



Saint Francis Journal

January 2024



A Loving Community, Serving God's Kingdom



“Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” John 1:46 NRSV

“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” John 4:29 NRSV

“Come and see” is the perfect invitation. There are no promises, no expectations, no anticipated outcomes, only a request for one to see for oneself. The quotes above are invitations to see something, someone, amazing. For Nathaniel and for the people in the town of the woman at the well to come and see Jesus, the Messiah. In these requests it is both Philip and the woman at the well that had experienced Jesus face to face. They were so enthralled that they could not help themselves but to ask others to see this amazing person.

St. Francis is a church that is part of the larger tradition of the Anglican Communion, steeped in Christian tradition, and able to support differing theological positions in the same church building. A place of loving welcome, respectful of the dignity of people, active outreach, strong community, great worship, and a giving culture.

A place where we say, “We will” and add “with God’s help” because we know we are not alone in the things we do as a response to God’s love. A place that many brave people discovered on their own who call it home. St. Francis is a place where I want to worship and participate in the life of Jesus in the world. It seems like a secret. Let’s let the secret out.

Last year we had many classes on evangelism and what that means. Not, “Are you saved?” but rather sharing an experience of God in our life at St. Francis Episcopal Church. Then listening for the other person’s experience of God in their life. It is then that we can understand each other and ask them if they are looking for a place like St. Francis. And if you cannot ask that, then just invite them to church at St. Francis and “come and see” how God is experienced here.

Tell people about your experience of God at St. Francis. Invite someone you know to visit St. Francis today. We are called to share our experience of God, and God’s activity in the world. All Nathaniel needed to encounter Jesus was an invitation to “come and see.” All the

people in the town of the woman at the well needed to encounter Jesus was an invitation to “come and see.” All we need to say to someone is, “Come and See.”

God’s Peace,
Mitch+



VESTRY

Lisa Kraus, Senior Warden (2024)
Jeremy Cole, Junior Warden (2025)

Todd Lestage (2023)
Paul Streufert (2023)
Doug Clark (2024)
Nancy Earls (2024)
Claire Hodges (2025)
Gipsy Schneider (2025)
Jane Johnson, Clerk

CHURCH STAFF

The Very Rev. Mitch Tollett, Rector
Dr. Cameron Rose, Director of Music
Hailey Matthews, Children/Youth Director
Carol Lanthrum, Parish Administrator
Susan Kohler, Treasurer
Alberto Cruz, Sexton

Congregation Photo

Sunday, January 14th * 10:30 am * Sanctuary

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 21st * 9:30 am * Sanctuary

No Adult or Youth Sunday School * Nursery Provided

NEED YOUR REPORT

If you facilitated, led, or were in charge of any committee, activity, or event in 2023, tell us about it! What did you accomplish? What are your goals and aspirations for 2024? What did you love about it? How can we make it better? The reports become part of our Annual Report, record the history of St. Francis Church and will be handed out at the meeting as well as published in the Journal or on the website.

You will get a request from your Parish Administrator in early January !



Report due to office by 16th

Young-at-Heart Food Deliveries

Young at Heart currently receive federally-funded senior assistance food boxes from the Tyler Family Assistance Center and assorted items donated to Food Finders. We are continuing to collect non-perishable items to supplement our pantry boxes. We prefer items that do not require additional ingredients—No Hamburger Helper—requires hamburger All donations must be shelf-stable items. We have set up shelving in Office A to house your donations until deliveries are made.

- Mac & cheese with cheese in pouches, as dry mix requires butter & milk
- Canned vegetables, especially beans, as they are high-protein sources
- Canned soups and fruit
- Canned or pouched meats; canned pasta
- Shelf-stable milk is especially helpful to put on cereal
- Small containers of instant coffee; tea bags; hot cocoa mixes

There is a container in the narthex for these items.

Lisa Kraus
Coordinator



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

John Ryu (1/2)

Sandra Dugan (1/8)

Pam Renner (1/8)

Buz Gagliano (1/16)

Lynn Scruton (1/17)

Sarah Jones (1/17)

Joey Chapman (1/26)

Galen Hayes (1/27)

Linda Wilcox (1/28)

Jeremy Cole (1/28)

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Laurie & Mike Barham (1/5)



It Happened in December

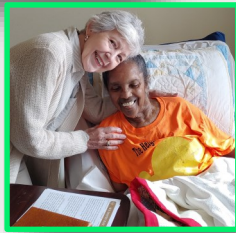


Decorating the

Chrismon Tree



Serendipity at Barats



Norma & Mary White



Max Cabell College Grad!!



Baptism of Oaklynn



Women's Tea



Lorene Arnold Memorial



Fr. Jack's Great-Granddaughter



Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Acoustic Christmas



Betty Taylor is 100!!



Christmas Eve



SIDEWALK!

Xmas Day Brunch



St. Francis Episcopal Church
3232 Jan Avenue
Tyler, TX 75701
Telephone: 903-593-8459

Email: office@stfrancistylers.org
Web site: www.stfrancistylers.org

facebook

www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler



WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS FOR JANUARY

Sunday

- 8:30 am: Rite I—No music
- 9:30 am: Adult Gospel Lectionary Discussion
- Children/Youth Sunday School
- 10:45 am: Rite II—Traditional Music
Live-Stream on FaceBook & YouTube
- 6:00 pm: Yoga—Children's Ed Room

Nursery available from 8:00 am—12:00 pm

Wednesday

- Noon: Rite II Eucharist Service
- 12:30pm: Bible Study—Parish Hall
- 2:00 pm: Grief Support Group—Parish Hall
- 2:00 pm: God's Grace—St. Clare's
- 7:00 PM: Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary

Thursday

- 5:00 pm: Handbell Practice—Music Room

Epiphany Serendipity Open House

*** Sat. Jan. 6th * 6-10 pm ***

We would like to invite you to join us for our annual Epiphany Open House. Come and celebrate with us the ending of the Christmas Season. Bring yourself—no other gift or food offering! This is our gift to you, our friends!

Kathy and Dwyane Dunn
3301 Jan Ave.



Sat. Jan 7th

***Breakfast for All * 8:30a
Parish Hall**

**DOK Meeting * 9a
Adult Ed Rm**

***CUB Lunch Prep *
* 10a * Ed Bldg***

Conversation on Race

Conversation on Race will meet in the Adult Ed Room on Sunday January 14th right after the 10:45am service.

We will be discussing the results of the
**Martin Luther King Walk and Celebration * Tyler
Held on Monday January 15, 2024**

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
- Matthew 6:21 NRSV

When it comes to stewardship we all pledge the time, talent, and treasure that we know we can give. For what you and I pledge to support the ministries of St. Francis, we are thankful.

Please continue to give an extra \$5-\$10-\$20 in the offering plate for I do believe it has been an integral part of sharing out of our abundance.

So bring a friend: George, Abraham, Alexander, Andrew, Harriet, and some of their friends. Together we can continue to fully support the ministries of St. Francis!

Peace,
Mitch+

January Special Events

Sat. January 6, 8:30am
Breakfast for All

Sat. January 6, 9:00am
DOK Meeting

Sat. January 6, 10:00am
Church Under a Bridge Lunch Prep

Sat. January 6, 6:00-10:00pm
Epiphany Serendipity at the Dunns

Tues. January 9, 6:00pm
Vestry Meeting

Sun. January 14, 10:30am
Congregational Photo

Sun. January 14, 12:00pm
Conversation on Race

Tues. January 16, 11:30am
Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Sun. January 21, 9:30am
Annual Meeting