

# WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

## News for the Week of September 25

### All School

#### **It's Homecoming and Spirit Week!**

Catch up on all the details about Homecoming and Spirit Week in this edition of *Wolf Watch!*

### HOMECOMING GAMES

Join us on Couper Campus Thursday and Friday for games, food, and fun.

#### ***Thursday, September 29***

- 5:30 p.m.—Middle School 7/8 Football vs. Second Baptist School; *Howlers perform at halftime*

#### ***Friday, September 30***

- 4:15 p.m.—Upper School JV Girls' Volleyball vs. Faith West Academy
- 5:15 p.m.—Upper School Varsity Girls' Volleyball vs. Faith West Academy
- 7:00 p.m.—Upper School Varsity Football vs. Pasadena First Baptist Christian Academy; *Homecoming Court presentation and US Cheer team performs immediately before football game*

### PRE-PURCHASE HOMECOMING FOOD TICKETS BY TODAY AT MIDNIGHT

Save yourself time and [\*\*pre-purchase your food tickets\*\*](#) for the Homecoming celebrations at Couper Campus this Thursday, September 29, and Friday, September 30. Advanced food ticket sales will close at midnight tonight—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.*

### **WE NEED YOUR 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 this Thursday between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. and this Friday between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. on Couper Campus.

### **Sporting Clays Classic: Spectator Tickets Available!**

Our annual Sporting Clays Classic is less than a month away! Come join us for fun, fellowship, and friendly competition. Don't shoot? That's okay—there is a "Spectator Ticket" option that includes lunch so you can come out and join the fun! [Visit the event website](#) to register for your team or to sign up to be a spectator.

If you have any questions or want to get involved, please [email Alaina Stephens](#), director of special events.

### **Explore and Extend: Parents' Night Out Is October 7**

The first Parents' Night Out of the school year is Friday, October 7. This event is open to students in Primary II through Middle School. Dinner is included, along with arts and crafts, gym time, Nerf wars, a fun dessert-cooking project, and a movie. Registration is available online through the [Explore and Extend page](#), or by emailing [Margaret Newsom](#). The cost is \$35.

### **Save the Dates! LS/MS Grandparents and Grandfriends Days**

On November 16–18, 2022, we will welcome grandparents and grandfriends of Lower and Middle School students to campus. Following is an overview of the event schedule. Invitations to follow!

- **Wednesday, November 16:** Middle School (Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grades)
- **Thursday, November 17:** Lower School (Kindergarten and First Grade)
- **Friday, November 18:** Lower School (Second, Third, and Fourth Grades)

### **SFPO General Meeting Is October 6: All Parents Are Welcome**

Catch up with the St. Francis Parents Organization (SFPO) on Thursday, October 6, at 8:30 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room on Piney Point Campus. Open to all parents, this

meeting is an opportunity to hear updates from the SFPO committee chairs and to learn how to get involved with the SFPO.

### **SFPO Annual Luncheon: Waitlist Now Available**

The St. Francis Parents Organization (SFPO) 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](#).

### **Author Visit: Pre-Purchase Your Book for Autographs by Tuesday**

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 this Tuesday, September 27, at midnight 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](#).

## **Primary School**

### **From the Division Head**

Parent Information Nights are some of my favorite events at St. Francis. They indicate that school is really in session, and we are in a wonderful cadence. Children have adjusted to their new routines, teachers have made thoughtful observations, and parents are navigating carpool (the scariest place at any school!) with confidence. Our new families have found their groove, made new friends, and settled in as part of the Wolf Pack.

In Reggio-inspired communities, parents are recognized as a child's first teachers. They are viewed as an essential resource to the child's learning and as collaborators with their child's school teachers. Teachers, in turn, respect parents and appreciate the opportunity to partner with them in building a bridge between school and home.

During Parent Information Nights, we reiterate the importance of this vital exchange between the most important adults in children's lives. Our interim head of school, Don North, spoke to the benefits of this relationship:

- First, he encouraged parents to offer unconditional love to their children, love that is given freely without strings. St. Francis teachers strive to do the same.

- Second, he addressed the power of supporting children by valuing their interests. Each day in Primary School, the students' interests drive what they will learn and what impactful experiences will be offered.
- Third, he touched on the importance of nurturing resilience in children. Children learn from challenges, making mistakes, and being uncomfortable. Allowing them to grow in resilience will help them become young adults who learn to rebound, reset, and adjust with positivity and faith.

It was truly a joy to see you at our Parent Information Nights. We are very proud to join you on your child's academic journey, and we look forward to a year to remember!

