



# FIRST PRESS

The Boldness  
of Pentecost  
(Pastor's article,  
pages 2-3)

The National Day of  
Prayer and Prayer  
Walk is Here May 2!  
(see page 8)

## MAY 2024

### Christ Is Risen Indeed! FPC Easter Celebration Recap

(See pages 12-13)



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

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

Let's Show Our  
Appreciation for the  
FPC Police Officers  
on May 19!  
(page 14)



## Pastor's Article

# The Boldness of Pentecost

REV. DR. BOB FULLER

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

Forty days after he rose from the tomb, the Risen Christ stood before his awestruck disciples and said

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

He was saying, "you, fishermen; you tax collectors and farmers, you peasants and former prostitutes, you shepherds and scholars, you faithful but ordinary human people--God has power and a mission for you. You will receive the same presence, the same promise, the same power that has been with me this whole time so that you can deliver the promises of God to the world." God was going to empower his adopted children by the Holy Spirit, just as he had empowered his own eternal and biological son.

Ten days later, on the day of Pentecost, the same God that kept his promise to raise Jesus from the dead, fulfilled his promise to send them the Holy Spirit. Acts 2 says:

*2 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.  
2 And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.  
(Acts 2:1-4)*



And from the day of Pentecost-on, the followers of Jesus started doing the kinds of things Jesus did. From Pentecost-on, they were changed people.

- They stopped hiding and boldly proclaimed the Gospel in public—in spite of beating, imprisonment, torture, banishment, and even death.
- When they were trapped in prison they proclaimed the gospel to their jailers, and when there was no one else to hear them in prison God set them free so they could go tell other people.
- They healed the sick, they raised the dead, they spoke in tongues and they cast out demons.
- They traveled farther than most people of their age would have ever considered. They spread the gospel from Spain to India. The Spirit told them where to go—and where not to go—what to do and what to say.

On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit gave them the power to share the truth of Jesus broadly and boldly. God gave them supernatural courage and they just kept going farther and farther...

Those first Christians knew that the mission to share the truth would not be easy. They had seen what happened to Jesus. They knew the danger. So, after Pentecost, they prayed that God would empower them with courage to proclaim the gospel boldly. They prayed,

*29 ... Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,  
30 while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus."*

Pentecost is not just about what happened to those early followers of Jesus. It's about How the Holy Spirit works through God's people to speak boldly and broadly in every generation. In his book *The Reformed Imperative*, Dr. Leith wrote:

*The task of the Christian witness is ...to help those who believe to understand how Jesus Christ answers the deepest questions of their lives and...makes sense of their experience."*

Sometimes that imperative means that we have to lead difficult conversations. On May 8, FPC's Center for Biblical Leadership will host a conversation with Dr. Katie McCoy on the Biblical Perspective on Human Sexuality and Gender Identity.

# CONTENTS

## SAVE THE DATE

- 4-6** May Dates  
**6-7** Summer & Fall Dates

## MINISTRY ARTICLES

- 8** National Day of Prayer & Prayer Walk  
**9** The Center presents Lunch and Discussion with Katie McCoy  
**10** New Covenant Partners Confirmation Letter from Director to Youth & their Families  
**11** Confirmation Class of 2024  
**12-13** FPC Easter Celebrations Photo Collection  
**14** FPC Police Officer Appreciation Day  
**15** Music With Families Women's Fall Retreat  
**16** Women's Event & Serving Opportunity  
**17-19** WOC Circles Schedule, President's Letter, and April Ladies' Night Out Photo Collection  
**20-21** KEYS May

## FIRST CUP

- 22-23** Readings and Prayer List

## BACK COVER

- 24** Photos from Confirmation Sunday

Katie McCoy serves as Director of Women's Ministry at Texas Baptists (Baptist General Convention of Texas). She holds a Ph.D. in Systematic Theology from Southwestern Seminary (TX), where she served on the faculty for five years. Dr. McCoy's research focuses on the Old Testament and 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*.

