



The Franciscan



Volume XXXX, Issue VIII

St. Francis by the Lake
Canyon Lake, Texas

September 2019

What happens when I pray? - Paulette's Putterings

By Kathryn Paulette

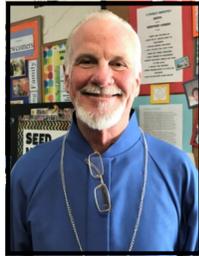
When I pray I feel God's pleasure and presence! Perhaps you have seen me off to the side of the sanctuary after Eucharist at St. Francis' altar to the almighty God. It has been my great blessing to pray WITH all y'all. Not FOR, rather, WITH. Really, people are lining up. But why?

I believe that if people could only experience a moment in the presence of the Father-Son-Holy Spirit they'd be lining up around the block. But most of us are afraid we won't get what we ask for. Then we are afraid that we don't "believe" enough, have "faith" enough, or are just plain not "good" enough to ask. Sometimes that's me. Is it you?

I don't believe God is a "Coke machine" where I can put in my quarter and get a Coke every time. Have you ever gotten a Dr. Pepper when you know you pressed the Coke button? Has the machine ever taken your money and nothing came out? Is that how God willy-nilly receives my prayer? Man, I really wanted that Coke!

Prayer for me is BREATHING. I start every day with the blessed call to the inspiring, the inhaling of the Holy Spirit's calling my spirit to come into the presence of God. Studying the WORD and other people's prayers is EATING for me. I eat every day and I never skip breakfast! I absolutely love Morning Prayer, in our

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From the Sr. Warden: Stewardship training

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

In keeping with last month's article on stewardship and the training we attended, we were given a book written by the presenter. The title is "The Giving Guide for Every Church," by Richard Rogers. The subtitle is "Using Digital Tools to Grow Ministry."

Rogers states quite clearly, "Money equals ministry." He says all priests and ministers know this and yet are ill equipped to promote this truth in today's world. He states several areas that need consideration for church growth, or just continued church life:

- Older technology is not attractive.

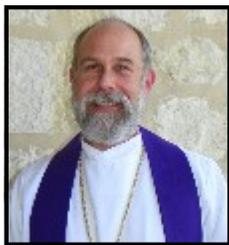
- Facilities need to be updated (playgrounds, etc.).
- What is the "age" of the congregation?
- What denominations are most attractive in the area?
- What is the vision of the church?

He states that "giving" is not the problem. Currently 67% of all households give to a charity or charities. And 98% of high-net worth households give to charities. They just don't normally give to the church. Historically, the church used to be the only place to donate hard cash every Sunday in the plate. The "plate" has disappeared from many lives. There is now competition for those dollars donated to charities. Young people can tap on their Apple Watches and donate to a charity. Younger people also rarely carry "cash" but get by on their credit, debit, and other technological funding sources. Checks are also a dinosaur from the past for many.

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The first potluck dinner in the Great Hall! Nine folks (L to R): Lynda and Phil Duncan, Fr. David, Tom Meyer, Maury Meyer (taking the picture,) Marcel and Brenda Klaftegger, Winnie Benson, and Ray Thompssett) got to be the first and we had four pastas (YUMMO!) and ice cream with toppings!



Dear friends,

Once people arrive at St. Francis, greeters and ushers are present to make them feel welcome. If and when people return, and begin to anticipate the experience of the Eucharist and our corporate worship, there may come a time when they desire to move more deeply into the experience. I found an old Anglican flyer that explained just how to do that. What follows is a modernized and slightly expanded version. I commend it to our growth and maturation in the Holy Mysteries.

