



August 9, 2011

fpconline.org

Worship Times

First Presbyterian Church offers four Sunday worship services: Traditional worship in the Sanctuary at 8:30, 9:30 and 11 a.m. and Contemporary worship in Westminster Hall at 11 a.m.

Childcare

Reserve by contacting Carrie Jowers (carriej@fpcsat.org / 210.396.9768) no later than two days prior to the event. Drop-ins for childcare cannot be accommodated.

Join us Aug. 21 for Kick-off Sunday

INTERSECTION resumes Aug. 24

Kick-off Sunday is a time the church returns to a regular routine of worship and nurture. Members return with inquiring minds and open hearts, as we begin a new year together. All children, toddlers through high school, move into their new Sunday school classes. Make plans to join us on this special day.

INTERSECTION is an opportunity for us as a church family to come together on Wednesday evenings — to share a meal (family style with table hosts, conversation and table activities); to engage in joyful fellowship together (celebrate our life together); to learn and grow together (experience age appropriate education opportunities) and to worship together (hear a fresh word; sing and pray together). A theme is held each week. Look for more information in the weeks ahead.



Interns play important part of ministry life

By **The Rev. Ruthie Seiders**

FAMILY AND STUDENT MINISTRY

We want to thank our wonderful team of summer interns – Mary Hodgkins and Ashley Hamner who served in Children’s Ministry and Hannah Jordan and Michael Weaver who served in Youth Ministry these past 10 weeks. We were blessed with this exceptional team of college students who served with energy, imagination and creativity. But most of all, each of these interns loved our kids – whether they were playing with children at a pool party on Wacky Wednesday or on a mission trip with middle or high schoolers, our interns first and foremost poured themselves out in relationships with our children, youth and families. And the good news is, while Hannah (a child of our congregation) returns to college at Davidson with Mary, Trinity students, Michael and Ashley, plan to stay connected here – so keep watching for them in worship and let them know they are indeed a part of our church family.

But wait — there is more good news! Some months ago the Session approved the creation of three year-long internships — one in Children’s/Family Ministry, one in Youth Ministry and one in University Ministry. We advertised at seminaries across the country as well as on popular ministry websites and have found two interns who will begin in August (the Children’s/Family position remains open).

First Presbyterian Church, San Antonio is in a great position to invest in young leaders, who have already graduated from college but are interested in gaining experience in a large church environment. Not only will they gain valuable experience working day in and day out on our staff for nine months, but their presence here will benefit our programming while building relationships with our children, youth and students as well as the adults and families of the church.

Please read the following brief bios of our new interns so you can welcome Allie and Jeren when you see them.

—*Interns play import part ... continues on page 2*

PW gearing up for 2011-2012

By Candy Wagner

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

As we gear up for the end of summer and Kick-off Sunday, now is a great time to explore what Presbyterian Women (PW) has for you.

We are a group of diversified women united together to worship, grow and serve our Lord. We are comprised of 20 circles of fellowship and prayer which include 12 Bible study circles, with our study this year of "The Beatitudes." There are also four sewing, knitting and crocheting circles, a literary book review circle, a young moms circle, a circle of service and the Care & Concern Circle which provides food and comfort to church families who are ill or bereaved.



Presbyterian Women has many other activities throughout the year to grow and serve. We coordinate the Christmas Basket program for needy families, host Christmas parties at area nursing homes, as well as the Christmas Eve dinner for the pastors and choir. Our Circle of Service helps to put on the Advent Festival and the children's Easter egg hunt, as well as provide monthly meals for YoungLives meetings. There are also several evening events just for fun and fellowship. We culminate our year with the PW Birthday Offering Coffee in May.

So, as you can see, whatever your age, interest and/or schedule, there is a PW Circle that is right for you. Call Candy Wagner (210-828-6714) or Janet Wernli (210-828-1043) to get involved today. Look for more PW information in upcoming First Press articles and on the church website. We can't wait to have you join!



Interns play important part of ministry life

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Jerren Jafarbay, 24, is our newest **Youth Ministry** intern. She attended college at Multnomah University in Portland, Ore., where she studied Bible theology and youth ministry. For the last year, she has been living and serving at a church in Colorado. Jerren loves

youth ministry, drinking coffee and playing volleyball and banana grams.