We are hosting Dr. McCoy because we believe that we are called to speak boldly in love about the eternal and abundant life Jesus won for his people. The Christian message is not one of condemnation. The gospel is a message of hope in a confusing time for families and individuals struggling with some of the deepest issues of identity. It is the message of promise and conviction that Jesus Christ can heal our brokenness and bring us to wholeness by restoring us to God's design for our hearts, our minds and even our bodies.

Those early Christians gave their lives to tell the world the truth about God. They didn't do it on their own, they did it by the power of the Holy Spirit—the power of Pentecost. God sent the Holy Spirit to give us the power to do extraordinary things—to give our lives to deliver the promise of Jesus to a world that desperately needs to hear it. I pray that the Holy Spirit will give our church the courage to be a voice of hope in this important conversation.

Grace and peace,  
 Pastor Bob



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](mailto:hankc@fpcsat.org))

# Save the Date

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

### SATURDAY, MAY 4

#### SERVE LOCALLY: BINGO AT MORNINGSIDE

Time: 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM  
Ages: Open to all ages  
Contact: Jim Clouse, [James.clouse42@gmail.com](mailto:James.clouse42@gmail.com)

Description: Join Local Missions for a morning of Bingo, coffee, and donuts at Morningside Ministries. Open to all ages, this event fosters fellowship and serves the community. To sign up or learn more, contact Jim Clouse.

### 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](mailto:kyleb@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 AT FIRST FAITH GATHERING

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM  
Location: Home of Jill Peavy, 117 Ridgemont, 78209  
Contact: Marti Seal, 210-360-9796  
[mseal3385@gmail.com](mailto:mseal3385@gmail.com)

Description: All generations of women are invited to attend a casual evening at the home of Jill Peavy. Becky Prichard and Savannah Schatte will share their faith stories—why they love Jesus and the impact he has made in their lives! Invite a friend.





*Women at First*  
**FAITH GATHERING**

**Sunday, May 5 • 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM**  
**Home of Jill Peavy**  
**117 Ridgemont, 78209**

All generations of women are invited to  
hear the faith stories of Becky Prichard  
and Savannah Schatte

Contact Marti Seal, 210-360-9796



## 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](mailto: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 the First Presbyterian Church Children's Center & AWC Centers (formerly Any Woman Can.) Valet parking will be available. Register for free at [fpcsanantonio.org/women](http://fpcsanantonio.org/women).

### THE CENTER PRESENTS: LUNCH FEATURING KATIE MCCOY

Time: 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
 Location: Westminster Hall  
 Contact: Marianne Ryan, [marianne@fpcsat.org](mailto:marianne@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. Register for free at [bit.ly/katie-mccoy](http://bit.ly/katie-mccoy). See [page 9](#) for more information.

## 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](mailto: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](http://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!

## SATURDAY, MAY 11

### SERVE LOCALLY: FOSTER PARENTS' DAY OUT

Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
 Location: First Baptist Church, 515 McCullough Ave.  
 Contact: Lindsay Selli, [lindsays@fpcsat.org](mailto:lindsays@fpcsat.org)

Celebrate Foster Care Awareness Month in May by joining FBC and the South Texas Alliance for Orphans to create a secure and enjoyable space for foster kids so their foster parents can take a break on a Saturday morning. Volunteers from both churches will offer children music, Bible activities, games, crafts, and snacks throughout the morning. To participate, sign up at [bit.ly/foster-day-out](http://bit.ly/foster-day-out) or email Lindsay Selli

## SUNDAY, MAY 12

### MOTHER'S DAY TOURS OF AWC CENTERS WOMEN'S HEALTH MOBILE CLINIC

Time: 8:15 AM - 12:15 PM  
 Location: On the Street Outside the Ave. E Entrance  
 Contact: Lindsay Selli, [lindsays@fpcsat.org](mailto: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. Celebrate Mother's Day and support women's health with tours of the new AWC Centers' Women's Health Mobile Unit. The "clinic on wheels" will be able to offer free pregnancy tests, sonograms, and STD testing all over San Antonio. Join us outside on Ave E. that morning for a tour.

