



FIRST PRESS

Order your Easter
Lilies this Lenten
Season *(See page 9)*

Several Mission
Trips Planned for
2024! *(See page 7)*

FEBRUARY 2024

Marriage Ministry planning
event in April!
(See page 13)

"A Praying Life" Seminar
coming in March for the
whole church!
(See page 12)

Women of the Church's
Spring Luncheon to focus
on youth in our city.
(See page 13)

**Men's Retreat 2024 was a
"Wild" Success at LoneHollow Ranch**
(See page 10)



Pastor's Article

What Will You Give Up... For Valentines Day?

REV. DR. BOB FULLER



Frequently, in pre-marital counseling, I will ask each member of the couple two questions. They are

Question 1: *"Name one habit or one thing about you that scares or drives your fiancé crazy (Perhaps messiness, smoking, spending money, sarcasm, etc.)"*

Question 2: *"Would it make your fiancé happier if you quit doing that? (see answer to question 1)"*

Usually after some interesting discussions about money, or music preferences, or personal hygiene, I ask, *"Why would you not change that? Why won't you give up that habit for her sake? Is that (habit) more important to you than he is?"*

The point of the exercise is to get the couple to ask "What, and who, is most important in my life? Is it this habit or my relationship with this person?"

It's something to think about this Valentine's Day: "what would you give up for that person you love?"

It's important for us to ask ourselves those same questions about God. What is most important in my life? Some habit? Some perceived right? Some position? Some goal? Or my relationship with God?

This year, the season of Lent begins on Valentine's Day—Ash Wednesday, February 14. I think that this is a providential conjunction—because both Lent and Valentine's Day are about relationship: Valentine's Day is about relationships we have with special people, and Lent is about the relationship we have with the Lord.

Lent is about Jesus moving from the fringes to the center. So often, we make Lent about novelty fasts—little things we give up as though anteing up in a game of poker. We give up a little chocolate, or meat, or soft drinks. Or, maybe we make a resolution to intensify the practice of some spiritual discipline—like prayer or fasting, or Bible study. All of these are good things, but they are not ends in themselves. The point of Lent is not to make you a better pray-er, or Biblical scholar or dedicated faster. The point of Lent is to move Jesus from the periphery of our lives to the center. It is for Him to move from the edge to the core. For forty days, we are asked to consider what it

would mean for us to invite Christ in from the fringes of our lives to the core.

Be aware. There are plenty of people who would prefer that Jesus stay on the fringes of their lives and ours. They don't want him getting too deep or too close—either with you or me. They'll warn us not to go overboard, or to keep our religion to ourselves.

No one wants to be kept out on the edges in a relationship. As long as faith is kept on the periphery of life, on the edges, on the fringes, it is already dead. Only when it takes over our hearts does it truly transform. John says "we love because he first loved us." Only when our passion for God consumes us does our passion for others begin to overflow.

Lent is a time for us to hit the reset button and declare that we live for God—not for the things that so often distract us. Paul wrote:

⁵ For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"—⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

CONTENTS

In preparation for Easter, the season of Lent reminds us that Jesus gave up everything for us. It reminds us that we cannot out-give God, and just when we think that God is asking too much or expecting too much of us, it reminds us that Jesus gave up everything for us. Philippians 2:6 says:

though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men and humbling himself even to the point of death on a cross.

Let Lent be a time for you to decide what is most important in your life, and for you to say, "there is nothing more important than the people in my life, and there is nothing more satisfying than God's love for me."

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bob



SAVE THE DATE

- 4-6** February & March Events and "At-A-Glance" List of Important Dates
- 7** Announcements & Missions Ministry

MINISTRY ARTICLES

- 8** Children's Ministry
- 9** Easter Lilies
- 10-11** Men's Retreat January 2024
- 12** A Praying Life Seminar
- 13** Coming Soon: Focus on Marriage & WOC Spring Luncheon
- 14-15** Women of the Church February Circles & Letter from President
- 16-17** KEYS February

FIRST CUP

- 18-19** Readings and Prayer List

BACK COVER

- 20** FPC Children's Center Fundraisers

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**

Edwin Stephens: **Media/AV Manager**

Robynn Amy: **Media/Production Specialist**

Nona Hall: **Volunteer Photographer**

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

Save the Date

February

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Young Adult Social - Spurs Watch Party

Time: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
 Location: McIntyre's North Star
 Contact: Christopher Roper,
christopherdavidroper@yahoo.com

Description: Come mingle with fellow young adults and watch the Spurs play. Invite new friends to experience our community! This is the first of three YAC social events for the semester.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

New Baby Brunch

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
 Location: Geneva Room
 Contact: Susan DeKoch, 210-508-7127

Description: The Children's Ministry Committee would like to welcome all of the babies that were born in 2023 with a "New Baby Brunch." Parents and 2023 babies, please come and enjoy brunch and fellowship as we get to know you and your new baby better. RSVP to Susan DeKoch.

