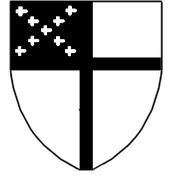




The Franciscan



Volume XXXVII, Issue IX

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

October 2016

Have you wondered???

By [Ronnie Schwakhofer](#)

Will our capital campaign take away from our annual stewardship/giving campaign?

Parishes and other ministries are often concerned about the impact a capital campaign will have on its annual stewardship.

A well-executed campaign however, will re-energize the community, get members more involved with the vision and mission, and improve understanding of how resources are used and the impact they have. As a result, a capital campaign can often *improve* annual stewardship and giving efforts.

What is a capital campaign and how is it different from an annual stewardship/giving campaign?

A capital campaign is an action plan to raise funds for building projects like new construction, expansions and renovations. This type of project is not funded through an annual budget but through a capital campaign.

An annual stewardship program, first and foremost, is an opportunity to express gratitude to God for His myriad blessings. Regular commitments (our tithes) to our parish reflect and demonstrate our love of God and our offerings help the parish be the Body of Christ, a missional outpost of our

diocese. Annual pledges support everything we do at St. Francis from paying the priest, to supporting outreach ministries, to making possible our liturgical, education, and music offerings. It also assists the leadership in having a sense of financial resources that may be available to forecast an annual budget.



Highway cleanup

By [Bernie Frey](#), Outreach Chair

Saturday, Sept. 17, was a humid morning for our quarterly cleanup

activity. Eleven hardy souls turned out to help beautify our two mile section of Highway FM 2673.

The usual amount of debris was collected along with a real estate ad, and political signs. Fr. David continued his day job by saving another lost sole. In addition to Fr. David, Mary Barker, Micheline Ellas, Linda Harkness, Ray Ferguson, Tamara and Bella Huneau, Jeanne Slupik, Brad Mount, Lynda Leadford, Reagan Pollock, Lynda's granddaughter, and Libby Templeton, braved the warm temperature to complete the mission.



The highway cleanup group cleaned up St. Francis' part of FM 2673 on Saturday, Sept. 17. (L to R): Fr. David, Ray Ferguson, Tamara and Bella Huneau, and Linda Harkness. The rest of the group, not pictured, is stated in Bernie Frey's article on this page. Thank you for keeping our part of paradise clean!



Dear friends,

More than six years ago, I rose and spoke during what I, half-jokingly, call the Institutionalization. The bishop had told me to “cast a vision” for the parish. The reasoning is pretty simple: “If you aim at nothing, you’ll hit it every time!” Yogi’s Corollary is similar: “If you don’t know where you’re going, you might not get there.” I’d been with St. Francis for about three and a half months. But we’ve aimed, and we’ve discerned, and it is coming to fruition! I’ll update the language and make it inclusive:

“We have been advancing for the cause of Christ (outreach and mission.)”

When the ball or the puck or the what-have-you, needs to be advanced down the field, the ice, the pitch, whatever, there are two entities involved. There’s the passer and there’s the receiver. Advancement is the goal; and so the receiver is on the move. The passer must anticipate where the receiver is heading, and how far ahead he’ll have to lead or pass in order for the receiver to not break stride... It isn’t terribly complicated, but intuition and experience don’t hurt. Today, I’m affirming that St Francis by the Lake has been on the move. We have been advancing for the cause of Christ (outreach and mission.) We have been making headway in spiritual growth (bible study, prayer groups, etc.) I believe that, with arms outstretched, we’ve got it! The goal now is to a) pace ourselves to run into it; b) not break stride or

stumble; and c) catch it. We are ready. It’s our dream, our hope, our vision.

Once the reception has been made, then the fun starts! In order to keep our focus, we look down field to the next time, in another five to seven years, when we see St. Francis by the Lake as an even more abundant, more enthusiastic, more engaged, and even more faithful group of Christians living into the holy plan the Lord has laid out for us: where we’re grounded in gratitude; where God continues to reveal His will for us through our prayers; and where we live out our love for Him and the world in faith.

Faithfully,
Fr. David



Upcoming events:

Oct. 6-9, 2016: Cursillo weekend #273 at Mustang Island Conference Center; Rectora is Laurie Haney, St. Elizabeth’s, Buda; Asst. Rectora is Heather Marks, St. Peter’s, Rockport; Spiritual Director is the Rev.



John Hardie, St. Mark’s, Corpus Christi; Asst. Spiritual Directors are the Rev. Rob Harris, Christ

Church, San Antonio; and the Rev. Nancy Springer, St. Alban’s Harlingen. From the diocese for Cursillo #273: We are attempting to bring younger adults into Cursillo life.

