

Christ Is Risen Indeed! FPC Easter Celebration Recap

(See pages 12-17)



**See Save the Dates
for the Next Season at
FPC!**
(See pages 4-7)

**FPC Welcomes New
Covenant Partners
and Confirmants!**
(See pages 10-11)

**To God be the Glory
for the Ministry in
Our Prisons**
(pages 8-9)

Pastor's Article

Mother's Day

REV. DR. BOB FULLER

*Do your best to come to me soon. ...
Do your best to come before winter...
The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be
with you. (II Timothy 4:9, 21, 22)*

Mother's Day is just around the corner, and as we get closer to this day to celebrate "mom" and the other important women in our lives, I have been thinking a lot about a recent trip home.

Back in mid-March, I visited my mother, Betsy Fuller, in Columbia, South Carolina. She had some important work that she needed to do, and I felt that I needed to be there to help. She planned to clean out her garage, basement and attic.

These spaces were all full beyond capacity and needed to be cleaned out. I felt obligated to go and help because a substantial amount of what needed to be cleaned out, was put there by me. I also went because I wanted to make sure that nothing "important" got thrown out (like old photographs or heirlooms).

We dealt with old furniture and boxes of old notebooks from college. There were old toys, and assorted trinkets and treasures from my childhood bedroom. There were old documents and heirlooms, as well as exercise equipment, clothes, and a variety of other items. It was not just my stuff, but the accumulated treasure-hoard of cousins, grandparents, me, my brother and even friends. (My mom has always had a big and open heart, and she always welcome people's stuff as readily as she welcomed them.)

Over the next three days we filled-



up one of those huge, thirty-foot construction dumpsters. We also gave away three utility trailers worth of salvageable items to friends.

The first few boxes were the most difficult. I felt like I had to go through each box to make sure that nothing of value would be discarded. After about ten boxes, however, I started to realize that most of it could be ejected. By box twenty, I was throwing things in the dumpster with a joyous abandon. Every container in the dumpster was one last thing (or box of things) to worry about. Each box became a metaphor of freedom and burdens cast-off.

At first, it was difficult throwing things away, but then it became fun and liberating. I realized that the real treasure was time spent with my mother and nothing we kept or threw away was as valuable as the time we spent cleaning out the basement together.

The whole time we were working, we were talking and rediscovering, because an attic full of stuff is an

attic full of memories, and a garage full of books and boxes is a garage full of stories and conversations.

We worked hard and then we rested. In our down time, I introduced mom to THE CHOSEN and we binge-watched the first two seasons, sharing in the story of Jesus together.

What made the visit special was not just the work we did, but the time we spent together.

One of the late Dr. Louis Zbinden's most well remembered sermons is a sermon he preached several times. It is titled, "Come Before Winter." It is a meditation on II Timothy 4:9-22.

Paul was writing his last words to his beloved protege Timothy.

He wrote, with urgency,

"Do your best to come before winter." (II Tim 4:21).

With his invitation, the Apostle is saying,

*"Let's spend some time together while we have the time to spend."
"Let's not take our relationship for granted."*

The point of Dr. Zbinden's sermon is to remind us not to put off until tomorrow what we need to do today. Don't postpone the joy and the blessings that God gives to make more time for trivia. Do not let the busyness of life overwhelm the business of living.

This month marks one year since the Uvalde shootings. It reminds us how precious people are and

CONTENTS

how precious the time with one another is. With tragic clarity, it reminds us not to put-off spending time with those we love. We cannot get those precious people, or that time back, in this life. Thanks be to God that on this side of Easter, because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we remember that death is not the end and everything the world can take away, our Lord can give back in eternity.


The whole exercise of cleaning mom's attic and basement has left me pondering several things?

- What do I need to clean out? Not just clean out of my physical space, but out of my spiritual, emotional and mental space?
- What else, or who else, do I need to make room for (especially in my calendar)?
- What do we need to let go of?
- What do I need to rediscover?

