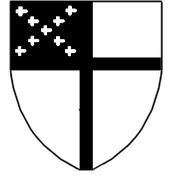




The Franciscan



Volume XXXVIII, Issue III

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

March 2017

Community of Hope training class and Circle of Care



“A school for God’s service.” Prologue, Rule of St Benedict.

A new training class for Community of Hope (COH) started on Jan. 23, with nine new participants. We have been meeting weekly with superb faculty to teach specific modules, experiencing different worship services, and having meals together. Thanks to the generosity of St. Francis parishioners, the meals have been feasts for the eyes as well as the bodies.

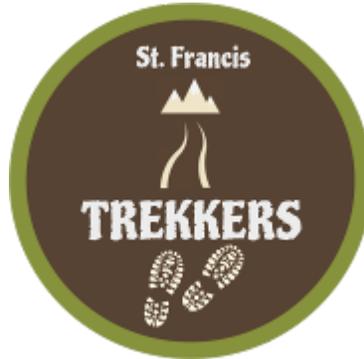
By the end of the journey, the nine participants will have actively studied 14 modules covering skills and disciplines, gone on visits to residents in a nursing facility, read daily from *The Rule of St. Benedict*, faithfully prayed and worshiped, and experienced deeper Christian community.

On Sunday, Mar. 26, at the 10:30 a.m. worship service, those participants who wish to be commissioned into the COH will be presented to Fr. David and the parish. Your prayers for these individuals are appreciated and so are words of encouragement.

The COH International creates communities committed to pastoral care and equips lay persons to be present in a compassionate, listening, non-controlling manner in order to

make a difference in the health and well-being of those in need.

If you would like to know more about COH, or to arrange a pastoral visit, please contact Tricia Jones, Julie Chalk, Betty Morris, or Fr. David.



We’re excited to announce a group that’s going to get out and get walking! The St. Francis Trekkers will

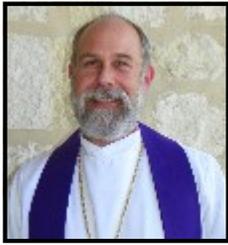
meet once a month on a Saturday to trek through the countryside. Mark your calendars for our first trek: **Saturday, Mar. 18, at 2:00 p.m., Madrone Trail, Canyon Lake.**

The Corps of Engineers states that the trail is a great hiking trail for all levels from beginner on up and that the terrain is often rocky with some soil. Trail head parking is located on Canyon Park Road approximately one mile off of FM 306. Please plan on a few hours for this hike.

The time of day for the treks will vary depending on location and length of trail. For more information, contact Libby Templeton at libbytempleton254@gmail.com.



(L to R): Dave LaCombe, Tamara Huneau, Mo Simmons, and Chris Mitchell were welcomed as new vestry members at the Annual Parish Meeting on Jan. 29.



Dear friends,

We're about to enter into the Season of Lent. Ash Wednesday begins with a clear call to remember our mortality. We're enjoined to do this because of why, in fact, we die. And here's the first upending we experience in this rejuvenating season: we die because of God's wisdom and goodness.

“And yet we continue to choose to follow our own ways, rather than God’s. We continue to choose death, rather than life.”

You see, when our ancestors ate the Forbidden Fruit which gave them the knowledge of evil, there was another tree in the Garden which God protected them from by expelling them from Paradise. If they had eaten from that tree (the Tree of Life,) then they would have lived forever in their sin. But death was introduced into Creation to prevent that from happening. And

yet we continue to choose to follow our own ways, rather than God’s. We continue to choose death, rather than life. We persist in sin. That is our nature.

“...the fasting we participate in during Lent is about ridding ourselves of whatever impedes the Lord’s presence growing in our lives.”

As a result of this, our lives become full of all kinds of things that are of our making, of our assembly, and which very often threaten to take over. The byproduct of sinning is that we fill our minds, hearts, and bodies, with all sorts of “stuff” that diminishes how much room there is for God.

And so Lent is a time to prune, weed, till, and make space for God. We thoughtfully and intentionally remove our accretions in order to make room for God’s goodness, mercy, and love. And so the fasting we participate in during Lent is about ridding ourselves of whatever impedes the Lord’s presence growing

in our lives. I pray that our fast will be helpful, productive, and holy.
Much love in Christ Jesus,
Fr. David



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.



DOK
A Rule of Life
A Rule of Prayer
Join Us

Upcoming events:

Mar. 9-12, 2017: Cursillo weekend #274 at Camp Capers.

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



(L to R): Carol Glasby, Lin Boudreaux, and Ronnie Harper attended the ECW (Episcopal Church Women) meeting at Lin's home on Thursday, Feb. 9. Thank you Lin for hosting the meeting at your home. [\(See ECW article on p. 3.\)](#)



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 by \$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 operations.

Financial activities through the first month of 2017 showed a small improvement in the management of expected revenues and expenditures. The January 2017 month-end actual revenues for the General Fund exceeded the budgeted projection by \$91 and were 48% more than in the same period in 2016. The January 2017 month-end expenditures for the General Fund of \$24,852 were less than the budgeted projection by \$1,246 and were 9% lower than in the same period in 2016.

