18-30; 1
Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19
- 13 James 1:12-18; Matthew 6:9-13; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27,
10:12-13; Galatians 6:1-5

Out in the highways and byways of life, Many are weary and sad. Carry the sunshine where darkness is rife, making the sorrowing glad. Tell the sweet story of Christ and His love; Tell of His power to forgive. Others will trust Him if only you prove true every moment you live. Give as was given to you in your need; Love as the Master loved you. Be to the helpless a helper indeed; Unto your Mission be true. Make me a blessing, O Saviour, I pray. Make me a blessing to someone today. (Worship in Song, No. 342)

- 14 James 1:19-27; Psalm 119: 97-112; 4:4;
Ephesians 4:17-32; Proverbs 15:1, 29:11

- 15 James 2:1-13; Leviticus 19:15; Proverbs 3, 14:21;
Luke 10:25-37
- 16 James 2:14-26; Ephesians 2:8-10; Matthew 7:21-27, 25
- 17 James 3:1-12; Proverbs 4; 12:19, 16:23-30, 18:6-8, 26:20-
28, 27:2; Psalm 12, 141
- 18 James 3:13-18; Proverbs 29:23; Matthew 20:20-28, 23:1-
12; Luke 22:24-30
- 19 James 4:1-12; Proverbs 10:18-21; Matthew 15:10-20;
Titus 2:11-15; 1 John 2:1-17
- 20 James 4:13-17; Matthew 6:34; Proverbs 3:27-28, 16:9,
19:21, 27:1; Psalm 139

*While passing through this world of sin, And others your
life shall view, Be clean and pure without, within, Let others
see Jesus in you. Your life's a book before their eyes, They're
reading it through and through; Say, does it point them to
the skies, Do others see Jesus in you? Then live for Christ both
day and night. Be faithful, be brave, be true, And lead the lost
to life and light; Let others see Jesus in you. Keep telling the
story, be faithful and true, Let others see Jesus in you. (Baptist
Hymnal, No. 348)*

- 21 James 5:1-6; Leviticus 19:9-13, 24:14-15;
Matthew 6:19-21; Hebrews 11:24-26
- 22 James 5:7-12; Job 1:1-2:10, 42; Romans 12:6-21
- 23 James 5:13-20; 1 Kings 17; 2 Kings 4:1-37; Acts 9:36-43;
Romans 8:26-28
- 24 1 Peter 1; Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:17-5:21
- 25 1 Peter 2:1-12; Romans 13:8-14; 1 Corinthians 3:16-17,
6:19; Psalm 65:1-4
- 26 1 Peter 2:13-3:22; Ephesians 5:22-6:9; Romans 13
- 27 1 Peter 4; Philippians 1:27-30; Revelation 2:10

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, Much we need Thy tender care; In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Thy folds prepare; We are Thine, do Thou befriend us, Be the guardian of our way; Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us, keep us when we go astray; Thou hast promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be; Blessed Lord and only Savior, With Thy love our bosoms fill: Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still. (The Methodist Hymnal, No. 121)

- 28 Jeremiah 10:21, 23:1-4; Matthew 9:36; John 10:1-18;
1 Peter 5
- 29 Matthew 17:1-8; 2 Peter 1; 2 Timothy 3:16-17;
Psalm 119:105; 2 Corinthians 4:6
- 30 2 Peter 2; Hebrews 6:4-6; Jude
- 31 Matthew 24; 2 Peter 3; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

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]



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