



The Messenger

A place for worship and Christian growth in the knowledge and love of God

Reflections on Paul's Image of the Body of Christ 1 Corinthians, 12th chapter

If there is no 'you' or 'me,' there is no 'we.' And if there is no 'we,' there is no community...

While this might sound basic and simple, or even a little bit silly or cheesy; this is absolutely true. However, there is a large distinction between a 'community' and the 'Body of Christ.' A community is a form of connectedness of people, whether it be related to a geographical location or a common similarity. This similarity can take many forms. This should come as no secret to any of us.



Neither should the common bond that differentiates any type of community from the 'Body of Christ.' That difference, which separates the Body of Christ from all other communities, is our connection through God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

This image that Paul uses is very powerful. In today's modern world, with the power of our technology and advanced systems of research, we learn more about the human body every single day. Yet, if scientists, psychologists, sociologists and the like, did not share or connect with one another, their findings would split off in a variety of ways. In order to gain a full picture, a holistic view of the human body, all these different fields would need to remain connected in consultation with one another to understand the larger identity.

Christ is that identity. God is that larger picture. And we, though many, just as the body is one and has many members, become part of that connectedness as the Body of Christ through the Holy Spirit.

Of utmost importance within Paul's image is our necessity to recognize our need for one another. Regardless of difference, there is a mutuality that exists between the various members of the body. When we emphasize the church, we emphasize each member as active participants; no matter how large or small, young or old. What cannot be stressed enough is our mutual identity through the Holy Spirit regardless of our gifts, talents or treasures. The human body works in perfect harmony only when all members of that body work towards the same goal. So it is the same with the Body of Christ.

A commentator on this passage wrote, "The Body of Christ does not recognize the difference between nationality, race, or gender." I would completely disagree. And while some might claim semantics, as the Body of Christ, we recognize our differences. Yet, it is through our differences, connected with the Holy Spirit, that we become united as one in the Body of Christ.

Unity through diversity, not uniformity. Regardless of difference, we all have a role to play. And if we play that role together, the Body of Christ moves together with one purpose in mind. That purpose, as the Body of Christ, is to build up the Kingdom of God by Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. One Lord. One Faith. One Baptism.

Amen.

Fr. Tim +

AT ST. FRANCIS

At St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, our Sunday mornings begin at 9 a.m. with Christian formation for adults in the conference room. Worship is at 10 a.m. with nursery provided. We utilize both Rite One and Rite Two Holy Eucharist, with organ and choir. Refreshments and conversation take place after the service in the Parish Hall. The Holy Eucharist is also celebrated at Noon every Wednesday.



ST. FRANCIS ACTIVITIES

Tai Chi for Seniors

Free Tai Chi classes for Seniors is offered in the Atrium Monday and Wednesday from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

St. Francis' Readers

Meet the third Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m. in the Library.

Tuesday Women's Bible Study

All women are invited on Tuesday mornings at 9:45 a.m. in the Conference Room.

Women of St. Francis (WOSF) Luncheon

Takes place the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. All ladies are invited. Please bring a lunch item to share.

Hospice Card Crafters

Meet the first Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Conference Room. No experience needed.

Monthly Parish Supper

This month Parish Supper is on Wednesday, February 27 at 6 p.m.

Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursdays at 6 p.m. in the Choir Loft.

Senior Moment Café

Meets Fridays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Great Room.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

ECW meets the second Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. in the Parish Hall. This month's meeting is on February 9. Light refreshments will be served.

Prayer Shawl Guild

Meets at 1:30 p.m. in the Great Room.

Adult Education

Meets at 9 a.m. in the Conference Room on Sundays.

Children's Sunday School

Is being revamped, and the date classes resume will be announced.

AT ST. FRANCIS



THE 38th ANNUAL DIOCESAN MEN'S CONFERENCE

The annual Diocesan Men's Conference is scheduled for March 1, 2, and 3 at Camp Beckwith. The Reverend Terrence Elsberry, Author/Editor, and Priest Associate at Christ Church, Greenwich, Connecticut will present: ***Doing the Bible Better.***

Rev. Elsberry is the author of a number of books and articles, including, *The Power of Doing the Right Thing: Finding Success Through a Value-Driven Life.* He was also an editor for *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine.

If you have an interest in attending, please contact John Griffing at 850 450 5126.



