



March 22, 2011 fpconline.org

Worship at First Presbyterian

First Presbyterian Church offers four Sunday worship services: traditional worship in the Sanctuary at 8:30, 9:30 and 11:05 a.m., and contemporary worship in Westminster Hall at 10:45 a.m.

Childcare at First Presbyterian

Reserve by contacting April Kuper at 210.226.0216, ext. 232, or aprilk@fpsat.org no later than two days prior to the event. Drop-ins cannot be accommodated.



A Call for Change

pastor's ponderings

BY THE REV. JIM CAPPS
INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR

I'm putting my interim pastor hat on as I write these words to you today. For the past several months, the Session and their task forces have been grappling with several difficult issues. They are difficult because they are dealing with possible changes. Change is not easy at any time, but particularly during a season of transition when we are all looking forward to calling a new senior pastor.

The Session has felt that it was important to pray about and discuss these possible changes before a new senior pastor arrives, so that at the beginning of that person's time with you, they would have been settled for the time being and not be causing undue controversy. Certainly, as God guides and directs, these subjects can be prayed about, discussed and changed in the future.

At the January Session meeting, the Organization Task Force (OTF) presented a proposal to amend our bylaws to change the number of active elders serving on the Session to be reduced from 45 to 24. This would take place over a three-year period with the election of 8 rather than 15 elders each year. According to our bylaws, any amendment had to be approved at two consecutive session meetings to be ratified. In both the January and February Session meetings, the Session voted to make that change in the number of active elders. There were very good arguments made on both sides of the issue, making the discussion long and passionate. The OTF is now working on a possible change in committee structure, the formation of a possible College of Elders for elders on rotation and other possible lesser changes in our organization. Because these issues

are so important to us, the Session will have a special meeting to deal with them.

In our February Session meeting, the Session heard a report of the Worship Times Task Force (WTF) which has been meeting since August to study and make a recommendation on the number and times of our worship services. Taking into consideration not only worship, but education and fellowship, the WTF recommended that everyone make a change and that we have Traditional worship and Sunday school at 9 a.m. and Traditional and Contemporary worship services at 10:30 a.m. The Session was given a month to pray and think about the proposal.

At the March Session meeting, after a very good discussion, the Session voted not to accept the WTF's recommendation out of

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Session Minutes... in Seconds

Session was held on Monday, March 7, where many different issues were discussed and a few important decisions were made.

To learn this information, please read the article "A Call for Change" by The Rev. Jim Capps in this issue of First Press.

Worship – Grow – Serve



January 12–April 6

Intersection is a time for our church family, young and old, singles and families, youth and leaders, to come together and explore ways our lives intersect with one another and with the good news of Jesus.

5-5:45 PM
Children's Choirs
Rehearsal

5-5:30 PM
Youth Choir Rehearsal

5:30-6:30 PM
Family Time Dinner Hour
Served family style

Dinner cost
\$4 per person (4 years and up)
\$20 cap per family

5:45 PM
Children return
from choirs and join us for dinner

6:10 PM
Worship/devotional time
followed by dismissal to classes

6:30-7:30 PM
Age-Appropriate Classes
and Activities
for Preschool, Elementary, Middle
School and Adults

March 23

Theme: '50s Night
Menu: Hamburgers with lettuce and
tomato (vegetarian: Veggie
burgers), French fries, ice
cream cups and cookies

Choir rehearsals will be held before dinner, but no Intersection classes will take place due to a special program presented by "REVOLUTION," an 80-member youth group from Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Dyersburg, Tenn. The group will join us for dinner and then give a concert from 6:30-7:30 p.m. with their 50-voice choir, drama team and praise band. Come enjoy the musical and dramatic offerings from these very special young people.

Adults, youth and children are all welcome to stay for the program.

March 30

Theme: Beach Night
Menu: Fried catfish with tartar sauce (vegetarian: salad), macaroni & cheese, mixed vegetables, ice cream sandwiches and popsicles

A Faith Gathering – This night, join the Intersection family for dinner at 5:30. Children and youth will be dismissed at 6:25 for Tadpoles, Instrument Class and Logos, as the adults will spend time in worship and witness with members Susan Pamerleau and John Carter, as they give their personal testimonies of God's faithfulness in their lives.

