

August 2022

Check out our  
Upcoming Events!  
(See pages 4-6)



Kids Camp was a  
BLAST!

(see page 17)

Mission Trips: Spain, Uganda  
& Dominican Republic

(see pages 7-13)

Letter from Rev. Prichard &  
Rozlyn Miller

(see article page 16)

## Pastor's Article

# You Belong Here & You Are Home

Rev. Bob Fuller

Two weeks ago, my son joined thousands of new friends and classmates for freshman orientation at the University of Texas. As we walked onto the UT Campus, we passed through walkways lined with burnt-orange banners, with upperclassmen cheering for the new students, giving them t-shirts, holding their hands in the air with the “hook-em” signs, directing them to their rooms and welcoming them to campus. We then began to meet faculty members, staff members and representatives of the Parents' Association who all wanted to welcome them—and even us—to the longhorn family. For the next few days, the new students were guided through a program of events specifically designed to communicate that “You Are A Longhorn, You Belong Here and You Are Home!”

It was a great experience.

I know that similar welcome and orientations took place at Texas A&M, Baylor, Texas State, TCU, Texas Tech, Trinity, UTSA, UIW, North Texas and as far away as Duke, Georgia and W&L (Please forgive the others I forgot). To all of the new freshman and your families, I hope you were as warmly embraced as we were.

I also hope that at FPC we can welcome new people with the same enthusiasm. Over the summer, new families moved to San Antonio. They will be entering new jobs in a new city. They will be moving into new neighborhoods, and their children will be nervously entering new



schools for the first time. We will even welcome new college students to San Antonio from all over the country.

On August 21, we have a great opportunity to welcome people into our FPC family. We will celebrate our annual Kick-off Sunday—launching our church into a new school-year of “Growing Together” in our mission to “*Make Disciples Who Love Christ, Love One Another and Love the City.*”

This fall we will also be addressing the theme of “Witness.” The Book of Acts begins with Jesus saying that

*“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my **witnesses** in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” - Acts 1:8*

A witness is someone who *sees* or *hears something*, but then also *says something* or *does something* in response to what he has seen or heard.

How can we use this fall to show people what Jesus Christ has done for us? How can we show them what it means to stand together as witnesses

for Jesus Christ while growing together, serving together and worshiping together? How can we use this new school year to bring children and adults together in the community of faith to give people a vision of the kingdom of God on Earth?

***Don't forget... Beginning on August 21, 2022, we are beginning this fall with a new Sunday worship schedule.***

**9:30 AM:** Traditional Worship and Sunday School for all ages

**10:30 AM:** Half hour for church-wide fellowship in the McCullough Room

**11:00 AM:** Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary and Contemporary Worship in Westminster Hall.

There will also be several small groups and Sunday school classes meeting at 8:30 on Sunday mornings (more information to come).

Jesus Christ has called us to be his witnesses this fall. As we meet new friends—men women and children—my prayer is that we will let them know that, “You Are A Child Of The Living God, You Belong Here and You Are Home!”

Grace and peace,

AUGUST 2022

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## BACK COVER FEATURE

KinMart was a Success!

First Press is published monthly by the First Presbyterian Church San Antonio Communications Team.

Want to be featured in FIRST PRESS?

Deadline to submit content: the 15th of the previous month.

Hank Cherry: **Director of Communications**

Dorothy Hecimovich: **Graphic Designer**

Ross Brown: **Media Coordinator**

**Questions? Contact:** Hank Cherry (210-271-2728/[hankc@fpcsat.org](mailto:hankc@fpcsat.org))

# Save the Date

## KICKOFF SUNDAY

**Sunday, August 21 | 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

We welcome you to join us to Kickoff the fall semester of growing together at FPC! Get re-acquainted with your FPC family and the many ways you can get plugged in. Visit the Mauze Lobby for free brunch appetizers and fellowship. Visit [fpcsanantonio.org/kickoff](https://fpcsanantonio.org/kickoff) for more information.

- **8:30 - 9:30 AM:** Early Classes & Groups
- **9:15 AM - 11:15 AM:** Fellowship Brunch
- **9:30 - 10:30 AM:** Traditional Worship & Sunday School for all ages
- **11:00 AM:** Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary  
**11:02 AM:** Contemporary Worship in Westminster Hall

## FALL SUNDAY SCHEDULE CHANGE

**Sunday, August 28 | 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

Our NEW Sunday schedule officially begins on August 28. Our new FPC<sup>3</sup> - Coffee, Cookies, & Connection - will be set up in the McCullough Room from 9:15 AM - 12:00 PM. Be sure to stop by during FPC<sup>3</sup> **30 Minutes**, a special half-hour specifically set apart for the FPC family to spend together.

- **8:30 AM:** Several small groups & Sunday school classes will meet
- **9:30 AM:** Traditional Worship & Sunday School for all ages
- **10:30 - 11:00 AM:** FPC<sup>3</sup> **30 Minutes** - Half hour for church-wide fellowship in the McCullough Room
- **11:00 AM:** Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary  
**11:02 AM:** Contemporary Worship in Westminster Hall

## SUNDAY COOKIE BAKERS NEEDED!

Our Sunday Cookie Bakers continue to provide an amazing assortment of cookies each Sunday for kids of all ages, but we could use some more help! If baking is your thing, follow the link to sign up for one or more Sundays this summer! This could be a great way for you and your children or grandchildren to serve together by baking! Thank you for helping to make FPC a warm and welcoming place for our visitors and our FPC Family members alike! Visit [bit.ly/sunday-cookie-signup](https://bit.ly/sunday-cookie-signup).

## MINISTRY GUIDES

Check out all of our summer Sunday school classes, Bible Studies, programs and many more ways to get connected at FPC. We look forward to seeing you this summer at FPC! Visit [fpcsanantonio.org/summer2022](https://fpcsanantonio.org/summer2022) to view or download the Summer 2022 Ministry Guide.

Have an FPC-related program, event, class or study taking place this Fall? The deadline for submitting information to be included in the Fall Ministry Guide is Thursday, August 4. Send in your event name, date & time, location, contact person with email & phone number with a brief description to Wendy Garcia at [wendyg@fpcsat.org](mailto:wendyg@fpcsat.org). The Fall Ministry Guides will be available starting Kickoff Sunday, August 21.

