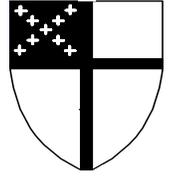




The Franciscan



Volume XXXVII, Issue VII

St. Francis by the Lake Episcopal Church
Canyon Lake, Texas

August 2016

Community of Hope (COH) training postponed

By [Julie Chalk](#), [Tricia Jones](#), and
[Velda Vukoder](#)

Because of the upcoming Capitol Campaign, the decision has been made to postpone the Community of Hope Training series originally scheduled to begin on Sept. 12. Both of these activities draw on the energies of many of the same parishioners, and we don't want anyone to be overloaded! If you are still interested in participating in COH training in the future, please notify Tricia Jones or Julie Chalk. Lin Boudreaux, who is the Diocese of West Texas regional representative to the Community of Hope International, is also a great resource.

The entire community will be notified when the next training series will be scheduled, probably in early 2017. Thank you for your understanding.



Canyon Lake community blood drive

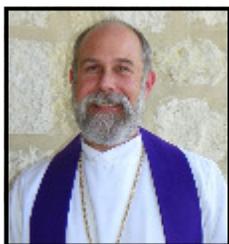
Saturday, Aug. 6

8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Locations are Lowe's in Startzville, and
Ace Hardware in Sattler.**



Fr. David introduced Cookie Harris, a missionary working for Respiré Haiti. She spoke to the congregation at both services about her journey serving the people and especially the children in Haiti, on Sunday, July 24.



Dear friends,

I write to you while ministering to the children from around the diocese who are served by the Good Samaritan Center. Our theme for the week is about emotions and how we might grow up to be the people God created us, and wants us, to be. The primary emotions we're talking about come from the Pixar movie "Inside Out." And so disgust, sadness, fear, anger, and joy are the "characters" that we're discussing. What rises to the top and undergirds our maturing lives is that we can use each and all of these emotions if we will not forget *courage* and *hope*. This carries the day in our daily lives as well as in our spiritual lives. Every Sunday we hear the presider say "Lift up your hearts." And the people respond, "we lift them to the Lord." Courage and hope.

"To not have courage and to not step out, this is to capitulate, to give up, to quit. But more importantly it is to deny the power of God."

There are three different types of courage: the courage of when we do the right thing without even thinking because of our good human nature.

The kind of courage that knows the failure, understands the sorrow, feels the depression of struggling to put one foot in front of the other; and yet each morning our feet hit the floor, our prayers ascend to heaven, and life moves haltingly forward.

And then there's the courage that comes from understanding the nature of *sacrifice*: the sure knowledge that we have not one scintilla of

hope, and yet we *do* step out--we step out on behalf of the poor; we step out to champion those who have no one to stand in for them; we step out to right wrongs that most believe there is no chance of changing...

"God doesn't prevent bad things, God doesn't always keep us from being harmed. And yet Christ Jesus rose from the dead."

And we do the right thing, we move haltingly forward, and we step out in hope. To not have courage and to not step out, this is to capitulate, to give up, to quit. But more importantly it is to deny the power of God. It always helps me remember that the Lord did not stop the Crucifixion. God doesn't prevent bad things, God doesn't always keep us from being harmed. And yet Christ Jesus rose from the dead. That is the sign, the first fruit, the Spring in our spiritual winter which indicates that the way things are is not the way things shall always be. Over and over the Lord says throughout Scripture "Behold, I make all things new." This is the source of our hope. And the corollary is equally important: the most frequent command in all Scripture precedes and follows our hope: God tells us to "Be not afraid."

In hope for St. Francis by the Lake,
Fr. David

Upcoming events:

Oct. 6-9, 2016: Cursillo weekend #273 at Mustang Island Conference Center.

* New info from the diocese for Cursillo #273: We are attempting to bring younger adults into Cursillo



life. This weekend reflects a sincere effort to do that. Why would someone want to attend a Cur-

sillo weekend? Answer: Weekends draw people deeper into a life of grace and effective spiritual leadership. A high percentage of people known for being pillars of their congregation attended Cursillo. In most congregations there are people who would be happy to help others attend a Cursillo weekend by taking some responsibility for their children, pets, and home. We encourage those considering the weekend in October to ask around for help.

