

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of September 18

All School

Save Time at Homecoming: Pre-Purchase Your Food Tickets Today

Save yourself time and **pre-purchase your food tickets** for the Homecoming celebrations at Couper Campus on Thursday, September 29, and Friday, September 30. Advanced food ticket sales will close at midnight on Sunday, September 25. Tickets will be available for purchase on the day of the event, as well.

MEAL OPTIONS

The following meal options will be available on Thursday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. and on Friday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

- Hamburger (\$5)
- Chicken Fingers (\$5)
- Grilled Chicken Salad (\$7)

Snacks, drinks, and the ever-popular Kona Ice Truck will be available for cash purchase only.

Want to Help With Homecoming?

Volunteers are needed to help make this year's Homecoming celebrations the best ever! **Click here** to sign up for a shift.

Still Need a Homecoming T-shirt?

A small quantity of Homecoming T-shirts will be available for purchase at the Homecoming events on Thursday, September 29, between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. and on Friday, September 30, between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. on Couper Campus.

SFPO Annual Luncheon: Waitlist Now Available

The St. Francis Parents Organization's annual luncheon has sold out! However, we are collecting names for a waitlist in hopes that we will be able to add additional seats to the venue. To be added to the waitlist for the luncheon—scheduled for Thursday, November 3, at 11:00 a.m. at the Houston Country Club—please [email Rory Bellow](#).

Volunteers Needed: Teacher Appreciation Breakfast

The St. Francis Parents Organization is looking for volunteers to help with our fall Teacher Appreciation Breakfast! Please help us show our teachers how much they mean to us and our community by lending us your time and support. Thank you!

- [Click here](#) to sign up.
- With questions, email [Julie Grandt](#).

Author Visit: Pre-Purchase Your Book for Autographs!

Author Susan Stevens Crummel will be making presentations to students in grades K–2 and autographing books at St. Francis on Monday, October 24. Her latest book, *Little Good Wolf*, was released on August 23.

Books will not be available for purchase at the event; however, if you'd like to purchase an autographed book for your child, you can do so in advance using [this form](#). (All books purchased by September 27 will be signed by Ms. Crummel on October 24 and delivered to K–2 homeroom classes.)

For information on each of Ms. Crummel's books, [visit her website](#).

Sporting Clays Classic Is October 21

Benefiting the Patrick Nicosia C.A.R.E. Fund, our annual fall Sporting Clays Classic is back on Friday, October 21, at the Greater Houston Sports Club!

- [Click here](#) to get event details, purchase a sponsorship, or sign up your team.
- The Patrick Nicosia C.A.R.E. Fund provides cultural, academic, and recreational enrichment (C.A.R.E.) for students who otherwise would not have the opportunity to participate fully in the programs offered by St. Francis Episcopal School. It was established in 2013 in memory of Patrick Nicosia, a passionate volunteer who worked to bring the finest enrichment opportunities to our community.

Support the Home Team!

The Booster Club invites you to come out and support our Wolves at this week's home games. We will be selling concessions at all games, and most items are \$2. Exact change is much appreciated. Click [here](#) and scroll down to see the game schedule for the week.

Primary School

From the Head of Curriculum and Instruction

Happy Sunday afternoon! I hope this finds you enjoying some downtime this weekend.

I don't know about you, but when I think of or hear the words “St. Francis,” I immediately think of what we value most in this special place—our community. We want our students to thrive in a safe, engaging, and happy learning environment, and we wish for every constituent to feel as though they are part of a family.

We know the leading contributors to student satisfaction and enthusiasm in a school setting are providing a supportive, predictable environment and promoting *a sense of community*. This is according to decades of research conducted by Independent School Management (ISM), a premier research and consulting group for independent schools. (If you'd like to read more on this topic, I encourage you to enjoy [this](#) interesting article from ISM.)

