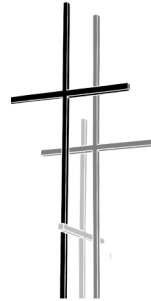


Saint Francis Journal

January 2026



A Loving Community, Serving God's Kingdom

If thou but trust in God to guide thee

Hymnal 1982 #635

Trusting God's Plan for a Blessed New Year

Happy New Year, St. Francis family! As we begin 2026, we are reminded of the blessings and opportunities that a fresh calendar brings. Our vibrant parish community continues to grow in faith, friendship, and service. This January, we celebrate the spirit of unity that makes St. Francis a special place for all.

The Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Texas provide the framework for how our parish operates, including the requirement to hold annual meetings. These governing documents ensure that every congregation maintains transparency, accountability, and shared decision-making, allowing members to participate in vital discussions and elections. By gathering each year, we honor these traditions and uphold the values that guide our faith community's life together.

We invite all parishioners to join us for our Annual Parish Meeting, scheduled for Sunday, January 11 at 9:30 AM. This important gathering is a time to reflect on the past year, share updates, and look ahead to our future together. Your participation helps shape the direction of our church and ensures every voice is heard. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this meaningful event! In October, we had our parish elections where we voted for new vestry members and council delegates. Therefore, we extend heartfelt gratitude to our outgoing

vestry members, whose dedication and service have guided our parish through another year. Thank you, Gipsy Schneider, Claire Hodges, Lisa Kraus, and Jeremy Cole. Their commitment has strengthened our community and helped us embrace new opportunities. As we say thank you, we also warmly welcome our newly elected vestry members, Gay Barron, Sandra Dugan, Kathy Clark, Connie Wilson and Ann Bush. We look forward to their leadership and fresh perspectives as we continue our journey of faith together. Let's pray for them. I'd like to re-introduce our Episcopal Diocese of Texas council delegates.

These individuals represent St. Francis at the diocesan level, sharing our parish's voice and bringing back valuable insights from the wider church community, John Bridges, Dan Amy, Susan Kohler and Nancy Earls. Their role is vital in connecting us with the broader mission and ministries of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas. Council is the end of February and will be held in the Woodlands, Texas. Let's pray for them and the Episcopal Diocese of Texas.

St. Francis thrives because of the gifts and talents each of you brings. There are many ways to get involved—whether through worship, outreach, fellowship, or behind-the-scenes support. We encourage every parishioner to consider how your unique abilities can contribute to our shared vision. Face it, God, love and dedication to St. Francis got us through 2025 without a rector. We make a difference in the lives of others and

continue to build a stronger, more welcoming church family as we enter the new year.

The Rector Search Committee continues its diligent work in seeking our next spiritual leader. We are grateful for your prayers, encouragement, and trust throughout this process. What we can and can't divulge to our congregation is outlined by EDOT. Your understanding sustains the committee and inspires hope for the future of St. Francis. Updates will be shared as the search progresses, and we ask for your continued prayers as we discern God's guidance for our parish. Let's pray for our Search Committee: Claire Hodges (Committee Chair), Dan Amy, Roy Barron, Laurie Barham, Kathy Clark, Sandra Dugan, Norma Gagliano, Courtney Gray, and Connie Wilson. Thank you for your commitment, generosity, and faith. As we embark on 2026, let us celebrate our shared journey and look forward to new possibilities. Each person's contribution—big or small—helps shape the heart and vision of St. Francis Episcopal Church. May this year be filled with joy, growth, and the enduring love of our community.

For his sake

Jay DeOrnellas
Senior Warden



Prayer for a New Rector

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayer 13, BCP, pg. 818

****ANNUAL****

****MEETING****

Sun. Jan. 11th

9:30am * Sanctuary

Come learn about our

- 2025 accomplishments
- Financials
- Plans for 2026
- Rector Search

Drone footage of
Blessing of the Animals
on Parish Hall TV

Your leadership needs your
input, ideas & support

Sat Jan 3rd

*Breakfast for All * 8:30a

Men's Group * 9a * Join us!

DOK Meeting * 9am *

****All Women Welcome****

CUB Lunch Prep *10a *



Thrive

20 & 30 Somethings

Connection * Growth * Belonging

Sat. Jan 17th

6 to 8 pm

Youth Basement

Join us!