Nov. 3-6, 2016: Cursillo weekend #274 at Camp Capers.



Treasurer's report

By [Micheline Ellas](#)
Email: treasure@gvtc.com

Financial activities through the first six months of 2016 continue to show mixed results in the management of expected revenues and expenditures. As previously reported in the January Franciscan, the Vestry approved a 2016 budget which reflected needs in excess of expected revenues of \$47,085. The June 2016 month-end actual revenues for the General Fund fell short of the budgeted projection by \$1,682 and were 25% less than in the same period in 2015. Year-to-Date revenues in the General Fund of \$115,755 fell short of the budgeted projection by \$5,104, and were 24% less than for the same period in 2015.

The June 2016 month-end expenditures of \$20,641 from the General Fund were less than the budgeted projection by \$3,028 and were 2% lower than in the same period in 2015. Year-to-Date expenditures of \$144,056 from the General Fund were less than the budgeted projection by \$3,495 but were 7% higher than in the same period in 2015.

Activities to help increase revenues continue. As previously reported, cash assets supporting St. Francis and the Honduras Ministry are now invested with two financial institutions where the interest rate environment is more favorable to the Church. Opportunities to earn additional revenue from an affiliation with the on-line retailer, Amazon, through their charitable giving programs are also being explored. Cash assets at Prosperity Bank and Security State are being managed much more tightly as targeted balances are in place and requests for

checks will be processed by close of business only on Tuesdays and Fridays of each week. This process allows for excess funds to be invested for longer periods of time before being used to fund the various operating needs of St. Francis and its ministries.

We continue to seek opportunities to reduce expenses. For example, the GVTTC relationship has been renegotiated and those monthly expenses were reduced by \$59. In addition, recommendations received via the PEC energy audit are being considered by the Vestry for implementation. Any parishioner who has a cost savings idea is encouraged to contact the St. Francis Treasurer at www.treasurer@gvtc.com.

Our available **Funds** as of June 30, 2016:

General Operating:	\$48,483
Debt Retirement:	\$ -359
Building (New Bldg.):	\$ 44,120

Our **Debts** as of April 30, 2016:

Crump Note:	\$ 50,000
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Change is in the wind

By [Betty Morris](#),
ECW President

Are you a woman who attends St. Francis by the Lake? If so, you are a member of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) and we hope you will join us when we gather on the second Thursday each month. The meeting time is changing to 10:30 a.m. with an invitation to bring a sack lunch and stay to visit with fellow members and our guests.

The September gathering is on Thursday the 8th in the Parish Hall. Our speakers will be Marjorie George

and Jane Ahero. Jane is President of the Commission for Women's Ministries in our Diocese, and she will give us an insight into what ECW does beyond our parish in the diocese, the Province and the national organization.

On Oct. 13, we will go to the Schulenburg to visit the remarkable Painted Churches whose dramatic interiors will amaze you. Please invite your spouse, friends, and neighbors to join us. We will leave from the church at 8:30 a.m. and caravan down I-10 to meet our guide. We will have lunch in Schulenburg. The ECW made this trip several years ago and we have had many requests to repeat it.

Other interesting programs have been planned and we hope more women will participate. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other St. Francis women better and to encourage each other in our spiritual growth. May God continue to "bless our work in mission and ministry in the world."

Betty Morris, ECW President



This year's summer camp

By [Lynda McNab](#)

What an exciting week! On June 27 through July 1, St. Francis joined St. Andrew Lutheran Church of Canyon Lake in providing 50 kids with an all day camp focusing on the theme of

[\(Continued on page 7\)](#)

Update from the Sr. Warden

By [Jeanne Slupik](#), Sr. Warden of the Vestry

Dear Fellow Members of St. Francis by the Lake,

Let me open this update from the Senior Warden by thanking all of you who have taken the time to pass me words of encouragement, engage me in candid conversations, or prayerfully wish the Vestry peace and a steady hand as we progress through the Capital Campaign for new office space and Ministry and Outreach Center. I am doubly blessed to be a member of this parish and to have such outstanding members on the 2016 Vestry.