I pray that this Mother's Day (or very soon) you will spend some time with your Mom or the important men and women in your life. Maybe you will discover that you can still make new memories even when you are cleaning out a garage full of old ones.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bob



SAVE THE DATE

- 4-6** May Dates
6-7 June Dates
7 August & September Dates

MINISTRY ARTICLES

- 8-9** To God Be the Glory: Prison Ministry
10 New Covenant Partners // Serve at FPC
11 Confirmation Class of 2023
12-13 FPC Easter Celebrations Photo Collection
14-17 2023 Easter Lily Honorariums and Memorials
17 An Easter Thank You
18-19 WOC Circles Schedule and President's Letter
20-21 KEYS May

FIRST CUP

- 22-23** Readings and Prayer List

BACK COVER

- 24** FPC Family Photos from April

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

MAY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH MAY COFFEE

Time: 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
 Location: Home of Lellen Lane
 268 Geneseo Rd San Antonio 78209
 Contact: Jessica Young, jessica3@sbcglobal.net

Join us as we celebrate and honor the past presidents of Women of the Church with a coffee at the beautiful home of Lellen Lane. Delicious refreshments will be served, and donations will be accepted benefiting the Christian Assistance Ministries (CAM) and the Kingdom Restoration Lab (KRL). Valet parking will be available. Free registration online at fpcsanantonio.org/may-coffee-rsvp.

QUARTERLY VIRTUAL PRAYER ROOM

Time: 11:00 AM
 Location: Zoom

Zoom Meeting ID: 826 9365 7302
 Password: 727274

We have our very own FPC Virtual Prayer Room. Fill in the registration form at fpcsanantonio.org/virtual-prayer-room to receive the Zoom meeting link & phone number you can call to receive and offer prayer. Please don't hesitate to ask for prayer.

PRAYER TRAINING WITH ONE MINISTRY

Time: 6:00 PM
 Location: Room 304
 Contact: Lisa Snow, 210-226-0215, lisas@fpcsat.org

The ONE team leads this practical prayer class. Register for this final spring training by contacting Lisa Snow. Email childcare@fpcsat.org to reserve childcare.

THURSDAY, MAY 4

PRAYER WALK FOR NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Time: 10:00 AM
 Location: Meet at Avenue E entrance to FPC

Thursday, May 4, 2023 will mark San Antonio's 38th consecutive observance of the National Day of Prayer. We will begin at 10:00 AM at FPC, then walk to Travis Park for more prayer and worship, and then proceed to the Main Plaza to participate in NDP worship beginning at 11:30 AM and the official observation at noon. Shuttles also available throughout event. For volunteer opportunities, contact Eva Eckburg. Full schedule and information at fpcsanantonio.org/ndp2023.

SUNDAY, MAY 7

ROADS CLOSED SUNDAY, MAY 7

Time: 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Síclavía, organized by the YMCA of Greater San Antonio, will take place on Sunday, May 7, with downtown roads being closed for families to safely exercise and play (www.siclovía.org). Access immediately around FPC and 281 will not be affected. The congregation is encouraged to leave via Hwy 281 to avoid street closures.

YOUTH SUNDAY

Times: 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
 Location: Traditional & Modern Worship Services
 Contact: Kerri Napoli, kerrin@fpcsat.org

Preston Miller, prestonm@fpcsat.org

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.

TUESDAY, MAY 9

MAY LITERATURE CIRCLE

Time: 1:00 PM Social | 1:30 PM Review
Location: McCullough Room

The last book review of the 2022-2023 year will be held, Tuesday, May 9, in the McCullough Room, when Mrs. Ann Smith will review, "These Precious Days," by Ann Patchett. A non-fiction collection of 22 essays, they are reflections of home, family, friendships and writings. A beautiful reminder of what's important in life: they share the relationships she had with her biological father and two step-fathers and also her own two husbands, with the last her most successful. Also covers her life in Nashville & her bookstore, Parnassus Books.

Social at 1:00 PM and book review at 1:30 PM. Bring a friend and join us or watch on delayed streaming at fpcsanantonio.org/lit-circle.

THURSDAY, MAY 11

YOUNG ADULTS COMMUNITY AT THE MCNAY MUSEUM

Time: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Location: McNay Art Museum
Contact: Chris Roper, 210-782-2687, christopherdavidroper@yahoo.com

Come to the McNay for live music, art, drinks and food. All young adults (single, married, and with kids) up to age 35-ish are invited to attend. This is also the perfect opportunity to invite your non-First Pres friends to join! Bring your blanket and lawn chairs to lounge on the grounds. Pets on leashes are also welcome on the grounds.