**Conversations Exploring
Cultural Perspective**

Jan 11th * Noon

**Speaker: Paula Shafer
Director of
Church Under a Bridge**

Got questions? See Roy Barron

Serendipity Dinner

Friday, Jan. 23rd

6 to 8 pm

Main Dish: Gumbo

Sign up in Hallway

Appz * Sides* Desserts

Sponsored by

Bob & Maggie Taliferro

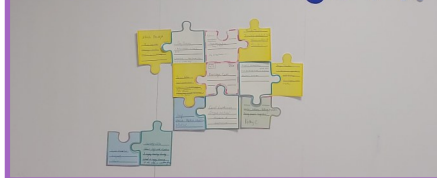


Ministry

Find Your Joy



FIND WHERE YOU FIT



CHURCH

**It is not the same
U**

Book Club

1st & 3rd

Mondays

6:30pm

Parish Hall



Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Jan. 20th

11:30am

TBD

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

John Ryu (1/2)

Sandra Dugan (1/8)

Pam Renner (1/8)

Buz Gagliano (1/16)

Lynn Scruton (1/17)

Cullen Edwards (1/19)

Galen Hayes (1/27)

Jeremy Cole (1/28)

Linda Wilcox (1/28)

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Mike & Laurie Barham (1/5)

Decorating the Chrismon Tree



Followed by Christmas Tea Fun



Christmas Eve with Bp Fisher & a visit by former member Peg Corrie



Birthday Blessings
Betty Taylor 102y
Barbie Haynes 90y



Gerry & Polly
Kuklewicz
Married 57yrs

Barbie Haynes 90th Birthday—Pink & Barbie

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Web site: www.stfrancist Tyler.org

facebook

www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler



WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS FOR JANUARY

The Rev. Robert Odom, Celebrant

Sunday

- 8:30 am Rite I—No music
- 9:30 am Adult Gospel Lectionary Discussion
[Children/Youth Sunday School](#) * On Request *
- 10:45 am Rite II—Traditional Music
[Live-Stream on FaceBook & YouTube](#)

Wednesday

- Noon Morning Prayer — Lay Led — Sanctuary
- 12:30 pm Bible Study — Parish Hall
- 2:00 pm Grief Support Group — Parish Hall
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary

Thursday

- 5:30 pm Handbell Practice—Music Room

January Special Events

Sat. January 3

Breakfast for All - 8:30am
Men's Group Meeting - 9:00am
[DOK Meeting - 9:00am * All Women Welcome*](#)
Church Under a Bridge Lunch Prep - 10:00am

Mon. January 5, 6:30pm

Book Club - Parish Hall

Sun. January 11, 9:30am

Annual Meeting

Sun. January 11, 12:00pm

[Conversations Exploring Cultural Perspectives](#)

Sat. January 17, 6:00pm

[Thrive Meeting—Youth Basement](#)

Mon. January 19, 6:30pm

Book Club - Parish Hall

Tues. January 20, 11:30am

Out-to-Lunch Bunch—TBD

Fri. January 23, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Serendipity Dinner in Parish Hall

Sat. January 31

Breakfast for All - 8:30am
Men's Group Meeting - 9:00am
Church Under a Bridge Lunch Prep - 10:00am



Mission Statement

Why do we exist?

What is our purpose?

St. Francis is a community of Christians whose mission is to love one another, serving God's kingdom on earth through

- Developing discipleship through worship, prayer, education, and fellowship,
- Ministering to one another
- Offering ourselves as servants in God's world.

Vision Statement

The parish we aim to become

The vision of St. Francis is to

- Promote spiritual growth through education and worship,
- Reach out in service to the community,
- Increase diverse music ministries to create a joyful sound in celebration,
- Provide vibrant children's, youth, and campus ministries,
- Create a variety of ministries and programs for everyone.

VESTRY

Jay DeOrnellas
Senior Warden (2026)

In Transition
Junior Warden

Jeremy Cole (2025)

Claire Hodges (2025)

Lisa Kraus (2025)

Gipsy Schneider (2025)

Dan Amy (2026)

Dominique Lucas (2027)

Sallie McDaris (2027)

Carol Lanthrum, Clerk

CHURCH STAFF

Rector, In Transition

Dr. Cameron Rose
Director of Music

Carol Lanthrum
Parish Administrator

Susan Kohler
Treasurer

Alberto Cruz
Sexton

We want to know!

What are your concerns?
We want to answer your questions, & hear your suggestions!

