



# FIRST PRESS

JULY 2019

**McCullough  
Room is  
getting a  
facelift.**

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**Vacation  
Bible School  
was a ROAR-  
ing Success!**

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**Check out  
our Summer  
events!**

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**Fulfilling the  
Great Commis-  
sion and  
going out to  
the world!**

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## Washington's Vision



**Rev. Dr. Bob Fuller**  
Senior Pastor

**B**ack in May, I joined thousands of other San Antonians to see the Broadway musical *Hamilton*. *Hamilton* is one of the most acclaimed and popular shows to come off of Broadway in years. From an artistic and entertainment perspective, *Hamilton* lives up to its hype. It was not rated “G,” but neither was the real life of Alexander Hamilton nor the time in which he lived.

I enjoyed the show for several reasons. In addition to the clever writing and extraordinary production, *Hamilton* offered an important history lesson.

I love history. The study of history is critical for our personal faith formation, our formation as citizens and the healthy development of our nation. My hope is that this extremely popular musical will make history “cool” again.

Among the many great lines was one passage that touched me on a deeper level. In the scene, George Washington tells Alexander Hamilton that he will not serve a third term as president. As we know from history, Washington’s decision was unexpected. Both supporters and critics alike believed that he would live out his days serving as president. There were many who believed that he should even claim the presidency as a hereditary right and become a monarch in all but name.

Washington, a truly extraordinary and unique man, had a different vision for the nation. The man who gave everything in service to his country gave up control. His was a vision of a people who governed themselves under God. That vision was anchored in the word of God.

In the number “One Last Time,” *Hamilton* asks Washington, “*Why do you have to say goodbye?*” Washington responds:

*“If I say goodbye, the nation learns to move on, it outlives me when I’m gone. Like the scripture says: ‘Everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid.’”*

Do you recognize those words? They are taken directly from Micah, chapter 4.

In the Old Testament prophecy of Micah, the Lord provided a description of the kingdom of God. Micah says

*“It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and it shall be lifted up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, ... and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore; but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid, for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.”*

Micah 4:1, 3-4

These words may be familiar to you because they are the foundation for the vision, mission, and strategy of First Presbyterian Church, adopted by our session in May 2018.

Micah describes a world in which the sovereignty in and truth of God are lifted up, high enough for all people to see. And, when people see (and hear) the truth of God in our words and in our lives, they will be drawn to his kingdom and his love. And when all people are drawn together into Christ’s kingdom, there will be justice, peace, and plenty. We will not have a system of “haves” and “have-nots,” but everyone shall sit under his own vine and his own fig tree. Everyone will both contribute to our general welfare and draw deeply from the grace of others. Everyone will have value, not just a vote.

The Micah vision is the American vision. Not an unhealthy vision of cyclical dependency, but a healthy vision of order, peace and community. It will truly be a world where people love God, love one another, and love their neighbors.

When I heard of those sacred words in that secular play, it moved me to tears. It reminded me that the founder’s vision for this country has not changed because it is rooted in Christ’s eternal kingdom vision.

The study of history should remind us not only of where we have been, but where we are now and where we are going. This July 4, I hope that you will make a time to read and meditate on God’s word, and pray that he would set his vision for our country before the eyes of our leaders and our people so that one day we will see the vision of Micah fulfilled on earth.

Grace and Peace,  
Bob Fuller





8

10

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## PATHWAYS TO

*Moving Towards Mental Wellness  
Body • Mind • Spirit*

hope

FIRST PRESS MAGAZINE 3

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## SAVE THE DATE

# Building God's Kingdom Together - Local Mission Trip



You are invited to participate in a local mission trip right in our backyard! July 24-27, FPC will be partnering with two other churches and our ministry partner, La Luz en El Barrio, to bring you an in-town mission "trip!" We will be "Building God's Kingdom Together" on the East

Side of San Antonio. The "trip" will include a neighborhood Block Party and Bible Studies! All activities will be in the evening to accommodate most work schedules.

There will be a pre-trip training on Tuesday, July 18 at 6:00 PM at the FPC Student Center. This will give you a chance to practice sharing your faith before we go to the East Side neighborhood where La Luz en El Barrio serves. A light dinner will be provided, please RSVP to [carriee@fpcsat.org](mailto:carriee@fpcsat.org) for food ordering.

If stepping out into loving our city scares you a little, don't let that stop you! In fact, that might be exactly why God is calling you to participate.

See more information at [fpcsanantonio.org/local-missions-serve](http://fpcsanantonio.org/local-missions-serve) Contact Carrie Everson at [carriee@fpcsat.org](mailto:carriee@fpcsat.org).

