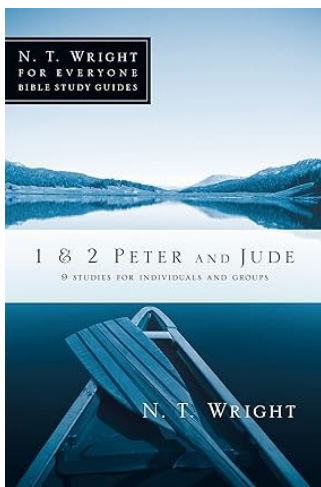


## Fall Study: 1 & 2 Peter and Jude

By Diane Woods

The Wednesday evening study group will begin a new study on the letters of Peter and Jude in September. We know that 1 and 2 Peter are being discussed in Sunday School so this will be an opportunity for those attending to delve deeper into the letters. We will use a study guide written by N. T. Wright with Dale and Sandy Larsen.



The description of the book asks, how do we as Christians behave when we are surrounded by a hostile world that doesn't understand who we are or why we do what we do? *"In three letters, Peter and Jude provide some answers: Abandon the old pagan ways. Learn the new habit of love. Put on the mental armor that will make you strong to face suffering that may come."*

N. T. Wright breaks these letters into nine chapters or themes to show us the wisdom of their words for us today and remind us, during hardship, that the God who deserves all praise is still "the one who is able to keep us standing upright." N.T. Wright is the former Bishop of Durham in the Church of England and one of the world's leading Bible scholars. He is now serving as the Chair of New Testament and Early Christianity at the School of Divinity at the University of St. Andrews. For twenty years he taught New Testament studies at Cambridge, McGill and Oxford Universities.

Our nine-week study begins on Wednesday, September 24th, and will end on November 19th in the parish hall. The study discussion starts at 6:30 p.m. and closes with an Order for Compline or prayer at approximately 8:00. For those who are able, come early, at 6:00 p.m., for dinner (bring your own), and catch up with each other before the discussion starts.

*(Continued on next page)*

### PLEASE JOIN US!

**Dining Out on Thursday, August 28th, at 6:30 p.m.**

**Garcia's Mexican Food Restaurant**

**1050 FM-306 W, Suite 101, New Braunfels, TX 78130**

**RSVP by August 26th to Maribeth Likins**



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Our Mission: We serve Jesus Christ as a community rich in the Episcopal tradition by welcoming the seeker, providing a caring family, encouraging spiritual growth, and reaching into our neighborhood and world.

## Fall Study: 1 & 2 Peter and Jude *(Continued)*

Volunteers share leadership of the discussion each week with the group. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex on Sunday, or you can call the office. In addition to signing up to participate in the study, we ask everyone to prayerfully consider signing up to lead one of the discussions.

Books are ordered and will be available before the study. The cost of the book is \$9.73, payable to Diane Woods. If you prefer, you can purchase the Kindle book from Amazon.com for \$8.54.

## St. Matthew's Market Day

By Liz Sampson

We are celebrating St. Matthew's Day again this year by inviting our neighbors to a craft sale on our church campus. Come join the fun on September 20th, from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm for the seventh annual St. Matthew's Market Day. In addition to strolling through many different craft booths, you will find breakfast and lunch for sale. This is your opportunity to get a head start on your fall decorations or Christmas gifts. If you can help before the show, or if you would like to help on the day of the show, there are sign-up sheets in the Narthex. If you have questions, please contact Liz Sampson. (photo below from 2024)



### St. Matthew's Market Day Food Booth

In addition to the rental fees that we collect from the crafters, we raise money with our Market Day food booth for breakfast and lunch. We will sell breakfast items in the parish hall kitchen window, and hamburgers and hot dogs from the outdoor grill for lunch. Dedicated volunteers are needed for preparation, selling items, cooking, and cleaning up. Chefs and grills are needed for the outdoor cooking. A sign-up sheet will be available soon. Also, please consider donating cash or gift cards from HEB or Wal-Mart to Melissa Mudge to help reduce the cost of the food supplies needed for this event. If you have questions, please contact Melissa Mudge. Thank you! It will be a great day! (photos below from 2024)



## RACAP NEWS

By Kathy Ercoline

To all who answered the call to collect school supplies for RACAP, THANK YOU!! The area churches' response was overwhelming, and the program was a complete success. St. Matthew's congregation contributed over thirty supply bags. Thanks so much for your participation.