How to Participate FULLY in Holy Eucharist

- 1) Set out your sacrificial offering the night before, having prayed about your response to “All things come from You, O LORD; and from Your own am I giving You...” and how the LORD wants to work through you.
- 2) Set out your bible in the same place as your offering—in a place where you’ll see and not forget—and have a notebook and your favorite writing tool ready to bring with you for jotting down ideas and taking notes.
- 3) Arrive at the church with enough time before the service to prepare by self-examination, having undertaken either a token fast (3 hours prior) or an actual fast (overnight.) (Remember to bring your offering and bible!)
- 4) Arrive early enough to re-read the lessons and to meditate on them.
- 5) Be seated as close to the Altar as you can. [If anyone—e.g., a newcomer, visitor, etc. is sitting where you normally prefer to sit, be kind and courteous, and sit somewhere close by. Perhaps you may be called upon, or find it helpful to assist them with following the liturgy. Here’s an important note: Children especially like to sit in the front in order to feel like they’re part of the liturgy. The priests enjoy them being near-by very much!]
- 6) Refrain from *merely* “reading” or “saying” or even *merely* “singing” the service. **Pray** the service and listen for God’s Word to you as an individual, and to all of us as a people.
- 7a) Pray for the homilist or preacher and listen hopefully and expectantly. Good “hearers” can help create good preachers.
- 7b) Pray for the Presider (whether bishop, priest, or lay reader,) that nothing she or he does or says is faithless or lacks sincerity.
- 8) Make your responses in a voice loud enough to be heard by your neighbors. (Some people mumble and some bellow. Neither is helpful. You need not answer loud enough for the presider to hear you individually; but the people in your pew and the pew in front of you should be able to hear and understand your responses. This also is helpful with regard to *singing*.)
- 9) Use the time at Holy Communion for intercession (i.e., prayer for others) and for adoration or praise (e.g., thanking God, expressing your gratitude in a joyful way.) Many people are shy at this level of prayer. The hymnal and Prayer Book are helpful in this: use the songs and prayers as a kind of springboard for your own thoughts.
- 10) Let your sorrows and repentance be heartfelt and genuine; and let your joy, gratitude, and thanksgiving be authentic. Pray, asking for strength and grace, to be a loving witness for Christ, and an extension of God’s sacramental Presence.
- 11) Be sure your fellowship and subsequent life—at “coffee hour” and throughout the week—is consistent with the fellowship we have experienced at the Lord’s Table.

- 12) If, during any portion of the liturgy or in reflection afterward, your conscience is disturbed or troubled, or if your heart is lifted up, or your mind is illumined, write down your thought, feeling, idea, and describe the event, and plan to make an appointment with your priest soon.

Are these hard and fast rules? Absolutely not!!! Are they a helpful guide to steer us in the direction that God would have us go? Absolutely!!! But as the old Anglican aphorism goes: “All may. Some should. None must.”

The original was written by the Rev’d Samuel J. Wylie, while he was Rector of Church of the Advent, Boston, MA, and printed in their monthly Message. It has been adapted, modernized, and (slightly) expanded upon by the Rev’d David P. Chalk, Rector of St. Francis by the Lake, Canyon Lake, TX.

Gift Committee news

By [Linda Bosenbark](#), Gift Committee Chair

The Gift Committee was formed in April to develop a sensitive approach that uses a consistent process to evaluate gifts for acceptance. The Committee worked very hard to develop policies and procedures for the evaluation process and completed that task in August. Policies and procedures were approved by the Vestry in August.

We’ve had numerous gifts submitted to the Committee for consideration. We’ve evaluated and accepted five gifts, which were approved. We are grateful to these donors for their generosity and patience as we’ve struggled to refine our process.

A second function of the Gift Committee is to maintain a “Gift List” (previously “Wish List”.) As

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Treasurer's report

By [Robert Amos](#)

Email: treasure@gvvc.com

Greetings all,

Our finances at St. Francis by the Lake continued to do well through the end of July 2019.

Operations ran a deficit but less than expected.

The Capital Campaign and Debt Retirement are doing as expected.

Endowment fund has grown well at approximately 13.8% year to date.

Payments on the Ministry and Outreach Center are proceeding as planned.

As of Aug 7, we closed on our long term loan with Crump Foundation for the Ministry and Outreach Center!!

July 31, 2019 details:

Operations - running better than planned.

Revenues: Total revenue for the general fund was \$150,190.04 which is better than planned by \$3,580.04.

Expenditures: Expenditures were \$154,609.74, which is lower (better) than expected by \$1,301.74.

Balance (Revenue minus Expenditures): We had a deficit of \$4,419.79 which is \$2,278.30 better than planned.

Capital - doing very well.

Capital Campaign: Contributions were \$48,603.33 year to date, with total contributions of \$470,620.62. Fund balance is \$19,329.52.

Total spending on the Ministry and Outreach Center through July is \$1,004,793.13.

We continued to make payments on the construction of the Ministry and Outreach Center.

GOOD NEWS: As of this writing we made our last payment to our builder, Wunderlich Builders. Also on August 7, we closed on our long term financing with the Crump Foundation. Details will be reported in next month's Franciscan.

Debt Retirement: Contributions were \$18,678.00 year to date. The Debt Retirement Fund contains a total of \$26,894.62.