## Pre-Trip Training

**Date:** Tuesday, July 18

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Location:** FPC Student Center

## Mission Trip Schedule:

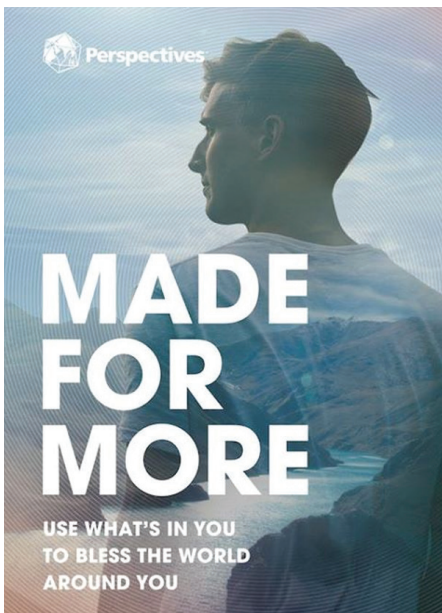
**July 24: 5:30 PM** – Dinner and training on sharing your faith

**July 25: 5:30 PM** – Dinner, role play, and then go out in the community

**July 26: 7:00 PM** – Block Party at Pittman-Sullivan Park

**July 27:** Bible studies in the community at various times

## Perspectives Class Registration



The Perspectives class is for anyone who wants a closer walk with the Lord, who is serious about gaining a deeper understanding of His ultimate purpose in the world. Join thousands of believers on a journey into the heart of God for all peoples.

Perspectives is a 15-week life and learning opportunity that will change the way you view the world around you. In it, you will have your eyes opened to the heart and purpose of God, and how you can take part in His work all over the world, from the urban streets of America to the rain forest and deserts of distant lands.

**Class Dates:** Sundays, August 18 - December 15

**Time:** 3:00 - 6:00 PM

**Location:** FPC

A fantastic array of pastors, theologians, international missiologists and mobilizers will challenge and inspire you with their personal experiences that will open your eyes to see just how big God is, and how much He desires that all might come to know Him.

Register now at [www.perspectives.org/sanantonio](http://www.perspectives.org/sanantonio) for this life-changing course. Partial scholarships and potential college credit will be available for current university students. If you have additional questions, email Lindsay Selli at [lindsays@fpcsat.org](mailto:lindsays@fpcsat.org).



## Global Leadership Summit



**Dates:** Thurs. & Fri., August 8 - 9  
**Time:** Thurs. | 8:30 AM - 4:45 PM;  
 Friday | 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM  
**Location:** Grace Point Church  
 9650 Huebner Road

FPC invites you to this special simulcast of the Global Leadership Summit, featuring adventurer Bear Grylls, to be held at Grace Point Church, 9650 Huebner Road. More than an event, the Summit is a catalyst for change that inspires and equips world-class leadership to ignite organizational and community transformation. Cost: \$109 until 6/25/19 (until 11:59 pm CDT) with priority code, or \$139 after 6/25/19 with priority code. Priority Code: 19PRTORG. Register here: [GlobalLeadership.org/Summit](http://GlobalLeadership.org/Summit).

## 5 Love Languages Marriage Conference



**Date:** Saturday, September 7  
**Time:** 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM  
**Location:** FPC

## Pathways to Hope



**Dates:** Fri. & Sat., August 23 - 24  
**Time:** Fri. | 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM;  
 Fri. Youth Event | 7-9 PM;  
 Sat | 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM  
**Location:** Tobin Center  
 100 Auditorium Circle

The fourth annual Pathways to Hope Conference, focusing on mental health and including speakers from across the community and nation, including Pastor Frank Pomeroy of First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs, will be held at the Tobin Center this August. This community wide initiative will help us move toward breaking the stigma of mental illness. For more information, or to register, please visit [www.pathways-tohope.net](http://www.pathways-tohope.net). [See article on page 16.]

Whether you've been married six months or sixty years, every marriage can use a boost. In this popular one-day conference led by Dr. Gary Chapman, author of the #1 New York Times bestseller *The 5 Love Languages*®, you and your spouse will experience what's sure to be the highlight of your marriage and the beginning of many positive changes. With wisdom and a healthy dose of humor, Dr. Chapman gives valuable tips on breaking unhealthy patterns and choosing to develop a more intimate, happy marriage.

Cost is \$47 per individual; \$75 per couple (lunch included in cost). Register early! This conference sells out fast! Register at [moody.regfox.com/5ll-texas](http://moody.regfox.com/5ll-texas).



