

Matt's Missive

July 2026

Caring Umbrella Update

It's time for St. Matthew's Church to reboot, or unfurl, our Caring Umbrella program. We seem to have managed to take care of each other pretty well, but we might do more.

As you may remember, our categories of service are:

- ♦ Phone contacting
- ♦ Writing cards and notes
- ♦ Cooking (or buying) meals for those in need
- ♦ Driving people to church
- ♦ Driving people to appointments
- ♦ Providing emergency childcare
- ♦ Floral arranging and delivery
- ♦ Grocery shopping
- ♦ Small and odd job repairs
- ♦ Special skills –such as visiting, reading, or singing to the homebound

For example, our most used service is providing meals for those who have been ill or are recovering from surgery, or those who have lost a loved one. Please remember that we are here to help when and where we can.

There are several current members but. If you are willing to provide one or more of the services above, please contact me. Also, if you are need of one of the above services, please contact me or the parish office.

Through God's grace,
Ellen Yelverton

PLEASE JOIN US!

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

Noy's Bistro

976 Coronado Blvd., Universal City, TX 78148

RSVP by June 28th to Arlene Stalvey



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 PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S CORNER: The summer months prove to be a very busy time for RACAP. The children are home from school, and they eat all their meals at home. RACAP has been able to bless many families in need because of the generous donations we receive from our churches and community. In addition, RACAP lightens the financial burden a little by supplying clients with school-age children, a bag of school supplies.

ST MATTHEW'S CONGREGATION: *There is still time to donate school supply bags. There are lists and examples of the supplies needed in the Narthex and on the RACAP table in Creasy Hall. Please bring the school supply bags to Creasy Hall no later than July 31st.*

RACAP will distribute the school supplies bags from July 22nd until August 24th.

Current Pantry Needs:

Cereal	Jelly	Muffin Mix
Jello Mix	Spaghetti Sauce	Pasta Meals

RACAP MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE'S LIVES: *(a note of thanks from a client)*
"Thank you for helping me today. You are angels. You made me feel loved today when I haven't felt love in a very long time. God Bless you all"

CHECK THE DATE REMINDER: Please check the date on the food items you donate to RACAP. Out-date food cannot and will not be distributed.

ATTENTION GARDENERS: Did you know if your harvest is too big for you, you can share it with RACAP clients? Please feel free to donate any surplus fruits or vegetables you grow to RACAP. They will be included in each client's grocery order. RACAP is open and available for donation drop-off Monday-Friday, 1-3 p.m.

RACAP Month in Review

June 2026 Assistance Results

of Families Assisted 87 ~ # of People Assisted 253
of Pantry Orders Prepared 78 ~ # of People Fed 221
Estimated Value of Food Given: \$18,020.00
of Rent Pledges Paid 30 ~ Value \$4,611.08
of Utility Pledges Paid 32 ~ Value \$5,010.71
of New Clients 40 ~ # Repeat Clients 47

"Thank you for helping us help others."

Hospitality Notes

By Melissa Mudge

Many Thanks

Thank you, people of St. Matthew's! You make the everyday events of our lives special.

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, always on the ready to provide snacks and joy.

Our Coffee Host team needs a **temporary host** (about three months) for the 8:00 AM service

- ♦ 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’ve got your number!
- ♦ Take Them a Meal – There is an easy (and free) on-line tool for coordinating delivery of meals to anyone in need of respite and TLC. An illness in the home, a family welcoming a new baby, or someone who is just not able to prepare food for themselves are some of the occasions when the folks we care about would really appreciate having a meal brought to them.

We need a new **COORDINATOR** who will gather information from the recipient and then post a schedule for those ready and willing to sign up for meal deliveries. The website provides lots of information on getting set up and has an extensive Q&A section under the Help Tab.

Prayerfully consider taking up this Ministry and, if you are willing, let Melissa Mudge know. It has been successful for us in the past. Thank you. If you are in need of meals, please contact the parish office or Ellen Yelverton, Lay Ministry Coordinator.

- ♦ Kitchen Clean-up – Looking good! Thanks for keeping our kitchen clean and sanitary.

The kitchen elves have been at it again – an awesome shelf appeared to hold our wraps and cling. Now they no longer fall out the back and onto the floor!!! And that’s not all! A brace was put on the microwave stand to keep it secure and steady. Thank you so much!

Give it – To Go

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

- ♦ **August 1—Feast Day for Joseph of Arimathea.** Psalm 27:1. *The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?*

From Forward Day by Day, August | September | October 2026 – Written by Peter M. Wallace. “Over the centuries, faithful people have taken courageous stands against injustices like racism and sexism or in support of vital services for those living in poverty or seeking refuge. While many protests have been peaceful, some participants have been harassed, beaten, tear-gassed, arrested, and even killed. Many Episcopal clergy and laypersons have taken part in standing up for what they believe their nation should be about.