### RACAP Month in Review **July 2025 Assistance Results**

# of Families Assisted 103 ~ # People 298  
# of Pantry Visits 91 ~ # of People Fed 266  
Estimated Value of Food Given: \$25,597.00

### Current Pantry Needs:

Dry Rice	Spaghetti Sauce	Pasta Meals
Meat Helpers	Jelly	Cat & Dog Food

**A REMINDER TO ALL GARDENERS:** If your harvest is too big for you? Do you have fruits or vegetables you would like to share with RACAP clients? Please feel free to donate any surplus fruits or vegetables you grow to RACAP, and we will include them in our grocery orders to clients. We are available for donation drop-off Monday-Friday, 1-3 p.m., 307 Pfeil St., Schertz, TX 78154.

**RACAP Program Director, Lisa Loftus shared the following thank you note from a RACAP client...** *"Years ago, my family turned to RACAP for help putting food on the table and keeping the lights on during a very difficult time. I've never forgotten the kindness we received, and now that we're in a better place, I'd love to give back in any way I can. I understand you help local children with back-to-school supplies. Could you please let me know what items you need most this year and the final date for donations? Thank you for the work you do and the hope you provide to families like mine."* **RACAP Pantry... making a difference in our clients' lives.**

**LOOKING AHEAD:** RACAP will hold its annual **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service** on Monday, October 20th, at Cibolo Baptist Church, at 7:00 p.m. All members of our congregation are invited to attend. A reception will follow immediately after the service.

**RACAP Holiday Basket Program:** In a few months, RACAP's holiday season begins with **Harvest Sunday on November 2nd**. We will collect donations of non-perishable food items to fill Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets, and monetary contributions to buy turkeys and fresh fruits and vegetables. More information will be forthcoming about 'Harvest Sunday' and the "RACAP Holiday Basket Program." Food lists to fill the baskets will be included in Matt's Missive, email blasts, and blurbs in the Sunday bulletins.

St. Matthew's food and cash donations have been coming in steadily throughout year. Your generous contributions are making a huge difference in the lives of our clients.

*"Thank you for helping us help others."*

# Hospitality Notes

By Melissa Mudge

## Many Thanks

Thank you, people of St. Matthew's. Whatever the need, you are there with unique skills, willing spirit, and helping hands to complete our tasks. Celebrations in the Parish Hall fill our hearts with joy. Thanks to the many hands that make these celebrations a memorable occasion.

## On-Going Hospitality

- ◆ Morning Coffee Fellowship after each Sunday Service.
  - 8:00 service**—morning coffee and snacks will be ready about 8:45.
  - 10:00 service**—coffee and snacks will be ready about 10:45.
- Thanks, host families, for the love that goes into planning, preparation, and serving of our coffee snacks (and more) each week.
- ◆ Hospitality Committee – Volunteers are needed to prepare food, set up, serve, and clean-up at some of our church related activities. If you would like to be “hospitality on call,” please let me know. I have a list!
- ◆ Kitchen Clean-up – Looking Good! Thank you to the hard-working volunteers for keeping us healthy, safe and sanitary. Did you know that older adults are considered a highly susceptible population in terms of food borne illnesses?

## Give it – To Go

The boxes are put away but will come out again as we begin celebration of our patron saint – Saint Matthew. Matthew, the disciple, was sent out by Jesus to announce the presence of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth, to heal others. Sent out with the clothes on his back and a staff, Matthew depended on the abundance of the earth and the kindness of others for survival.

Bin 1 is for toiletry articles – shampoo, deodorant, lotion, toothpaste. Regular size, but not too big to carry around.

Bin 2 is for sturdy shoes in good shape, fit for a person whose mode of transportation is mainly walking. Also new packs of black socks for adults.