## TUESDAY, MAY 14

### MAY LITERATURE CIRCLE

Time: 1:30 PM  
 Location: McCullough Room

Description: Join us for our final Literature Circle event as we finish celebrating our 50th Anniversary Year. Rev. Scott Simpson and his wife, Suzie Simpson will be reviewing the novel *"High, Wide, and Lonesome: Growing up on the Colorado Frontier"* by Hal Borland. Come for a social half-hour at 1:00 PM and stay for a captivating review of this memoir of a lost America. Bring a friend and be reminded of the value of books in shaping our lives. Visit [fpcsanantonio.org/lit-circle](http://fpcsanantonio.org/lit-circle).

**FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024****MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH 7-11**

Time: 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM  
 Location: FPC  
 Contact: Kyle Bowden, [kyleb@fpcsat.org](mailto:kyleb@fpcsat.org)

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

**SUNDAY, MAY 19****5TH GRADE GRADUATION**

Time: 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM  
 Location: Assembly Room  
 Contact: Rebecca Sweet, [rebeccas@fpcsat.org](mailto: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](mailto: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. See [page 14](#) for more info.

**MEN'S MINISTRY QUARTERLY DINNER**

Time: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM  
 Location: Westminster Hall  
 Contact: Cody Heffron, [codyheffron@yahoo.com](mailto:codyheffron@yahoo.com)

Description: Come join us for a gathering of men of all ages! Enjoy food, fellowship, and hear from our guest speaker. Let's strengthen our relationship with the Lord and each other while enjoying a delicious dinner. Don't miss out on this opportunity for encouragement and connection. RSVP at [fpcsanantonio.org/men-dinner](http://fpcsanantonio.org/men-dinner).

**MONDAY, MAY 27****OFFICES CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY****SUMMER****JUNE 1-8****PRAY FOR OUR DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TRIP**

Contact: Carrie Everson, [carrie@fpcsat.org](mailto:carrie@fpcsat.org)  
 Danielle Couch, [Daniellem.couch@gmail.com](mailto:Daniellem.couch@gmail.com)

Description: The team will spend a week serving with Food for the Hungry in El Circadillo, Dominican Republic. Please pray for them as they live in the community, build relationships, and serve alongside locals in community projects.

**JUNE 13-24****PRAY FOR OUR UGANDA MISSION TRIP**

Contact: Ellen Meadows, [e.meadows@att.net](mailto:e.meadows@att.net)  
 Mike Meadows, [m\\_j\\_meadows@yahoo.com](mailto:m_j_meadows@yahoo.com)

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

**JUNE 17 - 21****VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Location: FPC  
 Time: 9:00 AM- 12:00 PM  
 Contact: Rebecca Sweet, [rebeccas@fpcsat.org](mailto:rebeccas@fpcsat.org)

Description: Dive into a scuba adventure at VBS! Kids 4 years old to 5th grade (completed) will explore the wonders of the ocean and grow in friendship with God. Cost is \$20 per child with scholarships available. Teens 6th grade and up can volunteer. Register your kids and sign up as a volunteer at [fpcsanantonio.org/vbs](http://fpcsanantonio.org/vbs).

**JULY 13-20****PRAY FOR OUR HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP TO MEXICO**

Contact: Kyle Bowden, [kyleb@fpcsat.org](mailto:kyleb@fpcsat.org)

Description: Our high school students will serve with The Yucatan Peninsula Mission (YPM) and Armor Ministries in Quintana Roo in Leona Vicario, Mexico.



# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024



MONDAY - FRIDAY, JUNE 17-21

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | 4 YEARS - 5TH GRADE

\$20 REGISTRATION (SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE)

SCAN  
ME!



## SUNDAY, AUGUST 11

### BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER AT THE FLAGPOLE

Location: Your Local School Campus Flagpole  
Time: 5:00 PM  
Contact: Pamela Young, [pyoung141@gmail.com](mailto:pyoung141@gmail.com)

Description: You are encouraged to join us at schools all around our city to pray for students, teachers and staff. Mark your calendar and participate in this special event, at your local neighborhood school or wherever you may be. You may gather at the flagpole at your child's school or any school you choose. Bring family, friends, and join us in covering our schools in prayer.

