



The Franciscan



Volume XXXIX, Issue VII

St. Francis by the Lake
Canyon Lake, Texas

August 2018

Update for kitchen in the new building

By [Linda Bosenbark](#), Sr. Warden

I'm speaking to you today on behalf of the Vestry. As you know, Bob Amos has secured the financing, and we have signed the contracts with our Builder to begin construction of our new Ministry and Outreach Center. It was absolutely crucial to sign those documents ASAP because of rising costs, interest rates, etc. Our builder has been very generous in holding the price quoted more than a year ago.

You may also be aware that there has been some significant discussion as to whether or not the "catering" kitchen, which has been incorporated in our plans from the beginning, will meet all our future needs. Because all contracts have been signed, we are bound to move forward within the confines of those contracts and also within the scope of what the Diocese has approved. Nonetheless, we have explored the options that are open to us and whether we need to revise those initial plans. The Vestry is responsible for making the final determination on which direction to move.

We listened to all of you. We visited the Tye Preston Library kitchen and Yacht Club kitchens with you. We tried to make a decision, not based on emotion, but based on fact to the extent possible. In addition to listening to you, we considered cost, safety, and flexibility to accommodate future ministry needs that have not yet been defined.

Ultimately, we (the Vestry) agreed that we should incorporate the infrastructure that will ultimately allow us to expand to a full-service kitchen when we have the funds to do so. That means we will amend our existing contract to include the duct work necessary for a fire suppression system. Note: we did not approve additional funds for the hood or the cooktop. The addition of those things will require either creative use of funds currently allocated for the kitchen or additional funds from sources outside of loans already obtained.

This was a difficult decision. It involved a lot of tough and extended discussion. We want you to understand that this does NOT suggest that the Building Committee's plan for a catering kitchen was a bad decision. It was very logical for what we do today. We learned during our

[\(Continued on page 8\)](#)



Breathing underwater: Spirituality

and the Twelve Steps

By [Fr. Gordon Scheible](#), Assisting Priest

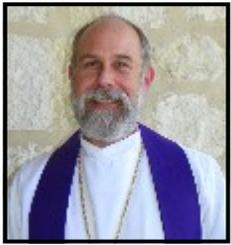
We are all powerless, not only those physically addicted to a substance. Alcoholics simply have their powerlessness visible for all to see. The rest of us disguise it in different ways and overcompensate for our more hidden and subtle addictions and attachments, especially our addiction to our way of *thinking*.

We all take our own pattern of thinking as normative, logical, and surely true, even when it does not fully compute. We keep doing the same

[\(Continued on page 3\)](#)



Fr. Gordon blessed Fr. David and Julie Chalk at the 9:30 a.m. All Together Service on July 29 with prayers for safe travels and refreshing of soul, mind, and body on Fr. David's Sabbatical.



Dear friends,

What follows is a summary of my Sabbatical plans. I ask for your prayers...

Priest's Perspective

Sound and music, of many styles, types, and genres, have always played a critical role in my life. I have also cultivated an understanding of why silence, or *quiet*, has also been integral in my growth and development.

This tangible appreciation of sound and silence has grown and developed right alongside my theological and liturgical maturation. From an early age I came to know that music was more than a hobby for me. While "Musick has charms to soothe a savage beast..." I've come to recognize sound and silence as integral parts of worship. This realization has helped develop the Trinitarian shape of liturgical worship music for me, the parishes, and the dioceses in which I have served. It truly is an avocational passion. But the majority of my gleanings have come through infrequent opportunities of trial and error.

"While 'Musick has charms to soothe a savage beast...', I've come to recognize sound and silence as integral parts of worship."