On this day, we commemorate Joseph of Arimathea, who stood up courageously, not only to his fellow council members but also to the Roman authorities so that he could care for the beaten and bloody body of the crucified Jesus. May we too heed the psalmist’s call for courage and pray the collect for Joseph of Arimathea: “Grant us, your faithful people, grace and courage to love and serve Jesus with sincere devotion all the days of our lives.” *MOVING FORWARD: What courageous stand might you take today as you follow Jesus?*”

- ♦ **August 5—The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ.** Luke 9:29. *While (Jesus) was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white.* From Forward Day by Day, August | September | October 2026 – Written by Peter M. Wallace. “...Like the disciples, I must all walk down the mountain and live in the real world, a world that can be challenging, scary, and even deadly. Jesus has a lot to say about how we live on the way to glory. It involves the hard work of serving and loving the unlovable, the marginalized, those in need, and giving of ourselves and our resources. It involves shining the light of Jesus in and through our lives. *MOVING FORWARD: As you come down from the mountain, what work will you commit to doing to share the light of Jesus?*”

- ♦ **August 14—Celebrating Jonathan Myrick Daniels.** Acts 7:26. *The next day he came to some of them as a they were quarreling and tried to reconcile them, saying, “Men, you are brothers, why do you wrong each other?”*

From Forward Day by Day, August | September | October 2026 – Written by Peter M. Wallace. “Johnathan Daniels experienced a profound conversion in an Episcopal church in Boston on Easter 1962. Shortly after, while in seminary, he watched Martin Luther King Jr. on television, asking people to come to Selma, Alabama, to help secure voting rights for all citizens. Jonathan answered the call, staying on to protest segregation, tutor schoolchildren, and integrate local churches. He was jailed for picketing. When he was released, he and his companions walked to a nearby store. As young Ruby Sales reached the top step of the entrance, a man with a gun appeared and cursed her. Jonathan pulled her aside and was shot dead.

Jonathan Daniels put his faith into action, standing up for righteousness on behalf of those suffering from injustice. He carried on the tradition of Stephen, who spoke up for his colleagues before the council and was stoned for it. We give thanks for the witness of Jonathan Daniels. As today’s collect encourages us, “we pray that we, following your example, may make no peace with oppression.” Amen. *MOVING FORWARD: How will you make a stand for the persecuted?*”



Happenings Around The Diocese

College + Young Adult End of Summer

BBQ: August 1, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m., at St. Philip's, San Antonio.

Gather for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship. Whether you are familiar with our ministry or just graduated high school, we want to feed you! Gather your friends (near and far) and join your diocesan family to close out the summer in style. Click [here](#) to learn more about upcoming events in the latest College + Young Adult Ministries newsletter!

Christian Formation Volunteer

Workshop: August 29, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, San Antonio.

Do you volunteer with adults, children, or youth in any capacity? This workshop is for you! This will be a time of worship and prayer, learning, and building relationships with other volunteers from around the diocese. Plan to bring your favorite formation resource or a story to share about a formation opportunity or event that went well at your church. Register [here](#).

Fall Cursillos: Learn more [here](#) about the Diocese of West Texas Cursillos.

Cursillo #301 - Breath of God: October 8-11 at Mustang Island Conference Center. Deb Gardiner, Rectora.

Cursillo #302 – Spanish: November 5-8 at Camp Capers. Angie Mejia, Rectora.

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

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



EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE
of West Texas

From the Blog

The Community of Saints Francis and Clare (CFC).

CFC in West Texas is an intensive Christian discipleship experience open to people ages 20-32 who seek to dedicate a season of their life to a deeper walk with Christ through prayer, study, and service. The next cohort will be a nine-month experience, beginning September 2026 - May 2027. Housing is provided for members of the cohort at MacDonald Manor, located on the campus of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Kerrville. Learn more [here](#).

New Camino - A New Vision for Latino/Hispanic Ministries.

Join the diocesan Latino + Immigration Ministries, October 16-17, at the Bishop Jones Center, to learn how your congregation can connect with your Latino/Hispanic neighbors. The presenter is Karla Sikaffy duPlantier, Interim Latina Missioner from the Presiding Bishop's Office of The Episcopal Church. Learn more [here](#).

Diocesan Office News.

In light of recent email scams, please remember - if you receive an email that looks like it is from your bishop or diocesan staff member requesting a "favor" and instructing you to reply, do not reply and delete the email. Frequently you will be able to tell if it is a scam by looking at the "From Sender" email address which will not be legitimate. All diocesan email addresses end with @dwtx.org. If you are still unsure: Email the [Diocesan Communications Department](#) to confirm whether the request is legitimate. Do not reply to the email; mark it as Spam or Junk and delete it.