Nov. 3-6, 2016: Cursillo weekend #274 at Camp Capers. Rectora is Sheri Digby, St. Helena’s Boerne; and Spiritual Director is the Rev. Milton Black, Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi.



Judy Frey and Richard Ellas were two of many who participated in the Freedom Walk on the Canyon Lake Dam on Sept. 11.



Treasurer's report

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

Financial activities through the first eight months of 2016 continue to show mixed results in the management of expected income and expenditures. (As previously reported in the January Franciscan, the Vestry approved a 2016 budget which reflected needs in excess of expected income of \$47,085, the difference being made up from carry over and anticipated year-end contributions.) The August 2016 month-end actual income for the General Fund fell short of the budgeted projection by \$1,550 and was 21% less than in the same period in 2015. Year-to-Date income in the General Fund of \$155,115 fell short of the budgeted projection by \$7,301 and was 18% less than in the same period in 2015. The August 2016 month-end expenditures for the General Fund of \$22,848 were less than the budgeted projection by \$800 but were 3% higher than in the same period in 2015. Year-to-Date expenditures for the General Fund of \$186,239 were less than the budgeted projection by \$8,250 but were 5% higher than in the same period in 2015.

Activities to help increase income continue. As previously reported, cash assets supporting St. Francis and the Honduras Ministry are now invested with two financial institutions, Capital One and EverBank, where the interest rate environment is much more favorable. Interest income from the EverBank relationship is used to support the Honduras Ministry. Interest income from the Capital One relationship is credited monthly to the parish's new

building project fund. Cash assets at Prosperity Bank and Security State continue to be managed. Excess funds are being invested for longer periods of time before being used for operating needs of St. Francis and its ministries.

We continue to seek opportunities to reduce expenses. 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 August 31, 2016:

St. Francis Available Cash (All Funds)	\$204,903
General Operating:	\$ 45,661
Debt Retirement:	\$ 658
New Building:	\$ 41,178

Our **Debts** as of August 31, 2016:

Crump Note:	\$ 50,000
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ECW on the road again!

By [Betty Morris](#),
ECW President

The Episcopal Church Women of St. Francis, their spouses and friends will tour the Painted Churches of the Schulenburg area on Thursday, Oct. 13. If you have not signed up, check with Lin Boudreaux to see if there is room.

The very plain interiors of these old churches were painted to enhance the worship of the congregation to the Glory of God. Wooden posts look like marble, saints and

angels circle the ceilings, and the main altar and side altars may appear golden. Our tour is really more of a pilgrimage to sites where early Texans baptized their children, received Holy Communion, and buried their dead. Of course, there will be lunch in that hearty Czech/German community with birthday cake to celebrate the October birthdays.

We hope this will also be a celebration for the funds raised from the Rummage Sale. Ronnie and Chuck Schwakhofer have done a wonderful job spearheading this event with lots of help from many others. The funds will be used for some ECW projects, our building program, and outreach. Keep digging in your closet and kitchen - we know you have it in there - then bring your treasures to Jones Hall, preferably before Oct. 6.

If you can help with sorting, pricing, assisting customers, or in any other capacity, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Look for more news in November. If you are a woman attending St. Francis, you are an ECW member. We hope you will plan to join us on Nov. 10 when we rest from our labors and Lynn Zimmerman will lead us in a program on Gratitude. We have much to be thankful for and this quiet time will prepare us for the coming holidays. If you need more information or have questions, contact Betty Morris, bmorris@gvtc.com, (830) 515-8659.

Many blessings,
Betty Morris
President



Daughters of the King (DOK)

By [Becky Averyt](#), DOK President

From the Daughters of the King
To the Women of the Church:

Humble greetings,

As of September, the DOK of St. Francis of the Lake resumed their monthly full meetings. I wish to inform those unaware of what this Order stands for within the Episcopal church.

A Daughter's basic commitments are to prayer, service and evangelism. In our *Rule of Life*, prayer always comes first. It is our daily choice to consciously practice the presence of God. In our service, our vow is largely to disciple others, especially women and girls. And the *Rule of Service* obligates Daughters "to render at all times aid to the clergy for the spiritual up-building of the church." With evangelism, we are missionaries, working for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. And we pray, pray, and pray more...

We do sound like a serious bunch, don't we?! I extend to you that we do laugh and love together, have wonderful presentations, hope to bring in speakers, and take a few trips this coming year.

If you are interested in knowing more about the Daughters of the King, please contact Becky Averyt at Raveryt@sjrctexas.org, catch me at church, or call. You may also talk to any Daughter, who may be known by the uniqueness of their DOK cross! And please, you are invited to attend our meetings on the 4th Wednesday of the month. We begin at 12:30 p.m. in the parish hall. Bring a sack lunch if you wish, with the Eucharist preceding at 11:30 p.m.

Thank you.