FRIDAY, MAY 12

YOUTH 7-11

Time: 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM
Location: FPC Student Center
Contact: Kerri Napoli, kerrin@fpcsat.org
Preston Miller, prestonm@fpcsat.org

Join us for Free Food, Games, Fellowship, and Fun... All 5th grade, middle school, and high school ages welcome!

SUNDAY, MAY 21

5TH GRADE GRADUATION

Time: 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM
Location: High Five Room (1st Floor)
Contact: Rebecca Sweet, rebeccas@fpcsat.org

We want to honor the 5th Graders for completing elementary school and moving on to middle school.

It will be a special morning of prayer, testimony, fellowship, and food. Enjoy cake and punch as you and your parents explore the Youth Center with Kerri Napoli, Interim Director of Youth, Preston Miller, Interim Youth Associate, and the youth students.

SUNDAY, MAY 21

MEN'S MINISTRY QUARTERLY DINNER

Time: 5:00 PM
Location: Westminster Hall at FPC
Contact: Trebes Sasser, tsasser@rpitx.com
Cody Heffron, codyheffron@yahoo.com

Join us as men of all ages come together for food, fellowship, and a message! RSVP online at fpcsanantonio.org/men-dinner.

MONDAY, MAY 22

GOSPEL COMMUNITY GATHERING

Time: 7:00 PM (Dinner at 6:30 PM)
Location: Westminster Hall
Contact: Mitchell Moore, 210-226-0215 ext. 214
mitchellm@fpcsat.org
Carrie Everson, 210-226-0215 ext. 267
carrie@fpcsat.org

Join other young adults for a time of dinner, worship, biblical teaching, fellowship, & prayer. May 22 will be a special dinner hosted by the Women of the Church and located in Westminster Hall.

SATURDAY, MAY 27 - SATURDAY, JUNE 3

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS MISSION TRIP

Please pray for our Mission Trip to Yucatan Mexico.

MAY CONTINUED

MONDAY, MAY 29

**CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED
FOR MEMORIAL DAY**

JUNE

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

**YOUNG ADULTS COMMUNITY
SUMMER KICKOFF PARTY**

Time: 5:45 PM – 8:00 PM
Location: The Lane Residence,
268 Geneseo Road, 78209
Contact: Chris Roper, 210-782-2687,
christopherdavidroper@yahoo.com

Join us at a pool party for our summer kickoff event. We will supply BBQ and there will be a sign up to bring side dishes. All young adults (single, married, and with kids) up to age 35-ish are invited to attend. Food sign-up coming soon. This is also the perfect opportunity to invite your non-First Pres friends to join!

**SATURDAY, JUNE 3 -
SATURDAY, JUNE 10**

FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY MISSION TRIP

Please pray for our Young Adult Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic.

**MONDAY, JUNE 5 -
THURSDAY, AUGUST 31**

**FPC CHILDREN'S CENTER
SUMMER PROGRAM**

Times: Monday-Friday, 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Contact: Laura Ortiz, (210) 225-0960
laurao@fpcsat.org

Kids 4-6 years, come and join the FPC Children's Center for the summer while we explore, learn and play! Full and part time camp available. Child-centered, play-based learning program full of exciting activities. Visit fpcsanantonio.org/childrens-center.



MONDAY, JUNE 19 - FRIDAY, JUNE 23

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Contact: Rebecca Sweet, rebeccas@fpcsat.org

This year, kids will be launched on a cosmic quest where they will have a blast shining Jesus's light to the world. Registration is open to children 4 years old to 5th grade at fpcsanantonio.org/vbs. Cost for VBS is \$20.00 per child which includes a t-shirt, digital music card, bag, and a week of fun! If you wish to volunteer as an adult or teen (6th grade +) to be a part of our Stellar Crew, visit bit.ly/fpc-vbs-23-crew. (Childcare available for volunteers).