In June, the Vestry interviewed three capital campaign consultants. On June 26, the Vestry unanimously voted to hire Richard L. Rogers from Horizons Stewardship. Mr. Rogers was the most emphatic in viewing the campaign as a discipleship, and a personal journey through gratitude, prayer, and faith. His focus during the interview was always on us, the Parish. We believe he best understands our parish, our ministries, and our desire to do our fair share in the community. We are also appreciative that Horizons Stewardship was the least expensive of the three consultants. It was also heartening to hear the three capital campaign consultants had read the report on our parishioner interviews published by the Diocese and they all concurred (based on that report) that we should have a successful capital campaign!

Maury Meyer, Chair of the Building Planning Committee, has an article in this issue on page 6. The great news is we have selected a builder! Additionally, Maury has agreed to be the point of contact for the builder through the entire build-

ing process - best for us and the builder. With the selection process complete, we need to move onto final plans and schematics. Soon, we will be asking those of you who have already pledged in 2016 to the new building fund to consider completing that contribution if it is financially feasible. We have the momentum - now we want to keep it moving!

At long last, the final work on the new entrance is complete. We have a new culvert and our members can safely exit onto Spring Mountain Road. Dusty Hoecker has made monumental progress in killing the giant reed around the new sign. It is one pesky weed! Thank you, Dusty!

I am sure most of you recall the Sunday in June when the air-conditioning unit failed in the church. That was unfortunately the start of a long sad tale and a significant repair bill. A broken fan belt was replaced in June, but when the repairman came back to perform a service, he discovered one of the four compressors had failed. To compound matters, a mouse decided to investigate Unit 2 and touched a live wire - dead mouse, dead breaker, no air-conditioning to the church. The end result was a repair bill for over \$4,000. The new compressor alone was \$3,109. The good news is all systems are up and working and we are investigating whether or not our insurance policy will cover some of the damage caused by the mouse.

After our "All Together" service on July 31, we will have a celebration on the "Retirement of the Rectory Debt!" Our Treasurer, Micheline Ellas, is making great strides in saving us money and making us money. One of her first initiatives was to pay off the debt on the Rectory. This decisive action gave us the impetus to move forward for the Capital Campaign for the new building.

Your Vestry knows change can be very unsettling. Every month, during our regular Vestry meetings, we review the wonderful accomplishments of our ministries - we are an amazing congregation! Please keep your hearts open, let your desires be known, and let us keep moving forward.

God bless,
Jeanne Slupik

Upcoming mission trips in 2016:

Oct. 13-20: Texas Water Mission, El Paraiso and Yuscaran; new water well, health and hygiene training; led by Maria Cavazos.

Fall 2016 (dates TBD): Guatemala, surgical/construction, led by Jorge and Lorena Rojas and the Rev. Nancy Springer.

Nov. 9-16: Southeast Mexico; Veterinarian Team; led by Dr. Valerie Kirk



Needs for CRRC food pantry

Our local food pantry continues to be in need of the following items:

laundry detergent,
shampoo,
conditioner,
shower gels,
dish soap,
hand soap, and

baby diapers - sizes 2, 3, 4, and 5 (both disposable and cloth diapers.)

All contributions are appreciated.

What's happening

Daughters of the King (DOK) is on summer break, but all are invited to the DOK Salad Luncheon with sharing and prayer on Aug. 24.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

The next ECW meeting is in the parish hall at 10:30 a.m., which is the newly scheduled time for the next year, on Thursday, Sept. 8.

[\(See article, p. 3.\)](#)

Scripture Study Group is an informal study that meets at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays in the parish hall, followed by Eucharist. (The group is on summer break, and will begin again on Sept. 7.)

Vestry Meeting - second Sunday (Aug. 14) at 12:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

Adult Sunday School meets Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the parish hall.

Youth Sunday School

meets Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the youth room (last room in the portables.) Topics explored are related to the Gospel reading and how they relate to each of our lives.

Prayer Shawl Ministry meets at 10:00 a.m. on the third Saturday (Sept. 17) of each month. Check the *Good News* for the location. (The group is on summer break and will return in September.)

Evening Study Class meets at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in the parish hall. (The group is on summer break, and will begin again on Sept. 7.)

Scrapbook and Craft Night meets Fridays, Aug. 12 and 26, at Linda Hillin's home at 6:00 p.m.

Al-Anon meets every Saturday at 10:00 a.m. in Jones Hall.

Circle of Care meets every fourth Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m.

