



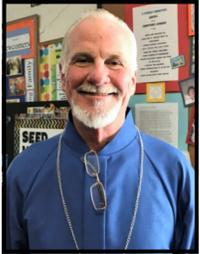
# The Franciscan



Volume XXXX, Issue X

St. Francis by the Lake  
Canyon Lake, Texas

November 2019



## From the Sr. Warden: various things need to be done in this job.

By [Jim Kelch](#), Sr. Warden  
[james.r.kelch@gmail.com](mailto:james.r.kelch@gmail.com)

The job of Senior Warden is varied! This past month (October) was full of rummage sales activities (meaning the use of my muscles and truck,) wrenching choir pews out of their bolted-in positions in order to produce better acoustics, some serious stewardship meetings, and talking to groups at home gatherings about the importance of sacrificial giving. One thing we won't do is ask for money. We ask for sacrificial giving, which is about as individual as it gets. November is almost here, as I write this, which means some blessed celebrations are even sooner to come. But, for now...

### Mark 12:42 provides context.

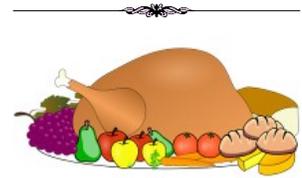
And the chief seats in the synagogues, and the uppermost rooms at feasts: Which devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers: these shall receive greater damnation. And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. **And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing.** And he called *unto him* his disciples, and saith unto them. "Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in,

than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all *they* did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, *even* all her living."

That Jesus would watch and wait for the moment the widow sacrificially gave all she was able to give shows that the importance was not placed on amounts, but upon what is in our hearts. Giving our time, our talents, and our treasure is immeasurable. Tithing is 10 percent, we are told, but adding all our T's stacks up to much more. Many are uncomfortable about talking about tithing. It's a conversation my wife and I have had for many of the 39 years we've been together. We strive and often miss the mark. But, we strive.

Through prayer and thanksgiving, we are blessed, those of us who attend St. Francis by the Lake. Our piece of land is blessed and we are blessed. Thanks be to God, our one and only, who sacrificed Himself so

that we might also be forgiven and though His death, live forever in His kingdom. One God now and forever. Amen.

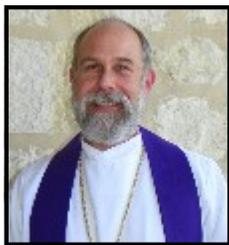


## Thanksgiving potluck dinner - Nov. 27

Dinner on **Thanksgiving Eve** will be Wednesday, Nov. 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the Great Hall (Ministries & Outreach Center.) The turkey and gravy is provided. So, if you will be here, please bring a side dish: dessert, cranberry sauce, bread, stuffing, pumpkin pie, or anything else that you feel is appropriate.



The Taizé service was held on Friday, Oct. 25. Thank you to all who braved the stormy weather to enjoy a quiet service.



Dear friends,

For many years now, the Church and our stewardship leaders have endeavored to teach, model, tell stories, and demonstrate how “stewardship” is not about money. Personally, I like the succinct and scriptural statement that “Stewardship is about everything I do, with all that I am, and all that I have, after I say “We believe...””

For Julie and me, the realization of living a faithful life is about how we continue to grow and learn what it means to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and how we love our neighbor as ourselves.

I haven’t been able to find the source of this quote, but I wrote the following by Madeleine L’Engle a long time ago: “The best way to help the world is to start by loving each other: not blandly or blindly, but realistically, with understanding and forbearance and forgiveness.” I can’t think of a more intentional way to approach how we use the gifts of our time, our talents, and our treasure. In other words, it’s all about how we share our love.

One way of loving more fully and faithfully is through the model of pastoral oversight we’ve been using. It’s based on the Church’s theology of ministry: a theology and model that utilizes the whole Church. It’s known as “total ministry.” You may have heard me talk about this, but it can never be said enough: ministry is because of baptism, not ordination; all baptized persons are ministers. Every member of the Church has a ministry. This ancient, scriptural model of ministry promotes and provides a comprehensive approach of love

that is shared—as Ms. L’Engle said—“not blandly or blindly, but realistically, with understanding and forbearance and forgiveness.” This kind of ministry is for every one of us, for the whole parish, and in fact, it’s for the whole Church of God.

Our Community of Hope is a great example of this, as are the Lay Eucharistic Ministers, the choir, the altar guild, the vestry, and every other person who does something—anything—on behalf of the parish. Total ministry is the enactment of the ministry—the stewardship—of our time, talents, and treasures. It’s the manifestation of how all God’s people, in all areas of life, care and love. What a blessed opportunity!

