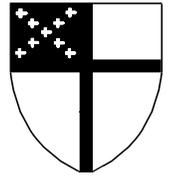




The Franciscan



Volume XXXVIII, Issue IV

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

April 2017

Linda Howard Hillin Most Honored Woman 2017

The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) are very pleased to nominate Linda Howard Hillin to the Diocese of West Texas as our 2017 Most Honored Woman. She puts into practice Romans 12:13: "Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality" and 1 Peter 4:9, 10: "Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift they have received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." Many parishioners, who were first welcomed to St. Francis by Linda and her husband Jay, consider her "the face of St. Francis." Linda has participated extensively in the life of our parish and our Diocese, and does so gracefully and humbly, and always with a sense of fun and great humor.

Her faithful service includes: a founding member of St. Francis by-the-Lake in 1979; president of the ECW, 1980-1981; Flower Guild; Daughters of the King; Community of Hope; Vacation Bible School, Cursillista; attending the Women's Gatherings; Lector; Prayer Shawl Ministry; Council delegate; New-comers Ministry; Editor of the Good News (weekly parish email); and Arts and Crafts Night.

Linda helps often in the office, folding brochures and helping Janet with projects. She maintains the names from memorials and

[\(Continued on page 2\)](#)



Annual Honduras Night

Manos de Dios Scholarship Fundraising

at Beto's, Comida Latina
(8142 Broadway St., San Antonio)

Thursday, May 11
5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

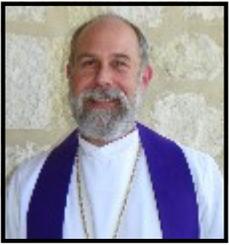


Blue Box Sunday is coming - May 28.

Don't forget get to bring your blue boxes or envelopes.



Guest speaker Pam Currier (left) and Linda Hillin share a moment at the ECW (Episcopal Church Women) meeting at Judy McClendon's home on Thursday, Mar. 9. Pam talked about the Women's History Project, and the Most Honored Woman program. Linda Hillin was by named the Most Honored Woman for 2017 at St. Francis. [\(See article on p. 3.\)](#)



Dear friends,

Our worship is to be passionate. “Passionate” isn’t the easiest word to describe. Moving quickly past carnal desires, many people hear “passion” and think football, baseball, or soccer, some think NASCAR, ice cream, or chocolate. It describes an intense, emotional desire, and very strong feelings. It means eager anticipation, expectancy, and full-on commitment. Images of “the 12th man” in football and “the 6th man” in basketball, or season ticket holders to the opera or symphony serve as good comparisons.

“Moving quickly past carnal desires, many people hear “passion” and think football, baseball, or soccer, some think NASCAR, ice cream, or chocolate. “

When we put “passionate” together with “worship” we’re certainly not intending mindless cult behavior, or the shallow sentimentalism that some have been confused into believing is orthodox Christianity.

“Authentic passionate worship is when we expect and deeply anticipate God’s Presence and Sacred Communion among ourselves in our Eucharistic fellowship...”

The Lord gave us sound minds (2 Tim 1.7) and we fail Him when we don’t think. Authentic passionate worship is when *we long to be connected to God and one another*. Authentic passionate worship is when we expect and deeply anticipate God’s Presence and Sacred Communion

among ourselves in our Eucharistic fellowship—so much that we would rarely choose to miss. This is what is characteristic of a vibrant spiritual life. This is what the Lord has been developing in me this Lent.

I look forward to sharing in passionate worship with you this week.

In Christ’s amazing love,
Fr. David

Linda Howard ... (Cont’d from page 1)

honoraria in the Memorial Books with beautiful calligraphy. Her husband cares for the church grounds and you often see Linda on the riding mower while he weed-eats.

Linda is a talented and creative artist and shares her talents freely. She helped create the St. Francis by the Lake textile banner, and she designed our amazing logo for the 2016 Capital Campaign. Her photographic skills have documented the history of St. Francis by-the-Lake from the beginning of the parish, which she shares with us during annual and other meetings, bringing us reminders not only occasions of fun and celebration, but the faces of those whose memory we cherish.

Linda is a daughter, wife, mother and grandmother. She is the wife and 26-year partner of Jay Hillin. She cares for her 94+ year-old mother who lives with them and gets them both to Bunko! She has two children and is the proud “Nana” of five grandchildren. She takes the Nana role very seriously, at Grandparents’ Day breakfast at the elementary schools, cheering at swim meets, displaying their accomplishments in the scrapbooks she makes for them, and sharing her love and passion for art with her granddaughters.

Linda - We love and salute you!

