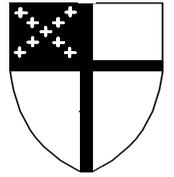




The Franciscan



Volume XXXVII, Issue VIII

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

September 2016



Invite - Welcome - Connect

By Libby Templeton

EVERYONE is invited to an exciting conference being held at St. Luke's, San Antonio, on Saturday, Sept. 24!

The diocese has a renewed effort and focus on evangelism and new ways to make it effective in our communities. To help with it, they're bringing a wonderful program to us. It's called *Invite-Welcome-Connect*. I'm super excited about it and hope that you will be, too!!

So, why do we need to go to a program to help us with something

that folks always praise us for? Well, simply put, we can all use "continuing education." There are always ways that we can improve.

Please consider joining us at the event and helping bring even more intentionality to some of the things that St. Francis by the Lake is known for - our open, welcoming, friendly hospitality.

For more information and to register, please visit <http://www.dwtx.org/calendar-events/events/>. The cost for the day is \$35, and that includes materials and lunch. If you have questions, please email me at libbleton254@gmail.com or give me a call at (817) 475-3909.

Race to the pantry

By [Bernie Frey](#), Outreach Chair

Due to a scheduling conflict, the date for the Race to the Pantry has been moved from Sept. 24 to Dec. 17. It will be held on the last day of North Pole Village (which will be used for pre- and post- race activities) making the race a Christmas themed event. Everything else remains the same; we will still have 5K and 10K races, a one mile walk, and a kids' K.



The congregations at both services were introduced to the Capital Campaign leaders on Sunday, Aug. 14. (L to R): Linda Bosenbark, Dave and Diane LaCombe, Lynn Zimmermann, Keren Necaice, Jeanne Slupik, Libby Templeton, Bob Amos, Don Stackhouse, Tom and Maury Meyer, Brenda and Marcel Klaftegger, and Brian Benham. Not pictured, but also part of the group leaders is Tricia Jones. If you would like a role in our campaign, please let one of the leaders know.



From the Rector,

Before a recent sermon, I shared my distress concerning the lessons. Some of you were comforted to know that I was distressed!

But there's a grace-filled side to the situation (isn't there always?) You've had the opportunity to hear reflections the Lord has placed on my heart regarding a few of the most important facets of our Christian walk. Jesus is Lord and King... the faith we must nurture in spite of doubts and fears... we must forgive others as we want God to forgive us... conflict isn't bad, but it must lead to unity... these are parts of our growing relationship with the Lord and others that we must constantly visit, meditate upon, and implement anew: even though they're hard.

“...we must forgive others as we want God to forgive us...”

To that end, our presence and participation in Worship and Christian education must be foremost in our lives. Wouldn't it be grand to see attendance rise? Wouldn't it be encouraging to see the swelling of Sunday school? So how's that going to happen? By our living faithfully.

Is the Lord calling you/me/us to something new? [of course!] Is there a different perspective on “business as usual” in our lives that we're being asked to look at? [if so, what is it?] Are we being stretched and encouraged to move into closer fellowship with other brothers and sisters in our community? [feast groups are a great way for this to happen, but not the only way!] Is

there a ministry at St Francis—or elsewhere—that you're being called to move into? [yes; are you praying about where?]

“Is there a different perspective on ‘business as usual’ in our lives that we're being asked to look at? [if so, what is it?]”

May Almighty God give us the motivation and will to see and participate in “things which were cast down being raised up, and things which had grown old being made new...”

Faithfully,
Fr. David

Family Promise

By [Bernie Frey](#), Outreach Chair

When families graduate from the *Family Promise* program, they are provided items necessary to set up a household including furniture. In the past, items were delivered to the *Family Promise* office in New Braunfels. Realizing that they don't have the storage or manpower to coordinate large items, *Family Promise* is now partnering with Comal County Habitat for Humanity Re-Store. Small items can still be taken to the *Family Promise* office.

