

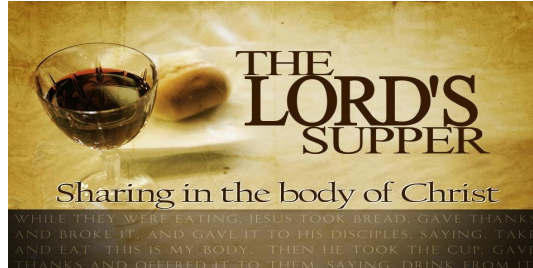


Saint Francis Journal

July, 2023



A Loving Community, Serving God's Kingdom



Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Luke 22:19 NRSV

We do lots of activities around the church so that people are not forgotten. It is not always perfect, but we do our best with the people and resources that God has brought to St. Francis. These activities do not only serve a purpose of doing God's grace in an unforgiving world they also remind us of what is important. People.

For example, we provide food for the Church Under a Bridge. This keeps the church mindful that there are people that are lacking things, even food, in a world of abundance. And from our own abundance of time, talent, and treasure, we come together as a church so that at least the homeless neighbors that attend that church get a meal they normally might not have gotten.

Other examples of remembering:

- **People Attempting To Help (PATH):** We have regular donations to remember those in financial straits.
- **Pets Fur People:** We have regular donations to remember to care for those animals we have stewardship over.

- **God's Grace Missional Community:** We do not forget those that are caretakers of loved ones.
- **Eucharistic Visitors:** We go out and deliver communion to church members who cannot always attend church or are homebound, so they are not forgotten.
- **Conversations on Race:** We do not forget that all people are children of God.
- **Young at Heart:** We remember the health and wellness of our seniors and deliver food to them.
- **Grief Group:** We are in solidarity with those that have lost a loved one, sharing, and walking with, and accompanying people on their grief journey.
- **A New Playground:** We provide it so that the children of St. Francis, and the neighborhood children soon, know that St. Francis cares about them.
- And others...

The Jewish Passover meal was instituted in the Old Testament, or Hebrew Scripture, in remembrance of God delivering the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus took that meal of remembrance, the Jewish Passover, and renewed it as the Eucharistic meal that we have to this day as a way of remembering what Jesus has done for the world. Jesus suffered, died, and

was resurrected to free the world from sin and death so that we might live in God's Glory. Thus, we come together to remember - and more - that sacrifice by having Eucharist, which is Greek for thanksgiving. So, we remember Jesus, the person, in thanksgiving.

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)
Kathy Dunn, Clerk

CHURCH STAFF

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

A Conversation on Race

Two years ago, some of the members of St. Francis began a conversation about race. As a group, we felt we had much to learn about how God wants us to respond to our siblings in Christ who do not look like us. We are a very welcoming church, and yet there is not a lot of diversity. We meet monthly to continue our journey in preparing us to be a more welcoming and accepting congregation for all our neighbors.

Besides monthly meetings, we have participated in community activities to educate ourselves about racial inequities. The last Sunday in April, we shared our church with Higher Dimensions Church and St. Clare's Episcopal Church. Higher Dimensions is a nondenominational church with a black congregation. St. Clare's was a missional community of St. Francis, and now is a church mission of the Diocese of Texas. St. Clare's is intentionally affirming to those who have been rejected by mainstream churches, especially those people in the LBGQTQA community. We shared a worship service and a meal together and experienced a taste of what it would be like to remove some barriers to worship. Our next opportunity will occur July 30, 2023, and we will hear more about those plans soon.

Recently our group attended the Juneteenth program sponsored by Tyler Talking Together and toured the Texas African American Museum. It was eye-opening, and we learned facts that were new to us, yet necessary for us to know. Also, several of us are participating in *Undivided*, a training that builds our skills in learning to talk with others and find common ground.

As we take time to talk and listen to each other's stories, it becomes personal, and we learn to understand our neighbors better. Join us for our Conversation on Race each second Sunday of the month following the 10:45 am service in the Adult Ed Room. Lunch is provided.

Kathy Clark



UNDIVIDED held at St. Clare's



Tyler Talking Together

Sat. July 1st

Breakfast for All * 8:30a

Parish Hall * Sign up in Hallway

DOK Meeting * 9a * Adult Ed Room

CUB Lunch Prep * 10a * Ed Building



July 4th Ice Cream Social

Sunday, July 2nd

After 10:45 Service

Thanks Choir!

Serendipity Dinner

Sat. July 8th * 6p-8p * Parish Hall

It's a Cookout



Hamburgers & Hot Dogs



Playground Open

Sign up for picnic sides

Sponsored by Andy & Michelle Wells

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Pamela Haltom (7/8)

Kathy Clark (7/10)

Polly Kuklewicz (7/10)

Sara Steinbrueck (7/11)

Derik Gray (7/14)

Leah Armstrong (7/23)

Kristen Robinson (7/23)

Phyllis Wilcox (7/25)

Mary White (7/31)

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Todd & Jill Lestage (7/11)

Mark & Julie Miller (7/20)

Jordan & Katherine Chapman (7/22)

Here's What Happened in June



Baby Shower for Evan & Frank Barat 6/25
Rosie Elaine—Due July 22nd

Grief Group 6/14



New Playground!!!



Out to Lunch Bunch 6/20
at Noodles & Dumplings

Laura Claire Zeiher
Last Day & Reception 6/4



PLEASE JOIN US FOR

JULIAN TABRI'S EAGLE PROJECT

We will be constructing a new guardrail and bench at St. Francis Church's Outdoor Pavilion.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5TH
9:00AM - 5:00PM (STAY AS LONG AS YOU CAN!)
ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
3232 JAN AVE.

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.
PLEASE WEAR LONG SLEEVES.
BRING WORK GLOVES AND SAFETY GOGGLES IF YOU HAVE THEM!

CONTACT:
JULIANTABRI@GMAIL.COM
(903) 752-9619



ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

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

facebook

www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler



UNDIVIDED

YOUR CHURCH & RACIAL RECONCILIATION

Every Monday at 6:00pm
June 12th - July 10th



No Choir Rehearsal on Wednesdays
until September 6th

WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS FOR JULY

Sunday

- 8:30 am: Rite I—No music
- 9:30 am: Adult Gospel Lectionary Discussion
- 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—1:00 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

Thursday

- 5:00 pm: Handbell Practice—Music Room

July Special Events

Sat. July 1 8:30am

Breakfast for All by Men's Group

Sat. July 1, 9:00am

DOK Meeting

Sat. July 1, 10:00am

Church Under a Bridge Lunch Prep

Sunday, July 2, 12:00p

Ice Cream Social by Choir

Tues. July 4th

Office Closed

Sat. July 8, 6:00 - 8:00p

Serendipity Dinner in Parish Hall

Sun. July 9, 12:00p

Conversation on Race

Wed. July 12, 6:30pm

DOK New Member Training

Sat. July 15—Sat. July 22

Fr. Mitch et al. at Camp Allen

Limited Office Hours

Weekly Event Canceled

Sun. July 16

Liturgy of the Word—Both Services

Jordan Chapman teaches Adult Ed

Sun. July 16, 12:00p

Parent Time Out

Tues. July 25, 6:00p

Vestry Meeting

Wed. July 26, 6:30pm

DOK New Member Training

Sat. July 29, 8:30a - 12:00p

VBS