

THE Penn Street LETTER

First Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth

JUNE 2021 | Volume 21, Number 6

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES AT FPC

EDUCATION

ADULT SUMMER SERIES BEGINS JUNE 6

Sunday mornings from 10 to 10:45 a.m. two adult Summer Series will be offered during the months of June and July. No registration is required. Childcare is not available at this time. (Full Children and Youth programming on Sunday mornings resumes this fall.)

June offerings include: Film and Theology Series, coordinated by Dr. Steve Brotherton and Eric Varnon (Room 235), and Bible Study led by the Rev. Brendan McLean (Room 237).

July offerings will be announced in June. If you have questions about the adult Summer Series, please contact the Rev. Dr. Michael Waschevski (michaelw@fpcfw.org) or 817.335.1231 in the church office.

STAINED GLASS TOURS: JUNE 14 AND JULY 12

Have you ever wondered about FPC's stained glass windows, or marveled at their beauty and craftsmanship? Each window tells a story, and in June and July, the Rev. Brendan McLean will offer guided tours of the stained glass. Dates are Monday, June 14 and Monday, July 12, at 5:30 p.m. Contact the church office (817.335.1231) to register.

FELLOWSHIP

JAZZ CONCERT AND A MOVIE IN THE PARKING LOT: JUNE 11

This summer, we are planning a series of intergenerational, all church fellowship opportunities. The first of these events will be on Friday, June 11. Meet us in the FPC parking lot for a jazz concert and a movie on the big screen. The concert will begin at 7 p.m. and the movie will begin at 8 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs and dancing shoes for a fun evening under the stars! Get more info and register at fpcfw.info/jazzandsoul.

SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE SUMMER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas In July Festival: July 18, 3-5 p.m. It is never a bad time to wear red and green. Join us for an afternoon of games (including BINGO) and activities for all ages. We will collect toys for FPC's Christmas Toy Store.

Forest Park Pool Party: August 6, 7-9 p.m. Let's start Mission on the Move weekend with a splash! We will rent out the pool for our church family to swim, play games, and enjoy time together.

CHILDREN

CHILDREN'S SUMMER ACTIVITIES AND CAMPS

We've planned several fun, energetic, and creative summer opportunities for children. Be sure to join in the fun and make it a summer to remember! For camp dates, information, and to register, visit fpcfw.org/summercamps.

REOPENING UPDATES

Recently, the FPC Workgroup on Reopening made several recommendations to the Session, which were approved. With updated metrics coming in from Tarrant County, and updated guidance from the CDC, there are several changes to the ways in which we gather:

- Masks are no longer required when we gather together, but are encouraged.
- Advance registration for in-person worship at 9 and 11 a.m. is no longer required, and there are no capacity limits on worship.
- Worship spaces will have sections reserved for social distancing, for those who feel more comfortable in those areas.
- Group events and meetings no longer have a capacity limit (was previously limited to 25 people).
- Food and drink are allowed at outdoor gatherings.
- Plan for a full reopening kickoff on Sunday, September 12! This will be a full indoor reopening without size restrictions (and with Heath's delicious food!)

These are challenging and rapidly changing times, and we understand that everyone's comfort level is different. We ask for grace, kindness, and respect for each other as we move forward.

For more information and a list of frequently asked questions, visit fpcfw.org/covid.



PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

There have been lots of changes and shifts taking place lately. Changes in the CDC guidance. Changes in the Tarrant County metrics. Changes in how we gather as a church family. And these changes bring up questions: Do we wear masks? Do we not wear masks? Do we shake hands? Do we still fist bump? Can I still just

wave from 6-feet away? When can we eat together again?

With all the changes taking place and recognizing that everyone's comfort levels around these changes are going to be different, I just wanted to tell you about one of my favorite theological phrases that deals with how we are to relate to each other. The phrase is "spirit of grace." (Being right around Pentecost and celebrating how the Spirit continues to move in and through and among us, this phrase seems all the more relevant.)

This full phrase appears in the book by the prophet Zechariah: "I'll pour a spirit of grace and prayer over them." (Zechariah 12.10, MSG) The people of God were going through a lot of changes when the prophet Zechariah was with them as well. They were sent into exile. They had returned from exile. They were trying to rebuild now that they were back. And these changes caused a lot of questions: What do we do first? Where should we pour our initial resources? Can we make it through this together?

And God said through Zechariah: "I'll pour a spirit of grace and prayer over them." Notice the "spirit of grace" is not something the people created. Also notice that it is not something that they opted-in on. God simply poured it all over them! I like to think of this as a long pour, a lavish pour. God gifted them a "spirit of grace" as they navigated change and figured out the path forward together.

