

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of September 17

All School

Join Us October 1 to Celebrate the Installation of Dr. Collins

The St. Francis community will celebrate and bless the installation of Dr. Chelsea Pope Collins as Head of School during Episcopal School Sunday on October 1, 2023. Join us at St. Francis Episcopal Church for either the 9:00 a.m. service, when the Joyful Sounds Choir will provide music, or the 11:00 a.m. service, when the Middle School Choir will sing. A reception will immediately follow each service. [Please RSVP by clicking here.](#)

St. Francis Honors Hispanic Heritage Month

St. Francis is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 through October 15. During this time, we have various activities scheduled that will highlight the rich history, culture, and contributions of the Hispanic community. Please keep an eye out for Chapel service dates that will be dedicated to honoring this special month.

Welcome to Our New Director of Explore and Extend!

St. Francis is pleased to introduce Traci Callender as the new Director of Explore and Extend. Ms. Callender has managed summer-camp, after-school, and auxiliary programs at various independent schools in Houston, including Annunciation Orthodox School, River Oaks Baptist School, and Presbyterian School. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of the West Indies in Jamaica and her master's degree in business administration from Quantic School of Business and Technology. If you would like to welcome Ms. Callendar, or if you have general questions about the Explore and Extend program, please email TCallender@StFrancisHouston.org.

Explore and Extend: Changes to Your Child's Drop-off or Pickup Time?

To communicate changes to your Explore and Extend drop-off and/or pickup schedule, please continue to call (not text) 281.746.3161.

Sporting Clays Classic Is October 20—Register Today

Join us for a casual and fun day at the Greater Houston Sports Club on Friday, October 20! Our Sporting Clays Classic is open to the whole community, so family, friends, clients, and colleagues are all welcome. Purchase a team ticket for four guests or an individual ticket. The registration fee includes entry, 12- and 20-gauge ammunition, targets, golf cart transportation, a light breakfast, and lunch. [Register here!](#)

Homecoming News: Here's What You Need to Know

MOMS AND DADS, WE NEED HOMECOMING VOLUNTEERS!

Booster Club needs volunteers from all grade levels to help make Homecoming a success! There are many opportunities to help, both leading up to Homecoming and on the day itself. What's your fancy? Hanging team banners, distributing mums, serving concessions and popcorn? Come meet new people and have some fun pitching in! [Click here](#) to sign up today.

PRE-ORDER HOMECOMING FOOD FROM TORCHY'S TACOS

Save yourself time and [prepurchase your food tickets](#) for the Homecoming celebrations at Couper Campus on Friday, September 29. Pre-ordered meals from Torchy's Tacos will be served from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Advanced food ticket sales will close at midnight on Sunday, September 24. Limited meals will be available for purchase the day of the event, so buy in advance now!

SAVE THE DATES FOR THIS YEAR'S HOMECOMING GAMES

Mark your calendars to come cheer on our Wolves during Homecoming Week:

- **Middle School Football Game:** Thursday, September 28, at 5:00 p.m.
- **Upper School Volleyball Game:** Friday, September 29, at 4:30 p.m.
- **Upper School Football Game:** Friday, September 29, at 7:00 p.m.

All Middle School and Upper School teams playing during Homecoming Week will be celebrated.

Don't Miss the Next FoFA Meeting!

The next Friends of Fine Arts (FoFA) meeting is set for **Friday, September 22, at 8:30 a.m.** The meeting will be held in the Advancement Conference Room of the Administration Building (9000 Westheimer Rd.).

- All are welcome to attend and learn about the amazing support FoFA provides St. Francis's students, faculty, and staff.
- FoFA is an inclusive group of parents who support all aspects of the school's fine arts programming.

Volunteers Needed for the Fall Teacher Appreciation Breakfast

The St. Francis Parents Organization is looking for volunteers to help with our Fall Teacher Appreciation Breakfast. This is a fun opportunity to serve our teachers breakfast and thank them for all they do!