"I'm bursting with excitement to come to Texas, and I'm counting down the days," stated Jerren.

Serving **Univeristy Ministry** is **Allie Melancon**.

Hailing from Fredericksburg, Tex., Allie went to the University of the Incarnate Word. While there, she was involved in both The Well and The Fire.

After college, she taught and coached at Alamo Heights High School for two years. For the past nine months she has been Wisconsin, involved in a graduate program through Wheaton College.



"I have learned so much about leadership, God's grace and myself during my time here," said Allie. "God is calling me back home and to the ministry that has had such a huge impact on my life. I am excited to see what God has in store for college ministry in San Antonio and First Pres!"

FAITHinACTION

at FPC!



At the Children’s Center’s bike rodeo on July 8, San Antonio police officer Ruben Ruiz instructs Simon Stokes-Liss through the bicycle course.



Sandy Sturch looks on as her husband, George Sturch, receives a gift at his staff retirement luncheon on July 19.



Staff members Carrie Jowers and Alyssa Payne welcome Senior Pastor Trey Little (holding Jackson Payne) on his first day at FPC - Aug. 1.



FPC hosted 16 youth and adults from Faith Presbyterian Church (Baytown, Tex.) from Aug. 1-4 as they served in San Antonio on a mission trip.



Register for Thursday Bible Study for men and women

Exodus

taught by The Rev. Trey Little

Sept. 15 – Nov. 17, 2011 and Jan. 12 – April 5, 2012

9:30 to 11:15 AM in Covenant Hall

REGISTRATION FOR THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY for men and women

Participants must register to be assigned to small discussion groups,
which meet from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Lecture is in Covenant Hall from 10:30-11:15 a.m.

NAME _____
(last) (first) (middle)

AGE 20–35 _____ 36–50 _____ 51+ _____

SPOUSE'S NAME (if applicable) _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (home) _____ (work) _____ (cell) _____

DO YOU CURRENTLY ATTEND A CHURCH? YES _____ NO _____

IF SO, WHICH CHURCH? _____

In an effort to make your study enjoyable and gratifying, tell us about your Bible study experience. Which of the these statements applies to you? (please check one)

- a. I try to participate in at least one Bible study annually.
 b. It has been some time since I participated in a Bible study.
 c. This will be my first Bible study.

Deadline to register is Monday, Sept. 5. Please register even if you have participated in a Thursday Bible Study previously.

Completed registration forms should be placed in the Workroom mailbox marked "Thursday Bible Study" or you may register online (www.fpconline.org). Reserve childcare by contacting Carrie Jowers (carriej@fpcsat.org / 210-396-9768) no later than two days prior to class date. Unfortunately, drop ins for childcare cannot be accommodated.

Contact Ann Smith (210-822-2440) for questions or additional information.

Each Bible Study participant will be placed in a small, cohesive discussion group to allow time for answering Bible Study questions and personal sharing. Group composition will be based on various factors, including group size, age, experience in Bible study and length of time at First Presbyterian Church (if applicable), in order to bring together a variety of backgrounds and experiences in each group.

Friend(s) you would like to have in your group:

Tickets on sale now for KEYS concert

Don't miss your chance to hear acclaimed classical crossover tenor and composer Donald Braswell II perform live at the KEYS Adults fall kick-off program in Westminster Hall.



Braswell, a native of Boerne and one of the top five finalists on television's America's Got Talent (2008), made his Carnegie Hall debut in December and was featured at the San Antonio POPS concert "Braswell on Broadway" in March of this year. He has provided inspirational speaking as well as appeared internationally and here in the states on television and radio.

His mission "is to be of service, to improve our world and to help those who cannot help themselves." Consequently, the majority of his performances are tied to some charity, such as those advocating for the homeless, people with special needs and neglected and abused children.

Last year's KEYS concert was excellent where Braswell performed to a packed crowd.

Reservations are now being accepted. Cost is \$20 per person for the concert and lunch (\$15 for concert only — limited seating). Send checks, made payable to FPC and marked "concert," to the attention of Pat McCleary.

