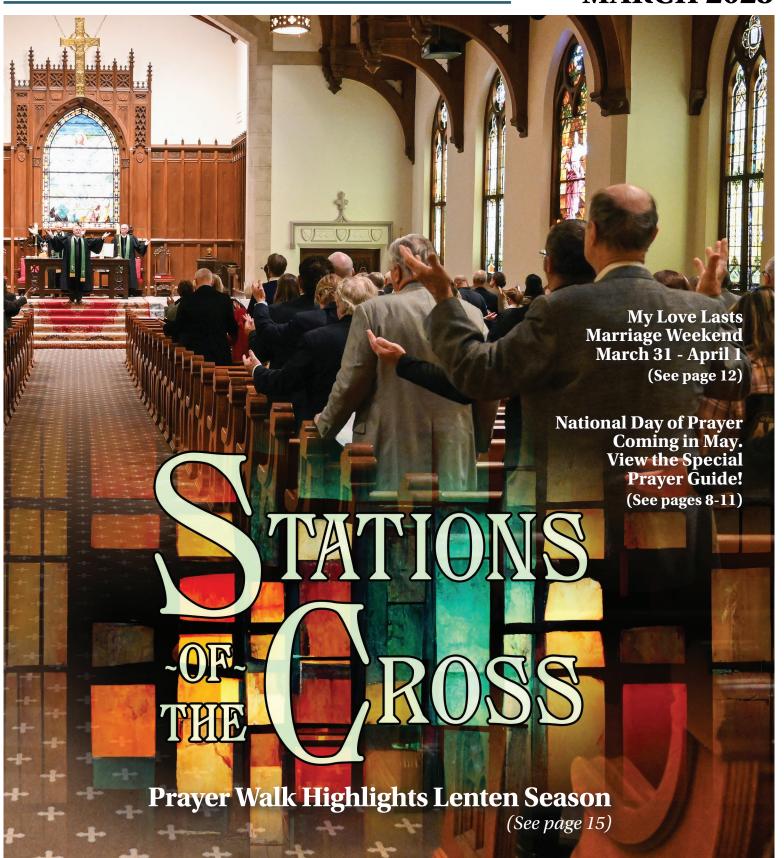


Several events planned for March and April.

(pages 4-7)

Easter lily orders have begun. (page 13)

**MARCH 2023** 



#### Pastor's Article

## **Lent Happens**

#### REV. DR. BOB FULLER

On Ash Wednesday, February 22, we began a season called "Lent." Lent is a 40 day period of preparation for the celebration of Easter, grounded in the New Testament story of Jesus's 40 days of temptation and testing in the Wilderness. In that story, Jesus was driven in to the wilderness where he was pushed to the limits of physical and spiritual endurance. The point of this trial was to show Jesus' absolute dependence and reliance upon the Father.

In those Forty Days, Jesus was showing us how desperately we need God, and how much we must trust God. The season of Lent is a time set aside to teach us to trust our heavenly father as Jesus did...even in the most intense of crises. The ashes imposed on our foreheads—with the words "know that you are dust and to dust you shall return"—remind us of the fragility of life, and everything we do—from fasting to prayer to Bible study—is designed to make us more aware that we must put our lives in the Lord's hands every day.

We do not practice Lent in a vacuum, but in the midst of real life. Perhaps nothing reminds us of how much our world needs God as the memory of the mass shooting at Robb Elementary School on May 24, 2022.

Since the shootings last spring, FPC has been heavily involved with ministry in Uvalde. A couple of weeks ago, Trebes Sasser, an FPC Elder and Officer, and our former



pastor Ron Scates, visited Uvalde together. Ron made an eye-witness report of several things that the FPC family should know.

First, Ron wrote, "I am tremendously proud that an FPC elder—Trebes (Sasser)—is fulfilling a high school vow he made to the Lord to somehow impact his former community with the Gospel by using his business skills to improve the economy of Uvalde (again, before the shooting), as well as his commitment to Christ to undergird the Kingdom there." Trebes has been our "point man" in Uvalde, and has consistently, prayerfully, and passionately modeled the incarnational love of Jesus.

Second, He wrote, "I've never been as proud of my church for already having stepped in—before the shooting—to bring FCA, YFC, and Young Life together to hammer out a strategy for reaching the youth of Uvalde with the Gospel." In the last 10 months, FPC has contributed over \$200,000 to the community

and to ministry partners in Uvalde. The ministries that we have chosen to support (Youth for Christ, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Young Life) are ministries that are committed to Uvalde for the longterm. The elementary schoolers who survived this tragedy will be the middle-schoolers and high-schoolers who will need ongoing guidance and spiritual support in years to come. Through FCA, YFC and YL, Jesus is going ahead of these children, preparing a "place" and the people who will pray with them, teach them and love them.

Third, Ron asked us to pray for one of the new key players in Uvalde's restoration. Gary Patterson is the new Interim Superintendent of Schools for Uvalde and is a Covenant Partner of FPC along with his wife Suzie Patterson. Gary came out of retirement in a time of desperate need to use the gifts God gave him for the healing of this community. The challenge, however, is huge. Ron reports that "every week there are 2-3 lock-downs of the schools as daily DPS and Border Patrol agents engage in high speed chases of coyotes smuggling illegals into the US.....sometimes through the streets of Uvalde." He continues that "Most of the Uvalde ISD administrative staff has resigned or retired in the wake of the shooting, thus Gary is tremendously understaffed."

Finally, Ron reports that "emotions remain raw and the media continues to be an aggravating presence. Gary

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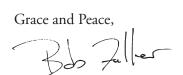
#### SAVE THE DATE

is DREADING the upcoming one-year anniversary where media from all over the world will descend on the town and wounds will be blown wide open." The pain and grief of May 22 are deep, and the people of Uvalde desperately need the kind of healing only the Holy Spirit can provide.

Lent does not just happen in the few weeks right before Easter. Lent happens whenever the events of real life push us to the limits of our physical and spiritual endurance. Lent happens when we finally begin to understand why we need God.

The burden on the people of Uvalde is huge, and they will need more than money. They will need active and constant prayer support, especially as they approach the one-year anniversary of the shootings. This Lenten season, I ask that we all commit to praying for Uvalde, and specifically for Gary Patterson, Trebes Sasser, Young Life, Youth for Christ and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Let this Lenten season be a time to remember the pressing burden on the families and community of Uvalde.

Let this also be a time to remember our real and desperate need for a savior. As we walk through these forty days, even as we live under the shadow of the cross, let's pray that the Holy Spirit would lead us all toward the light of the empty tomb.