Note from Bishop Gary Lillibridge

Sunday, July 17, 2016

The Rt. Rev. Earl McArthur, who served as the third Bishop Suffragan in West Texas, died peacefully in his sleep this morning. Bishop Earl was 91, and had been living in Wimberley for many years.

A memorial service will be held at St. Stephen's in Wimberley, with time and date to be announced as soon as arrangements can be made.

Please keep Earl's family in your prayers. He is survived by daughters Nancy and Mary Pat, sons Rick and John, and their families.

May Earl's soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Bishop Lillibridge

August anniversaries

John and Cindy McBride	8/9
Jim and Becki Nichols	8/14
Chris and Melissa Mitchell	8/16
Sterling and Bette Wehner	8/19
Chuck and Ronnie Schwakhofer	8/21
Frank and Beverley Matthewson	8/25
Tom and Ruth Hemphill	8/27
Trebor and Betty Morris	8/28

Mark your calendars

Aug. 6 - 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Canyon Lake community blood drive in Sattler and in Startzville

Oct. 7 & 8 - Annual Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Rummage Sale [\(See article, p.6.\)](#)

Oct. 14-15 - The Fall Women's Gathering

August birthdays

Valeska McHugh	8/1
Agnes Kelley	8/2
James Stackhouse	8/2
Stacey Benham	8/5
Paul McClendon	8/8
JoAnn Wilson	8/8
Lin Boudreaux	8/10
Maury Meyer	8/12
Imogene Howard	8/13
Kevin McHugh	8/14
Betty Morris	8/14
Dwain Glass	8/19
Anne Beauvais	8/25
Maureen "Mo" Simmons	8/25
Nathaniel Chalk	8/26
Azile Davenport	8/27
Jeanne Slupik	8/27
Mary Catherine Cole	8/30
Bobbi Wilson	8/30
Debby Dallas	8/31
Macie White	8/31

The Franciscan

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The Rev. David Chalk, Rector

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Building for our future: our new Ministry and Outreach Center

By [Maury Meyer](#), Building Committee Chair and Vestry Member

In June and July, the Building Committee met with each of our final two possible builders for the second time and came to consensus on the company we want to use for the new Ministry and Outreach Center. The Vestry was then asked to affirm our decision, which they did unanimously.

We believe we had two excellent choices; however, we decided to use Wunderlich Builders (based in Seguin) for several reasons:

1) We believe that Mr. Bob Wunderlich and the architect, Mr. John Zimmerman, who is based in Bulverde, are very tuned in to keeping the cost as close to \$1 million as possible and will work with us to make that happen. The building committee will have to make hard choices as well, to keep costs down yet still provide the spaces that we need.

2) Wunderlich Builders uses Butler metal buildings exclusively, and we are convinced that is the superior choice for strength, quality, durability, and energy efficiency. Butler is the industry leader in scientifically developing and testing its products over extended time periods.

3) Wunderlich Builders has a 41-year history of providing quality buildings in the community. Comal County has used them time and again to build their offices, including the new County Offices Annex in Bulverde. We toured that building in July and were impressed with the quality.

I will be meeting with Mr. Wunderlich and Mr. Zimmerman next week to provide them as much additional information as I can to start the final planning. They will then develop a much more specific set of plans and an itemized list of estimated costs before we sign a contract for design and building. I will be the lead in meeting with them, but I will continue to involve all Building Committee members in that decision-making as the plans evolve. I am very grateful I have had such a great group of parishioners on this committee, and they have all committed to staying on until we have a new building.

Our individual meetings with all our ministry leaders on our initial floorplans has been very helpful and will influence the final design - thank you for your willingness to talk with us and your thoughtfulness. I encourage any of our parishioners who have specific comments or questions about the initial floor plan we developed, but have not shared those ideas with us yet, to please let me or any of the committee members know what is on your mind.

Peace,
Maury



Mark your calendar!

Our Annual Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Rummage sale will be held on Friday, Oct. 7 and Saturday, Oct. 8. We need gently used clothing (on hangers), shoes, household items, furniture, sports equipment, lawn equipment, and electronics (working order.) Drop off days for your donations are being scheduled for the first two weeks of October: exact dates and times are being determined. Also the pick-up of larger items will be available once we have secured a storage area. Contact Ronnie Harper-Schwakhofer for further information at (210) 885-6886.