## PRAYING WITH THE MINISTERS

The Deacons, Elders, and Covenant Partners are encouraged to sign up to pray with the ministers before the Traditional Services. The person is to be in the Robing Room 10 minutes prior to the service (8:50 AM and 10:50 AM). To sign-up please go to this link for Praying with the Ministers: [bit.ly/pray-with-ministers](https://bit.ly/pray-with-ministers).

## PRAYER TRAINING

Join us for a three part Prayer Training! We will be having training from May – November! Prayer Ministry will pay for anyone to take this training from ONE Training. *\*New participants can join any upcoming training session!* Please call 210-508-5714 or for more information, visit [fpcsanantonio.org/prayer](https://fpcsanantonio.org/prayer).

### Remaining Prayer Training Schedule:

- Part 3 Praying For the Community/World:  
August 28, 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

### September – November

- **Part 1** Personal Prayer:  
September 6, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- **Part 2** Praying For Others:  
October 2, 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM
- **Part 3** Praying For the Community/World:  
November 8, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM



## GOSPEL COMMUNITY GROUPS

Study the Bible in community with other young adults so that you can grow together in knowing God and His Word. These small groups meet at least twice a month for fellowship, study, and prayer together in homes. Don't miss out on this chance to go deeper in God's Word and in relationships with other believers! Contact Carrie Everson at [carrie@fpcsat.org](mailto:carrie@fpcsat.org) to sign up!

## ISRAEL TRIP

In November of 2022, join Bob and Morgan Fuller on a pilgrimage of faith and adventure to Israel. The trip will be led by Dr. Mike Fanning. Those who have traveled with Mike know about his passion and expertise for introducing men and women of faith to the places where God met, challenged, and blessed his people. The group will leave San Antonio on November 7, 2022, and return on November 16, 2022. If you are interested, please check out the detailed trip and registration information available through MBF Enterprises Inc. ([bit.ly/fpc-israel](https://bit.ly/fpc-israel)).

## CURRENT FPC JOB OPENINGS

We are currently seeking the following full-time positions. Details can be found at [fpcsanantonio.org/jobs](https://fpcsanantonio.org/jobs).

- **Director of Facility Operations** (This position oversees the church calendar, as well as the Household and Kitchen staff.)
- **Director to Children & their Families** (This position is part of the Christian Education team with a specific dedication to the education and edification of children and their families.)
- **Director of Emerging Adults & University Ministries** (This position oversees ministries in and through First Presbyterian Church connecting emerging young adults (university age) to Christ, the Church, and God's work in the City.)

## LOVESATX – LOCAL MISSION CELEBRATION

**Monday, October 17 - Sunday, October 23**

Join our FPC family in loving and serving San Antonio through participating in Love SATX, October 17-23! We will have opportunities for everyone to participate in loving our neighbors and neighborhoods, including a dinner on Wednesday, October 19, and serving opportunities with partners on Saturday, October 22. Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more details to come soon!

## NAMI CLASSES

For family members that have loved ones that are suffering from mental illness, there is help and hope. The National Alliance for Mental Illness helps family members cope with mental illness in the family. You may contact Amy Joyce-Ponder at 210-734-3349 ext.102. Also NAMI is sponsoring classes for families coping with mental illness. These classes will be given at First Presbyterian Church. Amy can also give you information on the classes.

## NAMI - PATHWAYS TO HOPE CONFERENCE

**August 26 - 27 | Tobin Center for the Performing Arts**  
The "Pathways to Hope" conference, part of NAMI FaithNet, brings together faith communities, providers and NAMI members to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness, to encourage communities to provide support for those impacted by mental health conditions, and to help people find local resources for better mental health care. To register for this FREE event, visit [pathwaystohope.net](https://pathwaystohope.net).

## 2022 NAMIWALKS YOUR WAY SAN ANTONIO

**Saturday, Oct. 8 | 7:30 – 10:00 AM | San Antonio Zoo**  
The time is upon us again for our NAMIWalks Your Way San Antonio 2022. NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness) is excited for this year's walk to be in person for the first time since the pandemic. Our walk will be held at the San Antonio Zoo on October 8, 2022. Registration will begin at 7:30 AM. We ask that you consider joining us and help us make this year extra special. If interested, contact Jenn Borges at [jennborges@hotmail.com](mailto:jennborges@hotmail.com).

## MARRIAGE MENTOR TRAINING

**August 12 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM | Geneva Room**  
Become an FPC Marriage Mentor Couple! If you are interested in serving as a mentor couple in 2022-2023, please get started now. First, register to take the Prepare & Enrich Assessment online (check Marriage Enrichment). After you do the assessment, a current Mentor Couple will contact you to go over the results. The Prepare & Enrich Facilitator Training is your next step! We are excited to get to know you and are thankful you are willing to share your lives with others! Register for both the assessment and training at [fpcsanantonio.org/marriage](https://fpcsanantonio.org/marriage).

## DIVORCECARE

**Wednesdays | September 7 – December 14 | 6:00 PM**

DivorceCare is a video seminar series featuring some of the nation's foremost Christian experts on divorce and recovery topics as seen from a biblical perspective. The video seminars are combined with support group discussions of the materials presented during the video. Please feel free to connect with Butch Gerfers at 210-862-9998 or [gerfers@flash.net](mailto:gerfers@flash.net), if you have any questions or visit [fpcsanantonio.org/support-groups](http://fpcsanantonio.org/support-groups) for more information. Special one-day event, "DivorceCare: Surviving the Holidays," coming November 2, 2022.

## FRIDAY SINGERS

**Friday, August 12 | 9:30 AM | Choir Rehearsal Room**

Friday Singers bring music to retirement, assisted living and rehabilitation centers by singing at two locations on a Friday morning. Rehearsals begin on Friday, August 12, at 9:30 AM in the choir rehearsal room on the third floor. For more information call Charlotte Hains Gates at 210-710-7173 or our music office.

## KEYS AUGUST BIRTHDAY LUNCH

**Friday, August 19**

Celebrate together at Paloma Blanca Mexican restaurant on Broadway. This is a favorite place for us. Make your reservation by calling the church office. Cost is \$15. Meet at the restaurant at 11:30 AM or take the shuttle from FPC at 10:45 AM.



