

Matt's Missive

June 2025

Holy Baptism



"Amari Ivani Constable, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."



The Day of Pentecost
June 8



"We receive you into the household of God."

Amari with her mother, Shinicia Constable, and grandmother, Ingrid Bethel-Constable.



PLEASE JOIN US!

Dining Out on Thursday, June 26th, at 6:30 p.m.

Pho 4 Star Vietnamese Restaurant

2921 Pat Booker Rd., Suite 120, Universal City, TX 78148

RSVP by June 24th to Barbara Duffield



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.

RACAP NEWS

By Kathy Ercoline

RACAP's reminder... "School is out, and summer vacation has begun! Many children are home throughout the summer months and may not have the means for regular meals. Please pray for these families. If you know of someone who may need help with extra meals, send them to RACAP. The pantry shelves are stocked and ready to give out to those in need. Please share RACAP's contact information... Email, racap@att.net, ...Phone, 210-658-1613... Website, <https://racap.org/>."

RACAP Back-to-School program. RACAP will be conducting the annual **Back-to-School Program** this year from June 8th through July 14th. RACAP is currently accepting applications. If you know of any student who may need school supplies, please share this information with them. To qualify, a parent or guardian must go to the RACAP office (307 Pfeil St., Schertz, TX 78154) to apply. They will need the following:

1. Photo ID
2. Social Security cards for everyone in the household.
3. Proof of residence within our service area (a current utility bill or your lease).
4. Proof of all income and benefits for everyone in the household (award letters for food stamps, unemployment, disability, social security; child support records; pay statements for anyone who is working now or has worked recently).

****There are certain restrictions regarding residency zip code.**

The program will include the distribution of basic school supplies to students in Kindergarten through 12th grade.

Lists of the school supplies needed to fill **Jumbo** sized plastic bags are posted in various places in Creasy Hall, and there are displays with examples of the **completed bags** on the RACAP table and in the Church narthex. Please consider donating school supplies. Bring the **completed bags** to Creasy Hall and place them in the RACAP donation box.

Current Pantry Needs:

Spaghetti Sauce	Pasta Noodles	Jelly	Canned Fruits
Cereal	Dish Soap	Bars of Soap	Shampoo
Conditioner	Toothbrushes	Toothpaste	Brown Paper Grocery Bags

RACAP Month in Review

May 2025 Assistance Results

of Families Assisted 76 ~ # People 96

of Pantry Visits 61 ~ # of People Fed 161

Estimated Value of Food Given: \$15,997.00

Pledged Assistance With
Utilities 18 ~ Rent 31 ~ Gasoline 1

"Thank you for helping us help others."

Hospitality Notes

By Melissa Mudge

Many Thanks

Thank you, people of St. Matthew's. Whatever the need, you are there with unique skills, willing spirit, and helping hands to complete our tasks. Celebrations in the Parish Hall fill our hearts with joy. Thanks to the many hands that make these celebrations a memorable occasion.

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, for the love that goes into planning, preparation, and serving of our coffee snacks (and more) each week.

- ♦ 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. I have a list!
- ♦ Kitchen Clean-up in Progress. Flexible times – You are invited to join me in the Parish Hall on Monday morning, June 23rd, or Thursday, June 26th, or you can pick a task and pick a day to come in to scrub and polish on your own. Jobs to tackle – refrigerators, stoves, microwaves, drawers, cabinets (inside and out), walls and baseboards, polish chrome on sinks and carts, wash trash cans, tables and chairs. Cleaning supplies are available but bring your own gloves. Sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall.

Give it – To Go

Take another look. There are bins located by the windows in the Parish Hall. Please add to the collection so we can make new giveaway bags for those who travel this earth with us, but just need help sometimes.

Bin 1 is for toiletry articles – shampoo, deodorant, lotion, toothpaste. Regular size, but not too big to carry around.

Bin 2 is for sturdy shoes in good shape, fit for a person whose mode of transportation is mainly walking. Also new packs of black socks for adults.

Bin 3 is for sweatshirts, jackets, and coats, especially with hoods. All previously donated clothes were taken to Haven for Hope.

Once toiletry articles are collected, more giveaway bags can be assembled.

Pray for all poor and neglected people whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who are broken in body or spirit. Turn their sorrow into joy.

(Continued on next page)

Hospitality Notes *(Continued)*

Special Days/Events

- ♦ **June 29—Jinny Smith's Birthday.** 101 years of life!
- ♦ **July 4—Independence Day.**
- ♦ **July 11—Feast Day of Benedict of Nursia.** The *Rule of Saint Benedict* is a testament to the enduring power of the mix of prayer, work, and community. (Sources: *Lesser Feasts and Facts* and *Forward Day by Day*)
- ♦ **July 14—International Non-Binary Peoples Day.**
- ♦ **July 22—Feast Day of Mary Magdalene.**
- ♦ **July 29—Feast Day of Mary and Martha of Bethany.**
- ♦ **July 31—Remembering Ignatius of Loyola.** The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius – a way of opening yourself to the work of God in your life. (<https://www.jesuitseastois.org/what-is-ignatian-spirituality>)

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* (Collect for Independence Day, Book of Common Prayer page 242)

The Renewal of the Vows of Marriage of John & Liz Sampson



A celebration
of 25 years
of marriage!