- [Click here to sign up.](#)
- With questions, please [email Alicyn Gawryliuk.](#)

Holiday Poinsettias: Limited Number Available—Reserve Yours Now

One way to support the arts at St. Francis is to purchase beautiful red poinsettias grown by The Brookwood Community! [Click here](#) for details and to reserve your poinsettias today.

Primary School

From the Director of Instructional Technology

Getting your first phone, tablet, or laptop is a very exciting time for children. Learning how to navigate wisely online and protect privacy while using devices is important to staying safe. Our technology team takes steps both to protect children when they're using school-issued devices and to prevent harmful Internet traffic on our network. As a school, we hold our students to high standards of online conduct and academic integrity, teach appropriate use, and instruct on how to manage digital footprints.

We'd like to share some "pro tips" from recent presentations by Crime Stoppers and our Middle and Upper School advisory program, #WinAtSocial. These links are intended to educate families on the best ways to manage apps and devices, and to empower them to dialogue with their children on issues of cybersafety and online privacy.

- [Crime Stoppers Presentation:](#) Watch the recording of the presentation Crime Stoppers gave to the St. Francis Community on September 12.
- [Carly Ryan Foundation App Fact Sheets:](#) These guides explain apps, define challenges, and empower you to manage privacy and safety.
- [Common Sense Media Guide:](#) Known for reviews of movies and television, this website also has guides to apps like TikTok, Roblox, and Minecraft.
- [Bark Resources for Families:](#) This paid parental-control app also publishes app reviews and tech guides that show you how to manage parental-control and privacy settings on dozens of popular online games and apps.

Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping children cybersafe. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

Steve Johnson
Director of Instructional Technology

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, September 18

- *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
-

Tuesday, September 19

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
-

Wednesday, September 20

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend
-

Monday, September 25

- *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
-

Tuesday, September 26

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
-

Wednesday, September 27

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend

Monday, October 2

- *Primary School Picture Day*
- *Open Library: 3:00 p.m.*

Tuesday, October 3

- *Primary II Blessing of the Stuffed Animals Chapel: Primary II parents may attend*
- *Primary II Furry Friends Picnic: Students only*

Wednesday, October 4

- *No Chapel Today for Primary I: Moved to Friday, October 6*

Thursday, October 5

- *Primary II Field Trip*

Friday, October 6

- *Primary I Blessing of the Stuffed Animals Chapel: Primary I parents may attend*

Monday, October 9

- *Fall Break: No school*

Tuesday, October 10

- *Chapel: Primary II parents may attend*
-

Wednesday, October 11

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend
-

Monday, October 16

- *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
-

Tuesday, October 17

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
 - *Primary II Sings:* Classes TBD
-

Wednesday, October 18

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend
-

Friday, October 20

- *Sporting Clays Classic:* At the Greater Houston Sports Club; [click here to register](#)
-

Monday, October 23

- *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
-

Tuesday, October 24

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
 - *Primary II Sings:* Classes TBD
-

Wednesday, October 25

- *Primary School Parent Conference Day:* Student holiday
-

Monday, October 30

- *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
-

Tuesday, October 31

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
-

Wednesday, November 1

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend

Lower School

From the Director of Instructional Technology

Getting your first phone, tablet, or laptop is a very exciting time for children. Learning how to navigate wisely online and protect privacy while using devices is important to staying safe. Our technology team takes steps both to protect children when they're using school-issued devices and to prevent harmful Internet traffic on our network. As a school, we hold our students to high standards of online conduct and academic integrity, teach appropriate use, and instruct on how to manage digital footprints.

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- **Carly Ryan Foundation App Fact Sheets:** These guides explain apps, define challenges, and empower you to manage privacy and safety.
- **Common Sense Media Guide:** Known for reviews of movies and television, this website also has guides to apps like TikTok, Roblox, and Minecraft.

- **Bark Resources for Families:** This paid parental-control app also publishes app reviews and tech guides that show you how to manage parental-control and privacy settings on dozens of popular online games and apps.

Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping children cybersafe. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

Steve Johnson
Director of Instructional Technology

Parent Lunches With Students Begin October 2

We're thrilled to let you know that, beginning Monday, October 2, we will kick off our parent lunches with students! On Monday, September 25, we will send out the link you'll use to sign up for lunch with your child.

Due to space and safety concerns, lunch visitors are subject to important guidelines:

- All lunch visitors must follow established check-in/checkout procedures and will receive a name tag upon arrival, which must be worn at all times while on campus.
- Lunch visitors are asked to follow the dining procedures on pages 30–31 of our *Lower School Handbook*, as follows: *"Parent/guardian lunches for students in kindergarten through grade 4 will be scheduled from October through April using Veracross. (The link will be sent in September and will also be accessible via the Parent Portal.) Each family will be allotted three lunch dates within the school year. (Note: The lunch count is per family and not per child.) Please be aware that some dates may not be available due to previously scheduled events on campus. The school will limit the number of reservations per day to avoid congestion in the parking lot and within the school building."*
- **St. Francis uses Veracross for scheduling family lunch dates** to ensure efficient organization of highly attended dates when limited space is available. (Please note that lunch times for each grade level will be listed at the top of the sign-up page.)

Parents are encouraged to eat with their Lower School child at the tables along Main Street or at outdoor picnic tables in the Courtyard adjacent to the Fine Arts hallway. Students are not allowed to invite their friends to eat with their parents and them.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, September 18

- *Honor Code 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 19

- *Early Literacy Parent Meeting for Kindergarten and First Grade*
 - 8:30–9:30 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room
 - Parents, please park in front of the school.
-

Thursday, September 21

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

Monday, September 25

- *Homecoming Week—Superhero Day*
 - *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 26

- *Homecoming Week—Color Clash Day*
 - Kindergarten = Orange
 - First Grade = Green
 - Second Grade = Red
 - Third Grade = White
 - Fourth Grade = Blue
-

Wednesday, September 27

- *Homecoming Week—Sports Jersey Day*
-

Thursday, September 28

- *Homecoming Week—Western Day*
 - *Chapel for Grades K–4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Please be advised that there are limited parking spots in front of the school.
 - *Lower School Fall Pep Rally: 2:00–2:30 p.m.; students only*
-

Friday, September 29

- *Homecoming Week—Neon Day*
-

Monday, October 2

- *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 3

- *Lower School Individual Student Photos*
-

Wednesday, October 4

- *Grades K–4 Eucharist Chapel and Fourth-Grade Blessing of the Animals*
 - 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, October 6

- *Lower School Parent/Teacher Conferences: Student holiday*
-

Monday, October 9

- *Fall Break:* No school

Middle School

From the Director of Instructional Technology

Getting your first phone, tablet, or laptop is a very exciting time for children. Learning how to navigate wisely online and protect privacy while using devices is important to staying safe. Our technology team takes steps both to protect children when they're using school-issued devices and to prevent harmful Internet traffic on our network. As a school, we hold our students to high standards of online conduct and academic integrity, teach appropriate use, and instruct on how to manage digital footprints.

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Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping children cybersafe. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

Steve Johnson
Director of Instructional Technology

Important Details About MS Winter Sports

SPORT / PE SELECTION SURVEYS THIS WEEK

As we look ahead to the winter sports season, it is very important that we have accurate

roster information so that we can make plans for scheduling, coaching, equipment, and transportation.

- **Students will complete a brief survey this coming week to confirm or update their sport or PE selections for the winter season.**
- Fall sports will conclude on Friday, October 20. Winter sports will begin on Monday, October 23, for all students who are not on a school trip.
- Sport participation will be finalized after the second day of practice, and sport-change requests will not be accepted after this time.

WINTER SPORTS OFFERINGS

Students in grades 6–8 are required to participate on a team or enroll in a Middle School Physical Education class each season. Winter sports offerings are Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Coed Swimming, Wrestling, and Physical Education.