**FPC<sup>3</sup> COFFEE COOKIES CONNECTION**

**STARTING SUNDAY, AUGUST 28**

**SUNDAYS 9:15 AM-12:00 PM**  
McCULLOUGH ROOM

**FPC<sup>3</sup> 30 minutes**  
CHURCH-WIDE FELLOWSHIP  
10:30 - 11:00 AM

## LITERATURE CIRCLE READING LIST 2022-2023

*"I love books. I adore everything about them. I love the feel of the pages on my fingertips. They are light enough to carry, yet so heavy with worlds and ideas. I love the sound of the pages flicking against my fingers. Print against fingerprints. Books make people quiet, yet they are so loud."*

Author: Nnedi Okorator

Date	Book	Reviewer
September 13	<i>The Resurrection of Fulgencio Ramirez</i> by Rudy Ruiz	Rudy Ruiz
October 11	<i>The President and The Freedom Fighter</i> by Brian Kilmeade	Martha Smith
November 8	Broadway Musical Presentation <i>Porgy &amp; Bess</i>	Bill Hensley
December 13	<i>The Leopard is Loose</i> by Stephen Harrigan	Rev. Scott Simpson
January 10	<i>The Captured</i> by Scott Zesch	Janet Wernli
February 14	<i>The Tigers of Bastogne, Voices of the 10th Armored Division in The Battle of The Bulge</i> by Michael Collins and Martin King	Hank Cherry
March 14	<i>The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek</i> by Kim Michele Richardson	Jane Hanson
April 11	<i>The Honey Bus</i> by Meredith May	TBD
May 9	<i>These Precious Days</i> by Ann Patchett	Ann Smith

The circle meets the second Tuesday of each month. Two copies of each book are available in the church library to be checked out. For more information please visit [fpcsanantonio.org/lit-circle](http://fpcsanantonio.org/lit-circle).

## LOVING THE WORLD

# Spain Mission Recap

*But now thus says the Lord, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." Isaiah 43:1*



What a privilege it is that we are part of a church family who knows the truth of this verse. We are God's creation, formed by Him, redeemed by Him, called by name, and declared His. This verse was experienced afresh for those of us who had the opportunity to serve with our church's mission partner, Ashraf, in southern Spain. We heard story after story of God's powerful and intimate involvement.

Ashraf, and the YWAM (Youth With A Mission) North Africa team, have a center in Spain, where they do discipleship training and strategic planning for their work in North Africa. Every

summer they use the center to host a character-building program for immigrant and local children.

Our team was able to organize and run the program for the week



we were there. Bella and Paige led the way with an amazing program about several Old Testament characters with beautiful crafts to remind the children of these stories. The whole team followed their leading to love and serve the children whose names we will never forget.

A few names you can join us in praying for (there are many more) ... Levi, Luis, Wei-Kang, Islam, Siraj, Avet, Adam, Ibrahim, Eduardo, Camila, Zoe, Azul, and Hadassah. God was so good to answer our prayers throughout the week. We asked for God to bring Ibrahim back after he missed a day, and he was back every day after that. We prayed for more girls to come, and the next day we felt God smiling with us as more girls showed up. Please pray for these precious names with us. God hears your prayers and He KNOWS these children.

Another member of our team, Donna, served the staff and our team through her professional counseling skills with many hours given through a group discussion and multiple private sessions. God clearly sent her on this trip to minister to the missionaries and their families.

*Continued...*





A couple of our team members had the privilege of leading a women's group two days of the week. During that time, a small group of YWAM staff, local volunteers, and immigrants from North Africa joined together for fellowship, crafts, and lessons on hope and self-esteem from the Old Testament. There was a mixture of Arabic, Spanish, and English drifting through the room as the Holy Spirit was at work. Pray for Ruth and Jackie, believers whose deep love for Jesus draws in non-believers and believers alike, to hear more of the Good News on a weekly basis. They are devoted to sharing the Truth with women



whose hearts are being stirred by the only One who can give them true hope and self-esteem.

Towards the end of the week Mitchell, Don, and Marianne

flew out to meet with a house church in a country closed to the Gospel. They went to share encouragement and left more blessed to have received story after story of God's power and faithfulness. The house church, with about forty to fifty members, all Muslim background believers, is evidence of God's amazing grace. During two days of seminars, worship, and fellowship they met the pastor of the house church who came to Christ out of a militant Muslim family, and a man whose brother-in-law has threatened his life for following Christ.





They met another who cannot get a job because he is a Christian, and also the matriarch of the movement, who lives hand to mouth as she tries to provide for children and youth forgotten by society. Along with many others, these house church leaders are chosen and known by God. Pray for them with us.

I will leave you with this last story. Part of our team met a woman during a day trip to an area hostile to the Gospel. God knows her name. Wow! Does He know her. She is His! From the time she was a small child in a devoted Muslim family, she was being stirred by God. She knew there was something greater, truer. She asked why about everything regarding religion. She was married at 15, as was custom. She still couldn't shake asking more questions. Her husband divorced her after 8 years and he took her two children. Her family turned her away, but God never left her. He came to her in vision after vision. He gave her Scripture when she had no physical Bible available. We never got to hear the rest of her story because a man came and sat right behind us. She was concerned he could be an informant to the government. We do know she loves Jesus and worships in secret with a few other believers. Her life lives out Luke 14:25-27. She has left all to follow Jesus because He is her redeemer, He knows her name, she is His.

- LISA MOORE

Luke 14:25-27

*Many people were traveling with Jesus. He said to them, "If you come to me but will not leave your family, you cannot be my follower. You must love me more than your father, mother, wife, children, brothers, and sisters—even more than your own life! Whoever will not carry the cross that is given to them when they follow me cannot be my follower."*



# Our Visioning Trip to Uganda



Where to begin?! God is at work and He is good! From the trip's inception to the last piece of luggage collected upon our return on June 20, we watched God move in mighty ways. On Thursday, June 9, when Elizabeth Hughes, Mike Munroe, Kim Smith, and Mike & Ellen Meadows began our journey to Uganda, we had already seen God's hand - from clearing paths for travel to sharing Christ with airline employees at the ticket counter!