I think God gifts us this gift as well. God gives us a "spirit of grace" with one another to live and breathe and move into tomorrow together realizing that we will all have different perspectives and different approaches. But the fact that God has poured it over us gives us the humility and the ability to wade into the coming weeks and months together.

So with all the changes that have already come and with all the changes that will continue to come, let us bathe in the "spirit of grace" with one another and may we trust that God will continue to guide us!

Grace and peace,

Brian



Join a Presbyterian Women's Circle today!

FPCFW.ORG/PW

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions for the JULY issue of the Penn Street Letter are due **Wednesday, JUNE 23**. Submissions for the weekly Penn Street Online emailed newsletters are due the Wednesday prior to each week's issue. Please send to Pam Burkholder at pamb@fpcfw.org.

FOLLOW US

Do you follow First Presbyterian on social media? If not, find us on the following sites and follow along for photos, reminders, encouragement, and more.



@firstpresfw



@firstpres_fw



@firstpres_fw

PUBLISHER INFO

The Penn Street Letter is published monthly by First Presbyterian Church, 1000 Penn Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-3496. Periodicals postage is paid at Fort Worth, TX and at additional offices.

Editor: Pam Burkholder

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Penn Street Letter at 1000 Penn Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-3496.

Welcome, New Members!



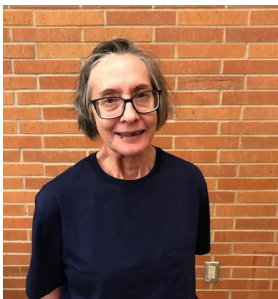
Please join the Evangelism Committee in welcoming **Connie and Jeff Donahue**, who joined by reaffirmation of faith on May 4. Jeff is a retired Fire Protection Engineer and Connie is a Counselor at Birdville ISD.



Please join the Evangelism Committee in welcoming **Carol Sue Hammett**, who joined by reaffirmation of faith on May 4. Carol was a regular attendee at the 8 a.m. worship service before the pandemic



Please join the Evangelism Committee in welcoming **Allie and Matt Miller**, who joined on April 27 by transfer of membership. Their daughter, Mary, was born in December.



Please join the Evangelism Committee in welcoming **Andrea Toomey**, who joined FPC on Sunday, May 16, by reaffirmation of faith. Andrea had worshipped in person at FPC before the pandemic, and had recently begun visiting again.

PW HONORS ROBYN MICHALOVE ON HER DOCTORATE



Presbyterian Women recently presented Robyn Michalove with the gift of her robe and academic hood in honor of her graduation from the Doctor of Ministry program at Brite Divinity School. Pictured above is Robyn in the new robe.

Martha Cunningham, Moderator of Presbyterian Women at FPC, says, "We are so proud of our Pastor Robyn! In 2019 we awarded her our organization's pin as an Honorary Lifetime Member. So of course when she was going to earn her doctorate degree we were eager to honor her with a donation to purchase her new robe and hood. I am thankful to past Moderators Barbara Reece and Sally Parmelee for reminding me of this PW tradition of giving that began with our Associate Pastor Michael and continued with Josh and now Robyn. Congratulations Dr. Robyn!"

BE INSPIRED...

Below are some upcoming opportunities for being inspired into a life of discipleship through church events.



MOMS (Mothers Offering Mothers Support) is a ministry of First Presbyterian Church for all mothers of children of all ages. Gather with other mothers for support, encouragement, Bible study, fellowship, and friendship. For working moms, stay-at-home-moms, and all moms in between! Come as your schedule allows; no need to attend every meeting or the entire meeting — let MOMS fit your busy life.

This summer (June, July, August), MOMS will meet in person at local restaurants on the 2nd Thursdays at 6:45 p.m., and via Zoom on the 4th Thursdays at 1 p.m.

*June 10, July 8, August 12: in person
June 24, July 22, August 26: via Zoom*

To subscribe to weekly emails or get more information about MOMS, contact Robyn Michalove (robynm@fpcfw.org or 817.335.1231, ext. 266).

ALL CHURCH LABOR DAY WEEKEND RETREAT AT MO-RANCH



FPCFW.ORG/MORANCH



WELLNESS WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Greetings from your Wellness Committee! While FPC's usual wellness offerings have been unavailable for the past year, your Wellness Committee wants to know what wellness activities YOU, the congregation, would like us to provide when we're able to gather for in-person activities again. In addition to the activities the Wellness Committee typically provides, such as sponsoring races/walks and hosting fitness classes, are there any other wellness activities you would like to see offered at FPC?

