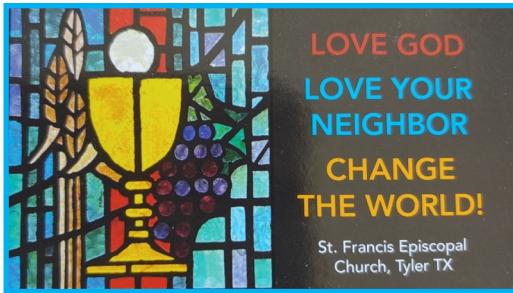


Saint Francis Journal



February 2026

A Loving Community, Serving God's Kingdom



Vision for Renewal: Embracing a New Year at St. Francis

“Where there is no vision, the people perish.” These timeless words from Proverbs 29:18 remind us that purpose and direction are essential for a flourishing community and spiritual life. So, here we are with our annual meeting behind us, and at the threshold of a brand-new year, we are invited to reflect, renew, and recommit ourselves to the vision God has placed before St. Francis Episcopal Church.

The start of a new year naturally sparks hope and the desire for renewal. It’s a season to let go of what weighs us down and make space for God’s possibilities. At St. Francis, this means returning to the heart of our Mission, Vision, and Core Values—allowing these guiding principles to shape our decisions, our relationships, and our service. When we align ourselves with these values, we become a community that reflects Christ’s love and light in all we do.

In the midst of our spiritual renewal and recommitment, we also continue our dedicated search for a new rector to lead St. Francis into this promising future. This journey requires patience, prayer, and active discernment from our entire community, trusting that God is preparing a faithful shepherd who will

walk with us, nurture our growth, and help us embody our mission in fresh and meaningful ways.

But how do we share this vision beyond our church walls? For many of us, the word “evangelism” can feel intimidating—perhaps conjuring images of heated debates or uncomfortable encounters. I’d like to offer “quiet evangelism.”

This gentle approach means sharing our faith through casual, everyday conversations, reflecting Christ naturally as we go about our lives. It’s not about having all the answers or persuading others with eloquent speech; it’s about listening, sharing stories, and letting God work through authentic relationships.

If you’ve ever feared that evangelism is out of your comfort zone, know that you are not alone. Most of us worry about saying the wrong thing or being misunderstood. But quiet evangelism is simply an invitation to let your faith shine in ordinary moments—at work, in the checkout line, or over coffee with a friend. The Holy Spirit empowers us, even in our smallest actions.

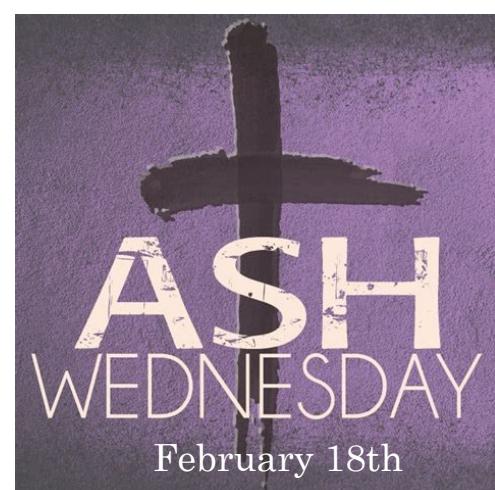
To make this even easier, consider carrying St. Francis business cards with you—cards with our worship times and website. Hand one to a neighbor, a coworker, or even a stranger who might be searching for community or meaning. A simple invitation—“Would you like to

join me at church this Sunday?”—can plant seeds of hope. This year let’s challenge ourselves to invite not only friends and family, but also those we do not yet know.

As we embark on this new chapter together, let’s trust in God’s vision for St. Francis. Let our Mission, Vision and Core Values continue to guide us. May our quiet acts of faith speak volumes, and may we boldly invite others to discover the love and belonging we have found here. The Holy Spirit will do the rest—one conversation, one invitation, one renewed heart at a time.

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

Ash Wednesday
Ashes-to-Go
at St. Claire's
7:30am—9:30am

NOON
Ash Wednesday
& Eucharist Service
at St. Francis
The Rev. Rob Jerger

6:00pm

Ash Wednesday
& Eucharist Service
at St. Francis
The Rev. Tim Kennedy

Vestry Retreat

Dinner: Fri. Feb 6th
at Jay DeOrnellas home

Retreat Sat. Feb 7th
11am—3pm* Parish Hall

Sat. Jan. 31st

Breakfast for All
8:30am
*Men's Group * 9am *
Join us!
CUB Lunch Prep *10am*



Sat. Feb. 28th



Breakfast for All
8:30am
*Men's Group * 9am *
Join us!