MONTHLY MEETING: FEBRUARY 9, 9 A.M., PARISH HALL

At this month's ECW meeting, we will be discussing the third annual Collectibles & More Sale and plans for St. Francis Outreach in 2019 with Carol Stark. Other activities to be discussed include Spring Play Day and an art project. Please plan to join us for a fun hour or two with the women of St. Francis. Light refreshments will be served.



THE 48th ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONVENTION

February 14 - 16, 2019 | St. James Episcopal Church | Fairhope, Alabama

We ask that you keep our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick, the diocesan staff, our elected delegates from St. Francis: Leon Mayberry, Ann Woll and Herb Woll, our rector, as well as all other ministers and delegates in prayer during the upcoming Diocesan Convention. Following the convention, we will have an opportunity to hear from our elected delegates from St. Francis about their experience as well as various information as to what is happening throughout our Diocese.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS AND SCRIPTURE February 2019

February 3
Fourth Sunday
After Epiphany

February 10
Fifth Sunday
After Epiphany

February 17
Sixth Sunday
After Epiphany

February 24
Seventh Sunday
After Epiphany

March 3
Last Sunday
After Epiphany

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah
1:4-10
Psalm
71:1-6
1 Corinthians
13:1-13
Luke
4:21-30

Isaiah
6:1-8(9-13)
Psalm
138
1 Corinthians
15:1-11
Luke
5:1-11

Jeremiah
17:5-10
Psalm
1
1 Corinthians
15:12-20
Luke
6:17-26

Genesis
45:3-11, 15
Psalm
37:1-12, 141-42
1 Corinthians
15:35-38, 42-50
Luke
6:27-38

Exodus
34:29-35
Psalm
99
2 Corinthians
3:12-42
Luke
9:28-36(37-43a)

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Neil Merrifield
Nancy Storey

John Griffing
Don Johnson

Diane Petoskey
John Boden

Jane Ellis
Neil Merrifield

John Boden
Diane Petoskey

ACOLYTES

John Griffing
David Stratford
Leon Mayberry

Finn Youberg
Mark MacNeil
Averette Culver

David Stratford
Leon Mayberry
Nancy Storey

John Griffing
Barbara MacNeil
Averette Culver

Amy Reyes
Mark MacNeil
Nancy Storey

LECTORS / INTERCESSORS

Pat Rooney
Tricia Briska
Cathy Griffing

Ann Woll
Barbara MacNeil
Flash Gordon

Hannah Grimley
Jack Grimley
Kim Grimley

Bob Brownlie
Brad Wilson
Susan Drinkwater

Ann Woll
Tricia Briska
Alice Lane

USHERS/GREETERS

Herb Woll
Ann Woll

Chip Wood
Janet Wood

Freida Palmer
Carol Stark

Leo Cyr
Leon Mayberry

Jim Arnold
Diane Arnold

OBLATIONERS

Finley Holmes
Judy Holmes

Rosemary Spain
Lucy Daniel

Janet Penniman
Ann Merrifield

Betty Neville
Carol Stark

Patsy May
Tricia Briska

NURSERY MINISTRY

Alice Davis

Sarah Slay

Lindsey Hutto

Erin Currie

Erin Currie

ALTAR GUILD

1st Sunday

2nd Sunday

3rd Sunday

4th Sunday

1st Sunday

COFFEE HOUR

**Last Potluck
Sunday!**

Team 3
N. Geiger, P. May
S. Menzer,
M. Murray, N. Storey

Team 4
B. Allen, D. Arnold,
L. Brown, L. Daniel
J. Gibson, C. Stark

Team 5
I. Macy,
C. Peterman,
R. Spain, B. Sprague
E. Stratford

Team 10
H. Gossett,
L. Hutto,
B. & J. MacNeil,
D. Petoskey

Thank you Coffee Hour Teams for participating in our Hospitality Ministry!

**Please submit your receipts to the office for reimbursement
or to be applied to your account as a non-cash contribution.**



WORSHIP SCHEDULE ~ February 2019

Sunday, February 3	Fourth Sunday After Epiphany 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite One
Wednesday, February 6 <i>The Martyrs of Japan</i>	12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite Two Chalice: Averette Culver Lector: Bob Menzer
Sunday, February 10	Fifth Sunday After Epiphany 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite One
Wednesday, February 13 <i>Confession of St. Peter</i>	12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite Two Chalice: David Stratford Lector: Kim Grimley
Sunday, February 17	Sixth Sunday After Epiphany 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite Two
Wednesday, February 20 <i>Conversion of St. Paul</i>	12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite Two Chalice: John Griffing Lector: Bob Menzer
Sunday, February 24	Seventh Sunday After Epiphany 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite Two
Wednesday, February 27 <i>The Presentation</i>	12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite Two Chalice: Don Johnson Lector: Kim Grimley
Sunday, March 3	Last Sunday After Epiphany 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite One