## Children's Ministry Summer Events

**JUL 9 Family Bowling Day**

**Tuesday, July 9th**  
**12:00 PM - 2:00 PM**  
**Bowlero Bowling Alley**  
**(13307 San Pedro Ave.)**

Join us for a fun day of bowling. FPC Children's Ministry will rent a bowling lane, you just need to bring money for shoe rentals and snacks.

**JUL 18 Ice Cream & Popsicle Social with Devotionals**

**Thursday, July 18th**  
**1:00 PM - 2:00 PM**  
**FPC Upper Patio**

I scream, you scream, we all scream for ICE CREAM! Beat the heat and enjoy a sweet treat and a family devotional together on the FPC Upper Patio.

**JUL 27 Family Scavenger Hunt in San Antonio**

**Saturday, July 27th**  
 Join us for a fun day of scavenger hunting in San Antonio followed by lunch.

**9:00 AM**  
 Meet in church parking lot for map and instructions  
**11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
 Lunch and Devotionals in Geneva Room



**Date:** Friday, July 19  
**Time:** Evenings TBA  
**Location:** Rosella at the Garden  
 (555 Funston Pl.)  
**Price:** \$12

### KEYS July Birthday Lunch

KEYS Birthday lunches are the third Friday of each month and are held at various restaurants throughout the city area. This month we will be at Rosella at the Garden, located at the Botanical Gardens at 555 Funston Place. Birthday honorees are our guests at these meetings, which are a time of fellowship and celebration. (Lunch/\$12) RSVP to Rosie Brown at [rosieb@fpcsat.org](mailto:rosieb@fpcsat.org) or 210-271-2753.

**Date:** Saturday, July 20  
**Time:** 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
**Location:** Student Center  
 Downstairs

### Loaves and Fishes

Our next opportunity to serve our under-resourced neighbors is next Saturday, July 20. Setup begins at 8:30 AM, doors open for guests at 10:30 AM, and serving begins at 11:00 AM. All are welcome. Please contact Lindsay Selli ([lindsays@fpcsat.org](mailto:lindsays@fpcsat.org)) with questions or to volunteer.

**Date:** Sunday, August 18  
**Time:** 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM  
**Location:** FPC

### Kick-Off Sunday

August is right around the corner and fall activities will be "launching" at FPC again! Kick-off Sunday will be August 18th this year. Mark your calendars to get re-acquainted with your FPC family, and the many ways you can get plugged in and experience everything First Pres has to offer. Look for more information in the coming weeks!

# Summer Sunday Classes

## BIG QUESTIONS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

**Class Dates:** Sundays, through August 11  
**Time:** 9:30 AM **Location:** FPC Room 300

As Christians, putting our faith in God does not exempt us from having to wrestle with difficult questions about our worldview. Adults of all ages are welcome to join us this summer as we work through challenging questions of the Christian faith from a Biblical perspective. The class will be taught by a variety of teachers. Contact Carrie Everson at [carrie@fpcsat.org](mailto:carrie@fpcsat.org).


#### Upcoming Questions:

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>July 7</b>    | Why do we structure our worship services the way we do (liturgy, music, etc.)?  |
| <b>July 14</b>   | Have certain gifts of the Holy Spirit—e.g. speaking in tongues, casting out demons, and prophecy—ceased?                      |
| <b>July 21</b>   | Should we really believe the stories in the Bible actually happened, or are they just symbolic, meant to teach principles?    |
| <b>July 28</b>   | If Scripture is inerrant, why are there inconsistencies among different manuscripts? How do we know which version is correct? |
| <b>August 4</b>  | How were the books of the Bible determined? How can we be sure that the Bible is complete?                                    |
| <b>August 11</b> | Do we choose faith, or did God choose us?   |

#### FIRST CLASS

-  **8:30 AM**  **224**  
 Chuck Bunn and Pat Brodeen  
 All ages are welcome!




#### 55 PLUS

-  **9:30 AM**  **224**  
 Various




#### ARTHUR GRAY JONES

-  **9:30 AM**  **312**  
 Harry Schwethelm

#### ADULT FOUNDATIONS MARRIAGE CLASS

-  **9:30 AM**  **302**  
 The Micklers, McCullochs, Eversons, Bowdens, Allens, Brooks, Smiths, Culpes, Moores, and the Carters

#### NEW COVENANT

-  **9:30 AM**  **304**  
 Ken Finch

#### 6TH - 12TH GRADE YOUTH

-  **9:30 AM**  
 **Student Center Downstairs**  
 Becky Prichard and Emily Yergler



## Identifying the Depth of Congregational Care at FPC

REV. DR. JOE MOORE

Minister for older adults and congregational care

**W**hen I interviewed with First Presbyterian Church in April of 2016, one of my first conversations with Pastor Scott Simpson was concerning the depth of Congregational Care at FPC. Having served in Congregational Care for 12 years at a large church myself, we agreed that it had to be much deeper than any one Pastor of Care. He shared with me a plan that envisioned lay lead geographical small groups under the supervision of the Diaconate, the objective being that everyone who calls First Presbyterian home would be connected to a small group and under the deacon care network. Although the geographical small groups did not turn out to be the best solution, this vision was the beginning of a concerted effort to identify the best network of care for FPC.

