



Ongoing Prayers : Wanda Cunningham, Evelyn Robison, Patty Costanzo, Martha Phipps, John Shaw, Herb Myers, Ayla Busscher, James Hill, Kim Hill, Kathryn Wilkerson, and Wayne Williams.

Immediate Concerns : The families of Bill Murff and Reuben 'Butch' Passmore.

Please call the church office with updates.

“Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God.”

1 John 3:1

July Birthdays

- 3 Steven King
- 5 Ashley Burke
- 7 Lucas Meystedt
- 11 Chloe Davis
- Lucile Beasley
- Owen Wilson
- 13 Brandi Bowers
- Mandi Odom



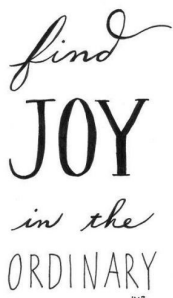
- 16 Edith Rockwell
- 17 Norman Rowsey
- Scott Thomas
- 19 Kimberly Doughty
- 20 David Williams
- 26 Raia Stanley
- 27 Lily Bower



In 1967 Grace Ward Harby had a vision to provide inexpensive, serviceable clothing to school-age children and their families. What started as a ministry in her car evolved into what is now the Clothing Outlet, located on our church campus. As it was back in Ms. Harby's day, the proceeds from the Clothing Outlet still provide school supplies for children/families in need.

Now, over 50 years later, this ministry is still going strong, and we have joined with the Alvin Independent School District, and the Thelma Ley Anderson Family YMCA to better serve our community. The last few years, you all were kind enough to provide glue sticks and bottles of 4 oz. glue. This year, we could use **glue sticks** and bottles of **4 oz. glue** (they're both fairly inexpensive) again. Thank you!!

Blessings and peace.



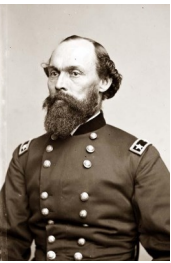
“So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

Text: John 8:31-41

Christopher Lo

On Thursday, June 17, 2021, S.475 – the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act passed through both houses of the 117th Congress and President Joe Biden signed and ratified Juneteenth as the United States’ 12th national holiday.

The Emancipation Proclamation, or Proclamation 95, was issued by President Abraham Lincoln on September 22, 1862. As Texas experienced no large-scale fighting or significant presence of Union troops, slavery continued as before. Many enslavers from outside the Lone Star State had moved here; they viewed Texas as a haven for slavery.



On June 19, 1865, on Galveston Island, soldiers marched from the Union’s headquarters at the corner of 22nd Street and the Strand to the U.S. Customs House and then onto what is now the Reedy Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church. Enroute, they read the General Order No. 3 from Major General Gordon Granger to some of Texas’ 250,000 enslaved African Americans: “The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them became that between employer and free laborer.”

On Sunday, June 13, 2021, prior to playing the organ for the 11:00 a.m. service at the First Presbyterian Church in Galveston (youtu.be/A2DJxwMsY_Q), I attended the 9:00 a.m. service of Holy Communion at St. Augustine of Hippo Episcopal Church in Galveston.



In 1884, fifty Anglican seamen from the British West Indies wanted communion services for themselves and their families. However, given the prejudices of the day, the Reverend Charles M. Parkman, the Rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Galveston could only invite sailors of darker complexion, to attend services on Wednesdays and Fridays. Wishing to worship on the sabbath, these men petitioned Bishop Alexander Gregg (1819–1893), the first Episcopal Bishop of Texas, for their own church.



In the spring of 1885, the Reverend Dr. William F. Floyd, a black physician and clergyman from Louisville KY, became Vicar of the first church for African Americans in the Diocese of Texas. In the 1940s, Camp Allen, the Episcopal camp site was not available to black congregants of the Diocese of Texas. St. Augustine of Hippo Church hosted the first Young People’s Summer Conference for African American parishioners from Houston, Tyler, and San Antonio.

In signing this new federal holiday into law, President Biden said, “This day doesn’t just celebrate the past, it calls for action today.” On Sunday, June 13, the Reverend Michael Brady, the Priest in Charge of St. Augustine of Hippo Church announced to the congregation that he had received emergency funds from the Diocese of Texas to repair the Air Conditioning unit in the church hall. During my visit, it was obvious that the Air Conditioning unit in the sanctuary was not operating in an efficient manner. Fr. Mike suggested that the congregation may need to worship in the church hall during this long hot Texas summer.



In his book “On Christian Teaching,” St. Augustine of Hippo (354 – 430 A. D.), a man of color from North Africa, wrote “Since you cannot do good to all, you are to pay special attention to those who, by the accidents of time, or place, or circumstances, are brought into closer connection with you.” May God Bless us as we follow St. Paul’s bidding to “Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way, you will fulfil the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2). Amen.



“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Romans 5:8