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

**DISCOVER, KNOW, JOINFPC!
SUMMER CLASS**

Time: 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Location: Geneva Room
Contact: Sheila Figueroa, 210-271-2759,
sheilaf@fpcsat.org

Are you interested in learning more about FPC or become a Covenant Partner? Sign up and attend this summer class offered as a special "last chance" for this academic year for people to complete the program prior to joining FPC. This class will be a combination of the two classes, DiscoverFPC! and KnowFPC! Register for the Summer Class and learn more about joining FPC at fpcsanantonio.org/join.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28**YOUNG ADULTS COMMUNITY
SOCIAL EVENING**

Time: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
 Location: Alamo Beer Company
 Contact: Chris Roper, 210-782-2687,
christopherdavidroper@yahoo.com

Come to Alamo Beer Company for live music, drinks and food. All young adults (single, married, and with kids) up to age 35-ish are invited to attend. This is also the perfect opportunity to invite your non-First Pres friends to join!

JULY**THURSDAY, JULY 6 -
MONDAY, JULY 17****ALASKA VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
SUMMER MISSION TRIP**

Location: Chevak, Alaska
 Contact: Rev. Dr. Joe Moore, joem@fpcsat.org
 Lindsay Selli, lindsays@fpcsat.org

The team will be leading a Vacation Bible School and living in the village for a week. The remoteness of the village requires the team to purchase and bring their own food. Donations requested to help with this food cost.

SATURDAY, JULY 15**YOUNG ADULTS COMMUNITY
TUBING TRIP**

Time: TBD
 Location: New Braunfels
 Contact: Chris Roper, 210-782-2687,
christopherdavidroper@yahoo.com

Join us for a river float day somewhere in New Braunfels. More details to come. All young adults (single, married, and with kids) up to age 35-ish are invited to attend. This is also the perfect opportunity to invite your non-First Pres friends to join!

AUGUST**TUESDAY, AUGUST 1****YOUNG ADULTS COMMUNITY
OPEN MIC NIGHT**

Time: 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
 Location: The Pigpen
 Contact: Chris Roper, 210-782-2687,
christopherdavidroper@yahoo.com

Give those vocal chords a workout at Open Mic Night at the Pigpen. All young adults (single, married, and with kids) up to age 35-ish are invited to attend. This is also the perfect opportunity to invite your non-First Pres friends to join!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20**KICKOFF SUNDAY**

Contact: Rev. Becky Prichard, beckyp@fpcsat.org
 Save the date! More details to come.

SEPTEMBER**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15****FPC CHILDREN'S CENTER FALL FLING
MASQUERADE GALA**

Time: 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM
 Location: Magnolia Gardens on Main
 Contact: Ellie Escamilla, amyl@fpcsat.org

A fun, grown-up evening of food, wine, music, and fun — all for a good cause. Proceeds benefit the First Presbyterian Church Children's Center. Tickets are \$50 per person or \$400 a table and can be purchased at fpcsanantonio.org/fall-fling.

The Children's Center is accepting donations for their Fall Fling silent and live auctions. Bring donations to the 1st floor lobby.

If you have a business or organization that would like to be a sponsor for the event, please contact the Center at (210) 225-0960 or fill out our Sponsorship form at bit.ly/fpcsat-cc-sponsor. Email AmyL@fpcsat.org for more information.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

By Lynn S. Thompson, Elder-Elect, First Presbyterian Church San Antonio



*Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. -2 Corinthians 3:17
(Photo by Jacob Harrison)*

It was a lovely Saturday morning and some of us from First Presbyterian Church accepted the kind invitation from Ambassador Sichan Siv to join him at the Dominguez State Jail, near Highway 90 outside Loop 1604.

As I approached the front door, one of the officers walked out with a little girl and another woman. It was such a playful moment with the officer and the little girl that I assumed it was her daughter. An hour later, I learned from the warden that this was an inmate's wife and child – and the little one had been having “a serious meltdown” when she had to leave her father. What I witnessed was a beautiful scene with the officer escorting the child and mother well beyond those doors. I saw play, smiles, kindness, and mercy. That was my first five minutes, with only 175 minutes to go ... The next 45 minutes included discussion with the Warden and the Assistant Warden regarding structure, programs, and needs.

It sounds like a typical tour, with caring administrators wanting the best for their clientele – albeit a different population than average. We walked the prison area and headed past the library and classrooms to the law library to meet five inmates who serve as peer greeters. They meet new inmates to discuss logistics, the practical, and the choices these inmates face at this juncture in their lives.