Acting faithfully in troubling times: A letter from Presiding Bishop Rowe

June 11, 2025

Office of Public Affairs

Dear people of God in The Episcopal Church:

I am writing to you from Geneva, where I am meeting with global partners at the World Council of Churches and the United Nations Refugee Agency. As we have discussed how our institutions might act faithfully and boldly in these turbulent times, I have been reflecting on how we Episcopalians can respond to what is unfolding around us as followers of the Risen Christ whose first allegiance is to the kingdom of God, not to any nation or political party.

The events of the last several days lend urgency to this spiritual challenge. Earlier this week, President Trump's executive order banning or restricting travel from 19 countries went into effect. This order impacts countries that are home to dioceses of The Episcopal Church and many of our Anglican Communion partners, and [I have written to the bishops and primates in those countries](#) to express our concern.

The unwarranted deployment of the National Guard and U.S. Marine Corps on the streets of Los Angeles also signals a dangerous turn. As [the bishops of California have written](#), these military deployments risk escalating the confrontations unnecessarily and set a dangerous precedent for future deployments that heighten tensions rather than resolve them. As Christians committed to strive for justice and peace among all people, we know that there is a better way.

What we are witnessing is the kind of distortion that arises when institutions like the military and the State Department are turned on the people they were meant to protect. These mainstays of the federal government, designed to safeguard civil society and promote peace and stability, are now being weaponized for political advantage.

The violence on television is not our only risk. We are also seeing federal budget proposals that would shift resources from the poor to the wealthy; due process being denied to immigrants; and the defunding of essential public health, social service, and foreign aid programs that have long fulfilled the Gospel mandate to care for the vulnerable, children, and those who are hungry and sick.

With all of this in mind, we are finding ways to respond as Christians to what we see happening around us. We are exploring options to support litigation challenging the travel ban on the ground of religious freedom; [advocating](#) for federal spending that safeguards the welfare of the most vulnerable; [caring for immigrants and refugees](#) in our congregations and communities; and [standing in solidarity with other faith groups](#). In short, we are practicing institutional resistance rooted not in partisan allegiance, but in Christian conviction.

At its best, our church is capable of moral clarity and resolute commitment to justice. I believe we can bring those strengths to bear on this gathering storm. Churches like ours, protected by the First Amendment and practiced in galvanizing people of goodwill, may be some of the last institutions capable of resisting the injustice now being promulgated. That is not a role we sought—but it is one we are called to.

In Geneva, I have been reminded that we are part of a global communion of hope in the Risen Christ. We do not stand alone as we live by our baptismal promises: to persevere in resisting evil, to strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being. In these troubling times, may we find courage and resilience in our identity as members of the Body of Christ.

Yours in Christ,

The Most Rev. Sean Rowe
Presiding Bishop
The Episcopal Church

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

Congratulations Liam Evans!

High school graduation complete, Liam will continue his studies at UTSA in the Fall.



The **DEADLINE** to submit Missive articles is the 15th of the month. Any late articles will be in the next month's issue.



Happenings Around The Diocese

Summer Camp for all Ages at Camp

Capers: Various Dates June-August.

Another amazing summer at Camp Capers is almost here! From the Big Swing to kayaking on the beautiful Guadalupe River and everything in between, every day at Camp Capers is filled with faith and fun. Click [here](#) for dates and to register.

Spend the Summer at Mustang Island

Family Camp: Various Dates May-August.

Bring your family to your island home this summer for a rejuvenating beach weekend at Mustang Island Family Camp! Click [here](#) for a list of Family Camp Sessions.

Adventure Awaits at Duncan Park!

Various Dates June-July.

Explore, Refresh, Recharge! Give yourself time to live in the moment and connect with yourself and your faith at Duncan Park. Click [here](#) for a list of Duncan Park Camps.

20th Annual Bishop's Golf

Tournament: November 3 at The Club at Sonterra in San Antonio. The tournament benefits camp scholarships. Early Birdie registration will open soon so start building your team.

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

DWTX in the News

The Rev. Brian Fox from St. Paul's Church and Montessori School, San Antonio joined the podcast *And Also With You* to talk about the Book of Revelation. Click [here](#) to listen or find it wherever you listen to podcasts.

!Buen Camino!

College + Young Adult Ministries concluded their journey on the Camino de Santiago, Spain and arrived at Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela on Saturday, June 7th. Read their daily reflections and view photos of their journey [here](#).

When the Church Leaves the Building - June Events!

