



# Journal

---

July  
2018



## Officially join the Episcopal Church The Bishop is Coming this September 9

If you are not already, would you want to be officially a part of the Episcopal Church? This can be accomplished by having the Bishop **Baptize** you if you have never been baptized before, or you can be **Confirmed** if you have never had a Bishop lay hands on you, or you can be **Received** if you have been Confirmed in another faith tradition. All we ask is that you allow us give you some background information on what Episcopalians believe, a recommended path for Spiritual maturity, what the Book of Common Prayer is, how we are organized, and what Episcopal worship looks like. You can do this through the Discovery Series which is a formation series geared to help with a fundamental understanding of the Episcopal faith tradition.

There are classes currently scheduled. The schedule has been posted outside my office. Keep your eyes open for one day offerings. It is never too late to join.

I am looking forward to this course and the conversations to be had about God and our faith. Remember this course is not only for those desiring Baptism, Confirmation, and Reception, but also for those that desire to be refreshed, formed, and informed in their journeys as Christians. Specifically, as we are the Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement.

Peace,  
Fr. Mitch+

# Father Mitch's Notes...



*Peace and Grace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and Jesus Christ our Lord!*

## **"Wonder**

You don't have to go anywhere to claim the wonder of life. Just take it in, and with gratitude: each breath you're given, what you can see and sense, touch and create. Life is an absolute wonder. It is wonder-full. The gift of wonder has been seeded into your soul, and that seedling wants to burst through the ground of your being." -Br. Curtis Almquist

I receive a daily word from the Society of St. John the Evangelist through their "Brother, Give Us A Word" email list. I am almost always taken aback by the way the word they send impacts me. This one is no exception. Wonder.

The gift of wonder, that "seed" as Br. Almquist puts it, is alive and well in all of us. There is no creativity without wonder. Wonder asks questions that begin with "What if..." and "What would..."

"I Wonder:" "What if I was able to change things, how could I start?" "What if this was done differently?" "What if I put more here than there?" "What would it be like to feel this way again?" "What would I have done differently?" "What would it look like to...?"

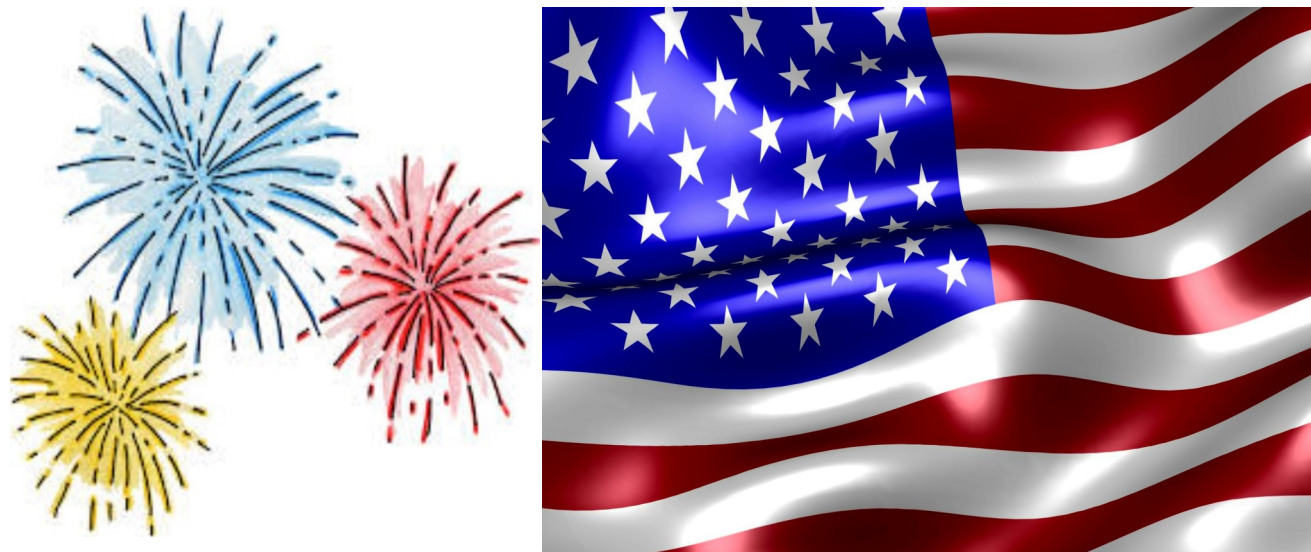
Without Wonder there would be no capacity to change. No ability to turn back to God. No possible way to even desire repentance or forgiveness. And no way to experience the Wonder of God's incredible grace that allows those things to happen.

God's grace is that seed of Wonder. It allows us to contemplate the mystery, "I Wonder how much God loves me?" Enough to send his Son.

Isn't that Wonder-full?