Ambassador Siv, who serves on the Texas Board of Criminal

Justice, one of nine appointed by Governor Greg Abbott of Texas to oversee our entire prison system, took the lead. He introduced us to these inmates using provocative questions that each one chose to answer. (This is one of Sichan's many gifts.) We received honest and insightful answers as to who they are, how they spend their time, their interests, and their hopes. Each also expressed aspects about their faith life and how it sustains them.

Our next walk was to a faith-based ward. Up to 60 men share one large room with bunk beds, long tables, and shower facilities. They wanted to share their music with us. This state jail houses 2000+ inmates. We enjoyed a beautiful time of praise and worship with scripture-based songs, original songs, and spontaneous preaching. The four-piece band led with passion. Most inmates sang and moved to the music as four others stepped up as worship leaders. Ambassador Siv gave them an official greeting and words of joy. The Holy Spirit was



*For God so loved the world... -John 3:16. Those who walk with the wise, shall be wise.
-Proverbs 13:20. (Photo by Sichan Siv)*



*It is more blessed to give than to receive.
-Acts 20:35 (Photo by Jacob Harrison)*

in this place for all to receive and rest in Him.

Between the clusters of bunk beds are colorful, creative fine art and scripture painted directly on the cinder block walls. In the back facing the entrance is a huge mural of The Last Supper. It could be in a museum. The creative G-O-S-P-E-L provides The Word using just SIX – God’s Only Son Provides Eternal Life.

We walked the room admiring the paintings. The men were

always respectful, but also wanted to chat briefly and say thank you for coming. It seems that just seeing and being seen by “free people” with smiles lighten their days. We closed with lunch in the Officers’ dining hall, a tour of the kitchen, and a group photo next to inspiring words painted on the wall, quoting our own Ambassador Siv.

The Apostle Paul told us how God works with those in prison – prisoners, guards, and loved ones. I have visited two other facilities including a federal women’s prison in Los Angeles. This time, instead of the powerful feelings of sadness, fear, and anger, we felt respect, order, and opportunities for those incarcerated – and for those who tend to them.

Now, many wards are not faith-based. Many inmates enter and default to their gang affiliations. Not everyone wants or takes a job. But there are choices to be made – as their peer greeters tell them. Opportunities exist for skilled certifications in culinary and warehouse work at The Food Bank, in house work such as kitchen and laundry, as well as classes through the state prison

system Windham School District (served 49,000 in SY22).

The Warden told us a story. He lived in a gated community about 20 minutes away from the jail. He loved his home and felt it was perfect for his family. One day, at a home a few hundred yards away, he recognized a young man. He was surprised.

This new neighbor had been given a new home by his parents to help him re-start his free life. This young man had been in the Warden’s prison. The Warden and this man were in a new place now. The Warden said this true story helps to illustrate what he has always emphasized to his officers. Treat each person as someone who can and will become your neighbor. Help them grow toward a positive future in our world.

In those 180 minutes, I was blessed to see how God is working in the most difficult of places. I am reminded that we all fall short and need new opportunities by the grace of God. Please pray for the incarcerated, their care takers, their families, those they impacted, and their future neighbors.

To God be the Glory!



Sichan Siv is the gentleman in the cowboy hat and FPC Elder-Elect Lynn S. Thompson is third from right. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. -Matthew 5:9 (Photo by Charles Miller)

New Covenant Partners!

Joined us in April 2023



Clarissa Espinoza



Denny and Judy Eshee



Mike and Julie LeMond



Chris and Liz Medley



Mark and Mary Ann Randolph

SERVE AT FPC

FPCSANANTONIO.ORG/VOLUNTEER

Are you looking for a way to get involved? We have room for you in several different areas around FPC for you to use your gifts and talents.

- Help with FPC memorial receptions (set up, serving, & clean up) - Contact Pat Brodeen at pat@brodeen.com or 210-383-3083.
- Love Jesus and love kids? We need you in Children's Ministry! - Contact Rebecca Sweet, rebeccas@fpcsat.org.
- Sunday Ushers - Contact Adam Sharpe at adam1980@pobox.com.
- Bake Cookies for Sunday FPC3 Fellowship - Sign up at bit.ly/sunday-cookie-signup.
- Sunday Greeters - Contact Nancy Turnbull at nancybturnbull@gmail.com.