Easter Lily Orders Begin

Dates: February 11 - March 18
 Location: 2nd Floor Workroom Mailbox

Description: Each year, the congregation has an opportunity to remember a loved one or honor an individual by purchasing an Easter lily (\$15), which is placed in the chancel for Easter Sunday. Order forms are available on [page 9](#), in the second floor workroom of the church, Mauzé Lobby, and online at fpcsanantonio.org/easter-lilies. Forms need to be returned to the Easter Lily mailbox in the workroom or mailed to the church by Monday, March 18 to meet the print deadlines for the Easter bulletins.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

February Literature Circle

Time: 1:30 PM (Social starts at 1:00 PM)
 Location: McCullough Room
 Contact: Grace Clouse, Chair,
grace.clouse42@gmail.com

Description: Continue celebrating the 50th anniversary year of FPC's Literature Circle with us as Morgan Fuller reviews "The Second Life of Mirielle West," written by Amanda Skenandore. Set in 1920s Louisiana and Los Angeles, a silent film star's wife finds her world shattered when she is quarantined at the Carville Lepers Home, leading to a story of courage and reinvention in this historically-based story from America's only leper colony. Visit fpcsanantonio.org/lit-circle.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Ash Wednesday Service

Time: 6:30 PM
 Location: Sanctuary
 Description: Join us February 14 for the launch of the Lenten season, with a special Ash Wednesday evening service in the FPC Sanctuary at 6:30 PM, and live online at fpcsanantonio.org. No Bible Studies that evening.

Pastor's Bible Study (PBS)

Not Meeting Ash Wednesday

Times: Wed. | 6:30 PM & Thurs. | 9:30 AM
 Location: Covenant Hall
 Contact: Sheila Figueroa, 210-226-0215
sheilaf@fpcsat.org

Break scheduled for 2/14 for Ash Wednesday Service (2/15 still meeting). Join Rev. Dr. Bob Fuller as we delve into Paul's letters to uncover his powerful doctrine, challenging teachings, personal reflections, practical advice, heartfelt prayers, and poetic expressions as an early pioneering pastor. You may also join us virtually via live stream through the FPC app or fpcsanantonio.org. Watch fpcsanantonio.org/pbs for weekly notes and discussion guides.

FEBRUARY 14 -MARCH 31

Stations of the Cross

Location: 2nd and 3rd floors of FPC
 Contact: Chris Scruggs, 210-620-3203
chrisscruggs@me.com

Description: The Stations of the Cross will be set up at various locations on the second and third floor of the church during Lent. Our FPC community is encouraged to visit all of the various stations as we prepare our hearts for Easter, remembering the love and sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. You can also participate online at fpcsanantonio.org/leat-prayer.

FRIDAY, FEB. 23 - SUNDAY, FEB. 25

High School Retreat

Time: Friday PM - Sunday PM
 Location: Camp Eagle, Rocksprings, TX
 Contact: Kyle Bowden, kyleb@fpcsat.org
 Kerri Napoli, kerrin@fpcsat.org
 Preston Miller, prestonm@fpcsat.org

Description: All students and friends of students grades 9-12 are invited to join us for a fun weekend for our annual Retreat! Activities will include team building exercises, good food and snacks, fellowship, and so much more. Registration at fpcsanantonio.org/youth.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Young Adult Gospel Community Gatherings

Dates: Feb. 26, Mar. 18, Apr. 22, & May 20
 Time: 6:30 PM – 8:25 PM
 Location: FPC Student Center (Downstairs)
 Contact: Carrie Everson, carrie@fpcsat.org

Description: Monthly Young Adult Gathering for YA's of all ages and stages. Dinner is served at 6:30 PM and program begins at 7:00 PM. Gathering will include teaching, food, fellowship, and fun!

GIFTS & TALENTS INVENTORY

Be a part of the congregational inventory of skills, resources, relationships, connections, and spiritual gifts the FPC family has to advance God's kingdom locally and globally. Understand your unique gifts and how you can serve for God's glory. Complete the FPC Gifts and Talents Inventory at fpcsanantonio.org/gifts-survey. For more information, please contact lindsays@fpcsat.org.

March

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

College Scholarship Application Deadline

Contact: Marianne Ryan, marianner@fpcsat.org

Description: Are you headed to or continuing college for the 2024-2025 school year? A resident of Texas? In need of financial assistance? Then you may qualify for a Campbell & Jones or Holland scholarship. Applications at fpcsanantonio.org/scholarships. The guidelines for eligibility and the required document submission are noted on the scholarship forms.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

~~CANCELLED: 53rd Annual William C. (Bill) Hall Pipe Organ Competition~~

Contact: Tom Dooling, 210-271-2717,
tomd@fpcsat.org

Description: The Pipe Organ Competition has been unfortunately cancelled for 2024 due to low participation. The Competition will resume next year on Saturday, March 1, 2025. Plan to come hear outstanding undergraduate and graduate organ students from around the state of Texas compete for prize money.

