FPC Celebrates 25 Years with Rev. Bruce Buchanan

Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Buchanan, the Associate Pastor of Community Ministries and Director of the Stewpot celebrates 25 years in ministry at First Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, May 9.

Bruce holds a Masters of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in New York, and a BA in History and Political Science from Wagner College in New York. Before coming to Dallas, he was Pastor of First United Presbyterian Church, Dunkirk, New York. Dr. Buchanan has overseen the programs of The Stewpot since 1987, molding it into a premier day shelter that meets the emergency needs of persons suffering from hunger, mental illness, and physical pain. His reputation for fairness has led to successful alliances with over ten homeless service providers that provide regular on-site clinics at The Stewpot, and which established the model for the City of Dallas homeless assistance center, The Bridge.

Dr. Buchanan’s creativity and insight have helped to shape The Stewpot’s children and youth programs. The Summer Visiting Youth Group is known nationwide as an urban mission experience for groups from around the country. Bruce supported the formation of the Venturing Crew for at-risk youth, giving youth a positive alternative to gang related activities, and he spearheaded the creation of a Homeless Orientation Program for elementary aged children. Buchanan has served as Chairperson of the Division of Ministries and Advocacy for Grace Presbytery in Dallas, Interim Director of the Homeless Assistance Center for the Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance, and board member Interfaith Housing Coalition, Shelter Ministries, and National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Bruce has also served as President of the Presbyterian Housing Program, a Presbytery program, conceived of the structure for the current city-funded Day Resource Center for the Homeless, wrote initial funding application for it, implemented the plan and initiated its services. He worked to devise and obtain funding for a Hispanic chaplain at Parkland Memorial Hospital and acted as a consultant for starting a community ministry program to the following groups: Community of Churches, Irving, Texas; Little Rock, Arkansas; San Angelo, Texas; Greenville, Texas, Houston, Texas.

Together we celebrate the ministry of Bruce Buchanan and all that he has brought to the life of this church. We look forward to the coming years as these important outreach programs continue to bear fruit and we continue to serve God and bear witness to the city of Dallas.

No Mother’s Day plans?
Join us to hear pianist Paul Bisaccia and lyric baritone David Giardina, a star of New York’s Rainbow Room perform at FPC on Sunday, May 13th at 4:00 PM in Byrd Hall. Their program offering is “Tin Pan Alley Alive,” a pure Americana review of favorite songs from the first part of the 20th century.

The concert program will include the complete solo version of George Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue. Join us for this unique event designed for all ages! As always, events in the First Concert Series are offered free of charge.

For more information contact Josh Taylor, Director of Worship & Music at (214)748-8051. Reservations are not required but are greatly appreciated and may be made by calling the church or visiting www.firstpresdallas.org/tinpanalley.com.

This Sunday Bruce Buchanan will preach “Repeat the Sounding Joy” on Psalm 98.
COMING MAY 20--ALAN LIGHTMAN, AUTHOR OF
EINSTEIN’S DREAMS AND MR. g

Sunday, May 20, 7:30 p.m.

Situated at the intersection of art and science, Alan Lightman’s work boldly bridges the gap between these two very different but similar worlds. A theoretical physicist at MIT and Harvard, Lightman is also an award-winning novelist, best known for Einstein’s Dreams, which sold over a million copies. His new work, Mr. g, a story of the creation, has been described as “a stunningly imaginative work that celebrates the tragic and joyous nature of existence on the grandest possible scale.”

Tickets for members of First Presbyterian Church are $15.00
Purchase tickets online at www.tickets.DallasMuseumofArt.org or call 214-922-1818.

Dr. Bill Greenway, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, will give a presentation at 9:40 a.m. on Sunday, May 20 in the Chapel relating to faith and cosmology, just in time for Arts & Letters Live that night. He will also facilitate a book discussion on Mr. g during lunch that day. If you would like to reserve a book for $15 or participate in the discussion, please contact Bethany Taylor at 214-748-8051, or bethanyt@firstpresdallas.org.

