

# Matt's Missive

September 2025

## St. Matthew's 60th Anniversary Recognized by Universal City



Fr. Cristopher Robinson, Jayne Creasy, and Universal City Mayor Tom Maxwell as the Proclamation is read.



Universal City Mayor Tom Maxwell congratulating Fr. Cristopher Robinson.

**PROCLAMATION  
OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSAL CITY**

**For the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
Sunday, September 21, 2025**

**WHEREAS** St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Universal City, Texas was formed within the Randolph Air Force Base vicinity; and,

**WHEREAS** St. Matthew's Episcopal Church held its first service in 1965 and broke ground for its present location on Kitty Hawk in 1970; and,

**WHEREAS** for 40 years, St. Matthew's has maintained membership in the Randolph Area Christian Assistance Program (RACAP), through which it has served thousands of families in the area by providing food, rental, and utility assistance. The program has twenty-four churches and local organizations in its coalition; and,

**WHEREAS** St. Matthew's facilitates meetings of the Boy and Girl Scout Troops of America, Home Study Music Program, Alcoholics Anonymous groups (AA and ALANON), and various Bible study groups, adding to their service of the community at large; and,

**WHEREAS** St. Matthew's Episcopal Church has provided and will continue to provide a sanctuary, sense of community, and countless support systems for the residents of Universal City and the surrounding area; and,

**WHEREAS** St. Matthew's Episcopal Church will celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Sunday, September 21, 2025.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Universal City City Council joins St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Rector Fr. Cristopher Robinson and the clergy, the vestry and parishioners in celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Universal City, Texas to be affixed this 16th day of September 2025.



  
 Tom Maxwell, Mayor

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

**Dining Out on Thursday, September 25th, at 6:30 p.m.**

**Seasons 52 Fresh Grill**

**255 E. Basse Rd., #1400, San Antonio, TX 78209**

**RSVP by September 23rd to Tarawanda Howard or Ellen Yelverton**



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.

## RACAP NEWS

By Kathy Ercoline

This year's "**Back to School Supplies Program**" provided school supplies to 64 families (154 students). Since there were so many generous donations RACAP was able to bless many more students because the extra supplies collected were sent to local schools. Thanks again to those who donated to the school supplies program this year.

### RACAP Month in Review

#### **August 2025 Assistance Results**

# of Families Assisted 106 ~ # People 275

# of Pantry Orders Prepared 68 ~ # of People Fed 173

Estimated Value of Food Given: \$16,066.00

**RACAP'S HOLIDAY MEAL BASKET PROGRAM BEGINS in OCTOBER.** During the Autumn months, RACAP begins focusing on the **Holiday Food Basket Program**. A food display and a list of food items to fill the holiday baskets will be in the Narthex during the month of October. Also, there will be flyers hung in various places in the Narthex and Creasy Hall.

**ST. MATTHEW'S HARVEST SUNDAY is NOVEMBER 2nd.** Please bring the food items for the holiday baskets and/or cash donations to church on **Harvest Sunday**. If you are unable to attend church on **November 2nd**, please bring your contributions to Creasy Hall during office hours before then. Your donations of food and cash will be presented at the altar during both services on the 2nd and then they will be delivered to RACAP on the 3rd. The monetary donations will be used to purchase fresh food for the Holiday Food baskets.

**HARVEST SUNDAY CELEBRATION.** Following the 10:00 AM service on **November 2nd**, we will have a soup and salad luncheon to celebrate Harvest Sunday! There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex on the first Sunday in October to bring your favorite soup, salad, or other needed items for the luncheon. We hope you will join us for this annual event.

#### **Current Pantry Needs:**

Rice

Corn Bread

Muffin Mix

Spaghetti Sauce

Pet Food

**THANK YOU FROM a RACAP CLIENT:** *"Thank you so much for the groceries I picked up yesterday. It is very appreciated. You are a God send to the community."*

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

# Hospitality Notes

By Melissa Mudge

## Many Thanks

Thank you, people of St. Matthew's. Market Day was a great day because of the many helping hands who made it happen. You are the greatest!! And I am sure St. Matthew greatly appreciated the luncheon in his honor. Like Matthew, our calling is to go into the world with compassion, willing to listen with love and without judgement, always seeing in each person the face of Christ.