The sounds and silence that St. Francis has been exposed to, especially over the past 10 to 12 years, shows that people are affected by them, and that these effects have spiritual consequences—some positive and some negative. I plan to explore, experience, and develop this understanding. In dreaming about a sabbatical, it is clear to me that music and silence are essential, not just for renewal but, for the joy, vitality, the deep theology, and the

spirituality that they evoke. I believe we (the parish and I) would benefit greatly in this as we seek to grow into the future of God's leading. A sabbatical of this type would give me a chance for rest, but also for refreshment, renewal, and uninterrupted research into the sublime mystery of the spirituality of sound and silence.

Parish's Perspective—written by a Sabbatical Committee member

We've heard the many good Rs for supporting a sabbatical for Fr. David and Julie (e.g., rest, re-connection, renewal, reflection, recharge, re-dedication, research, etc.). What are some good Rs for the parish during the sabbatical?

"Each of us is a minister of Jesus Christ, and every one of us has been given at least one gift of the Holy Spirit through which we may serve the Lord."

A sabbatical is good for the parish in that it gives us a chance to reorient, to re-prioritize, and to renew our commitments. It reminds us that not everything depends upon the priest. St. Francis' true strength is her members. The Sabbatical will reinforce that.

Worship and ministry will continue! ... We have a strong vestry, and 40+ ministries dedicated to St. Francis by the Lake and the Kingdom of God. Linda Bosenbark (Sr. Warden), the rest of the Vestry, and many others will step up and share the yoke of duties borne by Fr. David and Julie.

*AND St. Francis is **blessed** to have Fr. Gordon. We know and love him, and are comforted and excited that he's willing and eager to serve as priest while Fr. David is away. We look forward to a wonderful time learning from Fr. Gordon's teaching, ministry, and life experiences.*

We'll also be blessed with new and different musical experiences and the leadership of Ms. Marge Adler, our Musician in Residence during September and October. In August we will explore music with a different musician and types of music and perhaps silence or focused listening to the

natural sounds around us as we seek ways to enrich our prayer and worship.

We will likely learn about, and be appreciative of, what Fr. David and Julie do with us every day! We will pray for them and for each other. As we have heard Fr. David teach and remind us: all the baptized are ministers. Each of us is a minister of Jesus Christ, and every one of us has been given at least one gift of the Holy Spirit through which we may serve the Lord. During this sabbatical time, there will be many opportunities for exercising our gifts in service to one another and the world. We look forward to witnessing our collective "stepping up and helping" shoulder the yoke. God has been preparing us for this for a long, long time. All our ministry leaders will warmly welcome more hands, feet, brains, hearts, and prayers.

So: St. Francis is on this sabbatical journey with Fr. David and Julie. While they are experiencing all of the Rs, we will renew ourselves, deepen our relationships with each other, continue reflecting on our ministries, and discerning God's will for all of us.

"We don't know what God has planned for us on this sabbatical journey; but, in faith, we will 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.'"

This sabbatical will quite probably interrupt our lives, break up our routines, require us to be intentional, and be attentive in new and different ways. It will be a time for new leadership, new gifts, new abilities, and deep spiritual growth within and among us. There will most assuredly be challenges and frustrations; but with kindness, mercy, and love, we will get through them together. We don't know what God has planned for us on this sabbatical journey; but, in faith, we will "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord."

Activities & Timeline

The dates for the overall program will be August 2018 through October 2018.

The order of the activities has shifted several times due to scheduling,

[*\(Continued on page 6\)*](#)



Treasurer's report

By [Robert Amos](#)

Email:

treasure@gvtc.com

Greetings All,

Happy summer. Wishing you a good summer, in spite of the heat and lack of rain.

We continue with good financials through June 30.

General Operations continues to run a deficit, with year to date being significantly better than the approved budget.

The Capital Campaign continues to do very well. Contributions continue ahead of plan.

Debt Retirement also continues on track.

The Endowment Fund continues to show a modest increase year to date.

Year to date details are through June 30.

Operations:

Revenues: Contributions to the General Fund are \$124,794.69 year to date, which is \$4290.31 less than expected and slightly better than May.

Expenditures: Expenditures were \$131,756.62 which is lower (better) than expected by \$8,889.38.