In addition, we know that social-emotional learning is directly associated with academic learning. As explained in [this](#) article by educator and author Jessica Lahey, “Great teachers understand that the best, most durable learning happens when content sparks interest, when it is relevant to a child’s life, and when the students form an emotional bond with either the subject at hand or the teacher in front of them. Meaningful learning happens when teachers are able to create an emotional connection to what might otherwise remain abstract concepts, ideas, or skills.” In this same blog, Dr. Immordino-Yang, an associate professor of education, psychology, and neuroscience at the Brain and Creativity Institute at the University of Southern California, is also quoted as saying, “Emotion is essential to learning and should not be underestimated or misunderstood as a trend, or as merely the 'E' in 'SEL,' or social-emotional learning. Emotion is where learning begins or, as is often the case, where it ends. Put simply, ‘It is literally neurobiologically impossible to think deeply about things that you don’t care about.’”

Therefore, our responsibility in all four divisions is to ensure our students are experiencing academic, social-emotional, and spiritual growth by creating emotional connections with those around them as well as with the academic content. This looks very different in each division due to developmental differences in our students.

This week, I wanted to highlight one such activity that promotes a supportive, predictable, and joyful learning environment and an environment ripe for academic achievement: developing our Lower School and Middle School Social Contract.

What is a social contract, you ask? It is a living document comprised of four statements that outline how we can be a community of learners in one space. As we all know, learning cannot happen in a chaotic, unpredictable environment. The social contract helps to provide that consistent, predictable, and emotionally safe learning environment in the form of four behavior expectations that the students feel are essential for our community to thrive.

Creating the social contract is a deliberate process that ensures all students have a voice in creating this important document. The process is as follows:

1. Each homeroom/advisory (K–8) develops a list of guidelines or rules about how its students can support one another in their classrooms.
2. Each homeroom/advisory then works together to develop grade-level guidelines.
3. Finally, each grade level sends two representatives to help create one set of expectations for all grade levels. The representatives collectively examine the set of grade-level guidelines or norms, look for commonalities, and craft a mutually agreed upon set of expectations for everyone to follow.
4. These expectations become the year's Social Contract.

Here is our school's Social Contract for 2022–23:

- Show kindness and respect to everyone, everything, and every place.
- Be attentive listeners and open to other people's ideas.
- Try your best, be responsible, and learn from your mistakes.
- Stay positive, be safe, and have fun!

Enjoy some [pictures](#) of the students in this very interactive process.

This is a 100% student-driven process, with the adults serving as the facilitators/notetakers. Watching our Middle School kiddos be patient, kind, and helpful with their Lower School peers was most rewarding, as they exemplified the meaning of the Social Contract and being People for Others.

In the weeks to come, two large Social Contract banners will be created, and all students on the Piney Point Campus will sign them, signaling their participation in the process and commitment to upholding the contract. Throughout the school year, these banners will hang in our halls, and smaller versions will hang in our classrooms, as a reminder of our agreements with one another.

We are truly blessed to have such a welcoming, inclusive community where each child's academic, spiritual, and social-emotional well-being is highly valued and nurtured.

I hope you have a blessed week!

Carol Christ, MEd
Head of Curriculum and Instruction

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Mark Your Calendar

Monday, September 19

- *Open Library: 3:15 p.m.*
-

Tuesday, September 20

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.; Primary II parents may attend*
 - *Primary II Chapel Drama (Capasso and Owens)*
-

Wednesday, September 21

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents may attend*
-

Monday, September 26

- *Open Library: 3:15 p.m.*
-

Tuesday, September 27

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.; Primary II parents may attend*

Wednesday, September 28

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents may attend*
-

Monday, October 3

- *Primary School Picture Day*
 - *Open Library: 3:15 p.m.*
-

Tuesday, October 4

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.; Primary II parents may attend*
 - *Primary II Blessing of the Stuffed Animals*
 - *Primary II Furry Friend Picnic: Students only*
-

Wednesday, October 5

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents may attend*
 - *Primary I Blessing of the Stuffed Animals*
-

Thursday, October 6

- *Primary II Field Trip*
-

Friday, October 7

- *Pre-Primary Blessing of the Stuffed Animals: Students only*
-

Monday, October 10

- *Columbus Day Holiday: School closed*
-

Tuesday, October 11

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary II parents may attend
 - *Primary II Chapel Drama (Hughes and Wiener)*
-

Wednesday, October 12

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents may attend

Lower School

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Lower School Night: Cheer On Girls' Varsity Volleyball!

Lower School families are invited to cheer on our Upper School Girls' Varsity Volleyball team on **Tuesday, September 27, at 6:00 p.m. in the Crum Gym on Couper Campus**. Meet the team, be part of the pre-game routine, watch volleyball, and have fun!