## 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. We will pass our kitchen inspection for Market Day with flying colors!!

## 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.

Please add to the collection so we can make new giveaway bags for those who travel this earth with us; but just need help sometimes.

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.*

*(Continued on next page)*

## Hospitality Notes *(Continued)*

### Special Days/Events

- ◆ **September 27-November 2**—Please join us 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 are 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.
- ◆ **October 1**—**Remigius of Rheims, Therese of Lisieux.** "Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love." "Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, or even at their difficulty, as at the love with which we do them."
- ◆ **October 4**—**Feast Day for Francis of Assisi.**
- ◆ **October 6**—**William Tyndale.** An English Biblical Scholar and linguist. The first to translate much of the Bible into English.
- ◆ **October 9**—**Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln, 1253.** *O God, our heavenly Father, who raised up your faithful servant Robert Grosseteste to be a bishop and pastor in your church and to feed your flock: Give abundantly to all pastors the gifts of your Holy Spirit, that they may minister in your household as true servants of Christ and stewards of your divine mysteries; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.*
- ◆ **October 18**—**Feast Day for Saint Luke, Evangelist.** 2 Timothy 4:5b. *Be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.* "It can be tempting to fill our lives with too many tasks, too much social media, or so much comfort that we insulate our lives from the suffering of others. We have an obligation as followers of Jesus to pay attention to the hurts in this world, to spread the gospel words of love and hope of salvation, and not be tempted into assuming it's someone else's job. On this feast day of Saint Luke, we remember that God made each of us an evangelist of hope in the name of Jesus Christ." (From *Forward Day by Day, August | September | October 2025, page 81*)
- ◆ **October 23**—**Feast Day of Saint James of Jerusalem.**
- ◆ **October 31**—Halloween.



### **Military Outreach Ministry**

By AGCS Arlene Stalvey, USN (ret)

The 50th commemoration of the end of the Vietnam War will conclude on Nov 11, 2025, having begun on Memorial Day 2023. Remember the Armed Forces personnel who served our nation during that conflict in the air, on the land (aka, in-country), at home in direct support, on the rivers of the jungle, and on the sea. We salute their collective courage, and especially those whose lives were sacrificed due to direct dangers.

# CHILDREN'S CHURCH



## October Birthdays

*But you are a shield around me, O Lord;  
you bestow glory on me and lift up my head.  
(Psalm 3:3-4)*

Amber Hamilton	Jennie Winkle
Sean Francis	Jayne Dunlap
Cheri Creekmore	Maxwell Hopkins
Robert Horn	Reina Hopkins
Francesca Keane-Dawes	Jennifer Whittier
Bill Luckhurst	Tanner Mudge
Carole Barnes	Bill Ercoline
Stephenie McBride	Frances Reed
Marsha Mudge	Cristopher Robinson
Tom Barnhart	Zachary Robinson

Birthday blessings are for everyone. Please let us know who you would like to add to the list – family, friend, acquaintance, foe.



## Happenings Around The Diocese

**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.

### 54th Annual Diocesan Silent Retreat:

November 13-16 at Mustang Island Conference Center. Retreat leader, the Rev. Rich Nelson, St. Peter's, Kerrville will guide you through a reflection on the foundational elements of your own uniquely creative, spiritual, and sacred self.

**Fall Church Events:** Various dates and locations. Upcoming recitals, galas, and seminars can be found from around the diocese on our new Local Church Events page on the diocesan web site. View local events [here](#) and to submit your church event.

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

**Help & Hope Comes to the Texas Hill Country: Q&A with the Rev. Bert Baetz, Rector at St. Peter's, Kerrville.**

The Rev. Bert Baetz reflects on how the July 4th Flood impacted Kerrville, Hunt, and the surrounding area and how God is present in the work of St. Peter's Help and Hope for the Hill Country ministry. Read and Watch [here](#).

**Theology on Tap at St. John's, Sonora: When the Church Leaves the Building.**

St. John's Episcopal Church in Sonora is building relationships through Theology on Tap, a casual once a month Christian Formation gathering that feeds the soul through food, beverages, and conversation. Read more [here](#).