In 2018 my title became Minister for Older Adults and Congregational Care, and I was invited to join the team of Scott Simpson, John Carter, Michele Hendrix, and Charlotte Milner, who had been at work for over a year praying together and

researching the DNA of effective small groups. The walls were plastered with notes, diagrams, lists of bullet statements of purpose, and timelines - all evidence of the heart and hard work that this team had invested in the process.

Out of this was birthed the concept of a Care Cluster approach to Congregational Care that is rooted in small groups networked together through Leaders, Coaches, and Pastoral Staff, and focusing on Connection, Communication and Care. Small groups are intended to strengthen a church, but small groups without Connection, Communication and Care actually splinter and divide.

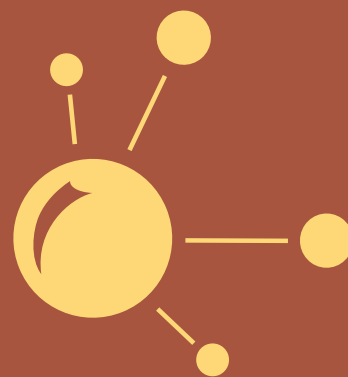
The Deacons have been recruited to serve as our first wave of coaches. We hope that our seasoned small group leaders do not take offense to being connected with a "coach." The role of a coach is not to micromanage small groups, but to be an encourager, a prayer warrior, and a resource person.

The ultimate goal as we move forward together is to cultivate a "culture of care" in all small groups, existing and newly

formed, in order to establish a depth of Congregational Care that reaches our entire congregation.

The next Coaches Training will be **Saturday, September 18**, from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (lunch will be provided), and a four-week Leaders training class will begin Sunday, **September 8**, during the Sunday School hour of 9:30 - 10:30 AM.

For more information about Care Clusters, please contact Scott Simpson at [scotts@fpcsat.org](mailto:scotts@fpcsat.org), or Joe Moore at [joem@fpcsat.org](mailto:joem@fpcsat.org).



## COMING THIS SUMMER! The New FPC App

### FEATURING:

- Upcoming Events
- Mobile Giving
- Media Streaming
- Sermon Notes
- Study Tools
- Ways to Stay Connected

AND MUCH MORE!







## VBS Was A Roaring Success!

After months of praying, planning, meeting, cutting and gluing, VBS week 2019 was a hit! This year our VBS theme “ROAR, when life is wild, God is Good” challenged our kids and volunteers to look at life as an adventure, and trust God even in the wild seasons!

In case you missed the live Facebook feeds, you can still view the daily recaps done by myself on our church Facebook page and enjoy watching Jesus come alive in the hearts of the children and volunteers here at First Pres! Feel free to search social media for #fpcsatvbs2019 to see our pictures from the week!

As part of VBS week, a daily love offering was collected to help bring clean water to the Yucatan through “Living Waters for the World.” This offering from the children will support the FPC teams as they work with Living Waters in the Yucatan.

I personally want to thank all of our amazing volunteers - there are far too many to list by name, adults and teens alike, 90 to be exact!!! Y'all, this week couldn't possibly have been pulled off without you!! Watching you work and give of your time was such a sweet blessing for me and your gift of time and talents was a beautiful picture of what God desires for the bride of Christ to look like, bravo!

A HUGE shout out to Catherine Whitsett and her son Jamey for their amazing vision to transform our church into the theme this year, Catherine, God has given you such a gift and we are humble and grateful you share it with us! Finally to all the children who attended this year, I'm enormously proud of you and couldn't have had more fun.

I look forward to many more happy years together. Serving you is a great joy in my heart. Remember, Life is wild, but God is Good!

**Rozlyn D. Miller**  
Ministry Director to Children  
and their Families



## AMO Provides Christian Guidance to Latin America & Caribbean

As regional director of the AMO program in Latin America and the Caribbean, Cristina Inchaustegui spreads the Gospel, predominantly through Biblical Christian education. AMO® is an acronym for “Apacienta Mis Ovejas,” which translates to English from Spanish as “feed my sheep.” AMO® is a curriculum that teaches a Christian world and life view. Various lessons and activities are used to teach children Biblical principles and vocabulary so that they can learn to make decisions and solve problems in a way that reflects God’s character.