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For information on each of Ms. Crummel's books, [visit her website](#).

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, September 19

- *Chapel for Grades K–4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Please be advised that there are limited parking spots in front of the school.
 - *Lower School Parent Meeting for Grades 2–4: 9:15–10:15 a.m. in the Crum Library; topic is "How to Help Your Child With Homework and Reading"*
-

Tuesday, September 20

- *Lower School Parent Meeting for Grades K–1: 8:30 a.m. in the Crum Library; topic is "Early Literacy"*
-

Wednesday, September 21

- *Third-Grade Art à la Carte: 8:30–9:20 a.m.*
-

Thursday, September 22

- *Chapel for Grades K–4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Please be advised that there are limited parking spots in front of the school.
-

Monday, September 26–Friday, September 30

- *Homecoming Week*
-

Monday, September 26

- *America Monday Dress*
- *Chapel for Grades K–4*

- 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Please be advised that there are limited parking spots in front of the school.
-

Tuesday, September 27

- *Tacky Tourist Tuesday Dress*
-

Wednesday, September 28

- *Rock and Roll Wednesday Dress*
 - **Lower School Picture Day (RESCHEDULED TO OCTOBER 4)**
-

Thursday, September 29

- *Color Clash Thursday Dress*
 - **Kindergarten:** Blue
 - **First Grade:** Yellow
 - **Second Grade:** Green
 - **Third Grade:** Red
 - **Fourth Grade:** White
 - *Chapel for Grades K–4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Please be advised that there are limited parking spots in front of the school.
-

Friday, September 30

- *Boots and Bling Friday Dress (Western Wear)*
- *Lower School Homecoming Pep Rally: 2:00–2:30 p.m. in Piney Point Gym; **student-only event***

Middle School

From the Head of Curriculum and Instruction

Happy Sunday afternoon! I hope this finds you enjoying some downtime this weekend.

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Upcoming Dates in the Middle School

OUTDOOR LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Students in grades 5–7 will visit Camp Olympia for Outdoor Learning Experiences (OLEs). These are required trips for students in grades 5–7. For the fifth- and sixth-grade OLEs, **buses are leaving at 6:30 a.m. Please arrive at 6:00 a.m. to ensure the buses can leave at 6:30 a.m.**

- **Fifth Grade**
 - Students will board the bus in the St. Francis parking lot at 6:00 a.m.
 - Students will return to the St. Francis parking lot at 6:30 p.m. for pickup.
- **Sixth Grade ([packing list](#))**
 - Students will board the bus in the Ecclesia parking lot at 6:00 a.m.

- Students will return this Tuesday, September 20, in Chapelwood's north parking lot (11140 Greenbay St.) at 2:30 p.m.
- **Seventh Grade:** The seventh-grade OLE will take place Wednesday, November 2, through Friday, November 4.

EIGHTH-GRADE TIE CEREMONY—THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

The Eighth-Grade Tie Ceremony will be Thursday, September 22, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center. Eighth graders are required to wear dress uniforms.

HOMECOMING WEEK—SEPTEMBER 26–30

Homecoming Week is September 26–30. There will be special spirit days, with the following themes:

- **Monday:** America
- **Tuesday:** Tacky Tourist
- **Wednesday:** Rock and Roll
- **Thursday:** Color Clash
 - Fifth Grade: Yellow
 - Sixth Grade: White
 - Seventh Grade: Red
 - Eighth Grade: Blue
- **Friday:** Boots and Bling (Western Wear)

Need Tech Help? Visit the “Walk-In Support Clinic”

If your child needs help with a device, our technology team is available to provide device diagnostics and support every morning from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Crum Library. Just “walk in” for help with the following:

- *Laptop Troubleshooting:* Updates, apps, and configuration
- *Device Health Checks:* Device performance, charging, preventative care, and updates
- *Student Information Systems:* Veracross, Google, and Outlook

View the flyer [here](#). With questions, please [email our technology team](#).

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Middle School Optional Summer Travel Offerings

FIFTH-GRADE TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 4–8, 2023

Information will come out in early November.