Endowment Fund - grew 13.8% year to date.

The balance is \$56,871.06 as of July 31, 2019, which is an increase of \$6,932.55.

Our funds as of July 31, 2019:

General Operating	\$	7,236.70
Debt Retirement	\$	26,894.62
Capital Campaign Fund	\$	19,329.52
Endowment Fund	\$	56,871.06
Debt	\$	0.00

Frost Bank - Line of Credit: \$ 475,000.00

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@gvvc.com.

From the Sr. ... (Cont'd from page 1)

Suggestions applicable to churches include educating and enticing congregations to enable themselves for this "new" world. In doing so, it is important to:

1. lead,
2. learn, and
3. launch.

Leading involves shaping the culture of generosity and gratitude.

The congregation is generous. The congregation will develop in the culture of gratitude (John 3:16.) Every week should have some discussion of the mission of the diocese. Why does the church exist? What is the purpose and the evidence of progress toward that stated purpose?

Learning involves new terms. This new technology of giving is surrounded by acronyms and abbrevia-

tions: ACH - Automatic Clearing House, the electronic banking network; Automatic Draft - a form to enroll in debit or credit cards; Bill Pay - a process initiated by donors; Card Reader - devices that plug into I-Pads or phones for making contributions or purchases; ChMg - church management software which manages

[\(Continued on page 6\)](#)



Episcopal Church Women update

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

With the completion of our new Ministry and Outreach Center (MOC,) the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) and other ministries/groups will utilize the center for the glory of God! ECW will have ALL their membership meetings in the new center, except for field trips.

Our meetings are held the second Thursday of each month. We have brunch provided by hostesses at 11:00 a.m., and at 11:30 a.m. we have a program and a business meeting.

This year our monthly programs will include presentations from our own parishioners. Tatiana Hoecker, World Mission Program Coordinator, will share updates on the World Mission Program and give us a tour of the Diocese of West Texas campus. Pennie Curry will share her experiences with her Massachusetts' church's youth ministry - Gideon's Garden. This garden is maintained by over 50 young people throughout the year and provides vegetables to four food pantries, Community Health programs, and weekly community meals. Her ministry also works with the Immigration Center to accompany families to court hearings.

A tour of the new CRRC building is planned as well as hearing the presentations from other local community service organizations such as Crisis Center of Comal County, Pilot Club, and Homes for Vets in Comal County. Detailed information regarding these programs will be published in the church bulletin on a separate insert, in the *Good News*, and in *The Franciscan*.

On Thursday, Sept. 12, ECW will meet in the MOC at 11:00 a.m. for brunch provided by the ECW Officers, followed by a short business meeting at 11:30 a.m. We'll be welcoming everyone to participate in some fun activities- games, prizes and laughter...as a great way to get to know one another! Everyone who attended last year said they had a blast. Don't miss it and consider inviting your neighbor/friend. If you have gotten to know one of new parishioners, please invite them to come with you as it is always nice to attend a new event with a friend!

Susan Kelch and Tricia Jones, Co-Coordinator of our Twice Blessed Rummage Sale, will be scheduling volunteers to help with pre-sale sorting, organizing, and pricing, and to work shifts during the sale. Please help when you can. This is our biggest fund-raising event and people in the community look forward to shopping with us. The dates of the Rummage Sale are Oct. 18 and 19.

The ECW will continue to provide lunch to the vestry, who usually meet immediately following the 10:30 a.m service on the second Sunday of each month. They have really appreciated the lunch provided by the ladies of ECW. If you would like to sign up to sponsor a meal, please contact me.

Further updates on programs and other events will be posted in *The Franciscan* and *Good News*. The purpose of the ECW is to empower the women of St. Francis by the Lake to carry on Christ's work in the parish, the community and throughout the world. For more information please call Ronnie Harper-Schwakhofer at (210) 885-6886, or e mail: ronnie78133@gmail.com.



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 the CRRC food pantry

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

- peanut butter;
 - canned corn;
 - laundry detergent;
 - hand soap;
 - baking items;
 - cereal;
 - plastic grocery bags;
 - toilet paper;
 - baby diapers - sizes 2, 3, 4, and 5, and adult sizes, (both disposable and cloth diapers); and
 - toothbrush, toothpaste, and floss.
- (When visiting the dentist each patient is usually given a small bag that contains a toothbrush, toothpaste, and floss. As each of us has our semi-annual checkups, please consider bringing those to church for the CRRC donation box.)*

All contributions are appreciated.

