



FIRST PRESS

Concerts,
Fiesta, &
More! April
& May Dates
(pages 4-7)

Focus on Marriage
Event with Guests from
Redemptive Parenting!
(page 22)

APRIL 2024

FPC Honors & Memorializes Loved Ones with Easter Lilies & Sunday Flowers

(See Flowers at First on page 10 & Lilies on page 18)

FPC Serves! Check out our Local & Global Missions Opportunities

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New Babies at FPC!

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Looking Back-Looking Ahead

2023 Year-End Celebration Report

(See feature article on pages 12-17)

Pastor's Article

Hope for Silent Saturday?

REV. DR. BOB FULLER

“Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!”

Last year, after Easter services, a gentleman came to me with an interesting question. He said, *“Jesus had the last supper on Thursday, died on Friday, and rose from the dead on Sunday. What happened Saturday?”*

That’s a great question. Officially, the Saturday between Good Friday and Easter Sunday is called “Holy Saturday.” It commemorates the day when Jesus Christ’s body lay in the tomb after his crucifixion. It serves as a bridge between the sorrow of Good Friday and the joy of Easter Sunday, emphasizing themes of waiting, anticipation, and hope.

Even though the Bible tells us a lot about what happened on Good Friday and Easter Sunday, the Gospels are silent about “what happened” on Holy Saturday. On Friday, Jesus told the thief next to him that he would be with him in paradise, and when he died, his body was buried in a tomb. People have argued that Peter gives us a hint that Jesus went to the place of the dead to proclaim the gospel of light to saints of old:

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, (I Peter 3:18-19)

However, Biblical scholars have argued about the meaning of these



words for centuries. (This is one of the verses that inspired the insertion of the phrase, *“He descended into hell,”* into the Apostle’s Creed.)

I have come to think about “Holy Saturday” as “Silent Saturday,” and each year I get more and more curious about what God was doing during that “silent” time.

When Jesus died, the whole world went dark for three hours. And then from that evening through Saturday, the disciples hid in fear while everyone else’s lives went back to normal. But, even though the Lord was quiet, I believe that God was up to something.

When a seed is planted in the ground, we lose sight of it but we know that there is a lot going on under the soil. Even as Jesus lay in the tomb, the seeds of resurrection were watered. In the stillness of the grave, God was preparing to bring forth new life and the proof is the Resurrection.

In the same way, I believe that

the Lord is at work in the *silent seasons* of our lives. A *silent season* is that time following some type of suffering—a season of confusion following a tragedy, crisis, humiliation, or a death. The *silent seasons* are the times when it seems God is silent and the world has gone dark. We have prayed but have not yet received an answer; after we have suffered and still don’t have relief; when we are afraid for ourselves or the people we love and don’t know what to do. We are hurting, but everyone else goes on with business as usual.

But the Resurrection on Easter Sunday shows us that God is at work even during Silent Saturdays, and the good news is that the Lord is moving in the world, in our lives, in the church, and in the lives of the people we love even when we can’t see or hear what he is doing.

The Bible tells us that in the early days of the church, the Lord was moving ahead of the apostles invisibly, preparing the soil for the seed of the gospel to be received.

Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you... (2 Th 3:1).

In the same way, I believe that God the Holy Spirit is moving ahead of us --preparing, working, loving and answering prayer.

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We believe in the promises of God, and that He is faithful, but we are waiting for those promises to be fulfilled. On Easter Sunday, it gave us hope for Silent Saturdays. The Lord not only raised Jesus from the dead, He gave us proof that He is the God who keeps his promises.

Easter Sunday gives us the hope we need on Silent Saturday. There may be a lot of time between pain and relief. There may be a lot of time between the prayer we pray for someone and the time we see God's answer. But that doesn't mean that Jesus isn't working behind the scenes and beneath the surface.


Do we believe that our God brings new life from death—that the Lord is always at work, even when we can't see what he is doing? Do we believe, as Isaiah wrote, that the Lord will give his people

... a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified. (Is 61:3)

Holy Saturday is a day of hope, because it is a time for us to remember that even in our darkest moments, God is present, working out his redemptive purposes. Does your life feel more like Crucifixion Friday, Silent Saturday, or Resurrection Sunday? **Do we believe that Friday was the end or do we believe that He is working on Saturday and that new life is coming on Sunday?**

*Praise the Lord for His death on Friday
Praise the Lord for His resurrection on Sunday
And praise the Lord for His work we can't see on Saturday.*

Christ is Risen!



SAVE THE DATE

- 4-7** Concerts, Fiesta, and More: April & May Events and "At-A-Glance" List of Additional Important Dates

MINISTRY ARTICLES

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FIRST CUP

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BACK COVER

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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 & Sadie Garza: **Media/Production Specialists**

Nona Hall: **Volunteer Photographer**

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

Save the Date

April

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

FPC Sanctuary Choir, soloists, & orchestra present Joseph Haydn's "Creation" in concert

Times: 7:00 PM
 Location: FPC Sanctuary
 Contact: Tom Dooling, 210-271-2717,
tomd@fpcsat.org

Description: Our choir and orchestra present Haydn's musical retelling of the Genesis "Creation" story through choral music, solos, and instrumental music.

Middle School Youth Event

Times: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
 Location: Off Campus
 Contact: Kyle Bowden, kyleb@fpcsat.org
 Kerri Napoli, kerrin@fpcsat.org
 Preston Miller, prestonm@fpcsat.org

Description: Grades 6-8, join us for a fun night!

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Interested in Joining? DISCOVER First Pres!

Times: 12:15 - 2:00 PM
 Contact: Sheila Figueroa, 210-226-0215,
sheilaf@fpcsat.org

Description: Interested in joining FPC as a Covenant Partner (member)? There are two required classes offered each season. Spring 2024 includes DiscoverFPC! on April 7 (light lunch will be provided) and KnowFPC! on April 21. More information and registration at fpcsanantonio.org/register-discover-fpc.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

April Literature Circle

Time: 1:30 PM | Social at 1:00 PM
 Location: Westminster Hall

Description: FPC Literature Circle will continue their 50th Anniversary with "Valley of Shadows," by Rudy Ruiz and reviewed by the author. Visit fpcsanantonio.org/lit-circle for more info.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

Online Prayer with Global Missions Partners

Time: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
 Location: Zoom

Description: Join the FPC Virtual Prayer Room on April 10 during the lunch hour. Register online this uplifting hour of prayer at fpcsanantonio.org/virtual-prayer-room for the Zoom link. Connect with FPC Global Mission partners and experience the power of prayer together. Come lift each other in prayer and witness God's amazing works.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

The Gray Havens Tour Concert at FPC

Time: Doors Open 7:00 PM | Concert 7:30 PM
 Location: Westminster Hall

Join us at FPC for The Gray Havens 10-Year Anniversary Tour featuring Antoine Bradford, sponsored by the International Justice Mission. Visit bit.ly/gray-havens-fpcsatx24 for \$30 advance tickets, \$40 at the door. VIP packages available for purchase separately. For more information about IJM, visit www.ijm.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Focus on Marriage Event with Redemptive Parenting's Kristen & Pete Hatton

Time: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 Location: Westminster Hall
 Contact: Downie Mickler,
downie.mickler@gmail.com

Description: Event focused on marriage with Kristen and Pete Hatton. Kristen is a Christian counselor, writer, and speaker, while Pete is the Family Minister at Park Cities Presbyterian Church. They will share their wisdom and ignite excitement in our marriages, covering topics such as Christian marriage today and the intersection of parenting and marriage. RSVP for lunch at fpcsanantonio.org/focus-on-marriage. Email childcare@fpcsat.org to reserve free childcare for the event (please pack a lunch for children). See more information on [page 22](#).