In His light, and FHS

Becky Averyt, DOK President



Fr. David receives the "olives" parishioners wrote their blessings to God on *Gratitude Sunday*, on Sept. 25, at the *All Together Now* service.



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.

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.



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, and adult sizes, (both disposable and cloth diapers.)

All contributions are appreciated.

What's happening

Daughters of the King (DOK) is on the 4th Wednesday of every month (Oct. 26) at 12:30 p.m. Come early and begin with the Eucharist. Remember to bring your sack lunch.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) meet every 2nd Thursday of the month (Oct. 8.) This month the group will meet at 9:15 a.m. to carpool to the Painted Churches for a day trip. ([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.

Vestry - meets the 2nd Sunday (Oct. 9) at 12:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

Adult Sunday School meets most 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 are related to the Gospel reading and how they relate to us.

Prayer Shawl Ministry meets at 10:00 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month. Check the *Good News* for the location. In October, the group will not meet due to the Fall Women's Gathering on Oct. 14 - 16.

Evening Study Class meets at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in the parish hall.

Scrapbook and Craft Night meets Friday, Oct. 28, 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 meet on Oct. 2 at 12:15 p.m. with a potluck lunch in the parish hall. Check the *Good News* for schedule updates.



Twice Blessed Rummage Sale

Benefits *Communities in Schools*

Oct. 7 & 8

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Donation and volunteers are still needed!! Many thanks, Ronnie

October birthdays

Margaret Mitchell	10/3
Ginger Rose	10/3
Teresa St. John	10/3
Jake Benham	10/5
Jackson Bosenbark	10/7
Janis Allen	10/9
Debbie Barnwell	10/11
Becki Nichols	10/11
George Glasby	10/18
Bruce Smith	10/20
Richard Meinke	10/21
Libby Templeton	10/22
Gay Witbeck	10/22
Frank Matthewson	10/24
Alice Meinke	10/25
Janet Pollock	10/25
Micheline Ellas	10/29

October anniversaries

Les and Anne Beauvais	10/18
Harry and Mary Catherine Cole	10/30

Mark your calendars

Oct. 3 - 5:00 p.m. - Blessing of the Animals at St. Francis.

Oct. 4 - Blessing of the Animals at Primarily Primate with Fr. David and Dr. Valerie Kirk.

Oct. 5 - 6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. - *Reaching Up... Reaching Out* parish prayer service ([See article on p. 6.](#))

Oct. 5 - 6:00 p.m. - Taizé service followed by soup and supper. ([See article on p. 6.](#))

Oct. 6 - Cursillo #273 - ([See article on p. 2.](#))

Oct. 7 & 8 - Annual Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Rummage Sale. ([See article on p. 3.](#))

Oct. 14-16 - The Fall Women's Gathering at Camp Capers.

Oct. 24-26 - Fr. David at Clergy Conference.

The Franciscan

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

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**Remember:
The All Together
Now service is
on the fourth
Sunday of every
month for the
remainder of
2016.**



The prayer event is near!

By [Lynn Zimmermann](#)

On Wednesday, Oct. 5, St. Francis will experience a full day of *Reaching Up... Reaching Out* by coming together for a Parish Prayer event. This is a full day event with many opportunities for participation as we continue to ask what the Lord wants to do through us as individuals, and as a parish family.

This event begins with a prayer vigil to be held in the church. The vigil begins at 6:00 a.m. and finishes at 6:00 p.m. with a Taizé service for the entire parish family. Following the service, we will take part in a soup and share supper, where we will come together to give and receive in His Name.

Whether you have signed up to participate in portions of this event or not, please plan to attend the Taizé service and soup supper... just come with a heart open and asking: *Lord, what do you want to do through me?*



Kevin and Valeska McHugh were the greeters for *Gratitude Sunday*, on Sept. 25



Mark your calendar!

By [Ronnie Schwakhofer](#)

Our annual Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Rummage sale will be held on Friday, Oct. 7, and Sat-

urday, Oct. 8. We're needing gently used clothing (on hangers), shoes, household items, furniture, sports equipment, lawn equipment, 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: (210) 885-6886.



(L to R): Marjorie George, creator of *Reflections* magazine for the Diocese of West Texas; Jane Ahero, President of the Commission for Women's Ministries in the Diocese of West Texas; Tricia Jones; and Linda Harkness attended the ECW meeting on Sept. 8. Marjorie and Jane were guests of the ECW in September.



Update from the Sr. Warden

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

Good Morning! Thank you so much for joining us this morning for Gratitude Sunday! My favorite Biblical examples of “gratitude” come from **Colossians 3:15-20**: *and let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him, and Romans 8:28: *And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.**

Listed in my dictionary, gratitude is “a feeling of thankfulness or appreciation, as for gifts or favors,” from Medieval Latin *grātitudō*, from Latin *grātus* grateful. My personal definition would be “joy in my heart.” I have so many reasons to be joyful: my loving family, my sweet, sweet pets, my friends, my health, the Canyon Lake community, and especially my church, St. Francis by the Lake, and my church family.

