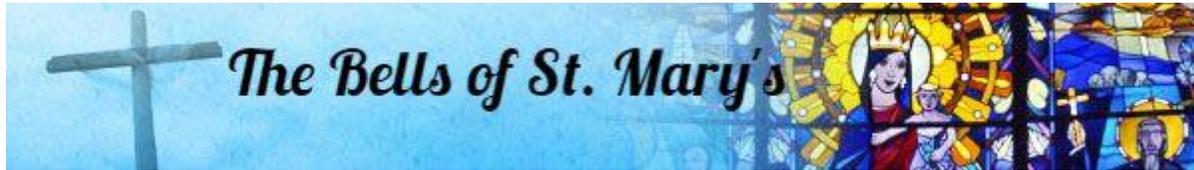




St. Mary's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
The Mustard Seed Church

The mission of St. Mary's is to invite all people into a relationship with God and each other in Christ.



May 2022

The Mustard Seed Church Sowing Seeds in the Community...



UTO Gathering

St. Mary's is bringing back the blue UTO boxes. What are these you ask? UTO stands for United Thanks Offering. It is a way to give thanks to God for his many blessings.

Notice all of the ways that God is blessing you each day; from little things like a sunshine on your family reunion or a note from a friend to the big things like recovering from an illness or completing a major project. From moments of self-care to interaction with people who care and love us, good things are happening all the time that we simply miss because we are continually rushing.

The UTO blue box allows us to slow down for just a second and give thanks for all those blessings, big and small. Every time you drop a coin or dollar in the box, say a prayer of thanksgiving. Place these boxes anywhere; in the laundry room to catch the change that is left in pockets, in the car for your spare change after ordering through the drive-thru, in your bedroom for all the coins accumulated at the end of the day. You will be amazed how much you are thankful for and how much you will collect.

The UTO boxes will be available on Pentecost Sunday, June 5. Take as many as you want and remember to include your children and teens, so they also can give thanks for God's many blessings. The boxes with all the coins will be returned six months later on All Saints Sunday, November 6. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings, and to distribute 100 percent of what is collected to support mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.



Parish Dinner

Our next Parish dinner will be Wednesday, May 18th, at 6:00 p.m. Marvin Miller will be making his famous Dutch Oven lasagna. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall for those who would like to bring sides or desserts.

Come join us for a wonderful meal, special time with friends, and a laugh or two. It won't be the same without you there.

Honoring Our Military

Sunday, May 15th, is the last day to donate to the gift cards for our military personnel. All of these men have close connections to St. Mary's. Luis Cassells, the grandson of Marglet Arana, and Ricky Wallace served this congregation as acolytes. Shane Case is the son-in-law of Mary Stewart and John Brockway is the nephew of AJ and Dani Mikel. Brandon Davidson served with Colleen Matocha's husband. Christopher Koole is the nephew of Theresa Crawford, the newest member to our congregation.

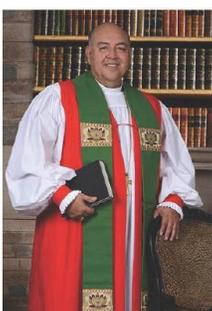
You can place donations in the offering plate on Sundays, bring or mail your donation to the church office. or donate through PayPal on our website. Notes thanking them and their families for their service would also be appreciated.

During these uncertain times, these men and their families need to know they are not forgotten. Give what you can for those who give so much and continue to pray for them.

Workday

Dan Roddy, our Junior Warden, has rescheduled a workday for St. Mary's on Saturday, May 21, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Donuts, pigs in the blanket, coffee, juice, milk and water will be served before the work begins.

Many hands make light work! Wear something comfortable that you're not afraid to get dirty in. It shouldn't take long for us to get the church looking spic and span.



Bishop Monterroso is Coming

Bishop Monterroso will be celebrating the Holy Eucharist at St. Mary's on Sunday, June 12, at 9:00 a.m. If you or anyone you know would like to be confirmed, received, or baptized during this service, please let Father Paul know.