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

FPC Team World Vision participates in the Run the Alamo Marathon & Half-Marathon

Contact: Gordon Smith, gordons@servicetitlesa.com

Description: FPC Team World Vision is running in the Run the Alamo Marathon and Half-Marathon to raise money for clean water projects around the world. To find out more or donate, go to bit.ly/fpc-run-team.

MONDAY, MARCH 4

Women of the Church Spring Luncheon

Time: 11:30 AM
 Location: Westminster Hall
 Contact: Shelley Bass, 210-861-6996,
Bass.Shelley6@gmail.com

Description: All are invited to enjoy a delicious lunch and time for fellowship. Reservations are \$25. Sign up tables will be available on Sundays prior to the event. You can also make reservations online. Childcare is available by emailing childcare@fpcsat.org.

SUNDAY, MARCH 10**Daylight Saving Time - Spring Forward 1 Hour****FRIDAY, MARCH 22 - SATURDAY, MARCH 23****"A Praying Life" Seminar**

Time: Friday | 5:30 PM - 8:45 PM
 Saturday | 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
 Location: Westminster Hall
 Contact: Ginny Porrata, 210-508-5714
ginnyvan490@gmail.com

Description: The FPC Prayer Ministry invites you to strengthen your prayer life and deepen your relationships with God and others with a seminar based on the biblical principles of prayer as discussed in "A Praying Life." Additional information on [page 12](#). Register at fpcsanantonio.org/a-praying-life or at the table in the Mauzé Lobby on Sundays 2/25 - 3/10.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22 - SUNDAY, MARCH 24**Confirmation Retreat**

Location: Camp Buckner
 Contact: Kyle Bowden, kyleb@fpcsat.org

Description: For Confirmation students only.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24 - SUNDAY, MARCH 31**Holy Week 2024**

(*Historical service times, subject to change)

3/24 - Palm Sunday

- 9:30 AM Modern & Traditional Services
- 11:00 AM Modern & Traditional Services

3/28 - Maundy Thursday

- 6:30 PM Service

3/29 - Good Friday

- 12:00 PM Service

3/30 - Children's Easter Program

- 10:00 AM - See details in the next column

3/31 - Easter Sunday

- 6:45 AM Sunrise Service
- 8:00 AM Easter Service
- 9:30 AM Easter Service
- 11:00 AM Easter Service

SATURDAY, MARCH 30**Children's Easter Eggventure: The Hunt is On!**

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
 Room: Westminster Hall
 Contact: Rebecca Sweet, rebeccas@fpcsat.org

Description: All Children, Infants thru 5th grade, and their families are welcome to join FPC's Children's Ministry as we are "On the Hunt" for an Easter Eggventure! See [page 8](#) for more info.

UPCOMING 2024 DATES AT-A-GLANCE**March**

- Mar. 1: College Scholarship Application Deadline
- Mar. 2: 53rd Annual Bill Hall Pipe Organ Competition
- Mar. 3: FPC Team World Vision runs marathon
- Mar. 4: Women of the Church Spring Luncheon
- Mar. 10: Daylight Saving Time
- Mar. 22-23: "A Praying Life" Churchwide Seminar
- Mar. 22-24: Youth Confirmation Retreat
- Mar. 24: Palm Sunday
- Mar. 28: Maundy Thursday Service @ 6:30 PM
- Mar. 29: Good Friday Service @ 12:00 PM
- Mar. 30: Children's Easter Eggventure @ 10:00 AM
- Mar. 31: Easter Sunday

April

- Apr. 5: Joseph Haydn's "Creation" Concert @ 7:30 PM
- Apr. 7: DiscoverFirst! Class @ 12:15 PM
- Apr. 13: Focus on Marriage Event @ 10:00 AM
- Apr. 14: Confirmation Sunday
- Apr. 19-21: Love Reboot Marriage Weekend at FPC
- Apr. 21: KnowFirst! Class @ 8:30 AM
- Apr. 26: Church Closed for Battle of the Flowers Parade

May

- May 2: National Day of Prayer Walk
- May 5: Youth Sunday
- May 10: Youth 7-11 Evening
- May 10: FPC Children's Center Spring Fling Luau
- May 19: 5th Grade Graduation

June

- Jun. 1-8: Dominican Republic Mission Trip
- Jun. 13-24: Uganda Mission Trip
- Jun. 17-21: Vacation Bible School

July

- Jul. 13-20: High School Yucatan, Mexico Mission Trip

August

- Aug. 18: Kickoff Sunday
- Aug. 23: FPC Children's Center Golf Tournament

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Young Adult Community and 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 fpcsanantonio.org/gcgroups for a full list of groups.