- **With the exception of swimming (which will have a modified practice schedule), teams will practice or play every day after school.** Students who would like to participate on a basketball or soccer team and swim as a secondary sport may do so if they are able to meet the practice requirements on their own outside of school.
- **Teams will be split by grade level, when possible.** If roster numbers do not allow for this, teams will be formed with mixed grade levels, as needed. For sports that have enough students for multiple teams, coaches will split rosters into separate teams after the first few days of practice and evaluations.

NOTE ABOUT PE EXEMPTION REQUESTS

Students/families seeking an exemption from the physical education requirement must submit a completed Physical Education Exemption Request Form to the Director of Athletics no later than one week prior to the start of the first practice for that season. Late applications will not be accepted for the winter season.

MS Bible Studies: Upcoming Schedule

Middle School Bible studies have begun. Students will meet in either the Mac Lab or the MakerSpace, both of which are right off of the Crum Library.

- Eighth-grade **boys** will meet on Monday, September 18, at 12:05 p.m.
- Eighth-grade **girls** will meet on Wednesday, September 20, at 12:05 p.m.
- Seventh-grade **boys** will meet on Wednesday, September 20, at 12:05 p.m.
- Seventh-grade **girls** will meet on Tuesday, September 19, at 12:05 p.m.
- Sixth-grade **boys** will meet on Thursday, September 21, at 12:30 p.m.
- Sixth-grade **girls** will meet on Thursday, September 21, at 12:30 p.m.
- Fifth-grade **boys** will meet on Thursday, September 28, at 12:30 p.m.
- Fifth-grade **girls** will meet on Thursday, September 28, at 12:30 p.m.

Important Note About MS/US Grandparent and Grandfriends Days

This year, we have made some changes to Grandparents and Grandfriends Days for our Middle and Upper School students. These changes were detailed in an email sent this past Thursday, which is also available for review [here](#).

Homecoming Week: Spirit Dress-up Days

Homecoming Week is a weeklong celebration of school spirit beginning Monday, September 25, and leading up to an evening football game on Friday, September 29. Each day of Homecoming Week, students are encouraged to dress up according to a particular theme. We want our students to have fun, but please remember that all outfits must be school-appropriate. Students who opt not to dress up may wear regular school uniforms instead.

- **Monday, September 25:** Superhero Day (Dress as your favorite superhero.)
- **Tuesday, September 26:** Color Clash (Wear your grade level's assigned color.)
 - Eighth Grade = Blue
 - Seventh Grade = White
 - Sixth Grade = Red
 - Fifth Grade = Green
- **Wednesday, September 27:** Sports Jersey Day
- **Thursday, September 28:** Western Wear
- **Friday, September 29:** Neon Day

Eighth Grade to Visit Upper School on September 28

The eighth grade will visit the Upper School on Thursday, September 28, from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Note On Early Pickup for Students in Grades 6–8

If you are planning on picking up your sixth-, seventh-, or eighth-grade student after 2:35 p.m., you will need to go to Athletics and sign them out.

- If your student plays a sport, you will need to email the coach ahead of time and then walk to the coach and sign them out.
- If your student is in PE, you will need to sign them out with the PE instructor in the OAC or gym.
- For teams on Piney Point Campus, please remember that parking at Ecclesia is not allowed. Instead, park at the front of the school and enter through the Courtyard to go to the fields or gyms.
- Please [email Kelly Murray](#) with any questions.

Summer 2024 Travel Opportunities: Parent Info Sessions This Week

The St. Francis Travel Program offers Middle and Upper School students the opportunity to

broaden their horizons, expand their minds, and embrace what it means to be global citizens through carefully curated learning adventures.