Activities to help increase revenues continue. As previously reported, cash assets supporting the St. Francis are now invested with two financial institutions, Capital One and EverBank, where the interest rate environment is much more favorable to the Church. A program of laddering of certificates of deposit is now in place which, is designed to bring more income to St. Francis. Interest income from the relationships is used to support the new building project costs. Cash assets at Prosperity Bank continue to be managed much more 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 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.

A new revenue stream was added to St. Francis beginning in January with the introduction of a gentle exercise program hosted by Jeanne Slupik. This class is held on Wednesday and Friday mornings and the donations received are used to supplement the general operating costs of St. Francis.

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 January 31, 2017:

St. Francis Available Cash	\$ 198,145
St. Francis Foreign Ministries Cash	\$ 183,892
General Operating:	\$ 47,968
Debt Retirement:	\$ 11,710
Building (New Bldg.):	\$ 29,370
Capital Campaign Funds Collected:	\$ 114,315

Our **Debts** as of January 31, 2017:

Crump Note:	\$ 40,000
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Most Honored woman and ECW

beyond our parish

By [Betty Morris](#), ECW President

Our sincere appreciation to Judy Frey who presented our program last month, and gave us an understanding of the many needs of our service personnel, and how they are being met in the Canyon Lake area. We also are supporting a Council in Action initiative to provide flags for children of returning troops and the materials for them to make welcome home posters. A box will be in the narthex for further contributions to this project and the funds will be taken to Council as the offering from St. Francis.

On Mar. 9, we will have Pam Currier as our guest. Pam is working with materials in the archives at the Bishop Jones Center, with emphasis on the history of women in this diocese. Currently, she is chair of the Most Honored Woman project, in which each church may submit the names of women who have been instrumental in forwarding the work of the Body of Christ in their parish. She also updated us on the work of The Commission for Women's Ministries in the Diocese of West Texas.

There will be a special surprise following Pam's talk, and we will celebrate March birthdays. Judy McClendon is our hostess for this meeting, which starts at 10:30 a.m. at Judy's home. Bring a sack lunch and plan to stay to visit with Pam and other women. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come. If you have any questions, please contact Betty Morris, bmorris@gvtc.com.

Plenty of people attended the annual parish meeting on Jan. 29.



Micheline Ellas, Treasurer



Jeanne Slupik, Senior Warden



There was enough delicious food to go around. Thank you to all who prepared and brought the food to our annual meeting between the services.



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.

A draft 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 (Mar. 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) meet on Thursday, Mar. 9, at 10:30 a.m., at Judy McClendon's home. ([See article, p. 3.](#))

DOK/ECW/COH Quiet Day is at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, Mar. 4, in the church.

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 each month at 12:30 p.m. in the parish hall. In March, there is a vestry retreat (Mar. 17 & 18,) instead of the regular meeting.

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. Due to a conflict in scheduling, this month the group will meet at 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Monday, Mar. 27, at Judy McClendon's home.

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 on Mar. 5 at 12:15 p.m. in the parish hall.

Community of Hope (COH) training classes are on Mondays, Mar. 6, 13, and 20 at 6:00 p.m. The COH Retreat is on Saturday, Mar. 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



**Daylight Savings
is Mar. 12.
Don't forget to set your
clocks.**

**Ash Wednesday
Services
on Mar. 1
at 6:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.,
and 7:00 p.m.**

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 Satur-
day** 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

Mar. 1 - **Ash Wednesday** -
6:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., & 7:00
p.m. - Holy Eucharist

Mar. 4 - DOK/ECW Quiet
Day - 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Mar. 11 - Crop Walk

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

March anniversaries

Ray Ferguson and Tamara Huneau
3/13

March birthdays

Cheree Bauslaugh	3/2
Gabe Jones	3/6
Betty Colley	3/8
Jim Kelch	3/9
Maura Mitchell	3/11
Brian Freiberger	3/12
Harold Simmons	3/15
Pat Smith	3/16
Margo Horner	3/20
J.P. Smith	3/23
Cindy Smith	3/24

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!

**Ministry and
Outreach Center
update**

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

Tom and I met with Bob Wunderlich, our builder, on Tuesday, Feb. 14. Bob had an itemized contract and the final floorplan with his cost estimate. The total for our new building is \$989,424, and includes preparation of the site to completion of the building. That is \$10,576 below our goal of keeping the cost no higher than \$1 million. It does not include the water and electric hookup, as those companies will not provide estimates until the building is in place. It also does not include the roof for the walkway from the sanctuary to the front door of the Ministry and Outreach Building, as Bob says the building needs to be on site to get the exact measurements and it will depend on what type of cover we select. The costs of these three items that are not included are not expected to exceed the \$10,000 difference.