Check out the FPC Library!

Our church library is blessed with over 14,000 volumes including fiction, nonfiction, biographies, reference, periodicals, and much more. The library is free to all covenant partners, adults and children alike.

Praying with the Ministers

Sign up at <https://bit.ly/pastor-prayer-spring24> to pray with the ministers ten minutes before each Traditional Service (9:20 AM and 10:50 AM) in the Robing Room (227). A short prayer with the Pastors starts when all are present or the pastor gives the go-ahead.

FPC Job Openings

We are currently seeking the following full-time positions. Details can be found at fpcsanantonio.org/jobs.

- Director of Emerging Adults (Young Adults) Ministries
- Assistant Director to Children & their Families



FPC MISSIONS

Please contact Lindsay Selli (lindsays@fpcsat.org) for more information about FPC Missions Trips & Ministry.

Connect with FPC Missions

Text "Missions" to 210-981-3339 to receive updates about ongoing and upcoming opportunities to connect and serve with our FPC Mission Partners. You may also visit fpcsanantonio.org/missions-serve.



LOCAL MISSIONS

Monthly Local Missions Service Opportunities

Love our city alongside our Local Mission Partners. Stay updated about how to participate—contact Lindsay Selli, visit our website at fpcsanantonio.org/missions-serve, and join our Missions Texting Alerts. February Preview: Love our Schools Month and KRL 5 Year Anniversary



GLOBAL MISSIONS

Summer 2024 Mission Mentorships

Do you feel that God might be inviting you into exploring how to use your gifts in cross-cultural missions service? We'd love to connect you with summer mentorship & internship opportunities through ECO, Josiah Venture, and more!

FPC SUMMER MISSION TRIPS 2024

Dominican Republic Mission Trip 2024

Dates: June 1-8

Contact: Carrie Everson, carriee@fpcsat.org
Danielle Couch,
Daniellem.couch@gmail.com

Description: Serving with Food for the Hungry in El Circadillo, Dominican Republic. Live in the community, build relationships, and serve alongside locals in community projects. Share faith through VBS, Gospel talks, and worship.

JUNE 13-24

Uganda Mission Trip 2024

Dates: June 13-24

Contact: Ellen Meadows, e.meadows@att.net
Mike Meadows, m_j_meadows@yahoo.com

Description: This team will connect and serve with FPC Global Mission Partners: Operation Uganda, EMI, and Rescue One More.

JULY 13-20

High School Yucatan, Mexico Mission Trip 2024

Dates: July 13-20

Contact: Kyle Bowden, kyleb@fpcsat.org

Description: Serve with The Yucatan Peninsula Mission (YPM) and Armor Ministries in Quintana Roo in Leona Vicario, Mexico. Share the hope of the gospel through construction projects, after-school VBS, sports ministry, and participating in worship at a local church.



FPC children's MINISTRY

**EASTER EGG-VENTURE
THE HUNT IS ON!**

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
IS ON THE HUNT FOR
CANDY DONATIONS!**

Help make the hunt great for our kids by donating
new, unopened candy by Sunday, March 24
to Rebecca or Heather in the Children's Ministry

Children's Ministry Sponsors Livestock for Families in Need

Thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed this year's Children's Ministry Western Pancake Breakfast. As part of our new initiative to raise funds for World Vision's Livestock Donation Program, we are proud to celebrate that we are able to provide one milk cow, one goat, and two chickens to families in need around the world!




FPC children's MINISTRY

**EASTER EGG-VENTURE
THE HUNT IS ON!**

**March 30, 2024
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Westminster Hall**

**For Infants thru 5th Grade & Their Families
Bring a Friend & Your Easter Basket!**

For more info, please contact rebeccas@fpcsat.org

"SEEK AND YOU WILL FIND." - MATTHEW 7:7

[illegible]

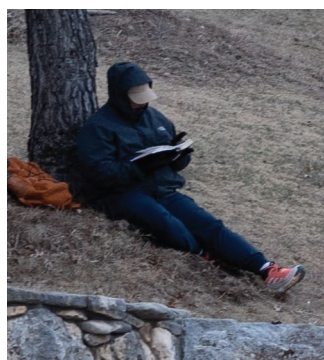
If you are considering giving flowers for the Sunday traditional services, the names of the flower committee are listed below. You may call them for information for the month you desire. Telephone numbers are in the church directory. It is never too early to reserve the Sunday you prefer, so please call 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.