- 4 Lenten Stations of the Cross; Easter Candy Drive; Men's Dinner; Discover, Know, & Join FPC; Prayer Training; Team World Vision; Earthquake Relief; PBS Spring Break; Spring Ladies Night Out
- Women's Bible Study; Precept Bible Study; YAC Gospel Community Gathering; Marriage Weekend; Mary Jean Rogers Memorial Concert; Children's Easter Celebration; Children's Center Spring Fling & Enrollment
- 6 Join a 2023 Mission Trip; Alaska Trip Interest Meeting; FPC Jobs; Friday Singers; Praying with the Ministers; YAC Groups; Greeters Needed
- 7 FPC Library, Literature Circle, National Day of Prayer Walk, Youth Sunday, 5th Grade Graduation, Vacation Bible School, AV Support Help, GriefShare

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#### **FIRST CUP**

22-23 Readings and Prayer List

#### **BACK COVER**

24 New Covenant Partners Joined in February

First Press is a monthly publication from the FPC 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**Nona Hall: **Volunteer Photographer** 

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

# Save the Date

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS LENTEN PRAYER MEDITATION

#### Now through Friday, April 7

Participate in the contemplative practice of praying through the Stations of the Cross. Depictions of scenes derived from the Gospel accounts are located through the 2nd and 3rd floors of the FPC Campus. Maps and Prayer Guides are available in Mauze Lobby and online at fpcsanantonio.org/lent-prayer. See ad on page 15.

#### **FPC EASTER CANDY DRIVE**

#### Now through March 26

The Children's Ministry is holding its Children's Easter Program and we would like your help by donating candy for the eggs. Since we will be filling about 600 plastic eggs, we will need a lot of candy! All candy donations are due by Sunday, March 26. Please ensure that the candy is wrapped and unopened from its original packaging. Thank you in advance for your help! Please drop off candy to Heather or Rebecca. Contact Rebecca at rebeccas@fpcsat.org.

#### **MEN'S MINISTRY QUARTERLY DINNER**

#### Sunday, March 5 | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM The Pigpen (106 Pershing Ave)

Join us as men of all ages come together for food, fellowship, and a message from our guest speaker. Register for dinner at <a href="mailto:fpcsanantonio.org/men-dinner">fpcsanantonio.org/men-dinner</a>. Contact Cody Heffron at <a href="mailto:codyheffron@yahoo.com">codyheffron@yahoo.com</a> or Trebes Sasser at <a href="mailto:tssasser@rpitx.com">tssasser@rpitx.com</a>.

#### **DISCOVER, KNOW & JOIN FPC!**

#### DiscoverFPC! - March 5 | 12:15 PM - 2:00 PM KnowFPC! Class - March 26 | 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Are you interested in learning more about FPC or become a Covenant Partner? Sign up and attend a Sunday DiscoverFPC! class where you can then decide whether you are ready to join as a Covenant Partner or wish to wait. Ready to join? Register for both the DiscoverFPC & KnowFPC classes and learn more about joining FPC at fpcsanantonio.org/join. You may also contact Sheila Figueroa, sheilaf@fpcsat.org, 210-271-2759 to sign up.

#### PRAYER TRAINING WITH ONE MINISTRY

#### March 8, April 5, & May 3 | 6:00 PM | Room 304

Prayer changes everything! The ONE team leads this practical prayer class and is committed to helping people live wholeheartedly, connected to God and each other. Register for all three trainings, or however many you can attend, by contacting Lisa Snow at <a href="mailto:lisas@fpcsat.org">lisas@fpcsat.org</a>. Reserve childcare by emailing <a href="mailto:childcare@fpcsat.org">childcare@fpcsat.org</a>.

#### TEAM WORLD VISION (RUN THE ALAMO)

#### Race March 5, 2023

Marathon & half-marathon to raise funds for clean water projects. Register &/or donate at <a href="mailto:bit.ly/FPC-runthealamo">bit.ly/FPC-runthealamo</a>. Contact Gordon Smith at <a href="mailto:gordons@servicetitlesa.com">gordons@servicetitlesa.com</a>.

#### WORLD RENEW EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

First Pres is donating \$10,000 to World Renew to assist with disaster response in the wake of the massive 7.8 magnitude earthquake in Turkey and Syria. Families and entire communities are in urgent need of life-saving essentials and protection. You are invited to join us by donating at <a href="worldrenew.net">worldrenew.net</a> to help those affected by this disaster. Checks payable to World Renew.

#### PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY (PBS)

## Wednesdays | 6:30 PM | Covenant Hall and Thursdays | 9:30 AM | Covenant Hall

Join Rev. Dr. Bob Fuller as we study the "People and Places" of Jesus this spring. We meet in Covenant Hall on Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings. Join inperson or virtually on Thursdays via live stream through the FPC app or fpcsanantonio.org. Small groups meet on campus after the main lesson Thursday mornings. Contact Lellen Lane at lellenlane@aol.com for Thursday small group placement or contact Sheila Figueroa at sheilaf@fpcsat.org for more information.

#### Breaks are scheduled for:

• 3/15 & 3/16 for Spring Break

#### **SPRING LADIES NIGHT OUT**

#### Tuesday, March 28 | 6:30 PM Home of Wendy Garcia, 132 Parklane Drive

Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship at the lovely home of Wendy Garcia. We will have drinks and refreshments and enjoy lots of good company. All women are welcome, and there is no charge for this event. Contact Ellen Meadows, 210-232-3738, e.meadows@att.net.

#### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY (SESSION 2)

#### March 21 – May 2 | 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM Covenant Hall

Join us in Priscilla Shirer's study, Elijah: Faith and Fire, as we journey through the life and times of the prophet Elijah to discover how the fire on Mount Carmel was forged in the valley of famine. We will also learn how the emboldened, fiery faith we desire is being fashioned by God in our life right now. Childcare available upon request. Contact Catherine Miller at 210-394-2045 or <a href="mailto:grcjmiller@sbcglobal.net">grcjmiller@sbcglobal.net</a>.

## PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT BIBLE STUDY: HEBREWS

#### Feb. 21 - May 29 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM | Room 224

With the right tools, personal commitment, and a Bible-based discussion group, you can discover truth for yourself, but not by yourself. Visit <a href="https://www.precept.org">www.precept.org</a> for more information on the Precept method of study and visit <a href="https://bit.ly/fpc-hebrews23">bit.ly/fpc-hebrews23</a> to order the workbook for the upcoming class with Tripp Stuart, 210-685-1208.

## YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITIES GOSPEL COMMUNITY GATHERING

## Monday, Mar. 27 | 7:00 – 8:15 PM (Dinner at 6:30 PM) FPC Student Center

Join other young adults for a time of dinner, worship, biblical teaching, fellowship, and prayer. This is our monthly gathering for all of our Gospel Community Groups which meet throughout the month. Contact Carrie Everson at <a href="mailto:carrie@fpcsat.org">carrie@fpcsat.org</a> or visit fpcsanantonio.org/gcgathering for more information.