Best of the rest

CHURCH REGISTER

Birth - July 13

Corinne Adelaide Chenault, daughter of **Cally and Adrian Chenault**

Marriage - July 30

Carol Ann Ross and John Marshall Weir III

STAFF NEWS

On July 19, **Christian Smith** joined the kitchen team; on July 20, **Cathy Vela** joined the custodial team; on July 27, **Beaux Gilliam** joined the sexton team and **Richard Flores** became the workroom/pressroom assistant on Aug. 2. Please welcome these new employees to First Presbyterian Church.



FPC Chef **Maurilio Garza (Jr.)** and Julie Gonzales were married on Saturday, July 30, at

El Salvador Assembly of God Church in San Antonio. Best wishes to the happy couple.

A NOTE OF THANKS

Dear FPC Family:

We would like to thank all of you for the wonderful outpouring of love, hospitality and generosity in the last weeks of our time with you. We were deeply moved by the many meals, warm cards, letters and gifts given to us. You have affirmed and blessed us in ways beyond our fondest expectations. The farewell reception was spectacular in every way. Thanks so very much. May God bless you and make you a blessing.

—Alice and Jim Capps



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Jonah: Navigating a Life Interrupted by Priscilla Shirer

What do we do when God interrupts our lives? Many times, like Jonah, we run! You can't escape life's interruptions, but you can change your perspective on them. In this seven session Bible study, Priscilla redefines interruption and shows that an interruption actually may be God's divine invitation to do something beyond our wildest dreams. When Jonah was willing to allow God to interrupt his life, the result was revival in an entire city.

Participants will meet in Covenant Hall on Tuesdays, beginning Sept. 6, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. The course involves personal study in preparation for weekly video presentations and small group discussions. Women of all ages are encouraged to attend. Suggested donation for the study guide is \$13. Childcare is available by reservation. For more information or to register, call **Judy Kruger** (210-857-0122).

FPC BIKE & TRIKE NIGHT

Summer is coming to a close, so come enjoy the last Children's Ministry "Summer Fun Days" outing:



Wednesday, Aug. 17: 6 PM

Bring your bicycle, tricycle or scooter and some friends to Walker Ranch Heritage Park. We will be riding, scooting, running and playing on the playground until 6:45, when we will then head across the street to Two Brothers Barbecue for dinner. Contact staff member **April Kuper** (aprilk@fpcsat.org / 210-860-1973) for more information or to RSVP.

SAVE THE DATE

Oct. 14-16, 2011

FPC Women's Retreat
Journeys of the Heart: Destination Known

Come take a look inside Christ's life journey and explore the journey of your own heart. More info and registration opportunities to come soon.

KEYS EVENTS

Check out the schedule below of the Older Adult Ministry, KEYS (Keeping Everyone Young in Spirit). For information about any of the events, contact **Pat McCleary** (patm@fpcsat.org / 210-271-2726).

Fridays, 9:45 AM – Room 108

"Step & Stretch," our fitness class, continues during the summer. Want to have fun while you exercise? It's possible if you join in each Friday. The summer months are a great time to give it a try. Dress comfortably and bring a friend, as there is no cost and no reservations are necessary. Gale Buchanan from Spectrum Fitness Center leads the class.

Friday, Aug. 12: 11 AM – Library

Come and exercise your brain while playing a friendly game of bridge or dominoes. The group plays until 1 p.m. and then enjoys lunch at Fourth Street Café. Please call **Katy BeDunnah** (210-673-3251) if you are planning to attend.

Friday, Aug. 19: 11:30 AM

The group will celebrate August birthdays at Absolutely Everything Catering (3915 San Pedro). An excellent menu is planned. Lunch is complimentary for members celebrating their birthdays; others cost \$12 per person. The reservation deadline is Monday, August 15. Come join in for some great fellowship.



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AUGUST EVENTS

Full calendar online –
www.fpconline.com

- August 20: Emmaus gathering
- August 21: Church leaders' commissioning
- August 22: The Fire
- August 24: INTERSECTION
- August 26: KEYS movie
- August 28: University Ministries chili cook off
- August 28: Loaves & Fishes