It is time again for the Third Thursday gathering of Presbyterian Women. Third Thursday was started a few years ago as an opportunity for FPC women and their friends to get together for an informal time of fellowship. It is open to women of all ages from early twenties to Keenagers and meets in various homes from 6:00-8:00 on the Third Thursday of each month. The hostess is responsible for preparing a light meal, and there is no agenda for the gathering. It simply is a time to get together with old friends and hopefully to meet new friends.

This month we will meet on May 17 at the home of Amy Aamold, 910 Cesar Chavez Blvd. in downtown Dallas just across the street from the Farmers’ Market. She can be reached at (214)507-9009 or amy@aamold.com. Advance notice is not necessary, but it would be nice to let Amy know if you are coming, so she will have an idea of how much food to prepare. A special invitation is extended to women who have recently joined FPC and who would like to meet other women of the church.

For more information about Third Thursday or to be put on the e-mail list for future meetings, contact Alex Soucek at 214/328-0525 or at teamsoucek@sbcglobal.net.

ANNUNCING - VCS 2012: OPERATION OVERBOARD

VCS 2012 is July 30 – Aug. 3 from 9 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. for ages four through 6th Grade. Our theme is Operation Overboard: Dare to go deep with God. Our key scripture is “Faith is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we don’t see” Hebrews 11:1. At Operation Overboard, children discover five “ocean insights” they can take to live as followers of God - Depend on God, Choose to Follow and Change the World. These will be shared using Bible stories including Noah Depends on God, The Disciples choosing to Follow Jesus, and Paul Delivering the Good news.

Each day the children will experience the story and ocean insight through science, crafts, music, story, and mission. Make your summer plans and join us for VCS.

Registration is available online at www.firstpresdallas.org/vcs. Cost for the week is $15. Checks can be mailed or dropped off at the church Att: VCS Bethany Taylor. Contact children@firstpresdallas.org with questions. Friends and relatives are welcome. And we are looking for interested adults who might want to share their time at VCS also so let us know if you would be willing to serve. Carol Herriage and Ellyn Morgan are directing and would love to talk to you about volunteering.
Sunday, May 13
8:50 a.m. Worship Service – Chapel
9:30 a.m. Church School Classes for All Ages
9:30 a.m. Bible From Scratch – Courson Two
10:00 a.m. Transportation from Grace Presbyterian Village
10:50 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
No Congregational Lunch
4:00 p.m. First Concert Series – Byrd Hall
6:30 p.m. Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal – Bell Room

Monday, May 14
4:30 p.m. Disciple Bible Study – Home of Bonnie Edwards

Tuesday, May 15
12:00 p.m. Presbyterian Women General Meeting – Byrd Hall
6:00 p.m. Congregational Care Committee- Room 324
6:30 p.m. Education Committee- Courson Two

Wednesday, May 16
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study – Courson One
10:00 a.m. Keenager Planning - Parlor
12:00 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study – Blakley
6:00 p.m. Community Ministries Junior Crew and Venturing Crew
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir – Choir Room

Thursday, May 17
6:00 p.m. Third Thursday Gathering- Home of Amy Aamold

Friday, May 18
3:30 p.m. Day School Pre-K Graduation – Byrd Hall
6:00 p.m. Venturing Crew Lock Out

Sunday, May 20
Foundation Sunday
8:50 a.m. Worship Service – Chapel
9:30 a.m. Church School Classes for All Ages
9:30 a.m. Dr. Greenway Presentation - Chapel
9:30 a.m. Bible From Scratch – Courson Two
10:00 a.m. Transportation from Grace Presbyterian Village
10:50 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
Commissioning of Northern Ireland Mission Team
12:00 p.m. Congregational Lunch
Lunch and Book Discussion – Byrd Hall
Summer Teacher Orientation – 4th Floor
Session – Chapel
12:30 Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal- Bell Room
3:00 p.m. Pedal Power Bike-A-Thon – White Rock Lake
Presbyterian Women Circle 10 –Home of Ellyn Morgan
4:30 p.m. Art & Letters Live – Alan Lightman
7:30 p.m. Art & Letters Live – Alan Lightman

Children’s Corner
UPCOMING EVENTS

May 13th – 3rd Graders Bible Presentation in 10:50am Worship.