#### "MY LOVE LASTS" MARRIAGE WEEKEND

#### Friday, March 31 | 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Saturday, April 1 | 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM FPC Westminster Hall

"My Love Lasts" is a weekend with author Jon Anderson teaching, break out sessions, fun times and three meals! The Marriage Ministry has decided to offer this weekend (original cost \$150/couple) for FREE for up to 70 couples. Register at the table in Mauze Lobby on Sundays through March or online at <a href="mailto:fpcsanantonio.org/marriage">fpcsanantonio.org/marriage</a>. More information on <a href="mailto:page 13">page 13</a>.

## THE 16TH ANNUAL MARY JEAN ROGERS MEMORIAL CONCERT

#### Sunday, April 2 | 4:00 PM | Sanctuary

Join us as our Sanctuary Choir, Orchestra, and Soloists perform "Mass in Four Voices," the largest non-operatic work written by the famous opera composer Giacomo Puccini. This free one hour concert is a great opportunity to invite friends, family, and co-workers to experience a full concert of the music that inspires and enriches our worship here on Sunday mornings!

## CHILDREN'S EASTER CELEBRATION AND HUNT

## Saturday, April 8 | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Westminster Hall

Families with children, infants through 5th grade, are invited to join us for the Easter Story followed by a traditional FPC egg hunt. Don't forget to bring a friend and your Easter basket. Contact Rebecca at <a href="rebeccas@fpcsat.org">rebeccas@fpcsat.org</a>. More information on <a href="page 15">page 15</a>.

#### CHILDREN'S CENTER SPRING FLING GALA FUNDRAISER

#### Friday, April 14 | 6:00 PM Magnolia Gardens on Main

The Children's Center is now accepting donations for their annual Spring Fling silent and live auctions. Search your homes and your hearts and bring those items down to the 1st floor lobby. Accepting all donations, big and small, old and new. If you have a business or organization that would like to be a sponsor for the event, please contact the Center or fill out our Sponsorship form at <a href="https://bitsubschool.org/childrens-center">bit.ly/fpcsat-cc-sponsor</a>. Visit <a href="mailto:fpcsanantonio.org/childrens-center">fpcsanantonio.org/childrens-center</a> for more information and to purchase Gala tickets.

# CHILDREN'S CENTER TAKING REGISTRATIONS FOR FULL & NEW PART-TIME ENROLLMENT

New part-time care options for 3-5 year-olds available for 2, 3, or 5 days a week, Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM. Also accepting full time care enrollment for toddlers and preschoolers 2.5 - 4 years of age. Interested in a career with the FPC Children's Center? We are hiring afternoon teachers and substitutes. Contact Laura Ortiz at <a href="mailto:laurao@fpcsat.org">laurao@fpcsat.org</a>, visit <a href="mailto:fpcsanantonio.org/childrens-center">fpcsat.org</a>, visit <a href="mailt

#### **JOIN A 2023 MISSION TRIP!**

Our Young Adult trip to the Dominican Republic from June 3-10 as well as our Vacation Bible School Trip to Chevak, Alaska are actively recruiting volunteers to join in the Lord's ministry to these areas. Please contact Lindsay Selli at <a href="mailto:lindsays@fpcsat.org">lindsays@fpcsat.org</a> for more information about these and additional trips to Uganda and Poland that are still forming.

#### 2023 MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITIES

#### Yucatan Peninsula Ministries Mission Trip

Dates: TBD

Rich Delano, <u>rich.delano@outlook.com</u> Lindsay Selli, <u>lindsays@fpcsat.org</u>

#### **Poland Mission Trip**

Dates: TBD

Irina Villastrigo, <u>irina4727@hotmail.com</u> Lindsay Selli, <u>lindsays@fpcsat.org</u>

#### **Uganda Mission Trip**

Dates: TBD

Ellen Meadows, <u>e.meadows@att.net</u>
Mike Meadows, <u>m\_j\_meadows@yahoo.com</u>
Lindsay Selli, <u>lindsays@fpcsat.org</u>
See article on page 17.

#### **High School Boys Summer Mission Trip**

Dates: May 27 – June 3

Location: Yucatan, Mexico

Bobby Mickler, <u>bobby@siteworkstx@com</u>
Jacob Cole, <u>alamoheightsyounglife@gmail.com</u>
Lindsay Selli, <u>lindsays@fpcsat.org</u>

#### Food for the Hungry Summer Mission Trip

Dates: June 3-10

Location: Dominican Republic

Carrie Everson, <u>carriee@fpcsat.org</u> Lindsay Selli, <u>lindsays@fpcsat.org</u>

#### Chevak, Alaska Vacation Bible School Mission Trip

Dates: July 6 - 17

Rev. Joe Moore, joem@fpcsat.org, 201-226-0215 x226 See article on page 16.

## CHEVACK, ALASKA MISSION TRIP INTEREST MEETING

#### Sunday, March 12 | 12:00 PM | Geneva Room

Join the interest meeting immediately after the 11:00 services for going to Chevak, Alaska. The team will be leading a Vacation Bible School and living in the village for a week during the July 6 - 17, 2023 trip. Contact Rev. Dr. Joe Moore at <a href="mailto:joem@fpcsat.org">joem@fpcsat.org</a>, with any questions. More information on <a href="mailto:page-16">page-16</a>.

#### **CURRENT FPC JOB OPENINGS**

We are currently seeking a Director of Emerging Adults & University Ministries, a Director to Youth & their Families, Caregivers, an Assistant Cook, and Audio/Visual contract support. Visit <a href="mailto:fpcsanantonio.org/jobs">fpcsanantonio.org/jobs</a> for more details.

#### **JOIN THE FRIDAY SINGERS**

Sing favorite hymns and songs to retirement and rehab communities this spring. Friday Singers continues through May. Contact Brittanie Salazar at <a href="mailto:brittanies@fpcsat.org">brittanies@fpcsat.org</a> or 210-271-2730 for more information.

#### 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 227, 10 minutes prior to the service (9:20 AM and 10:50 AM). A short prayer with the Pastors starts when all are present or the Pastor gives the go-ahead. To sign-up please go to this link for Praying with the Ministers: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/ministers-prayer-spring23">bit.ly/ministers-prayer-spring23</a>.

#### YAC 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. Visit <a href="mailto:fpcsanantonio.org/gcgroups">fpcsanantonio.org/gcgroups</a> for a full list of groups

## 5TH SUNDAY GREETING TEAM HELP NEEDED!

## 2023 5th Sundays: April 30, July 30, October 29, December 31

We are in need of a 5th Sunday Greeting Team Captain and team members ready to welcome our guests and FPC family on the rare 5th Sunday of the month. If you can help coordinate or potentially serve on one or more of the days below, please contact Nancy Turnbull at <a href="mailto:nancybturnbull@gmail.com">nancybturnbull@gmail.com</a>.