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

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, TX 78205-1918, or placed in the Sanctuary Flower mailbox in the workroom. **Requests received later than March 18, 2024 will miss the insert printing deadline.**

Men's Retreat January 2024

The second annual Men's Retreat of First Presbyterian took place at LoneHollow Ranch in Vanderpool, Texas. The weekend focused on men strengthening their bonds, delving into their faith, and sharing testimonies. The retreat, led by Glenn Austell from Lubbock Young Life, featured various activities such as pickleball, hiking, fishing, ranch limo rides, a polar plunge and campfire gatherings, providing an ideal backdrop for the weekend.





A PRAYING LIFE

Seminar

LEARNING TO PRAY IN A DISTRACTING WORLD

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, MARCH 22-23, 2024

First Presbyterian Church of San Antonio | Westminster Hall

Contact Ginny Porrata with questions: ginnyvan490@gmail.com or 210-508-5714

Many of us are quietly discouraged in our private prayer lives. We've tried praying, but it just doesn't seem to work. So we feel a combination of frustration and guilt. In this seminar, we will learn step-by-step how to begin a private life of prayer in fellowship with our heavenly Father. This seminar is not just for victorious Christians, but Christians who often find themselves defeated in the trenches. It deals with such practical questions as...

- How do you stay focused when you are distracted with so much to do? How do you pray longer than five minutes?
- How do you pray when your own life is messed up?
- How do you ask when you've tried it before and it doesn't work?

KEY ELEMENTS TO LEARN WITH PRAYER

- Learn to talk like a child to your Father in heaven.
- Prayer as relationship • Problems in prayer
- Prayer as conversation • Prayer as tension

SEMINAR LEADER

After reading *A Praying Life* years ago, Adam Barker began to see a new chapter unfolding in God's story. He engaged in a Pastor's Cohort and continued to grow in his realization that coming to God helpless was freeing. It changed the way, not just how he prayed, but how he did ministry, how he saw people, and how he poured into leaders. After 22 years of being a pastor, he now serves full-time with "A Praying Life Ministries" as the Southwest Coordinator, and loves to pour into people and pastors. He is married to his high school sweetheart, Mandy, and they love sharing life with their three teenagers and one needy golden retriever in Texas.

COST & REGISTRATION

- \$20/per person
- Cost includes materials, dinner, continental breakfast and refreshments.
- Childcare provided (please indicate your needs when registering).
- Scholarships available
- Register at <https://bit.ly/FPC-praying-life24> or scan the QR Code.



SCHEDULE

- FRIDAY, MARCH 22
5:30 PM Check in & Dinner
6:00 - 8:45 PM Seminar
- SATURDAY, MARCH 23
8:00 AM Continental Breakfast
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM Seminar



"The 'A Praying Life Seminar' is the most practical training in prayer possible. I highly recommend it."

- Tim Keller

Redeemer Presbyterian Church, NYC

a *see Jesus*® seminar

FPC MARRIAGE MINISTRY PRESENTS

Focus
ON MARRIAGE

WITH REDEMPITIVE PARENTING'S

KRISTEN & PETE HATTON



Saturday, April 13, 2024 • 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
First Presbyterian Church • Westminster Hall

Get ready for encouragement and direction on how we do marriage as Christians today!

Sessions from Rev. Pete Hatton & author Kristen Hatton on *"Biblical Marriage Today"* & *"Marriage and Parenting"* along with Breakout Sessions *"For Men Only"* and *"For Women Only."*

RSVP for this FREE event at fpcsanantonio.org/marriage
Email childcare@fpcsat.org to reserve free childcare

Women of the Church

Spring Luncheon

**"Loving The Youth in Our City: Understanding Their World
& How to Connect Them to Christ"**

featuring

Gilbert Hernandez, CEO South Texas Youth for Christ | Annie Mays, Associate Regional Director for Young Life in South Texas
Kyle Bowden, FPC Director to Youth & their Families

Monday, March 4, 2024 • 11:30 AM (Doors open at 11:00 AM)

First Presbyterian Church • Westminster Hall

\$25 Reservations Required

Online at fpcsanantonio.org/woc-lunch or the Sunday morning table in
Mauzé Lobby or contact JudyKruger@sbeglobal.net or 210-857-0122

(Scholarships Available)