April 6

Theme: Fiesta Night
Menu: Beef fajitas (vegetarian: none provided); grilled peppers, onions and mushrooms; beans; rice; flour tortillas and brownies

Grab a pardner! On our final night of Intersection, special guest Sylvia Braye will join us for dinner and lead adults and interested youth in some fun line dancing in Westminster Hall immediately following dinner.

April Brings Fiesta and Easter Eggs to KEYS

Join KEYS at the church on Friday, April 8, at 11:30 a.m. for our April birthdays and Fiesta celebration. We will begin with a social hour on the patio, complete with strolling Mariachis, only to adjourn to Westminster Hall for one of Frank Lynn's delicious Mexican lunches. Birthday guests are complimentary; others \$10 per person. Remember to wear your Fiesta clothes! Reservations are requested no later than Tuesday, April 5, by noon.



Candy and volunteers are needed on Thursday, April 14, at 1 p.m., as KEYS Adults has the opportunity to work again with Circle 20 to help with the FPC Easter Egg Hunt. We are responsible for providing individually wrapped candy for filling approximately 2,000 plastic Easter eggs. If you would like to donate candy or monies to purchase these sweets, please bring it to a KEYS meeting or leave it with the church receptionist.

JAE HA: THE MUSIC MAN



PRESBY PROFILES: Building our Church Community By Kay Kutchins

As you enter the Sanctuary on Sunday morning, the organ music sets the worship tone. As you leave the Sanctuary after worship, the virtuoso organ music inspires many to pause, listen, appreciate and sometimes applaud.



Between beginning and ending, there are two or three hymns, two congregation responses and two instances of special music — and all of them are grounded in organ music.

Meet Dr. Jae Ha, First Presbyterian's organist for seven years and becoming recognized as one of the premiere church organists in San Antonio. In addition to collaborating on Sunday morning music, Jae also directs the Handbell ensemble, accompanies the Friday

Singers, plays for special services (weddings, memorial services, community worship) and accompanies the Sanctuary Choir each Wednesday night. And, just for good measure, he currently is an adjunct professor in the Music department at the University of the Incarnate Word where he teaches organ performance students and accompanies other individuals and music groups.

Who is this guy, and how did this all come about?

"My mother gave me three choices when I was 7 or 8 years old," Jae says. "I could be a pastor, a scientist or a musician. I combined the pastor and musician choices to become a church musician. By the time I was a sophomore in high school, I had settled on the idea of becoming a pastor." At his Presbyterian church in Austin, he was a "baby deacon" — their Diaconate provided for younger members to begin developing leadership skills while also assisting its elected

leaders in ministering to the congregation. (By the way, Jae's mother is a Presbyterian minister in the Korean community of New York City.)

And how did that morph into a doctorate in organ performance and a church music career?

"I began playing my piano when I was 6 and went to a music specialized middle school. I was so lucky there since all the music students at that middle school got lessons from college professors. Later, my family got really poor when I was in high school, and I had to give up piano — no more lessons and we had to sell my piano. At that time, my mother and I thought that instead of a musician, God wanted me to be a pastor because of the situation; however, miracles happened. A college piano professor offered me free lessons until I entered college. He said he saw it as God's vocation direction for both him and for me." Jae went on to complete a bachelor's degree at Yonsei University in Seoul in church music/organ performance.

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Pictorial Directory: A Name with a Face

Portrait sign ups for our 2011 pictorial directory begin Sunday, March 27, in the hallway near the Sanctuary and on the church website. Please secure a date, as our directory will not be complete without you!



Tuesday, May 3	2-9 PM	Wednesday, May 11	2-9 PM	Thursday, May 19	2-9 PM
Wednesday, May 4	2-9 PM	Thursday, May 12	2-9 PM	Friday, May 20	2-9 PM
Thursday, May 5	2-9 PM	Friday, May 13	2-9 PM	Saturday, May 21	9:30 AM-5 PM
Friday, May 6	2-9 PM	Saturday, May 14	9:30 AM-5 PM	Tuesday, May 24	2-9 PM
Saturday, May 7	9:30 AM-5 PM	Tuesday, May 17	2-9 PM	Wednesday, May 25	2-9 PM
Tuesday, May 10	2-9 PM	Wednesday, May 18	2-9 PM		

The Music Man

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Okay— from Seoul to Austin?

“One of my professors in Korea, who was a very close friend, graduated from The University of Texas at Austin, and she recommended I come there for advanced study. I was fortunate to receive a scholarship after an audition for the program.”

