



FEBRUARY 2017

A loving, inclusive fellowship sharing God's grace through Christ.



FOSA 14th ANNIVERSARY

February, 2017

Sunday, February 6

Lord's Supper Observance
Recognition of Prayer Ministry

Sunday, February 12

Baptism
Recognition of
Children & Youth Ministries

Sunday, February 19

Election of New Deacons
Recognition of Ministries
& Missions Ministry

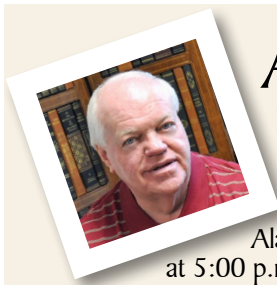
Sunday, February 26

Art Ministry Show
Brunch following Bible Fellowship
New Deacon Ordination

Please join us for our Annual Anniversary Brunch following Bible Fellowship classes Sunday, February 26. Great food and fellowship!

Please bring a breakfast item to share with everyone!

Celebrate with us all month!



A NOTE FROM RON...

Happy Anniversary (or Birthday) to THE FELLOWSHIP OF SAN ANTONIO! On the first Sunday of February 14 years ago, we stepped into a commitment with Christ to begin a new work in a new place. We began in a small church in Alamo Heights.

Alamo Heights Christian Church was a great host for us on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. We felt like we were Seventh Day Baptists. After almost a year, we outgrew that worship center and Saturdays. We began, with the help of a great committee, to find property in the Stone Oak area and moved to Canyon Springs Golf Course for Sunday Worship. We enjoyed being in that beautiful setting even though setting up and taking down for Worship was a task. But, it was a joyful task. As we began finalizing plans for our new home, we grew nicely. We even had people come in off the golf course who eventually became part of the church. One of the big issues we encountered was the inadequacy of the women's restroom. So, we made sure the new building had more stalls than almost any other church in town. After about two years, we moved into our new, but not yet finished, worship center and building—no landscaping, no Fellowship Hall, gym without a gym floor, etc., and no kitchen fixtures and offices not yet complete. But, we were in our new building! The Worship Center did not have the beautiful glass windows that are part of the architectural detail we enjoy today. In fact, we had plastic stretched across where windows would eventually be installed. The wind would blow and make some interesting sounds through the plastic! One of our parishioners came into the office with a check for \$250,000.00 to install windows. What a welcome advance even though we had become fond of the Fire Marshall required to sit in the back of our Worship Center! We then began the completion of the gym and, eventually, the beautiful space we know as the Fellowship Hall.

When you have no sponsor (we were our own sponsor) and you have no collateral, you must pray and ask a lot. You also must have faithful people who believe in investing in the future of God's Work and Kingdom. We bought our original land for \$1.9 million. The Baptist Loan Department in Dallas loaned us the balance after we paid a significant down payment. We paid that first and the original loan off almost two years ago, which was excellent. When we knew we were close to paying it off, we asked our congregation to help accelerate this payoff and we did so in one year. The building cost us \$10,000,000. Much of that came from lump donations. We had hoped to borrow \$6,000,000 that would get us in the building but the amount quickly rose closer to \$8,000,000. That was about 11 years ago, but the building was still not finished. Many people came together and gave to complete the Fellowship Hall, add rock on the building and, of course, finish the windows and gym. We gathered a group of people who are Master Gardeners and home gardeners and began work on the landscape. To this day, this Landscape Committee has managed the outside beauty on these 40 acres. During the growing season our mowers and weed-eaters keep the lawn and space beautiful and tidy. We have an "Adopt-A-Bed" ministry of volunteers caring for flower beds. Today we owe just over \$2,000,000.00 on this building. It is my prayer we can also pay this off early. Many of you are already giving extra to help this along. I pray more will do so.

The Prayer Garden and Columbaria were added a few years ago when two things came together—our wonderful Prayer Ministry and the need to minister to those who lose a loved one. When Texas was a rural state, most churches had their own cemeteries connected to the church. Now that we are over 70% metropolitan, we have lost that connection. The columbarium at The Fellowship helps us inurn our loved ones on the property in the garden and soon-to-be lake/pond close by. This helps our church in so many ways. When Marietta Upton wanted to scatter the ashes of her beloved husband, Jake, she told me, "I wish there were a place to have his name." I told her of my hope for a columbarium. She said she was for it and asked, "What is a columbarium?" Then she said, "Let's go to your office." She gave a sizeable check to begin work on the garden. Another member invested \$40,000 to begin the work and now we have the most beautiful Prayer Garden around. This did not cost the church budget one cent because of the benefit of the columbaria. Many of the founders of this church are inscribed on the columbaria or memorials in the garden. They are certainly part of our Fellowship Hall of Fame in my opinion.