Upon our arrival Friday night, we met Douglas Musinguzi, the Logistics Director for our mission partner, Operation Uganda, who traveled with us for the duration of our trip. Douglas is a graduate of the Operation Uganda program (OU), an incredible human being who loves Jesus, and now a dear friend and brother in Christ. His story is powerful, as are all who graduate from the OU program. Our first and immediate observation? Ugandan people are extremely kind, welcoming, generous people! And those who

are believers have a passion for Jesus. They truly have a "joy of the Lord" that defies their circumstances. We witnessed abject poverty driven more by lack of jobs than desire to work. Without plumbing and electricity, and often on dirt floors, households are dependent on day-to-day living to provide for their families, many of whom are single mothers. And this is where our partner, Operation Uganda is making a huge impact. By sharing and living the Word through a daycare school, a church (Jordan House), and programs that care for families through OU social workers, God is at work transforming lives. We saw the sick being cared for, the hungry being fed, the "least of these" being loved, and the Word lived out in the lives of both the incredible OU staff and community they serve. We saw church classrooms overflowing with children, primary and secondary schools overflowing with motivated learners supported through sponsorships, and amazing faith-based curriculum aimed at

educating young teens about their worth and value.

And we listened... to stories of redeemed lives, recipients of OU sponsorships who love the Lord and are doing amazing things... We heard from graduates who are now pursuing engineering, social work, medicine, and more. We listened to stories of God's vision and provision through financial building projects, construction, education, healthcare, worship, and more. A few of the partner organizations that we met with include: Rescue One More (and partner PetrosZoe), African Renewal Ministries (ARM), Engineering Ministries International (EMI), Hiinja (financial resourcing), and Edify. And what we learned from listening is that there are many ways that these groups can impact one another for the kingdom and serve as both a resource and springboard for OU. And this is just the beginning!







We watched God weave together individuals and organizations for partnership in powerful ways. We learned about ways to be conduits for sharing information, opportunities, and encouragement to those “on the ground.” From the hard and important work that Rescue One More does to combat childhood sexual violence, to the incredible stories of God’s provision opening doors for building hospitals and providing medical care, especially maternal healthcare, we watched God connect believers with one another in collaborative ways.

We returned to San Antonio overflowing with ideas to build relationships with our brothers and sisters in Uganda through Operation Uganda. From our church’s toddlers to KEYS, there are many ways that we look forward to growing the wonderful friendships that we have been blessed to begin during our time there. It’s clear that God is doing mighty things for His Kingdom in Uganda. And as a hub for East Africa, Uganda stands poised to be a shining light of the transforming love of Jesus Christ to other neighboring countries.

Thank you Covenant Partners for supporting our team through prayer, supplies, and financial gifts. Our partners were deeply blessed and very grateful for your generosity! Knowing that we were lifted in prayer throughout our journey was a big blessing for our team. We are changed people coming back – humbled, convicted, thankful, energized, and excited to share and grow our friendship with Operation Uganda and the dear friends we made while there! To God be the glory!

- ELLEN MEADOWS



# Dominican Republic Trip Supports Food for the Hungry

I recently had the privilege of leading a phenomenal team of young adults on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic. We spent a week in the DR serving with Food for the Hungry. Food for the Hungry (FH) is a wonderful organization that FPC has partnered with for many years. Their strategy of long-term holistic Gospel transformation in communities, led and catalyzed by local community leaders, is inspiring and extremely effective. FH assists communities for 12-15 years in reaching their goals to improve the lives of their community members, and, when they have reached their goals and their ongoing work is self-sustaining, they “graduate” from the program. The community where we served, known as El Circadillo, is several years into their partnership with FH, and the fruit is evident!

One of the things that I love about FH, besides their emphasis on leadership development, is their focus on relationships. They believe that a big part of the reason poverty continues to be prevalent in so many places around the world is because of a breakdown in relationship – relationship of humans to God, humans to themselves, and humans to other humans. This relational dysfunction exacerbates the cycle of poverty. Because of this, our approach to ending poverty cannot consist only of labor and resources. It **MUST** involve restorative relationships. We saw this clearly on our trip. Often when I go on short-term missions, particularly having previously been a long-term missionary who received short-term teams, I am left asking, “Was our team helpful for the community?” In this case, my answer is a whole hearted “yes!” Why? It’s not primarily because we







taught Scripture and people's faith was encouraged. It's not because we helped dig trenches for a water pump. It's not even because we helped put on a VBS program for the kids. Sure, these things might have been helpful and useful. However, the reason I believe this trip was helpful for the community is because we built meaningful relationships, and relationships are the primary means God uses for long-term transformation (in us and in the people we serve)!

When I look back on our trip, I see the beautiful smiling faces of the community members of El Circadillo. I see Yoselis who has worked tirelessly for many years organizing and bringing together neighborhood leaders to work together for positive change in the community. She does this not for her own benefit, but because of her love for and faith in Jesus. I see a young 11-year-old named Maricela, whom Yoselis took in when she was an orphan. Her smiles and hugs are still with me. I see an older couple sitting side by side telling us how they have managed to stay together and still love one another after 60 years of marriage. I see the local pastor who tirelessly visits people

in the community and prays for transformation.

The day that we left, there were many tears on both sides. I realized then that our friendship with the people of El Circadillo meant more than any work we did. They felt known and loved by us, as we did by them. That is a reflection of God's love for us all. I do not know what God has in store for our team, or for the community of El Circadillo. However, I am certain that our relationship with them is the start of something beautiful that brings glory to God, and that will bear fruit that will last for years to come. Thanks be to God!

- CARRIE EVERSON





# GROWING TOGETHER KICKOFF

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2022**  
**MORNING SCHEDULE:**

- 8:30 AM** - Adult Sunday School Classes  
*(childcare available)*
- 9:30 AM** - Sunday School Classes for ALL ages  
*(children, youth, adults)*
- 9:30 AM** - Traditional Worship Service in the  
Sanctuary
- 11:00 AM** - Traditional Worship Service in the  
Sanctuary *(childcare available for  
5 years and under)*
- 11:02 AM** - Contemporary Worship Service  
in Westminster Hall *(childcare  
available for 5 years and under)*

\*\* From 9:15 AM - 11:15 AM there will be free brunch appetizers served in the Mauze Lobby. We invite you to stop by on your way to Sunday School or the worship services to grab a bite to eat and connect with one another.