#### **CHECK OUT THE FPC LIBRARY!**

Our church library is free to all covenant partners, adults and children alike. Volunteer work in the library is welcomed. Please contact Suzanne West at 210-525-1499 or Morgan Fuller at <a href="mailto:mw.fuller4@comcast.net">mw.fuller4@comcast.net</a>.

#### FEBRUARY LITERATURE CIRCLE

FPC Literature Circle will meet **Tuesday, March 14**, in the McCullough Room when Mrs. Jane Focht-Hansen will review the historical fiction book, "The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek," written by Kim Michele Richardson. Not only interesting and informative, the book tells the story of the history of the Packhorse Librarians who delivered books, and other information, to remote areas in eastern Kentucky during the Great Depression. It was part of Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration program.

Social half hour at 1:00 PM followed by the review at 1:30 PM. Bring a friend to hear a great story and be reminded of the value of books. Delayed streaming is available on our FPC website: <a href="mailto:fpcsanantonio.org/lit-circle">fpcsanantonio.org/lit-circle</a>

Grace Clouse, Chair Willie Willming, Publicity

#### NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER WALK

#### Thursday, May 4

Please join us for our 3rd annual Prayer Walk to the National Day of Prayer gathering at Main Plaza. For more details or volunteer opportunities, contact Eva Eckburg at <a href="mailto:eva.eckburg@yahoo.com">eva.eckburg@yahoo.com</a>. See article on <a href="mailto:page 8">page 8</a>.

#### **YOUTH SUNDAY**

#### Sunday, May 7 | 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM Traditional & Modern Worship Services

Join us as we lead worship in all three services at FPC! Roles include leading liturgy, joining the choir in performing, helping with audio/video equipment, and more. Open to all students grades 6-12. Contact Kerri Napoli, kerrin@fpcsat.org.

#### **5TH GRADE GRADUATION**

#### Sunday, May 21 | 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM Children's Assembly Room (1st Floor)

All 5th graders along with their families are invited to a special morning dedicated to our students. Graduates will receive a devotional, Certificate, and a personal tour of the Youth Center! Refreshments will be served. Contact Rebecca Sweet, <a href="mailto:rebeccas@fpcsat.org">rebeccas@fpcsat.org</a>.

#### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

#### Monday - Friday, June 19 - 23 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

This year, kids will be launched on a cosmic quest where they will have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world. Ages 4 years old thru 5th grade completed (Childcare available for volunteers). More information and registration coming soon! Contact Rebecca Sweet, rebeccas@fpcsat.org.

#### **AUDIO/VISUAL SUPPORT NEEDED!**

We are currently looking for contract and volunteer support for our Audio/Visual efforts on Sundays and for events. If you are interested, please contact communications@fpcsat.org.



Grief Share is a video-based support group that offers help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. We recognize that the journey through grief is not the same for everyone. After the funeral when the cards have stopped coming, most of the people around you have returned to their normal lives. But your grief continues and you feel alone. Grief Share is designed to meet you where you are and to connect you with resources and tools to strengthen you on your journey from mourning to joy.

First Presbyterian Church has hosted 12 groups with over 80 individuals participating over the past 3 years. We are committed to walk alongside folks as they walk through the valley of the shadow of death. There are 13 weeks with a video for each session and a workbook.

If you have questions or want to participate in the next group connect with Pastor Joe Moore at joem@fpcsat.org.

## **National Day of Prayer & Prayer Walk**

#### Pray Fervently In Righteousness and Avail Much

Thursday, May 4, 2023 will mark San Antonio's 38<sup>th</sup> consecutive observance of the National Day of Prayer (NDP). Pastors, ministry leaders, city leaders, civil servants, students, military and folks from all segments of San Antonio society will gather as one voice, in the Main Plaza across from the courthouse. The observance begins <u>at Noon</u> with Mayor Nirenberg reading the National Day of Prayer City Proclamation as the chimes ring from the San Fernando Cathedral. Celebration and Praise precedes the event <u>at 11:30.</u>

Prepare your hearts with a Prayer Walk from First Presbyterian Church (FPC) to the Main Plaza, across from the Courthouse. This year's theme is "The effective fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." (James 5:16) We will begin at **10:00** with opening remarks and prayers at FPC and join fellow prayer warriors as we walk to Travis Park for additional prayers, scripture and music. We will then proceed to the Main Plaza to participate in NDP worship and exaltation of our Lord.

#### National Day of Prayer Walk on 4 May 2023

All Ages—Walk or Ride Shuttle (walking impaired) to each destination

- 10:00 Gather and Pray at First Presbyterian Church (404 N. Alamo, SATX 78205-1918)
- 10:45 Gather and Pray at Travis Park
- 11:30 Gather and Worship at Main Plaza across from the courthouse
- 12:00 San Antonio's National Day of Prayer observance with Mayor Nirenberg's proclamation

Shuttles will run from 10:00-1:30 pm—First Presbyterian Church to Travis Park to Main Plaza

Things you might want to bring: water bottle, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, good walking shoes

In preparation for the National Day of Prayer, let's take a look at just three areas we should pray for and how we should pray in the following prayer guide. Also, look for April's Newsletter article on how to pray for the business community, the educational system, the body of Christ and the Nation.



#### **CONTACTS**

Eva Eckburg eva.eckburg@yahoo.com 210-488-1939 Lisa Snow lisas@fpcsat.org 210-226-0215

Suzanne Dollar Coordinator, San Antonio City Observance of National Day of Prayer <u>SAnationaldayofprayer@gmail.com</u>

# PRAYING FOR LEADERS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS IN GOVERNMENT

"First of all, then, I urge that requests, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made on behalf of all people, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity." (1Timothy 2:1-2)

Pray for your leaders, as well as the judges in our courts. Ask God to grant them wisdom to act with integrity. (1 Kings 3:28; 1 Timothy 2:1-2; Exodus 18:21; Proverbs 11:3; Romans 13:1-2).

Federal: President, VP, Cabinet, Congressional Leaders, and Supreme Court Justices

State: Governor, Executive leaders, Legislative leaders, and Judicial leaders

Local: Mayor, City Counsel, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Judges, and County Officials

#### WHY PRAY?

In the days Jesus spent on earth, there was tension within the local Jewish leaders concerning the overlying occupation by the Roman Government. There were several uprisings and rebellions against the Romans however, Jesus' teachings primarily revolved around the kingdom of God. The book of Mark records that Jesus uttered "Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's, render unto God what is God's" to show that government has a use, but it is not our savior and cannot compete with our allegiance to Christ Jesus.

Scripture calls believers to pray for those in authority, regardless of political party or allegiance. The sphere of government needs our prayers. The Federal government influences our relationship with other nations for international commerce and military aide to allies while state and local governments influence the operation of businesses and schools as well as the roads to get to them.