Now we have a home—becoming more beautiful all the time. Bible Fellowships, youth ministry, young adult ministries, Upward Basketball, a wonderful Women's Ministry and Bible Study and book club are all active programs in our church. Our Music Ministry is second to none and our missions are growing as you can see from the honor flags of countries hanging in the worship center where our people have worked or given much-needed support. We have an ever-increasing group of people investing in the future by their presence, involvement, finances and their prayers and hope and vision.

Fourteen years and counting.....

YOUTH MINISTRY BREAKFAST CLUB



Sunday, February 5

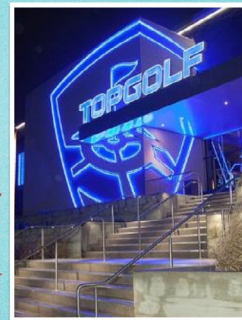
First Sundays 9:30am

(because everyone is free at that time)

**FOSA
Youth @
Top Golf**

Sunday, February 5
After Church

5539 North Loop 1604 W
San Antonio 78249



refresh



life GROUP



*Email susanna@thefellowshipofsa.org for locations.

FOR INFORMATION ON LOCATIONS EACH WEEK CONTACT:
Susanna Watson, Youth Minister
Mobile (214) 538-2525
Office (210) 402-3672

PRAYER MINISTRY

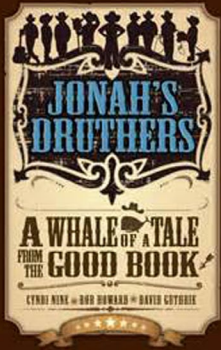
TO MAKE A PRAYER REQUEST

If you have a request to submit, please contact Mary Gates at mgates001@satx.rr.com or 830-980-8997. You may also complete a prayer request form and drop it in an Olive Jar.



MUSIC MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL COMING SOON!



PLEASE JOIN TEAM GOOD N.E.W.S.

All children are invited to join our spring music and drama team. We are preparing for a musical play, "Jonah's Druthers", to be presented in May with roles for 12 children. Rehearsals are

Wednesdays, 5:45-6:45 p.m. To add your email and receive more information, you may contact Molly Baker at mollyb@satx.rr.com.

GAME TIME!

Second Thursday of Each Month
Fellowship Hall - 1:00 PM

Join other adults to play board games, dominoes, cards, etc.

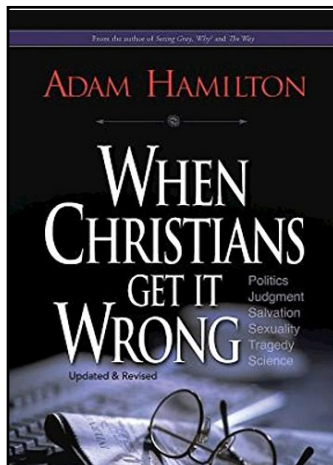
Low Tech! High Fun!

For more info,
call Barb Gore @490-1771 (before 9PM)



SAVE THE DATE!

Women's Spring Event
Saturday, April 1
More details soon!



LADIES BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, February 14

Lunch: 12:30 p.m. at
Thyme for Lunch
19141 Stone Oak Pkwy.

Time: 2:00-4:00 p.m.
FOSA Parlor

When Christians Get It Wrong

Author: Adam Hamilton
Facilitator: Marti Amos

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

LET'S DO THIS THING TOGETHER

2017 WOMEN'S MINISTRY PLANS

Jesus said in John 15:5, "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing."

Come work with us and learn of this Jesus and His love for you. Those of you who remember Elvis and his "I want you, I need you, I love you" song will understand this message. We want, need and would love to have you beside us! We will email an agenda of continuing and new programs if you will send your email to Deborah_rhodes@sbcglobal.net.

NEW AND ON-GOING OPPORTUNITIES

Part 2 of Daniel on prophecy and eschatology continues to April 5th. It's not too late to come! We meet Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Moms Praying for Children Prayer Groups: We will pray for our school children and our prodigals both young and adults.

Women's Monthly Devotional Luncheon: We meet on the first Tuesday each month at The Egg and I on Sonterra Boulevard at 11:30 a.m.

Upwards Sports: The Women's Ministry team is committed to pray for these young athletes and our church as we host this program in our community providing workers for concessions, coaching, score keeping, etc.

San Antonio Children's Hunger Fund: Our Bible Study group provides food and service to this non-profit group for local children. We are currently receiving donations of non-perishable food items.

Women's Spring Event Saturday, April 1: Kerrville Bible teacher and author, Debbie Williams will be featured with her book The Plan A Woman in a Plan B World: What to Do When Life Doesn't Go According to Plan. We will have art items for sale as a fundraiser. All of us working together can make it a meaningful ministry for our church and community.

These are just a few of the things we will be doing in 2017 as well as a newsletter to keep you posted.