In partnership,

Kenyetta K. Wynn, EdD  
Head of Primary School

### **Mark Your Calendar**

#### **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*
- 

### **Monday, October 17**

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

## **Tuesday, October 18**

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
  - *Primary II Sings in Chapel (Capasso and Owens)*
- 

## **Wednesday, October 19**

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

## **Friday, October 21**

- *Sporting Clays Classic*
- 

## **Monday, October 24**

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

## **Tuesday, October 25**

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
  - *Primary II Sings in Chapel (Hughes and Wiener)*
- 

## **Wednesday, October 26**

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

## **Lower School**

### **From the Division Head**

I hope this finds your family well and enjoying the start of fall! As we reach our sixth week of school, Lower School students are settling into school-day routines, learning, and excited about Homecoming next week.

At Chapel last Thursday, I was given the honor of delivering the homily. What a special opportunity it was to share my understanding of the Scripture 1 Timothy 2:1–10 with our

students. This was a first-time experience for me that I hope was an example to our students to trust in God and have the courage to do new things.

This further exhibits our Episcopal identity, in which we help students focus on and hear God's Word. The National Association of Episcopal Schools describes this as, "School Worship that is creative, inclusive, draws fully upon the liturgical resources of The Episcopal Church, and is a regular part of school life for all faculty and students." Worshiping together in Chapel twice weekly is one of many great things I enjoy about working at St. Francis Episcopal School and leading the Lower School.

As I encouraged our Lower School to pray for others as God has written, please know that I am also praying for your Lower School child and your family. I'm grateful that each of you is part of our Lower School and of our St. Francis community.

Have a wonderful Homecoming week ahead!

Kind regards,

Clifton Walker, MEd  
Head of Lower School

### **Parent Meeting Presentations Now Available**

Thanks to everyone who joined us at last week's parent meetings. If you weren't able to attend, you may review the presentations using the links below:

- [Grades K-1: "Early Literacy"](#)
- [Grades 2-4: "Helping Your Child With Home Practice and Reading"](#)

If you ever have questions about how to best support your child at home, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher.

### **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. The match start time is 6:00 p.m.; however, please plan to arrive to Crum Gym on Couper Campus (2300 South Piney Point Rd.) by 5:30 p.m. Students will meet the team, be part of the pregame routine, watch some volleyball, and have fun. We hope to see you in Crum Gym!

### **Author Visit: Pre-Purchase Your Book for Autographs by Tuesday**

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 midnight this Tuesday, 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](#).

## Mark Your Calendar

### 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*
  - *Lower School Night: Girls' Varsity Volleyball* in Crum Gym on Couper Campus (2300 South Piney Point Rd.); arrive at 5:30 p.m.; game begins at 6:00 p.m.
- 

### 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***
- 

### **Monday, October 3**

- *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, October 4**

- *Lower School Individual Picture Day*
- 

### **Wednesday, October 5**

- ***Student Holiday***
  - *Lower School Parent/Teacher Conferences: 7:30 a.m.–4:15 p.m.*
- 

### **Thursday, October 6**

- *Blessing of the Animals 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.

## Middle School

### **From the Division Head**

This past Thursday, I delivered the following remarks to our eighth-grade students at the Eighth-Grade Tie Ceremony. The tie I refer to below is the one our eighth graders put on during the ceremony in acceptance of their leadership role in the Middle School. I thought you might enjoy reading these remarks, in case you weren't at the ceremony:

*It might not look like it, but this tie may be the heaviest article of clothing in your entire wardrobe.*

*Heavier than the winter coat I put on when the Houston temperature drops to below 60 degrees. Yes, heavier than that.*

*Heavier than the ski boots I wear when I'm skiing with my family in Aspen or the boots I break out and dust off when the trail riders trot, stroll, and roll into town? Yes, heavier than those?*

*Why is this such a heavy tie? I mean, what exactly did Vineyard Vines put into these ties to make them so heavy? When Señor Serralta individually tied each one of these ties for you, what did he put in them? What did Coach T put in these ties after ordering them and placing them here for you to receive them?*

*What is it that makes this tie so heavy?*

*The school seal is on this tie.*

*St. Francis Episcopal School only gives these ties to eighth graders to mark their entry into the leadership of the Middle School. I have said it before, and I will say it again: this school will only be as safe, welcoming, respectful, respected, kind, clean, and successful as you make it. The reason we have invited back alumni parents and siblings and current and former board members to help us present these ties is because they are symbolically passing onto you the leadership of the Middle School and the legacy of generations of St. Francis Wolves.*