Faithfully,  
Fr. David



## Angel tree

By [Bernie Frey](#), Outreach Chairman

Once again this year we will partner with Smithson Valley Elementary School to provide gifts for students at the school. The angel tree will be in place in the Narthex on Nov. 24.

Please pick an item(s) from the tree, purchase the requested gift, wrap the item, and attach the angel to the outside of the package, and return it to church by Dec. 15. Call Bernie Frey at (210) 863-7866 with any questions.



(L to R): Larry Bosenbark, Jim Kelch, and Gabe Jones take a break from the business of St. Francis’s *Twice Blessed Rummage Sale* on Friday, Oct. 18, and Saturday, Oct. 19. The sale benefits local service organizations. Thank you to all who set up, organized items, priced each item, and cleaned up.



## Treasurer's report

By [Robert Amos](#)

Email:

[treasure@gvvc.com](mailto:treasure@gvvc.com)

Greetings all,

Our finances at St. Francis by the Lake are continuing to do well this year due to your generosity and faithfulness. Thank you!

Below is a summary of our financial condition through September 30, 2019.

**September 30, 2019 details :**

### Operations - Continuing to do well.

Revenues: Total revenue is \$189,085.30 which is higher (better) than planned by \$506.30.

Expenditures: Expenditures are \$199,431.99, which significantly better than expected by \$10,950.01. Property insurance was budgeted as an annual payment of \$14,778.00; however, since we are now paying quarterly vs annually, our insurance expenditure for September was less than planned.

Balance (Revenue minus Expenditures): As a result, we have a deficit of \$10,346.69 which is \$11,456.31 better than planned.

### Capital - Also continues to do well.

Capital Campaign: Contributions year to date are \$58,388.08 with total contributions are of \$490,509.28. Fund balance is \$21,100.80.

Debt Retirement: Contributions are \$24,845.00 year to date. The Debt Retirement Fund contains a balance of \$33,061.62.

### Endowment Fund - grew significantly.

Endowment Fund increased due to a substantial bequest. Total in the fund is \$107,124.69.

### Our funds as of August 31, 2019:

|                       |    |            |
|-----------------------|----|------------|
| General Operating     | \$ | 1,448.61   |
| Debt Retirement       | \$ | 33,061.62  |
| Capital Campaign Fund | \$ | 21,100.80  |
| Endowment Fund        | \$ | 107,124.69 |

### Debt:

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

Our Annual Christian Stewardship Campaign is now in full swing. You should be receiving a packet which contains a detailed brochure on Christian Stewardship at St. Francis by the Lake and a pledge card. Please look over this material and use this time to step back and consider where your heart is and why you contribute your time, talent, and treasure to the work of God in our parish, in our community, and the world. Commitment Sunday is November 17. Please bring your pledge to church that day. However if you wish, you may drop them at the church office or mail them to St. Francis by the Lake, PO Box 2031, Canyon Lake, TX 78133 .

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@gvvc.com](mailto:treasure@gvvc.com).



## Give the gift of altar flowers for worship

By Winnie Benson

The picture is called "The Bouquet in an Arched Window" by Ambrosius Bosschaert the Elder. There are Sundays available on the Flower Calendar for persons to give the gift of altar flowers for worship. Consider remembering wedding anniversaries, children and grandchildren and their birthdays, those who have died whom we love and remember, or for all of God's blessings in our lives.

There is a Flower Calendar in the Narthex, where you may write in the occasion and names of your loved ones, or the event. You will find the Calendar on the kiosk in the midst of the Narthex.

Each Sunday, there are two arrangements, and for which we request a donation of \$25 for the two. You may make your donation in the parish office with Janet.



## Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

### update

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

Wow..., our annual rummage sale was a huge success, making more than \$4,700+. Thanks to a great job by our co-chairs, Susan Kelch and Tricia Jones, and everyone who assisted, bought items, made donations, and prayed... we are so grateful!! The ECW ladies will distribute the proceeds of this event and other fundraisers to our church and local services agencies in our community this spring.

Stacy Hill, Executive Director, Crisis Center of Comal County, gave a very informative presentation at our Oct. 12 ECW meeting. Stacy explained the various services their agency provides in the community (victim advocacy, counseling, shelter, legal advocacy, community education, and sexual assault team.) Co-hostesses Mary K. Chittenden, Lynn Zimmerman, and Ronnie Harper-Schwakhofer provided a variety of salads and dessert. The minutes and financial report from the Sep. 12 meeting were reviewed and stand approved. Ronnie read a letter from the "Homes for Our Troops" thanking us for the generous donation of \$425, and it was very much appreciated.

ECW volunteers will continue to provide lunch for the vestry members at their monthly vestry meeting. The vestry is very appreciative of our efforts.

