

Matt's Missive

June 2024

Improvements Are Happening!!

Thanks to the money received from the land sale much needed improvements are happening around our campus. The church tower and east facing wall were power washed and painted. The tower included a step with special elastomeric paint which allows for movement without cracking. This is required to keep the tower we love dry and leak free. It was then given a final coat of paint mixed with algaecide the same as the wall.



The other improvement is a new concrete foundation was poured behind the church, on the side of Vellom Education Building. The foundation will hold a new, larger, and much sturdier shed to replace our old one which we have outgrown and is falling apart. The new shed arrived just as we were finishing the Missive. The old shed will be removed soon.



PLEASE JOIN US!

Dining Out on Thursday, June 27th, at 6:30 p.m.

Noli's Vite Italian Kitchen

170 Buffalo Pl., Cibolo, TX 78108

RSVP by June 25th to Kathy Ercoline



Our Mission: We serve Jesus Christ as a community rich in the Episcopal tradition by welcoming the seeker, providing a caring family, encouraging spiritual growth, and reaching into our neighborhood and world.

Hospitality Notes

By Melissa Mudge

Many Thanks

Thank you, people of St. Matthew's. Your hospitality teams are setting up a beautiful and bountiful display of good-to-eat foods after every church service. Thanks for letting us know how much you like it!

Thank you for celebrating our dads! *“Lord, thank you for our fathers, for their sacrifices, and their love for us. When our dads are tired, overwhelmed, or feeling weak, Lord, give them the strength to continue loving and working. Lord, give them the courage to stand strong. Amen.”*

On-Going Hospitality

- ◆ Morning Coffee Fellowship after each Sunday Service.
 - 8:00 service**—morning coffee and snacks will be ready about 8:45.
 - 10:00 service**—coffee and snacks will be ready about 10:45.
- Thanks host families. You are the best. Every Sunday after church is a delightful surprise. Great snacks, stimulating conversation; every Sunday is something shared.
Help Wanted: Fourth host to take a turn in the Coffee Hour rotation after 10:00 a.m. service. Let me know if you are interested.
- ◆ Hospitality Committee – Volunteers are needed to prepare food, set up, serve, and clean-up at some of our church related activities. If you would like to be “hospitality on call,” please let me know.
- ◆ It's summertime – hot outside – so come on inside to help clean-up the Parish Hall Kitchen. It's time for our annual deep cleaning to keep our cooking/serving areas safe and sanitary. Be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet: stove top/ovens; refrigerators inside and outside, pantry, cabinets/drawers, trash cans/carts/stainless steel, tables and chairs. Clean up the week of July 22, but jobs can be completed at your convenience.

Give it – To Go

Please pick up a bag to give away to someone who needs it. These bags can travel in your car and then be given as you like.

Finished bags are available in Creasy Hall with water bottles, snacks, wash cloth, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, and black socks.

There is room to add anything else, such as: long sleeved tee shirt/sweatshirt, sunscreen, feminine hygiene products, an additional pair of socks, or a gift card to a fast-food establishment. The person to whom you might give this bag is experiencing difficult times and has limited resources, so think about portability.

If you are cleaning out closets in the next few weeks, t-shirts would make great additions to the bags. Thanks so much.

(Continued on next page)

Hospitality Notes (Continued)

Special Events (Some dates to look forward to)

- ◆ June 29—Happy Birthday to Jinny Smith—100 years of life well lived!
- ◆ July 22—Week of Kitchen Clean-up.
- ◆ July 22—Feast Day of Saint Mary Magdalene
- ◆ July 29—Feast Day of Mary and Martha of Bethany

Looking ahead to August:

- ◆ Planning for St. Matthew's Market Day. The sign is up in front of the church, vendors are calling, and Liz & John Sampson are organizing the work details. The Hospitality committee will be selling breakfast items in the parish hall kitchen window and hamburgers & hot dogs from the grill outside for lunch. A sign-up sheet will be available soon for preparation, selling items, cooking, and cleaning up. Grills/cooks will be needed for outdoor cooking.
- ◆ Back to school blessings for all who are continuing education.

And in September:

- ◆ September 21—St. Matthew's Market Day
- ◆ September 22—Celebrating Feast of St. Matthew

Sharing From Our Summer Bible Study “Signs of Life, Nurturing Spiritual Growth – In Your Church”

By Jay Sidebotham

The first week scripture lesson: Mark 12:28-34 (NSRV)

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?”

Jesus answered,

“The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’

The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’

There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him, there is no other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’ – this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

When Jesus saw he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.”

After that no one dared to ask him any question.

RACAP NEWS

By Kathy Ercoline

Please consider donating one packet (or more) of supplies to the “**RACAP School Supplies Program**”. The program ends on **Friday, June 28th**. Lists of the supplies needed to fill **Jumbo** sized plastic bags are posted in various places in Creasy Hall, and there is a display table with examples of the **completed bags**. Thank you to those who have already donated.

A summer reminder from RACAP Board President, Kathy Staley:

“During the summer months, please pray for the families with school aged children because not every child will be fed breakfast or lunch at home every day. Remember those who may not have enough food in the refrigerator or cabinets to feed everyone in the household. When shopping for your groceries, add an extra jar of peanut butter, box of cereal, mac and cheese, ramen noodles, or canned soup in your basket.”