Trip Leader: Maria Cruzalegui

INTERNATIONAL TRIP FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 6–11

Edelweiss Tour to Germany/Austria/Switzerland [\(Click here for details.\)](#)

June 6–15, 2023

Trip Leader: Chad Knesek

SEVENTH-GRADE TRIP TO COSTA RICA

Two-Week Spanish Immersion Program [\(Click here for details.\)](#)

June 4–17, 2023

Trip Leader: Kathryn Spinelli

Join Us: Boys' and Girls' Bible Studies for Grades 5–8

Bible studies have begun. Grades will meet every other week, with eighth grade and seventh grade meeting on Fridays, and sixth grade and fifth grade meeting on Mondays. Boys' Bible studies will meet in Mrs. Flores's room, and girls' Bible studies will meet in Mrs. Gutierrez's room. Both rooms are right off of the library.

- The next time fifth grade will meet is on Monday, September 26, at 12:45 p.m.
- Due to OLEs, the next time sixth grade will meet is Monday, October 3, at 12:45 p.m.
- The next time seventh grade will meet is on Friday, September 23, at 12:15 p.m.
- The next time eighth grade will meet is on Friday, September 30, at 12:15 p.m.

A Note About Community Service Hours

St. Francis Episcopal School recognizes and celebrates students who involve themselves in helping others. At the Recognition and Awards Ceremony in the spring, students who have completed 20, 30, 50, or 100 hours of service during a school term

will receive a certificate recognizing their achievements. Additionally, one graduating student will be recognized for exemplifying and representing the quality of being “people for others.”

- **Use this form** to submit your community service hours. You can drop the form off in the Middle School Office or email it to **Kelly Murray**.
 - Fifth Grade: 10 hours
 - Sixth Grade: 10 hours
 - Seventh Grade: 15 hours
 - Eighth Grade: 20 hours

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, September 19

- *Dress Uniform for Grades 7–8*
 - *Fifth- and Sixth-Grade Outdoor Learning Experiences*
 - Arrive at 6:00 a.m.
 - Fifth grade loading in St. Francis parking lot
 - Sixth grade loading in Ecclesia parking lot
 - Leave at 6:30 a.m.
 - *Middle School Chapel for Grades 7–8: 9:50 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary*
 - *Fifth-Grade Returns From Outdoor Learning Experience: 6:30 p.m. at St. Francis*
-

Tuesday, September 20

- *Regular Uniform*
 - *Sixth-Grade Returns From Outdoor Learning Experience: 2:30 p.m.; pick up at Chapelwood's north parking lot by the sports fields*
-

Wednesday, September 21

- *Regular Uniform*
-

Thursday, September 22

- *Eighth-Grade Tie Ceremony: 9:30 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center; eighth graders are required to wear dress uniforms*
-

Friday, September 23

- *SFES Spirit Dress*: Wear a St. Francis Spirit shirt with full-length jeans or uniform bottoms
 - *Eighth-Grade Bible Study*: 12:15 p.m. in Mrs. Flores's room (boys' Bible study) and Mrs. Gutierrez's room (girls' Bible study); both rooms are right off of Crum Library
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Monday, September 26–Friday, September 30

- *Homecoming Week*

Upper School

From the Head of Curriculum and Instruction

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Creating the social contract is a deliberate process that ensures all students have a voice in creating this important document. The process is as follows:

1. Each homeroom/advisory (K–8) develops a list of guidelines or rules about how its students can support one another in their classrooms.
2. Each homeroom/advisory then works together to develop grade-level guidelines.
3. Finally, each grade level sends two representatives to help create one set of expectations for all grade levels. The representatives collectively examine the set of grade-level guidelines or norms, look for commonalities, and craft a mutually agreed upon set of expectations for everyone to follow.
4. These expectations become the year's Social Contract.

Here is our school's Social Contract for 2022–23:

- Show kindness and respect to everyone, everything, and every place.
- Be attentive listeners and open to other people's ideas.
- Try your best, be responsible, and learn from your mistakes.
- Stay positive, be safe, and have fun!

Enjoy some [pictures](#) of the students in this very interactive process.

This is a 100% student-driven process, with the adults serving as the facilitators/notetakers. Watching our Middle School kiddos be patient, kind, and helpful with their Lower School peers was most rewarding, as they exemplified the meaning of the Social Contract and being People for Others.