High School Group Dinner

Times: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
 Location: Off Campus
 Contact: Kyle Bowden, kyleb@fpcsat.org
 Preston Miller, prestonm@fpcsat.org

Description: Studentd, grades 9-12, join us for a fun night!

SUNDAYS, APRIL 7 & 14

FPC FIESTA MEDAL ON SALE NOW

The 2024 FPC Fiesta medal is in and features another of the church's beautiful stained glass windows. Pick yours up at the Front Desk for \$10 this Sunday and next (if we don't sell out the first Sunday.)

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Confirmation Sunday

Time: 9:30 AM Traditional Service

Location: Sanctuary

Contact: Kyle Bowden, kyleb@fpcsat.org

Description: Confirmation Students will be recognized during Worship.

2nd Sunday Young Adult Lunch

Time: 12:30 PM

Location: Ready Market, 203 8th St, 78215

Contact: Chris Roper,
christopherdavidroper@yahoo.com

Description: Every 2nd Sunday, walk or drive over to Make Ready Market food hall to share lunch and fellowship. See you there! Text "YAC" to 210-981-3339 to join the YAC texting group.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

Women of the Church Ladies' Night Out Fiesta

Time: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Location: Home of Sharon Seal, 134 Cave Ln., 78209

Contact: Jill Peavy, 210-667-0525

Description: All FPC women are invited to fiesta with friends at the spring Women of the Church Ladies Night Out. Wear your favorite fiesta garb, grab a friend, and join us for a fun night of food and fellowship. See the invitation on [page 24](#) for more information. Sign up online at fpcsanantonio.org/lno-rsvp or in Mauzé Lobby on Sundays.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19 - SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Love Reboot: Marriage Repair Weekend

Time: Friday – Saturday | 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sunday | 1:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Room: FPC Student Center

Description: Rekindle love and intimacy with your spouse by investing in a weekend specifically designed for couples facing distance and conflict, offering the best opportunity to mend what is broken. Visit www.growinglovenetwork.org/courses for registration and more information.

MONDAY, APRIL 22

Young Adult's Fiesta River Parade

Times: 6:30 PM

Location: FPC Ave E Parking Lot

Contact: Chris Roper,
christopherdavidroper@yahoo.com

Carrie Everson, carrie@fpcsat.org

Description: For those who purchased tickets, meet at FPC Ave E Parking Lot at 6:30 PM sharp to walk over to the River.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 26-27

Fiesta Office Closure & Parking

Church offices will be closed Friday, April 26, for the Battle of the Flowers holiday. Offices will reopen Monday, April 29. The Parking Management Company will be selling parking spaces in our large lot on a first-come, first-serve basis on Friday and Saturday, April 26 - 27. Proceeds from these days will go to support our mission partners that fight human trafficking, so we encourage everyone to purchase a spot in our lot if you will be downtown for the parades!

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

Baptism Seminar for Child/Infant Baptisms

Time: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Location: Room 108

Contact: Heather Beltrame, heatherb@fpcsat.org

Description: Mandatory for parents of infants or children seeking to be baptized at FPC, our next seminar is on April 28 with the other two 2024 seminar dates on June 2 & September 8. Visit fpcsanantonio.org/baptism for more information on baptisms at FPC. To schedule a baptism, or for more information about infant, child, or adult baptisms, contact Heather Beltrame.

May

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

University Ministries Pizza and Redbulls!

Time: 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
 Location: Trinity University Coates Library
 Contact: Ben Henderson, 210-845-3845,
benh@fpcsat.org

Description: Join us for an evening of pizza, Red Bulls, and fellowship with our university ministry!

THURSDAY, MAY 2

National Day of Prayer & Prayer Walk

Time: 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM
 Location: Meet at Avenue E entrance to FPC
 Contact: Eva Eckburg, 210-488-1939,
eva.eckburg@yahoo.com

Description: Please pray for the USA on the National Day of Prayer. You are also invited to a short prayer service then walk to Travis Park for prayers, then on to Main Plaza for National Day of Prayer at 11:30 AM as we worship and lift our prayers for San Antonio and the nation. See more information on [page 11](#).

SUNDAY, MAY 5

Youth Sunday

Time: 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM
 Ages: Open to all students grade 6-12
 Contact: Kyle Bowden, kyleb@fpcsat.org
 Preston Miller, prestonm@fpcsat.org

Description: 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.

Women's Faith Gathering

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
 Contact: Marti Seal, 210-360-9796

Description: All generations of women are invited to attend this casual evening at a member's home (location TBD). Speakers will share their faith stories—why they love Jesus and the impact he has made in their lives!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

Women of the Church May Coffee

Time: 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
 Location: Home of Laura Zachry
 334 Geneseo Rd, San Antonio 78209
 Contact: Mary Ann Randolph,
maryannrandolph.randolph@gmail.com

Description: Join us as we celebrate and honor the past presidents of Women of the Church with a coffee at the beautiful home of Laura Zachry. Delicious refreshments will be served, and donations will be accepted toward FPC Mission Partners. Valet parking will be available. Free registration coming soon at fpcsanantonio.org/women.

The Center presents:

Lunch featuring Katie McCoy

Time: 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
 Location: Westminster Hall
 Contact: Marianne Ryan, marianner@fpcsat.org

Description: Join us for a thought-provoking event hosted by The Center for Theological Study & Discipleship, at Westminster Hall, First Presbyterian Church of San Antonio. We are excited to feature author and speaker Katie McCoy who will be discussing the Biblical Perspective on Human Sexuality and Gender Identity.

Katie McCoy serves as Director of Women's Ministry at Texas Baptists. She holds a PhD in Systematic Theology from Southwestern Seminary (TX), where she served on faculty for five years. Katie's research includes the patterns of justice for women in Old Testament laws as well as the intersection of theology, gender, and women's studies. She is a frequent speaker and writer on women's and gender issues. She is the author of *To Be a Woman: The Confusion Over Female Identity and How Christians Can Respond* and contributes to World News Group (WNG).

FPC JOB OPENING

We are currently seeking a Young Adults Director & Assistant Youth Directors for Middle School & High School. Details can be found at fpcsanantonio.org/jobs.

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.

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024**FPC Children's Center Fundraiser****7th Annual Spring Fling Luau**

Time: 6:30 PM – 10:00 PM

Location: Magnolia Gardens, 2030 N. Main Ave, 78212

Contact: Ellie Escamilla, amyl@fpcsat.org

Description: Join us for the FPC Children's Center's 7th Annual Spring Fling Luau. Enjoy time together bidding on fun auctions, and a delicious dinner with cash bar. Visit bit.ly/fpcc-spring-fling-24 for tickets and sponsorship. Tickets are \$50 per individual or \$400 per table. Sponsor a teacher's continuing education for \$50. Get ready to have fun while supporting our preschool!