2023 CONFIRMANDS



Annie Altmeyer



Jack Brewer



Whit Brooks



Kennedy Crider



Emerson Jenne



Sunny Musselman



Lila Ogle



Owen Smith



Campbell Wirth



Tripp Wommack

EASTER at FPC



Children's Eggstravaganza!

The Easter Bunny made an appearance at FPC at the Egg-stravaganza helping us to know that Easter isn't about bunnies, candy, baskets, fancy clothes, or beautiful flowers. Easter is all about Jesus and what He did for us. It is the beautiful story of Grace and Salvation. It is the story of how Jesus gave His life for us to be back in a right relationship with God. Kids at the Egg-stavaganza learned this while having a wonderful time dancing, singing, making crafts, eating snacks, and hunting Easter eggs.

If you missed it, the Easter Bunny wants to "egg" you on to come on Sunday mornings to learn more about Jesus while having fun and games! Come and see that the stone has been rolled away. Jesus is alive!





Easter Lilies 2023

Given by: In Memory of:

Janet and Greg Anderson and family • Dr. James E. Bauerle
• Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Anderson
• Mrs. Hazel Dyer
• Miss Sarah Jean Stephens

Michele and Jonathan Barker • Our grandparents

Lynnda and Field Barnes • Judge and Mrs. Robert Barnes
• Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Sparks

Mary and Mike Benedum • Our parents

Debby and J.D. Bowen • Dr. and Mrs. Richard G. Ryan

His loving family • John Buchek

The Buchek and Page Families • John Buchek

Laura Moore • My beloved husband, Harry
Brusenhan • My parents, Estella and Charles Moore

Alethea, Bruce, Jim and Tom Bugg • Norma and Jim Bugg
• Frances and Tommy Swann

Ann and Chuck Bunn • Mary and Charles Bunn
• Ralph Lehr

Mrs. George V. Burkholder • George V. Burkholder, MD
• Dr. and Mrs. Theodore M. Burkholder
• Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Schneider
• Mrs. Margaret Wetzel

Mary Frances Churchill and Manette Owen • Clara May and Hub Gootee

Given by: In Memory of:

Kelly and Jim Daniell • Cora Correll and Richard Wilson
• Barbara Stieren
• Arthur Stieren
• Barbara Wilson Daniell

Jeanne Douglas • Gary E. Douglas

Debby Elson • Dean, Lois and Dean, II -
Neighbarger my family

Her daughters and their families • Sallie W. Embs

His daughters and their families • Lowell D. Embs

Ellen Elizabeth Frazier • My parents
• My husband, Donald

Joella Gordon • John R. Gordon

Lilly and Alan Gretzinger • Ralph Lehr

Mimi Hart • T. Maxey Hart, Jr.

Janet and Boxy Hornberger • Robert Matias Hornberger

Robin and Clayton Hudnall • I.E, Lila and Candace Clark

Mary, Jeff and Austin Jeter • Dr. and Mrs. Charles F. Montgomery

Suzanne Letch • Sarah Stephens,
Barbara Anne and Ken's granddaughter
• Shigeko Hirose,
Reiko O'Donell's sister

Patricia and Richard McCleary • Our beloved parents

Easter Lilies 2023

Given by: In Memory of:

Cassie McMillan • My parents, Catherine and Rose Hager

Jo Lynne Meador and family • All our loved ones in heaven

Diana Morehouse • Loved ones

Anne S. Newton • Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Newton, Jr.

Pat O'Neill • Clara and Tony Samsel

Meredith and John Park • Mrs. Everett Caughey

David A. Peeples • Rev. Robert and Elizabeth Bullock

Emily and David Peeples • Sarah and Bob Bullock
• Anne and Paul Smith

Dolores Perrine • Robert Perrine, my husband
• Michael DeFilippo, my son-in-law

Kris and Bruce Petersen • Dorothy Petersen
• Leroy and Pat Wiese

Kari and Hunter Peyton • Brad Ruhmann

Phyllis Pickard and family • John E. Pickard, beloved by family

Nancy Puckett • Dr. George Case
• Dr. Charlie Robinson

Nancy Rice • Nancy & Ashby Rice, my parents
• Kathy and Everett Lewis

Linda and Mark Rittenhouse • Dr. and Mrs. Norman H. Jacob, Jr.