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

### KICKOFF SUNDAY

Location: FPC Campus  
Time: 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Description: Save the date for our yearly celebration of kicking off the fall semester at FPC.

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

### FPC CHILDREN'S CENTER GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER

Location: Olmos Basin Golf Course  
Time: 7:45 AM - 2:30 PM | Shotgun start 8:30 AM  
Contact: Cory Prichard, [forefpcc@fpcsat.org](mailto:forefpcc@fpcsat.org)

Description: Registration is \$250/individual, \$1000/4-person team and includes burger lunch and prizes. Visit [fpcsanantonio.org/fpcc-golf](https://fpcsanantonio.org/fpcc-golf) to register by August 16.

## FALL

### WEDNESDAYS, SEPT. 4 - NOV. 13

#### ALPHA CLASS

Location: FPC Student Center  
Time: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Contact: Elizabeth Crites, 713-822-0222  
[crcrites@aol.com](mailto:crcrites@aol.com)

Description: Alpha is a safe place to talk openly about life's big questions, connect with others, and talk about God. Alpha is for everyone regardless of background or beliefs. Nonbelievers, believers without a church, new believers, and mature believers will benefit from this course. Each week, we'll have a meal, watch a video, and talk in small groups. The videos share what Christians believe and let people share their own views without and wrong answers or judgment. Alpha is a chance to invite someone to learn about Christianity in a friendly, non-threatening way.

### FRIDAY - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4-6

#### FPC WOMEN'S RETREAT

Location: T Bar M Camp & Retreat  
New Braunfels, TX  
Contact: Becky Prichard, [beckyp@fpcsat.org](mailto:beckyp@fpcsat.org)

Description: Nurture your faith at a women's retreat weekend filled with fellowship, worship, and reflection. Pause, recharge, and connect away from daily chaos at T Bar M Camp in New Braunfels, TX. Early Bird registration is open until June 1 (\$185 - \$450 depending on room occupancy) at [fpcsanantonio.org/womens-retreat](https://fpcsanantonio.org/womens-retreat). Deposit due at time of registration. Regular registration (\$210-\$475) will be from June 1 - September 4. Full payment due by September 4.



# 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 39<sup>th</sup> consecutive observance of the National Day of Prayer (NDP). Pastors, ministry leaders, city leaders, civil servants, students, military and folks from all segments of San Antonio society will gather as one voice, in the Main Plaza across from the courthouse. The observance begins **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.

In the event of bad weather, First Presbyterian Church will be the backup location for the National Day of Prayer Worship and Service that would have met in Main Plaza.

## 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](https://NDPsanantonio.org)

## CONTACTS

Eva Eckburg  
[eva.eckburg@yahoo.com](mailto:eva.eckburg@yahoo.com)  
210-488-1939

Lisa Snow  
[lisas@fpcsat.org](mailto:lisas@fpcsat.org)  
210-226-0215





THE CENTER  
FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDY & DISCIPLESHIP

*Presents a lunch featuring*

## KATIE McCOY

"A Discussion on the Biblical  
Perspective on Human Sexuality  
& Gender Identity"

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 8**  
**11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**  
**WESTMINSTER HALL**



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 the 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).

Parking at First Presbyterian Church is free for this event. The entry to the parking lot is on the corner of Avenue E and 4th Street. Please use the crosswalk to enter the building at the Avenue E entrance. Reserve your spot now for this enlightening event that is sure to inspire and educate.