What's happening

Daughters of the King (DOK)

will meet on Sep. 25 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, Sep. 12, at 11:30 a.m., in the Great Hall for a Welcome Social. ([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. The group will meet Sep. 8 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 (Sep. 15) of the month at 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 (Sep. 14) 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 fellow-ship. (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.)

September birthdays

Dale Templeton	9/1
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



2019 Upcoming events:

Sep. 26-29: Cursillo weekend #283 at Mustang Island Conference Center.

Nov. 7-10: Cursillo weekend #284 at Camp Capers.

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

Address Updates:

(Cut and paste into your Directory)

Linda Hillin

Lindahillin@gmail.com

Chitt and Mary K. Chittenden

Home (830) 837-5362

Mark your calendars

Sep. 6 & 20 - 6:00 p.m. - Craft Night at Betty Morris's home.

Sep. 12 - ECW *Welcome Social* in the Great Hall. ([See article on p. 4.](#))

Sep. 13 - Deadline to RSVP for New Building Celebration.

Sep. 28 - New Building Celebration.

Oct. 18 & 19 - ECW Rummage Sale (located at Jones Hall.)

The Franciscan

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

The Rev. David Chalk, Rector

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You're Invited!

Saturday, September 28th, 4 –7PM

for the Grand Opening of our new Ministry
and Outreach Center

“Reaching Up and Reaching Out” is the heartbeat of our parish. This center is a reflection of the love and service the Lord has called us to, so that we might carry out His mission more faithfully and fully. Come help us celebrate the opening of this center and 40 years of ministering in our communities: around Canyon Lake and around the world!



Please [RSVP](#) at

www.saintfrancisbythelake.org
by September 13.

Growing Something Eternal

From the Sr. ... (Cont'd from page 3)

the member database and other administrative tasks... and the alphabet is only up to “C”.

He states use of these terms in congregational communications is a learning tool. This also shortens the learning curve. “It’s not a sales pitch, it’s information for your partners in ministry.”

You have to look at your website. Is it capable of electronic giving? What fees are involved? What is the marketing capability? What it all boils down to is communication to the congregation and gathering feedback after the “launch” to see if it worked. Is working, how is it working?

He states you should “expect resistance.” People are people. We all feared the death of checks and the introduction of those boxes you put a

code into and they give you \$20. It’s no different with the introduction of technology to churches. We hope to overcome fears. He says to never underestimate the power of saying “thank you.” People who wish to be a part of electronic giving should be thanked for taking that giant step.

His description of the changes from overflowing plates from services past, full of cash; to the inception of the checks duly written and placed in the plate; to the envelope; and to the scarce pieces of paper in today’s plates are harbingers of the future and churches should avail themselves to the available tools of today.

The book is at the Church! Now you too can see all the acronyms and abbreviations!



**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!

Celebrations for the Ministry and Outreach Center

By [Maury Meyer](#), Building Committee Chair and Celebration Committee Member

The plans for celebrating new Ministry and Outreach Center (MOC) have changed and expanded a bit since the last report in the August issue of the Franciscan.

First, Bishop David Reed will be coming on Saturday, Sep. 28, at 10:30 a.m., to consecrate and dedicate the MOC and deconsecrate the old parish hall. There will be coffee and cake in the St. Francis room after the ceremonies. All are welcome to attend.

That afternoon, at 4:00 p.m., we will have a formal ribbon-cutting event. We have sent formal invitations out to people and groups in our community (church ministers, county commissioners, law enforcement, fire department, area charities, volunteer organizations, larger businesses, etc.) as we want them to know that the MOC is here and it was built to serve our community as well as our parish. After the brief formal ceremony, we will have guided tours of our campus and provide printed materials about our 40-year history and ministries, and we will serve hot dogs with fixin's. We are asking **everyone** who wants to attend (community folks and St. Francis parishioners) to please RSVP on the website by Friday, Sep. 13 (see p. 6.) After we get a head count, we will be requesting help from parishioners to provide the food and drinks for this event, so please be sure to check for that request in the *Good News* and in the Sunday bulletins after the deadline.

And finally, on Sunday, Sep. 29, our St. Francis family will celebrate the new MOC together at the pot-

luck brunch after the all-together service ends. Please bring a dish to share at the first potluck brunch and enjoy fellowship in the Great Hall!