Given by: In Memory of:

Ashley, Charles and Hunter • Dr. Charles Robinson

Cynthia Robinson • Dr. Charles Robinson
• Brad Ruhmann

Connie Rodriguez • My sister, Refugia (Ruth) Ketnic

Linda and Bill Ruhmann • Brad Ruhmann
• Dr. Charles Robinson

Jennifer and Frank Sammis • Lenora and Malcolm Norton
• Geraldine and Frank Sammis

Molly and Eric Schluter • Beverly 'Poppy' Slimp

Chad and Todd Smith • Cynthia, Bobette and Jack Denton

The Smith Family • Flo Pinson and Patsy Hutchison
• Mike McCann
• Jeff, Gdad and Bana Smith

Marie and Paul Smith • Anne and Paul Smith

Barbara Anne and Ken Stephens • Dr. George Case
• Our beloved granddaughter, Sarah

Suzanne and John Thomas • Thomas Burns
• Elaine and Carroll Thomas
• Hank Hadigian

Kathy Timberlake • Patricia & Martin Allday

Jane, Robert and Liam Warren • Spence Warren
• Bryan Warren

Jakey and Martin Weilbacher • Ruth and Emil Weilbacher
• Bueko and Bobby Price

Easter Lilies 2023

Given by: In Memory of:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Carol and David West | • Olive and Bond Davis |
| | • Margarite and W.G. West |
| His loving friends | • Hans White |
| Sidney and Kaye Wilkins | • Dr. George Case |
| Willie Willming | • Ed Willming with love |
| The Zbinden Children | • Rev. Dr. Louis H. Zbinden, Jr. |
| The Zbinden Grandchildren | • Louis Zbinden |

Given by: In Honor of:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Janet and Greg Anderson | • Elizabeth and William Anderson |
| | • Mrs. Sheila Figueroa |
| Michele and Jonathan Barker | • Our parents |
| Lynnda and Field Barnes | • Blaire and Brandon Briner and Bevyn |
| | • Our dinner 10 group |
| Mary and Mike Benedum | • Our children and grandchildren |
| Lecy and Tom Benke | • Jamie and Robert Benke |
| Ginger and Rick Brendler | • Kathy Serrano |
| The Bridges Class | • Tom Benke |
| Ann and Chuck Bunn | • Lillian Ann Lehr |
| | • Our Sunday School Class |

Given by: In Honor of:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Susan and Bill Chandler | • Family and friends |
| Circle 1/12 | • Grace Labatt and Suzanne Thomas |
| Myna Gathers | • In honor of Jake Carter and his election as Aggie yell leader. Isaiah 1:18 ... Your sins (and your cheerleader outfit) are white as snow. |
| Joella Gordon and Giselle | • Linda and Richard Delano |
| Lilly and Alan Gretzinger | • Lillian Ann Lehr |
| | • Janie and Jim Worth |
| Nona and Barry Hall | • Rev. Dr. Moore's KEYS Ministries |
| | • The Sanctuary Flower Committee |
| Mimi Hart | • My grandchildren |
| Robin and Clayton Hudnall | • The marriage of Caroline and Erinn |
| Paula and Clyde Johnson | • Our children and grandchildren |
| Agatha and Don Gross | • Nilsson Family |
| David, Sayers and Whitten | • Manette Owen |
| Emily Peeples | • My PBS Group |
| Her PBS Small Group | • Emily Peeples |
| Blair Perry | • Paige, Peyton and Ryan |

Easter Lilies 2023

Given by: In Honor of:

Kris and Bruce Petersen • Marlo Petersen
• Bryce, Caroline, James and Bridget Petersen
• Dane, Morgan & Hallie Petersen

Nancy Puckett • Glenn Puckett

Cynthia Robinson • My children and grandchildren

Jennifer and Frank Sammis • Julia Norton

Barbara Anne Stephens • My Pastor's Bible Study Group

Given by: In Honor of:

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Stephens • Pastors, staff, and their families