SCAN ME



**RSVP for free at <http://bit.ly/katie-mccoy>**

# Confirmation 2023-2024



We have just concluded another incredible year of Confirmation! We are so thankful for our volunteers Jobe and Ashley Jackson as well as Mike and Ellen Meadows for their continued faithfulness to the ministry. Confirmation continues to offer our youth an opportunity to deepen their understanding of their faith and to make a personal commitment to follow Christ. Through engaging and interactive Sunday morning classes, our confirmands explored the teachings of the Christian faith, learned about the history and traditions of our denomination, and how they can live out their faith in their daily lives. Through our Confirmation retreats students learned about spiritual gifts, how to pray, and ways to serve the kingdom of God. At the end of the year all of our confirmands took time to think through all they have learned and the ways they have personally experienced God. They took those things and crafted a personal

statement of faith. Each student was presented before session and gave their statement of faith. We are so excited to welcome these new covenant partners to our congregation. Although this time of Confirmation has concluded, this is just the beginning for these students walk with the Lord. As a church family, we have the privilege and responsibility to support and encourage these young members as they continue to grow in their relationship with God. We ask for your prayers and encouragement for these students as they embark on this journey of faith. Let us celebrate together for God is at work in the lives of our young people and continues to be faithful to all generations.

Blessings,

- Kyle Bowden, Director to Youth & their Families





# Confirmation Class of 2024



**Benjamin (Ben) Allen**  
San Antonio Christian School



**Elizabeth Anderson**  
Geneva School of Boerne



**Evelyn (Evie) Embrey**  
Alamo Heights Junior School



**Ella Frankland**  
St. Luke's Episcopal School



**Hewitt Matthews**  
Alamo Heights High School



**Sophia Kocurek**  
Alamo Heights Junior School



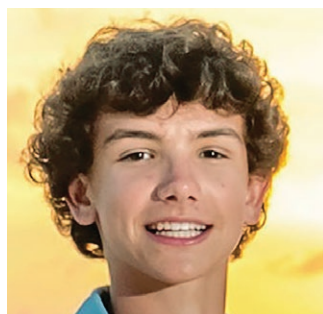
**Alonzo (Reeves) Oden**  
Alamo Heights Junior School



**Vera (Clare) Rule**  
San Antonio Christian School



**Anna Sharpe**  
Alamo Heights Junior School



**Rowan Simpson**  
Alamo Heights High School



**Robert Thompson**  
Bush Middle School



**Stella Wallis**  
Alamo Heights Junior School



**James Williams**  
Alamo Heights Junior School



**Olivia (Olive) Williams**  
Saint Mary's Hall



**Whitson (Whit) Wright**  
San Antonio Academy



# EASTER at FPC



## Children's Egg-venture!

What a wonderful time the children and families had on March 30 for the Easter Egg-Venture as "the hunt was on."

Everyone helped Ellie (the elephant puppet) find her favorite pin she had lost, and found out about Jesus in the process.

The children's choir was delightful as they sang and allowed the audience to participate.

The children decorated a cross wall hanging and hunted for more than 2400 eggs.

The morning was such a blessing due to all the families who participated and to all the wonderful volunteers that were organized by Meredith Park.

Thank you all who came and helped. The children's committee is so appreciative and gives the Lord all the Glory for such a wonderful event.

- Rebecca Sweet, Children's Ministry Director



Scan the QR Code to  
Watch the FPC  
Easter Recap Video!









# FPC POLICE OFFICER APPRECIATION DAY

**Sunday, May 19 • 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

FPC Ministries, Classes & Groups, you're invited to think of creative ways to join us in thanking the officers who secure the church each week!

Email Wendy Garcia, [wendyg@fpcsat.org](mailto:wendyg@fpcsat.org)



On Sunday, May 19, we will be celebrating our outstanding team of police officers who spend their Sunday mornings and many evenings throughout the week ensuring our safety. Our officers are so much more than just our security team as they have woven themselves into the fabric of our church family by greeting us by name and with a smile! Led by Danny Thompson

with a watchful eye as we make our way from the parking lot, our team of officers assist us in bringing heavy items inside, help us in and out of our cars, and lovingly speak with our children often providing a coveted sticker! Our officers are a blessing and gift to our community. Please take a moment on Sunday, May 19, to offer your appreciation!