#### **HOW TO PRAY**

Pray the Father's heart. Seek scripture for the places God reveals how we should interact and participate in government. Meditate on scripture before beginning prayer as you put your heart into a position of submission to the will of God.

"Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor." (1 Peter2:16-17) ESV

"First of all, then, I urge that requests, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made on behalf of all people, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity."

(1 Timothy 2:1-2) NASB

"By the rebellion of a land, her rulers increase, but by a person of intelligence who knows justice, it will last." (Proverbs 28:2)

#### WHAT TO PRAY

- Provide leaders with wise and godly counselors who will provide honest wisdom and encouragement.
- Well up humility in the hearts of leaders to make apologies or adjustments when these things are necessary.
- Pour out a spirit of cooperation between elected leaders and break down the barriers that are built up by selfish ambition for personal power.
- Safeguard marriages and families of elected leaders who spend large portions of time away from home.
- Give leaders clarity to know what issues are most important to dedicate their time toward. Soften their hearts to hear and understand the needs of the communities they serve.
- Bring a spirit of harmony and righteousness among the staff members who work to support each elected leader.
- Protect leaders from falling into temptations of bribes, unfaithfulness or straying from what they know is right. Protect them from the plots of evil.

#### PRAYING FOR THE MILITARY

"He appointed military officers over the people and assembled them...and encouraged them with these words: Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with them. With him only is the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles..." (2 Chronicles 32:6-8)

Pray for perseverance to endure hardship (Isaiah 43:2; Deuteronomy 31:1)

Wise leaders who inspire respect from those under their command (Romans 13:1)

Protection and support for the families they have left behind (Romans 1:8-10)

#### WHY PRAY?

The sphere of military has always been an influence in cultures throughout time. In the New Testament, see the Apostle Paul use military terminology to help believers comprehend spiritual truths, such as relating physical armor to spiritual armor and explaining the spiritual battle we fight against the powers of darkness in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 6:10-18)

Historically, The United States military has fought for the freedoms we see in our legal documents and to uphold American interests in other countries. The military itself is comprised of thousands of volunteers from all walks of life who submit themselves to fulfill the needs of our country, whether that is across the world or across state lines. The armed services can provide a sense of purpose and structure, as well as opportunities in growing career fields. However, job stress and the unique culture of the military can also foster an environment that increases the likelihood of substance abuse and can place a great strain on marriage and family life. Military members are often exposed to dangerous and violent situations and have higher rates of experiencing Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, divorce, homelessness, and other life-altering challenges. The military need our prayers!

#### **HOW TO PRAY**

Pray the Father's heart. To do this, seek scripture for wisdom on God's design for each person to rely on the Lord and His provision. Meditating on scripture before beginning prayer puts our hearts into a position of submission to the will of God. These verses are good starting places to see how we can pray for members of our military:

"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus Our Lord." (Romans 8: 38-39) ESV

We wait for Yahweh; He is our help and shield. For our hearts rejoice in Him because we trust in His holy name. (Psalm 33:20-21) NIV

Haven't I commanded you: be strong and courageous? Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9) HCSB

#### WHAT TO PRAY

- Pray for the leaders to make wise and righteous decisions based on Biblical principles rather than personal career gains.
- Help the military personnel to see God is working in their daily lives, that he is with them, whether they are in the field, at home, or abroad.
- Remove stigmas for seeking medical attention for mental and physical needs.
- Hold the families of service members close, and may they look to the Lord for their strength and peace that only the Heavenly Father can give.
- Comfort the spouses who are separated due to military jobs-keep these marriages strong.
- Keep the hearts of the military from being desensitized to violence, while keeping them strengthened through battles. Only our Lord can provide such a balance.
- Move service members to seek the Lord and family for comfort, rather than overuse of substances.

# PRAYING FOR ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND LEADERS IN THE MEDIA

"Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-If anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things." (Philippians 4:8)

Pray that the decision makers within the media realize they can make a profit by producing uplifting projects. (Proverbs 8:10-11)

Pray that Christians in the media find favor and be filled with creative ideas that bring kingdom principles and life-giving messages to the public. (Proverbs 2:1-15)

God demonstrated the ultimate creativity when He created the Heavens and the Earth and all that is within it. The creatives who make up the arts, entertainment and media sphere need our prayers to honor God-given creative gifts and steward them to bless our culture.

#### WHY PRAY?

As people populated the earth, God poured creative talents into people for different works that would benefit them and glorify the Lord. Today, people with these creative gifts make up the Arts, Entertainment, and Media spheres. The average American consumes an astounding amount of media each day: entertainment television, digital games, social media, news, and music. These influences shape the things we think about, the words we say, and the way we see others and treat them. It takes prayer to discern what media influences will keep the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts acceptable and pleasing to God. (Psalm 19: 14)

The people who make television, report the news, and perform in shows need our prayers. They are filled with God-given talents and abilities and need the Lord to guide them in using their gifts to glorify Him. Some need to experience salvation, while others need a faith community to surround them with support. Thousands of Christians who work in arts and entertainment are fighting to infuse life-giving and uplifting content in our culture while Christians in the media sphere work hard to honor the God of Truth through truthful news reporting. Arts, Media and Entertainment need our prayers!

#### **HOW TO PRAY**

Pray the Father's heart. To do this, seek scripture for the heart of the Creator who is the source of all creativity and who knows what our hearts and minds need in the entertainment we consume. Meditating on scripture before beginning prayer puts our hearts into a position of submission to the will of God. These verses are good starting places to see God's design and purpose for Arts, Entertainment and Media:

"He has filled them with skill to do all the work of a gem cutter; a designer; an embroiderer in blue, purple, and scarlet yarn and fine linen; and a weaver. They can do every kind of craft and design artistic designs." (Exodus 35:35)

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-If anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things." (Philippians 4:8) ESV

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a worker who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15) NASB

#### WHAT TO PRAY

- Encourage the believers who are called to use their creative gifts to glorify God and cultivate a culture of concern for one another.
- Teach us to use the news as prayer prompts and ideas for how to serve our local community.
- Pour out wisdom for people who bring funding to entertainment media to fund things that are wholesome and speak the truth of God.
- Send creativity for artists to create thought-provoking works of art and entertainment that point towards God's redemptive plan for humanity.
- Fill the hearts of artists who can fill stadiums with adoring fans but still feel alone-God is the only one who can make them whole.
- Guide news professionals to seek truth and gather evidence, to present the issues of the day clearly and honestly.
- Strengthen Christians in these spheres to boldly stand for Biblical truth in the writer's rooms, board meetings and creative processes.





# FRIDAY, MARCH 31 | 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM & SATURDAY, APRIL 1 | 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM WESTMINSTER HALL



Registration includes meals, materials, & childcare (parents must pack kids' meals)

"My Love Lasts" is a weekend developed by Jon Anderson and has been done multiple times with great success! Just a reminder, Jon Anderson has been teaching us all year. He is author of "The Acceptance," and also works with our local mission partner, SAMI. The weekend will consist of him teaching, break out sessions, fun times and three meals! The Marriage Ministry has decided to offer this weekend (original cost \$150/couple) for FREE for up to 70 couples! So let's pack the house! Childcare available with registration.