Audition – that means you were really good?

“Let’s just say I was not bad.”

And there’s more to the story ...

While Jae served as organist at Austin Korean Presbyterian Church in Austin, a church choir member one day invited him to lunch at his home. That day, Jae met Eunmee, to whom he has been married to for 13 years. They were married at the Austin church “but there wasn’t organ music at the wedding,” he laughs. “Some musician friends formed a quartet and played beautiful music.” Eunmee has a master’s degree in education from The University of Texas at Austin. She currently is studying to become a



whirlwind of activity.

Okay, about this church organist ...

“Well, I auditioned for the position at FPC and was selected. I was blessed to be mentored by Dr. Leroy Yarbrough in the first part of my career,” he recalls. “I don’t know whether people realize this, but being in church music ministry is very much a ‘calling’ — it’s not a job — and if we who respond are true to that calling, we succeed in giving glory to God. But if we are

registered nurse and sings second soprano in the Sanctuary Choir. Jae and Eunmee are the proud parents of Joyce (7) and Melody (4), who sings in the FPC children’s choirs and provides a

successful, we must give ourselves over to practice, to thinking about the worship environment, to choosing music that fits the service. So, I think about what I’m going to do, how the music can develop the worship theme, and then I start to practice.”

And about those musical offerings that read “arr. Ha”?

“Well ... I really love to improvise,” Jae says. And he’s becoming known for the techniques, keyboard and pedal expertise and intricacies that are required in creating “new” organ music. “It’s the most fun because it gives me freedom to do what I want,” he laughs. “I’ll usually pick a hymn theme and then try it out with different sounds, ways to develop the theme, and then I’ll play it.” And, as many notice, those “arr. Ha” offerings are never exactly the same. In fact, they often change at the last minute. “But improvising gets my creative juices going.”

Note to FPC worshippers: stay and listen to the postludes — they’re spectacular!

Report from Stewardship and Finance Committee FEBRUARY 2011

<u>Operating Fund Budget</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Total Revenues	\$691,737	\$810,497	(\$118,760)
Total Operating Expenses	\$470,273	\$489,272	(\$18,999)
Total Benevolences	\$34,652	\$17,606	\$17,046
Net Income/Loss	\$186,811	\$303,618	(\$116,807)

If you have any questions, please contact the Finance Office at 210.271.2755 or any member of the Stewardship and Finance Committee. As a reminder, you may access your contribution information through your secure member account via the church website — www.fconline.org.

Your faithful financial stewardship throughout the year provides us the opportunity to support the work of agencies and organizations throughout the community and the world, bearing witness to the life-transforming power of Jesus Christ.

We are grateful to God for your ongoing generosity and commitment.

Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings April 2011

Circle 112

Monday, April 18, 10:30 a.m.
FPC, Geneva Room
Chair: Ann Nelson, 824-5182
Co-chair: Suzanne Thomas, 820-3245

Circle 2

Monday, April 18, 1:30 p.m.
FPC, Room 226
Chair: Char-An Witten, 341-1856

Circle 3

Monday, April 18, 1:30 p.m.
FPC, Room 228
Chair: Ann Fryburger, 490-3566

Circle 4

Monday, April 18, 1:30 p.m.
Home of Peggy Redman
Chair: Peggy Redman, 822-2966
Co-chair: Amelie Shaw, 826-5512

Circle 5

Shawl Ministry
Friday, April 8, 12-1 p.m.
FPC, Room 228
Chair: Caryl Gaubatz, 651-0208
Co-chair: Jane Ann Temple, 828-7542

Circle 6

Tuesday, April 19, 1:30 p.m.
Home of Kip Zbinden
Chairs: Vicky LePere, 824-1770
Molly Lewis, 366-3941

Circle 7

Tuesday, April 19, 11:30 a.m.
Home of Ruth Chapman
Chairs: Dorothy Hill, 824-1377
Nancy Kosub, 828-2358
Kathy Stringfellow, 821-6996

Circle 8

Moms' Group
Monday, April 4 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
FPC, Room 108
Chair: Amy Renard, 999-5323
Co-Chair: Julie Walthall, 829-8332
Contact: April Kuper, 271-2732

Circle 9

Tuesday, April 19, 10 a.m.
Home of Billie Bessellieu
Chairs: Lucille Lammert, 832-8414
Margaret Gragg, 493-8119