*So why is it so heavy? What's in it exactly?*

*The reputation of St. Francis Episcopal School is in this tie. When you put this on, you accept the full responsibility of preserving the reputation of this school and you agree to bring no shame or harm to our name. Whether you are on the stage, the field, the court, or the Internet, or in the classroom or Dining Hall; whether you are on Instagram, Snapchat, or Discord; whether you are in a random group text—you, by putting on this tie, are carrying the full weight of the school's name.*

*More importantly than that, the feelings of every fifth-, sixth-, and seventh-grade student are in this tie. There's an SFES logo on here for every member of the Middle School and then some. Their tears are in here. Their fears are in here. By putting on this tie, you agree to honor them.*

*When one of you falls, I expect the rest of you to help lift that person up. In order to wear this tie, you must be able to carry the weight of all 280+ middle schoolers. By my rough calculations, that's about 25,314 pounds.*

*In putting on this tie, you have to be able to bear the weight of all our Middle School students, with all of their anxieties, insecurities, imperfections, small annoyances, idiosyncrasies, and frailties.*

*How can you carry all of that?*

*I will tell you how.*

*Together.*

*If you aren't willing to accept this responsibility, don't put on the tie—but if you are ready to accept this challenge, then wear it with pride.*

Go Wolves!

Byron R. Williams, EdD  
Head of Middle School

### **Fifth- and Sixth-Grade OLEs: Recap + Photos**

This week saw our fifth and sixth graders, and their awesome teachers, hit the road to Camp Olympia to take part in the St. Francis tradition of Outdoor Learning Experiences (OLEs). Students got to experience everything from candlemaking, canoeing, horseback riding, fishing, shelter building, night hikes, and so much more. Sixth grade also got to spend the night—we are not sure how many solid hours of sleep they got, but we know they had fun!

Click on the following links to view photos from the adventure:

- [\*\*By the Lake\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Learning to Paddle\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Nature Studies\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Shelter Building \(Girls\)\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Shelter Building \(Boys\)\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Team Building\*\*](#)

The goal of the OLE experience is to help build community and connection within each grade level as we begin the school year. Based on the smiles we saw as they participated, it was clear that the mission was accomplished! Next up, we are looking forward to taking our seventh graders on their OLE in early November for a two-night excursion!

## **Middle School Winter Sports Update**

We are excited for this coming week and for the remainder of our fall sports season! Looking ahead to the Middle School winter sports season, please see important details below:

- Winter sports will begin on Monday, October 24.
- Winter sport options include the following:
  - Boys' Basketball, Boys' Soccer, Coed Swimming, Wrestling
  - Girls' Basketball, Girls' Soccer, Coed Swimming
- Winter sports rosters are uploaded in Veracross. It is very important that rosters are accurate for planning purposes. Students and parents should check their winter sport to confirm. If a change is requested, please [email T Riley](#).

## **Upcoming Dates in the Middle School**

### **HOMECOMING WEEK—SEPTEMBER 26–30**

**Homecoming Week** is this week, 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)

### **PARENT CONFERENCES—WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5**

Middle School Parent Conferences are Wednesday, October 5. We will be sending out the SignUpGenius shortly.

## **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](#).

## **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 **(Updated: [Click here for details, plus information on this week's parent meetings via Zoom.](#))**

June 6–15, 2023

Trip Leader: Chad Kneseck

### **SEVENTH-GRADE TRIP TO COSTA RICA**

Two-Week Spanish Immersion Program **([Click here for details, plus information on tomorrow's parent meeting via Zoom.](#))**

June 4–17, 2023

Trip Leader: Kathryn Spinelli

## **Join Us for Middle School Bible Studies**

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 Monday, October 17, at 12:45 p.m.
- The next time sixth grade will meet is tomorrow—Monday, September 26—at 12:45 p.m.
- The next time seventh grade will meet is on Friday, October 7, at 12:15 p.m.
- The next time eighth grade will meet is this 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 26–Friday, September 30

- *Homecoming Week*
- 

### Monday, September 26

- *America Dress*
  - *Middle School Chapel:* 9:50 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
  - *Sixth-Grade Bible Study:* 12:45 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
- 

### Tuesday, September 27

- *Regular Uniform or Tacky Tourist Dress*
- 

### Wednesday, September 28

- *Regular Uniform or Rock and Roll Dress*
- 

### Thursday, September 29

- *Regular Uniform or Color Clash Dress*
    - Fifth Grade: Yellow
    - Sixth Grade: White
    - Seventh Grade: Red
    - Eighth Grade: Blue
- 

### Friday, September 30

- *SFES Spirit Dress or Boots and Bling Dress (Western Wear)*
  - For 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

## Upper School

### **From the Division Head**

As we approach the six-week mark of the trimester, it is an important time for students to make an appraisal of where they are in school.