Childcare available by emailing childcare@fpcsat.org

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Feb. 2024

Circle Schedule and Chairs & Bible Moderators



Lynn and Janet



Pat and Ellen

- Circle 1/12** Suzanne Thomas, Chair (210-846-3240)
Grace Labatt, Moderator
February 19, Third Monday, 11:30 am,
Geneva Room (lunch optional)
- Circle 5** Kay Weber, Co-Chair (210-288-5290)
Mary Fruge-Medford, Co-Chair (210-823-7054)
SHAWL MINISTRY
February 21, Third Wednesday, 1:00 pm, Room 228
- Circle 6** Jean Parsons, Chair (210-240-7483)
Members of Circle, Moderators
February 20, Third Tuesday, 1:30 pm, McCullough Room
- Circle 7** Mary Ellen Mauze, Chair & Moderator (210-844-5549)
February 20, Third Tuesday, 11:30 am, at PCHAS
Tour and Meeting
- Circle 8** Susan DeKoch, Coordinator (210-508-7127)
Members of Circle, Moderators,
Circle for mothers of young children
February 18, Third Sunday, 5:00-7:00 pm, Cappy's Home
- Circle 9** Grace Clouse, Co-Chair (734-718-7057)
Janice Wilson, Co-Chair (210-260-4157)
Ann Smith, Moderator
February 20, Third Tuesday, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm,
Breakfast Room
- Circle 11** Jean Swanson, Chair (210-826-0766)
February 26, Fourth Monday, 12:30 pm,
Home of Karin Gabrielson, 129 W. Wildwood Dr, 78212
- Circle 13** Grace Clouse, Chair (734-718-7057)
LITERATURE CIRCLE
February 13, Second Tuesday, 1:00 pm, McCullough Room
Book Review: *The Second Life of Mirielle West* by Amanda
Skenandore Reviewed by Morgan Fuller
- Circle 14** Karen Carawan, Chair (210-213-4589)
Suzie Simpson, Moderator
Studying *Ten Women of the Bible*,
One by One They Changed the World
February 5, First Monday, 12:00 pm, St. Andrews Room
(meal with reservation)
- Circle 18** Char-An Witten, Chair (210-341-1856)
Pat Brodeen, Email Contact for members (pat@brodeen.com,
210-383-3083)
CIRCLE OF CONCERN - Members set up, serve, and clean
up for memorial receptions.
(Small home baked cookies are always appreciated for
receptions)
- Circle 20** Muffin Camp, Co-Chair (210-789-1808) Mary Ann Smith,
Co-Chair (817-933-9124)
CIRCLE OF SERVICE - volunteers to make/take meals or
snacks when needed.

President's Letter Feb. 2024

"For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building." - 1 Corinthians 3:9

What a wonderful year this is for The Women of The Church! With continued opportunities for Circle Bible studies, service and fellowship, the months are moving along quickly. How can it already be February?

Thank you to everyone who attended "Ladies Night Out." This is always a festive evening with delicious food, door prizes and good conversations enjoyed by all. I so appreciate the planning and organizing by Jill Peavy and her committee of Ellen Meadows, Sabrina Rios, Alison McLean Thomas and Savannah Schatte and all they did hosting this memorable time.

The next event on the calendar is The Women of The Church Spring Luncheon on Monday, March 4. A trio of speakers including Annie Mays, Associate Regional Director for Young Life in South Texas, Gilbert Hernandez, CEO for South Texas Youth for Christ and Kyle Bowden, First Presbyterian Church's Director to Youth and Their Families will be speaking on "Loving The Youth in Our City." These three dedicated speakers have much to share about their work with children and young people throughout the community. Please note the invitation on [page 13](#) with further details on registration. Save the date and plan to join us!

For all these WOC happenings, it takes many friends working together to get the job done!

It also takes many WOC Officers who work behind the scenes to keep WOC organized and efficient. A special recognition goes to:

Janet Pritchett (Recording Secretary) for keeping a record of the year with precise meeting minutes; Ellen Frazier (Treasurer) for carefully handling the financials; Lynn Thompson (Parliamentarian) for ensuring meetings are orderly and bylaws are followed; Janet Wernli (Church Officer Nominating Committee) for representing WOC in this important work; Pat Brodeen (VP of Circles) for staying up to date with Circles; Nancy Gerfers and Chaney Stuart (Corresponding Secretaries) for writing thoughtful notes; Sheila Figueroa (VP for New Covenant Partners) for welcoming those new to the church and Meredith Park (VP for Directory) for keeping contact info current and accurate.

I am very thankful to these dear friends for giving of their time and talents and keeping the WOC ministry vibrant, strong and involved in the life of First Presbyterian!

If you have been wanting to visit a Circle for Bible study, knitting, book reviews or service, you are always welcome! Attached is the February schedule and please contact me or the Circle Chair listed with any questions.

In Christ Alone!

Shelley Bass

President, Women of the Church
Bass.Shelley6@gmail.com



Nancy



Sheila



Janet

KEYS

KEEPING EVERYONE YOUNG IN SPIRIT

fpcsanantonio.org/keys



Last month we got off to a great start. We all enjoyed Hamburgers & a Movie, featuring the Drama/Documentary Jesus Revolution. Grimaldi's Pizza at the Alamo Quarry Market was a great lunch. Rev. Dr. Ron Scates shared great stories.

We look forward to more great things coming in February. Ambassadors from the San Antonio Rodeo will be with us on February 2. We will experience the ministry of the Threshold Choir, who visit patients on hospice, on February 9. Our

favorite, Rick Cavender and his band, will be in concert on February 16. February 23 will be our Birthday lunch at the Menger.