Pictured Left to Right  
Deputy Eric Belmar, BCSO  
Patrolman Frank Ruiz, SAPD  
Park Police Officer Noemi Ibarra, SAPD  
Lieutenant Danny Thompson, Bexar County Precinct 1



Left: Patrolman Jeremy McGuire, SAPD  
Right: Patrolman Joel Silva, SAPD



# MUSIC WITH FAMILIES



Music with Families had a wonderful Winter/ Spring semester. This is a Music class designed for children from 0-3 years old.

During this class the children, parents, and grandparents explored musical themes of loud and soft, fast and slow, play and stop, and staccato and legato. They played instruments including sticks, maracas, jingles and drums. The children danced with scarves to waltzes, Irish tunes, and polkas to name a few. They sang and listened to stories about Jesus as well as played games and laughed a lot! The semester ended with a field trip to the 3rd floor where Dr. Jae played and showed us all about the organ.

The last day was celebrated with a Fiesta party.

Please come join Music with Families when it starts up again in September. The class will meet weekly on Wednesdays from 5:15-5:45 PM.



Thanks go out to all the parents/grandparents who came and brought their delightful children as well as Judith McNeel who helped teach the class and played her wonderful banjo.

- Rebecca Sweet, Children's Ministry Director

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S RETREAT

OCTOBER 4-6, 2024  
T BAR M, NEW BRAUNFELS, TX

\$185 - \$450 ~ EARLY BIRD PRICING ~ APRIL 12 - MAY 31  
\$210 - \$475 ~ REGULAR PRICING ~ JUNE 1 - SEPT. 24  
SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE, DEPOSITS NON-REFUNDABLE,  
FULL PAYMENT DUE BY SEPTEMBER 4

[FPCSANANTONIO.ORG/WOMENS-RETREAT](https://fpcsanantonio.org/womens-retreat)

REGISTER NOW



## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

*May Coffee*

Wednesday, May 8, 2024 • 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
 at the home of Laura Zachry • 334 Geneseo Rd, 78209  
 Free event • RSVP at [fpcsanantonio.org/women](https://www.fpcsanantonio.org/women)

Contact Mary Ann Randolph,  
[maryannrandolph.randolph@gmail.com](mailto:maryannrandolph.randolph@gmail.com), 210.602.9555

THIS YEAR'S COFFEE WILL BENEFIT:



## 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.*



## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

# May 2024

## Circle Schedule and Chairs & Bible Moderators



- Circle 1/12** Suzanne Thomas, Chair (210-846-3240)  
Grace Labatt, Moderator  
May 20, 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  
May 15, Third Wednesday, 1:00 pm, Room 228
- Circle 6** Jean Parsons, Chair (210-240-7483)  
Members of Circle, Moderators  
May 21, Third Tuesday, 1:30 pm, McCullough Room
- Circle 7** Mary Ellen Mauze, Chair & Moderator (210-844-5549)  
May 21, 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, May 5, 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  
May 21, Third Tuesday, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm,  
Breakfast Room
- Circle 11** Jean Swanson, Chair (210-826-0766)  
May 20, Third Monday, 12:30 pm,  
at Sonia Garcia's, 22255 Morin Road, Von Ormy
- Circle 13** Grace Clouse, Chair (734-718-7057)  
LITERATURE CIRCLE  
May 14, Second Tuesday, 1:00 pm, Westminster Hall  
Book Review: *High, Wide, and Lonesome: Growing Up on the  
Colorado Frontier*, by Hal Borland; Reviewers: Suzie and Scott  
Simpson
- Circle 14** Karen Carawan, Chair (210-213-4589)  
Suzie Simpson, Moderator  
Studying *Ten Women of the Bible*,  
*One by One They Changed the World*  
May 20, 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](mailto: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.

## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

# President's Letter May 2024

Here it is May and what a wonderful 150th anniversary year it has been for Women of the Church! Although the Women of The Church has grown and evolved through these many years and the name has changed (Ladies Aid Society, Home Missionary Society, Woman's Auxiliary, Presbyterian Women) it is meaningful to see how our history and traditions have continued to stay strong.