Contact Deborah_rhodes@sbcglobal.net for more information.

CHANGE IN LOCATION & DATE

Women's Monthly Luncheon & Bible Study
Tuesday, February 7 - 11:30 AM
The Egg & I, 700 E Sonterra

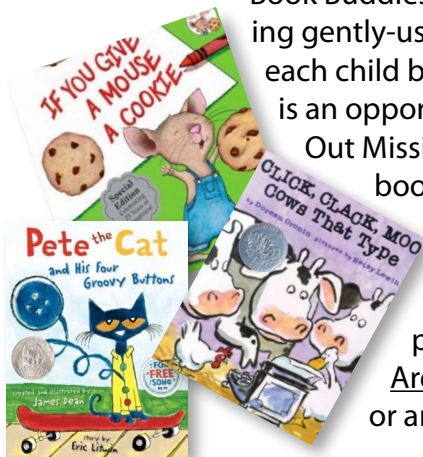
The FOSA Women's Ministry invites you to lunch. We'll order from the menu, have a short devotion and get to know each other better. No RSVP necessary! Just come fellowship, munch and get better acquainted. Questions? Call or text Carlene Havel, 210-219-4912. The FOSA women have been meeting at Perrico's on the first Monday each month. It's time to shake things up!

MISSIONS MINISTRY

"Book Buddies" with San Antonio Youth Literacy is collecting gently-used books for elementary school kids to help each child become a book owner and better reader. This is an opportunity to share books with other children.

Our Missions Committee and Libby Hope will collect books during February in the gym. A permanent collection barrel is in the north foyer.

Please help make a difference in a child's reading level! Types of books needed are picture books (i.e. Where the Wild Things Are), children's chapter books, I Can Read series or any book appropriate up to sixth grade.



WELCOME!

At The Fellowship of San Antonio, we welcome you to become part of our family of faith. We invite you to visit our Sunday School classes & Bible Study groups, as well as the worship choir, student and children's groups.

Sunday Schedule



Nursery & Preschool Birth thru 5 years
Kids Kinder-5th Grade
Youth Junior & Senior High Students
Young Adult/Young Families Class Adults
Koinonia Discussion Group Adults
Mike Fanning's Class Adults
In the Word Class Adults
Sojourners Class Adults
Greatest Generation Class Adults

WORSHIP - 10:45 A.M.

PARENT'S DAY OUT

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Ages: 18 months - 3+ years
For more information and registration:
jennifer@thefellowshipofsa.org
(210) 326-0122

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

First Friday each month, 6:00 - 10:30 p.m.
Ages: Nursery - 5th Grade
\$25 first child
\$10 each additional child - \$45 maximum
Register on line!

WE VALUE:

A relationship with Christ
An attitude of humility
Accepting and sharing God's grace
Integrity in ministry
An inclusive fellowship
Faithfulness in prayer
A compassionate heart
A response to human needs

Wednesday Schedule

10:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
5:30 p.m.	Wednesday-Night Gathering
5:45	Children's Music & Drama
6:30	Bible Study/Prayer Meeting
	Women's Bible Study
6:45	FOSAkids
	Wednesday Night Live
7:00	Youth Ministry
7:15	Choir Rehearsal

Church Staff

Ron Hill, *Senior Pastor*
Mike Fanning, *Associate Pastor*
Michael Sanford, *Minister of Music*
Eric Tredemeyer, *Young Adult Minister*
Susanna Watson, *Youth Minister*
Jennifer Morgan, *Children's Ministries Coordinator*
Michelle Westover, *Nursery & PreK Coordinator*
Tommy Clawson, *Assistant Music Coordinator*
Jan Carnes, *Administrative Assistant*

Phone (210) 402-3672
Fax (210) 402-3682
23755 Canyon Golf Road
San Antonio, Texas 78258-4926
www.thefellowshipofsa.org

Church DEACONS

Election of deacons to serve for 2017 is Sunday, February 19. Ordination of new deacons will be February 26. Members of the 2017 Deacon Nominating Committee are Shawn Fanning, Chair; Tom Carlyon and Bobbi Lutz.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

OUR CHILDREN NEED YOU!

Please consider volunteering in our Children's Ministry. Our classes are growing & we need caring enthusiastic adults to love & teach our kids! Teachers are needed in each age level, Nursery - 5th grade. Please contact Jennifer or Michelle for more information. Emails for both are below.



PARENT'S DAY OUT

WE HAVE 10 OPENINGS IN PARENT'S DAY OUT!

Contact Jennifer or Michelle for more information!

jennifer@thefellowshipofsa.org
michelle@thefellowshipofsa.org

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Each Thursday, 9:00-10:00 AM
Perico's Restaurant
1439 E Sonterra

AFFILIATION:

FOSA is affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas. On a personal level our aim is to be inclusive regardless of any personal religious background.