All are invited to join us for a very special Kickoff Sunday on Sunday, August 21, as we start the school year with new Sunday school classes, Bible Studies, programs, and so many more ways to get connected at FPC. On Kickoff Sunday, our goal is to glorify God as we grow deeper into God's Word, both individually and together as the body of Christ. In our growing together, we continue to Love Jesus Christ, Love One Another, and Love the City.

We will have all three of our regular worship services (see schedule for details) in addition to Sunday school classes for kids, youth, and adults of all ages.

Our children and youth students will be promoted to their new Sunday school classes (based on age and grade) during the 9:30 hour as they dive deep into God's Word and enjoy fellowship with one another. Additionally, we will have several different adult Sunday school classes to choose from discussing different topics and books of the Bible that will engage adults of all ages in deep learning, fruitful discussion, and meaningful engagement with one another.

We encourage you to invite friends, family, and neighbors to church on Kickoff Sunday as we will have a special time of fellowship, FREE brunch appetizers in our Mauze Lobby, and plenty of time to connect with one another. This fall we hope that you and your family will engage in all of the opportunities available at FPC on Sundays and throughout the week. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, August 21, as we grow together at FPC!

For more detailed information about class offerings, visit [www.fpcsanantonio.org](http://www.fpcsanantonio.org) or download the FPC App to your device.



# Letter to the Congregation

**Rev. Becky Prichard & Rozlyn Miller**

Dear Families of FPC Children's Ministry,

It is with much prayer that my family and I would like to announce our upcoming move to Houston, Texas. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you and blessing as we say goodbye to all the families I have had the honor to serve here at FPC for over three years. My last day at FPC will be Sunday, August 14. As I wrote my letter of resignation for my role as the Ministry Director to Children and their Families at FPC, so many wonderful memories came flooding over me of the time we have spent together and the work that has been done in this body of believers. Make no mistake, I leave here knowing I have been loved well and made friends for a lifetime. I cannot thank all of you enough for the tremendous support and gratitude that was consistently expressed in my time here.

To the children, I will miss your precious faces and your sweet hugs! I know you will not stay children forever, but you will live on in my heart dearly loved and prayed for as you seek Jesus as your King! Ms. Rozlyn loves you!!!!

Our family's decision to move was brought on due to my husband's growing business in the Houston area, which has become a demand for his full-time attention. After much prayer, we are certain this is what is best and this decision has been affirmed many times by the Holy Spirit; our hearts are at a restful peace. Know that I will take with me the love and joy we have all shared together and welcome any future contact from any one of you, my church family! Additionally, allow me to state that it has been an honor to serve alongside some of the best church staff I have known in ministry. The leaders here at First Presbyterian are genuinely supportive and loving of one another with the goal of reaching souls for Christ. I have been blessed to grow as a sister and co-laborer alongside some of the finest men and



women of God. May the Lord lead in His perfect way to the next Ministry Director to Children and their Families, and may His will prevail in the vision for this ministry.

You are loved eternally,

*Rozlyn D. Miller*

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\*\*\*Join us on Sunday, August 14 during Sunday school (10:00-10:45 AM) as we say goodbye to Rozlyn and celebrate her time here at FPC.

If you have any questions or if you would like more information about next steps for the FPC Children's Ministry, please contact Becky Prichard at [beckyp@fpcsat.org](mailto:beckyp@fpcsat.org).

*Rev. Becky Prichard*

Associate Pastor for Christian Education & Discipleship  
First Presbyterian Church of San Antonio  
210.271.2732



# Kids Camp was a BLAST!



This year our 3rd thru 5th graders went away to South Texas for three nights and four days to Kids camp!

Kid's camp was hosted by Zephyr camp groups in Sandia, Texas, where the sun is high and the worship is higher! Kid church groups from all over the state of Texas were there to connect with their church groups and other church groups as they dove into the theme, "Choose Joy!" Each day kids participated in a full agenda ranging from worship, to recreation, to small group Bible study, and of course fun in the sun!



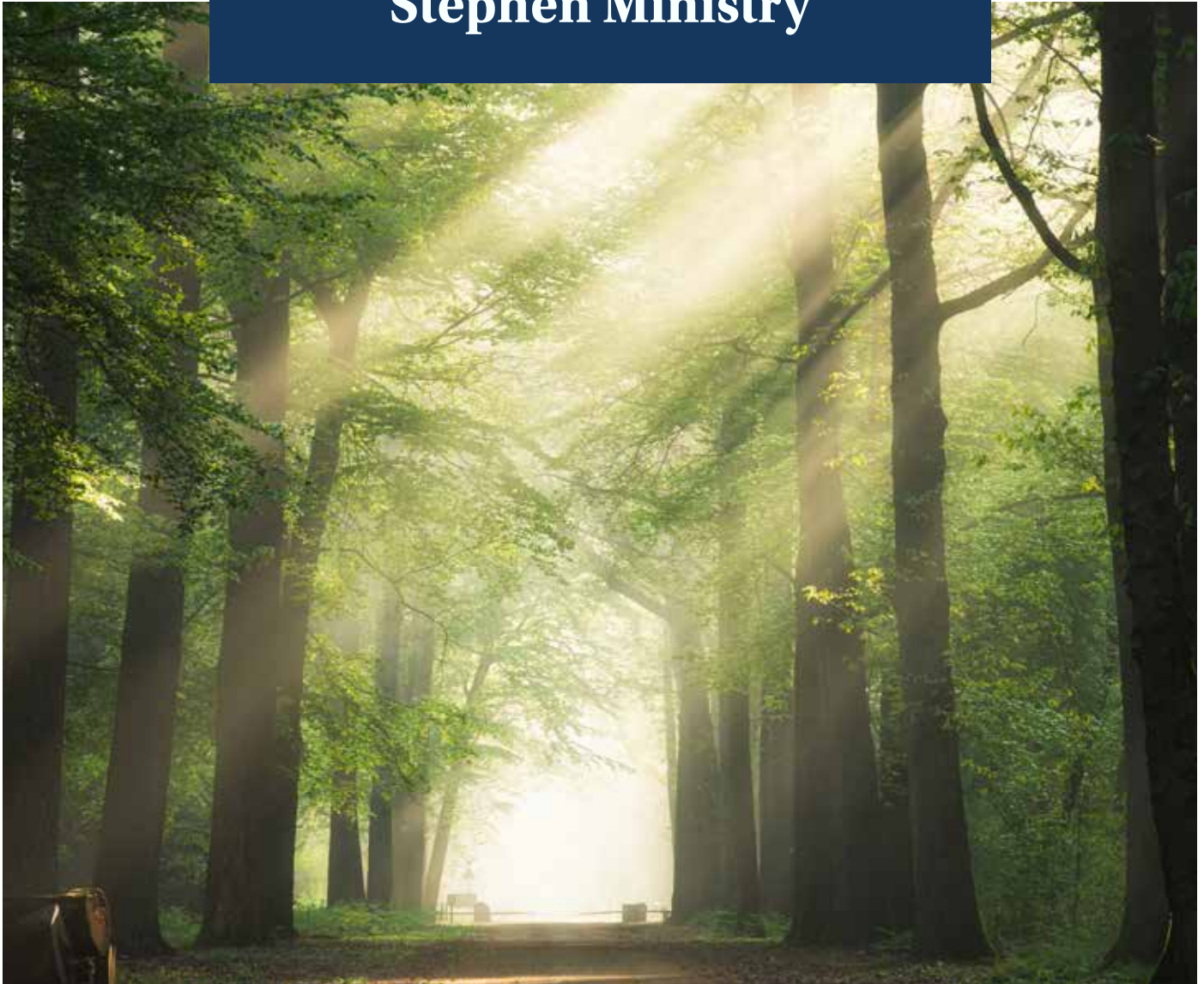
It was such a precious time to see the kids worshipping the Lord and exploring their faith. Bravo to these kids for making it through an overnight camp away from home and their parents, they were so brave!