The firm foundation of WOC has been and is the Circle groups that meet each month for Bible study, friendship and service. Many of the Circles have been meeting together for 30, 40 and 50 years as in the case of the Literature Circle. WOW! What a special legacy this is to reflect on and be very proud of! Each Circle is led by a Circle Chair and a Circle Moderator who prepares for and teaches the current study each year. I would like to recognize and extend heartfelt thanks to this year's Circle leaders for their guidance, instruction, wisdom and time in gathering us all together and teaching of God's word. Much appreciation to:

Suzanne Thomas, Lynn Thompson, Grace Labatt, Kay Weber, Mary Fruge-Medford, Jean Parsons, Jane Buchek, June Eubank, Patsy Johnson, Barbara Winship-MacDaniel, Mary Ellen Mauze, Susan DeKoch, Grace Clouse, Janice Wilson, Ann Smith, Jean Swanson, Karen Carawan, Suzie Simpson, Char-An Witten, Muffin Camp and Mary Anne Smith.

Another long standing tradition of WOC that we do very well is hosting occasions to be together for fellowship and celebration. Be sure to mark your calendar and attend these many gatherings that take place throughout the year as all women at First Presbyterian are always invited!

For example, this past week, WOC enjoyed a festive "Fiesta Ladies' Night Out" at the beautiful home of Sharon and Stuart Seal. Many thank you's to them for

hosting and to Stuart for grilling a fajita dinner for our group. Close to 100 friends gathered together. It was fun evening with ladies of all ages enjoying good food and conversation. Thank you to Jill Peavy and her team of Ellen Meadows, Sabrina Rios, Alison Thomas and Savannah Schatte for again organizing the evening for all of us.

Next on the calendar is the annual **Women of the Church May Coffee to be held on Wednesday, May 8 from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Laura Zachry will be hosting us in her lovely home at 334 Genesee Road** for our final event of the year. All women of First Presbyterian Church are invited and guests are welcome so bring a friend. It will be a joyous occasion as we honor our Past Presidents and another year filled with service projects, treasured friendships and many blessings. The beneficiaries for this year's offering include the FPC Children's Center Teacher Scholarship Fund and the AWC Centers (formerly Any Women Can). This is always a wonderful morning and convenient for those during their lunch hour. Valet parking is available. We thank the Coffee Committee of Townsend Durbin, Karen Heydenreich and Mary Ann Randolph for planning this event.

The installation of the WOC officers and committee chairs for 2024-2025 under President Nancy Scheifele and President- Elect Lellen Lane will be on Sunday, May 12th during the 9:30 Traditional service. Please join me in a round of applause and thank you to these friends for their service to this church and for continuing the history of the WOC ministry!

*Shelley Bass*

President, Women of the Church  
[Bass.Shelley6@gmail.com](mailto:Bass.Shelley6@gmail.com)







# KEYS

KEEPING EVERYONE YOUNG IN SPIRIT

## Older Adult Ministry

[fpcsanantonio.org/keys](http://fpcsanantonio.org/keys)





## KEYS Upcoming:

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](mailto:keys@fpcsat.org).

**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

### 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](mailto: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

## MAY 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 Colossians 1:24-29; Romans 16:25-27; Ephesians 3:2-6
- 2 Colossians 2:1-23; Ephesians 2
- 3 Colossians 3:1-17; Ephesians 4:17-5:20
- 4 Colossians 3:18-4:18; Ephesians 5:21-6:20
- 5 Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1;  
1 Corinthians 4:15-16; 11:1; Hebrews 6:12; 13:7

*Living for Jesus a life that is true, striving to please Him in all that I do. Yielding allegiance, glad-hearted and free, This is the pathway of blessing for me. Living for Jesus wherever I am, doing each duty in His Holy name, willing to suffer affliction or loss, Deeming each trial a part of my cross! Living for Jesus thro' earth's little while, my dearest treasure, the light of His smile, seeking the lost ones He died to redeem, Bringing the weary to find rest in Him! I own no other Master; my heart shall be Thy throne. My life I give, henceforth to live, O Christ, for Thee alone. (Worship in Song, No. 333)*

