



June 28, 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.



God's providential care

Pastor's ponderings by Rev. Jim Capps

God is faithful in all times and seasons of our lives as individuals as well as our life as a church. While sometimes we can't comprehend what is taking place at the time, I believe wholeheartedly in God's providential ability in every situation of our lives. While I may never fully understand, this side of heaven, why some things happen, I believe that God is working out His purpose for us.

Let me share this case in point. For all kinds of reasons, many of you were troubled by the short time that your previous pastor, Rich Kannwischer, and his family were here at First Presbyterian Church. By way of reflection, could it be that God had a different plan for both Rich and for FPC?

Furthermore, could it not be that God was preparing Rich for the challenge He had for him at St. Andrew's Presbyterian in Newport Beach, Calif.? Without his sojourn with you, he might not have been ready for the place God had planned for him. By the way, I sat next to his predecessor, John Huffman, at a breakfast last July, and he spoke in glowing terms of what God is doing through Rich there in Newport Beach.

Likewise, Trey Little, who by God's grace will be your next senior pastor, was not at all ready to minister here when Rich was called. God had other great things in store for him in the church which he will now be

leaving in Albany, Tex. As I write this, I have not as yet met Trey, but I have read his Personal Information Form (PIF), or resume, and I can certainly see why the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) was guided by the Holy Spirit to present him as the candidate to become your next senior pastor. God is at work in a truly marvelous way.

When I view the recent history of FPC through the lens of God's providential guidance and care, it changes a lot of the suppositions I have heard expressed. Could it be that Rich did not make a mistake in coming here and the church did not make a mistake in calling him? Instead, in a way that no one could have understood at the time,

—Pastor's ponderings continues on page 4



Session minutes in seconds

From the June 13 Session meeting:

- A presentation was made regarding a possible change in committee structure.
- Church financial reports were reviewed and received by Session.
- Some restructuring has taken place in the reporting structure of the Household staff (*see page 5*).
- Some members of the Pastor Nominating Committee provided a brief report on the process that led to our senior pastor candidate.

Celebrate July 4 with us on July 3



Great music. Great message. Great food. Great fellowship.

Put on your red, white and blue and join us for the "All-Church 4th of July Picnic" on Sunday, July 3. This wonderful event, hosted by the Sanctuary Choir, will be held immediately after the 11 a.m. worship services.

Come enjoy fried chicken, rolls and other favorite picnic foods. Last year, members of our church family brought assorted “fixin’s” including salads, desserts, cheeses, veggies, fruits, baked beans and the like, and we hope you’ll do the same this year, too.

On the day of the event, bring your food item to the kitchen area before any worship service, and we’ll add them to the feast! Lunch will be set up in the Nowlin Tower, with seating available in Westminster Hall and on the patio.

We hope you’ll celebrate the fourth on the third.

P. S. Patriotic clothing will be prevalent — let’s all make it a colorful Sunday morning!

Pastor’s ponderings

-Continued from page 1

God was working out His wonderful purpose for both Rich and FPC. Let me go a step further. You elected and have been praying for a great PNC, who has deeply felt God’s call and direction the past 18 months. As I have gotten to know them and heard them talk about their process and interaction with one another, it is clear to me that they have been very much in harmony with God’s plan for the church’s future. I praise God for their steadfast desire to accomplish God’s will. They are a wonderful group of people who really are representative of the FPC Family of Faith.

As they first viewed the several dozen PIFs which came to them, they were looking for someone who would come from a large, multi-staff church. Even though they first set Trey Little’s PIF aside, because it didn’t meet their criteria in the way they had anticipated, after interviewing several other candidates, they found themselves drawn back to him. Even though he hadn’t been the senior pastor of a large, multi-staff church, he had many similar experiences. Trey grew up and

had formative faith experiences at Grace Presbyterian Church in Houston — 4,500 members — where he observed Dave McKechnie, a great senior pastor. After college, he was in investment banking for seven years rising to the position of senior vice president of the Westcap Corporation. While on a mission trip, he and his wife, Leslie, felt called by God to leave that very good position and become the director of Youth Ministries at Grace Presbyterian. It was there he was challenged by Pastor McKechnie to attend seminary.