Please take a few minutes to respond to the survey below to tell us what you'd like to see at FPC to aid in improving your wellness! Then, mail to or drop off at the church office: First Presbyterian Church, 1000 Penn St, Fort Worth, TX 76102-3496. If you prefer to fill out the survey online, it is available at fpcfw.org/wellness.

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

OPTIONS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

- ☐ Runs/walks
(currently 4 races annually sponsored by FPC)
- ☐ Fitness classes
(normal offerings: Yoga, Tai Chi, ReFit)
- ☐ Hikes
- ☐ Bike rides
- ☐ Cooking classes
- ☐ Nutrition classes/information
- ☐ Health Screenings
- ☐ Classes or presentations on other wellness topics

ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES, IDEAS, OR REQUESTS
(PLEASE SPECIFY - ALL IDEAS ARE WELCOME!)

ENGAGE THE WORLD...

Below are a few ways we engage with others through church events and outreach opportunities.

WAYS TO SERVE THIS SUMMER

Gifts of time and talents shared in a spirit of generosity are a joyful part of our Christian living. At First Presbyterian, we offer numerous opportunities for you to respond to what God is doing in your life. God gives us all individual talents and skills we can use to serve others and the church. Below are just a few examples of the many ways you can use your talents to give back through FPC ministries.

PRESBYTERIAN HABITAT BUILD CONTINUES IN JUNE

Join Trinity Habitat for Humanity and other Presbyterians as we help build a home for Tameka Black and her family in the Como neighborhood of Fort Worth. There are 8 build days, 11 volunteers on site at a time, masks required, and no shared food on site. Bring your own work gloves, closed toe shoes, and (if you have them) safety glasses. Remaining build dates are June 2, 4, 5, 9, 11, 12. Reserve your build date today at <http://vhub.at/presbyterians>.

VOLUNTEER AT COMMUNITY CROSSROADS

To volunteer at Community Crossroads Outreach Center, visit fpcfw.info/ccvolunteer to choose from a list of available days, times, and opportunities for the upcoming month (the registration link is updated monthly with new opportunities). Thank you for your continued support! Questions? Contact Deneice Allen (dallen@fpcfw.org or 817.335.1231, ext. 265) or Dori Al-Hammami (dalhammami@fpcfw.org or 817.333.9461).

LOVE MEETING NEW PEOPLE? SERVE AS AN USHER

Ushers create a welcoming environment for those attending in-person worship. (A friendly smile is the most important usher skill!) Ushers are responsible for welcoming worshipers into the building, providing information, escorting members to their seats, and assisting with the recession of the congregation. Volunteer opportunities are available on a rotating basis or simply as you are available, at either the 9 or 11 a.m. worship services. For more information or to volunteer, contact Celeste Falter (cfalter@fpcfw.org or 817.335.1231, ext. 261).

HELP OTHERS ATTEND WORSHIP: JOIN THE SHUTTLE MINISTRY

FPC's Shuttle Ministry transports folks from Trinity Terrace to the 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday worship services. Rain or shine, hot or cold, the shuttle is there to transport those needing assistance from 8:15 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. each Sunday. We welcome anyone who is interested to join our ranks. The rewards are the smiling faces of the folks that would have a hard time getting to church without us. To learn more about Shuttle Ministry, or volunteer as a driver, contact Terry Adams (rtadams1@sbcglobal.net).

Recently at Community Crossroads...



FPC's new Pastor Brian Coulter paid a visit to Community Crossroads. Brian met volunteers and clients, observed some of the many ministries at work, and toured the newly-renovated campus.

If your small group or Committee is interested in scheduling a guided tour of the newly renovated Community Crossroads campus, contact Dori Al-Hammami (dalhammami@fpcfw.org or 817.333.9461).



Special thanks to UniFirst, who recently donated 144 cases of antimicrobial nitrile gloves to Community Crossroads. These gloves are used in the dental clinic and are a favorite in the food pantry. In addition, UniFirst also donated 30 cases of hand sanitizer.

STAYING CONNECTED

From Peanut Butter Sunday to a Senior Celebration in the parking lot and PW gatherings, pictured here are some of the recent ways the FPC family has been staying connected to the church and one another. If you have photos of an FPC event or gathering that you'd like to see included here, email them to Pam Burkholder, Communications Coordinator, at pamb@fpcfw.org.



JOYS & CONCERNS

Following are the joys and concerns shared as May 20, 2021. To respect the privacy of those listed, names are included only when the individuals grant their permission.

Our loving sympathy to...

Friends and family of **Rush Hart**, who died April 25. Surviving FPC family members are Janie Hart and Cindy Hart.