Let's start with the social element.

Last week on Thursday, we held our Club Fair in the gym and students signed up for as many as three or four different clubs. Our next step is for the leaders of those clubs to set agendas and begin putting together an experience.

We also have the Homecoming Dance. Some students come as couples, but we strongly encourage students to come with friends, groups, or just by themselves. We are going to have a great time.

For students in sports and in the musical, the beginning of the season has passed. Athletes know the basics of the game and are now competing; actors are officially "off book"; tech theater students are building sets and designing lighting schemes. It is a season of perfection and concentration which ends in culminating performances in November.

To this point, I was reminded recently of one of the reasons students attend private schools. Yes, we provide religious education and moral grounding. Yes, we have the sacred duty to set high academic expectations—expectations that are often counter-cultural. But we also provide the opportunity for students to become fully involved in our community. Often at larger schools, competition for the play or the sports team or student council is fierce, and students are lucky if they can find entry to even one endeavor. We revel in this fullness of student life, where our students can be involved in multiple activities.

The hard part comes not necessarily in making the team, but in balancing our responsibilities.

By October, the first tests and papers have been graded and handed back. How did it go? As expected? What are the next steps for our students? Have they met with the teacher? What study methods worked or didn't work? These are the questions for our students to ask as they learn to meet challenges while participating in the world around them.

For our students, learning to meet their responsibilities while being a part of our community is perhaps the most important lesson they can learn while they're with us.

Have a wonderful week,

Marc Addington, MA  
Head of Middle School

## Upper School Optional Summer Travel Program

### INTERNATIONAL TRIP FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 6–11

- Edelweiss Tour to Germany/Austria/Switzerland
- Parents, join this week's Zoom meeting for more information.
- [Click here for details on the trip and on how to join one of this week's parent information meetings via Zoom.](#)
- June 6–15, 2023
- Trip Leader: Chad Knesek

### GALAPAGOS TRIP FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 9–11

- Information coming soon
- Trip Leader: Liat Goldstein

## Homecoming Dance and Spirit Week

Please see below for details about the upcoming Spirit Week and Homecoming Dance.

### SPIRIT WEEK

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 this Saturday, October 1, in Crum Gymnasium on Couper Campus. 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.

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**

This 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.

### **Mark Your Calendar**

#### **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 Wednesday Dress*
  - *Upper School Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym*
  - *Junior Parent Night (Parents Only): 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)*
  - *No Chapel*
  - *Upper School Pep Rally: 1:45–2:20 a.m. in Crum Gym; [view the schedule here](#)*
  - *Upper School Homecoming Game and Varsity Tailgate: 4:00–10:00 p.m.*
- 

## Saturday, October 1

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

## Monday, October 3

- *"B" Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
- 

## Tuesday, October 4

- *"A" Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
- 

## Wednesday, October 5

- *Student Holiday*
  - *Parent Conference Day: 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.; sign-up will be sent this week*
-

## Thursday, October 6

- *“B” Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
  - *Parent Conferences, Continued: 4:00–6:00 p.m.*
- 

## Friday, October 7

- *“A” Day*
- *Dress Uniform*
- *Feast of St. Francis Eucharist: 10:00–10:45 a.m. in Crum Gym*
- *Individual/Group Pictures: 9:30 a.m.–1:00 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.

#### **G.L.O.W. FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS—VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

We need our middle school students to serve as volunteers each week at Lighthouse Expressions in Art after the 9:00 a.m. family worship service. Come help younger children make the craft project of the week! Contact Allison Devlin via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725 to sign up and receive service hours.

## **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 October 6**

Join other women for an hour of yoga and meditative prayer every other Thursday, with

the next session on October 6. 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. RSVP to Julie Lowery by [email](#) to let us know you might come.

### **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, pumpkin painting, and fall crafts. 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](#). To volunteer, [click here](#).

### **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.

- 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.

## **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.
  - **Study:** Daniel
  - **Contact:** [Louise Richman](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83321039436>
    - **Meeting ID:** 833 2103 9436
    - **Passcode:** 649679

### **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. (**Next meeting is October 11.**)
  - **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](http://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](#).