- Next week, we will be rolling out the **Spain/France trip** to Upper and Middle School students and our **Washington, DC, trip** to current fifth graders. Parent information sessions via Zoom will also be held in the coming week. Please [click here](#) for details regarding dates, times, and links for these sessions.
- Information will be coming soon regarding the seventh-grade trip to **Costa Rica**.
- Please [email Ted Lakoski](#), Director of Counseling and Experiential Travel, with any questions about these exciting summer travel opportunities.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, September 18

- *"A" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Middle School Honor Code Chapel: 9:35 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary*
 - *Eighth-Grade Boys Bible Study: 12:05 p.m. in the MakerSpace*
-

Tuesday, September 19

- *"B" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Seventh-Grade Girls Bible Study: 12:05 p.m. in the MakerSpace*
-

Wednesday, September 20

- *"A" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Eighth-Grade Girls Bible Study: 12:05 p.m. in the MakerSpace*
 - *Seventh-Grade Boys Bible Study: 12:05 p.m. in the Mac Lab*
-

Thursday, September 21

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

- *Middle School Chapel*: 9:55 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - *Sixth-Grade Boys and Girls Bible Studies*: 12:30 p.m.; boys and girls meet separately, in either the Mac Lab or the MakerSpace
-

Friday, September 22

- *“A” Day*
 - *SFES Spirit Dress*: Wear a St. Francis Spirit shirt with full-length jeans or uniform bottoms
-

Monday, September 25

- *“B” Day*
 - *Homecoming Week—Regular Uniform OR Dress Like Your Favorite Superhero*
 - *Middle School See You at the Pole Chapel*
 - 9:55 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Weather permitting, we will start in the Chapel and move in a procession outside to the pole.
 - *Eighth-Grade Boys Bible Study*: 12:05 p.m. in the Mac Lab
-

Tuesday, September 26

- *“A” Day*
 - *Homecoming Week—Regular Uniform OR Color Clash*
 - Eighth Grade = Blue
 - Seventh Grade = White
 - Sixth Grade = Red
 - Fifth Grade = Green
 - *Seventh-Grade Girls Bible Study*: 12:05 p.m. in the MakerSpace
-

Wednesday, September 27

- *“B” Day*
- *Homecoming Week—Regular Uniform OR Sports Jersey Day*
- *Seventh-Grade Boys Bible Study*: 12:05 p.m. in the MakerSpace
- *Eighth-Grade Girls Bible Study*: 12:05 p.m. in the Mac Lab

Thursday, September 28

- "A" Day
- *Middle School Chapel*: 9:55 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
- *Homecoming Week—Regular Uniform OR Western Wear*
- *Fifth-Grade Boys and Girls Bible Studies*: 12:30 p.m.; boys and girls meet separately, in either the Mac Lab or the MakerSpace

Friday, September 29

- "B" Day
- *Homecoming Week—SFES Spirit Dress OR Neon Day*

Upper School

From the Director of Instructional Technology

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Best regards,

Steve Johnson
Director of Instructional Technology

October 19: Digital PSAT Exams for Sophomores and Juniors

We're one month away! The digital PSAT exam will be administered to sophomore and junior students on **Thursday, October 19, beginning at 8:00 a.m. in the Student Life Center on Couper Campus**. The exam is truly an opportunity for students to practice taking a standardized test, and there is no need for students to prepare for it; however, students should take it seriously.

Due to the digital component of this exam, students will use their SFES device. College Counseling and our Technology Department have been working diligently to prepare, and will communicate next steps to students and parents in the coming days.

Important Note About MS/US Grandparent and Grandfriends Days

This year, we have made some changes to Grandparents and Grandfriends Days for our Middle and Upper School students. These changes were detailed in an email sent this past Thursday, which is also available for review [here](#).

View the Schedule for College Representative Visits

[Click here](#) to view the current list of scheduled college representative visits. Please note that more colleges will be added throughout the fall, and the updated list will be forwarded to parents as necessary.

Summer 2024 Travel Opportunities: Parent Info Sessions This Week

The St. Francis Travel Program offers Middle and Upper School students the opportunity to broaden their horizons, expand their minds, and embrace what it means to be global citizens through carefully curated learning adventures.

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- Information will be coming soon regarding the seventh-grade trip to **Costa Rica**.
- Please [email Ted Lakoski](#), Director of Counseling and Experiential Travel, with any questions about these exciting summer travel opportunities.