Confirmation Classes

Confirmation is the sacramental rite in which the candidates express a mature commitment to Christ, make a public affirmation of their faith, recommit themselves to the responsibilities of their baptism, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop. (Book of Common Prayer)

The Reverend Paul Wehner will conduct 4 confirmation classes for those who are interested in being confirmed. The four classes will be after hospitality and fellowship on the following Sundays; May 8, May 15, May 29, and June 5.

Worship Leaders

With summer coming on, the availability of parishioners to serve as worship leaders will be limited. If you are able to help on the altar guild, as a lector or leader of the Prayers of the People, as an acolyte, as an usher, or as a Chalice bearer, let Dani know.

Each person who serves is a special and vital part of the worship service. Please consider serving. St. Mary's needs you.

Pentecost Sunday

Sunday, June 5, is Pentecost Sunday. This is the Sunday we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles and earlier followers of Jesus. Remember to wear **red** to church that day.



4th of July Picnic

Mark your calendars for our picnic celebrating the 4th of July on Sunday, July 3rd, following the service. Hamburgers and hotdogs and all the fixin's will be served. There will be a water slide for all ages along with outdoor games. Bring your chairs, your appetite, towels, bathing suits, and any games as we celebrate our nation's freedom together as a church family. Since the picnic begins after church, you can dress casually for the service. No need to go home and change.

If you have a canopy we can use that day, please let Dani, Gwynne, or Father Paul know. **COME ON LET'S CELEBRATE!!!**

Message from Marvin Miller

* Leadership Without Words

From 1949 to 1958 Pee Wee Reese was captain of baseball's Dodgers. Named not for his size, but for playing marbles as a kid with a pee-wee shooter. He was a great shortstop, a daring base runner, and a superb clutch hitter.

He was an eight-time All Star and sparked the Dodgers to seven National League pennants. He fielded the final ground ball in Brooklyn's first World Series championship in 1955. He never earned more than \$35,000 playing the game he loved.

During his total of sixteen years on the field for the Dodgers, Reese was respected as a person as well as a ballplayer. His fellow Dodgers called him simply "The Captain" and deferred to his judgment on many matters.

He wasn't good at speeches. His leadership came from inner confidence, integrity, and consistency. His manner had the unpretentious effect of causing people to trust and follow him.

Just back from a three-year stint in the Navy during World War II, Reese had helped win a war against racial intolerance in Europe and was destined to be caught up in fighting the same injustices in his own country.

His team decided to break the barrier against black players by bringing up a young player named Jackie Robinson. Some of the Dodger players began circulating a petition in the clubhouse to protest the plan. The petition said in effect that the players signing it wouldn't play on a team with a black man.

Confident that Reese would sign it because he was a Southerner, it was shoved under his nose. "I'm not signing!" he said, and the petition died.

Robinson was with the team for spring training in 1947. Before a game in Cincinnati just across the river from Reese's native Kentucky, the ugliness was intense. Fans in the stands joined players in the opposing dugout to shout racial slurs at the black man taking infield practice at second base.

Pee Wee Reese raised his arm to halt the team's warm up. He walked from his shortstop position to second base and put his arm around Jackie Robinson's shoulders.

That event is viewed as a turning point in the history of baseball. By extension, it was also a major blow against racism in American society.

Robinson recalled: "Pee Wee kind of sensed the sort of hopeless, dead feeling in me and came over and stood beside me for a while."

"He didn't say a word, but he looked over at the chaps who were yelling at me . . . and just stared. He was standing by me. I could tell you that."

Sometimes you don't need to say anything to lead. Just be there. Stand for what you know is right. There is an eloquence in actions that words can't equal.

~ The Author of the story is Rubel Shelly who preached for the Family of God Church at Woodmont Hills in Nashville, TN.

No Newsletter in June

There will be no newsletter in June and possibly July. Emails will be sent out periodically to all parishioners with important information and upcoming events. If you receive an email from St. Mary's, please open it. For those who do not have an email address, you will be notified by mail or telephone.

Calendar of Upcoming Events and Services

On St. Mary's website under the "Calendar" tap there are events and services under each month. The calendar is kept up to date and edited as new events and services are added. If you click on the event or service, more details will pop up. Our website is stmaryswestcolumbia.com.



Community Assistance

During April, the committee approved funds for 1 family's electric bill and partial rent.