In the weeks to come, two large Social Contract banners will be created, and all students on the Piney Point Campus will sign them, signaling their participation in the process and commitment to upholding the contract. Throughout the school year, these banners will hang in our halls, and smaller versions will hang in our classrooms, as a reminder of our agreements with one another.

We are truly blessed to have such a welcoming, inclusive community where each child's academic, spiritual, and social-emotional well-being is highly valued and nurtured.

I hope you have a blessed week!

Carol Christ, MEd
Head of Curriculum and Instruction

From the Division Head

This last week, we have begun to announce details to our students about the Homecoming Dance and Spirit Week. Here is a prospectus of that information.

SPIRIT WEEK

You will see below that each day has a specific theme:

- *America Monday*
- *Tacky Tourist Tuesday*
- *Rock and Roll Wednesday*
- *Color Clash Thursday (Colors Vary per Division)*
 - **Freshman:** Green
 - **Sophomore:** Red
 - **Junior:** White
 - **Senior:** Blue
- *Boots and Bling Friday (Western Wear)*

This is an opportunity for students to lean deeply into the theme for that day. We just ask that clothes be school-appropriate and follow proper dress guidelines, even when students are not in uniform.

- They can wear yoga pants, but shirts or shorts must cover up their bottoms.
- We are allowing athletic shorts of appropriate length (no Lululemon or Nike running shorts).
- No crop tops, sleeveless shirts, or see-through clothing (unless there is an appropriate undershirt worn with it).
- No flip-flops or crocs; students should wear athletic shoes or other school-appropriate shoes.

HOMECOMING DANCE

Our Homecoming Dance will occur on Couper Campus in Crum Gymnasium. Both our Homecoming Dance and the Winter Formal are events designed and executed by our student council. The students have again set the level of couture at semi-formal dress. We start at 7:30 p.m. and close the doors at 8:00 p.m. Students will be randomly selected to breathalyze before they enter the gym.

In the coming weeks, new students might feel anxiety about asking someone out on a date. This is not our culture. We encourage students to come with friends or in groups. We will have a great time!

TAILGATE PARTY AND PRESENTATION OF HOMECOMING COURT

On Friday, September 30, we will have a tailgate starting at 4:00 p.m. Please bring your family to enjoy this time together. At 6:30 p.m., we will have a special presentation, including a performance from our coed cheer squad and the presentation of our 2022 Homecoming Court.

HOMECOMING COURT

Congratulations to the newly elected members of Homecoming Court! This year will be particularly exciting, as all Homecoming Court members will be presented before the football game. The senior members of court will have the special honor of being escorted by their parents. (Mr. Scales will soon be providing detailed instructions to parents of court members, so stay tuned!)

We look forward to having a spirited week together and to welcoming you on campus.

Warmly,

Marc Addington, MA
Head of Upper School

Save Time at Homecoming: Pre-Purchase Your Food Tickets Today

Save yourself time and **pre-purchase your food tickets** for the Homecoming celebrations at Couper Campus on Thursday, September 29, and Friday, September 30. Advanced food ticket sales will close at midnight on Sunday, September 25. Tickets will be available for purchase on the day of the event, as well.

MEAL OPTIONS

The following meal options will be available on Thursday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. and on Friday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

- Hamburger (\$5)
- Chicken Fingers (\$5)
- Grilled Chicken Salad (\$7)

Snacks, drinks, and the ever-popular Kona Ice Truck will be available for cash purchase only.

Want to Help With Homecoming?

Volunteers are needed to help make this year's Homecoming celebrations the best ever! **Click here** to sign up for a shift.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, September 19

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Tuesday, September 20

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Wednesday, September 21

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Upper School Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym*
-

Thursday, September 22

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Friday, September 23

- *“B” Day*
 - *Spirit Wear*
 - *Upper School Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym*
-

Monday, September 26–Friday, September 30

- *Homecoming Week*
-

Monday, September 26

- "A" Day
 - *America Monday Dress*
-

Tuesday, September 27

- "B" Day
 - *Tacky Tourist Tuesday Dress*
-

Wednesday, September 28

- "A" Day
 - *Rock and Roll Dress*
 - *Upper School Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym; See You at the Pole*
 - *Junior Parent Night Presentation and College Counseling: 6:00 p.m. in Crum Loft*
-