Middle School Youth 7-11

Time: 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM

Location: FPC

Contact: Kyle Bowden, kyleb@fpcsat.org
Preston Miller, prestonm@fpcsat.org

Description: Join us for free food, games, fellowship, and fun... all 5th grade and middle school students welcome!

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024**AWC Women's Health Mobile Unit "Open House"**

Time: 8:15 AM - 12:15 AM

Location: On the Street Outside the Ave. E Entrance

Contact: Lindsay Selli, lindsays@fpcsat.org

Description: AWC Centers (formerly Any Woman Can) is part of the Kingdom Restoration Lab (KRL) located at FPC and a Local Mission Partner. They are excited to announce a new mobile unit that will offer women's health services free-of-charge throughout San Antonio. Come get a tour Sunday morning on Mother's Day.

SUNDAY, MAY 19**5th Grade Graduation**

Time: 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Location: Assembly Room

Contact: Rebecca Sweet, rebeccas@fpcsat.org

Description: Join us in a special morning dedicated to celebrating our graduating 5th grade students! Along with their families, all 5th graders are invited to enjoy a morning of festivities as we honor their achievements.

FPC Police Officer Appreciation Day

Time: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location: FPC Campus

Contact: Wendy Garcia, wendyg@fpcsat.org

Description: We will be recognizing the police officers who help secure the church during the week and on Sundays. We will have a grab-and-go breakfast for them and hope that other ministry areas will create ways to thank them.

MONDAY, MAY 27**Offices Closed for Memorial Day****UPCOMING 2024 DATES AT-A-GLANCE****June**

- Jun. 1-8: Dominican Republic Mission Trip
- Jun. 13-24: Uganda Mission Trip
- Jun. 17-21: Scuba 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
- Register at fpcsanantonio.org/fpcc-golf



First Presbyterian Church Children's Center
7th Annual Spring Fling Luau!
Cash Bar • Silent & Live Auction • Dinner
FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024 • 6:30PM - 10:00PM
MAGNOLIA GARDENS • 2030 N. MAIN AVE. SATX 78212
 Individual - \$50, Table - \$400 • Register at bit.ly/fpcc-spring-fling-24
 For more info contact Midea Leija at mideam@fpcsat.org

**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.



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.

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



SERVE LOCALLY

April Featured Opportunities

Christian Assistance Ministries

Contact: Mary Henderson, 210-842-0208
mhenderson@cam-sa.org

Volunteer with CAM to make a difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness!

- Help hand out clothing and/or food,
- Assisting with CAM's ID Recovery Program at Haven for Hope
- and many others!

This is your chance to live out your faith and connect with the community. Join us in serving those in need today!

SAMMinistries Tour

Date: Wednesday, April 17
Time: 5:00 PM
Contact: Mike Munroe, mcmunroe@icloud.com

Discover how SAMMinistries is making a difference in the lives of 40 families facing homelessness through their Transitional Living and Learning Center. Join us for a ministry tour and learn how you can be a part of their mission to provide support and hope. Don't miss this opportunity to get involved and make a difference!

Online Prayer with Global Missions Partners

Wednesday, April 10 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM | Zoom

Join us for an uplifting hour of online prayer with Global Missions Partners on April 10 from 12-1 PM. Register at fpcsanantonio.org/virtual-prayer-room for the Zoom link. Connect with FPC Global Mission partners and experience the power of prayer. Lift each other up and witness God's amazing works.



SERVE GLOBALLY

Mission Trips Summer 2024

Dominican Republic Mission Trip 2024

Dates: June 1-8
Contact: Carrie Everson, carrie@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.

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!

17th Annual *Mary Jean Rogers Memorial Concert*

Free concert presented by
First Presbyterian Church
of San Antonio

Featuring

FPC Sanctuary Choir, Orchestra, & Soloists

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024 • 7:00 PM

FPC Sanctuary • 404 N. Alamo St., 78205

fpcsanantonio.org/creation-concert
avaryh@fpcsat.org • (210) 226-0215



Joseph Haydn
the creation



theGrayHavensMusic.com

PRESENTED BY

THE GRAY HAVENS

WITH SPECIAL GUEST

ANTOINE BRADFORD

APRIL 12

7:30 PM (DOORS 7 PM)

\$30 ADVANCE / \$40 DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

404 N ALAMO STREET, SAN ANTONIO TX 78205

Tickets at <https://bit.ly/gray-havens-fpcsatx24>



Flowers at First



As a Covenant Partner (member) of First Presbyterian Church, you can donate Sanctuary flowers for the Sunday traditional service to honor loved ones or celebrate special events. These donations will beautify the Sanctuary and are acknowledged weekly in the bulletin. Call or text the flower committee members listed below to easily reserve a date for your donation, as the names must be provided to church staff a month in advance.

In addition to regular Sunday flower donations, you can also purchase poinsettias during Advent (the time just before Christmas) and lilies at Easter to honor or remember loved ones. Forms for purchasing these special flowers are available in the Mauzé Lobby and online before each respective season, and the names of those being honored or remembered will be included in the bulletin on Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday. Your contributions for these seasonal flowers allow the Sanctuary Flower Committee to provide special gifts to the Church.

Feel free to contact any committee member if you have any questions.

JANUARY	Shelley Bass, (210) 861-6996
FEBRUARY	Elizabeth Kreager, (210) 885-9550
MARCH	Diana Morehouse, (210) 410-6111
APRIL	Lilly Gretzinger, (210) 601-0575
MAY	Paula Johnson, (210) 863-3251
JUNE	Mary Wilde, (210) 865-9195
JULY	Joyce Mayfield, (210) 260-2629
AUGUST	Nancy Rice, (210) 827-7124
SEPTEMBER	Manette Owen, (210) 872-3903
OCTOBER	Chaney Stuart, (210) 685-1206
NOVEMBER	Ann Bunn, (210) 771-0446
DECEMBER*	Special Events Committee

**Poinsettias serve as the Sanctuary flowers during the month of December. Special Events Committee members include: Kay Case, Janet Hornberger, Cindy Lutz, Cassie McMillan, Kelley Terry, & Carol West.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2024
FPCC GOLF TOURNAMENT
 SUPPORTING THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SAN ANTONIO CHILDREN'S CENTER
 Olmos Basin Golf Course
 7022 McCullough Ave, San Antonio, TX 78216
 Check-in 7:45 AM • Shotgun Start 8:30 AM

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

\$ 250 / INDIVIDUAL • \$1000 / 4 PERSON TEAM
**Includes Hamburger Lunch w/Drink Ticket & Prizes • Registration Deadline is August 15, 2024*

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.



LIFT UP THE WORD LIGHT UP THE WORLD

2 SAMUEL 22:29-31

THE 73rd ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024

Thursday, May 2, 2024 will mark San Antonio's 39th 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 **at Noon** 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 **at 11:30 AM**.

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 "Lift Up the Word, Light Up the World." (2 Samuel 22:29-31) We will begin at **10:00 AM** 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.

Annual Prayer Walk to National Day of Prayer on May 2, 2024

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

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

Shuttles will run from 10:00 AM -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.