Simple acts of kindness

By Linda Harkness

A few years ago, a military friend of mine, LTC Vadnal, was expecting his birthday in about 23 days. He was turning 50 and there wasn’t a great inventory of gifts in the middle of Iraq.

Our brigade chaplain, Rabbi Mark Sacs, and I put our heads together one evening and came up with an interesting idea. It started out as a somewhat indifferent concept, but quickly caught on like wildfire!

Five of our brigade members were asked to email 20 friends, family members, or whomever. They requested each contact to perform a “single act of kindness.” Once the contacts provided their ideas, we asked them to e-mail us with the results.

The response was overwhelming. We finally counted over 650 acts of kindness! Friends, family members, and friends of family members from Washington to Maryland and Canada performed many wonderful and unique good deeds.

Many people made instant donations to charities for LTC Vadnal. One couple provided amusement park tickets for a single mom and her two children, who could not afford them. There were even a few school age children who told us about making nice comments or doing a nice thing for an unpopular classmate they rarely spoke to.

Even after I completed my deployment and was back in the states, a few e-mails flowed down to me through my army web address!

Since I was once a Public Affairs officer, I took on the task of compiling all the stories into a book for LTC Vadnal’s birthday present. He later confided to the Rabbi and

(Continued on page 8)



Treasurer's report

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

As previously reported at the Annual Parish meeting, the Vestry approved a 2017 budget which reflected needs in excess of expected total revenues of \$39,159. During the budget meetings conducted in late 2016, the Budget Committee was able to reduce certain expenditures, while also recognizing that substantial growth must occur to sustain the on-going cost of general operations.

Financial activities through the first two months of 2017 showed mixed improvement in the management of expected revenues and expenditures. The February 2017 month-end actual revenues for the General Fund fell short of the budgeted projection by \$301 and were 12% less than in the same period in 2016. Year-to-Date revenues in the General Fund of \$46,183 fell short of the budgeted projection by \$210 but were 17% higher than in the same period in 2016. The February 2017 month-end expenditures for the General Fund of \$22,844 were less than the budgeted projection by \$178 and were 17% lower than in the same period in 2016. Year-to-Date expenditures for the General Fund of \$47,696 were less than the budgeted projection by \$1,425 and were 8% less than in the same period in 2016.

Activities to help increase revenues continue. As previously reported, cash assets are now invested with two financial institutions, Capital One and EverBank, where the interest rate environment is much more favorable. Laddering of certificates of deposit is now in place which is designed to generate more income. That interest income supports the new building project costs.

Cash assets at Prosperity Bank continue to be managed tightly as a targeted balance is in place and requests for checks will be processed by the close of business only on Tuesday and Friday of each week. This allows excess funds to be invested for longer periods of time before being used to fund various operating needs.

A new revenue stream began in January with the introduction of a gentle exercise program hosted by Jeanne Slupik. This popular class is held Wednesday and Friday mornings: donations received (\$209 so far) supplement the general operating costs.

St. Francis received \$16.38 from its latest distribution from the Amazon Smile charitable giving program. When using Amazon.com, please consider using this method of benefiting the church.

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 **Funds** as of February 28, 2017:

General Operating:	\$ 42,497
Debt Retirement:	\$ 11,103
Building (New Bldg.):	\$ 29,711
Capital Campaign Funds Collected:	\$ 122,835

Our **Debts** as of February 28, 2017:

Crump Note:	\$ 40,000
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Honoring Linda Hillin and learning about

women's history

By [Betty Morris](#), ECW President

The March meeting of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) was educa-

tional and was topped with a surprise. Pam Carrier spoke about the Women's History Project and the Most Honored Woman program. At the conclusion of her talk, we surprised Linda Hillin by naming her the Most Honored Woman for 2017 at St. Francis. (See related article in this issue.)

The April meeting will be on Maundy Thursday, Apr. 13, at Maury Meyer's home. If you wish to come in the back because of the stairs, please call Maury so she can coordinate for one car. Chaplain Lynn Zimmerman will present a special reading for Holy Week. The officers will provide refreshments appropriate for Holy Week. Vice-President Lin Boudreaux will be in charge of the meeting, at which ECW officers for the coming year will be elected. The results of the votes to determine how to use the funds raised at the Rummage Sale will also be presented.

If you would like to serve as an ECW officer, please contact a member of the ECW Board - Betty Morris, Lin Boudreaux, Tricia Jones, Mary K. Chittenden, or Lynda Leadford. Lynn Zimmerman is getting ready to move, so she is very busy. No one has offered to serve on a nominating committee.

All women who attend St. Francis are members of the ECW and your participation is very important for our friendship, support, and ministries. We meet at 10:30 a.m. and after the meeting, bring a sack lunch and stay to visit. If you have any questions, email Betty Morris at bmorris@gvtc.com.