#### **SCHEDULE:**

FRIDAY, MARCH 31 6:00 PM

Welcome & Dinner

7:00 PM

Guest Speaker Jon Anderson

8·15 PM

**Breakout Sessions** 

9:00 PM

Depart from Breakout Sessions

#### **SATURDAY. APRIL 1**

8:30 AM

Self serve coffee and snacks

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Teaching and Breakout Sessions

12:00 PM – 12:15 PM Box Lunches

12:15 PM - 4:00 PM

Teaching and Breakout Sessions

Register Online at fpcsanantonio.org/marriage-weekend

# Flowers at First

We look forward to Easter at First Presbyterian Church when the Sanctuary will be filled with Easter lilies. This form is for everyone to use as they remember loved ones with an Easter lily for the Sanctuary. Any additional revenue received from the donations for Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies over the years have enabled the Sanctuary Flower Committee to make special gifts to the church. Special gifts to the church include the antique candlesticks on the altar, the cross in the Griffith Chapel, the portrait of Louis Zbinden in the Zbinden Lecture Hall, antique chests in the Mauze Lobby, rugs in the McCullough Room and Narthex, chandeliers in the Geneva Room, new stoles for the ministers, new Bibles for worship and many other gifts.

If you are considering giving flowers for the Sunday traditional services, the names of the flower committee are listed below. You may call them for information for the month you desire. Telephone numbers are in the church directory. It is never too early to reserve the Sunday you prefer, so please call as soon as possible. The listings must be available to the church staff one month prior to the committee member's designated month. We are extremely grateful for the many members who have given flowers to enhance our beautiful church. Thank you.

## Sanctuary Flower Committee

January	Shelley Bass
February	Elizabeth Kreager
March	Diana Morehouse
April	Lilly Gretzinger
May	Paula Johnson
June	Mary Wilde
July	Joyce Mayfield
-	Nancy Rice
	Manette Owen
October	Chaney Stuart
November	Ann Bunn
December	Special Events Committee
	-

**GIVEN BY** (30 Character Limit) (CHECK ONE) \$15 PER PLANT - PLEASE PRINT WHEN FILLING OUT FORN IN HONOR OF IN MEMORY OF (30 Character Limit

Each year the congregation has an opportunity to remember a loved one or honor an individual by purchasing an Easter lily to be placed in the Chancel. If you would like to participate, the cost is \$15 to reserve a plant for one individual or one couple. Your check should be made payable to the Sanctuary Flower Committee. Completed forms & payment may be mailed to First Presbyterian Church, c/o Sanctuary Flower Committee, 404 North Alamo, San Antonio, 78205-1918, or placed in the Sanctuary Flower mailbox in the workroom. Requests received later than March 26, 2023 will miss the insert printing deadline.



AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

We welcome you to join us in-person or online this Holy Week and Easter, from April 2-9, as we gather to celebrate and experience new beginnings in Christ.



#### FPCSANANTONIO.ORG/EASTER

#### PALM SUNDAY

9:30 & 11:00 AM | FPC Sanctuary Traditional services 11:00 AM | FPC Westminster Hall

Modern service

Celebrate Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem.



#### MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:30 PM | FPC Westminster Hall \*\*

An evening service commemorating Christ's Last Supper with his disciples.



#### Jesus' resurrection. Don't forget your basket!

\*allergy friendly goodies will be available to kids who cannot eat traditional holiday candy

SATURDAY CHILDREN'S

10:00 AM | FPC Westminster Hall

Eggstavaganza Easter Story &

Hunt! Children ages 0 years old

thru 5th grade are invited with

their parents to join the FPC Children's Ministry for music, an egg hunt, and hear the story of

**EASTER PROGRAM** 



#### GOOD FRIDAY

12:00 PM | FPC Sanctuary \*\* A noon service commemorating Christ's crucifixion.

\*\*We hope to see you, your family and friends during this most holy time of the year. Childcare available for 5 years and under by reservation.
Please contact childcare@fpcsat.org.



#### EASTER SUNDAY

6:45 AM | FPC Courtyard Outdoor modern sunrise service

8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 AM **FPC Sanctuary** 

We offer three inspiring traditional services celebrating the true meaning of Easter in Christ's resurrection and victory.



# TAKE TIME TO PRAY THIS LENTEN SEASON

### fpcsanantonio.org/lent-prayer

During this Lenten season, we invite our members and guests to take time to pray for our congregation and community using the stations of the cross. Depictions of scenes derived from the Gospel accounts are located through the 2nd and 3rd floors of the FPC Campus. Maps and Prayer Guides are available in Mauze Lobby and online.

This is a perfect, simple family or small group activity which can be done at any time the church building is open. We ask that when you reach Station 9, you register your completion of the stations in the book provided or online.







Saturday, April 8 | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Westminster Hall

Families with children, infants through 5th grade, are invited to join us for the Easter Story followed by a Traditional FPC Egg Hunt.

Contact Rebecca at rebeccas@fpcsat.org



# QGLOBALMISSIONS Chevak, Alaska

Chevak is a small village of about 1,000 people 500 miles west of Anchorage and 8 miles inland from the Bering Sea. Chevak natives identify as Cup'ik people rather than Yup'ik or Inupiat.

Our mission in Chevak is to share the love of Christ through a Vacation Bible School as well as inserting ourselves into the life of the village for the week.

Our partners for this trip are Can-Do-Missions, a ministry of Concordia University Texas, as well as Alaska Mission for Christ (AMC), a Lutheran outreach focusing on small villages in Alaska. AMC has hosted groups conducting vacation bible schools for over 20 years.

Become a part of an inter-generational team sharing in the logistics of preparing and presenting ministry to Children, Youth, and Adults in Chevak, Alaska as part of our upcoming 2023 mission trip.

Skits, crafts, singing, Bible Stories and playing games are all part of what happens each day. Besides conducting programmed events, the team will be visiting with, praying for, and loving on the village; "playing out" with children; playing basketball with teens and coming alongside adults.

The trip dates are July 6, 2023 through July 17, 2023. Cost will be about \$2000, most of which is airfare.

There will be an informational meeting on Sunday, March 12, 2023, in the Geneva Room immediately following the 11:00 AM services. For more information contact Pastor Joe Moore, joem@fpcsat.org.









www.fpcsanantonio.org

# **QGLOBALMISSIONS Operation Uganda**

Last June, I joined a small group of friends from First Pres to travel halfway across the world to Uganda, in East Africa, to become better acquainted with a new FPC mission partner – Operation Uganda. Operation Uganda serves children and communities in Jesus' name in its home base of Kampala and throughout the country. Eight months after our travels, members of our FPC Uganda team are still basking in the glow of the experience. We are especially excited that our hosts for the Uganda trip, Operation Uganda's founders, Russell and Jeanie Barton, will soon be visiting us in San Antonio! But first, let me draw a brief picture of how Operation Uganda has become the hands and feet of Christ in this far-away place.