Balance (Revenue minus Expenditures): The resulting deficit is \$6,961.93. This is slightly higher than May, but still better than budgeted. We expected a deficit of \$11,561.00 through June 30.

Capital:

Capital Campaign: Capital Campaign continues to do very well.

Contributions are \$85,747.48 through June 30.

Expenditures : \$1,176.60 (loan origination fee – Frost Bank)

Balance : \$335,232.44

Debt Retirement: Debt retirement contributions are \$10,401.00 year to date and are slightly ahead of plan. The Debt Retirement Fund contains a total of \$22,728.62.

Endowment Fund: The balance in the endowment fund is \$53,685.60. This represents an increase of \$2,058.21 year to date.

Our **funds** as of June 30, 2018:

General Operating:	\$	24,955.54
Debt Retirement:	\$	22,728.62
Building Fund:	\$	37,404.40
Capital Campaign Fund:	\$	335,232.44
Endowment Fund:	\$	53,685.60

Our **debts** as of June 30, 2018:

Church mortgage balance: \$ 30,000

Ministry and Outreach Center Update

As reported in the last edition of the Franciscan, the long term loan from the Crump Foundation and the line of credit construction loan from Frost Bank were approved. Also the contract with our builder, Wunderlich Builders, has been signed. The builder has ordered the steel building structure for construction, with a lead time of 16 to 18 weeks. We expect to break ground shortly before the steel is delivered, which looks like early October. Construction will take about 5 months depending on weather.

If you have any comments or questions, or if you would like to discuss a pledge or contribution, please feel free to contact me at treasure@gvtc.com.

Breathing ... (Cont'd from page 1)

thing over and over again, even if it is not working for us. That is the self-destructive nature of all addiction, and of the mind in particular. *We think we are thinking, and we even take that thinking as utterly "true," which removes us at least two steps from reality itself.*

Franciscan priest Richard Rohr is the founding director for the Center for Action and Contemplation in Albuquerque, NM. He considers the proclamation of the Gospel to be his primary call. He has written many excellent books, and one of my favorites is **Breathing Underwater: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps.**

Rohr is convinced that the 12 Step Program, founded in 1935 by William Wilson and Dr. Robert Smith, "parallels, mirrors, and make practical the same messages that Jesus gave us." In other words, they are saying the same thing with different vocabulary.

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



Episcopal Church Women update

By [Tricia Jones](#), ECW President

Wow! We are in the midst of summer and my spirits are soaring along with the summer temperatures! The funding for the Outreach and Ministry Building has been secured, the contracts have been signed, forward thinking features of the kitchen have been decided, the Suffragan Bishop and Fr. David have blessed the ground for the new building and the first spade of dirt was turned in preparation for the new building!

The gift of a three month sabbatical for Fr. David and Julie is just starting after a wonderful "Deep in the Heart of Texas" send-off from the parish. I am excited to see what God has in store for them and for us!

ECW does not meet during the summer, but that does not mean we do not continue to work, pray, or celebrate.

There was a fantastic group that participated in the National ECW's Triennial Distinguished Women's Luncheon in Austin, Texas, in July. Among the 60 distinguished women honored from all provinces throughout the world, was our own Mrs. Linda Hillin. Linda represented our parish and our diocese. She exemplifies the joy of Christ as she lives her life. Congratulations and thank you Linda!

ECW celebrated summer birthdays on July 26, with a High Tea at Winnie Benson's home. What a wonderful, authentic treat! Thank you Winnie and Azile for the delicious food, tea, and education about English Tea.

The ECW Board is preparing some fantastic programs for the fall and spring. Our regular monthly

meetings will resume on Thursday, Sept. 13. This will be a fun social event so put it on your calendar now. More information will be coming soon!