To learn more about the Society of St. John the Evangelist and the "Brother, Give Us A Word" email list, follow this link: <https://www.ssje.org/>

Peace,  
Mitch+



**4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY (BELATED)**

**SERENDIPITY DINNER**

**Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm–8:00 pm**

**Saint Francis Parish Hall**

**Main Course: Hamburgers and  
Hot Dogs**

**Hosted by:  
Dwyane**

**Kathy &  
Dunn**





## Other News and Happenings Since the Last Journal:

- Wednesdays: (All are invited)
  - 12:00pm Bible Study – An open discussion around the Bible as we walk through the Bible together. **NOTE:** Bible Study is taking a break and will start up again on August 29<sup>th</sup> with the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.
  - 6:00pm Healing Service – A contemplative yet participatory service where we have laying on of hands and anointing of oil to foster and pray for physical and spiritual health for each other and our community.
  - 7:10pm Choir Practice – Lift your voices and sing songs of praise! If you like to sing, join the choir. **NOTE:** The Choir will not be practicing in July or August. They will start up again on September 5<sup>th</sup>)
- Our Just As I Am Missional community met for prayer and fellowship!
- Tuesday Bible Study at the Hamptons.
- Published our most recent version of the Journal! (Before this one of course.) Thanks to the hard work to get this out every month!
- We had the Invite Welcome Connect team meeting with Bob Gray. Great discussion and ideas on how to invite people to church, welcome them in, and connect them to what is happening here. Everyone is welcome to come and join in the discussion.
- Serendipity, a congregation wide gathering and meal to which all are invited and friends are welcomed, was held at the church and organized by Kevin, Jay, Pam and Galen! The parish hall was bursting at the seams!
- There was a Men's breakfast. – All are invited to go and if you are lucky you get to be there for biscuits and sausage gravy! SOOOOOO filling! Thank you men's group for expanding your ministry last month.
- Church Under a Bridge Prep – Here all are invited to help make 225 sandwiches and bags in preparation for taking them to the Church Under a Bridge on the following Sunday. The Church Under a Bridge is a community that holds worship for the homeless under the Gentry bridge. We provide lunch for that community once a month.
- Church Under a Bridge Delivery – On the first Sunday of the month there is a faithful few that deliver the meals prepared the day before to the Church Under a Bridge. Some have been known to stay and worship with our homeless neighbors. Which from personal experience is quite powerful.
- We got to acknowledge the Graduation of Becca Gray from High School during the 10:45 service. We are very proud of you Becca!
- We had a wonderful dinner with our families of young children. A great time for fellowship and to see how you can become not only involved in the church but in the

church lives of your children. Thank you for coming!

- The OTLB (Out to lunch bunch) visited Abuelo's this month. Everyone is welcome, it is simply yet another opportunity for St. Francis folk to mingle. Bring a friend!
- The Anglican Rosary happens on the first Wednesday of the Month. Everyone meets and if you have not prayed with an Anglican Rosary before you are brought up to speed. It is a very powerful way to pray.
- Fr. Bob DeWolfe's Bible classes! A classroom type environment where there is deep diving into the Biblical text.
- The DOK (Daughters of the King) met. They are a group that does so many things around the church along with the many prayers they say. A great group committed to serving Christ.
- The gardens look so nice! (Thanks gardening angels! If you are reading this, you can be one too!)
- Thanks goes out to the Altar guild for having everything ready each and every Sunday!
- Thanks also to the office volunteers folding and answering the phones.
- Plus much, much more!

Thanks go out to the many, volunteers and donors that make these things happen! Think about volunteering at the church, nothing will make you feel more connected than participation within your community.

## ***MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW...***

<i>Out to Lunch Bunch</i>	<i>7/3</i>
<i>Men's Breakfast</i>	<i>7/7</i>
<i>DOK Meeting</i>	<i>7/18</i>
<i>Serendipity Supper</i>	<i>7/20</i>
<i>Invite Welcome Connect Meeting</i>	<i>7/25</i>
<i>Back to School Pizza &amp; Bowling</i>	<i>8/19</i>
<i>Prayer Scarves</i>	<i>Sept. or Oct.</i>
<i>Bishop is Coming</i>	<i>9/9</i>
<i>Neighborhood Event</i>	<i>9/29</i>
<i>Blessing of the Animals</i>	<i>10/6</i>
<i>Thanksgiving Parish Meal</i>	<i>11/18</i>

# Taking a Breather

## Children & Youth Sunday School

We will start back on Sunday, September 9th @ 9:30. See you then!!

## Wednesday Noon Bible Study & Discussion

We will start back on Wednesday, August 29th with Philippians. Come join us!!

## Choir Practice

We will start back on Wednesday, September 5th @ 7:10. All are welcome!!



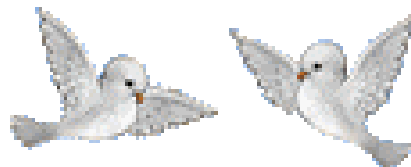


## **JULY BIRTHDAYS**

Miles Miller	07/03
Bob Lee	07/04
Pamela Haltom	07/08
Kathleen Davis	07/09
Polly Kuklewicz	07/10
Sara Steinbrueck	07/11
Derik Gray	07/14
Malcolm Teasdale	07/16
Mac McGraw	07/20
Bea Schroeder	07/24
Phyllis Wilcox	07/25
Mary White	07/31

## **JULY ANNIVERSARIES**

Dwain & Georgia West	07/11
Bill & Cindy Cornett	07/11
Mark & Julie Miller	07/20



St. Francis Episcopal Church

3232 Jan Avenue

Tyler, TX 75701

Telephone: 903-593-8459

Fax: 903-526-7756

Email: [office@stfrancist Tyler.org](mailto:office@stfrancist Tyler.org)

Web site: [www.stfrancist Tyler.org](http://www.stfrancist Tyler.org)



[www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler](http://www.facebook.com/StFrancisTyler)



NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
TYLER TX 75701  
PERMIT NO. 1191  
RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