PRAYER LIST

February Birthdays: 2/3 Flash Gordon, 2/6: Dini Warnock, 2/8: Ace Cannon, 2/10 Bob Brownlie, 2/11 Kailyn Jimenez, 2/12: Ed Gray, John McDaniel, 2/13: Beth Schurger, 2/14: Sydney Rooney, 2/20 Lindsey Hutto, Rob Menzies, Jack Menzies, 2/24 Harry Kastanakis, Faith Garrett, 2/27 Maria Davis, 2/29 Rosemary Spain

February Anniversaries: 2/6: John & JoAnn Considine, 2/9 Bob & Marcia Brownlie, 2/12 Eric & Beth Schurger, 2/13 Steve & B.J. Jimenez, 2/20 Patsy & Cline May, 2/22: Greg & Coley Leavitt, 2/23: Janet & Allen Penniman

Pray for Healing: Lonnie Barlow, Stephen Barona, Barry Beronet, Katherine Bishop, Alan Bunt, Martha Bunt, Tammy Cantrell, Penny Carter, Lessie Cauthen, Anna Clausen, Paul Considine, Sky Currie, Bob Gomolka, Phyllis Ham, Jennifer Henderson, Mary Howard, Josephina Jimenez, Olivia Keene, Elizabeth Kenworthy, Nicole Kostic, Liza McKee, K.K. Owen, Lynn & Sue Parker, Ella Rasmussen, Mary Stine, Carol Trimble, Josh Wiggins, Pat Wilson, Jay Wyrosdick

Pray for the Departed: June Seager, Doug McCrary, Jean Smith, Connie Kuehn Gibson, Fred Cornett, Richard (Dick) Sherril, Mike Bosworth, Brady Jowers, Eugene Damon

Pray for Active Duty Military: Martin Bunt, Michael Christiansen, Matthew King, Doug Kroh, Daniel Lane, Bryan Lucas, Kenneth Marshall, Tyler Mathews, Shane Murtha, Anthony Olson, Josh Payne, Dylan Price, Jason Pritchett, Ryan Schuler, Karri Styron, T.J. Teicher, Kevin Walsh, Nicolas Zbikowski

NOAH'S NURSERY



Birth-Kindergarten (age 0-5) meets in the nursery during the church service. "Busy Bags" are in the Narthex each Sunday morning for those children attending church.

February Nursery Assistants

9:45 a.m. til Communion

February 3	Alice Davis
February 10	Sarah Slay
February 17	Lindsey Hutto
February 24	Erin Currie
March 3	Erin Currie

LENTEN SUPPER AND PROGRAM:

Every Wednesday, March 13 – April 10
5:30 Evening prayer, 6 p.m. Light Supper,
6:30 p.m. Speaker Begins

Our Presiding Bishop Curry has invited and challenged us to be a part of the Episcopal Church's branch of the Jesus movement. He cites the Gospel of John where Jesus said to his disciples: I am the vine, you are the branches. Abide in me and I in you, for apart from me you can do nothing. But abide in me and you will bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.

Come to our Wednesday evening program during Lent and you will learn how we can abide in Christ and live the way of His love.

The presenters will represent all orders of ministry within the Church: Lay person (Lita Brown), Deaconate (Deacon Clara Hewis), Priest (Fr. Tim Backus), Bishop (The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick) and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry through video clips.

Each evening will end with one of Bishop Curry's favorite Gospel hymns, and Jack Grimley will accompany on the piano. As we approach Holy Week, there will be a presentation of the Passover Meal led by Carol Karesh, a Christian who was raised in the Jewish tradition.

We will have many more details as we get closer to Lent. If you would like to learn more now, read Bishop Curry's book THE POWER OF LOVE. Or you can go online to our church's website:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/way-of-love> where you will find a wealth of resources. You can also search for Bishop Curry on the internet where you can see and hear him delivering many sermons and words of inspiration.



LOOKING FOR SOME SUPPORT? THE CIRCLE OF CARE CAN HELP!

St. Francis is in the process of developing a support group to meet the needs of the congregation and community. This group is open to all in the church that need a support community for any reason. We will also invite people in our community that are primary caregivers of someone that is homebound.