If you know of anyone needing assistance, please contact Tracy Lane or Jackie Walker.



2022 Flower sign up

The forms to sign up for 2021 flower offerings are in the Narthex. Please stop by and sign up to honor or celebrate special days in your life. The cost is \$50, to be paid in advance.

For more information call the church office at 979-345-3456.

Congratulations NICE GOING!
GREAT! Way to Go!
Yea! FELICITATIONS
CHEERS Take A BEST
BOW! WISHES!

In April

Kendy Hankins was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society at Bay City Junior High. Her 7th grade soccer team is undefeated.

Shyanne Roddy passed all her Texas required tests and is now a Texas certified teacher.

Ally Lane will be working at Talos Energy as an accounting intern doing things like balance sheet reconciliation, creation and interpretation of financial reports and journal entries. In the spring, she will intern for BKD CPA and Advisory Firm working on tax related issues ranging from individual tax returns to large corporations to international tax.

Aaron Mikel will intern this summer at Mitsubishi Cement Corporation in Lucerne Valley, California.



Don't Forget

Remember to keep your empty print cartridges for St. Mary's. All brands and types are welcomed. We have been turning in 10 cartridges a month, earning a \$20 credit. This greatly helps defray the cost of our office supplies.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Special thanks and gratitude to

- Theata Miller, Sherry Wehner, Shyanne Roddy, Wade Roddy, Travis Prater, Tracy Lane, Gwynne Olson, Jackie Walker, Colleen Matocha, Dani Mikel, Bill Olson, AJ Mikel, Dan Roddy, Marvin Miller, Abigail Roddy, Trace Roddy, Haley Cantrell, Reesie Cantrell, Wendy Hankins, Kendy Hankins, Adam Schill, Brayze Schill, Jennifer Schill, and Braylee Schill for serving as Worship Leaders during the month of April and first of May.
- Dan Roddy, Donna Roddy, AJ Mikel, Dani Mikel, Jackie Walker, Bill Olson, Gwynne Olson and Father Paul Wehner for preparing the church and Parish Hall for Easter.
- Braylee Schill for making the palm crosses for Palm Sunday.
- The Schill family for providing the palms for Palm Sunday and especially Braylee and Brayze for delivering them to the church.
- Father Paul Wehner and Travis Prater for Ashes to Go.
- Travis Prater, Gwynne Olson, Tracy Lane, Dani Mikel, Madeline Roddy, and Father Paul Wehner for participating and representing St. Mary's in the joint Ash Wednesday with Bethel Presbyterian and Columbia United Methodist.
- Amber Prater for setting up the Livestreaming on our Facebook site, monitoring the feed during the service, and responding to those viewing on-line.
- Theata and Marvin Miller for providing treats for our April Hospitality and Fellowship.
- the vestry for providing the cake and goodies at Easter and the desserts for our April Parish Dinner.
- Dan Roddy, Donna Roddy, Jackie Walker, Dani Mikel, A.J. Mikel, Gwynne Olson and Bill Olson for running St. Mary's booth at the San Jacinto Festival.
- Theata Miller for stapling the service bulletins.

You are awesome, and St. Mary's greatly appreciates all you do.

Thank You Cards

Dear St. Mary's,

Thank you so much for all the generous gifts. The candy was sweet and the snacks filling. The gift cards and money helped with both food and groceries for Kayla and I. Thank you for always supporting me through college with gifts of kindness. It is always comforting to know there are people back home who are cheering me on.

Thank you,
Aaron Mikel



Camp Allen Events

Needlepoint Retreats - June 6-10, September 12-16, and December 5-9 - Join fellow needlepointers for a three day, two night retreat.

Abundant Living - May 24-26 - Camp Allen and UTMB's Center for Spirituality of Aging invite you to this three day conference for seniors and caregivers. Learn from scholars, professors and doctors about this stage of life while enjoying music, nature walks, yoga, labyrinth walks and the gift of hospitality.

Summer Camp for Moms - July 14 - 16 - It's Mom's turn to come to camp for a weekend of relaxation, renewal and adventure. Activities include zip line, skeet shooting, horseback rides, aquatics, hiking, cooking classes, crafts, knitting, chick-flick movie night, women's speaker, and decadent dessert social.