**Read the Fall 2025 issue of *laVentana, The Church News of West Texas*.**

The Fall 2025 issue includes a message from the Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read, D.D., Bishop of West Texas, an update from the Rt. Rev. Maria Angela Cortiñas, Bishop Suffragan of West Texas, articles on the diocesan and St. Peter's, Kerrville response to the July 4 flood, ministry updates, Episcopal Schools update, transitions, and more! This issue is available in digital format. Click [here](#) to access the publication.

**New Diocesan Map.**

Visit the Communications Resources page to download the map of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas. You will find additional resources like the diocesan logo, official portraits of our bishops, and more, located toward the bottom of the page under Communication Diocesan Resources [here](#).

*(Continued next column)*

**From the Blog (Continued)**

**Advent Podcast Series.**

Our Small Church, Christian Formation and Latino + Immigration Ministries are developing a six-episode bilingual Advent podcast/study series for our new diocesan podcast *laVentana, The Voice of the Diocese*. The first episode will premier on November 23 and will include discussion guides and transcripts for all church and group sizes. More information is coming soon.

**Announcements**

**SPAM ALERT!** In light of recent email scams, please remember - if you receive an email that looks like it is from your bishop or diocesan staff member requesting a “favor” and instructing you to reply, do not reply and delete the email. If you are still unsure whether the request is legitimate:

- Call the person being impersonated to confirm whether the request is legitimate. Do not reply to the email; mark it as Spam or Junk, and delete it.

**From The Episcopal Church**

As the House of Bishops' September 10-15 meeting adjourns, bishops reflect on ‘inspiring’ gathering in the Dominican Republic: “To come and see [the Diocese of the Dominican Republic], this is a gift of The Episcopal Church,” Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe said. “To come and see it – not just to hear about it or watch it, but to experience it – it’s been a learning experience for us and, for me, a real inspiration.” Read more [here](#).

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



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of West Texas  
LATINO + IMMIGRATION  
MINISTRIES

## Introducing Latino + Immigration Ministries Expanding Cultural Competencies, Reach and Support in Latino Communities.

Flor Saldivar was recently named the Director of the new Latino + Immigration Ministries. "For the first time, the Diocese of West Texas has a staff member dedicated to leading and resourcing our clergy and congregations to engage in this work," said the Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read, D.D, Bishop of the Diocese of West Texas.

She will work closely with the Rt. Rev. Angela Maria Cortiñas, Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of West Texas, to achieve several goals including increasing the cultural and language competency within the diocese. "We hope to be able to create spaces for churches to share resources, talk about what their successes and challenges are, to network, and to see what other churches in our diocese are doing," Bishop Cortiñas said.

Join us in congratulating Flor on her new expanded role and please contact her or Bishop Cortiñas if you are interested in reaching out to Latinos in your community.

Read Bishop Read's message [here](#).

Bishop Cortiñas' message [here](#).

### **Celebrating our History: Hispanic Heritage Month**

On the Eighth Day of the 1970 General Convention held in Houston, Texas, the Bishop Coadjutor of New York for the Committee on Social and International Affairs introduced Resolutions that led to the formation of a National Commission on Hispanic Affairs that would evolve into the current Office of Latino/Hispanic Ministries.



Hispanic Heritage Month is an opportunity to showcase the unique voices and experiences of Hispanic/Latino Americans and celebrate their history and achievements within our diocese.

### **Ministry Spotlight**

The Episcopal Church of Reconciliation, San Antonio is partnering with Lighthouse Missional Community to launch **Lighthouse Faith** at Reconciliation, under the direction of Tamara Talasek, Reconciliation's Director of Family Ministries.

Lighthouse Faith is a missional community of unconditional welcome and friendship for LGBTQiA+ youth and their families. Chapters are hosted by churches committed to the foundational principle that LGBTQiA+ people are part of God's good, beloved, and diverse creation, and who are wholly and worthy of full access to everything that the church has to offer. Learn more [here](#).

## OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> <b>HOME</b> 10am-3:30pm <i>(CH, C, VEB)</i> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>Night Study</b> 6-8pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>2</b> <b>Eucharist</b> 11am <i>(ARC)</i> <b>Choir Practice</b> 2-3pm <i>(C)</i> <b>AA Meeting</b> 8-9pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <b>Worship</b> 8 & 10am <i>(C)</i> <b>Sunday School</b> 9:15am <i>(L)</i>	<b>6</b> <b>Staff Meeting</b> 9am <i>(L)</i> <b>Prayer Meeting</b> 12pm <i>(L)</i> <b>AA Meeting</b> 8-9pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>HOME</b> 10am-3:30pm <i>(CH, C, VEB)</i> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>Night Study</b> 6-8pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>9</b> <b>Eucharist</b> 11am <i>(ARC)</i> <b>Choir Practice</b> 2-3pm <i>(C)</i> <b>AA Meeting</b> 8-9pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <b>Worship</b> 8 & 10am <i>(C)</i> <b>Sunday School</b> 9:15am <i>(L)</i>	<b>13</b> <i>Office Closed</i> <i>No Staff or</i> <i>Prayer Meeting</i> <b>AA Meeting</b> 8-9pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>14</b> <b>Vestry Meeting</b> 6pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>15</b> <b>HOME</b> 10am-3:30pm <i>(CH, C, VEB)</i> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>Night Study</b> 6-8pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>16</b> <b>Eucharist</b> 11am <i>(ARC)</i> <b>Choir Practice</b> 2-3pm <i>(C)</i> <b>AA Meeting</b> 8-9pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <b>Worship</b> 8 & 10am <i>(C)</i> <b>Sunday School</b> 9:15am <i>(L)</i>	<b>20</b> <b>Staff Meeting</b> 9am <i>(L)</i> <b>Prayer Meeting</b> 12pm <i>(L)</i> <b>AA Meeting</b> 8-9pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <b>HOME</b> 10am-3:30pm <i>(CH, C, VEB)</i> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>Night Study</b> 6-8pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>23</b> <b>Eucharist</b> 11am <i>(ARC)</i> <b>Choir Practice</b> 2-3pm <i>(C)</i> <b>AA Meeting</b> 8-9pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <b>Worship</b> 8 & 10am <i>(C)</i> <b>Sunday School</b> 9:15am <i>(L)</i>	<b>27</b> <b>Staff Meeting</b> 9am <i>(L)</i> <b>Prayer Meeting</b> 12pm <i>(L)</i> <b>AA Meeting</b> 8-9pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>HOME</b> 10am-3:30pm <i>(CH, C, VEB)</i> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>Night Study</b> 6-8pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>30</b> <b>Eucharist</b> 11am <i>(ARC)</i> <b>Dining Out</b> 6:30pm (TBD) <b>AA Meeting</b> 8-9pm <i>(CH)</i>	<b>31</b>	

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



## OCTOBER 2025 SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Ministry	October 5	October 12	October 19	October 26
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Pat Clarke-Kempf Cindy Hull Diane Woods	Janet Clere Diane Woods	Tarawanda Howard Suzanne Milton	Maggie Barnes Stephenie McBride
<b>8 AM Reader</b>	Max Hopkins	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Joan McClain
<b>8 AM Greeter/Usher</b>	Max Hopkins	Ron Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Jayne Dunlap
<b>8 AM Coffee</b>	Joan McClain	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Tarawanda Howard
<b>10 AM Server</b>	Sean Francis	Wayne Mudge	Terry May	Mendell Morgan
<b>10 AM Reader</b>	Maribeth Likins	Diane Woods	Melissa Mudge	Janet Clere
<b>10 AM Greeter/Usher</b>	Melissa Mudge	Diane Woods	Suzanne Milton	Kathy Ercoline
<b>Prayers of the People</b>	Sean Keane-Dawes	Janet Clere	Bill Ercoline	Maribeth Likins
<b>Newcomer Visits</b>	Ellen Yelverton	Terry May Diane Woods	Ellen Yelverton	Terry May Diane Woods
<b>Home Communion</b>	No Home Communion	Ellen Yelverton	No Home Communion	Mendell Morgan
<b>Prayer Ministry</b>	Mendell Morgan	Maribeth Likins	Ellen Yelverton	Mendell Morgan
<b>10 AM Coffee</b>	Kathy Ercoline	Melissa Mudge	Diane Woods Terry May	Tarawanda Howard
<b>Audio Visual</b>	Wayne Mudge	Kristina Robinson	Terry May	Wayne Mudge
<b>Lockup/Security</b>	Ellen Yelverton	Janet Clere	Tarawanda Howard	Terry May

### *A Prayer attributed to St. Francis*

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *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)