Anyone with furniture they want to donate to the *Family Promise* program can now take it to the Habitat Re-Store in New Braunfels. Also, Habitat will coordinate a pick up if you give them a call at (830) 625-7005. When donating items to Habitat, please state that you want the items to be credited to *Family Promise*.

Graduates of the program are given vouchers that they can use to shop for items they need.

Please contact Holly Digby at (830) 214-0024 with any questions.

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 seven 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 July 2016 month-end actual revenues for the General Fund fell short of the budgeted projection by \$623, but was 19% more than in the same period in 2015. Year-to-Date revenues in the General Fund of \$138,196 fell short of the budgeted projection by \$5,750 and was 17% less than in the same period in 2015. The July 2016 month-end expenditures for the General Fund of \$20,841 were less than the budgeted projection by \$2,447 and was <1% lower than in the same period in 2015. Year-to-Date expenditures for the General Fund of \$163,247 were less than the budgeted projection by \$7,593 but were 5% higher than in the same period in 2015.

(Editor's note: While not quite where we would like to be, this is testimony to our parishioners' faithfulness!)

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, Capital One and EverBank, where the interest rate environment is much more favorable to the parish. Interest income from the EverBank relationship will replace the expenditures made monthly by St. Francis to support the Honduras Ministry. Interest income from the

Capital One relationship is credited monthly to the parish's new building project fund.

We now have an additional opportunity in place to earn miscellaneous revenue: through Amazon's charitable giving programs at www.smile.amazon.com.

Cash assets at Prosperity Bank and Security State continue to be managed much more tightly as targeted balances are in place and requests for checks are being processed by close of business only on Tuesdays and Fridays of each week. Besides assisting with cash flow, 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. Any parishioner who has a cost savings idea is encouraged to contact the St. Francis Treasurer at www.treasurer@gvtc.com.

Available **Funds** as of July 31, 2016:

General Operating:	\$51,734
Debt Retirement:	\$ -682
New Building:	\$44,465

Debts as of July 31, 2016:

Crump Note:	\$50,000
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ECW - the big picture

By [Betty Morris](#),
ECW President

Greetings to all women who attend St. Francis by the Lake - yes, you are members of the ECW. [*That means we would love to have you join us even if you are not an Episcopalian.*] We are looking forward to our first meeting in the fall on **Thursday, Sept. 8, at 10:30 a.m., in the parish hall.**

Our program will give us a view of ECW beyond St. Francis - in the diocese and on the national level. Our guests will be Jane Ahero, President of the Commission for Women's Ministries in the Diocese of West Texas. Jane began attending the Women's Gatherings (retreats - next one is Oct. 14-16) in the 1980's. She was impressed with the spirituality of the women who attended, so when she was invited to become part of the Commission she "jumped at the chance."

Marjorie George created the *Reflections* magazine which we receive in our homes, and leads the monthly mini-retreats which several of us from St. Francis attend on the second Saturday each month at the Bishop Jones Center. She has been editor of the daily newspaper for the National ECW Triennial and is editor of the online adult Christian formation website in this diocese. She also serves on the Commission.

After their presentations, Marjorie and Jane will stay to join us for lunch. Please bring a sack lunch and enjoy this time getting to know them and each other as we break bread together. Guests are always welcome.

There are wonderful programs planned for the rest of the year and we hope you will participate. It's not too early to get the Oct. 13 tour of the Painted Churches on your calendar, too. Spouses and all guests are welcome to participate. We look forward to your joining in these opportunities to make known the power of God's love given through Jesus as we work in mission and ministry.



Recovery Ministries of the

Episcopal Diocese of West Texas

The 108th *Spiritual Retreat in Recovery*, sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, is Oct. 28 — 30 at the Mustang Island Conference Center in Corpus Christi. This retreat is led by the Revs. Stewart Hoke and Ben Nelson.

The address is Mustang Island Conference Center, 6981 State Hwy 361, Corpus Christi, TX 78373.