Labor Day Family Camp - September 2 -4 - This is the perfect "back to school" family weekend with something for everyone. Activities include rock climbing, zip line, giant water slide, canoeing, swimming, horseback rides, family movie night, water inflatables, arts and crafts and more!



Prayer Request

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please notify the office by email or phone. The prayer list will be updated each month, so if prayers need to continue for an individual person, please fill out a new card or let Dani know. Prayers for the sick and those in need are the joyful duty of the Christian community. Help us keep our parish prayer list current by notifying us of those in need of prayer and when those listed are no longer in need.

Dates to Remember

Sunday services are streamed on St. Mary's Facebook Live at 9:00 a.m.

May 1 - 15 - collecting donations honoring our military personnel

May 1 - Sunday Service Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.) celebrant - the Rev. Mark Crawford

May 1 - Youth and Adult Sunday School (10:30 - 11:15 a.m.)

May 8 - Mother's Day

May 8 - Brotherhood (7:30 a.m.)

May 8 - Sunday Service Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.) celebrant - the Rev. Paul Wehner

May 8 - Youth and Adult Sunday School (10:30 - 11:15 a.m.)

May 8 - Confirmation Class (10:30 a.m.)

May 15 - last day for donations honoring our military personnel

May 15 - Sunday Service Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00a.m.) celebrant - the Rev. Paul Wehner

May 15 - Youth and Adult Sunday School (10:30 - 11:15 a.m.)

May 15 - Confirmation Class (10:30 a.m.)

May 18 - Parish Dinner (6:00 p.m.)

May 21 - Parish Workday (8:00 a.m. - noon)

May 22 - Brotherhood (7:30 a.m.)

May 22 - Sunday Service Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.) celebrant - the Rev. Nan Doerr

May 22 - Youth and Adult Sunday School (10:30 - 11:15 a.m.)

May 24 - Vestry Meeting (5:30 - 7:30 p.m.)

May 29 - Sunday Service Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.) celebrant - the Rev. Paul Wehner

May 29 - Confirmation Class (10:30 a.m.)

June 5 - Beginning of UTO Gathering

June 5 - Brotherhood (7:30 a.m.)

June 5 - Pentecost Sunday Service Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.)
celebrant - the Rev. Paul Wehner **wear red**

June 5 - Confirmation Class (10:30 a.m.)

June 12 - Trinity Sunday Service Holy Eucharist: Rite II with Confirmation
celebrant - Bishop Hector Monterroso - Bishop Assistant, Diocese of Texas
The Reverend Paul Wehner
reception and Vestry meeting following the service

June 19 - Brotherhood (7:30 a.m.)

June 19 - Sunday Service Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.) celebrant - the Rev. Nan Doerr

June 26 - Sunday Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.) celebrant - the Rev. Kellaura Johnson

May, June, and July Birthdays

Ressie Cantrell - May 15
Dane Arana, Sr. - May 19
AJ Mikel - May 28
Jasey Hussey - May 30
Carol Jones - June 21
John Cole - June 29
Ally Lane - July 2
Shyanne Roddy - July 2
Amber Prater - July 6
Tracy Lane - July 9
Bill Olson - July 9
Madeline Roddy - July 17
Mary Stewart - July 22
Sandy Wood - July 26

May, June, and July Anniversaries

Dani & AJ Mikel - June 6
Rachel & Jason Davidson - June 9
Wendy & Kurt Hankins - June 10
Jennifer & Adam Schill - June 12
Theata & Marvin Miller - June 13
Doris & George Grosvenor - June 16
Bonnie & John Cole - July 18

St. Mary's Leadership

Vestry

Rector: the Reverend Paul Wehner
Sr. Warden: Gwynne Olson
Jr. Warden: Dan Roddy
Clerk: Colleen Matocha
Member: Jackie Walker

New email address for St. Mary's - stmaryswestcolumbia@gmail.com

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, corner of 16th and Clay Street, West Columbia
PO Box 786, West Columbia, Texas 77486
979-345-3456 stmaryswc@centurylink.net

The Bells of St. Mary's is a monthly newsletter for members and friends of St Mary's Episcopal Church. Submissions for publication should be sent to the church office on or before the 25th of the month prior to the publication.