The infamous fall fund-raiser, the Twice-Blessed Rummage Sale, is scheduled for Oct. 5 and 6 at Jones Hall. Donations have been coming in as folks have been doing spring and summer cleaning. If you have items that you would like to donate, Susan Kelch, our Rummage Sale Coordinator, is available on Sundays after each service to open Jones Hall and help unload your items. If you have items that need to be picked up, please call Susan at (915) 241-3150 to arrange for pick-up.

In preparation for our parish's transition to the new Outreach and Ministry Building, ECW members will meet **each Monday morning at 11:00 a.m.** to clean and organize closets and various spaces in the parish hall, kitchen, education rooms and the sanctuary. **ALL** are welcome to join in any Monday. Just show up in work clothes or call Tricia for more information (512) 497-2297.

"Almighty God, help us to pray fervently, labor diligently, and give liberally to make known the power of your love given through your son Jesus." *Excerpt from the Episcopal Church Women's prayer.*



Reaching up... Reaching out

Lord, what do you want to do through me?

This is our parish. The time is now. Pray for our Capital Campaign and our Stewardship Campaign and ask God's guidance in how you are to join in the vision.

The floor plan of the Outreach and Ministry Center is available in the Narthex.



Practical Exercise Class At

Saint Francis by the Lake

Class instruction focuses on posture, breathing, stretching, balance, form, and light exercise.

Instructor: Jeanne Slupik

When: Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Where: Parish hall. Please wear comfortable clothing, and bring a yoga mat.

Cost: Donations only, to benefit St. Francis by the Lake.

Come join us!



Needs for the CRRC food pantry

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

plastic grocery bags;

toilet paper;

cereal;

spaghetti;

laundry detergent;

shampoo;

conditioner;

shower gels;

dish soap;

hand soap;

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

toothbrush, toothpaste, and floss.

(When visiting the dentist each patient is usually given a small bag that contains a toothbrush, toothpaste and floss. As each of us has our semi-annual checkups, please consider bringing those to church for the CRRC donation box. Thanks to Betty Morris for that suggestion.)

All contributions are appreciated.

What's happening

Daughters of the King (DOK) is on the fourth Wednesday of every month (Aug. 22) at 12:30 p.m. The group will meet in the parish hall after the 11:30 a.m. Eucharist.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) doesn't meet in August, but the group will start back up in September on the second Thursday of the month (Sept. 13) at 11:30 a.m., in the parish hall. [\(See article, p. 4.\)](#)

Scripture Study Group is an informal study that meets at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays in the parish hall, followed by Eucharist.

Vestry meets the second Sunday of each month. The group will meet Aug. 12 at 12:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. The group decides at their meeting where the next get-together will take place.

Evening Study Class is on break until Fr. David returns from sabbatical in November.

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

NA (Narcotics Anonymous) meets every Sunday at 7:00 p.m. in Jones Hall.

Caregiver Support Group meets every third Monday (Aug. 20) of the month at 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

COH Circle of Care will meet on Sunday, Aug. 5, at 12:15 p.m. in the parish hall.

Second Saturday Diocesan Mini Retreat meets each month on the 2nd Saturday at 9:00 a.m. at the Bishop Jones Center. On beautiful

grounds, the time is for contemplative silence and fellowship. (If you would like to carpool, there are several women from St. Francis that would be glad to have you join them. Please call the St. Francis office (830) 964-3820 for more information.)



Lynda Leadford, who won the auction for Julie Chalk to play her hammered dulcimer at any event, requested Julie to play at our potluck supper on July 18. Thank you!

August birthdays

Valeska McHugh	8/1
James Stackhouse	8/2
Stacey Benham	8/5
Paul McClendon	8/8
JoAnn Wilson	8/8
Lin Boudreaux	8/10
Maury Meyer	8/12
Chrystina Power	8/12
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
Macie White	8/31

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

Mark your calendars

Aug. 4 - 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. - Canyon Lake Community Blood Drive.

Aug. 6 - 5:00 p.m. - *Family Promise* at St. Andrew Lutheran Church.