CUB Lunch Prep *10am*



Thrive 20 & 30 Somethings

* Connection * Growth *
* Belonging *

St. Feb. 21st
6 to 8 pm
Join us!

*DOK Meeting *

*Sat. Feb 7th * 9am



All Women
Welcome

**Conversations Exploring
Cultural Perspective**
Sun. Feb 8th * Noon*

Speaker:
Greg Muckleroy Black Historian
Charlotte: True Story of an
East Texas Cherokee Slave
Got questions? See Roy Barron

**Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper**

Neighborhood Event

Tues. Feb 17th
6:00p —7:30p

* Pancakes * Bacon *
* Sausage*

Sign up in Hallway
Sponsored by your Vestry

Book Club



1st & 3rd Mondays
6:30pm
Parish Hall

Out-to-Lunch Bunch
Sat. Feb. 17th
11:30am
TBD



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Lara Tabri (2/2)

Janice Teasdale (2/3)

Dave Meyer (2/6)

Michelle Wells (2/11)

Olivia Donnelly (2/14)

Freddy Hodges (2/15)

Pat Sarubbi (2/21)

Debbie Hendricks (2/24)

Megan McKeand (2/27)

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Royal & Joyce Daniel (2/24)

Charlie & Dotty Hillis (2/28)

2026 ANNUAL MEETING

	Pledged	Avg. Pledge	Operating Income	Operating Expense	Net Income
2024	\$141,680	\$3,633	\$346,951	\$317,698	\$29,254
2025	\$168,850	\$3,838	\$294,658	\$319,973	(\$25,285)
2026	\$162,220	\$3,605	TBD	TBD	TBD

Vestry Members and EDOT Council Delegates for 2026

Thanks to Retiring Vestry: *Lisa Kraus, Jeremy Cole, Claire Hodes, Gipsy Schneider.*

Welcome New Vestry: *Ann Bush, Gay Barron, Kathy Clark, Connie Wilson, Sandra Dugan*

2026 EDOT Council- *Susan Kohler, Dan Amy, Nancy Earls and Lisa Kraus*

Outreach: 2025

Church Under the Bridge- 1,500 lunches served! Collected shoes, socks and backpacks

Young at Heart: Food Deliveries- Delivered to 63 food insecure families; 17 St. Francis Members helped distribute; 50+ Christmas Stockings made by DOK.

Matter of Balance Class hosted about a dozen participants

St. Francis Discretionary Fund- Over 14 families assisted with utilities

Neighborhood Events - Pancake Supper, Ashes-to-Go, Lenten Lunches with Eucharist, Easter Egg Hunt, Neighborhood Night Out, Blessing of the Animals

Campus Improvements and Repairs in 2025

- Spring Cleaning last March
- Walk-way between buildings repaired and painted
- Repairs and painting to main building and education building
- Music Room-New Floor and Music Library Shelves
- Parking Lot Re-paved and Striped
- New Deck and Ramp to Youth Room
- Broken Glass Replaced and Solar Film added to Front and Kitchen
- New Bitsy Wright Playground Sign
- Vexus Fiber Optic
- Wiring Clean up
- Exterior Lighting at kitchen, deck and ramp

2025

Avg Sunday Attendance: 70
Easter: 102
Christmas Eve: 103

2025 Scholarships Continuing Education

Dorothy Clutter
Marley Johnson
Julian Tabri

Camp Allen
Jordyn Nipps

Conversations Exploring Cultural Perspectives

January Speaker — Church Under a Bridge Director — Paula Shafer
28 Attendees



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

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



www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler



WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

The Rev. Robert Odom, Celebrant

Sunday	Nursery available on request
• 8:30 am	Rite I—No music
• 9:30 am	Adult 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

February Special Events

****Sat. January 31****

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

Mon. February 2, 6:30pm
Book Club - Parish Hall

Sat. February 7, 9:00am

DOK Meeting - 9:00am * All Women Welcome*

Sat. February 7, 11:00am
Vestry Retreat

Sun. February 8, 12:00pm

Conversations Exploring Cultural Perspectives

Mon. February 16, 6:30pm
Book Club - Parish Hall

Tues. February 17, 11:30am
Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Tues. February 17, 6:00—7:30pm

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Neighborhood Event

Wed. February 18—Ash Wednesday

Ashes-to-Go at St. Claire's: 7:30—9:30a
Noon Ashes & Eucharist at St. Francis: 12:00pm
Evening Ashes & Eucharist at St. Francis: 6:00pm

Sat. February 21, 6:00pm
Thrive Meeting—Youth Basement

****Sat. February 28th****

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

Dan Amy (2026)

Dominique Lucas (2027)

Ann Bush (2028)

Gay Barron (2028)

Kathy Clark (2028)

Sandra Dugan (2028)

Connie Wilson (2028)

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!