Visit NDPsanantonio.org

CONTACTS

Eva Eckburg
eva.eckburg@yahoo.com
210-488-1939

Lisa Snow
lisas@fpcsat.org
210-226-0215



Looking Back Looking Ahead

2023 Year-End Celebration Report



Dear Brothers and Sisters of the FPC Family,

As we reflect upon the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the shared journey of faith that binds us together. In this annual report, we celebrate the countless moments of worship, fellowship, and service that have defined our collective commitment to make disciples who Love Jesus Christ, Love one Another and who Love the City. Through the challenges we faced, our resilience and unity have illuminated the strength of our congregation. This report serves as a testament to the impact we've made within our church family and the broader community, highlighting the ways in which our shared mission continues to flourish.

It's fun to be at First Presbyterian Church right now. We have expanded to four worship services. Our nurseries are full and our children's Sunday school is surging. Our halls are filled with students from middle and high school, from all over the city. Our Women's and Men's ministries are thriving. We have become a training hub for new church planters and young church leaders, and a safe place for people to come and hear the gospel for the first time. It's a place where people are equipped with the tools for personal discipleship while marriages and families are strengthened. We are a multi-generational church where senior adults rub elbows with college students, and city leaders serve our

homeless neighbors every day. On any given Sunday, we might even have a group traveling to the Dominican Republic or Mexico, or we might be hosting a mission partner visiting from Iran or Poland.

In 2024, we look back with gratitude, stand firmly in the present, and eagerly anticipate the future that awaits us as a vibrant and faith-filled community. We hope that you will find this report inspirational as well as informational. Our entire ministry is a response to God's grace in our lives. For God's blessings and His providential care we are truly grateful.

We understand, however, that gratitude is not simply "backward – looking." It is always "forward-looking" as well. Gospel inspired gratitude is not "inward-focused," but outward—focused." The Lord said to Abram:

And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. (Genesis 12:2)

Our prayer is that the Lord will continue to use us, and that He make us a blessing to our neighborhood and to the nations in mission, to one another in fellowship, and to Jesus Christ as we gather to worship in His name.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Bob Fuller

2023 saw continued increases in so many areas of our church, building on growth from prior years and maintaining our momentum going into 2024 as well. Virtually all areas of ministry saw more activity and growth than we have seen in years! We want to share our highlights for 2023 so you can be sure all of us, through our commitment to Christ's great commission, are making a difference both here and abroad in Loving Christ, Loving One Another, and Loving the City.



WORSHIP

2023 was a positive year of growth and excitement in both our Traditional and Modern Worship Services. Attendance in all our services continues to grow with our total worship attendance increasing by 12% when comparing 2022 to 2023. Early in the year, the Worship Committee worked on trying to find a solution to the very crowded 11:00 a.m. Modern Worship Service that was consistently at or near maximum capacity in Westminster Hall. After much research and discussion, the committee recommended to Session that a second Modern Worship Service be put in place at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings, beginning on Kick-off Sunday, August 20, 2023. In 2023, the addition of the 9:30 a.m. service and the growth of the 11:00 a.m. Modern service resulted in a 33% increase in average weekly attendance for our Modern services when compared to 2022!

In addition to diverse musical offerings that enrich vital worship in our Modern and Traditional services, our Music Ministry experienced a year of outstanding programming and participation. Our Children's Choir



program, led by Kathy Jamison, has seen increased numbers with participation levels equal to the numbers we had back in 2016 and prior. Callan Brown, our Modern service worship leader, has hosted a number of contemporary concerts featuring both local and national touring artists. Our handbell choir, under the direction of Dr. Jae Ha, has seen many new members and even celebrated their first ever appearance at a Midday Noels Concert. The Friday Singers under the creative direction of Charlotte Gates, continued their work using music, costumes and movement to bring joy and the love of Christ to nursing, assisted living, and senior living facilities across San Antonio. Our Sanctuary Choir presented a unique concert featuring the rarely performed Puccini "Gloria Mass," and our Midday Noels concert series saw the highest average attendance in its long history at FPC.

On a final note, we recognized Dr. Jae Ha on December 17, 2023 for his 20 years of ongoing service to FPC. Thank you Jae for your continued contributions to our Sunday worship, concerts, weddings, memorial services, and the ensembles you accompany and lead!



ADULT EDUCATION & DISCIPLESHIP

The Adult Education and Discipleship Committee continues to oversee the Sunday School class offerings, teachers, equipment, as well as other courses offered at First Presbyterian Church. Men's Ministry and Marriage Ministry falls under this Committee as well. This Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month (except July), and keeps track, as best as possible, of Sunday school class attendance.



This Committee wants to empower our teachers to teach, each class to have a facilitator/greeter, and to compile a list of "substitute" teachers if needed by a particular class. Our church library is an excellent resource for our teachers who are Covenant Partners

of FPC. The ALPHA course was taught in the fall of 2023, which is a basic Christianity course, and we had many people participate in this class. The "Mama Bear Apologetics" course is new and being offered to parents downstairs in the children's area during the 9:30 a.m. Sunday school hour. Periodically, mission partners of FPC speak to various Sunday School classes throughout the year. This is a great opportunity to find out "what is happening" around the world.

The Men's Ministry is now meeting regularly with dinners, meetings and out-of-town retreats. It is wonderful that men's ministry is growing.



In addition, the committee purchased ESV study Bibles for classes to use if requested. Covenant Partners are encouraged to submit requests for new Christian Education offerings, topics, and Bible studies to the Committee for prayerful consideration.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Women of the Church is more vibrant than ever, and we are seeing solid participation at our events, circles, and classes, across multiple generations! Our spring and fall luncheons in particular have been very successful with quality keynote speakers.



OLDER ADULT MINISTRY

The primary facet of Older Adult Ministry is KEYS (Keeping Everyone Young in Spirit). The mainstay of KEYS is our Friday Fellowship gatherings. This consists



of three Fridays a month with Lunch and a speaker and one Friday a month to celebrate that month's birthdays at a local restaurant. Periodically we venture out on special trips. This year we enjoyed many great presentations from various speakers from throughout the city. Highlights include Mayor Ron Nirenberg, Assistant City Manager Lori Houston, and Executive Director of HEMISFAIR Anne Krause, and our annual concert from Rick Cavender. We contribute to the Christmas Family funds and this year we included PCHAS. These are great events but they do not define us. What does define us is the relationships that are built as we live life together. It is inspiring to see that following our events, no one wants to leave.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

The Young Adults at First Presbyterian Church is an active, flourishing group of people committed to learning and growing together. The University age participants, led by Ben Henderson, have multiple opportunities to engage with one another. We have seven new university interns who are led by Ben, and are receiving discipleship trainings, leadership oversight and guidance as they start their own groups. These interns also attend dynamic dinners hosted by covenant partners. The breakfast hour Sunday School class learned from the testimonies from powerful speakers, and is currently studying Ephesians. There is collaboration with Young Life, including Tuesday night gatherings on the Trinity campus, where they can participate in games, dinner, laughter and fellowship. Small groups meet on Monday afternoons (St. Philip's College Bible Study), and Sundays at Preston and Stephanie Hill's home. Each intern is leading their own group, and discipleship is key within this ministry. Connections and deep discussions happen in these smaller settings of three to four students.

Beyond the college students' ministry there are many young adults stepping into leadership and growing in their faith as they serve one another and their community. This has happened through the LEAD meetings, Gospel Community Groups, outreach and social settings. Many young adults are serving the

church as leaders in the role of Elder, Deacon, Ushers, Women of the Church, and church committees. These young leaders are also serving the Lord by leading in missions locally and globally. Carrie Everson is a great source of encouragement to these participants. Each week this demographic is invested in their Gospel Community groups, which are bursting at the seams. Young men and women are growing in their love for God and one another through studying his Word, prayer, fellowship and service together. This year a pilot program was started to match young people with a seasoned mentor, and as they get to know one another they are spending quality time in fellowship. There are many reports of both the mentors and mentees enjoying this fellowship.