Aug. 6 - 6:30 p.m. - St. Francis Book Club meet in the parish hall.

Aug. 20 - 7:00 p.m. - Caregiver Support Group meet in the parish hall.

The Franciscan

A monthly publication of
St. Francis by the Lake
Episcopal Church

The Rev. David Chalk, Rector

Editors

Maury Meyer: Editor in Chief
maurymeyer@gmail.com

Janet Pollock: Asst., Layout & Design
francis@gvvc.com

Linda Hillin: Asst., & Photographer
hillins2@gvvc.com



(L to R): Fr. David, godmother Jennifer Rea; Major Whitaker and mother Lindsey Kelch; and grandfather Jim Kelch are ready to have Major baptized in Guadalupe River in front of the rectory on Sunday, July 22, after the 10:30 a.m. service.



Fr. David baptizes Major in the river with Jim and Jennifer.

Dear Friends (Cont'd from page 2)

but I expect the first days to be transitional; e.g., getting used to not being “on” 24/7; packing and making final arrangements; and then driving to Maine. Once in Maine, we’ll get established and continue refining the plan. Here are the highlights:

I am in conversations right now about visiting NavajoLand (the largest land area retained by a Native American tribe) and the Standing Rock (located in North and South Dakota, occupied by Hunkpapa and Sicasu Lakota, and Yanktonai Dakota; Standing Rock is the sixth-largest reservation in the US) to explore various aspects of indigenous expressions of sound and silence. I hope to spend time among each people: in intentional conversation with local experts; resting, praying, walking about; and learning about traditional (native) approaches to sound and silence. I look forward to listening to flora and fauna, as well as the wind, the water, the trees, the quiet of the high Southwestern desert, and the Northern, windswept plains.

In 2015, I was blessed to make a reconnaissance mission trip to the East India Diocese of Durgapur. The friendships that I made there have also made it possible to re-

ceive ongoing ministry updates and requested information. There is a “tribe” of indigenous people in the far eastern part of West Bengal called the “Santali.” Work among them by the church has been very important, but the tribe is so remote that there is not much recorded. I hope to bring the musical and ritual practices among them into my study of sound and silence as well.

As Julie and I settle in to a small house which has been in Julie’s family for generations on Georgetown Island, Maine, I plan to read, play, practice (guitar, banjo, violin and viola, harmonica, chanter, possibly a cello,) sing, listen to and analyze many kinds of sound, and experience different kinds of silence (e.g., there are Friends Meetings in the nearby towns of Brunswick, Topsham, and Durham.) I also plan to take advantage of the different environments and the freedom to listen to the ocean, walk in the deciduous forests, and sing, share, and discuss all that I’m learning with Julie.

¹ William Congreve, *The Mourning Bride* (1697)

² and by extension the diocesan ministries in which I participate, e.g., Cursillo, Camp Capers, Mustang Island, World Mission, clergy conferences, Council, &c.

³ West Bengal, with over 91 million inhabitants (as of 2011), is India’s 4th-most populous state. A part of the ethno-

linguistic *Bengal* region, it borders Bangladesh in the east, and Nepal and Bhutan in the north, and the Indian states of Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar, Sikkim, and Assam in the west. The capital is Kolkata, the 7th-largest city in India. West Bengal includes the Darjeeling Himalayan hill region, the Ganges delta, the Rarh region, & the coastal Sundarbans. *From the Diocese of Durgapur’s website*: “More than 70% of members of the Diocese of Durgapur of Church of North India are “Tribals.” The [Santali, *author’s edit*] people... have always been major in our national life and culture. India, post and pre independence, can never be completely and clearly understood without recognizing the invaluable contribution of the [Santali] communities.” While I was visiting the library at “The Bishop’s College” in Kolkata, I was blessed to be given copies of the theological research and development of their work and the study of this indigenous religion. Studying the spirituality of Indigenous peoples from North America and the subcontinent of India seemed quite logical in expanding my exploration of sound and silence.