A Note from Lisa Loftus, RACAP Program Director:

“May was an incredible month at RACAP! I am so full of gratitude. It warms my heart to see the shelves stocked with more food items than I have seen in 2 years! Thank you to our amazing community for coming through for us. It truly takes a village. Besides our local churches, the following organizations have donated food and/or contributed generous monetary donations:

Knights of Columbus

National Newsletter Carriers Association, “Stamp Out Hunger” food drive.

Cibolo Lions Club

If you know someone struggling and facing hard times, please send them our way. There is no shame in needing help. We all go through challenging times. It helps us grow and develop into better versions of ourselves. We are confidential and RACAP would love to help.”

Current Pantry Needs

Canned Fruit
Cereal
Cornbread Mix
Jell-o
Jelly
Diapers sizes 4, 5, & 6
Shampoo
Toothpaste

Month in Review

May 2024 Results

of Families assisted: 107
of People assisted: 307
of Pantry orders prepared: 58
of People fed: 222
Estimated value of food given: \$18,807.00

“Thank you for helping us help others.”

RACAP NEWS (Continued)

FYI: DROP OFF LOCATIONS for RACAP DONATIONS (other than Creasy Hall or RACAP)

1. Physicians Premier Emergency Room, 580 Cibolo Valley Dr. Ste.#137, Cibolo, is a 24/7 donation drop-off location. It is a three-story brick building around the corner from Cibolo Wal-Mart. Donations made here are brought to RACAP weekly. Contact Physicians Premier at (210) 254-0983 for more information.
2. Schertz Cibolo Emergency Clinic, 4825 FM 3009, Ste. 200 Schertz, is a 24/7 drop-off location. The clinic is located between the ATT store and Bush's Chicken. Donations are regularly brought to RACAP. Contact Schertz Cibolo Emergency Clinic at (210) 202-1123 for more information.
3. Credit Human, 857 Cibolo Valley Drive Suite 232, Cibolo TX 78108 will collect donations during the following hours M-F 9-5 & Saturday 9-12 Contact Credit Human at (210) 258-1256 for more information.



Military Outreach Ministry By AGCS Arlene Stalvey, USN (ret)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY USA! Two hundred and forty-eight years ago the Continental Congress signed the Declaration of Independence from Britain. The celebration began with the ringing of the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia. There are many fun facts about all the July 4ths from 1776 since. For instance, July 4th didn't become an official national holiday until June 28, 1870, when the US Congress made it law. And it is estimated that 150 million hot dogs are eaten each year; enough to line up end-to-end coast-to-coast!

Also, of particular note as a consequence of the separation from Britain--the need to separate from the Church of England. So, soon after in Philadelphia, the ecclesiastical society of the protestant Episcopal Church in the United States (ECUSA) was formally organized. First drafted in 1784, the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) was ratified October 16, 1789, by its first general convention (read pg. 8, BCP). It was based on the 1662 English Book of Common Prayer and the Scottish eucharistic rite of 1764. Our new BCP was soon translated into many European languages, but also included Ojibwe and Cheyenne.

July Birthdays

May God give you of heaven's dew and of Earth's Richness, an abundance of grain and new wine. (Genesis 27:28)

Ron Dunlap	Sean O'Connor
Jim Renfrow	Caitlin Baskin
Kathy Coolidge	Virginia Mudge
Diane Woods	Asia Boyce
Susan Uzoka	Matthew Keane-Dawes
Mary Lynne Barrow	Thom Baynum
Ellen Yelverton	Logan Evans



The submission **DEADLINE** for the Missive is the 15th of the month. Any late submissions will be in the next month's issue.

Flag Retirement Ceremony

By Susan Brown

Members of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church contributed dozens of U.S. flags that were ceremoniously folded and officially retired by Veterans of VFW Post 4676, West Aviation, Universal City, Texas, on June 15, 2024.



How to Dispose of Your U.S. Flags

Just fold your worn flag, put it in a bag, label it "Susan K. Brown," and leave it on the Narthex table or in the office. She'll take the flags to the VFW Post 4676's Flag Retirement ceremonies held throughout the year.



Happenings Around The Diocese

Mustang Island Family Camp: Multiple Sessions through August 30. Spend a long summer weekend with your family on the beach at Mustang Island Family Camp! Enjoy swimming, singing, surfing, arts & crafts, delicious meals, a buried treasure hunt, beach games, worship, building sandcastles, fishing, resting under a beach umbrella, a campfire, and more. Programming begins Thursday afternoon/evening and continues through Sunday lunch. Each day ends with worship, music, and a family-centered Bible teaching. Each room has a private deck view of the sea and boardwalk access to beach.

Camp Capers Summer Camp: Multiple Sessions, by grade, through August 4. Summer Camp offers children and youth ages 8-18 the opportunity to experience the unconditional love and friendship of a Christian community while attending a one-week session. Through God's grace, Camp Capers is committed to offering fun, life-changing experiences to children and youth in a safe, Christ-centered community.