Operation Uganda's home is in the middle of a Kampala slum. Not far from a revered burial ground of Ugandan kings, the slum is a sprawling neighborhood of simple one-room structures, unimproved streets and fetid open drainage ditches. People are truly living hand to mouth. But in the midst of this poverty and sorrow, Operation Uganda's community center and preschool stand as a beacon of joy. Operation Uganda provides a loving early-childhood experience for young children of the neighborhood, social workers that go out into the community, and services to keep older children on-track in school. They hold lively worship services every Sunday and sponsor regular come-as-you-are buffet lunches to people in the neighborhood.



Though I have been on other mission trips to see other groups that do the Lord's work in developing countries, I have never been as drawn to a ministry as I have to Operation Uganda. Eight months after this trip, I find myself checking the Kampala weather on my phone and going through pictures of smiling children again and again. So, why is that? It is because I know the Holy Spirit is truly at work through Operation Uganda. It is because, in my mind's eye, I see the moms from that Kampala slum coming to Operation Uganda's preschool early in the morning, with beautiful small kids in tow, before they go out to work in a vegetable stall or spend the morning washing other people's laundry. It is because Operation Uganda is a place of transformation, with stories of young adults who are successfully making their way in the world after having started out long ago in Operation Uganda's preschool.

If you would like to hear more about this special ministry, and meet Operation Uganda's energetic founders, Russell and Jeany Barton, circle **Sunday, March 26th** on your calendar, and watch for opportunities around that time to participate!

#### - Mike Munroe



www.fpcsanantonio.org

#### WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

## Mar. 2023









#### **Circle Chairs & Bible Moderators**

(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
MARCH 20, 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

MARCH 15, Third Wednesday, 1:00 pm, Room 228

Circle 6 Jean Parsons, Chair (210-240-7483)

Members of Circle, Moderators

MARCH 21, Third Tuesday, 1:30 pm, McCullough Room

Circle 7 Mary Ellen Mauze, Chair & Moderator (210-844-5549) MARCH 21, Third Tuesday, 11:30 am, in member homes Home of Pat Johnson, 13807 Bluff Top Dr., 78216

Circle 8 Nancy Turnbull, Chair (210-606-5420)

Members of Circle, Moderators,

Circle for mothers of young children

MARCH 24, Fourth Friday, 11:45 am, St. Andrews Room
(byo lunch 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
MARCH 21, Third Tuesday, 10:00 am, Breakfast Room

Circle 11 Jean Swanson, Chair (210-826-0766)

Members of Circle, Moderators

MARCH 27, Fourth Monday, 12:30 pm,
home of Linda Ruhmann, 127 W. Elmview, 78209, 210-826-0922

Circle 13 Grace Clouse, Chair (734-718-7057)

LITERATURE CIRCLE
MARCH 14, Second Tuesday, 1:00 pm, McCullough Room

Circle 14 Karen Carawan, Chair (210-213-4589) Suzie Simpson, Moderator MARCH 20, 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)
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

# President's Letter Mar. 2023

What joy we experienced in February! It was a month to celebrate love and to be grateful for the love shown to us by our Heavenly Father. Our month of February was capped off with our annual Spring Luncheon. It was wonderful to see so many people in attendance. I think that having experienced COVID for the past couple of years, we all appreciated the privilege of gathering together. The tables were beautifully decorated with centerpieces designed by Pat Krueger. We invited all of the new covenant partners who joined our church in the past nine months to attend the luncheon as our guests. We gave them special name tags, and designated a couple of tables just for them! Our hope was to help them feel welcome, and for all of us to help identify them and make connections. Thank you to Mary Lou Casey, VP of New Covenant Partners, for this wonderful idea and for contacting each woman personally. Our speaker, Jenna Lucado Bishop, was inspiring! Her love of Bible teaching and love of family really came out in her message. If you missed it, her presentation will be available on the website soon. Many thanks to the Luncheon Committee: Judy Kruger, Susan DeKoch, Meredith Park and Holly Youngquist who worked so hard tracking all the reservations and making the table assignments. The beautiful programs were designed by Dorothy Hecimovich. Janie Jimenez and her hardworking staff had everything beautifully set out in Westminster Hall and took good care of us. Once again our chef, Maurilio Garza, delighted us with a delicious meal. There were so many other people who worked hard and made the luncheon such a success. It was truly a team effort and I thank you all!

Coming up in March we will be celebrating our fantastic pastors and church staff by serving them a lunch on Wednesday, March 22. Virginia Beeler and Mary Wilde have a delicious menu planned with a Fiesta theme. Our church staff and pastors are incredibly supportive of all that we do. We depend on them for all of our meetings, events and activities. This is our way of saying, "Thank you!". If you wish to help or participate in this, please contact Virginia or Mary.

Our final Ladies Night Out will be held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, March 28th at the home of Wendy Garcia, 132 Parklane Dr. 78212. There is no charge for this event, but we would appreciate that you register so that we can know how many to expect. Registration will begin March 5. It should be a wonderful evening of fellowship and fun. Refreshments will be provided, but feel free to bring something to share if you would like. Contact Ellen Meadows with any questions: 210-232-3738 or e.meadows@att.net.

Enjoy this beautiful time of spring that reminds us that God is making all things new!

In His perfect love,

Linda Delano
President, Women of the Church





#### KEEPING EVERYONE YOUNG IN SPIRIT

## **Older Adult Ministry**

## fpcsanantonio.org/keys



We always enjoy visiting with the ambassadors of the San Antonio Rodeo. This year we had five representatives. There were a few tears in the room as Nancy Wallace shared the mission of the Woman's Storybook Project of Texas. It was a heart warming day. Rick Cavender was back with us, need I say more?? We closed out February with a delicious trip to the Menger Hotel buffet.

#### Blessings!



## Rev. Dr. Toe Moore

Assistant Pastor for Older Adults and Congregational Care

All on site KEYS lunches begin with our speaker at 11:00 AM, followed by lunch at Noon. On-campus lunch cost is \$13, offsite birthday lunches cost \$15. Make your reservations by signing up at the front desk, calling into the church office, or emailing Alice Morales at alicem@fpcsat.org.

#### Friday Fitness

Friday Fitness continues 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. You will be sent a link to join the Zoom Meeting. There is a TV in room 224 so that you can participate in the fitness group and also make it to KEYS at 11:00 AM.