Thursday, September 29

- "B" Day
 - *Color Clash Thursday Dress (Colors Vary per Division)*
 - **Freshman:** Green
 - **Sophomore:** Red
 - **Junior:** White
 - **Senior:** Blue
-

Friday, September 30

- "A" Day
 - *Boots and Bling Friday Dress (Western Wear)*
 - *Homecoming Pep Rally: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym*
 - *Upper School Homecoming Game and Varsity Tailgate: 4:00–10:00 p.m. in Crum Gym*
-

Saturday, October 1

- *Upper School Homecoming Dance: 7:30–10:30 p.m.*

Church

Weekly Worship Schedule

The Holy Eucharist is offered at 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. We also offer an evening Eucharist on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing all those who are ready to return. For those who are not comfortable returning to in-person worship, we will continue to livestream our worship service on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Access the livestream via our church [website](#), [YouTube channel](#), or [Facebook page](#). Instructions for livestreaming are included at the bottom of this section.

Pre-K to High School: Sunday Morning Programs

LET IT SHINE! CHILDREN'S BIBLE LESSON

Join Mrs. Devlin each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. for Let It Shine! Children's Bible Breakout. All children from Pre-K to middle school are invited to participate in Let It Shine! during the adult sermon.

LIGHTHOUSE EXPRESSIONS IN ART

Each Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. worship service, children are invited to join other children in the People Place (across from the Dining Hall) to create an art project based on that day's Let It Shine! lesson.

MIDDLE SCHOOL G.L.O.W.

Join middle school students each Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. family worship service for fellowship, learning, and a question of the day. Come to the People Place for donuts, discussion, and discipleship. For additional information, please contact Allison Devlin via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

HIGH SCHOOL REVIVAL—THAT'S IN THE BIBLE?

High school students are invited to come to the People Place (across from the Dining Hall) each week after the 9:00 a.m. family worship service. Come read and discuss some intense Bible stories that aren't always talked about in Sunday School. We will read the Bible "in context" and reflect on how God is sharing His truth with us. Learn how pride ended up killing Absalom, how God used Rahab, deeper truths about the Exodus plagues, how God really is the Alpha and the Omega, about Balaam and the donkey, and so much more. Along with these riveting Bible passages, we will learn how to use Anglican Prayer Beads, practice Lectio Divina, and introduce Christian meditation. High School Revival will be led by Nichole Hilgert.

October 2 Is Sports Association Recognition Sunday

On Sunday, October 2, we will celebrate our St. Francis Sports Association, our coaches, and our student participants. Our student-athletes are invited to wear their uniforms to church and bring a sports equipment item for a special blessing to support

them for a safe and fun sports season!

October 16–23: Donate Coats to Kitty's Coat Drive

Several years ago, teachers in Spring Branch ISD noticed that many children were not wearing coats during a year of cold winter weather. As a result, MAM was asked to help collect coats and distribute them to children in need. St. Francis Episcopal Church and School answered the call. In honor of Kitty Elliott—who organized the original coat drive—it has been officially named The Kitty Elliott Coat Drive. Collection areas will be set up at St. Francis Episcopal Church on Sunday, October 16, and Sunday, October 23. Please bring coat donations on these Sundays or to the church office during that week.

Join Us Tuesdays for Mom's Bible Study

This fall, the **SFES Moms' Bible Study** will meet weekly at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in CE212.

- The study will be on the book "**Never Alone: Parenting in the Power of the Holy Spirit**" by Jeannie Cunnion.
- In this seven-session study, **discover how the Holy Spirit's presence and power transform how you lead and love your kids**. You'll be invited to wrestle through the question, "Do I really know how to parent in the power of the Holy Spirit, or have I settled for parenting in my power?" Good news, Mom! The Holy Spirit is championing you in the holy work of motherhood. Where you can't, He can! He is faithfully at work. You are never alone in your pursuit to point your kids to the love of Jesus.
- For more information or to RSVP, please contact **Allison Devlin** via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

Be Still Yoga: Next Session Is September 22

Join other women for an hour of yoga and meditative prayer every other Thursday, with the next session on September 22. In stillness, God speaks to our hearts and fills us with the refreshing presence of His Spirit.