Sidney and Kaye Wilkins • Our pastors and staff

Their Life Group • Holly and David Youngquist

The Zbinden Children • Kip Zbinden

The Zbinden Grandchildren • Kip Zbinden



An Easter Thank You

It was a wonderful celebration of our Risen Lord and Savior at FPC on Easter Sunday. With over 1300 people joining us for our four services with 53 first-time visitors signing in, we were so thankful for the many greeters and ushers who welcomed and guided those in attendance. We are also grateful to the many Cookie Bakers who provided sweet treats throughout the morning and for the leadership of Meredith Park who ensured that we had hostesses in place to help welcome those who stopped in to visit with friends and family and for the fun scripture eggs provided for all of the children in attendance.



WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

May 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
MAY 15, 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
MAY 17, Third Wednesday, 1:00 pm, Room 228
- Circle 6 Jean Parsons, Chair (210-240-7483)
Members of Circle, Moderators
MAY 16, Third Tuesday, 1:30 pm, McCullough Room
- Circle 7 Mary Ellen Mauze, Chair & Moderator (210-844-5549)
MAY 16, Third Tuesday, 11:30 am, in member homes
Home of Shalimar Wallis, 735 Elizabeth Rd., 78209
- Circle 8 Nancy Turnbull, Chair (210-606-5420)
Members of Circle, Moderators,
Circle for mothers of young children
NO MAY MEETING, will resume in fall
- Circle 9 Grace Clouse, Co-Chair (734-718-7057)
Janice Wilson, Co-Chair (210-492-0333/210-260-4157)
Ann Smith, Moderator
MAY 16, Third Tuesday, 10:00 am, Breakfast Room
- Circle 11 Jean Swanson, Chair (210-826-0766)
Members of Circle, Moderators
MAY 22, Fourth Monday, 12:30 pm,
Home of Sonia Garcia, 22255 Morin Rd,
Von Ormy, TX, 210-300-2060
- Circle 13 Grace Clouse, Chair (734-718-7057)
LITERATURE CIRCLE
MAY 9, Second Tuesday, 1:00 pm, McCullough Room
- Circle 14 Karen Carawan, Chair (210-213-4589)
Suzie Simpson, Moderator
MAY 15, 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

President's Letter May 2023

As this year comes to a close, it is time to reflect upon all the wonderful opportunities that God has put before Women of the Church. It has been a year full of exciting ways to serve our church, our community and bring glory to our Lord and King.

We had a very busy year! We have held luncheons, evening nights out, hosted nursing home Christmas parties, and a Christmas Eve reception. We've baked lots and lots of cookies for church events, made many home-cooked meals for families with new babies or facing a struggle, and provided for needy families at Christmas. We've supported Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services and House of Neighborly Service. We have strived to make cross-generational connections within our growing church. We've studied the Bible together, and tried to be better servants of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is active and moving within us! The Lord equips those whom He calls, and He has gifted Women of the Church with amazing abilities. It will be exciting to see what God has in store for us

next year! Shelley Bass will be our wonderful new president, and we have an excellent slate of new officers to support her.

Our final event will be to host a **May Coffee on Wednesday, May 3rd**, which honors the past presidents of Women of the Church. All women are invited to attend (and bring a guest!) The past presidents will take turns serving the coffee to all guests. I hope that many of you will attend. It will be held at the home of Lellen Lane at 268 Geneseo Rd. Valet parking is available.

Thank you to all of you who have supported Women of the Church by attending our events and being involved in Circles or other activities. It's been a fantastic year!

In His Love,

Linda Delano

President, Women of the Church



KEYS

KEEPING EVERYONE YOUNG IN SPIRIT

Older Adult Ministry

fpcsanantonio.org/keys



KEYS Upcoming:

May 5 - Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager

May 12 - Susan Chandler Holy Land Trip

May 19 - Birthday Lunch at Comfort Cafe, cost is \$15 cash

May 26 - Memorial Day Speaker, Brig. Gen. Michael J. Sewell

All on site KEYS lunches begin with our speaker at 11:00 AM, followed by lunch at Noon. On-campus lunch cost is \$13, off-site 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.

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!!





FIRST CUP READINGS

MAY 2023

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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).

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

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