Thank you to our awesome parents who supported us in prayer and made sure we had what we needed to get to camp. A special thank you goes to our chaperones! Pastor Joe, and Karen and Jeff Carawan, who gave up a week of their time to come to camp with our kids, and who prayed and prepared their hearts to lead kids in conversation about Jesus, as well as kept our kids safe!





# Stephen Ministry



## Is God Calling You?

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”. (Jeremiah 29:11)*

There are times in our lives when we are facing painful and impossible situations. No one is immune to pain and suffering and no one goes through life problem-free. When we're in pain, hope for a better outcome can seem miles away. Our vision is cloudy and our hearts are heavy.

As a Stephen Minister I learned how to use the pain from my own life experiences to be more understanding, to be a much better listener and to be empathetic for the care receivers in my life.

Sitting beside a Christian woman in crisis and hearing her story unfold over time, I watched God's love being revealed to her through scripture we read aloud and prayers we said together.

Her faith was shaped and deepened by God's words so that even though her difficult health condition would not be cured, she had new hope in God's promises. This was a soul transformed from loneliness and despair to knowing God loves her and keeps her name close to his heart.

God uses circumstances to strengthen us and we eventually learn that God will use every problem for a purpose.

Each one of us have specific spiritual gifts that God equips us with. As a Stephen Minister your spiritual gifts will calm, warm and support the aching heart of someone reaching out for help. Your spiritual gifts of caring and listening will help heal a wounded soul who needs reminding that God is in control and loves us so much he gave his Son's life for us.

Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they all share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.

Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life such as grief, divorce, job loss, death of a loved one, chronic or terminal illness, or financial peril.

Please consider sharing your spiritual gifts to bring God's hope to a suffering friend.

If you are hearing God's call to attend this valuable training class,  
please contact Jim Carssow at [jimcarssow@gmail.com](mailto:jimcarssow@gmail.com).

## Stephen Ministry Training begins August 23



*Stephen Ministers are truly God's hands reaching out with care and love to help friends through a difficult journey. If you feel called to become a Stephen Minister and are interested in joining the Stephen Ministry Training class in the fall, please contact Lisa Snow at [lisas@fpcsat.org](mailto:lisas@fpcsat.org) or Jim Carssow at [jimcarssow@gmail.com](mailto:jimcarssow@gmail.com).*

*If you feel that a Stephen Minister might help you in your journey through grief,  
please contact Jim Carssow at 512-423-3424.*

# Register Now at [pathwaystohope.net](http://pathwaystohope.net)



## 2022 Plenary Speakers and Workshop Presenters



**Nelson Wolff**  
Bexar County Judge



**Shirley Holloway**  
Board President  
NAMI National



**Dan Gillison**  
CEO NAMI  
National



**Dr. Thomas Insel** Former  
Dir. of the National  
Institute of Mental Health



**Ron Nirenberg**  
City of San  
Antonio Mayor



**Rev Mignon Jones-Spann**  
Antioch Baptist Church



**Noah Abdenour**  
Director of Peer  
Recovery TX HHSC



**Anna Gray**  
Director of Prosumers  
International

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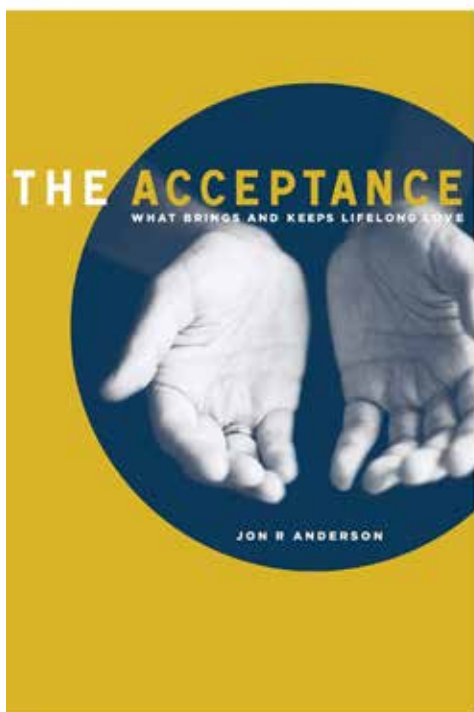


**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
SAN ANTONIO





# Marriage Ministry



This FALL, join us in reading “The Acceptance: What Brings and Keeps Lifelong Love” by Jon Anderson. Whether you are looking for a mate, engaged, or married for forty years, you will find this book to be the most important resource you’ve ever read on the subject of relationships and marriage. For more information, check out the Marriage Ministry page on our FPC website!