February 2 and 9 will begin at 11:00 AM with our guests, and lunch will be served at Noon. On February 16, the doors will open at 10:30 AM and the concert will begin at 11:00 AM. Lunch will be served immediately following.

Birthday Lunch at the Menger will begin at 11:30 AM. A shuttle from FPC will leave at 11:00 AM.



Rev. Dr. Joe Moore

Assistant Pastor for Older Adults and
Congregational Care

All onsite 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 at 210-226-0215, or emailing keys@fpcsat.org.

KEYS Upcoming:

February 2024

- Feb. 2 - Rodeo Ambassadors
- Feb. 9 - Threshold Choir
- Feb. 16 - Rick Cavender Concert
- Feb. 23 - The Menger

More KEYS Dates 2024

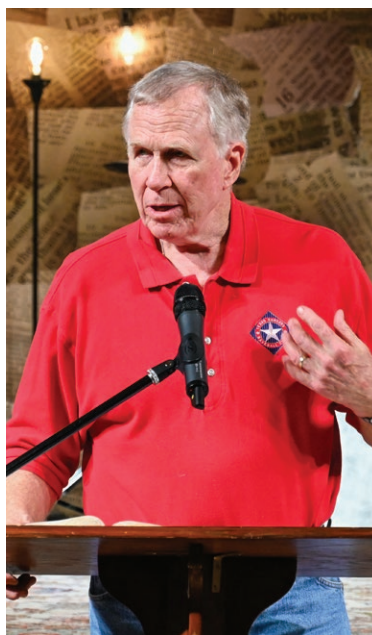
- Mar. 1 - Snack Pak 4 Kids
- Mar. 15 - Birthday Lunch
- Mar. 29 - No Keys / Good Friday
- Apr. 5 - Miles Pike Concert
- Apr. 19 - King Antonio Visit
- Apr. 26 - No KEYS / Battle of Flowers

Friday Fitness

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

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!





FIRST CUP READINGS

FEBRUARY, 2024

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 James 4:13-17; Matthew 6:34; Proverbs 3:27-28; 16:9; 19:21; 27:1; Psalm 139
- 2 James 5:1-6; Leviticus 19:9-13; 24:14-15; Matthew 6:19-21; Hebrews 11:24-26
- 3 James 5:7-12; Job 1:1-2:10; 42; Romans 12:6-21

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, that calls me from a world of care. And bids me at my Father's throne, makes all my wants and wishes known! In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief, and oft escaped the tempter's snare, By Thy return, sweet hour of prayer. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, Thy wings shall my petition bear to Him whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless: And since He bids me seek His face, believe His Word and trust His grace, I'll cast on Him my every care, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer. (Worship in Song, #475)

- 4 James 5:13-20; 1 Kings 17; 2 Kings 4:1-37; Acts 9:36-43; Romans 8:26-28
- 5 1 Peter 1; 1 Chronicles 29:15; Psalm 39:12; Hebrews 13:13-16; Ephesians 2:1-13
- 6 1 Peter 2:1-12; 1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 6:19; Psalm 65:1-4
- 7 1 Peter 2:13-3:22; Ephesians 5:22-6:9; Romans 13
- 8 1 Peter 4; Philippians 1:27-30; Revelation 2:10
- 9 Jeremiah 10:21; 23:1-4; Matthew 9:36; John 10:1-18; 1 Peter 5
- 10 Matthew 17:1-8; 2 Peter 1; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Psalm 119:105; 2 Corinthians 4:6

The whole world was lost in the darkness of sin; The Light of the world is Jesus. Like sunshine at noonday His glory shone in: The Light of the world is Jesus. No darkness have we who in Jesus abide; The Light of the world is Jesus. We walk in the Light when we follow our Guide; the Light of the world is Jesus. Come to the Light; 'tis shining for thee. Sweetly the Light has dawned upon me. Once I was blind, but now I can see. The Light of the world is Jesus. (Worship in Song, #96)

- 11 2 Peter 2; Hebrews 6:4-6
- 12 Ezekiel 12:21-28; 2 Peter 3; 2 Corinthians 6:1-2
- 13 1 John 1:2-14; Matthew 5:14-16; John 3:19-21; 8:12; 12:35-50
- 14 1 John 2:15-27; John 15:1-17; Titus 2:11-14
- 15 1 John 2:28-3:24; Psalm 119:1-16; 66:16-20; Romans 8:1-17

- 16 1 John 4:1-6; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; Matthew 7:15-20; 2 Peter 2:1-3
- 17 1 John 4:7-21; Romans 12:9-21; 1 Corinthians 13