Kim Giryluk, newly elected vestry member, will lead the discussions. Kim has a master's in clinical social work and is currently working at Pathways for Change in Pensacola. She has experience with therapy for individuals, families, and groups.

Kim will be developing topics for the weekly support group based on the needs of those in attendance. Some topics may include:

Personal Journey & Purpose
Feeling Peace & Contentment
Loving God, Giving of Ourselves & Trusting Him
Just For Fun, Humor in the World of our Creator
Facing Pain & Troubles - Embracing Pain
Losing a Loved One

Please contact Kim Giryluk 856-305-2946 if you are interested in joining a support group and to discuss support topics that would be beneficial.



UTO (United Thank Offering) is a yearly campaign that seeks to gather money in small sums from Episcopalians throughout the church to create grants for parishes. These grants make it possible to achieve goals that will help in many different and difficult situations.

This year, our campaign to fill the "little blue boxes" begins March 10 and end March 31). Please take your "little blue box" and fill it with coins or cash as a sign of your sacrifice. Checks are always appreciated too.

Let this be part of your Lenten sacrifice. I am hopeful that you will examine the many blessings of your life, as will I, and see great hope for the future. I pray we will all be very generous again this year.

Thank you, Carol Stark

DID YOU KNOW?



I am Donald H. Johnson (Don). My twin sister, Dorothy Ann, and I were born in Montgomery, Alabama on January 23, 1936. My mother was an English teacher for many years and my father worked for Abbott Labs in Montgomery and after moving to Pensacola, was an owner/operator of five drug stores in the downtown area.

I graduated from Pensacola High School, then attended University of Florida, Florida State University and Auburn, but graduated from FSU with a B.S. in Marketing. I was in the insurance agency for 30 years and even owned my own agency at one point called Don Johnson Insurance, Inc.

I went back to college and earned my master's degree from Troy University in Counseling and Psychology and went to work at the Friary as a mental health counselor for 28 years. I had a ministry of taking patients to church every Sunday for ten years and taught classes for people with DUIs for ten years every Saturday. I am a big believer in AA and never counseled anyone with an addiction that I did not refer to AA. It is a wonderful support group and some of the best people I know attend AA. It changes many of their lives for the better. I fully retired from the Friary in 2014.

I have owned a home in the neighborhood of Soundside in Gulf Breeze for the last 45 years. After taking on 54" of water from Hurricane Ivan, I rebuilt. Ten months later Hurricane Dennis came along and it was "rinse and repeat"!

My beautiful wife, D Thompson, and I have known each other since 7th grade. While attending a Pensacola High School class reunion on year, everyone said I needed to sit at the table with Delores. Thanks to those insistent friends, we are celebrating 15 years of wedded bliss!

I was confirmed in the Episcopal Church in 1961 at St. John's in Warrington. I first came to St. Francis in 1972 when Fr. Bullen was the rector, and my son and daughter were confirmed at St. Francis. I returned to St. Francis in 2015, the same day Father Tim started his ministry here four years ago. I am currently honored to be a member of the St. Francis Adult Choir as well as a Eucharistic Minister. I love the St. Francis parish and its members and look forward to being here every Wednesday for the noon service, Friday mornings to attend Senior Moments Cafe and Sunday for the 10 a.m. service and Fr. Tim's sermon.



CALLING ALL CURSILLISTAS!

We are updating the database of those who attended Cursillo and need your help. Regardless of when you attended, please give me a call or send an email with your contact information before February 22.

We are going to form **Cursillo Reunion Groups** and would love your input. The purpose of Reunion Groups is to share our spiritual life, including Christian achievements and disappointments and how we are continuing with the Cursillo method of piety, study and action.

A meeting will be held on Sunday, February 10 at 11:30 a.m. in the Conference Room at St. Francis. We will discuss meeting frequency, days and times that are desired by everyone.

Hope to see you then!

Barbara MacNeil 850-867-6878
barbaramacneil@yahoo.com



“FIRST FRIDAY’S WITH THE FATHER”

On the first Friday of every month from 9-11 a.m., all adults are invited to join our Rector, Fr. Tim, who will introduce various topics of reflection with open ended conversation. This is also an excellent opportunity where various thoughts, ideas, questions and suggestions can be raised and discussed openly as a group with the rector. The first Friday with the Father begins February 1.