Choir notes

By [Ricky Therneau](#),
Parish Musician

rickyhyden@aol.com

Summer is almost over so the choir will resume practicing on Aug. 11. We will begin our music lessons at that time. All of us are sorry to say good-bye to our summertime guest, Nan Lewis. I, for one, would like for her to find a permanent place here.

Our new robes will be on display in September—they are a beautiful blue.

In case anyone besides the choir has noticed, with the exception of communion hymns, we have only repeated about five hymns this year. There will be new songs of praise beginning in September. This is something unusual for most years. The readings have elicited the need of the entire hymnal.

Some of you who enjoy singing but do not think you have a voice need to come to music lessons. By the time you finish laughing with us, you will discover your voice.

that much learning was taking place in the midst of all of the activity.

Thanks to the many volunteers who helped make the week a success. Mary Barker prepared and served dinner to the counselors and volunteers on Sunday night. On Monday evening, Fr. David and Julie were dinner hosts and the counselors got to tube the river. Tom and Maury Meyer hosted two of the counselors and also served dinner to all six Tuesday evening. Gloria Wildberger, Brenda Klaftenegger, Robert McNab, and Maury Meyer, volunteered as shepherds, guiding students from one activity to another and assisting the counselors. Lynda McNab served as site coordinator and also shepherded the youngest campers. Ronnie Schwakhofer planned and coordinated meals and snacks assisted by her awesome team of volunteers: Linda and Larry Bosenbark, Becky Nichols, Linda Harkness, Lin Boudreaux, Lynda Leadford, Betty Morris, and Velda Vukoder. Others also donated food and money to help with costs.



Welcome Andy, our newest acolyte! Pam Scheible poses with her grandson at the 8:00 a.m. Sunday service. Fr. Gordon is serving as interim at St. Andrew's, Seguin.

This year's ... (Cont'd from page 3)

Saints and Super Heroes. Led by a team of enthusiastic (and high energy) young people from Cross Trails Ministry, the children learned about their super powers or gifts, their alter egos, and the masks that sometimes hide their faith, about dealing with their nemesis (sometimes themselves,) their super friends in the faith community, and their mission to share the good news. Bible study, worship, games, music, and arts and crafts highlighted the daily themes. The closing service demonstrated



The Canyon Lake Resource and Recreation Center (CRRC) had its fifth annual Party for the Pantry on Saturday, June 25. This event benefited the CRRC Food Pantry.

2015-2016 - Backpack report

By [Bernie Frey](#), Outreach Chair

The following is a year end report on the backpack program from the coordinator at First Baptist Church. Reiterating her comments, thanks for the great effort on behalf of all at St. Francis.

For the five schools we delivered: 440 weekend bags; 22 lunch bags; 6 miscellaneous snack bags; and 42 large paper bags of items (for the start of summer.)

I think that was a really good accomplishment for the year, and it wouldn't have been possible without your generosity and support. Thank you so very much for being a vital part of this ongoing ministry.



Part of the summer choir, Brenda Klaftegger and Don Stackhouse sing *Softly and Tenderly* for the anthem at the Sunday service on July 17.

The annual Fall Women's Gathering at Camp Capers

Weekly Enews from The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas

The annual Fall Women's Gathering at Camp Capers will be held Friday-Sunday, Oct. 14-16. Check-in begins at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, and the retreat lasts through Sunday Eucharist. The topic for the weekend is "Deepening Discipleship - Affirming Apostleship," and the keynote speaker is Bishop Suffragan Laura Ahrens of the Diocese of Connecticut.

We are formed by Christ, and we are sent out by Christ to carry His message of Good News. We are

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Our Mission Statement

As Children of God, we at St. Francis by the Lake are committed to living, learning, and sharing the love of Christ, the word of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit with our parish family, our communities, and the world.

all disciples of Jesus, and we are all apostles of Jesus. At the Gathering, we will explore these life-giving roles in a community of supportive women. The weekend allows time for relaxation, renewal, and refreshment.

Cost is \$165 per person to stay in a cabin or \$245 per person to stay in the lodges. Registration is open at www.dwtx.org/events. For more information, contact Marjorie George at marjorie.george@dwtx.org.