The church should be encouraged at these young men and women who are stepping out in service and growing in their understanding of the Word and how it applies to their life, so they may go out into their own community and workplace to be a vessel for God's love and kindness.



YOUTH MINISTRY

We're thrilled to share the latest updates and highlights of our FPC Youth Ministry. From meaningful retreats to festive parties and engaging small group gatherings, there's been no shortage of excitement in our community!

Our middle school retreat was an absolute success. We joined other middle school students at LoneHollow Ranch where our middle schoolers had a blast bonding with one another and growing closer to God. It was a weekend filled with laughter, learning, and unforgettable memories including a solar eclipse.



Our Youth Christmas party was a joyous celebration of the holiday season. With a family style Christmas dinner, fun games, and hilarious skit characters, it was a night to remember. Our 7/11 events continue

to be very successful. We have loved being able to connect with students over dinners, movie nights and by attending their school events.

Our small groups continue to thrive, providing a space for our youth to grow in their faith and build meaningful relationships. From engaging discussions to prayerful support, our middle school and high school small groups are vibrant communities where our young people can explore their faith and journey together. Our confirmation class continues to be an incredible journey of faith exploration and discovery. Watching our confirmands deepen their understanding of the Christian faith and prepare to affirm their beliefs has been inspiring. We are proud of their dedication and commitment to growing in their relationship with God. Finally, we are very grateful for our wonderful team of volunteer teachers and leaders! We would not be the ministry we are without their commitment and willingness to serve.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

What a wonderful and exciting time we have had in children's ministry this past year. So many new families are coming and finding community in this ministry. We have been so blessed with new volunteers and returning volunteers, who are using their talents and time to bring joy to the children and Glory to the Lord. One volunteer said that by coming and helping



in the nursery she gets more happiness than she feels she gives to the little ones she is serving.

Events this past year included: Rodeo Boots and Pancakes, Lenten Activity Cards, Palm Sunday Parade, Egg-Stravaganza Easter Egg Hunt, 5th Grade Graduation, Stellar VBS, Back to School Blessings, Children's Sunday, Noah's Ark Sunday School Parade, Operation Christmas Child Packing Party, Advent Festival, and the Children's Christmas Pageant.

LOCAL MISSIONS

2023 was a busy year as FPC continued to serve with their 27 ministry partners. In order to involve more covenant partners serving with those partners, regular service opportunities were planned. FPC volunteers have been leading a monthly chapel service at Mission Road, and have built some wonderful friendships there. We blessed teachers at neighboring Washington Elementary with much needed classroom supplies, held a movie night for the families at Haven for Hope, and hosted KinMart where grandfamilies can get school supplies. Throughout the year we helped ten families with emergency supplies in the foster care system. In



September, we held a service day where eight ministry partners were served. Covenant partners worked on a Habitat for Humanity house, served breakfast to our homeless neighbors, partied



with residents at Mission Road, played bingo at Morningside Ministries, decorated houses at PCHAS, and packed snack bags with supplies purchased by FPC and helped Snack Pak 4 Kids. To receive monthly updates about opportunities and celebrations stories, text "Missions" to 210-981-3339.

GLOBAL MISSIONS

The Lord was so faithful in 2023 as He empowered FPC to deepen relationships and serve in kingdom advancement among the nations. FPC currently has 23 Global Mission Partners, serving in areas of Seminary support and training, church planting, discipleship, mobilization, outreach to the Muslim world, education, community development, leadership development, translation work, and more! By the grace of God, FPC sent 44 people on mission trips to six different locations (Costa Rica, Alaska, the Dominican Republic, the Yucatan, Oaxaca, and the Middle East) to serve with our ministry partners. We also sent one young adult to serve for nine months in a mission internship in Uganda. There have been some incredible testimonies and celebration stories from these teams as they have looked towards the many ways God has grown our partnerships through these trips, and develop a vision for mission in the lives of those who went and served. In the fall of 2023, two young adults led a Missions Sunday school class to equip and encourage our FPC family towards living their lives on mission. Throughout 2023, the



Lord opened up opportunities for our church family to serve students and church planters, through our ministry partners, by becoming prayer partners. We are excited to see how these prayer partnerships fuel the work of ministry in the lives of these prayer partners, and excited to see how God will continue to open up opportunities for our FPC Family to participate in His global plan for redemption and restoration! To receive monthly updates about opportunities and celebrations stories, text “Missions” to 210-981-3339.

CHURCH PLANTING

God is alive and active in building His kingdom in San Antonio, and is blessing us with a front row seat! Here are some highlights from our Church Plant partners in 2023:

- The Garden church launched in September.
- ACC Downtown is now two years old.
- Seven families from our Church Plant partners are bringing their children to FPC’s Children’s Learning Center.
- New church plant partners in 2023: Akouo Church, Chase Oaks Church and Resurrection Church.
- Jordan Sleed is in a joint pastoral residence with FPC and The Garden.
- We hosted eight plant partners in a strategic planning conference, where they learned to establish a pathway to not only survive, but thrive.
- Many of our church plant partners participated in this year’s Zbinden Lecture Series to learn from Rev. Sandy Willson.
- The San Antonio Church Plant Network continues to grow, and has brought many nationally known speakers to help educate our plant partners.

By God’s grace, we will continue to embrace our role as “spiritual grandparents” to celebrate even the small victories of our multiple church plant partners.



These highlights from 2023 are just some examples of the immense impact for Christ that we are having at 4th & Alamo. We are grateful for everyone’s support, engagement, and participation in the mission and vision of First Presbyterian Church San Antonio!

Easter Lilies 2024

Given by: In Memory of:

Elizabeth and Chase Anderson
George and Spencer

- Nancy Melcher
- Jean Spangler

Janet and Greg Anderson and family

- Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Anderson
- Mr. John K. Anderson
- Dr. James E. Bauerle
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dyer
- Mr. Raymond Figueroa
- Dr. Jack W. Pool

Michele and Jonathan Barker

- Our grandparents

Lynnda and Field Barnes

- Mr. & Mrs. Forrest Sparks
- Judge & Mrs. Robert F. Barnes

Kay Beth and David Barr

- Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Barr
- Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Brunner

His family

- Don Beeler

Mary and Mike Benedum

- Our parents

Debby and J.D. Bowen

- Dr. and Mrs. Richard G. Ryan

Alethea and Bruce 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

Jane and William Burnett

- Douglas Raney

Given by: In Memory of:

Cynthia and Donald Carr

- "Bear" Jarrett Carr

Susan and Bill Chandler

- Eddie May Cochran
- Edith Sethness

Caroline Clanton

- My parents, Mary and John Clanton

The Conrey Family, with love

- Sarah Stephens

Kay and Pat Cowles

- Lucile and Alvin Cowles
- Joan and Bob Jackson

Kelly and Jim Daniell

- Cora Correll and Richard Wilson
- Barbara Wilson Daniell
- Lisa Stieren Cox
- Barbara Stieren
- Arthur Stieren

Laura A. Davis

- Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Davis, Jr.