My Father is rich in houses and lands; He holdeth the wealth of the world in His hands! Of rubies and diamonds, of silver and gold, His coffers are full- He has riches untold. I once was an outcast stranger on earth, A sinner by choice, an alien by birth! But I've been adopted; my name's written down. I'm heir to a mansion, a robe, and a crown! A child of the King! A child of the King! With Jesus, my Saviour, I'm a child of the King! (Worship in Song, # 377)

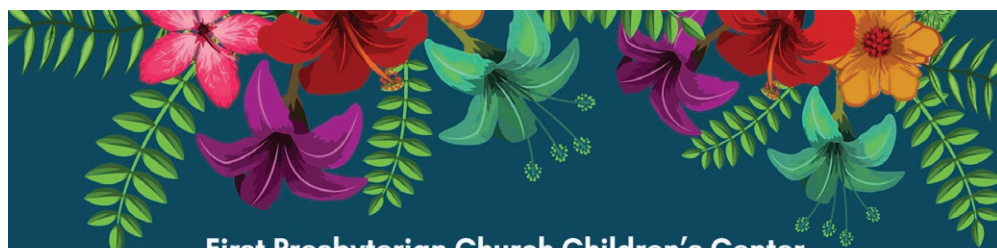
- 18 1 John 5; Jeremiah 7:1-29; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32; James 5:13-20
- 19 2 John; Romans 16:17-20; Colossians 1:21-23; 2:6-8; Hebrews 10:35-38
- 20 3 John; Romans 12:13; 1 Timothy 5:9-10; 1 Peter 4:8-10; Philemon 8-22
- 21 Jude; John 10:1-18; Psalm 23
- 22 Mark 1:1-13; Matthew 4:1-11; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15; 1 Peter 5:8; Romans 16:20
- 23 Mark 1:14-20; Luke 4:43; 17:20-21; Luke 5:1-11; John 1:35-51; Matthew 10:37-39
- 24 Mark 1:21-45; Luke 4:14-44; John 20:29-31; 1 Peter 1:3-16

Tell me the story of Jesus, Write on my heart every Word; Tell me the story most precious, sweetest that ever was heard. Tell how the angels in chorus, Sang as they welcomed His birth, "Glory to God in the highest! Peace and good tidings to earth. " Fasting alone in the desert, Tell of the days that are past; How for our sins He was tempted, Yet was triumphant at last. Tell of the years of His labor, tell of the sorrow He bore, He was despised and afflicted, homeless, rejected and poor. Tell me the story of Jesus, Write on my heart every Word. Tell me the story most precious, Sweetest that ever was heard.(Baptist Hymnal, #211)

- 25 Mark 2:1-17; Jeremiah 29:13; Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Psalm 91
- 26 Mark 2:18-3:6; Exodus 20:8-10; Jeremiah 17:19-27; Matthew 5:17-20
- 27 Mark 3:7-34; Matthew 12:22-37; Romans 8:12-17; Galatians 3:26-29
- 28 Mark 4:1-34; Matthew 13:24-30
- 29 Mark 4:35-41; Matthew 13:31-33; Romans 8:18-30

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. (Romans 8:26).

www.fpcsanantonio.org



First Presbyterian Church Children's Center

7th Annual Spring Fling Luau!

Cash Bar ♦ Silent & Live Auction ♦ Dinner

FRIDAY, MAY 10TH, 2024 ♦ 6:30PM-10:00PM
MAGNOLIA GARDENS, 2030 N. MAIN AVE. SATX 78212

Registration Coming Soon!



FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2024

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHILDREN'S CENTER

GOLF TOURNAMENT

[FPCSANANTONIO.ORG/FPCC-GOLF](https://fpcsanantonio.org/fpcc-golf)

Get ready to tee off at FPCC's First Annual Golf Tournament at the Olmos Basin Golf Course

7022 McCullough Ave, San Antonio, TX 78216

REGISTRATION

INDIVIDUAL

\$ 250

4 PERSON TEAM

\$1000



DEADLINE IS 8/16/2024

Join us for a day of fun and friendly competition on the greens as we raise funds to support First Presbyterian Church San Antonio Children's Center!

- ✓ 7:45 AM Check-In/8:30 AM Shotgun Start
- ✓ Hamburger Lunch w/Drink Ticket Included with price
- ✓ Prizes

CONTACT:

Colby Prichard, Golf Tournament Chair
Forefpcc@fpcsat.org, 615-420-0769

FPC Children's Center, 210-225-0960



First Presbyterian
CHURCH OF SAN ANTONIO

LOVING CHRIST.
LOVING ONE ANOTHER.
LOVING THE CITY.

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



@fpcsanantonio



First Presbyterian Church SATX



@First Pres & @fpcsanantonio



CONNECT WITH US!

Interested in receiving the First Press magazine digitally? Want to get the weekly newsletter email?

Sign-Up at:
www.fpcsanantonio.org/comm-connect

Download the free
FPC San Antonio App