Online registration is open. Visit www.dwtx.org/recovery to read more about this ministry and to register online. Registration closes on Wednesday, Oct. 14. On-site housing is on a first come, first serve basis. Rooms are not guaranteed. If they fill up, those who register after will need to make separate lodging

accommodations. There are some scholarship funds available.

For more information, please contact Recovery Ministries at (210) 446-6932 or dwtxsrr@gmail.com.

Family Promise update

By [Bernie Frey](#), Outreach Chair

Thanks to Jeanne Slupik, Betty Morris, and Don Stackhouse for providing the meal for the four moms and seven children on Aug. 8. Monday, Oct. 17 will be our last day for 2016. Linda Bosenbark will be the meal coordinator, so contact her if you would like to help with the meal.



Blood drive report

By [Bernie Frey](#), Outreach Chair

St. Francis with six contributors on Aug. 6 at the Canyon Lake Blood Drive was second only to St. Thomas with 23 among Canyon Lake churches. Yea!!!!

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. 8-15: Southeast Mexico; Veterinarian Team; led by Dr. Valerie Kirk



FEAST groups are going strong throughout the summer. The Feast at Ken and Ann Patla's home took place on Friday, Aug. 19. (L to R): Jay Hillin, Gabe and Tricia Jones, Ann Patla, Julie Chalk, Carol and George Glasby, and Ken Patla. Linda Hillin took the picture. If you would like to join a Feast group, please give Betty Morris a call at (830) 515-8659 or email her at bmorris@gvtc.com.



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 the 4th Wednesday of every month (Sept. 28) 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 (Sept. 8) at 10:30 a.m. in the parish hall, which is the newly scheduled time for the next year. [\(See article, p. 3.\)](#)

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 begins again after the summer break on Sept. 7.

Vestry - meets the 2nd Sunday (Sept. 11) 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 (Sept. 17) of each month. Check the *Good News* for the location.

Evening Study Class meets at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in the parish hall. The group begins again after the summer break on Sept. 6.

Scrapbook and Craft Night meets Fridays, Sept. 9 and 23, 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 will **not** meet in September. The next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 2 at 12:15 p.m. with a potluck lunch. Check the *Good News* for schedule updates.



Ray Thompsett helps with Meals on Wheels. This is one of many ways in which we can help in our community

September birthdays

Dale Templeton	9/1
Linda Harkness	9/3
Lizzie Leigh	9/3
Linda Bosenbark	9/9
Julie Chalk	9/9
Patricia Doyal	9/9
Richard Ellas	9/11
Ann Patla	9/14
Tricia Jones	9/15
Norm Littlefield	9/15
Don Stackhouse	9/15
Jordan Pollock	9/17
Candace Fitch	9/22
Chuck Davenport	9/23
Bernie Frey	9/23
Josh White	9/26
Hazel Dowdy	9/28

September anniversaries

Bruce and Brenda Smith	9/2
Larry and Linda Bosenbark	9/4
Gabe and Tricia Jones	9/21
Chitt and Mary K. Chittenden	9/24

Mark your calendars

Sept. 5 - Labor Day - Office is closed.

Sept. 11 - 9:00 a.m. - Annual *Freedom Walk* across the dam

Sept. 17 - 9:00 a.m. - Highway Cleanup in Sattler

Sept. 24 - Saturday - **Invite - Welcome - Connect** (Renewed Effort and Focus on Evangelism Conference at St. Luke's, San Antonio.) [\(See article, p. 1.\)](#)

Oct. 7 & 8 - Annual Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Rummage Sale.

Oct. 14-16 - The Fall Women's Gathering

The Franciscan

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

The Rev. David Chalk, Rector

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Note:

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

Antonio, TX 78209. If you fill the form out online, please email it to Leigh at leigh.saunders@dwtx.org.

The nominated women will be honored with a special luncheon at the Fall Women's Gathering in October 2017, and one woman will be selected to represent the diocese at the National Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Triennial Convention in the summer of 2018 in Austin, Texas.