Jeanne Douglas

- Gary E. Douglas

Eva and Jim Eckburg

- Jane and Robert Eckburg
- Maria and Hans Wiedemann

Her daughters and their families

- Sallie W. Embs

His daughters and their families

- Lowell D. Embs

Marilyn and Will Etheredge

- Our parents

Sheila Figueroa

- Raymond Figueroa

Ellen Elizabeth Frazier

- My Parents
- My husband, Donald

Easter Lilies 2024

Given by: In Memory of:

Myna Gathers • Joe Fortenberry “The Texas/
Dunker”

Joella Gordon • John R. Gordon

Lilly and Alan • Ralph Lehr
Gretzinger

Nona and Barry Hall • Our parents

Larry Hamner, MD • Hudson Boyd Hamner
• Callie “Memama” Hamner
• Travis Ellison Hamner

Mimi Hart • T. Maxey Hart, Jr.

Georgia Khym Heath • June and Frank Khym
• Mike Heath

Sarah, Chris, Ellie and • Curly Robinson
Anna Hodge

Janet and Boxy • Robert Matias Hornberger
Hornberger

Patti and Harvey • Caitlin Burns Howell
Howell

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

Nancy Nowlin Kerr • Charles J. Kerr “Jerry”

Life Group • Harrison Spears
• Lois Rogers

Margaret and Jack • Ruth and Bryant Collins
Maguire • Pat and Jack Maguire, Sr.

Patricia and Richard • Our Loving Parents
McCleary

Helen McCrae • William McCrae

Christine Kelly and • William McCrae
Deborah Thomas

Given by: In Memory of:

Milt McFarland • Dr. Charlie Robinson

Jo Lynne Meador and • All of our loved ones
family

Charlotte Milner • Martha and Dick Bell
(parents)
• Robert “Bobby” Fuller, Sr.
• Andrew Palmer

Diana Morehouse • Loved ones

Manette and David • Our parents
Owen

Emily and David • Our parents
Peeples

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

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald • Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hines
Peterson • Mr. Warner Hines

Dianne B. Pool and • Dr. Jack W. Pool
family

Lee Pressly • Henry E. Pressly
• Ann Pressly

Becca Price • Bob Price
• David Price

Nancy Rice • Raymond Figueroa

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

Connie Rodriguez • Refugia Kutnic

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

Easter Lilies 2024

Given by: In Memory of:

Anne and Ron Scates • Anna Elizabeth Scates
• LHZ

The Gordon Smith • Betty Collins
Family • Shelly and Marshall Harrell

Helen Smith • Betty Anderson

Marie and Paul Smith • Anne and Paul Smith
• Kaye Wilkins

The Ken Stephens • Sweet Sarah
Family

Hillary Stevenson • Betty Frost

Marti and Richard • Bill McGahan
Taylor

The Taylor family • Dad, Pop, Jim McCulloch

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

Kathy Timberlake • Patricia & Martin Allday

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

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

Carol and David West • Ed R Frnka

His family • Kaye Wilkins

Neil Williams • My parents, Helen and Paul
Williams

Willie Willming • Ed Willming with love

The Wolff Family • Beverly and John Carson
• Buddy Wolff

Edwynna and Family • Dr. Leroy Yarbrough

Given by: In Memory of:

Holly and David • June and Jack Sargent
Youngquist • Jerry and Jimmy Youngquist

The Zbinden • Rev. Dr. Louis H.
Children Zbinden, Jr.

Given by: In Honor of:

Janet and Greg • Sheila G. Figueroa
Anderson

Alison and Steve • Our children and
Barker grandchildren

Michele and Jonathan • Our children
Barker • Our parents

The Barker Family • FPC Pastors and Staff

Lynnda and Field • Blaire, Brandon and Bevyn
Barnes Brimer

Mary and Mike • Our children and
Benedum grandchildren

Alethea Bugg • Carol White, CEO Mission
Road Min

Alethea and Bruce • In thanksgiving for our
Bugg family

Ann and Chuck Bunn • Lillian Ann Lehr
• Our Sunday School Class

Jane and William • Harriett Raney
Burnett

Susan and Bill • Lochlan and Aila Chandler
Chandler

Marilyn and Will • Sandy Sturch
Etheredge

Easter Lilies 2024

Given by: In Honor of:

- Sheila Figueroa • FPC Household Staff
• Carol West
- Joni Garcia • Oliver, Stella and Benjamin
- Joella Gordon • Linda and Richard Delano
- Lilly and Alan • Lillian Ann Lehr
Gretzinger • Janie and Jim Worth
- Barry Hall • Nona - For 50 Amazing
Years!
- Nona and Barry Hall • Our children
- Sarah, Chris, Ellie • Cynthia Robinson
and Anna Hodge • Almeda and Ned Hodge
- Elizabeth Kreager • Rebecca Andujar
• Dorothy Hecimovich
• Kyrenda King-Rogers
- Judy and Barry • Janis Kruger
Kruger • Elise and Wesley Kruger
• Lora Mae Kruger
• Janis Spear
- Joyce and Jess • Our loving family
Mayfield
- Charlotte Milner • Our ministers and staff
- Carol and Bill Moore • The Moore and Barlow
Families
- David, Sayers and • Manette Owen
Whitten Owen

Given by: In Honor of:

- Her PBS Small Group • Emily Peeples
- Emily Peeples • My Faithful PBS Friends
- Blair Perry • Paige, Peyton and Ryan
- Kris and Bruce • Caroline, Bryce, James and
Petersen Bridget
• Morgan, Dane & Hallie
- Janet and John • Pauline and John Pritchett
Pritchett • Dene and Don Radtke
- Nancy Rice • Rev. Dr. Bob and Morgan
Fuller
- The Gordon Smith • Robert Collins
Family
- Barbara Anne • Bridges Sunday School
Stephens Class
• PBS Group
- Barbara Anne and • Elaine Dunlap
Ken Stephens
- The Taylor family • Mom, Mumie, Martha
McCulloch
- Holly and David • Our children and
Youngquist grandchildren
- The Zbinden • Kip Zbinden
Children
- The Zbinden • Kip Zbinden
Grandchildren

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 lingsays@fpcsat.org.

FPC MARRIAGE MINISTRY PRESENTS

Focus

ON MARRIAGE

WITH REDEMPTIVE PARENTING'S

KRISTEN & PETE HATTON

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

Reserve your spot for FREE by April 5 at fpcsanantonio.org/marriage
 Headcount needed for lunch complimentary of the FPC Marriage Ministry.
 Email childcare@fpcsat.org to reserve free childcare

Group Sessions - *“Biblical Marriage Today”* & *“Parenting and Marriage”*
 Breakout Sessions - *“For Men Only: Being Her Husband”* and
“For Women Only: Being His Wife”



MEET THE SPEAKERS

Kristen Hatton, MA, LPC-Associate, is a counselor and author passionate about helping families. Her books include *“Parenting Ahead,”* *“Get Your Story Straight,”* *“Face Time,”* and *“The Gospel-Centered Life in Exodus for Students.”* She lives with her pastor-husband, Pete, in Dallas, Texas, and together they have three young adult children and a son-in-law.

For more of Kristen’s work, visit her website www.kristenhatton.com, and the @Redemptiveparenting Instagram account.