Homecoming Week: Spirit Dress-up Days + Homecoming Dance

Homecoming Week is a celebration of school spirit from Monday, September 25, to Saturday, September 30. [Click here for details on Spirit Dress-up Days and the Homecoming Dance!](#)

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, September 18

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Tuesday, September 19

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Wednesday, September 20

- *“A” Day*
 - *Dress Uniform*
 - *Honor Code Signing Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in the Student Life Center*
-

Thursday, September 21

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Friday, September 22

- *“A” Day*
- *SFES Spirit Dress: Wear a St. Francis Spirit shirt with full-length jeans or uniform bottoms*
- *Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in the Student Life Center*

Monday, September 25

- “B” Day
- *Spirit Dress-up Day—Save the Day*: Dress as your favorite superhero or, if preferred, wear the regular uniform
- *Homecoming Week*

Tuesday, September 26

- “A” Day
- *Spirit Dress-up Day—Color Clash*: Wear your grade level’s assigned color or, if preferred, wear the regular uniform
 - Seniors = Blue
 - Juniors = White
 - Sophomores = Red
 - Freshmen = Green
- *Homecoming Week*

Wednesday, September 27

- “B” Day
- *Spirit Dress-up Day—Senior Citizens vs. Infants*: Juniors and seniors dress as senior citizens. Freshmen and sophomores dress as infants. Students may wear the regular uniform, if preferred.
- *Homecoming Week*
- *See You at the Pole Chapel*: 10:00–10:30 a.m.

Thursday, September 28

- “A” Day
 - *Spirit Dress-up Day—Country vs. Country Club*: Come to school in your choice of Western wear or preppy clothes (polos, boat shoes, etc.). Students may wear the regular uniform, if preferred.
-

Friday, September 29

- “B” Day
 - *Spirit Dress-up Day—Neon Disco Wear*: Wear neon-colored clothing or disco fashion. Students may wear the regular uniform, if preferred.
 - *Pep Rally*: 2:00 p.m. in the Student Life Center
-

Saturday, September 30

- *Homecoming Dance*: 7:30–10:30 p.m.; [click here for details](#)

Church

Pizza and Bingo Night Is September 24

Join us for family fun, pizza, and bingo on Sunday, September 24, at 5:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center. Prizes will be awarded to bingo winners. The cost is \$5 per person, with a \$25 per family maximum. For more information, contact Allison Devlin via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

Join Us September 24 for Recovery Sunday

On Sunday, September 24, guest speaker Joanie McLeod will talk about her journey related to addiction, mental health, and recovery during the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. Recovery Sunday is a day when churches join others in addressing the damage of addiction of all types.

Apollo Chamber Players Perform on September 27

Our featured guests for the first of two fall 2023 music programs, the Apollo Chamber Players will perform Bach’s Cantata BWV 82 at our Wednesday Evening Music Program on September 27. The evening will begin with Holy Eucharist at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7:15 p.m.

Blessing of the Animals Is October 1

Join us for St. Francis’s annual Blessing of the Animals at 4:00 p.m. in the school Courtyard. There will be a short liturgy in the church and individual blessings by the clergy. Pictures will be taken of you and your pet. We will be collecting donations of pet food, newspapers, paper towels, dish soap, cat litter, bleach, towels, fleece blankets, and dog leashes for animal shelters. For more information, contact Cindy Huteson via [email](#) or at 713.782.1270.

Outreach Ministries: New Opportunities Now Available!