The final floorplan had a small change that removed some storage next to the parish hall and increased the choir room so that it is as large as the current choir room (not a small change to them!) I will post that new page on the Narthex bulletin board the next time I am at the church.

Some parishioners have asked me recently if we could have some of the exterior faced with rock, so it doesn't look as much like a metal building. To stay within our budget of \$1 million, we cannot afford to do so at this time; however, we are having the front of the pad (facing the parking lot) built to support a stone façade in the future if we have the funds. I also encourage everyone to really look at the outside of our church from the vantage point of the Memorial Garden. The exterior of the new building will look very similar to that side of the church.

Next Monday, after the Diocesan Council, Fr. David and I will be sending the plans, contract, and

supporting material to the Diocese for review by their Building Committee. Mr. Wunderlich provided electronic versions of the contract and other documents to me on Monday, February 20, but I think it will be better to send them after the hubbub of the Council is over. The Diocese has promised us a timely review of the plans: their main objective is to ensure we have thought of everything that is needed. I believe they will see we have already done so. I also am sending all the documents to the Building Committee and plan to meet with them in the next two weeks to go over the specifications in detail with them.

After Diocesan review is completed, we will be need to get a mortgage in place, and then we can break ground. I am hopeful we will have a new Ministry and Outreach Center to support all our ministries by the end of this calendar year! Please continue to pray for this important work and for our Building Committee members.

The Newcomers Dinner was on Feb. 19



Josie Loria & Shirley Duran



Susan & Jim Kelch



T.W. Jackson



Tricia & Jeri Balcom



Joy & Tim Ellwood



Mel & Marilyn Tedore

Backpack program

By [Bernie Frey](#), Outreach Chair

As reported in the latest Franciscan, the Daughters of the King (DOK) has taken on providing backpack packages as a service project. Lana Cole, the project director at The First Baptist Church, told me that the 40 packages delivered recently really helped resupply their backpack pantry. During January, 190 packages were distributed to five local schools so the need continues to grow.

In addition to the DOK project, any items that individuals would like to donate are welcome and are delivered weekly to The First Baptist Church. There is a collection box in the Church Narthex.

Thank you,
Bernie



Macie White enjoys a donut at the highway cleanup .



Bella Huneau is ready for the highway cleanup .

Highway cleanup in February

By [Bernie Frey](#), Outreach Chair

On a glorious Feb. 18, Saturday morning, thirteen St. Francis road warriors turned out to clean up our section of 2673 through Sattler. Our team leaders were Macie White and Bella Huneau. Those participating were Fr. David, Micheline Ellas, Ann and Brian Freiberger, Tamara and Bella Huneau, Lynda Leadford, Jeanne Slupik, Don Stackhouse, and Natalie, Robbie, Josh, and Macie White. (See pictures on this page.)

Ann Freiburg won the best find contest with a watch and a switch-blade knife.

Bernie



Ann Freiberger shows off a knife and a watch that she found at the highway cleanup. She won the contest for best find.

Lenten study on the Gospel of Matthew

From The Diocese of West Texas Office of Communications

The Kingdom of God (the Gospel of Matthew uses the phrase “Kingdom of Heaven”) is more than the place where we go when we die in the faith. The Kingdom of God, said Christ, is within us, comes close to us, is near to us whenever we serve God and our neighbor rather than focus on ourselves.

Our 2017 Lenten study will explore Christ’s Kingdom sayings in the Gospel of Matthew. The eight-week study begins on Ash Wednesday, Mar. 1, and continues through Easter Week. Each weekly lessons will include teachings and reflections by the Rev. Drs. John Lewis and Jane Patterson, presented in both text and audio format. Short, weekly videos will introduce some “people of the Kingdom” talking about incorporating the Kingdom into their everyday lives.

The study will be appropriate for congregations, small groups, and individuals.

Access the material at www.christianformation-dwtx.org or subscribe to the study at that address to receive the materials in your email inbox each week.

In addition, if you would like to receive a daily text message each day of Lent, send an email with your cell phone number to marjorie.george@dwtx.org. (Names and phone numbers from our daily text messages during Advent will not carry over.)

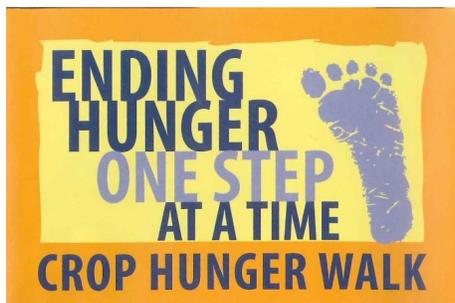


The Daughters of the King prepared food on Monday, Feb. 13, for the backpack program. (L to R): Linda Hillin, Jo Conchado, Linda Bosenbark, Candace Fitch, Lynn Zimmermann, Becky Averyt, Debbie Barnwell, Lynda Leadford, and Carol Glasby.

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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.



Mar. 11, 2017
Registration: 8:00 a.m.
Walk: 8:30 a.m.
Meet at the Hidden Valley Sports Park, below the CRRC recreation center.