While in seminary, Trey had the joy of working as an intern for nine months alongside Jim Singleton at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Austin. Jim encouraged Trey to go to a church where he would preach every Sunday, which he has done for the last eight years at Matthews Memorial Presbyterian Church in Albany, Tex.

God has worked through Trey, Leslie and their family in a very special way there in

Albany. Their membership has grown three-fold, their budget five-fold, and they have just completed a \$1.5M renovation. Furthermore, Trey has viewed the whole Albany community as his congregation, and together, they have accomplished some amazing things.

As you can see by my enthusiasm, even though Trey hasn’t been the senior pastor of a multi-staff church, I heartily believe that he has had the experiences in which God has uniquely shaped him to be your next senior pastor. In God’s providence, God has called Trey in this season in his life and ministry and this time in your life as a church. Working with a very special staff team, as well as a great leadership group from the church family, God has some wonderfully fruitful days ahead for this great church!

James A. Capps

FAITHinACTION

at FPC!



MAY 31
2010-2011 CONFIRMATION CLASS AND LEADERS



JUNE 17-19
MO-RANCH FAMILY RETREAT



MAY 31
FPC STAFF SERVICE DAY AT
HOUSE OF NEIGHORLY SERVICE



Add a little color to some children's lives



A few children who'll shoulder backpacks this August carry burdens beyond the butterflies that accompany the first days of classes. They leave for school with little money or personal belongings.

House of Neighborly Service (HNS) is looking for the community's help in making sure all children have tools for school this fall. Starting in July, HNS will kick off their 2011 "Back-to-School Supplies" Project. The focus of the event is to provide westside San Antonio children (pre-kindergarten through fifth grade) with the basic supplies they will need in their classrooms for starting off the school year. Churches and individuals are being asked to donate school supplies, or funds to purchase school supplies, to ensure that children in need are equipped for their education.

School supply items needed:

- 12" rulers (marked in centimeters)
- Backpacks
- Ballpoint pens (black or blue)
- Blunt end scissors

- Bottles of glue (4 oz. and 8 oz.)
- Boxes of non-toxic markers
- Colored map pencils
- Husky pencils
- Jumbo crayons
- Large boxes of tissues
- Loose-leaf notebook paper (wide rule)
- No. 2 pencils
- Pencil tip erasers
- Pint and gallon size zip lock bags
- Pocket folders with brads (multiple colors)
- Pointed end scissors
- Primary writing tablets
- Red lead pencils
- Regular crayons (8, 16 or 24 per box)
- Soft pink erasers
- Spiral notebooks (70 pages, wide rule)
- Toothbrushes (for 3-5 year olds)
- Toothpaste

Where to bring your donations: At FPC, donations will be collected in the HNS dropbox in the Elevator Lobby by the Avenue E entrance.

Financial donations for purchasing school supplies should be mailed to the House of Neighborly Service (407 N. Calaveras, San Antonio, TX 78207), Attention: Cotton Clark. Checks should be made payable to the House of Neighborly Service, specifying "Back-to-School" Project in the memo line. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact FPC church member Rosemary Engstrom (re1115@att.net / 210-699-0408).

HNS staff and volunteers will fill bags with school supplies for the various age and grade levels. The bags of supplies will be distributed to deserving children during the first few weeks of August, in time for the beginning of the school year.

Through your generosity, HNS distributed supplies to 146 children in 2010. Wouldn't it be great if we as a congregation could help even more kids this year?

Report from Stewardship and Finance Committee MAY 2011

<u>Operating Fund Budget</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Total Revenues	\$1,762,383	\$1,751,326	\$11,057)
Total Operating Expenses	\$1,219,127	\$1,314,632	(\$95,505)
Total Benevolences	\$228,986	\$227,882	\$1,104
Net Income/Loss	\$314,270	\$208,812	(\$105,458)

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.fpconline.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.