Join the Church of Reconciliation and St. Paul's, San Antonio for a Pride Eve Service at Reconciliation on Friday, June 27th, 7:00 p.m. and the San Antonio Pride Parade on Saturday, June 28th. For more information on the parade, click [here](#) for the interest form.

Building Faith and Connections through Nature:**Trinity by the Sea, Port Aransas, and St. Mark's, San Marcos.**

Trinity by the Sea, Port Aransas, and St. Mark's, San Marcos, offer a deep spiritual connection to Christ's baptism in the river Jordan. Affirming one's faith and being sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism in the beauty of God's creation is a powerful testament to new life of the Holy Spirit and being one of Christ's own eternally. Learn more about Beach and River Baptisms [here](#).

St. Philip's, San Antonio celebrates 130th Anniversary.

St. Philip's recently celebrated their 130th Anniversary. In attendance were Dr. Adena Loston, St. Philip's College President, and the Rev. Mike Besson, Archdeacon of the Diocese of West Texas. Dr. Loston presented the church with a framed photo of their first church at La Villita. Click [here](#) to read about the shared history of St. Philip's Church and St. Philip's College.

Diocese of West Texas and St. Peter's, Kerrville win awards for excellence in Episcopal church communications.

The Episcopal Communicators, an organization of communication professionals working in the Episcopal Church for dioceses, congregations and organizations, announced the winners of the 2025 Polly Bond Awards for Excellence in Communications at their annual conference held in May in Oklahoma City. The Diocese of West Texas' Communication Department won four awards: Award of Excellence for [Plaza de Paz, Welcoming the Stranger](#), Award of Merit for the diocese's 150th Anniversary Logo, and awards for Five Things in the Diocese of West Texas, and [laVentana, The Church News of West Texas](#).

St. Peter's Kerrville won three awards including: Awards of Excellence for [The Rock Road](#) newsletter and Postcards for Newcomers, and an award in the individual category of Layout. Read more [here](#).

Ministry Spotlight

The Refugee Clinic at St. Francis, San Antonio, was recognized as the Torchbearer of the Year by the Center of Refugee Services at their annual gala on Friday, May 9th, at the Barshop Jewish Community Center of San Antonio. The clinic is a collaboration between students and faculty at UT Health San Antonio, the Center for Refugee Services, and St. Francis. It serves the dual purpose of helping the refugee community in the St. Francis area, and furthering the education of medical and nursing students. St. Francis provides the space and storage, and the care is free to anyone who needs it. The Center for Refugee Services provides interpreters and is also a referral source for social work needs. The ministry was started under the Rev. Cristopher Robinson and continues under the guidance of the Rev. Carrie Guerra, Rector at St. Francis. Read more [here](#).

JULY CALENDAR

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

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

JULY 2025 SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Ministry	July 6	July 13	July 20	July 27
Altar Guild	Terry May Suzanne Milton	Maggie Barnes Stephenie McBride Diane Woods	Tarawanda Howard Suzanne Milton	Cindy Hull Diane Woods
8 AM Reader	Jayne Dunlap	Joan McClain	Suzi Hopkins	Max Hopkins
8 AM Greeter/Usher	Ron Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Joan McClain	Jayne Dunlap
8 AM Coffee	Tarawanda Howard	Joan McClain	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins
10 AM Server	Sean Keane-Dawes	Wayne Mudge	Terry May	Mendell Morgan
10 AM Reader	Mendell Morgan	Diane Woods	Janet Clere	Wayne Mudge
10 AM Greeter/Usher	Diane Woods	Kathy Ercoline	Suzanne Milton	Wayne Mudge
Prayers of the People	Susan Brown	Sean Keane-Dawes	Janet Clere	Bill Ercoline
Newcomer Visits	Terry May Diane Woods	Ellen Yelverton	Terry May Diane Woods	Ellen Yelverton
Home Communion	Ellen Yelverton	No Home Communion	Sean Keane-Dawes	No Home Communion
Prayer Ministry	Maribeth Likins	Ellen Yelverton	Mendell Morgan	Maribeth Likins
10 AM Coffee	Kathy Ercoline	Colleen Hubberd	Melissa Mudge	Diane Woods Terry May
Audio Visual	Kristina Robinson	Terry May	Wayne Mudge	Kristina Robinson
Lockup/Security	Richard Guerrero	Janet Clere	Ellen Yelverton	Tarawanda Howard

Speak To Me

Speak to me, oh Lord Jesus, in voices loud and clear.
I want to know Your will for me; I'll do what you hold dear.

Speak to me, dearest Savior. Open wide my heart to hear.
Teach me to listen, and to pray, and answer without fear.

Speak to me, God my Father, and know that I will pray
For strength to do as You have asked; for love to lead the way.

Speak to me, precious Spirit, Your still, small voice inside.
My heart is growing stronger as Your love and peace abide.

Your will be done, my Jesus. My will is yours, oh Lord.
Help me to learn Your heavenly ways and hear Your holy words.

JC²

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Ft. Ord, CA

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