Bin 3 is for sweatshirts, jackets, and coats, especially with hoods.

Once toiletry articles are collected, more giveaway bags can be assembled. You can carry a few of these bags in your car to hand them out to someone in need.

*Pray for all poor and neglected people whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who are broken in body or spirit. Turn their sorrow into joy.*

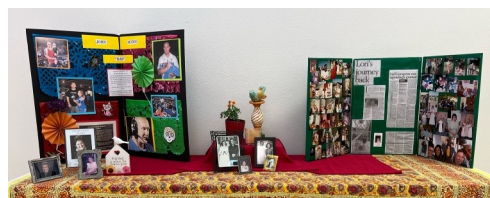
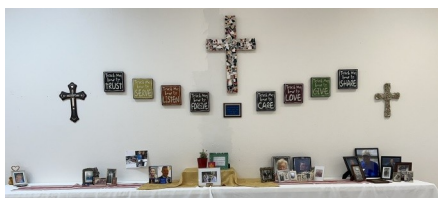
## Hospitality Notes *(Continued)*

### Special Days/Events

- ◆ **September 1—Labor Day.** This day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is traditionally observed on the first Monday in September. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894. <https://www.history.com/articles/labor-day>
- ◆ **September 7—Grandparents Day.** While we honor our grandparents daily, take an extra moment to appreciate all the joy and wisdom that grandparents bring to our lives. Jimmy Carter signed a proclamation establishing National Grandparents Day in 1978 .
- ◆ **September 16—Stepfamily Day.** Excerpt from *The Book of Common Prayer*, page 828, ...Fill them with faith virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness. ....Turn the hearts of the parents to the children, and the hearts of the children to the parents; and so enkindle fervent charity among us all, that we may evermore be kindly affectioned one to another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*
- ◆ **September 17—Celebrating Jonathan Myrick Daniels.** As a civil rights activist and Episcopal seminarian, Jonathan Daniels lost his life shielding a teen from a sheriff's gunfire. He chose the sacrificial servant path. And the teen? She went on to preach the gospel through her non-violent advocacy of human and civil rights.
- ◆ **September 20—St. Matthew's Market Day.** Many ways to participate and support. Refer to the articles on page 2.
- ◆ **September 21—Celebrating the Feast of St. Matthew.** We will have a single, joint service at 9:00 a.m. with a potluck brunch to follow in the parish hall featuring our favorite foods. A sign-up will be available soon.

*We thank you, heavenly father, for the witness of your apostle and evangelist Matthew to the Gospel of your Son our Savior; and we pray that, after his example, we may with ready wills and hearts obey the calling of our Lord to follow him; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns and with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

- ◆ **September 27-November 2**—Please join Saint Matthew's Episcopal church in celebration of our Departed Saints. You are invited to bring pictures and personal items of those you love and those who have been an influence in your life. The tables will be set up in the front and back of the parish hall to honor and remember our personal saints. All are welcome – remember, St. Matthew was a lot of other things before he became a saint. (pictures below are from a previous year)



# CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church at the 10:00 a.m. service will begin Sunday, September 7th. The children will leave church during the Gloria and return at The Peace. Children's Church is held in the Vellom Education Building. If you have questions, please contact Liz Sampson.

## September Birthdays

*"For we are God's workmanship, created in Jesus Christ to do good works, which God prepared for us in advance."*

Kathy Ercoline	Margaret Palmer
Mariette Neal	Paula Getner
Eleanor Neal-Ehanire	Leslye Bauman
Jinny Smith	Ed Weise
Cat Francis	Natalie Black
Pat DePasquale	John Gidden
Terri Egbert	Zoe Francis
Judy Duke	Rebecca Francis
Carmen Weise	Jalan Boyce
Matteo Francis	Ronald Ragon
Gil Medina	Susie Hughes



## Happenings Around The Diocese

**Mother/Daughter Retreat:** September 19 -21 at Camp Capers.

This intergenerational retreat celebrates the diverse and timeless bonds of mothers, daughters, grandmothers, friends, and mentors.

