



The St. Francis Bulletin

FROM THE RECTOR:

With summer vacation over it's once again time to return to normal at the parish. As you know, normal at the parish includes Sunday School, Vestry meetings and the monthly newsletter among other things.

Unfortunately, I must begin on a sad note this month. Jim Douglas, former UT professor and long-time member of St. Francis, died on Sunday morning, August 20, at his home. Jim had battled cancer over the last year or so and at one point seemed on his way to recovery. He had served on the Vestry of the parish and was the parish Treasurer some years back. But what he really loved to do was read God's Word at the Sunday service. He was quite good at it, too. I always knew that we were in good hands when Jim was reading. After he retired from UT we saw less of Jim because he and his wife, Elizabeth, spent a good deal of the year in England. But it was always good to have them back when they suddenly popped up in church on a Sunday morning, frequently with information on their next destination.

I had a great deal of respect for Jim. He was a scientist who was also a faithful Christian, a somewhat rare commodity-

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in today's world. He once told me that if we ever studied the Book of Genesis he would be willing to give an astronomer's perspective on the creation story. I'm sorry we never did that and that I never got to hear how a scientist who is also a Christian would look at it.

It is also somewhat unfortunate that as a Pastor (although I am quite grateful for these moments) I get to know some of my parishioners best when they are passing from this life to the next. They are times of great sadness but also great joy to be able to see a Christian moved ever closer to his real home. Jim was not afraid of death. His only concern was for the family he would leave behind. It was a pleasure knowing Jim and I will miss him. Please keep Elizabeth and the rest of Jim's family in your prayers.

Early Service, Sunday School

As you know, we moved our early service from 8:30 on Sunday morning to 9:30 back in June to see if the time would be more convenient for our people. Attendance at the 9:30, even during the summer, has been much better than at the 8:30, so we have decided to keep the time at 9:30. For those of you who have attended the Adult Christian Education in the past at 9:30 in the

church, we are working on other arrangements. At this point there appear to be two viable options. We can switch the class to an evening during the week or we can subdivide the main room of the parish hall to accommodate the adult class with one of the children's classes. It is likely that the adult class will not begin in early September. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available. For those of you who have been looking forward to the new class, rest assured that there will be one. Amy Crandell will have information on the children's classes later on in the newsletter.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Christian Education classes for the St. Francis children begin September 10 at 9:30 am. Three classes will be offered with the children divided by age. Each class session will be centered on a Bible passage with age-appropriate activities designed to reinforce the lesson.

The youngest of the St. Francis children will meet in the nursery. The activities in this class will be oriented toward the non-reader with the Bible lesson being told and plenty of art, play, and music activities for these youngest children. Julie Rambin volunteered to lead this class of our youngest children and has some wonderful ideas for this group. Thank you, Julie!

The next class up will be the children in elementary school who can read well.

This group will meet in the room to the east of the meeting room. This group will continue becoming very familiar with the Bible without leaving out the fun art and games activities that support the lesson being taught. Claire Ducker will be teaching these children.

The older group will combine all the St. Francis youth from the 6th through the 12th grade and will meet around the double table in the meeting room. As was done last year, each lesson will be devoted to the Propers for that Sunday.

Prior study and discussion of the lessons read during the service helps prepare the mind to better hear the message God delivers. A group of adults are being slowly assembled to work with our youth with Steve McCown beginning the year. Jim Crandell and Bill Ducker are also slated with lead the discussion for about 8 weeks. Simple addition shows that a couple more adults are needed to lead this group for a 4-8 week session. Let me know if you are interested in working with this group.

Special activities planned for the first semester include continued visits to the Nursing Home and Center on the 5th Sunday (October and December), participation with in the Samaritan's Purse project in November, and a return visit to Bethlehem town on December 10th.

Please include the children, teachers, and parents of the St. Francis Sunday school program in your prayers.

-Amy Crandell
452-7231

ALTAR GUILD MEETING

Reminder: There will be a meeting of the members of the St. Francis Altar Guild and Altar Guild Trainees at the home of Shirley Ellis on September 9, at 11:30 a.m., 7811 Manassas Drive, Austin, Tx 78745. After a short business meeting there will be a light lunch. All members are urged to attend. If you have questions call 707-9848.



MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP

All mothers and grandmothers of the church are invited to attend the mothers' prayer group at the home of Kay Francis, 10004 Jupiter Hills. The group spends an hour on the second Monday of every month at 11 a.m. praying for their families. For more information, call Kay Francis at (512) 280-6022.

Rector: The Reverend Len Giacalone
Senior Warden: Mark Rambin
Junior Warden: Keith Harrell



Birthdays

2	Diane Lazelle
3	Jennifer Garrison
7	Eileen Cole
22	Brian Hoard Bill Reading
24	Stephen Jon Moss
25	Sheri Brummett
27	Jane Ghirardi
28	Marion McIlhaney Nathan Jensen

Anniversaries

5	Mark and Susan Rambin
6	Steve & Angie McCown
9	Clif and Merry Nell Drummond
10	Franklin and Donna Hunt
12	Bill and Jan Burrow



Associate Rector: The Reverend John Stults
Organist: Sylvia Kelley
Server: Ray Merrill

Newsletter Submissions

Any parishioner that has news of any kind they would like to share with everyone is welcome to send it in writing to Erika Denslow at 640 B Lakeside Dr., Wimberley, TX 78676 or to her e-mail address (triciadenslow@yahoo.com). If received by the 20th, it will appear in next month's newsletter.

St. Francis Episcopal Church

1408 West 9th Street

Austin, Texas 78703

SEPTEMBER

2006

1	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m. Games Night, 6:30p.m. to 8:30p.m.	17	<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m., Isaiah 50:4-9, Psalm 116, James 2:1-5,8-10,14-18, Mark 8:27-38
3	<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 a.m., <u>Morn- ing Prayer and Holy Communion</u> , 11:00 a.m., (Deut. 4:1-9), Psalm 15, Ephesians 6:10-20, Mark 7:1-8,14- 15.21-23		<i>Sunday School for children, 9:30 a.m.</i>
8	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m.	22	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m.
10	<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m., Isaiah 35:4-7a, Psalm 146, James 1:17-27, Mark 7:31-37	24	<u>Holy Communion</u> , 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m., Wisdom 1:16-2:1,12-22, Psalm 54, James 3:16-4:6, Mark 9:30- 37
	<i>Sunday School for children, 9:30 a.m.</i>		<i>Sunday School for children, 9:30 a.m.</i>
11	Mother's Prayer Group, 11 a.m. Vestry Meeting, 5:30 p.m.	29	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m.
15	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m.		