- **Lord of the Streets** needs weekday volunteers between 8:00 a.m. and noon to serve our homeless neighbors. Over 300 hot meals are served daily. St. Francis also collects men's clothes on an ongoing basis—men's shoes are always needed. Contact [Heather Burkhart](#) for more information.
- The **Reading Buddies** program is returning to Woodview Elementary for the 2023–24 school year. The program starts in October, preceded by a brief training session in September. Our volunteers will be partnered with second-grade students who are on the cusp of success, where Spring Branch Independent School District has found that reading intervention can significantly improve outcomes. Volunteers will be expected to read with their assigned students for 30 minutes each week. For more information, contact Tim Blaine at 832.247.8667.
- **Memorial Assistance Ministries** has an urgent plea from the pantry team. For additional information, contact the church's Director of Outreach [Heather Burkhart](#).
- The **Fair Haven Food Pantry** needs volunteers and food donations. For additional information, email [Heather Burkhart](#). To volunteer, [click here](#).

Moms' Bible Study Meets Wednesday

- **What:** This fall, the Moms' Bible Study is centering around the First15 app, which lets you connect with God every day and explore different topics through daily devotions that feature Scripture reading, devotional thought, guided prayer, and action steps. During weekly meetings, we gather to discuss the theme of the week, reflect on the Scriptures, and pray. Download First15 for free from the App Store or Google Play.
- **When:** Wednesdays at 8:15 a.m.
- **Where:** Richmond House on the Couper Campus
- **For More Information:** To sign up or with questions, contact Allison Devlin via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

Join Us Each Sunday for Our Family-Focused Service and Events

- **Sunday Family Worship Service:** 9:00 a.m.
- **Let It Shine Children's Bible Lesson:** On Sundays during the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service, join Mrs. Devlin to learn about the Bible as we act out Scripture with costumes and props and pray together.
- **Coffee, Donuts, and Crafts:** Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. (after the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service), get a cup of coffee and enjoy fellowship while young children color, create an art project based on the lesson learned at Let it Shine, and have fun with friends.

Students, Join Us for Weekly Book Studies on Sundays

On Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in the cafeteria, join your friends for weekly meetings to talk about

some amazing, Biblically inspired stories. Books will be provided. Please contact [Allison Devlin](#) to sign up.

- **Grades 1–4:** *The Dead Sea Squirrels* by Mike Nawrocki
- **Grades 5–8:** *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis

High School and Adult Volunteer Opportunities: Sign Up Now

This year, we are tracking and giving awards to high school students and adults for completing hours of service at St. Francis Episcopal Church.

- There will be a Gold Wolf Award for completing 50+ service hours, a Silver Rabbit Award for completing 25–49 service hours, and a Bronze Bird for completing 10–24 service hours. Award recipients will be recognized in May on Mother’s Day.
- We need volunteers to help lead weekly book clubs and First Communion Classes, set up crafts and supervise kids on Sundays, and serve at events like Pizza and Bingo Night, the Blessing of the Animals, the Children’s Christmas Party, and much more!
- To sign up, please [click here](#) or scan the QR code below with your mobile phone:



Healing Prayers and Anointings Available

Healing prayers and anointings are always available after Sunday Eucharist services, or you may schedule an appointment with a priest. For more information or to schedule an appointment, email [Sally Jo Flores](#) or call 832.325.2983.

Share Your Prayer Requests Online

Share your prayer requests with us using the “Prayer Requests” link on the [St. Francis Episcopal Church home page](#).

Bible Studies at St. Francis

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Tuesdays at 7:00–8:00 a.m.
 - **Contact:** [George Hippard](#)
 - **Location:** La Madeleine (1st, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays of each month)
- Second Tuesday of Each Month at 8:00–9:30 a.m. (**The next meeting is October 10.**)
 - **Meeting:** The Men of St. Francis Breakfast and Bible Study
 - **Study:** The Life of Abraham
 - **Location:** [The Corner Bakery](#) (9311 Katy Fwy.), breakfast included
 - **Contact:** [Sally Jo Flores](#)

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Nehemiah
 - **Location:** Hogan Board Room
 - **Contact:** [George Hippard](#)

How to Watch Sunday Service Via Livestream

To join St. Francis Episcopal Church's 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Sunday service via livestream, open an Internet browser on your computer, laptop, or phone. Type in the St. Francis website—sfch.org. Click on the "Watch Live Stream Worship Services" button. Either the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. service will be available.