Cristina is doing amazing work by providing training to adults so that they can use the AMO programs in Sunday School classes, after school programs, school classes, and at home. She also certifies AMO® trainers, so that they can go out and train adults to implement the AMO® Program. In 2018, Cristina trained seventeen people to be AMO® trainers in the countries of El Salvador, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, DR, and Nicaragua. In addition, she, along with other AMO® trainers in the region, trained over 200 adults to use the AMO® program.

In April of this year, the FPC Global Missions Committee voted to continue partnership with Cristina and her work both prayerfully and financially. The financial support provided by FPC will allow her to provide an AMO® training in a new part of the Dominican Republic as well as support existing AMO® programs throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. In a letter to

FPC expressing her gratitude for our support, Cristina said, “New trainings and the support for the current and new AMO® programs will benefit hundreds of children [who will] be instructed, inspired, and nurtured with the Word and the virtues of truth, beauty and moral goodness to fulfill the call of God in their lives.”

One of Cristina’s big goals for the summer is to train public school teachers in Elias Piña, a province in the western part of the Dominican Republic. Teachers will then use the AMO® program during the 2019-2020 school year in extended schedule classes taught in five of the fifty-seven schools

in the province. The hope is that the program will be expanded to more of the Elias Piña schools in the future.

In the words of Cristina, “Thank you very much for your commitment to continue walking with us as a partner, not only with your financial support, but with your faithful prayers.”

For more information about AMO®, visit [amoministries.org](http://amoministries.org) or visit [www.theantiochpartners.org/inchaustegui-poy](http://www.theantiochpartners.org/inchaustegui-poy) to learn more about Cristina Inchaustegui and her husband, Alfonso.



Zurisadai with her students at church in Veracruz. Zuri is also a public school teacher and has implemented AMO Literature component with permission from her school’s director. Source: AmoMexico.org/2019/03





LOVING THE WORLD

## FPC Youth Mission Trip Serves Border Community

**W**hat a great week our middle school students and leaders had in South Texas on the middle school mission trip the week of June 9-14! FPC commissioned 19 students and leaders to Pharr, Texas to work with Experience Mission for the week by serving at various food banks, running a kids club and engaging with a local church. Our students led a Kids Club VBS for local neighborhood children on Monday and Tuesday of the week, which involved teaching lessons on Genesis 1 and how we are made in God's image, singing songs, making crafts, playing games and getting to know the neighborhood kids. It was a joy to see relationships form in such a short time and our students share the light of Christ with the local kids.



The group joined an organization called Border Missions which gathers food and resources from around the area and redistributes it to churches and their members who are in need. Border Missions offers a church service every Thursday evening that reaches around 400 people each week. Students helped bag rice, beans, and other snacks, as well as helped pack cars with pallets and boxes of food for the local pastors.

Throughout the week students also volunteered at several local food distribution centers, including several local Food Bank branches, either putting together food goodie bags or helping load cars. A majority of the food bags our team built went to elderly individuals, and contained several cans of various foods, juice, dry beans, dry cereal and other miscellaneous items. Not only did our students get to pack the bags at the Food Bank, but they also helped distribute them to the in-

dividual families, which allowed them to see the personal lives that were touched by all of our group's hard work.

The group got the opportunity to attend two church services held by Iglesia Misionera de Cristo Vive in a local tire shop. The services were led completely in Spanish with a translator, and it was amazing to see how our friends in South Texas worship the same God in a very different way! God's grace was overwhelming throughout the week as our team was blessed with good health and strength, cooler than expected temperatures (94 instead of 104!), great conversations and team bonding, and the power of the Holy Spirit working in and through us.

Thank you to all the adult and high school leaders who participated to make this such a great trip for our students, and thank you to the Covenant Partners of FPC for your fervent prayers and support for this mission trip. To God be the Glory!





YOUTH MISSION TRIP  
Photos by Emily Yergler, Rev.  
Becky Prichard, and team.





# MISSION: CHEVAK, ALASKA



.....  
**“Thank you FPC  
 for helping make  
 our Alaska Mission  
 trip possible. Your  
 support and prayers  
 have been felt.”**



**T**he Alaska Mission Trip team appreciates the support of everyone from FPC who helped to make this trip possible!

Our travels took us from San Antonio to Seattle, to Anchorage, to Bethel, and finally to Chevak. At each leg of the journey, we stepped down to a smaller plane. We were welcomed on the airstrip in Chevak by children excited for VBS to start, and already telling us they would miss us when we left.

