



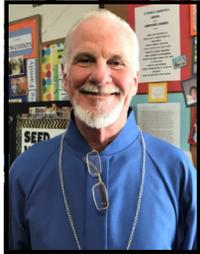
The Franciscan



Volume XLI, Issue IV

St. Francis by the Lake

April 2020



Sr. Warden's Random thoughts

Jim Kelch

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Wow! What a couple of weeks this has been! I reflect on how lucky Susan and I were. We travelled to France and came back before Covid-19 struck. We went to Alexandria, VA, for Susan's Uncle Vernon's memorial service, and came back right before the big travel bans. God is good in many ways, but, in our experience, He is really good!

While reflecting on Uncle Vernon, prior to my "religious" part in the ceremony, I thought that Uncle Vernon was pushing me

to use the non-traditional version of the 23rd Psalm found in the Prayer Book (pg 476):

*The LORD is my shepherd,
Therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture,
And lead me forth beside the waters
of comfort.*

*He shall convert my soul,
And bring me forth in the paths of
righteousness for his Name's sake.*

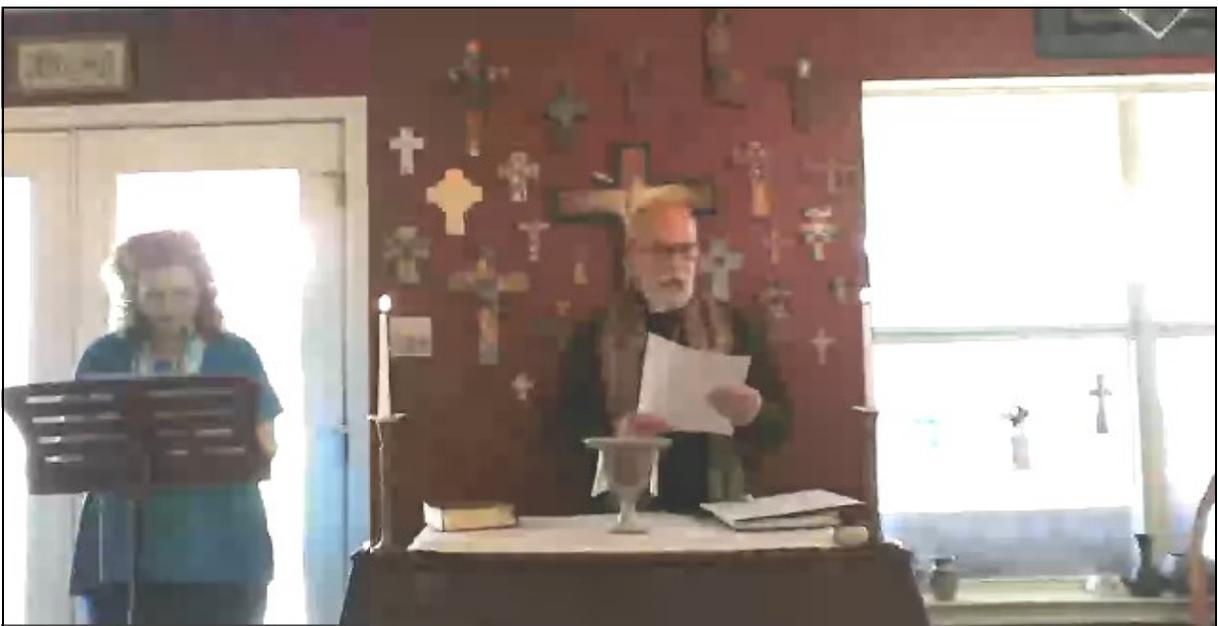
And it continues in fairly modern language.

Was it well received? No and Yes. One lady of vintage came up to me and said, "If this is what the Episcopal Prayer Book says, it shows how awful it has become." A younger lady came up to me and said, "That was beautiful!"

I ended with the Lord's Prayer,

traditional, which (learning from Fr. David) I asked those willing and able to say with me,
"Our Father, who art in Heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us for our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and
power,
and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen."

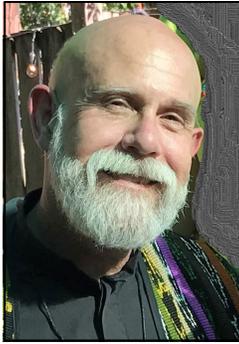
Rest eternally, Vernon.
And to us all, *Amen.*



Julie and Fr. David led the community in the Eucharist with parishioners and friends sharing from their homes. Also known as "Spiritual Communion while maintaining social distance."