Family Fest at CRRC

By [Anne Cain](#)

There were 301 students who received bags /backpacks and a ton of school supplies. The volunteers from St. Francis were Teresa St. John, Fr. Gordon, Beth Coleman, Ryan Klaf-tenegger, and myself. We handed out bottles of water, erasers, file folders, and most importantly, we handed out the info cards Libby Templeton created with St. Francis service times and upcoming events. We verbally highlighted info for the parents such as service times, the upcoming rummage sale (lots of interest,) potlucks, and the fact that the new building has a nursery/classroom for the little kids during Sunday services. Libby, the banner you created was perfect! I'm a lousy photographer (not up to Linda Hillin's skills) but thankfully the other volunteers took pictures, too.

What happens ... (Cont'd from page 1)

Book of Common Prayer, to set the direction for my day. Then with "marching orders" for my day, I pray, "Help me to be open, Lord, for the adventure you have planned for me today."

This is my Rule of Life: piety, study, and action. The spiritual gift mix given to me at this time is faith-discernment-exhortation and I experience them with the courage that IS the Holy Spirit. I pray for each one of you, that you will come in to His presence with reverence and do not be afraid to talk or ask your Abba, Daddy, for your specific pleas. I pray that, as your will is in accordance with His will, the Lord may

grant you the desires of your heart, and in every time of testing and joy, you will remember God's steadfastness in your life and turn to Him.

Thank y'all so very much for letting me pray with you. If you feel courageous, needy, or overwhelmingly joyful, or if you want to pray with others, please come to the prayer station. I will not always be able to be there. But there will always be people who want to come there. Then remember it is not we who pray but the Spirit within us and it becomes so very real when we share it with one another.

My name is Kathryn Paulette. I was named for St. Paul. This is how I write and pray.

Gift Committee ... (Cont'd from page 2)

we've moved into the Ministry and Outreach Center (MOC,) we recognize there are many needs that cannot be met without your help. This list will inform everyone of those needs. Parishioners may respond to these needs with money and/or the specific items requested. We've already used the list to furnish the Rector's and Secretary's offices. Thanks to all who contributed to this! As we "live into" our new center, needs will be identified and placed on the list. We are still refining it to focus on higher priorities and make it reasonable. When that is finished, we will make the list public and you will be informed of updates at regular intervals through our normal communication channels.

If you would like to offer a gift or if you would like to make suggestions to add to the list, please contact any member of the Gift Committee. (Fr. David, Linda Bosenbark (Chairperson,) Bob Amos (Treasurer,) Mike Maciejewski (Jr. Warden,) Anne Cain, Brian Freiburger, Tricia Jones, Betty Morris, Ginger Rose, Frank Smith, and Nancy Summers.

Ministry and Outreach Center update

By [Maury Meyer](#), Building Committee Chair and Celebration Committee Member

Wunderlich Builders has completed all the tasks that were in our contract. They have been formally notified that we accept the new building, and have been given their final payment, with a letter thanking them for their continual efforts during the planning and building processes to keep our costs as low as possible, for their excellent workmanship and advice, and for building a beautiful Ministry and Outreach Center (MOC) to support our mission and ministries.

We have almost finished the move into the MOC, with the exception of a functional kitchen, a completed buffet niche in the St. Francis room, roller shades for the windows throughout the center, and getting the disabled parking places corrected with lines on the parking lot and signs that meet code. The Vestry is working on the disabled parking spots.

We have been waiting for kitchen cabinet replacements for pieces that were the wrong size or damaged by the shipper. Those should arrive Sep. 4. All the base cabinets in both rooms have been installed. Home Depot came to measure the kitchen for countertops on Aug. 20 and said they should be installed in about three weeks, so I am hopeful that will occur before mid-September. Installation of the St. Francis room buffet niche counter is scheduled for Sep. 5, and then we will get the backsplash tile installed.

I have obtained the required three bids on the roller shades, but the lowest bid required a change to



The Daughters of the King (DOK) and parishioners welcomed new members Susan Kelch (left,) Stacey Benham, and Valerie Kirk (Facetime,) when they were installed at the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, Aug. 18.

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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.

get the right color roller shades for the St. Francis room, and then the company that makes the shades hit us with a price increase. The Vestry has now approved the purchase. Once ordered, they should take about 10 days for manufacture and delivery. Hollie Malone is providing

his expertise and equipment for installation, but needs two volunteers for getting on ladders to do the actual work. Tom Meyer has volunteered, but we still need another helper, so please let me know if you can help.