There is a change in plans for the Nov. 14 ECW meeting because there has been a delay in the com-

pletion of the CRRC building. We hope to tour their building next year. The Nov. 14 meeting will be held in the Ministry & Outreach Center, beginning with brunch at 11:00 a.m. Please bring your favorite salad to share. The ECW officers will be providing the beverages and dessert. At 11:30 a.m., Debbie Barnwell will speak on "Prayer: the presence of God in our lives." With prayer being the focus of our Stewardship Campaign, her topic is pertinent. She has asked that if you choose your favorite prayer from the "Prayers of the Heart" book (distributed after church) and bring this book with you to the meeting. Our business meeting will follow Debbie's presentation.

Another change in our ECW schedule is that the Bake Sale scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 24, has been moved to Sunday, Dec. 22. This change will give us more time to promote this fundraiser, time for planning, and time to receive your requests for specialty items. Lynda Leadford and Linda Bosenbark will be co-chairing this event. Look for more details in the coming weeks.

If you need a ride to the November meeting, please contact the following: if you live on the north of the Lake, contact Becki Nichols at (281) 475-7703; or Anne Cain at (803) 984-0699; if you live on the south side of the Lake, contact Brenda Klaftenegger at (210) 240-7031; and if you live in New Braunfels, contact Susan Kelch at (915) 241-3150.

**Pray for our Stewardship and Capital Campaign and how you will participate in these campaigns!!**

**Reminder: All women of St. Francis by the Lake Episcopal Church are members of Episcopal Church Women.**



## Practical Exercise Class At Saint Francis by the Lake

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

**Instructor:** Jeanne Slupik

**When:** Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and 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.

**Come join us!**



## Needs for the CRRC food pantry

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

- toothpaste;
- toothbrushes;
- macaroni & cheese;
- spaghetti;
- jelly;
- sugar and creamer;
- canned green beans ;
- canned corn;
- mixed vegetables (*frozen or canned*);
- canned fruit;
- assorted soups ;
- cereal;
- plastic grocery bags;
- toilet paper; 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)

will meet on Nov. 20 at 12:30 p.m. in the St. Francis Room after the 11:30 a.m. Eucharist.

### Episcopal Church Women

(ECW) will meet on Thursday, Nov. 14, at 11:30 a.m., in the Great Hall. ([See article, p. 4.](#))

**Scripture Study Group** is an informal study that meets at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays in the St. Francis Room, followed by Eucharist.

**Vestry** meets the second Sunday of each month. Due to the Celebration Luncheon, the group will meet Nov. 17 at 12:15 p.m. in the St. Francis Room.

**Adult Sunday School** meets most Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the St. Francis Room.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. The group decides at their meeting where the next get-together will take place.

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

**NA** (Narcotics Anonymous) meets every Sunday at 7:00 p.m. in Jones Hall.

**Caregiver Support Group** meets every third Monday (Nov. 18) of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the St. Francis Room.

**COH/Circle of Care** meets in the St. Francis Room every first Sunday of the month at 12:15 p.m.

**St. Francis Book Club** meets at 6:30 p.m. every first Monday of the month in the St. Francis Room.

**Men's Gathering** meets every second Saturday (Nov. 9) of the

month at 9:30 a.m. in the St. Francis Room.

**Second Saturday Diocesan Mini Retreat** meets each month on the 2nd Saturday at 9:00 a.m. at the Bishop Jones Center on beautiful grounds. The retreat is for contemplative silence and fellowship. (If you would like to carpool, there are several woman from St. Francis that would be glad to have you join them. Please call the St. Francis office (830) 964-3820 for more information.)

## November birthdays

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Dennis Callahan           | 11/1  |
| Ken Leadford              | 11/2  |
| Nick Benham               | 11/4  |
| Jo Laney                  | 11/4  |
| Fr. David Chalk           | 11/14 |
| Melissa Mitchell          | 11/15 |
| Peggy Kelsey              | 11/16 |
| Judy Frey                 | 11/20 |
| Ward Kelsey               | 11/23 |
| Ronnie Harper-Schwakhofer | 11/23 |
| Diane LaCombe             | 11/23 |
| Mary Barker               | 11/25 |
| Hollis Fitch              | 11/25 |
| Chris Mitchell            | 11/25 |
| Natalie White             | 11/26 |
| Bob Slupik                | 11/27 |
| George Black              | 11/28 |
| Logan Black               | 11/28 |
| Beverley Matthewson       | 11/28 |
| Caleb Woollven            | 11/28 |
| Carol Glasby              | 11/30 |

## November anniversaries

Tom and Maury Meyer 11/20



## 2020 Upcoming events:

**Mar. 12-15:** Cursillo weekend #284 at Camp Capers. (Tommy Matthews, Rector, and The Rev. David G. Read, Spiritual Director.)