“The Acceptance” also has a 9-week Study Guide designed to facilitate discussion on the content of the book, and everyday life application in small group settings. We hope that you will take this opportunity to use the book and guide in your current small groups, or create new ones! If you do not have a Small Group and want to join one, come to Room 309 during Sunday School hour from 9:30 to 10:30 AM. We will be hearing testimonies from married couples every Sunday from September 11- October 9,

before jumping into “The Acceptance”.

On Saturday, October 15 at 7:00 PM, Jon Anderson will kick off our FOCUS ON MARRIAGE WEEKEND in Westminster Hall with wisdom from “The Acceptance” at a delicious dinner event! He will return the next morning to lead our first Small Group discussion during the Sunday school hour. Come early at 9:00 AM for a little breakfast & coffee to fellowship with Jon! If you would like to facilitate a small group, please join us after worship that day for lunch & the Small Group Leader training Jon Anderson will teach from 12:3 - 2:00 PM in the Geneva Room - REGISTER at [fpcsanantonio.org/marriage](http://fpcsanantonio.org/marriage) in September for this very intentional set apart time for you.

We recommend everyone start reading the book “The Acceptance” in September. This is for the strengthening of our FPC marriages and relationships, so please step up in faith and get reading. We hope this will encourage you and edify the church for the glory of God!

## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

# Circle Chairs & Bible Moderators Sept. 2022

(Circles meet September through May, except for Circles 18 & 20, who provide service all year)

- Circle 1/12      Suzanne Thomas, Chair (210-846-3240)  
Grace Labatt, Moderator  
SEPTEMBER 19, Third Monday, 11:30 AM, Geneva Room (with meal)
- Circle 5      Kay Weber, Co-Chair (210-288-5290)  
Mary Fruge-Medford, Co-Chair (210-823-7054)  
SHAWL MINISTRY  
SEPTEMBER 21, Third Wednesday, 1:00 PM, Room 228
- Circle 6      Jean Parsons, Chair (210-240-7483)  
Members of Circle, Moderators  
SEPTEMBER 20, Third Tuesday, 1:30 PM, McCullough Room
- Circle 7      Mary Ellen Mauze, Chair & Moderator (210-844-5549)  
SEPTEMBER 20, Third Tuesday, 11:30 AM, in member homes  
Meredith Park's home, 28926 Front Gate, Boerne, TX 78015
- Circle 8      Nancy Turnbull, Chair (210-606-5420)  
Members of Circle, Moderators, Circle for mothers of young children  
SEPTEMBER 23, Fourth Friday, 11:45 AM, St. Andrews Rm (byo or buy at KEYS)
- Circle 9      Grace Clouse, Co-Chair (734-718-7057)  
Janice Wilson, Co-Chair (210-492-0333/210-260-4157)  
Ann Smith, Moderator  
SEPTEMBER 20, Third Tuesday, 10:00 AM, St. Andrews Room
- Circle 11      Jean Swanson, Chair (210-826-0766)  
Members of Circle, Moderators  
SEPTEMBER 26, Fourth Monday, 12:30 PM, call Jean for Sept. location
- Circle 13      Grace Clouse, Chair (734-718-7057)  
LITERATURE CIRCLE  
SEPTEMBER 13, Second Tuesday, 1:00 PM, McCullough Room
- Circle 14      Karen Carawan, Chair (210-213-4589)  
Suzie Simpson, Moderator  
SEPTEMBER 19, Third Monday, 12:00 PM, St. Andrews Room (with meal)
- Circle 18      Char-An Witten, Chair (210-341-1856)  
Pat Brodeen, Email Contact ([pat@brodeen.com](mailto:pat@brodeen.com))  
CIRCLE OF CONCERN  
Small home baked cookies always needed for receptions  
Volunteers for help with receptions needed
- Circle 20      Muffin Camp, Chair (210-789-1808)  
CIRCLE OF SERVICE - volunteers to make/take meals when needed



## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH



It's a new year for Women of the Church, and I am honored to serve as your President for 2022-2023. I follow in the footsteps of Janet Wernli who led us with amazing grace and love, always calm and certain that God would work His plan through us in all that we did. I am so grateful for her leadership, mentorship, and most of all her friendship! I also owe much gratitude to the other officers, chairs and leaders who have worked so hard to make all things ready for this new year.

We have a busy fall planned starting with our **Legacy Luncheon on September 26th**. Our own Dr. Anna Catherine Armstrong will present "The Life and Missionary Legacy of the Reverend Dr. P.B. Hill." Anna is the granddaughter of Dr. Hill, and has wonderful stories and personal memories to share with us regarding the remarkable life of our former pastor. You won't want to miss it! We will also be hosting a **Ladies Night Out on October 18** at the home of Catherine Whitsett. All women are invited to attend this casual social gathering. Look for our brochure listing all of our activities, which will be available on Kick Off Sunday, August 21st. We invite all women to join us in Bible study, fellowship, and service throughout the year.

The Bible verses I've chosen for this year are Hebrews 10:24-25, *"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."* My prayer is that this is a year of making connections and strengthening relationships. Women of the Church has a long tradition of serving and supporting our church and community in countless ways. What a privilege it is for me to be a part of such an active, vibrant group! I look forward to a terrific year! If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Linda Delano at (614) 208-3600 or [Ldelano@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Ldelano@sbcglobal.net).

In Christ Alone,

*Linda Delando*

President

Women of the Church



KEEPING EVERYONE YOUNG IN SPIRIT

We enjoyed our July Birthday lunch at Max & Louie's New York Diner on July 15th. The portions were so big most of us took some home. Our August Birthday lunch will be on Friday, August 19th at Paloma Blanca Mexican restaurant on Broadway. This is a favorite place for us. Make your reservation by calling the church office. Cost is \$15. Meet at the restaurant at 11:30 AM or take the shuttle from FPC at 10:45 AM.

Driving Miss Daisy was a great time. We are planning on a trip to the Woodlawn Theater to see White Christmas. There are also plans to visit the Zoo's Christmas Light display.

Friday Fitness will continue via Zoom. Join Jacqueline Crow at 9:30 AM. Jacqi has been a champion for us and everyone loves the time with her. If you want to be included on the email notifications, send your email address to [joem@fpcsat.org](mailto:joem@fpcsat.org). You will be sent a link to join the Zoom Meeting.