### **KEYS Upcoming:**

**March 3rd** - Tom Jackson - Living Historian. Tom will be presenting the Tejano Heroes of the Texas Revolution

March 10th - Darryl Greer, Regional Program Manager for OATS/ Senior Planet. Older Adults Technology Services help us learn & use technology to live better in the digital age.

**March 17th** - The best hamburger and fries in town along with a movie right here at FPC.

March 24th - Spencer Brown, Kelly Finley, & Brennen Boze will be back with us to continue our discussion of resources available to Older Adults

March 26, 2023 - "Grease" on stage at the Woodlawn!

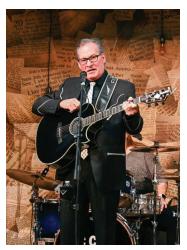
**March 31st** - We will celebrate the Irish and our March Birthdays with ham & cabbage at Anne Marie's Cafe.

#### Mahjong & Bridge

Mahjong players are meeting on the 2nd & 4th Fridays in the Geneva Room, immediately after lunch. You don't have to be a seasoned player and if you have a game you would like to play, let us know and we will make room for you!

Calling all Bridge Players!! We are hoping to rekindle the Bridge Games on the 2nd and 4th Fridays. If you want to join in on the games call Suzanne West at 210-525-1499. You need to reserve a seat at the table as I have been told you need a full table of 4 to play!!













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

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

Far off I see the goal—O Saviour, guide me; I feel my strength is small—be Thou beside me; With vision ever clear, with love that conquers fear, And grace to persevere, O Lord, provide me. When-e'er Thy way seems strange, go Thou before me; And, lest my heart should change, O Lord, watch o'er me; But, should my faith prove frail, and I through blindness fail, O let Thy grace prevail, and still restore me. (The Hymnbook, No. 337).

- 1 Jonah 3:1-4, 10; Hebrews 12:1-14; Luke 18:9-14
- 2 Deuteronomy 7:6-11; Titus 1:1-16; John 1:29-34
- 3 Deuteronomy 7:12-16; Titus 2:1-15; John 1:35-42
- 4 Deuteronomy 7:17-26; Titus 3:1-15; John 1:43-51

God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy power; Crown Thine ancient Church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower. Cure Thy children's waring madness, bend our pride to Thy control; Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, Lest we miss Thy Kingdom's goal, lest we miss Thy Kingdom's goal. (The Hymn Book, No. 358)

- Jeremiah 9:23-24; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31;Mark 2:18-22
- 6 Deuteronomy 8:1-20; Hebrews 2:11-18; John 2:1-12
- 7 Deuteronomy 9:4-12; Hebrews 3:1-11; John 2:13-33
- 8 Deuteronomy 9:13-21; Hebrews 3:12-19; John 2:23-3:15
- 9 Deuteronomy 9:23-10:5; Hebrews 4:1-10; John 3:16-21
- 10 Deuteronomy 10:12-22; Hebrews 4:11-16; John 3:22-36
- 11 Deuteronomy 11:18-28; Hebrews 5:1-10; John 4:1-26

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, Victorious, Thy great name we praise. To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small; In all life Thou livest, the true life of all; Thy wisdom so boundless, Thy mercy so free, Eternal Thy goodness for naught changeth Thee. Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light, Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight. All laud we would render. Oh help us to see 'Tis only the splendor of light hideth the Thee. (Worship in Song, No. 29)

- 12 Jeremiah 1:1-10; 1 Corinthians 3:11-23; Mark 3:31-4:9
- 13 Jeremiah 1:11-19; Romans 1:1-15; John 4:27:42
- 14 Jeremiah 2:1-13, 29-32; Romans 1:16-25; John 4:43-54
- 15 Jeremiah 3:6-18; Romans 1:28-2:11; John 5:1-8
- 16 Jeremiah 4:9-10; Romans 2:12-24; John 5:19-29
- 17 Jeremiah 5:1-9; Romans 2:25-3:18; John 5:30-47
- 18 Jeremiah 5:20-31; Romans 3:19-31; John 7:1-13

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me; Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear; And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear. Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere; Open my heart, and let me prepare love with Thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready my God, Thy will to see. (The Hymnbook, No. 390)

- 19 Jeremiah 5:9-15; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; Mark 5:1-20
- 20 Jeremiah 7:1-15; Romans 4:1-12; John 7:14-36
- 21 Jeremiah 7:21-34; Romans 4:13-25; John 7:37-52
- 22 Jeremiah 8:4-7, 8:18-9:5; Romans 5:1-11; John 12-20
- 23 Jeremiah 10:11-24; Romans 5:12-21; John 8:21-32
- 24 Jeremiah 11:1-8, 14-17; Romans 6:1-11; John 8:33-47
- 25 Jeremiah 13:1-11; Romans 6:12-23; John 8:47-59

Be not dismayed whate'er betide; God will take care of you. Beneath His wings of love abide; God will take care of you. Thro' days of toil when heart doth fail; God will take care of you; When dangers fierce your path assail, God will take care of you. No matter what may be the test, God will take care of you. Lean, weary one, upon His breast; God will take care of you. Thro' ev'ry day, o'er all the way. He will take care of you; God will take care of you. (Worship in Song, No. 450)

- 26 Jeremiah 14:1-9, 17-22; Galatians 4:21-5:1; Mark 8:11-21
- 27 Jeremiah 16:10-21; Romans 7:1-12; John 6:1-15
- 28 Jeremiah 17:19-27; Romans 7:13-25; John 6:16-27
- 29 Jeremiah 18:1-11; Romans 8:1-11; John 6:27-40
- 30 Jeremiah 22:13-23; Romans 8:12-27; John 6:41-51
- 31 Jeremiah 23:1-8; Romans 8:28-39; John 6:52-59



## 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).

DATE	NAME OF PERSON	REQUEST	GOD'S ANSWER

## **New Covenant Partners!** Joined us in February 2022



Dana and Jeff Bourland



Millie Camp



Natalie and Brian Jansen



**Connie Rodriguez** 

#### **DISCOVER, KNOW & JOIN FPC!**

DiscoverFPC! - March 5 | 12:15 PM - 2:00 PM KnowFPC! - March 26 | 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Are you interested in learning more about FPC or becoming a Covenant Partner? Sign up and attend a DiscoverFPC! Class where you can then decide whether you are ready to join as a Covenant Partner or wish to wait. Ready to join? Register for both the DiscoverFPC & KnowFPC classes. More info on joining FPC at fpcsanantonio.org/join. Contact Sheila Figueroa, sheilaf@fpcsat.org, 210-271-2759 to sign up or register online by going to fpcsanantonio.org/register-discover-fpc.



## LOVE CHRIST. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. **LOVE THE CITY.**

404 N. Alamo Street San Antonio, Texas 78205 210-226-0215 fpcsanantonio.org















First Presbyterian Church SATX



@First Pres & @fpcsanantonio



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