### Spiritual Retreat and Recovery

(Fearfully and Wonderfully Recovered):

October 3-5 at Mustang Island Conference Center.

Spiritual Retreats in Recovery provides a safe space to deepen one's spiritual journey - open to all in recovery from addiction, as well as families and friends.

### Fall Cursillo Retreats

**Cursillo #297:** October 9-12 at Mustang Island Conference Center.

**Cursillo #298:** November 6-9 at Camp Capers.

Cursillo gives church members the tools and "rules of life" to enthusiastically share the joys of knowing Christ with others in their everyday environments. Click [here](#) to learn more.

### 20th Annual Bishop's Golf

**Tournament:** November 3 at The Club at Sonterra in San Antonio. The tournament benefits camp scholarships. Early Birdie registration will open soon so start building your team.

**Discovery Weekend #2:** April 24-26, 2026 at Mustang Island Conference Center.

Registration for Discovery Weekend #2 is now open. Discovery Weekend #1 is full.

You can find more information and registration on these & other events at <https://www.dwtx.org/events>

**Monthly Christian Formation Chats.**

This Fall monthly Christian Formation lunch chats for all-ages will be held on the second Thursday of the month! This will be a time to discuss what is going well within your Christian Formation Ministry, ask questions to gain group wisdom, and to learn what is coming up around the diocese. Mark your calendars and register [here](#) for the Fall meetings.

**St. George Episcopal Church and School Awarded United Thank Offering Grant for Pollinator Garden.**

St. George Episcopal Church and School, San Antonio has been named as one of 27 recipients to receive a United Thank Offering Grant (UTO) Grant supporting innovative mission and ministry projects focused on water-related issues around the world. The Grant will provide close to \$11,000 in funds to support St. George's Pollinator Garden. Read more [here](#).

**Immigration + Refugee Ministries Update.**

Catch up on the latest news from Immigration + Refugee Ministries in their new bilingual newsletter. You can also sign up to receive future newsletters in Spanish. Read more [here](#).

**Daughters of Palestine by the Rev. Canon Leyla King.**

In her remarkable memoir Canon King braids matriarchal memories into a vivid saga of love and survival as her ancestors fled war and poverty. Order [here](#).

**The Seeds Have Been Sown.**

The Owen Project was recognized in a Courtesy Resolution on June 7, by the Episcopal Church in Navajoland at their Inaugural Convention as a Missionary Diocese. Read more [here](#).

## Help and Hope for the Hill Country

On Friday, August 1st, the Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read, Bishop of West Texas, met with the Help and Hope Task Force along with representatives from Episcopal Relief & Development to share the current and future work of St. Peter's Help and Hope for the Hill Country Ministry.

The group then traveled to the epicenter of the disaster, downtown Hunt, TX, to see the future site of the Help and Hope Village and their pop-up worship space. Read more [here](#).

Click [here](#) to learn more about:

- A Help and Hope Village
- Community Care Workshops
- Relief Checks
- Partnership with the Children's Bereavement Center
- and More Relief Efforts



### DWTX in the News

*From The Living Church*  
Anglican Priest and Funeral Director Reflects on Texas Flooding  
By Caleb Maglaya Galaraga  
Click [here](#) to read article.

The **DEADLINE** to submit Missive articles is the 15th of the month. Any late articles will be in the next month's issue.

## SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Labor Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i> <i>No Staff or</i> <i>Prayer Meeting</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)</p>	2	3	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Eucharist 11am (ARC)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)</p>	5	6
<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship 8 &amp; 10am (C)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School 9:15am (L)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Staff Meeting 9am (L)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Prayer Meeting 12pm (L)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vestry Meeting 6pm (CH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOME 10am-3:30pm (CH, C, VEB)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Eucharist 11am (ARC)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)</p>	12	13
<p style="text-align: center;">14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship 8 &amp; 10am (C)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School 9:15am (L)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Staff Meeting 9am (L)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Prayer Meeting 12pm (L)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)</p>	16	<p style="text-align: center;">17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOME 10am-3:30pm (CH, C, VEB)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Eucharist 11am (ARC)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Choir Practice 2-3pm (C)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)</p>	19	<p style="text-align: center;">20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Market Day 9am-3pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">21</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>St. Matthew's</i> <i>Day</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Single Service</i> 9am (C)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>60th</i> <i>Anniversary</i> <i>Pot Luck</i> <i>Brunch</i> <i>Celebration</i> 10:15am (CH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Staff Meeting 9am (L)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Prayer Meeting 12pm (L)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)</p>	23	<p style="text-align: center;">24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOME 10am-3:30pm (CH, C, VEB)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday Night Study 6-8pm (CH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Eucharist 11am (ARC)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Choir Practice 2-3pm (C)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dining Out 6:30pm (Garcia's New Braunfels)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)</p>	26	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cursillo Team Meeting 9am-3pm (CH)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship 8 &amp; 10am (C)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School 9:15am (L)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Staff Meeting 9am (L)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Prayer Meeting 12pm (L)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)</p>	30				

C – Church; CH – Creasy Hall; VEB – Vellom Ed Building; L – Library  
ARC – Army Residence Community



## SEPTEMBER 2025 SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Ministry	September 7	September 14	September 21	September 28
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Terry May Diane Woods	Janet Clere Suzanne Milton	Tarawanda Howard Suzanne Milton	Maggie Barnes Stephenie McBride
<b>8 AM Reader</b>	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Max Hopkins	Joan McClain
<b>8 AM Greeter/Usher</b>	Jayne Dunlap	Joan McClain	Shawn Cooksey	Ben McClain
<b>8 AM Coffee</b>	Joan McClain	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Tarawanda Howard
<b>10 AM Server</b>	Sean Francis	Sean Keane-Dawes	Wayne Mudge	Terry May
<b>10 AM Reader</b>	Liz Sampson	Mendell Morgan	Melissa Mudge	Sean Francis
<b>10 AM Greeter/Usher</b>	Kathy Ercoline	Wayne Mudge	Arlene Stalvey	Bill Ercoline
<b>Prayers of the People</b>	Bill Ercoline	Maribeth Likins	Liz Sampson	Sean Keane-Dawes
<b>Newcomer Visits</b>	Ellen Yelverton	Terry May Diane Woods	Ellen Yelverton	Terry May Diane Woods
<b>Home Communion</b>	No Home Communion	Sean Keane-Dawes	No Home Communion	Janet Clere
<b>Prayer Ministry</b>	Ellen Yelverton	Mendell Morgan	Maribeth Likins	Ellen Yelverton
<b>10 AM Coffee</b>	Colleen Hubberd	Melissa Mudge	Diane Woods Terry May	Colleen Hubberd
<b>Audio Visual</b>	Kristina Robinson	Wayne Mudge	Terry May	Kristina Robinson
<b>Lockup/Security</b>	Tarawanda Howard	Terry May	Arlene Stalvey	Richard Guerrero

Look with pity, O heavenly Father, upon the people in this land who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Have mercy upon us. Help us to eliminate our cruelty to these our neighbors. Strengthen those who spend their lives establishing equal protection of the law and equal opportunities for all. And grant that every one of us may enjoy a fair portion of the riches of this land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## MAY 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

Monthly	Pledge	Plate	Other	Total	2025 YTD	Pledge	Plate	Other	Total
Operating Income Received	\$11,964	\$698	\$1,717	\$14,379	Operating Income Received	\$89,937	\$4,866	\$6,781	\$101,584
Operating Income Budgeted	\$15,594	\$1,445	\$278	\$17,317	Operating Income Budgeted	\$77,974	\$7,224	\$1,964	\$87,162
	Monthly	YTD				Monthly	YTD		
Overall Operating Expenses	\$24,293	\$117,395			Outreach	\$200	\$900		
Budgeted Operating Expense	\$25,206	\$113,252							

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
810 Kitty Hawk Road, Universal City, Texas 78148  
210-658-5956      [www.stmatts-uc.org](http://www.stmatts-uc.org)