Address Updates:

(Cut and paste into your Directory)

Bette Wehner

bwehner2014@gmail.com

Glenda Schumann

62 Oak Villa Rd
Canyon Lake, 78133

Michael & Becky Weaver

1263 Merlot
New Braunfels, 78132

Ross & Pat Fleming

196 Falcon Ct.
Canyon Lake 78133

 **2018
Upcoming
events:**

Sept. 27 - 30: Cursillo weekend #280 at Mustang Island Conference Center.

Nov. 8-11: Cursillo weekend #281 at Camp Capers.

Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson and Fr. David consecrated the new Memorial Garden area on Thursday, July 19. The service was completed with the pre ground-breaking for our new ministries and outreach building.



(L to R): Libby Templeton, Don Stackhouse, and Susan Kelch



Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson and Fr. David



Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson and Fr. David

Breathing ... *(Cont'd from page 3)*

We suffer to get well.

We surrender to win.

We die to live.

We give it away to keep it.

In 12 chapters, Rohr explores the Christian principles of the Twelve Steps. Along the way, the reader is treated to examinations of powerlessness, the imperial ego, keeping the heart space open, the surrender of our will to God, making amends, restorative justice, being responsible, the importance of intimacy, and the

grace of God.

While any student of the Twelve Steps (weather or not they are a participant in any of the various 12-step fellowships) or any Christian would obviously benefit from this book, I believe that any human who wished to live a deeper, more informed, spiritual life would also greatly benefit from it.

If you find what I have written so far about this book intriguing, to say the very least, and would like to explore some of its ideas more fully,

please join with me in the Parish Hall beginning July 25, every Wednesday evening (except on our Potluck nights,) from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. I do not intend on “teaching” a class based on this book. Rather, we will read this book together and consider and discuss the absolute genius of the Twelve Steps and how, just how they just might enrich our lives in very profound ways.

Blessings,
Fr. Gordon

In loving memory

Chris Ann Cagle

December 25, 1931 - June 19, 2018

In loving memory

Imogene Griffin Howard

August 13, 1922 - June 23, 2018



(L to R): Gloria Wildberger, Macie White, Fr. David, Bella Huneau, Fr. David, and Haley Klaftenegger give Gloria well wishes on her journey as she retires as St. Francis' Child Care person. We will miss you!

Update for ... *(Cont'd from page 1)*

tour of the catering kitchen at the Tye Preston library that there are certainly ways to do everything we want to do today, even if it may not always be the conventional way—and still be in compliance with fire safety requirements. This has been confirmed by our Canyon Lake fire chief after his visit to with Maury.

However, let me explain why we decided to absorb the costs for the infrastructure of a full service kitchen:

1. Cost: We do have a contingency budget that would allow us to pay for the ductwork with existing funds/loan approval amount. If we wait, and do this at a later time, it will be substantially more expensive. Right now, the cost of the ductwork represents only 1.5% of the loan amount (built in contingency is 5%.) We cannot exhaust our contingency fund before the ground has been broken.
2. Safety: After reviewing regulations and talking with the fire chief (who was a fire marshal,) it appears that we would be compliance with all fire safety rules with a catering kitchen as depicted in our initial plans, assuming all guidelines surrounding potential grease producing

St. Francis by the Lake
 P.O. Box 2031
 Canyon Lake, TX 78133
 (830)-964-3820
 francis@gvtc.com
 www.saintfrancisbythelake.org

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.

3. Flexibility: Everyone's goal (building committee, parishioners, Vestry, everyone) has always been to

cooking methods are meticulously followed. While this is not insurmountable, we believe that by adding the fire suppression system we have a much greater degree of protection, as well as added flexibility.

build in enough flexibility to allow us to do whatever God is calling us to do. We don't know what that might be. The church of the future must be agile, and we don't want to fail to provide for the future. We are building a Ministry and Outreach Center that that will allow us to fulfill needs of present and future ministries.