DWTX in the News

Two Texas dioceses practice collaborative model to enhance lifelong Christian formation | Episcopal News Service

In Fall 2025, formation leaders for the Diocese of Texas (Canon Dr. Josh R. Ritter, Formation) and the Diocese of West Texas (Suzanna Green, Director of Christian Formation) formed a partnership. They collaboratively planned and implemented a week of formation for a handful of churches in their collective dioceses around a small group discipleship model called “The Soul of Aging,” which was intended as a way to build capacity with formation leaders around skillful facilitation, discernment, and deliberation.

“What we hope to achieve,” say Green and Ritter, “is a mindset among formation leaders that Christian discipleship must be experienced and practiced. It cannot simply be a series of learning ‘about’ discipleship. Practice is an essential ingredient of discipleship because churches are communities of practice. We are Christian practitioners.” Read more [here](#).

Announcements

World Mission Update.

The Guatemala mission team out of St. John’s, McAllen, is looking for dentists to join their annual dental mission in Guatemala from Sunday, October 11 - 17. Interested participants are asked to contact [Dr. Lorena Rojas](#).

August Birthdays

Ben McClain	Brittney Cooksey
Jacqueline Hoskins	Luke Crouch
Chuck Swanberg	Sally Bynum
Sue Bushey	Frank DePasquale
Bob Dooling	Liz Sampson
Kenneth Smith	Buchannon “Bee” Waldron
Tom Palmer	Terrie Bradlaw
Francine Baskin	Kimberley Erwin
Carmen Perez	Angela Vaticalos

*I praise you, because I am fearfully
and wonderfully made; your works
are wonderful, I know that full well.
(Psalm 139:14)*



AUGUST CALENDAR						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L)	3 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	4	5 Wednesday Night Study 6-8pm (CH)	6 Eucharist 11am (ARC) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	7	8
9 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L)	10 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	11 Vestry Meeting 6pm (CH)	12 Wednesday Night Study 6-8pm (CH)	13 Eucharist 11am (ARC) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	14	15
16 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L)	17 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	18	19 HOME Open House 11am-1pm (CH)	20 Eucharist 11am (ARC) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	21 Game Night 6:30pm (CH)	22
23 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L)	24 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	25	26	27 Eucharist 11am (ARC) Dining Out 6:30pm (TBD) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	28	29
30 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L)	31 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)					
C – Church; CH – Creasy Hall; L – Library; VEB – Vellom Ed Building; ARC – Army Residence Community						

AUGUST 2026 SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Ministry	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
Altar Guild	Maggie Barnes Stephenie McBride	Pat Clarke-Kempf Cindy Hull	Janet Clare Diane Woods	Tarawanda Howard Suzanne Milton	Maggie Barnes Stephenie McBride
8 AM Reader	Joan McClain	Max Hopkins	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Joan McClain
8 AM Greeter/Usher	Max Hopkins	Jayne Dunlap	Ron Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Shawn Cooksey
8 AM Coffee	Tarawanda Howard	TBD	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Tarawanda Howard
10 AM Server	Arlene Stalvey	Wayne Mudge	Terry May	Sean Francis	Arlene Stalvey
10 AM Reader	Wayne Mudge	Oliver Laxson	Sean Francis	Melissa Mudge	Diane Woods
10 AM Greeter/Usher	Suzanne Milton	Kathy Ercoline	Wayne Mudge	Bill Ercoline	Diane Woods
Prayers of the People	Bill Ercoline	Ellen Yelverton	Janet Clere	Bill Ercoline	Maribeth Likins
Newcomer Visits	Terry May Diane Woods	Terry May Diane Woods	Terry May Diane Woods	Terry May Diane Woods	Terry May Diane Woods
Home Communion	Ellen Yelverton	No Home Communion	Ellen Yelverton	No Home Communion	Ellen Yelverton
Prayer Ministry	Janet Clere	Maribeth Likins	Janet Clere	Maribeth Likins	Janet Clere
10 AM Coffee	Kathy Ercoline	Colleen Hubberd	Melissa Mudge	Terry May Diane Woods	Kathy Ercoline
Audio Visual	Terry May	Kristina Robinson	Jay Barnes	Wayne Mudge	Terry May
Lockup/Security	Ellen Yelverton	Tarawanda Howard	Terry May	Arlene Stalvey	Cindy Hull

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

(Book of Common Prayer, page 259)

MAY 2026 FINANCIAL REPORT

Monthly	Pledge	Plate	Other	Total	2026 YTD	Pledge	Plate	Other	Total
Operating Income Received	\$9,935	\$2,132	\$827	\$12,894	Operating Income Received	\$73,237	\$9,287	\$8,547	\$91,071
Operating Income Budgeted	\$14,025	\$1,445	\$278	\$15,748	Operating Income Budgeted	\$70,125	\$7,224	\$1,964	\$79,313
	Monthly	YTD				Monthly	YTD		
Overall Operating Expenses	\$19,001	\$112,750			Outreach	\$0	\$212		
Budgeted Operating Expenses	\$25,457	\$114,506							

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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