Pete Hatton, MABS, is the family pastor at Park Cities Presbyterian Church in Dallas, Texas. Prior to his recent move back to Dallas, Pete planted and served as the senior pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Edmond, Oklahoma. He has also served college students at Baylor University as the Reformed University Fellowship pastor. Pete is a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary with an undergraduate degree from his beloved Penn State University. He has been married to Kristen for 28 years and they have three adult children.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Apr. 2024

Circle Schedule and Chairs & Bible Moderators



- Circle 1/12** Suzanne Thomas, Chair (210-846-3240)
Grace Labatt, Moderator
April 15, Third Monday, 11:30 am, Geneva Room
(meal with reservation to Suzanne Thomas by Wednesday prior)
- Circle 5** Kay Weber, Co-Chair (210-288-5290)
Mary Fruge-Medford, Co-Chair (210-823-7054)
SHAWL MINISTRY
April 17, Third Wednesday, 1:00 pm, Room 228
- Circle 6** Jean Parsons, Chair (210-240-7483)
Members of Circle, Moderators
April 16, Third Tuesday, 1:30 pm, McCullough Room
- Circle 7** Mary Ellen Mauze, Chair & Moderator (210-844-5549)
April 16, Third Tuesday, 11:30 am, hostesses Jeanne Dullnig
and Mary Ann Dennis at 315 Burr Rd.
- Circle 8** Susan DeKoch, Coordinator (210-508-7127)
Members of Circle, Moderators
Circle for mothers of young children
Sunday, April 14, 5:00 pm, contact Susan DeKoch for location
- Circle 9** Grace Clouse, Co-Chair (734-718-7057)
Janice Wilson, Co-Chair (210-260-4157)
Ann Smith, Moderator
April 16, Third Tuesday, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm,
Breakfast Room
- Circle 11** Jean Swanson, Chair (210-826-0766)
April 22, Fourth Monday, 12:30 pm,
at Sheila Figueroa's, 335 E. Melrose Dr., sheilaf@fpcsat.org
- Circle 13** Grace Clouse, Chair (734-718-7057)
LITERATURE CIRCLE
April 9, Second Tuesday, 1:00 pm, Westminster Hall
Book Review: *Valley of Shadows*, author and reviewer: Rudy Ruiz
- Circle 14** Karen Carawan, Chair (210-213-4589)
Suzie Simpson, Moderator
Studying *Ten Women of the Bible*,
One by One They Changed the World
April 15, Third Monday, 12:00 pm, St. Andrews Room
(meal with reservation to Karen Carawan by Wednesday prior)
- 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.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN OF THE CHURCH**



**Ladies
Night Out**


FIESTA WITH FRIENDS!

All FPC women are invited!
Sign up online at
fpcsanantonio.org/lno-rsvp
or in Mauzé Lobby on Sundays

**Tuesday | 6:00 PM | Fiesta
April 16 | to 8:00 PM | Attire**

HOME OF SHARON SEAL • 134 CAVE LANE, 78209

**Questions?
Contact Jill Peavy
210-667-0525**



WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

May Coffee

Honoring Our Past Presidents

Wednesday, May 8, 2024
 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 at the home of Laura Zachry
 334 Geneseo Rd, San Antonio, TX 78209

Free event • RSVP at fpcsanantonio.org/women
 Benefitting the FPC Children's Center
 & AWC Centers (formerly Any Woman Can)

Please reply to Mary Ann Randolph
maryannrandolph@gmail.com or 210.602.9555

Valet Parking Available • Guests Welcome



MEMORIAL RECEPTIONS MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Do you enjoy hosting gatherings? Do you enjoy setting an inviting table? Are you interested in being a part of a long-time ministry of First Presbyterian Church that cares for fellow church members and their families going through a time of grief?

If so, have you ever thought about being on a team that hosts memorial receptions taking place after funeral services at the Church?

The commitment is one month per year as you join your team to assist with any receptions that may be scheduled for that specific month. This is a meaningful time of fellowship while sharing the love of Jesus Christ with our covenant partners and their families and friends.

Learn more about this volunteer opportunity and how to be a part of this important ministry. Call Shelley Bass at (210)861-6996 or Nancy Scheifele at (210)315-1618 with Women of The Church.



President's Letter Apr. 2024

The Women of The Church recently celebrated two festive occasions - the annual WOC Spring Luncheon and the Spring Staff Appreciation Lunch.

The WOC Spring Luncheon on March 4th was a wonderful day and special occasion. Guests learned meaningful information and were inspired by the distinguished speakers: Gilbert Hernandez (CEO South Texas Youth for Christ), Annie Mays (Regional Director for Young life in South Texas) and Kyle Bowden(FPC Director to Youth & their Families). Thank you to Rev. Mitchell Moore for moderating this panel discussion and to Rev. Becky Prichard for her advice and guidance. A video of the presentation is available at fpcsanantonio.org/woc-lunch-video.

To plan any major lunch, it takes many hands working together for a successful event. Heartfelt gratitude goes to Chef Maurilio and Sierra Turner for preparing a delicious menu and to Hank Cherry, Dorothy Hecimovich and Edwin Stephens for creating the printed materials and for video assistance. Kudos to Kyrenda King Rogers and Janie Jimenez and her staff for all their preparation. Much appreciation goes to Judy, Susan and Holly for seating everyone, Karla and her waitress crew and Martha, Leah and Nancy for decorating the room!

Prior to hearing from our speakers, Nominating Chair Jean Swanson, presented an impressive slate to serve as Women of The Church Officers and Program Chairs for 2024-2025.

Continued...



We are very grateful the following women have answered God's call to serve:

- President: Nancy Scheifele
- President Elect: Lellen Lane
- Vice President for Circles: Pat Brodeen
- Vice President for Directory: Meredith Park
- Vice President for New Covenant Partners: Sheila Figueroa
- Recording Secretary: Pat Krueger
- Corresponding Secretaries: Nancy Gerfers, Lynnda Barnes
- Treasurer: Mary Fruge-Medford
- Assistant Treasurer: Marianne Ryan
- Historian: Nona Hall
- Parliamentarian: Lynn Thompson
- Church Officer Nominating: Linda Delano
- WOC Nominating Chair: Pat Johnson
- Immediate Past President: Shelley Bass

Program Chairs:

- Moderators: Jane Buchek
- House of Neighborly Service: Kathy Scruggs, Marianne Ryan, Kelly Strange, Joy Fuhrmann
- Presbyterian Children's Home: Suzanne West, Morgan Fuller, Sallie Guy
- Gift of Christmas: Judy Kruger, Susie Patterson, Sarah Bonn, Kelsey Smith, Heidi McDonald

Congratulations to these friends on being elected!

On March 6, WOC hosted a colorful and delicious Fiesta Appreciation Luncheon held for FPC's ministers and church staff. We cannot thank our staff members enough for all they do to support the many ministries and activities around the church. Virginia Beeler, Mary Wilde, Pat Johnson assisted by Emily Peeples, Kathy Serrano, Nancy Scheifele and Sheila Figueroa treated everyone to a fun Paloma Blanca lunch complete with yummy homemade desserts.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to honor our wonderful FPC colleagues.

Women of The Church will be celebrating a kick-off to Fiesta with our spring **Ladies Night Out evening on Tuesday, April 16, from 6:00 to 8:00 at the home of Sharon Seal at 134 Cave Lane.** There is no charge for this event but please register online so we know how many to expect. An invitation is attached with the details and please contact Jill Peavy with questions. Refreshments will be provided but feel free to bring something to share if you would like. Mark your calendar to join us!