Any questions, please contact Pamela Currier at (210) 481-5772 or pamcurrier2@msn.com.

Blessings,

Laura Shaver, Communications Officer; Episcopal Diocese of West Texas; laura.shaver@dwtx.org; (210) 748-7720



Mark your calendar!

Oct. 7 & 8

Hats off to all the women in the Diocese of West Texas!

From The Diocese of West Texas' Laura Shaver, for Pam Currier

Dear men & women of the diocese, The Commission for Women's Ministries and the Diocese of West Texas are excited to invite you to choose an honored woman or women from your parish.

Please visit <http://www.dwtx.org/honored-woman> to find a brochure that explains the history and process of choosing an honored woman, as well as a nomination form. Nomination forms are now being accepted, and everyone is encouraged to mail (or email) them in before the Fall Women's Gathering at Camp Capers in October 2016.

Please send the nomination form to the attention of Leigh Saunders at: Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, P.O. Box 6885, San



At the Rectory Mortgage Retirement Celebration, Lynda McNab (left) and Maury Meyer provide carrot cake after the All Together Now service, Sunday, July 31. The Rectory Note was paid off early!



Reaching up... Reaching out

Lord, what do you want to do through me?

This is our church. The time is now. Begin praying for the Capital Campaign and ask God's guidance in how you might join this vision.



Would you like to share your story?

From *The Diocese of West Texas' Weekly Digest* [Laura Shaver](#)

Would you like to share a short story about a ministry or activity at your church for publication on the diocese's blog? Please contact Laura Shaver at laura.shaver@dwtx.org. Links to stories on the [diocese's blog](#) will be sent out via the *Weekly Digest* on Fridays.

You can also subscribe to the diocese's blog and receive each new posting in your email inbox. Visit the [blog homepage](#), and sign up.



Save the Date

Deepening
Discipleship Affirming
Apostleship

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

with Bishop Laura Ahrens

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

At the 2016 Fall Women's Gathering, we will explore these life-giving roles in a community of supportive women. The weekend allows time for relaxation, renewal, and refreshment.

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



7th annual 9/11 Freedom Walk

Walk across the Canyon Lake Dam on Sept. 11 at 9:00 a.m. to honor those who have given their lives for our freedom, those who have served, and those first responders who are currently serving.

Wear red, white, & blue for the march. Cold water will be served. Shaded seating will be available.

If you prefer not to walk up the hill to the dam, a shuttle bus will be provided to take you to the top of the dam.

Note: While this event is sponsored by the Canyon Lake Republican Women, it is not a political event; no campaigning of any kind will be permitted.

If you have any questions, please call (830) 935-4142.



Bob Amos (left) is the Chair for the Capital Campaign, and Don Stackhouse the Co-Chair. Thank you for your ministry to us!!

Election of a Bishop Suffragan

Weekly ENEWS from The Diocese of West Texas

Following the timeline adopted by the Diocesan Council, the nomination period for Bishop Suffragan opened on July 1, and nominations will be received through Sept. 30, 2016. Names may only be submitted by canonically resident clergy and delegates/alternates to the 2016 Diocesan Council. Each submission requires **two** clergy and **two** delegate/alternate signatures. The nomination form, election timeline, and other information regarding the election process may be found at www.dwtx.org/bishop/suffragan. All congregations are invited to remain in prayer for the discernment of our next Bishop

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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.

Suffragan. For questions regarding nominations or the election process, please contact Laura Woodall at laura.woodall@dwtx.org, or (210) 824-5387, or the Rev. David G. Read, Standing Committee President, at rector@stlukes-sa.net, or (210) 828-6425.

On Feb. 25, 2017, all canonically resident clergy in the diocese and duly elected delegates and alternates from each congregation will gather for the election of a Bishop Suffragan during the 113th Diocesan Council in Corpus Christi, Texas, hosted by Church of the Good Shepherd.