Circle 10

Wednesday, April 13, 1:30 p.m.
Towers at Park Lane
The Club (22nd Floor)
Chair: Betty Hurt, 826-1155

Circle 11

Monday, April 25, 6:30 p.m.
Home of Suzanne Sturdavant
Chair: Pat Brodeen, 494-1534

Circle 13

Literature Circle
Tuesday, April 12, 1:30 p.m.
FPC, McCullough Room
Book: "The Help"
Reviewer: Carlota Dwyer
Chair: Willie Willming, 495-2209
Co-Chair: Pat Brannen, 735-4415

Circle 14

Monday, April 18, 12-1:30 p.m.
FPC, St. Andrews Room
Chair: Suzie Simpson, 455-7410

Circle 15

Talking, Sharing Circle
Sunday, April 17, 11 a.m.
FPC, St. Andrew's Room
Chair: Melody Hull, 821-5211

Circle 16

Marjorie McLernon Sewing Circle
Wednesday, April 20, 9:30 a.m.
FPC, Room 228
Chairs: Lee Pressly, 735-0978
Corie Barlow, 481-1337

Circle 17

Edna Ralston Sewing Circle
Wednesday, April 13, 9:30 a.m.
FPC, Room 309
Chair: Jeanne Baker, 494-0972

Circle 18

Circle of Concern
Meets as needed
FPC, Room 226
Chairs: Paula Bondurant, 736-6632
Georgia Heath, 695-9511
Char-An Witten, 341-1856

Circle 19

White Cross Circle
Monday, April 4, 9:30 a.m.
FPC, Room 309
Chair: Janet Beach, 673-3251

Circle 20

Circle of Service
Meets as needed
Chairs: Sabrina Rios, 822-5707
Leah Butler, 804-1934

Circle 21

Monday, April 18, 6:30 p.m.
Home of Sue Cunningham
Chair: Suzanne West, 525-1499
Co-Chair: Cheryl Clark, 695-8868

Pastor's Ponderings

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a deep concern about losing people who we did not want to lose during this season of transition. They did vote to change the 10:45 a.m. Contemporary worship service and the 11:05 a.m. Traditional worship services to both begin at 11 a.m., meaning that we will have more time for fellowship between services. It also meant that we will need two preachers each Sunday, which we already have on every Sunday except Communion Sundays. This change will take place the Sunday after Easter — May 1.

Over the past several months, the Session has also been wrestling with the controversial subject of the church logo. Also in the March meeting, they first decided unanimously that we would add the word "church" to any logo we approved. Then, we looked at a proposal presented to us by a new logo design team. It is a Celtic cross which, although simple, had a contemporary feel to it and most importantly, communicated in an unmistakable manner who we are as a church. When the logo is further developed, you will begin to see it in many places.

I praise God for and am grateful for the elders and ministers on our Session who have prayerfully been a part of this important and difficult time of transition.

James A. Capps



Imagine life differently.

First Presbyterian
SAN ANTONIO

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SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
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Celebrate Holy Week and Easter with Us

Palm Sunday – April 17

Traditional Worship Services
8:30, 9:30 and 11:05 AM
Sanctuary

Contemporary Worship Service
10:45 AM
Westminster Hall

Wednesday – April 20

Passover Seder Dinner
5:30 PM
Westminster Hall

Maundy Thursday – April 21

Dinner
5:30 PM
Westminster Hall

Worship Service of the Lord's
Supper
6:45 PM
Sanctuary

Good Friday – April 22

Tenebrae Worship Service
12 PM
Sanctuary

Tenebrae Worship Service with
Sanctuary Choir
6:45 PM
Sanctuary

Saturday – April 23

Easter Program and Egg Hunt
(infant-2nd grade)
10 AM
Westminster Hall

Easter Sunday – April 24

Sunrise Worship Service
6:45 AM
Courtyard
*(Continental breakfast follows on the
Terrace, weather permitting.)*

Traditional Worship Services
8:00, 9:30 and 11:05 AM
Sanctuary

Contemporary Worship Service
10:45 AM
Westminster Hall



Childcare is available at the church during these worship services and events. For reservations, contact April Kuper (210.271.2732 or aprilk@fpcsat.org) no later than two days prior to the event. Unfortunately, drop ins cannot be accommodated.