First Friday's with the Father will meet in conjunction with Senior Moment's Cafe in the 'Great Room' (AKA the Youth Room) across from the library. Senior Moment's Café meets every Friday from 9-11 a.m., so please feel invited to attend weekly or anytime you are available on Friday mornings. Senior Moments is an excellent opportunity to get to know other adult members of the church through open conversation in a relaxed atmosphere with coffee and refreshments.



2019 TAIZE IN THE ATRIUM LENTEN SERIES

For the sixth consecutive year, the St. Francis Taizé Ensemble will present a Taizé service during Lent. The services will be held at 5 p.m. on Saturday evenings: March 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6, 13. Taizé is a form of worship that encourages contemplative thought by alternating brief interludes of music, repetitive prayer, silence and meditation. Taizé is intended to be brief (30 minutes) and deeply inspirational.

The service draws its strength from the simple, powerful phrases used to aid in meditation. The music is unpretentious. The songs resemble chants more than complex songs. This simplicity allows participants to focus on the spiritual meaning of the music. The services will feature the St. Francis Taizé Ensemble led by Cathy Griffing and guest musicians from our parish and the community.

Taizé is held in the church Atrium which looks out on the serenely beautiful Gardens of St. Clare, which enhance the spiritual effect of the service. When the service ends, attendees leave with a sense renewal and revitalization.

TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2018

	<u>DEC. 2018</u>	<u>ANNUAL YTD</u>	<u>YTD BUDGET</u>	<u>ANNUAL BUDGET</u>
Pledged Offerings	\$16,900	\$219,730	\$ 234,292	\$234,292
Open Plate Offerings	\$ 6,889	\$ 30,093	\$ 24,616	\$ 24,616
Previous Year Pledge	\$ 0	\$ 400	-0-	-0-
Other Income	\$ 4,310	\$ 26,412	\$ 14,127	\$ 14,127
Total Income	\$28,099	\$276,635	\$273,035	\$273,035
Expenses	\$25,833	\$288,658	\$ 282,345	\$282,345
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 2,266	(\$12,023)	(\$ 9,310)	(\$ 9,310)
Non-budgeted Income	\$ 134	\$ 3,776	\$ 7,300	\$ 7,300
Non-budgeted Expense	(\$576)	(\$1,422)	(\$ 1,000)	(\$ 1,000)
Total Net Income	(\$442)	(\$9,669)	(\$ 2,010)	(\$ 2,010)
Checking/Savings/Investments		\$31,613 (includes \$18,580 ECW Funds)		
Endowment Fund (Statement Balance)		\$198,988.41 as of 12/31/18		

December's total income was \$28,099 and Expenses were \$25,833 resulting in \$2,266 net income.

For the year, pledge offerings are \$219,730, which is **\$14,562** under budget and open plate offerings are \$30,093, which is **\$5,477** over budget. Expenses are \$288,658, which is **\$12,023** over budget. Non-budgeted income was \$3,776 and non-budgeted expense was **\$1,422**, resulting in a **\$9,669** negative income amount for the year.

The December financial statements are posted on the bulletin board for your review. If you would like a copy, please ask Chris in the office.

Leon J. Mayberry, Treasurer



SHROVE TUESDAY AT ST. FRANCIS

Shrove Tuesday is the day before the beginning of the season of Lent. Popular practices such as indulging in food that one sacrifices for the upcoming forty days, are associated with Shrove Tuesday celebrations.

So, laissez les bons temps rouler (lazy-lay bon-tom rulay) and come on down to St. Francis' Parish Hall to pass a good time on Tuesday, March 5 at 6 p.m! Bring your favorite Cajun or Creole dish to share.

Mardi Gras beads and costumes are encouraged!

*Begin your Journey to the Resurrection with observance of Ash Wednesday on March 6 during one of our three Ash Wednesday Services:
7 a.m., Noon and 6 p.m.*

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church

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Website: www.stfrancisgulfbreeze.org

Office hours: Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. ~ 5:00 p.m.

YOUR 2019 VESTRY

Leon Mayberry, Sr. Warden & Treasurer

Helen Laucella, Jr. Warden

Amy Guidry, Clerk

John Boden

Kim Girylyuk

Kim Grimley

John Petoskey

Rosemary Spain

Carol Stark

Vestry Support

McGee Lorren, Financial Consultant

St. Francis' Staff

The Rev. Tim Backus, Rector

Cathy Griffing, Organist and Choirmaster

Bill Lucas, Sexton

Chris Miller, Parish Administrator