Plans are also underway for the annual **Women of the Church May Coffee to be held on Wednesday, May 8, from 10:30 to 12:30. Laura Zachry will be graciously hosting us at her lovely home at 334 Geneseo Road.** All women who attend First Presbyterian Church are invited and guests are always welcome. This is a joyous time as we honor our Past Presidents and celebrate another year filled with service projects, Circle Bible studies, fellowship and many blessings. The beneficiaries for this year's Coffee offering will be the FPC Children's Center Teacher Scholarship Fund and the AWC Center (formerly Any Woman Can). Much appreciation goes to Townsend Durbin, Karen Heydenreich and Mary Ann Randolph for their careful organizing of the Coffee details.

We look forward to seeing you in April and May!

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee!

Shelley Bass

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





KEYS

KEEPING EVERYONE YOUNG IN SPIRIT

Older Adult Ministry

fpcsanantonio.org/keys



March brought us an early Easter this year and it was an amazing celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Special thanks to the members of the KEYS planning team who assisted in the Good Friday Service.

We are likely to bring back the Mini-Golf Tournament next year, everyone enjoyed the challenge of the tile floors and carpeted sections.

We will Kick-Off April with a concert from Miles Pike who has been with us before and we enjoy his music talents. On April 12, Ron Scates will be back with us to give a report of his team's recent mission trip to Indonesia.

On April 19, we will welcome King Antonio to celebrate Fiesta with us. The Mariachi Las Ateñas will be back with us as well. We will celebrate Fiesta as well as April Birthdays.

April 26 will be the Battle of Flowers Parade and the church will be closed, so there will be no KEYS Fitness or event that day.



Rev. Dr. Joe 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, off-site birthday lunches cost \$15. Make your reservations by signing up at the front desk, calling into the church office, or emailing keys@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:

- **April 3** – Wednesday Snack Pak 4 Kids Service Day
- **April 5** – Miles Pike Concert
- **April 12** – Indonesia Mission Trip Report
- **April 19** – KEYS Fiesta with Visit from King Antonio of the Texas Cavaliers
- **April 26** – No KEYS, Church closed for the Battle of Flowers Parade
- **May 3** – Pastor Joe Moore's 70th Birthday Blast, bring a White Elephant Gift
- **May 10** – Speaker: Rev. Paul Kacsur, retired minister & Bridges Class teacher
- **May 17** – Birthday Lunch at Comfort Café, Los Patios location (meal by cash or check donation, \$15 suggested)
- **May 24** – Memorial Day, Air Force Band of the West Concert

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

APRIL 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 Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-35
- 2 John 20:1-31
- 3 John 21
- 4 Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:1-11; John 14
- 5 Psalm 109:1-8; Acts 1:12-26
- 6 Leviticus 23:15-22; Deuteronomy 16:10;
Exodus 23:16
- 7 Malachi 3; 2 Corinthians 9

Holy Spirit, breathe on me until my heart is clean. Let sunshine fill its inmost part, with not a cloud between. Holy Spirit, breathe on me; my stubborn will subdue. Teach me in words of living flame what Christ would have me do. Holy Spirit, breathe on me; fill me with power divine. Kindle a flame of love and zeal within this heart of mine. Breathe on me, breathe on me, Holy Spirit, breathe on me. Take Thou my heart; cleanse every part. Holy Spirit, breathe on me. (Worship in Song, No. 272)

- 8 Acts 2
- 9 Acts 3; Deuteronomy 19:15, 18-19; Romans 1:16
- 10 Acts 4:1-5:11; 10:43; 1 Timothy 2:5
- 11 Acts 5:12-6:7; John 15:20-21; Ephesians 6:12;
1 Peter 5:8; Revelation 20:10
- 12 Acts 6:8-8:3; Luke 21:10-19; Psalm 31
- 13 Acts 8:4-40; Acts 10:32-11:18; Romans 10:1-13
- 14 Acts 9:1-43; Jeremiah 20:11-13; Proverbs 12:7

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood! Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me to Him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, should die for me? He left His Father's throne above, so free, so infinite His grace! Emptied Himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race. 'Tis mercy all, immense and free! For, O my God, it found out me. Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God should die for me? (Worship in Song, No. 221)

- 15 Acts 10:1-11:30; 1 Peter 4:12-19
- 16 Acts 12:1-14:28; Acts 9:15-16; 2 Timothy 3; Job 36:15
- 17 Acts 15:1-35; Romans 1:1-6; 3:21-31
- 18 Acts 15:36-16:40; 2 Corinthians 11;
Hebrews 10:32-39; 13:3; Revelation 2:10
- 19 Acts 17; 1 Thessalonians 2-3
- 20 Acts 18; Romans 16:3-5a;
1 Corinthians 16:20; 1 Peter 1:22
- 21 Acts 19; Exodus 34:10-17; Leviticus 19:4; Psalm 135

"Almost persuaded" now to believe; "Almost persuaded" Christ to receive; Seems now some soul to say, "Go, Spirit, go Thy way. Some more convenient day on Thee I'll call." "Almost persuaded," come, come today. "Almost persuaded," turn not away. Jesus invites you here; Angels are lin-g'ling near; Prayers rise from hearts so dear. O wanderer come! "Almost persuaded," harvest is past! "Almost persuaded," doom comes at last! "Almost" cannot avail; "Almost" is but to fail! Sad, sad, that bitter wail, "Almost," but lost! (Worship in Song, No. 233)

- 22 Acts 20; 2 Timothy 2:1-13; 4:1-5
- 23 Acts 21-23:11; Matthew 5:10-12; Psalm 119:153-160
- 24 Acts 23:12-24:27; Psalm 91
- 25 Acts 25-26; Psalm 7
- 26 Acts 27-28:10; Psalm 69
- 27 Acts 28:11-31; 2 Corinthians 11:21b-12:10;
Romans 5:1-5; 2 Timothy 1:8-2:13
- 28 Colossians 1:1-14; John 3:16-21; 8:12; 12:44-46

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? Let others see Jesus in you, Let others see Jesus in you; Keep telling the story, be faithful and true, Let others see Jesus in you. (The Baptist Hymnal, #348)

- 29 Colossians 1:15-23; Ephesians 5:8-20; Psalm 112
- 30 Genesis 1; John 1:1-4

New 2024 Babies at FPC!

Welcome to our Newest FPC Family



Claire Louise Smith

Baby Girl Born: January 10
Parents: Mary Anne & Carson Smith



Berkley Anne Hargis

Baby Girl Born: January 12
Parents: Liz & Chris Hargis



Ross Sterling Durbin and James Stark Durbin

Baby Boys Born: January 24
Parents: John & Lynn Durbin



John "Jack" Ellis Rowe

Baby Boy Born: February 15
Parents: Adam & Lindsey Rowe



George Mitchell Schluter

Baby Boy Born: March 9
Parents: Molly & Eric Schluter



Charlotte Rose Pennington

Baby Girl Born: March 13
Parents: Alice & Wes Pennington



Genevieve Grace Speer

Baby Girl Born: March 19
Parents: Maddie & Ryan Speer



First Presbyterian
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LOVING THE CITY.**

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