Andrea and Mike Pavell, Whitney Pavell, and Delaney Pavell on the death of Andrea's father, Roger Stork, on April 21 in Denver, Colorado.

Raymond and Kathi Daniel on the death of his uncle, John Lynch, on April 28.

Our loving thoughts and prayers are with...

Harlene Satterfield, Vernon Rew, Kim Yarwood, Marjorie Gordon, Mike Millar, and Julie Carter, who are recovering from surgery or injury.

Margo Dean, Sarah Graham, Jimmy Burnett, Jim Goble, Karl Kuipers, Jerry Brownlee, Eliot Kerlin, Joyce Brower, Janelle Eklund, Frank Stewart, Karl Travis, Marilyn Wilson, Phyllis Propes, Emma Coley, and Frances Blake, who are dealing with illness or undergoing treatment.

Our caring prayers for extended family include...

Peggy Kreider (niece of **Bob and Jane Trask**), James Sloan (father-in-law of **Murray Hilyard**), Tammy Shepherd (sister-in-law of **Murray Hilyard**), Victoria DeLay (niece of **Jamie Downing**), Sharie Kenny (sister of **Taleesa Van Tassel**), Rosalyn Blackmon (niece of **Taleesa Van Tassel**), Cora McCoy (mother-in-law of **Lesley McCoy**), Paula Perkins (sister of **Susie Kuipers**), Audrey Hart (great-granddaughter of **Bob and Jane Trask**), Ann Welch (sister of **Andrea Frankenfield**), Mike Bryan (son-in-law of **Mary Alice Dobesh**), Nancy Hatfield (mother of **Sarah Haddock**), Lynn

Prater (daughter of **Harlene Satterfield**); Bill Neil (brother of **Marilyn Love**), Janet Laminack (cousin of **Julie Sphar** and **Vance Laminack**), John DeMore (son-in-law of **June Sprott**), Kathy Kline (**Maxine Kruse's** daughter), and Susan Chenault (**Frances Chenault's** daughter).

Prayers for peace in our world, for the safety of **Lt. Rolf Tilley**, who is serving in the US Air Force, deployed in Japan. Rolf is the son of **Katie and Jaret Tilley** and the grandson of **Janelle Eklund**. For the safety of **Thomas Shelby**, who is serving in the US Navy, deployed in Japan. Thomas is the son of **Ellen Buck** and the grandson of **Vance and Donna Laminack**. For the safety of **Diego A. Saldivar**, who is serving in the US Navy; Diego is the son of **Becky and Rene Saldivar**. Also, for the safety of Nathan Gunter (nephew of **Russell and Vivian Norment**), stationed in Korea, and Cullen Cline (grandson of **Bill and Glinda King**) who is serving in the US Navy.

Prayers for those affected by the coronavirus pandemic including medical professionals and healthcare providers.

Prayers for Cindy Corell, our mission co-worker in Haiti. Prayers for peace and resolution for the people of Haiti.

Our congratulations and best wishes to...

Will and Allison Blocker on the birth of Anne Camille Blocker on September 19, 2020.

Brandon and Stephanie Whited on the birth of William Sheppard Whited on May 7, 2021. William joins big brother Garrett. Proud FPC family are **Patrick and Becky Sheppard** and **Kimberly Sheppard**.

Worship

AT
FIRST PRES



IN PERSON

Sundays on Penn Street:
9 a.m. Great Hall
11 a.m. Sanctuary



LIVESTREAM

fpcfw.org/livestream
11 a.m. Sundays





THE penn street LETTER

First Presbyterian Church
1000 Penn Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

PERIODICALS
POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to
The Penn Street Letter,
1000 Penn Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Church Office
Ph: 817.335.1231
Fax: 817.335.5663

WWW.FPCFW.ORG

FPC ENCOURAGES YOU TO REGISTER FOR THE COVID-19 VACCINE

All adults (16 and up) are eligible for the Covid-19 vaccine, and based on recommendations from the FDA and the CDC, adolescents ages 12-15 are now eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine. Anyone in Tarrant County may register for the vaccine and be placed on a waitlist. In order to protect ourselves and our community, First Presbyterian Church's Wellness Committee encourages everyone to register. As of this writing, the quickest way to receive a vaccine is through national pharmacies (CVS/Walgreens) and through Tarrant County Public Health (tarrantcounty.com/covidshot). Registration is also available by calling 817.248.6299 (option 7).

REGISTER AT TARRANTCOUNTY.COM/COVIDSHOT

Need help registering? Contact the church office (817.335.1231 or pobrien@fpcfw.org) and provide your name and contact information. A member of the Wellness Committee will be in touch to help you register.