June 1-3 – Chorister Camp (1st – 6th Grade)

June 11 – Marvelous Mission Monday – Our Savior Community Garden

A complete list of Spring and Summer Children’s dates is available at www.firstpresdallas.org. Questions or to register for activities email children@firstpresdallas.org.

Scholarship
FOSTER SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FPC COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
Thanks to the generosity of the family of Robyn Conlon and many FPC members, there are scholarships in honor of Dr. Dan Foster available for qualified students of two and four-year colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher learning.

Visit www.firstpresdallas.org/fosterscholarship for guidelines and application.

Youth Matters
SUNDAY, MAY 13
9:30 a.m. Church School for all youth, 4th floor
10:50 a.m. Worship
Saturday, May 19
5:00 p.m. C & W Dance Rehearsal, 4th floor

Reminder
Children and Youth Sunday School will not meet on Sunday, May 27 to have a Teacher Sabbath day. Select Adult Sunday School Classes will meet that morning and will be advertised in next week’s paper and bulletin.
### Summer Camps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAMP</th>
<th>DATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chorister Camp</td>
<td>June 1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marvelous Mission Project 1</td>
<td>June 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mo-Ranch Worship &amp; Music</td>
<td>June 17-23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montreat Worship &amp; Music</td>
<td>June 24-30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace Day Camp</td>
<td>July 9-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mo-Ranch Annual All-Church</td>
<td>July 20-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retreat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marvelous Mission Project 2</td>
<td>July 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation Church School</td>
<td>July 30- August 3</td>
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Join us for one or more of our exciting summer camps and retreats!
Visit www.firstpresdallas.org/whats-happening for more information and to register online.

### Webinar My Family & Me

**BY ELLYN MORGAN**

We had a great time last Saturday at My Family and Me. Seven energetic children and six adults gathered at the new FPC covered playground. A big thank you goes to the Lamptey family for bringing juice boxes and chips for all to share! Abrahma (2nd grade) and Sarah (1st grade) were also a big help with our littlest friends. We welcomed the Griffin Family and the Hufham family as we together circled up for our welcome “Hello” song. If you and your family are interested in play-date type activities for children ages 0-5, please contact Ellyn Morgan or Miatta Wilson. The Children’s Committee of FPC is in search of new leadership for this age group.

On Saturday, May 12th from 10:00 AM-11:00 AM, FPC will be the site of a webinar focusing on “Empowering Congregations to Sing!” This event will be led by congregational singing expert and Dallas past, John Thornburg. The recorded video will be released by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians for music directors and congregations across the country. If you are interested in congregational singing and hymnody, come join the event and be a part of the filming!

For more information contact Josh Taylor at josht@firstpresdallas.org.

### Day School Trip to GPV

On Thursday, May 3, the Pre-K 5 class of the Developmental Day School visited Grace Presbyterian Village. The children had a great time performing songs and later chatting with the residents. When asked what they liked about their field trip, they said they enjoyed singing, playing with the parachute after their picnic, answering the residents’ questions, and looking at the pet bunnies and birds. The PKS class takes a trip every year to Grace Presbyterian Village, and it never fails to be a joyful experience for both the residents and the children.

### KidQuake

The weekend of April 27, a group from FPC joined others in the Presbytery at Camp Gilmont for the annual KidQuake Event.

**BY ELLYN MORGAN**

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Last Sunday, FPC celebrated our graduating seniors with the theme “Dead Poets Society - Carpe Diem.”

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The FPC newspaper reserves the right to edit submitted materials. Please contact Beth Hernandez at 214-748-8051 or bethh@firstpresdallas.org with any requests to subscribe or discontinue the paper.