Elizabeth Black was our guest speaker at the Quiet Day on Saturday, Mar. 4. Thank you for all those who could attend.

Spring Women's Gathering

From The Diocese of West Texas Around the Diocese Calendar of Events

The Spring Women's Gathering will be held at Camp Capers Friday-Sunday, Apr. 28-30. The theme this year is "Holy Companions - a shared journey of faith."

The foundation for friendship is an act of God. Hearing and honoring one another's stories can be a sacramental act, one that manifests the presence of God. Retreat leaders Carla Pineda and Patty Brooke will guide participants on an exploration of personal spiritual journeys, as those of some biblical women, to expand and deepen the "soul friendships" that nurture our community of faith. The Rev. Sherridan Harrison will serve as chaplain. It hosted by the Commission for Women's Ministries. Learn more at www.dwtx.org/women/gatherings.

Address Updates: (Cut and paste into your Directory)

Joan Art
12318 Bexhill
Houston, TX 77065
(Her birthday is May 11. She would love to receive cards.)

Robert and Lynda McNab
P.O. Box 2076
Canyon Lake, TX 78133
(As soon as their new address is given, we will update you.)

Ann Wilson
P.O. Box 1387 *(mailing address)*
Canyon Lake, TX 78133
3225 Skyline Dr. *(physical address)*
Canyon Lake, TX 78133



Our Daughters of the King (DOK) President Becky Averyt led the Quiet Day, and Fr. Gordon Scheible was our celebrant.

Upcoming events:

 **May 4-7, 2017:** Cursillo weekend #275 at Mustang Island Conference Center.

May 19-21, 2017: Camp Capers' 70th Anniversary - Everyone is invited to join in the fun. (Former

campers, counselors, D-C-T's, camp parents, retreat attendees - we mean everybody!) Register for the entire weekend, or one day. Join us for a Camp Capers reunion to remember!



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.



Needs for CRRC food pantry

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

- toilet paper,
- 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 (Apr. 26) at 12:30 p.m. The group will meet in the parish hall after the 11:30 a.m. Eucharist.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) meet on Thursday, Apr. 13, at 10:30 a.m., at Maury Meyer's home. ([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 second Sunday (Apr. 9) of each month 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 third Saturday of each month. The group decides at their meeting where the next get-together will take place.

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

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

Circle of Care meets with COH on Sunday, Apr. 2, at 12:15 p.m. in the parish hall.

Community of Hope (COH) meets on Sunday, Apr. 2, at 12:15 p.m. with Circle of Care in the parish hall.

Second Saturday Diocesan Mini Retreat meets each month on the second Saturday at 9:00 a.m. at the Bishop Jones Center. The grounds are beautiful, and 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 for more information.)

April birthdays

Lynda McNab	4/2
Lynda Leadford	4/6
Isabella Villarreal	4/8
George Bauslaugh	4/10
John Rose	4/10
Helen Stackhouse	4/18
Burnham Jones	4/20
Connie Graham	4/21
Riley Mitchell	4/22
John McBride	4/24
Hanna White	4/25
Larry Bosenbark	4/27
Mike Maciejewski	4/27
Brian Benham	4/29
Ed Brown	4/30

Holy Week Schedule

Apr. 9 - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. - **Palm Sunday** Holy Eucharist

Apr. 10 - 7:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist Service

Apr. 11 - 7:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist Service

Apr. 12 - 7:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist Service

Apr. 13 - 7:00 p.m. - **Maundy Thursday** Holy Eucharist

Apr. 14 - 12 noon - **Stations of the Cross**

7:00 p.m. - **Good Friday** Service (*Mass of the Presanctified*)

Apr. 15 - 9:00 a.m. - **Holy Saturday** Service

7:00 p.m. - **Easter Vigil** Holy Eucharist

Apr. 16 - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. - **Pascha (Easter Day)** Holy Eucharist

Mark your calendars

Apr. 1 - 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. - Training for Lectors, Acolytes, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and Lay Eucharistic Visitors.

Apr. 2 - St. Francis visitation with Bishop David Reed

Apr. 8 - Great Highway Trash Off (Look for more details to come in the *Good News* from Bernie Frey.)

Apr. 10 - 6:00 p.m. - *Family Promise* at St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Apr. 28 - Women's Spring Gathering on Friday, Apr. 28, through Sunday, Apr. 30. ([See article on p. 4.](#))

Apr. 30 - *All Together Now* service followed by a Potluck Brunch in the parish hall.