Dear Friends,

The world is in crisis. There are many who don't realize or understand the scope, the magnitude of the problem. I



think this is fundamentally due to lack of knowledge, or denial. Regarding lack of knowledge: the general public is "sheltered" from much of the real-time data and information that is available (which is not just our government exercising its prerogative to keep some things secret; nor is it about networks and censorship; it's about **ignorance**: in 1709, Alexander Pope wrote *An Essay on Criticism*, in which he sagely wrote, "A little learning is a dang'rous thing...") Regarding denial: how many people are thinking, "I don't have it. No one I know has it. So it won't hurt if I just...?"

The context that we live in is this: the world is broken, fractured, very divided, sick, and *afraid*. Whether the result of the information silos that people have been herded into, the consequence of human sin, or some other influence, many people assume way too many things and, what's more insidious is: if you're not thinking like me and mine, and getting your information from "reliable sources" (i.e., the ones that I trust,) then—not only are you "wrong"—but you're the enemy and I am afraid of you and for you.

This is detrimental to us all because, at the most fundamental level, it is wrong. *E pluribus unam...*

Out of many, one... This "one-ness" was never meant to look like homogeneity or sameness. But when we're blinkered, our tunnel vision doesn't allow for the panorama, the panoply of *beauty* that becomes evident only when we're able to see and recognize *complementarity*.

And so the Church must become the model for the world. Ironically, that's been God's desire for the Church from its beginning. God has always hoped for people to embrace and demonstrate the wonderful characteristics, the counter-natural attributes of those who seek His will and walk in His ways.

The Body of Christ was never meant to be torn asunder as the heresy of denominationalism has accomplished. The prayer and teaching of Jesus, and the great amounts of space Paul and others devoted to the Church in their letters show that God's simple truth is *we need each other* in the Body.

And the simple truth in our country, indeed around the world, is the same. We need each other.

It really has never been said better by anyone than Fr. John Donne. In his 17th Meditation, of what he called "Devotions Upon Emergent Occasions," he wrote,

No one is an island, entire of itself; every one is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friend's or of thine own were; any

one's death diminishes me, because I am involved in humankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.



2020 Upcoming Cursillos

Sep. 24-27: Cursillo weekend #285 at Mustang Island Conference Center. (Lisa Sartorio, Rectora, Fr. Ram Lopez, Spiritual Director.)

Nov. 12-15: Cursillo weekend #286 at Camp Capers.

Mar. 18-21, 2021: Cursillo weekend #287 at Camp Capers.

Sep. 30-Oct. 3, 2021: Cursillo weekend #288 at Camp Capers.

Nov. 11-14, 2021: Cursillo weekend #289 at Camp Capers.





Treasurer's report

By Robert Amos

Email:

treasure@gvtc.com

Greetings all,

Before I report on our February financials, let me say that my prayers are with all of you and your families at this time of crisis. It is difficult for me not to see you face to face at our Sunday services, at other events, and meetings. I know that these times are trying for all of you. I do know that God is looking after us and we will come through the current challenges with His grace.

Many have been asking how to continue to make contributions during this challenging time. For now it is best to just send your check to St. Francis by the Lake, P.O. Box 2031, Canyon Lake, TX 78133. We are working on a means to make contributions electronically with credit/debit cards and EFT. I will provide more on this soon.

God bless all of us, our families, those we love, our country, and the world during this challenge.

At the end of February 2020, our finances were better than planned.

- Operations is better than planned.
- The Capital Campaign and Debt Retirement are doing well.
- However the Endowment Fund had a measurable decline.

Below is a summary of our financial condition as of February 29, 2020.

Operations - On plan.

Revenues: Total revenue was \$49,089.69 which is better than planned by \$4,849.69.

Expenditures: Expenditures were \$54,862.45 which is slightly lower (better) than planned by \$2,346.55.

Balance (Revenue minus Expenditures): Balance is a deficit of \$5,772.76, which is better than planned by \$7,198.24.

Capital: Doing well.

Capital Campaign 2020 - 2022: Contributions are \$10,868.84. Combined balance of Capital Campaign and Capital Campaign 2020 - 2022 Fund is \$81,675.83.

Debt Retirement: Contributions are \$7,858.00. The Debt Retirement Fund contains a balance of \$49,339.62.

Endowment Fund: Measurable Decline.

The Endowment Fund experienced a loss of \$3,009.48 in February 2020. Funds balance is \$111,258.38.

Our funds as of February 29, 2020:

General Operating	\$	10,938.38
Debt Retirement	\$	49,399.62
Capital Campaign Fund	\$	81,675.83
Endowment Fund	\$	111,258.38

Debt:

Frost Bank - Line of Credit:	\$	145,438.38
Crump Foundation:	\$	450,000.00

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.





Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

By [Ronnie Harper-Schwakhofer](#),
ECW President

Our March ECW gathering was a field trip to the Bishop Jones Center, West Texas's diocesan headquarters in San Antonio. Marthe Curry, Director of World Missions, explained the purpose of the World Mission Department, which is to seek to engage every member and every parish of the Diocese in the work of evangelism and mission. Marthe showed us a video of various activities provided by World Mission Teams to the people in the following countries around the world: Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Kurdistan Region, Mexico, Navajoland, Uganda, and Puerto Rico.

Marthe informed us of the three primary ways that individuals and parishes can partner with World Mission --- PRAY, GIVE, and GO! Further details may be found on the Diocesan Website: [DWTX.org](#).

Marjorie George, Editor and Producer of [Reflections](#) magazine, also the organizer and a contributor to our diocesan adult Christian Spiritual Formation initiative, gave us a tour of [Cathedral Park](#): 10 of the 19 acres developed with meandering trails, flowing fountains, and benches placed for sitting and relaxing. This sacred space welcomes all who seek refreshment through God's creation. After the tour we enjoyed our lunch and fellowship on the beautiful grounds under big live-oak trees.

Finally, Helen Schnelzer, co-founder of "Threads of Blessings,"

gave an insightful presentation on this ministry. "Threads of Blessing" is a nonprofit organization that enables women in Uganda to produce unique textile art that celebrates their culture and nurtures the creative process. Then, halfway across the world, in the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, a dedicated group of women gather at the Bishop Jones Center each week to frame and prepare these textiles for sale. Through their shared enterprise, this international group of women provides medical care, enrolls children in school, buys livestock and seed for crops, and builds homes for Ugandan families. Julie Chalk, a participant in the weekly gatherings, showed us some of the beautiful items made by the Ugandan women. Some of us even made purchases of these unique handmade items. We are considering having a presentation on "Threads of Blessings" at one of our fall meetings so more may have an opportunity to learn about this special ministry. For more information about supporting "Threads of Blessing" contact threadsofblessing@gmail.com, or visit threadsofblessing.org.

The April meeting has been cancelled due to the Covid-19.

Please consider being a nominee for the open officers positions: Vice President, Treasurer, and Corresponding Secretary. If you would like more information about any of these board positions please contact one of the Nominating Committee Members: Carlie Maciejewski, Becki Nichols, or Susan Kelch.

We sent the *Fund Distribution Form* that was emailed to members. Please send your recommendation on the form to Susan Kelch by email or regular mail.

Once again, the Diocese invites

us to choose an **Honored Woman** from our parish: for further details, see the article "Most Honored Woman" in this publication. Please submit your nominee to Ronnie via email: ronnie78133@gmail.com, by Apr. 15, so we may select a St. Francis woman at our April meeting.

If you need a ride to future meetings, please contact the following: if you live North of the Lake contact Becki Nichols @ (281) 475-7703, or Anne Cain @ (803) 984-0699; if you live on the south side of the Lake, contact Brenda Klaf-tenegger @ (210) 240-7031, or Ronnie Harper-Schwakhofer @ (210) 885-6886; and if you live in New Braunfels contact Susan Kelch @ (915) 241-3150.

Reminder: Every woman of St. Francis by the Lake is a member of Episcopal Church Women.



Needs for the CRRC food pantry

CRRC's food pantry is in need of:

- toothpaste & toothbrushes;
- macaroni & cheese;
- jelly;
- sugar & creamer;
- canned green beans;
- canned corn;
- mixed vegetables (*frozen or canned*);
- canned fruit;
- soups;
- cereal;
- empty egg cartons;
- plastic grocery bags;
- toilet paper; and
- baby diapers - sizes 2, 3, 4, & 5, and adult sizes, (both disposable & cloth.)

All contributions are appreciated.

What's happening (all pending...)

Daughters of the King (DOK)

hope to meet Apr. 25 at 12:30 p.m., in the St. Francis Room, after the 11:30 a.m. Eucharist.

Episcopal Church Women

(ECW) - The April meeting is cancelled. ([See article, p. 4.](#))

Scripture Study Group

meets at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays by **Zoom**, followed by the 11:30 a.m. Noon Day Prayers. (call or text Fr. David to receive info to log on.)

Vestry meets the 2nd Sunday of each month. This month it will be Apr. 12 at 12:15 p.m. in via Zoom.

Adult Sunday School is postponed indefinitely.

Prayer Shawl Ministry TBD.

AA meets every Monday, Thursday, and Friday at noon and every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in Jones Hall.

Al-Anon meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., and every Saturday at 10:00 a.m. in Jones Hall.

Caregiver Support Group meets every third Monday (Apr. 20) of from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. TBD.

Circle of Care (COH) meets every first Sunday of the month at 12:15 p.m. TBD.

The Book Club meets at 6:30 p.m. every first Monday of the month TBD.

Gathering of Men meets every second Saturday (Apr. 11) of the month at 9:30 a.m. TBD.