Duncan Park Summer Camp: Multiple Sessions through July 21. Duncan Park offers opportunities for people with a variety of ages and experience levels in sessions for junior high and high school youth, college students, and adults. The sessions include round-trip airfare from San Antonio to Denver, where an Adventure Guide will meet the group and drive them to Duncan Park. Activities include hiking, rock climbing, camping, team-building challenges, group games, crafts, Bible-based teachings and devotional times, campfires, fishing, and more.

You can find more information and registration on these & other events at <https://www.dwtx.org/events>



From the Blog

When the Church Leaves the Building: *St. Paul's, San Antonio Walks in Love with LGBTQ+ Community.* Read more [here](#).

St. Francis Chapel Expansion Expected To Be Completed by Early July.

There is still time to make a gift in honor of the Rt. Rev. David M. Reed, Tenth Bishop of the Diocese of West Texas, and wife Patti in support of this special project. Click [here](#) to view in progress photos.

DWTX In The News

St. Christopher's by the Sea, Portland is celebrating a "Year of Jubilee" in thanksgiving for the gifts given to the church in 2023. The Anglican Digest published an article from the Rev. John Blackburn, Rector of St. Christopher's By-the-Sea, in which he shares their story of rebuilding after a fire and their growth coming out of the pandemic. Read more [here](#).

Announcements

The Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read, D.D, Bishop of West Texas, will be out of the office to attend General Convention in Louisville, Kentucky June 20 - 29. Beginning June 30, official bishop visits will take a summer hiatus. Bishop Read will return to the office on Monday, July 29 and resume visiting West Texas congregations on Sunday, August 18.

From The Episcopal Church

General Convention 81, June 23-28: Watch for Daily Updates. Click [here](#).

JULY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	2	3 Eucharist 11am (ARC) Book/Bible Study 6pm (CH)	4 <i>Independence Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i> AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	5	6
7 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (VEB) Kiwanis 5-6pm (CH)	8 Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	9	10 Eucharist 11am (ARC) Book/Bible Study 6pm (CH)	11 AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	12	13
14 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (VEB)	15 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	16 Vestry Meeting 6pm (CH)	17 Eucharist 11am (ARC) Book/Bible Study 6pm (CH)	18 AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	19	20
21 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (VEB)	22 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	23	24 Eucharist 11am (ARC) Book/Bible Study 6pm (CH)	25 Dining Out 6:30pm (TBD) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	26	27
28 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (VEB)	29 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	30	31 Eucharist 11am (ARC)			

C – Church; **CH** – Creasy Hall; **VEB** – Vellom Ed Building; **L** – Library
ARC – Army Residence Community

JULY 2024 SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Ministry	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28
Altar Guild	Terry May Diane Woods	Diane Woods Terry May	Suzanne Milton Tarawanda Howard	Suzanne Milton Janet Clere
8 AM Reader	Suzi Hopkins	Joan McClain	Max Hopkins	Jayne Dunlap
8 AM Greeter/Usher	Shawn Cooksey	Ben McClain	Joan McClain	Max Hopkins
8 AM Coffee	Tarawanda Howard	Joan McClain	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins
Server	Terry May	Wayne Mudge	Sean Francis	Sean Keane-Dawes
10 AM Reader	Diane Woods	Susan Brown	Melissa Mudge	Mendell Morgan
10 AM Greeters/Ushers	Arlene Stalvey Diane Woods	Diane Woods Louise Ginesi	Kathy Ercoline Bill Ercoline	Melissa Mudge Ted Whittier
Prayers of the People	Susan Brown	Sean Keane-Dawes	Janet Clere	Ted Whittier
Newcomer Visits	Terry May Diane Woods	Terry May Diane Woods	Ellen Yelverton	Ellen Yelverton
Home Communion	Janet Clere	No Home Communion	Mendell Morgan	No Home Communion
Prayer Ministry	Mendell Morgan	Maribeth Likins	Ellen Yelverton	Mendell Morgan
10 AM Coffee	Diane Woods Terry May	Kathy Ercoline	Melissa Mudge	Melissa Mudge
Audio Visual	Wayne Mudge	Terry May	Kristina Robinson	Wayne Mudge
Lockup/Security	Jayne Dunlap	Terry May	Maribeth Likins	Arlene Stalvey

A Prayer for the Election of a Bishop Suffragan

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present as we discern who you would call to serve as Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of West Texas. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is your will, and grant us both the courage to pursue it

APRIL 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

Monthly	Pledge	Plate	Other	Total	2024 YTD	Pledge	Plate	Other	Total
Operating Income Received	\$17,232	\$2,278	\$2,364	\$21,874	Operating Income Received	\$58,751	\$6,696	\$4,069	\$69,516
Operating Income Budgeted	\$13,869	\$1,652	\$80	\$15,601	Operating Income Budgeted	\$55,478	\$6,606	\$1,979	\$64,063
	Monthly	YTD				Monthly	YTD		
Overall Operating Expenses	\$17,013	\$72,894			Outreach	\$400	\$3,545		
Budgeted Operating Expense	\$17,414	\$76,066							

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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