- 6 1 Thess. 2:1-16; 2 Corinthians 11:7-9; James 1:1-2;  
Romans 5:3-5
- 7 1 Thess. 2:17-3:13; Ephesians 6:10-20; 1 Peter 5:6-10
- 8 1 Thess. 4:1-12; 1 John 3; Romans 13:8-14; Eph. 4:28
- 9 1 Thess. 4:13-5:11; 1 Cor. 15:12-58; Revelation 1:1-8
- 10 1 Thess. 5:12-28; Philippians 4:10-19; Proverbs 19:11;  
James 5:7-11
- 11 2 Thess. 1; Matthew 5:10-12
- 12 Matt. 24; 2 Thess. 2; Eph. 1:3-14; Rev. 13:5-10; 14:1-13

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word! What more can He say than to you He hath said, To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled? When thro' the deep waters I call thee to go, The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow; For I will be with thee, thy trials to bless, And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress. The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose I will not, I will not desert to his foes; That soul, tho' all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake. (Worship in Song, No. 1)*

- 13 2 Thess. 3; 2 Tim. 3; Deut. 5:12-15; Prov. 14:23; 28:19
- 14 Romans 1; Leviticus 18; Psalm 106
- 15 Romans 2; James 1:19-25
- 16 Romans 3; Psalm 14:5; Ephesians 1:3-14
- 17 Romans 4; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 6:28-40
- 18 Romans 5:1-11; Colossians 1:21-23; 1 Peter 4:12-19;  
James 5:10-11
- 19 Romans 5:12-6:23; Ephesians 1:3-10; 1 Thess. 3:11-4:8

*O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee; I give Thee back the life I owe, That in Thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be. O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to Thee; My heart restores its borrowed ray, That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be. O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from Thee; I lay in dust life's glory dead, And from the ground there blossoms red Life that shall endless be. (The Hymnbook, No. 400)*

- 20 Romans 7; 2 Samuel 11; Mark 14:26-38; 51-71;  
Psalm 32
- 21 Romans 8:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:1-10; Isaiah 25:6-9;  
1 Corinthians 15:35-58
- 22 Romans 8:18-39; Deuteronomy 31:6; Joshua 1:5;  
Psalm 118
- 23 Romans 9; Jeremiah 18; Isaiah 29:13-16; 64:5-9
- 24 Isaiah 65; Romans 10
- 25 Romans 11; Psalm 139
- 26 Romans 12; Leviticus 19:18; Proverbs 20:22;  
1 Peter 2:11-12

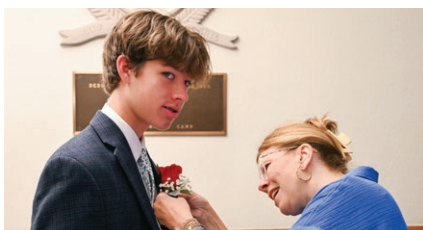
*A charge to keep I have, a God to glorify; A never dying soul to save, and fit it for the sky. To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill; Oh, may it all my pow'rs engage to do my Master's will! Arm me with jealous care, as in Thy sight to live; And, oh, Thy servant, Lord, prepare a strict account to give! Help me to watch and pray, and on thyself rely, Assured if I my trust betray I shall forever die. (Worship in Song, No. 190)*

- 27 Romans 13; Titus 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12
- 28 Romans 14; Psalm 34:14; Hebrews 12:14-15;  
1 Corinthians 8:9-13
- 29 Romans 15-16; Romans 12:10; 1 Peter 1:22;  
1 John 4:7-21
- 30 Acts 9:10-16; Galatians 1; 1 Corinthians 3:11; 15:1-19;  
Romans 1:16-17
- 31 Galatians 2; Acts 9:16; Philippians 3:1-16



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

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LOVING THE CITY.

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