Saturday and Sunday were preparation and promotion days, Monday through Friday mornings began with a Team Meeting to get focused and ready for VBS to start that afternoon. Each afternoon involved

inserting ourselves into village life and connecting with families. At 7:00 PM in the evenings we spent more time with children for VBS Part 2, and from 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM there were meetings for teens and adults. Later, 9:30 PM - Midnight was free time to play out with children or run with the big guys on the basketball court. Midnight was the village curfew when we all tried to get some sleep, even though the sun never really set! Up the next morning and the cycle began again.

We thank you for your prayers for health and strength, and for God to use us and speak through us into the lives of our new friends.

- Rev. Dr. Joe Moore

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

# KEYS

## Keeping EVERYONE Young in Spirit

**To make your reservation  
for all KEYS events contact  
Rosie Brown at 210-271-  
2763 or [rosieb@fpsat.org](mailto:rosieb@fpsat.org).  
The cost for meals at FPC is  
\$10. Birthday luncheons  
are \$12 unless otherwise  
noted.**

Although KEYS activities slow down over the summer, we know that many of you are busy traveling for pleasure; or to escape the south Texas summer triple digits. We look forward to our trip to the Woodlawn Theater for *Beauty and the Beast*, and our Birthday Lunch at Anne Marie's Restaurant. When you are in town be sure to take advantage of the summer games schedule. Remember, KEYS is not an exclusive club for older adults. Everyone is welcome to attend on Fridays and to join us on other activities as well: "Keeping EVERYONE Young in Spirit."

### BRIDGE AND MAH JONGG

Bridge and Mah Jongg players will continue on the second and fourth Fridays of the month, however, for the summer, game time will be from 11:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Bring a lunch and join in on the fun!! New players are welcome and someone will help you learn the game. If you have other games that we could play, then let us know and we will see that you have a place to play.

### SUMMER BIRTHDAY LUNCHESES

11:30 AM | \$12/person, RSVP required

**July 19** Rosella at the Garden (at the Botanical Gardens)  
**August 16** Q Kitchen Pasta Buffett at the Hyatt

### "Beauty and the Beast"

#### AT THE WOODLAWN THEATER

For those who already purchased tickets, **Sunday, July 7** we will travel to the Woodlawn Theater to see the 3:00 PM showing of *Beauty and the Beast*. Reservations for group rate tickets are now closed. There will be van service from FPC for this event.



## HEB LUNCH AND LEARN

We will be returning to the HEB Central Market Cooking School on **Wednesday, August 28** (please note date change) at noon. The cost is \$30, which includes lunch along with a demonstration on how to prepare what we will be enjoying.

## SA READS

SA Reads needs your help to sort, categorize, and clean donated books that are used in local schools to provide reading material to children who may not have the opportunity to own books of their own. Jane Warren (210-493-5187) is the person to contact with any questions about this program. The work is done at Firstmark Credit Union, 10730 Gulfdale Drive, on the first Tuesday of each month. Join in on this great service project, as well as the fellowship of working together.

## Coming in the Fall

- Sept. 13** The Jim Cullum Jazz Band
- Sept. 27** City Manager Erick Walsh
- Oct 4** Merry Langlinais, Butterfly expert and author of *"Critters of the Red Heart"*
- Oct. 19** Fall Picnic returning to McNeel's Ranch

# McCullough Room and Westminster Hall: Property Improvements Update.

**BOB STEVENS**

Properties Committee Chair

It is my privilege to inform you that your Session approved expenditures to update both the McCullough Room and Westminster Hall!

The McCullough Room is a true treasure and a significant part of the Church community. It is long overdue for a facelift. If you have not been in the kitchen, many of the appliances date back to the 1940's and 50's. Additionally, as you walk into the room, the floor seems to shuffle under your feet. We will not be doing a major update; the Property and Decorating Committees just want to update it to last the next 60 years.

With respect to Westminster Hall, the electronics have become

very dated. In collaboration with the FPC Communications team, we will be investing in the track lighting, the sound system and the audio visual equipment. This room is so important for our Contemporary service, committee meetings and dinners, and by updating this equipment we add additional life, but also expand the possibilities for the use of the facility.

It is the Property Committee's plan to have these facilities completed and ready by end of summer! So please pardon our dust and Thank You for the opportunity to take care of such a wonderful complex.







LOVING ONE ANOTHER & OUR CITY

# Pathways to Hope Conference to Feature Expert Speakers: FOCUS ON MENTAL WELLNESS

The 2019 *Pathways to Hope: Moving Towards Mental Wellness* conference will be held at the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts on August 23 and 24.