- Bring a yoga mat if you have one!
- Refreshments to follow.
- The group meets at 11:30 a.m. every other Thursday in CE212.
- For more information or to RSVP, please contact Allison Devlin via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

Blessing of the Animals Is October 2

Join us for St. Francis's annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 2, at 4:00 p.m. in the school courtyard. There will be a short liturgy in the church and individual blessings by the clergy.

- A photographer will be taking photos of attendees with their pets. There will also be treats for our four-legged friends, a police horse and dog, animals available for adoption, and representatives from VCA Spring Branch Animal Hospital, Citizens for Animal Protection (CAP), and the Houston Humane Society (HHS).
- Please consider bringing donations for CAP and HHS.
 - CAP needs puppy and kitten food, paper towels, clay litter, newspapers, liquid bleach, and liquid dish soap.
 - HHS needs pet food, especially for kittens; towels; fleece blankets; hand sanitizer; and dog leashes.
- For more information, contact Cindy Huteson via [email](#) or call the church office at 713.782.1270.

Volunteer With the Outreach Team on October 2

Become part of the Outreach Team as we prepare sandwiches for Lord of the Streets and gift bags for all of the children at Woodview Elementary on **Sunday, October 2**.

- Please join us in the **Fine Arts Center after the 9:00 a.m. service** for a snack and to help us make sandwiches!
- Set up and preparation for this wonderful ministry will be Saturday, October 1, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Please email [Marilyn Weaver](#) for additional information.

Thank you in advance for your help!

Mark Your Calendar: Music Concert on October 12

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, October 12, at 7:00 p.m., for a concert by guitarist Marc Garvin and harpist Emily Klein. Additional details will be provided soon!

AGAPE: Join Us October 16 for Fellowship, Dinner, and Fun

Join us this coming **Sunday, October 16, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center** for prayers and music led by our children and youth, followed by dinner and bingo. Children and teens will have the opportunity to say prayers, read Scripture, act out skits, play musical instruments, and sing. Your kids will love having an important role in this service. Ask how your family can be a part of AGAPE! For more information or to volunteer, contact [Allison Devlin](#).

Woodview Elementary Reading Buddies Program Returns

The Reading Buddies program is returning to Woodview Elementary for the 2022–23 school year.

- The program is expected to start this month and will include a brief one-hour training session for all volunteers. St. Francis volunteers will be partnered with second-grade students who are on the "brink of success," where SBISD has found that reading intervention can significantly improve outcomes in later years.

- Volunteers will be expected to read with their assigned student for 30 minutes each week; last year's time slots were generally either first thing in the morning at 8:00 a.m. or midday at 12:45 p.m.
- For more details or to volunteer, please contact Tim Blaine via [email](#) or at 832.247.8667.

MAM's 2022 Back-to-School Campaign

The Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM) Back-to-School Campaign continues through this month.

- Every year, MAM assists over 6,000 at-risk SBISD elementary school children. The funds raised from the community assist these students in preparing for their first day of school.
- The funds raised by St. Francis parishioners are specifically designated for the uniform requests of students who attend Woodview Elementary, our adopted school.
- A **\$50 donation provides new school clothes for a child**. Donations should be made payable to St. Francis Episcopal Church with "MAM Back-to-School" on the memo line and should be placed in the collection plate on Sunday or mailed to the church. You may also scan [this QR code](#), choose "MAM" under the fund choices, and indicate "Back-to-School" in the Memo field.
- Email [Heather Burkhart](#) for additional information.

Help Meet MAM's Urgent Supply Needs

Memorial Assistance Ministries has an urgent plea from the pantry team. Demand for pantry products has again peaked, and they are running very low on several items. Here is their latest list of needs:

- **Meals to Go**
 - Individually wrapped cheese/peanut butter crackers
 - Fruit strips
 - Trail mix
 - Vienna sausage
- **Hygiene Items**
 - Size 6 diapers
 - Baby wipes
 - Tissues
 - House cleaner
 - Deodorant for men and women
 - Lotion
 - Shaving cream

Many families continue to need help with the basics. Please keep the pantry in mind if any of your classes, youth groups, or other groups are looking for a project. For additional information, contact the church's director of outreach, [Heather Burkhart](#).

