



## The St. Francis Bulletin

### FROM THE RECTOR:

#### **Adult Education Class**

On Wednesday evening, October 11, we will begin our Adult Ed sessions for the fall. I have chosen a small book entitled *The Illumined Heart: The Ancient Christian Path of Transformation*. The book was written by Frederica Mathewes-Green, a Greek Orthodox Christian. I have found it to be an extraordinary text, not only because of its simplicity but because it provides a perspective on our faith that many western Christians may not have or understand. I have long been an advocate of getting back to basics in our spiritual journey and this book speaks to that in an interesting way. Even if you are not going to discuss this book with us on Wednesday evening, I heartily recommend it for your personal spiritual journey. I'd like to meet in the parish hall. It may be more comfortable than the pews in church. If that doesn't work we can always move back to church.

#### **Fall Food Drive**

In the fall of 2004 we began doing what has become an annual food drive to stock the food pantry at Caritas of Austin. To date our outreach program with Caritas

has consisted of this annual food drive along with our once a month assistance with their lunch ministry. In the past two years we have collected nearly two thousand pounds of food for their shelves and it's time for us to get moving again. I keep reading and hearing about the needs of the poor in this city but also about the several outreach ministries that provide help to them. It's a great thing that we are able to be of assistance to Caritas in their outreach to the poor. We are not really in a position to take a leading role in this kind of ministry, so we help where we can. I don't like moving backwards so my goal this year is to surpass the 1038 pounds of food we, as a parish, donated last year. Beginning Sunday, October 1, there will be bags available at the rear of church to make your donations. As in the past we will start with one hundred bags. (I know where we can get more if need be). Take as many as you like and can afford to fill and bring to the parish hall by Sunday, October 29. We will transport the food to Caritas shortly after that. I have been impressed with your generosity in the past and know that I will be again this year.

## **EMC Synod**

From October 12-14, the Episcopal Missionary Church will hold a Synod in Columbus, Ohio. St. Francis will be represented by four delegates including Father John and Wanda Stults, and two other delegates whose names I do not know at present. The Synod will vote to confirm Bishop Millsaps as our Presiding Bishop and welcome into the EMC fold a new diocese situated primarily in the north-eastern portion of the country. Likewise there will be several ordinations, four to the diaconate and one to the priesthood, as well as the setting apart of a deaconess, as provided by our canons. Please pray for our delegates, for their role in the synod, and for the synod as a whole. While there is a good deal of fun to be had at such gatherings, there is also much business to be transacted, some of which may affect us in the time to come. I am sure that there will be a report from our delegates when they return.

## **Survey**

Recently you received a survey form from the parish committee considering the possibility of relocation. If you have not yet done so, please fill out the survey and mail it back in the self-addressed, stamped envelope. As Father Stults said in his letter to you, it is important that we have as much input on the basic assumptions with which the committee is working so that they will know how to proceed.

The surveys are due back by Monday, October 9. Thanks to all of you who have or will participate in this very important matter.

## **Pot Luck Lunch**

We will have our usual Fifth Sunday Pot Luck Lunch after the 11:00 am Holy Communion Service on October 29. Please bring something good to eat and join us for the fun.



## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS**

Christian Education classes for children and youth are in progress. Each Sunday morning, our younger generation gathers at 9:30 am in the Parish House.

The teenagers continue to have a sometimes lively discussion on the lessons appointed for that Sunday. Steve McCown leads the conversation.

The elementary aged children work with Claire Ducker with the lessons centering on Old Testament stories. The activities for this group include not only reading and discussing the lesson from the Bible, but also games, puzzles, and art project that emphasize the lesson being taught.

The youngest children are hearing Old Testament stories in a most exciting format. Julie Rambin is able to mesmerize these children with her telling of the stories. She uses wonderful props so the children can see the story in action and asks questions that make the children think deeply about and how they fit in the story. Afterwards, in the Montessori style, the children choose their work. Some do several activities, while others only one. Each lesson ends with prayer and a snack. Julie, the children, and I sincerely thank Ben Ellis for making the beautiful figures used to tell the stories. He does beautiful work with wood.

Please include our Sunday school program in our prayers.

-Amy Crandell



## **MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP**

All mothers and grandmothers of the church are invited to attend the mothers' prayer group, held in the Parish Hall. 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) 868-1092.

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



## **Birthdays**

- 3 Byron Elliott
- 5 Kevin Burnette
- 10 Kay Francis
- 13 Gayle Harrell
- 15 Andrew Brummett
- 17 Joan Gaitan
- 18 Merry Nell Drummond
- 23 Nita Reading
- 25 Carole Martin
- 26 Luke Garrison
- 27 Suzan Stratton
- 30 Jan Burrow

## **Anniversaries**

- 3 Len and Nancy Giacolone  
Chris & Tricia Denslow
- 6 Bill and Nita Reading



**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

**OCTOBER**

**2006**

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<b>1</b>	<b><u>Holy Communion</u></b> , 9:30 a.m., <b><u>Morning Prayer and Holy Communion</u></b> ,(Num.11:4-6,10-16,24-29). Psalm 19, James 4:7-12, Mark 9:38-48  <i>Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.</i>	<b>15</b>	<b><u>Holy Communion</u></b> , 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m., Amos 5:6-7.10-15, Psalm 90, Hebrews 3:1-6, Mark 10:17-27  <i>Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.</i>
<b>4</b>	Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Patron of our parish.	<b>18</b>	Adult Christian Education, 7:00 p.m. in parish hall.
<b>6</b>	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m. Games Night, 6:30 p.m.	<b>20</b>	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m.
<b>8</b>	<b><u>Holy Communion</u></b> , 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m., Genesis 2:18-24 Psalm 8, Hebrews 2:1-18, Mark 10:2-9  <i>Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.</i>	<b>22</b>	<b><u>Holy Communion</u></b> , 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m., Isaiah 53:4-12 Psalm 91, Hebrews 4:12-16, Mark 10:35-45  <i>Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.</i>
<b>9</b>	Mother's Prayer Group, 11 a.m. Vestry Meeting, 5:30 p.m.	<b>25</b>	Adult Christian Education, 7:00 p.m. in parish hall.
<b>11</b>	Adult Christian Education, 7:00 p.m. in parish hall.	<b>27</b>	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m.
<b>13</b>	Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m.	<b>29</b>	<b><u>Holy Communion</u></b> , 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m., Isaiah 59:9-19, Psalm 13, Hebrews 5:12-6:1,9-12, Mark 10:46  <i>Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.</i>