**Sep. 24-27:** Cursillo weekend #285 at Mustang Island Conference Center. (Lisa Sartorio, Rectora, and The Rev. 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 Mustang Island Conference Center.

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

## Mark your calendars

**Nov. 14** - ECW Meeting is in the Great Hall. All women are invited. ([See article on p. 4.](#))

**Nov. 6:30 p.m.** - Thanksgiving Potluck Supper (Turkey is provided by the church. Bring your favorite sides.)

## The Franciscan

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

The Rev. David Chalk, Rector

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**The ECW met in the Great Hall on Oct. 10 to celebrate October birthdays. All women are welcome to attend the next meeting on Nov. 14 at 11:00 a.m.**



**Address Updates**

If you need your address changed/ updated please let the office know, so that we can put the correct information in our St. Francis Directory the next time it is printed. Thank you.

**The ECW bake sale is changing dates**

The ECW bake sale scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 24, has been moved to Sunday, Dec. 22. This change will provide more time to promote this fundraiser, time for planning, and time to receive your requests for specialty items. Look for more details coming soon.



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

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

## If you wish to help our ministries on upcoming missions.

Look in the Narthex and you will notice several areas that have boxes. The boxes are for things to be sent on St. Francis' upcoming mission trips, and even in our community. There is a box for the Brownsville Mission, CRRC in Sattler, and one to fill with food to fill backpacks for school children.



Lynda Leadford (front and center) was installed as the Daughters of the King (DOK's) new treasurer.

Lynn Zimmermann (front and center) was installed as the Daughters of the King (DOK's) new vice-president.

## Registration is open for 2020 Mid-Winter, Summer, and Family Camps

*Weekly Enews From The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas*

Nestled in beauty, founded on fun, rooted in faith: Registration is open for 2020 Mid-Winter, Summer, and Family Camps at **Camp Capers**, **Mustang Island Conference Center**, and **Duncan Park**. Our diocesan camping programs provide opportunities for children, adults, and families to experience the beauty of creation, have fun with friends, and grow in faith, rooted in the transforming love of Christ. Visit [dwtx.org/camps](https://dwtx.org/camps) for more information and registration.

## The 116th Diocesan Council 2020 is In Corpus Christi

*Weekly Enews From The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas*

The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas and the Council Host Churches invite the churches and clergy of the diocese to Council 2020, the annual gathering to conduct diocesan business, share fellowship, and gather for worship and prayer, Feb. 20 - 22, 2020, at the American Bank Center in Corpus Christi. Visit the Council website at <https://council-dwtx.org/> for details about Pre-Council Meeting dates, hotel reservation information, and more.

## The Good Sam Holiday Drive invites congregations and families to donate a holiday bags.

*Weekly Enews From The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas*

The Good Sam Holiday Drive invites congregations and families to donate a Holiday Bag containing the items our neighbors need to celebrate and gather together this Christmas Season. Good Samaritan Community Services will accept completed Holiday Bags in San Antonio Monday, Dec. 9 through Friday, Dec. 13. Together, we will share the blessings of the Christmas Season with over 500 families in our community.

Needed items are: 2 cans of green beans; 2 cans of corn; 1 can of sweet potatoes; 1 box of mashed potatoes; 1 box of stuffing; 1 jar/package of gravy; 1 can of cranberries; 1 package of Christmas napkins; 1 package of Christmas plates; 1 boxed dessert mix; 1 small family gift (board game, book, etc.)

[\(Continued on page 8\)](#)



Parishioners at the 10:30 a.m. service hold banners portraying our several ministries at St. Francis on *Ministry Sunday*, Oct. 27. (The same was done at the 8:00 a.m. service.) Thank you Bob Amos, Jim Kelch, and Don Stackhouse for sharing your stories with all of us at St. Francis.

### [The Good Sam...](#) (Cont'd from page 7)

Please place all items in a reusable grocery bag and drop it off at 1600 Saltillo St., San Antonio, TX 78207 between 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. beginning Monday, Dec. 9 through Friday, Dec. 13.

Your partnership with Good Sam will help make the Holiday season special for more than 500 families in our community. Together we can help provide all the items our neighbors need to celebrate and gather together.

Interested in volunteering? Please contact Cynthia Jasso for more information at [cynthia.jasso@goodsamtx.org](mailto:cynthia.jasso@goodsamtx.org) or (210) 434-5531, ext. 2019.)

Contact Rebecca Earle, at [rebecca.earle@goodsamtx.org](mailto:rebecca.earle@goodsamtx.org) if you have any questions.

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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.

**116th Diocesan Council**  
**Feb. 20 - 22, 2020**  
**in Corpus Christi**