The conference will bring an outstanding group of speakers, and offer 19 different workshops to help continue the community-wide conversation on how faith communities can provide support for individuals and families affected by a mental illness. FPC is a presenting sponsor of this ground-breaking event.

Our workshops will provide free CEUs and will follow four tracks: (1) Mental Health, (2) Peer Programs, (3) Therapy/Counseling, and (4) Faith Community Support.

Once again, the conference is FREE to all attendees, but you must register online at [www.pathwaystohope.net](http://www.pathwaystohope.net) to reserve your place. Join us and FIND YOUR PATHWAY.

- Doug Beach  
President, NAMI San Antonio

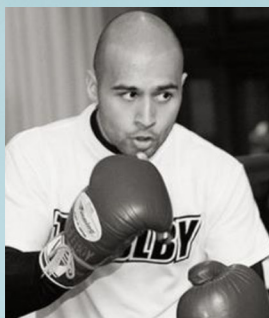




Pete Earley



Dr. Mark Salzer



James Leija, Jr.



Rev. Susan  
Gregg-Schoeder



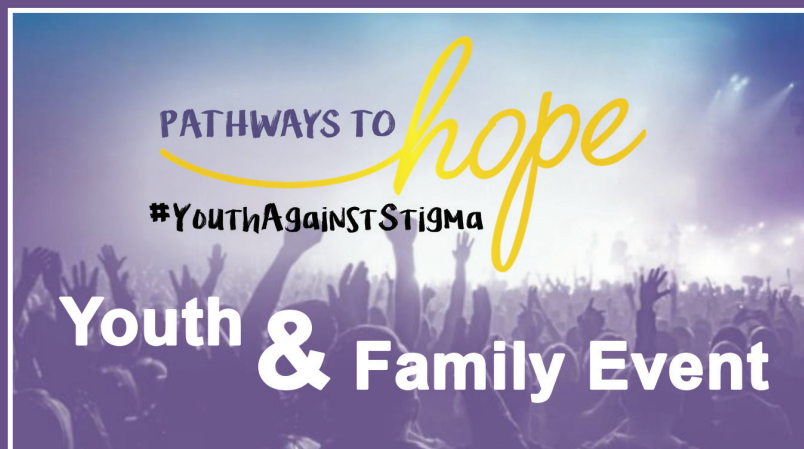
Pastor Frank  
Pomeroy



Dr. Brenda  
Richardson-Rowe

## Some of our Main Speakers this Year include:

- **Pete Earley**  
a nationally-known mental health advocate, Pulitzer Prize finalist and author
- **Dr. Mark Salzer**  
Director of the Temple University Collaborative on Community Inclusion of Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities
- **James Leija, Jr.**  
A San Antonio native, young father, athlete, and local mental health advocate
- **Rev. Susan Gregg-Schroeder**  
Founder of Mental Health Ministries, and a leading national advocate for the involvement of faith communities in providing mental health support
- **Pastor Frank Pomeroy and members of the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs**
- **Dr. Brenda Richardson-Rowe**  
Director of the Harmony Counseling Center at Concord Church in Dallas, and a leader in establishing mental health programs in African-American churches



### Youth Against Stigma: A Youth and Family Event

H.E.B Hall Auditorium, The Tobin Center  
Friday Evening, August 23, 2019  
Doors Open: 6 pm; Start 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm



# FIRST CUP READINGS JULY, 2019

Dear Family in Christ,

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



Blessings and love in Christ, Sandy Sturch

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

- 1 Jeremiah 31:27-34; Romans 11
- 2 Lamentations 1; Isaiah 1; 2 Chronicles 7:13-14
- 3 Lamentations 2; Matthew 23; 2 Timothy 4:1-5
- 4 Lamentations 3:1-36; Matthew 5:39; 2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Psalm 123

*Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, my Father! There is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not: As Thou has been Thou forever wilt be. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide. Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Hymns for the Family of God, #98)*

- 5 Lamentations 3:37-66; Job 30; Psalm 37
- 6 Genesis 19:1-29; Lamentations 4; Jeremiah 19:9; Matthew 24:1-35
- 7 Lamentations 5; Isaiah 49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11
- 8 Luke 1:1-25; John 1:1-34
- 9 Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-56; Genesis 17:19; Psalm 132:11-18; Galatians 3:16
- 10 Luke 2:1-20; Colossians 1:15-23; Isaiah 43:1-3; 45:22
- 11 Leviticus 12; Luke 2:21-40; Isaiah 42:1-9; 8:13-17; John 10:11; Psalm 23

*Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free. From our sins and fears release us; Let us find our rest in Thee. Israel's Strength and Consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear Desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart! Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a King, Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring. By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne. (Worship in Song, #181)*

- 12 Micah 5:1-5; Matthew 2
- 13 Luke 2:41-52; Proverbs 3:1-6
- 14 Luke 3:1-22; Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:1-11; 16:15-16; Acts 1:5, 2:38-41
- 15 Luke 3:23-4:13; Deuteronomy 6:13-19; Hebrews 2:10-18; 4:14-16; 1 Peter 5:5-10
- 16 Isaiah 40:1-11; 52:7; 61:1-3; Luke 4:14-21; John 16:13-15
- 17 Luke 4:22-30; 10:13-16; John 1:9-14; 15:18-16:4
- 18 Luke 4:31-37; Deuteronomy 32:17; Isaiah 14:12-15;

Luke 10:18; John 12:27-50

*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 'twas 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: Make me a blessing. Out of my life may Jesus shine. Make me a blessing, O Saviour, I pray. Make me a blessing to someone today. (Worship in Song, #342)*

- 19 Luke 4:38-44; Psalm 103
- 20 Luke 5:1-11; John 12:20-26; 1 Peter 2:11-15; Psalm 32
- 21 Numbers 12; 2 Kings 5; Luke 5:12-26; Psalm 147:3
- 22 Luke 5:27-32; John 15:18-27; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; James 4:4; 1 John 3:13-15
- 23 Luke 5:33-39; Leviticus 16:29-31; Joel 2:12-14; Nehemiah 9:1-3; Matthew 6:16-18
- 24 Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 16; Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Matthew 5:17-20; Luke 6:1-11
- 25 Psalm 7; Luke 6:12-36; Proverbs 16:7; Romans 12:17-21

*Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore; Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power; He is able, He is able, He is willing; doubt no more. Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream; All the fitness He requireth is to feel your need of Him: This He gives you, this He gives you; 'Tis the Spirit's glimmering beam. Come, ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and mangled by the Fall; If you tarry till you're better, You will never come at all; Not the righteous, not the righteous; Sinners Jesus came to call. (The Baptist Hymnal, #241)*

- 26 Luke 6:37-45; Romans 2; 14; James 4:11-12; Matthew 18:15-35
- 27 Luke 6:46-49; James 2:14-26; John 15:1-17
- 28 1 Kings 17; 2 Kings 4:1-37; Luke 7:1-17; Jeremiah 32:17-27; Psalm 107:20-22
- 29 Psalm 38; Luke 7:36-50; Psalm 32
- 30 Luke 8:1-18; Psalm 119:1-16; 89-112; James 1:22-25
- 31 Psalm 119:33-88; Luke 8:19-21; John 14:15-21



# 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]



## JUNE COVENANT PARTNERS



### **Diane June Biery**

Diane joins by Reaffirmation of Faith. She is the Chief Medical Officer MSTH at Methodist Health Care. Her maternal grandmother, Dorothy Donahue, was affectionately known by family as “Granny Boats” because she lived downtown and loved to ride the river boats. There is a bench in front of the Alamo dedicated to her memory. As a covenant partner, Diane is finding her niche in serving others. As a physician, she is interested in care ministries and children ministries.



### **William and Carol Moore**

William and Carol both join by Reaffirmation of Faith. William is a retired Dental School Professor. Carol is a Presbyterian for life, a cyclist and a bird watcher. As a covenant partner, William and Carol are looking forward to a full spiritual journey.



### **San Juanita Preciado**

San Juanita joins by Reaffirmation of Faith. She is the owner of Total Domain One. San Juanita is looking forward to becoming a covenant partner.



### **Lance & Elizabeth Jackson**

Lance and Elizabeth both join by Reaffirmation of Faith. Lance is a retired Deputy Patrol Agent and Elizabeth is Vice President of the Western Briscoe Museum. Their daughter was married at FPC and her father in law is a Texas Ranger. As a covenant partner, Elizabeth is looking forward to getting involved in a deeper way, hopefully funding and sharing her spiritual gifts. Lance is looking forward to fellowship with other members of the church and provide his services in any capacity that he is able to for the benefit of our Lord Jesus.



### **Katherine Timberlake**

Katherine joins by Reaffirmation of Faith. She is self-employed and the owner of Personal Assistance Services. She is a grandmother of four. As a covenant partner, Katherine is looking forward to getting involved as a member of FPC.



### **Michelle Meyer**

Michelle joins by Reaffirmation of Faith. She is a Surgical Tech at University Health Systems. She loves camping, quilting, biking and volunteering with the SA Rodeo and Heartgift. As a covenant partner, Michelle is looking forward to building her Christian community.



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