Fair Haven Food Pantry Needs Volunteers/Donations

The Fair Haven Food Pantry has been providing food to help people in the Spring Branch/Memorial area since 1975.

- **September Food Collection Items: Size 5–6 Diapers**
- Now operating under a client-choice model, **the pantry needs friendly volunteers** to help clients shop for their families, restock shelves, and assist with registration. Feeding the needy is part of serving one another, and as we serve others, we are serving Christ.
- Thank you for not donating any glass containers or expired items.
- For additional information, email [Jessica Antel](mailto:Jessica.Antel@fairhaven.org).

Share Your Prayer Requests Online

Share your prayer requests with us using the “Prayer Requests” link on the [St. Francis Episcopal Church home page](#). Please feel free to submit prayer requests for yourself or for someone you know. All prayer requests are confidential and will not be added to the spoken prayer list, but will be prayed for by our staff and Pastoral Care Council over two months.

Wednesday Night Eucharist, Program, and Dinner

Wednesday night Eucharist and dinner has returned! On Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., join Fr. David Price for Eucharist in the St. Clare Chapel, followed by a program and dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the Hogan Board Room. (The first meeting was on September 7.)

- Fr. Price will lead a program titled “The Face—Jesus in Art.” These narrated video lessons trace the dramatically different ways in which Jesus has been represented in art by people throughout history and around the world. It is tantamount to a travelogue of art and monuments from the early 3rd Century to the present: from ancient Rome to 21st Century America. The first video covers “The Gospel According to Giotto in Padua.”
- Cost of dinner is \$10 per person at the door.
- Contact [Fr. Price](#) for more information.

Upcoming Bible Studies at St. Francis

St. Francis is hosting the following Bible studies, either in-person, via Zoom, or both. To join a Zoom call, use the event link listed below.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Wednesdays at 9:00–10:00 a.m. (**Resumes September 21**)
 - **Study:** Daniel
 - **Contact:** [Louise Richman](#)
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:**
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/651248716>
 - **Meeting ID:** 65 1248 716

- **Passcode:** 094302

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Tuesdays at 7:00–8:00 a.m.
 - **Contact:** [Martin O'Malley](#)
 - **Location:** CE207
- Second Tuesday of Each Month at 8:00–9:30 a.m.
 - **Meeting:** The Men of St. Francis Breakfast and Bible Study
 - **Location:** Hogan Board Room
 - **Includes Breakfast**
- Thursdays at 6:30–8:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Romans
 - **Contact:** [The Rev. Stuart Bates](#)
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84206856514>
 - **Meeting ID:** 842 0685 6514
 - **Passcode:** Bi6Ga0

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** The Gospel of Luke and Paul's Letter to the Romans
 - **Location:** Hogan Board Room
 - **Contact:** [George Hippard](#)

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AND PRAYER

- Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m.
 - **Meeting:** Christian Meditation
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
 - **Location:** The Bride's Room
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/203726298>
 - **Meeting ID:** 203 726 298
 - **Passcode:** 05741
- Thursdays at 7:00 a.m.
 - **Meeting:** Christian Meditation
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
 - **Location:** The Bride's Room
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/203726298>
 - **Meeting ID:** 203 726 298
 - **Passcode:** 057417
- Thursdays at 6:15–6:45 a.m.
 - **Meeting:** Prayer Session (We read Scripture and go through a prayer cycle of praise, confession, thanksgiving, and intercession.)
 - **Contact:** [Heather Burkhart](#)
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79725936159>
 - **Meeting ID:** 797 2593 6159
 - **Passcode:** 678123

- Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.
 - **Meeting:** Spiritual Enrichment
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
 - **Location:** The Bride's Room

How to Watch Sunday Service Via Livestream

If you would like to join St. Francis Episcopal Church's 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Sunday service via livestream, here's how to watch:

1. Open an Internet browser on your computer, laptop, or phone. Type in the St. Francis website—sfch.org.
2. Click on the "Watch Live Stream Worship Services" button. Either the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. service will be available. If you prefer to watch from Facebook or YouTube, click on the links to go to those streaming servers.

Prelude music will begin on the livestream 10 minutes before the service to allow time for your connection and your inspiration. If you miss the live video, a recording of the service will also be available on [St. Francis's YouTube channel](#).