When our programs begin in September there will be a TV in room 224 so that you can participate in the fitness group and also make it to KEYS at 11:00 AM.

## Our Fall programing will begin on September 9

September 9	The San Antonio Petting Zoo will be visiting with Live Animals
September 16	Spencer Brown Care Manager with San Antonio Accountable Aging
September 23	Birthday Lunch and Tour of Chandler House
September 30	Brad Normandeau is famous for his Frank Sinatra Tribute

Enjoy Your Summer!!

*Rev. Dr. Joe Moore*

Assistant Pastor for Older Adults and Congregational Care



# FRIDAY SINGERS



The Friday Singers were founded by Dr. Leroy Yarbrough, former Minister of Music.

Our purpose is to take music to retirement, assisted living and rehabilitation centers, and to provide these familiar songs in a joyful manner.

Often the oldies-but-goodies such as "Take Me Out To The Ballgame" will bring many smiles of recognition

Our programs begin with a prayer, and then we present songs and hymns as a group. This is followed by a couple of specialties, either a solo or an instrumental number. Our programs always include a patriotic song and the residents are encouraged to sing along. We are fortunate to have Jae Ha as our accompanist!

We conclude with hymns. Easy to read copies of hymns are passed out to the residents as we then all sing together; we begin with "Jesus Loves Me" and include others such as "Amazing Grace." We are often blessed to see residents' mouths moving together with the words as we sing.

We sing at two locations on a Friday morning, each program being about thirty minutes in length.

We are looking for new members for this unique and wonderful ministry to those often forgotten or isolated folks. There is no tryout, just come wanting to sing! We'll be sharing and joyful on these Friday mornings.



Rehearsals begin on Friday, August 12, at 9:30 AM in the choir rehearsal room on the 3rd Floor. We'll keep an eye out for you, and for any information feel free to call Charlotte Hains at 210-710-7173, or Brittanie Salazar in our music office.



# FIRST CUP READINGS

## AUGUST, 2022

Blessings and love in Christ,

*Sandy Sturch*

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.

*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 Proverbs 14; Psalm 41:1-3
- 2 Proverbs 15; 1 Timothy 6:6-10
- 3 Proverbs 16; Psalm 37:23-24
- 4 Proverbs 17; James 1:19-27
- 5 Proverbs 18; Ecclesiastes 10:12
- 6 Proverbs 19; Psalm 25:8-15

*Come, ye that fear the Lord, and hear what He has done for me; My cry for help is turned to praise, for He has set me free. Through pain and trouble Thou hast led, and humbled all our pride, But in the end, to liberty and wealth Thy hand did guide. If in my heart I sin regard, my prayer He will not hear; But, truly, God has heard my voice, My prayer has reached His ear. O let the Lord, our gracious God, forever blessed be, Who has not turned my prayer from Him, nor yet His grace from me. (The Hymnbook, No. 296)*

- 7 Proverbs 20; Romans 12:14-21
- 8 Proverbs 21; Jeremiah 9:23-24
- 9 Proverbs 22; 1 Corinthians 15:33
- 10 Proverbs 23; Ephesians 5:15-20
- 11 Proverbs 24; Psalm 1
- 12 Proverbs 25; Matthew 23:1-12
- 13 Proverbs 26; James 3:1-12

*God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform; He plants His footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm. Deep in the unfathomable mines of never-failing skill He treasures up His bright designs, and works His sovereign will. Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds ye so much dread are big with mercy, and shall break in blessings on your head. Blind unbelief is sure to err, and scan His work in vain; God is His own Interpreter, and He will make it plain. (The Hymnbook, No. 112)*

- 14 Proverbs 27; Psalm 62:10
- 15 Proverbs 28; Psalm 66:18
- 16 Proverbs 29; Matthew 23:12
- 17 Proverbs 30; Psalm 12
- 18 Proverbs 31; 11:16
- 19 2 Kings 17:1-23; Micah 1
- 20 Micah 2; Psalm 36

*There's a wideness in God's mercy, Like the wideness of the sea; There's a kindness in His justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven; There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given. For the love of God is broader than the measures of man's mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more simple, we should take Him at His word; And our lives would be all sunshine in the sweetness of our Lord. (The Hymnbook, No. 110)*

- 21 Micah 3; Isaiah 8:19-22
- 22 Micah 4; Ezekiel 34
- 23 Micah 5
- 24 Micah 6
- 25 Micah 7
- 26 Nahum 1; Psalm 104
- 27 Nahum 2; Psalm 46

*Sometimes a light surprises the Christian while he sings; It is the Lord, who rises with healing in His wings: When comforts are declining, He grants the soul again a season of clear shining, to cheer it after rain. In holy contemplation we sweetly then pursue the theme of God's salvation, and find it ever new; Set free from present sorrow, we cheerfully can say, Let the unknown tomorrow bring with it what it may. It can bring with it nothing but He will bear us through; Who gives the lilies clothing will clothe His people too: Beneath the spreading heavens no creature is but fed; And He who feeds the ravens will give His children bread. Though vine nor fig tree neither their wonted fruit shall bear, though all the field should wither, nor flocks nor herds be there; Yet God the same abiding, His praise shall tune my voice, For while in Him confiding I cannot but rejoice. (The Hymnbook, No. 418)*

- 28 Nahum 3; Psalm 76
- 29 Habakkuk 1
- 30 Habakkuk 2
- 31 Habakkuk 3



*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).*

www.fpcsanantonio.org

## LOVING THE CITY

### KINMART A GREAT SUCCESS!

FPC was one of the host sites for KinMart, an event designed by South Texas Alliance for Orphans to help local foster families. On Saturday, July 23, we welcomed families to the Assembly Room for an enjoyable and cost-less “shopping” experience for school supplies. We were able to serve 82 families with 223 children total and had over 30 volunteers! Between our location and University United Methodist Church, 349 children in the care of relatives or family friends were able to pick out their own school supplies! Thank you FPC for your help in donating school supplies and volunteering for the day of the event.



**MAKE DISCIPLES  
WHO LOVE CHRIST.  
LOVE ONE ANOTHER.  
LOVE THE CITY.**

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