2nd Saturday Diocesan Mini Retreat meets each month on the 2nd Saturday (Apr. 11) at 9:00 a.m. TBD.

Postponed until further notice.



Practical Exercise Class At

Saint Francis by the Lake

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

Instructor: Jeanne Slupik

When: Tuesdays through Fridays from 8:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Where: Great Hall. Please wear comfortable clothing, and bring a yoga mat.

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

April anniversaries

Tom & Mary Anne O'Bryant 4/19
Chuck & Azile Davenport 4/24

Mark your calendars

Apr. 4 - TX Trash Off Cancelled

All via Internet

Until Further Notice

Apr. 5-11 - Holy Week

Palm Sunday -

9.30 a.m. via Internet

Monday—Maundy Thursday

- 6:00 p.m.—**Eucharist**

Good Friday

- Noon - *Stations of the Cross*

- 6:00 p.m. - *Solemn Worship*

Holy Saturday - 9:00 a.m.

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

April birthdays

Lynda Leadford	4/6
Kathryn Woehler	4/7
George Bauslaugh	4/10
John Rose	4/10
Helen Stackhouse	4/18
Burnham Jones	4/20
Riley Mitchell	4/22
John McBride	4/24
Larry Bosenbark	4/27
Mike Maciejewski	4/27
Brian Benham	4/29

The Franciscan

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Episcopal Church

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ECW tours the Diocese



Julie Chalk (left) and Helen Schnelzer show *Threads of Blessings* work brought to DWTX to be finished and sold.



Julie Chalk presents *Threads of Blessings* to the ECW.



Marjorie George (left) and Marthe Curry show Bishop Jones grounds.



Marjorie George (far left) shows off the Bishop Jones grounds.



Marthe Curry explains the role of the World Mission Commission.

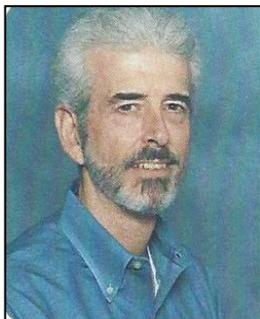


**Reaching
up...
Reaching
out...
Growing
Something
Eternal!**

Lord, You are our Why!
This is our parish: the time is now. Pray for our Stewardship and ask God's guidance for how you are to share in the vision.



Maundy Thursday window



Chuck Davenport



Good Friday window



The Windows of St. Francis

By [Betty Morris](#)

The Maundy Thursday window is against the background of the purple cross of Lent. We see the raw materials of the Eucharistic Feast - wheat and grapes - which become the Bread and Wine, the Body and Blood of Christ which we share and which re-mem-bers us. This lovely window is the gift of Chuck Davenport in memory of his first wife, Diane, who died in 1999. She is interred in our columbarium.



Fr. Don & Edie Hungerford

The Windows of St. Francis

By [Betty Morris](#)

The Good Friday window is the darkest of our window crosses, yet it celebrates joy. The window was given by the Rev. Don and Edie Hungerford in thanksgiving for their children and grandchildren.

This window is against an almost black cross, various shades of purple outlining with other crosses, and the Crown of Thorns placed on Jesus at his crucifixion. Two stripes, blood red, run down the sides of the window, symbolizing His blood shed for us on that Good Friday. *John 12:13*



Most Honored Woman: Trailblazers for Christ

By Ronnie Harper-Schwakhofer

MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD - All the women who have gone before, all the women of today, and the women of tomorrow!

“If we continue to grow and prosper, it is important to recognize the women who came before us, the woman/women in whose footsteps we follow and continue to emulate today. Please note, not only were their steps important, but our steps, the very steps we take today, are being seen, modeled, and recorded, making us the history-makers of tomorrow. How we are known by future generations depends on how we are seen today, because our story is still being written...”—Pamela Currier (Historian for C4WM.)

West Texas Honored Women—
Who Came Before Us:

- 2018 – Linda Hillin
- 2015 – Marjorie George
- 2012 – Ellen Martin
- 2009 - Betty Chumney
- 2006 – Peggy Ogden Walsh

The Commission for Women’s Ministries and the Diocese of West Texas invite you to choose an honored woman from our parish. The submission deadline for our nominee is April 30, 2020; so please submit the name of your nominee to Ronnie Harper-Schwakhofer *via* email: ronnie78133@gmail.com by April 15, 2020.



St. Francis ECW tours Bishop Jones Center with Marjorie George (third from right.)
More pictures on [page 6](#), and ECW article is on [page 4](#).

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Our Mission

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.

Of all the Honored Women chosen by their parishes, one woman will be chosen to represent our Diocese at the ECW Triennial Convention, in the summer of

2021, in Baltimore, Maryland. This tradition was established by the National Episcopal Women’s History Project.