Best of the rest

STAFF NEWS

Sunday, July 17, will be the last day for **The Rev. Jim Capps**, interim senior pastor. He will preach at all three Traditional worship services, and a farewell reception will be held in his honor immediately following the 11 a.m. service. Jim will return back to his home in Indianapolis, Ind., where he will begin another interim ministry.

The Rev. George Sturch, congregational associate, has announced his retirement, effective Sunday, July 31. On that day after the last worship services conclude, George will be recognized with a reception for his 16 years of ministry here at FPC (51-plus years total).

On June 1, Organist **Jae Ha** was named associate minister of music.

On June 13, **Tracy Hair** became the director of facility operations, and **Mike Boursier** was named facility maintenance manager. In their new roles, Tracy will supervise the household and kitchen staffs, as well as receive all facility reservations (set ups, room reservations, etc.), with Mike overseeing the facility and all of its systems (HVAC, electric, plumbing and phones).

Effective July 1, **Janie Jimenez** will become household staff coordinator, and **Tony Bethea** will become security/utility custodian. Janie will work directly with the household staff in their day-to-day operations, and Tony will provide security for the church and be responsible for cleaning and set up of the New Covenant building.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The San Antonio Dental Clinic is needing front desk help. If interested in serving, contact **Kip Zbinden** (210-826-7575).



CHURCH REGISTER

Marriage - June 11

Ryan David DeWall and Neely Ann Clark

Death - June 18

Charles Gunther Orsinger

Death - June 20

Frances Heard Billups

ORDAINED

Former FPC Director of Youth Ministries **Kellen Smith** was ordained June 18 at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, Fla. and has accepted a call as associate pastor of Youth, Their Families and College Ministries at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church (625 Montgomery Ave., Bryn Mawr, PA, 19010). We congratulate Kellen and his wife, Sarah.



PRAYERS NEEDED FOR FAMILIES AND MISSIONARIES IN MEXICO

First Presbyterian Church has long-standing relationships through Presbyterian Border Ministry and directly with Mexican Presbyterian churches in Noreste Presbytery (which includes Nuevo Laredo and Ciudad Acuna). As you pray for members of our own congregation, please also remember families of our partner churches in Mexico who have had family members kidnapped or killed in border violence:

- Julio and two friends, who were abducted while fishing together in September 2010
- Jose, abducted in August 2008
- Jose, abducted son-in-law of a church lay leader in Acuna

Please also pray for **Chris McReynolds** and **Roberto Medina**, FPC missionaries of Presbyterian Border Ministry, who live and work in northern Mexico.

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).

Friday, July 15: 11:30 AM- Fort Sam Houston Golf Course

Mark your calendar for our July birthday luncheon. Members with a birthday this month will receive a complimentary lunch, with others paying \$12. Call the church no later than Sunday, July 10, for a reservation.

Tuesday, July 26: 9 AM - Room 302

The church will hold an AARP Safe Driving Class. This is a four-hour refresher course designed for drivers 50 years and older. Certificates of completion will be issued for car insurance discounts. Cost is \$12 for card-carrying AARP members and \$14 for non-members.

CHURCH CLOSURE

The church, including the Children's Center, will be closed on Monday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. On Tuesday, July 5, the Children's Center and church office will re-open at their normal times — 7 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. respectively.



CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP CANCELED JULY 17

Due to the Vacation Bible School in Westminster Hall, Contemporary worship will not be held on July 17. On this day, please join us at one of our Traditional services — 8:30, 9:30 or 11 a.m.



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JULY EVENTS

Full calendar online –
www.fpconline.com

- July 3: Communion Sunday
- July 3: “All-Church 4th of July Picnic”
- July 4: Church closed
- July 10-15: High school mission trip
- July 17: Contemporary worship canceled
- July 17: Rev. Capps last day/reception
- July 17-21: Vacation Bible School
- July 26: AARP Safe Driving Class
- July 29: High school Blowout (lock in)
- July 31: Rev. Sturch last day/reception
- July 31: Summer interns last day
- July 31: Loaves & Fishes