April anniversaries

Dave and Diane LaCombe	4/13
Chuck and Azile Davenport	4/24
Bob and Lin Boudreaux	4/25

The Franciscan

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

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Gentle Exercise Class At Saint Francis by the Lake

Class instruction will focus 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!



If you would like a *military* sign, please get in touch with Betty Morris.



Sign-up for lilies

Look for sign-up sheets in the Narthex for lilies. The lilies cost \$12 each. You can have lilies in memory, in honor, and/or in thanksgiving of someone. On Easter Day, there will be an insert with the names of people we hold in remembrance.

Building Committee Report

By [Maury Meyer](#), Building Committee Chairperson

The Building Committee met Mar. 14 to go over the draft contract and specifications provided by Bob Wunderlich for our new Ministry and Outreach Center. The committee had some questions about some of the specifications, which are being compiled and will be sent to the builder.

In late March, Fr. David and I sent a letter to the Diocese of West Texas, along with background materials (floorplans, etc.) asking for review and approval of our new center, as well as asking for assistance and advice on funding and mortgage sources.



Come join us on Wednesday, Apr. 5, for the last Lenten Soup Supper of 2017. There are plenty of delicious soups and breads for everyone. There is also a program to enjoy with your meal. Thank you to all who provided soups and breads for all our soup suppers.



Tom and Maury Meyer's FEAST group enjoyed their meal at the Meyer's home. If you haven't joined a FEAST group, and would like to, please get in touch with Betty Morris at (830) 515-8659 or bmorris@gtvc.com.

Holy Week 2017 at the Pavilion at the Bishop Jones Center

From Laura Shaver, Communications Officer, at The Diocese of West Texas

Join other pilgrims as we walk with Christ toward the cross of Good Friday and the joy of resurrection on Easter morning.

Morning prayers take place every morning, Monday through Thursday, starting at 9:00 a.m.

Monday, Apr. 10, flash prayer

Tuesday, Apr. 11, Morning Prayer

led by Bishop Gary Lillibridge

Wednesday, Apr. 12, blended contemporary prayers

Thursday, Apr. 13, prayers from the New Zealand Prayer Book

Guests are welcome to stay and walk the grounds on their own after morning prayers.

The Cathedral Park Pavilion is on the grounds of the Bishop Jones Center, home of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas in San Antonio. These grounds have been a sacred place for spiritual rest and refreshment for thousands of years. All faiths are welcome to experience God through the exquisite beauty and serenity of God's creation at Cathedral Park. The address is 111 Torcido Dr., San Antonio TX 78209. For more information, email marjorie.george@dwtx.org.

Stations of the Cross at Incarnate Word - The Stations of the Cross will be presented at the Headwaters at Incarnate Word University on Good Friday, Apr. 14. This is an annual artistic offering of the 14 stations presented by St. Matthew's, St. David's, Resurrection, and Reconciliation, all in in San Antonio. Groups will begin walking the stations at 1:30 p.m. and the showing will end around 3:00 p.m. The

Headwaters Sanctuary is located just north of the Incarnate Word campus and west of the Bishop Jones

Center. For more information: The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, www.dwtx.org, 210/888 824-5387.



The banners from each church in our diocese hung down from the ceiling behind the altar at the 2017 Diocesan Council held on Feb. 23 - 25 in Corpus Christi. Can you spot St. Francis' banner?



At the 2017 Diocesan Council, Bishop Gary Lillibridge (left) and Bishop David Reed dance to "YMCA" with all the council participants.



**Bishop Lillibridge Bobblehead
from St. Francis by the Lake**

At the 2017 Diocesan Council, bobbleheads ordered in honor of Bishop Gary Lillibridge's retirement were offered for sale, and parishes were encouraged to take pictures of their bobblehead in ways that represent their parish. Here is Maury and Tom Meyer's offering for the St. Francis by the Lake Bishop Lillibridge bobblehead.



Thank you to the men who provided pancakes for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Feb. 5. (L to R): Brian Freiberger, Marcel Klaftegger, Chuck Davenport, Ken Leadford, Ray Thompsett, Dave LaCombe, Brian Benham, Larry Bosenbark, and Ray Ferguson.

Single acts of ... (Cont'd from page 2)

myself that it was one of the most treasured gifts he had ever received!

I will never really know how many people were touched by a simple idea provided by friends and coworkers. I have read about similar achievements, and it is always a happy read! I also feel such a simple idea can create an unselfish spirit, in reminding us that sometimes the best gifts are not necessarily concrete!

Go on. What "simple act of kindness" are you willing to provide, and to whom?

Linda Gail Harkness

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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.



**Easter Day is Apr. 9
Come celebrate with us!**

Remember to bring flowers, so that you can flower the cross.