It has been an honor to serve this year as your Senior Warden and I am especially proud of the Vestry and their due diligence in insuring we always stay focused on the parish.

This is my third opportunity to speak to you as your Senior Warden regarding where we are headed as a community of the faithful. As Fr. David wrote in his letter to us, “The days ahead are some of the most critical in the life of our parish.” Most of you have been contacted by members of our prayer team who

shared our vision of Reaching Up... Reaching Out: Building for Today and Tomorrow. As of today, we have \$246,000 in commitments from members of our parish to our Capital Campaign and we have yet to formally begin! The leadership of Richard Rogers, the dedication of Bob Amos and Don Stackhouse, and all the team leaders and members, has formed a blessedly capable, Godful core for our Capital Campaign. Each of you has been invited to a Commitment Gathering either on Oct. 16 or 17. Please take the time to RSVP and if you are one who is uncomfortable in these settings, please reach out to one of us. We are here for you!

And so, while we are thrilled with the progress of the Capital Campaign, we need to also focus on our Stewardship Campaign which will run concurrently with the Capital Campaign. Someone said to me the other day, “What use is a Capital Campaign if you cannot keep the lights on?” Your annual tithe feeds our Operations budget and is the lifeblood of our church. Last year, if you attended the Parish Hall meeting, you heard Lynda Leadford talk about how your tithe and plate donations helped us cover the budget shortfall in 2015. Our Parish tends to give “more” during the last quarter of the year. This year appears to be more of the same, although overall revenue this year has remained constant or “straight-lined,” while expenses have continued to climb upward.

Your Vestry is very aware of all the budget issues. Your Treasurer has moved money to increase interest rates and gain us as much “sugar” as possible from all of our funds. Aside from the cost to complete our new entrance to county code, we have held off on any new landscaping initiatives. Dusty Hoecker appears to be winning the battle of the reed at the new entrance, and we will

eventually beautify that area, and we plan to add signage at the corner of FM 306 and Spring Mountain Road. Someday, but not today, so please be patient with us.

As we enjoy the service today, and the potluck afterwards, and continue to prayerfully ask, “Lord, What do you want to do through me?” please consider the following:

- Have I contemplated my gratitude and asked God for guidance in how I should respond?
- Am I on track and being faithful in my planned response to God’s blessings. Please read the Treasurer’s report in the next Franciscan to gain a full appreciation of the cost to run and maintain our Parish.
- How is God calling me to contribute to the Capital Campaign? What is my *treasure*? How can I also use my *time* and *talent* as a contribution? Please attend a Commitment Gathering and ask questions. Ask a lot of questions. Reach out to our Campaign Co-Chairs Bob Amos and Don Stackhouse.
- How can I contribute to the mission of the church and our ministries through the annual Stewardship Campaign? My commitment for the Capital Campaign is paid out over three years. My Tithe is paid during the calendar year. How do I support both? Ronnie Harper-Schwakhofer has graciously stepped up as our Stewardship Campaign Chairman and she understands money and budgeting, so use her skills!

In closing, once again please accept my gratitude for this wonderful, loving, God inspired congregation. We are on our intended path. We shall “Reach Up” and we shall “Reach Out” all together as one. Thank you for your time and God bless.



An easy way to make a gift to St. Francis

Do you already shop at Amazon.com? Amazon Smile is part of Amazon.com, and when you shop there, part of your purchase can become a gift to a charity of your choice.

Just visit smile.amazon.com any time you shop and login as you normally do. The first time you log in you'll be prompted to select a charitable organization. Type St. Francis by the Lake in the search box. Giving a gift to St. Francis has never been easier!

Simply select St. Francis by the Lake as the charitable organization of your choice before you begin shopping. Then every eligible purchase you make will result in a contribution to St. Francis!



Twice Blessed Rummage Sale

Oct. 7 & 8 at 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

St. Francis by the Lake
13250 Hwy 306 @ Spring Mountain Drive
Canyon Lake
Benefits Communities in Schools (CIS)



Blue Box Sunday is Nov. 6.

Look to the November Franciscan for more details



The 2016 Fall Women's Gathering
Oct. 14-16
at Camp Capers in Waring, Texas
with Bishop Laura Ahrens

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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.

Sponsored by the Commission for Women's Ministries,
Episcopal Diocese of West Texas

To learn more and to register, go to
www.dwtx.org/women.

Find us on Facebook
Commission for Women's Ministries, DWTX