

THE EVANGELIST

AUGUST 2026

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SAINT JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

GREETINGS, BELOVED!



The Rev. David Bumsted, Rector

It's has been an exciting summer at Saint John's! So many of us have had a chance to take some time off and travel this summer, and I've already heard about some of your amazing vacation experiences. I thought I'd share a little of my own as well as tell you a little about some of the exciting happenings around this great parish.

At the end of June, Beka and I took our usual summer trip back to the Sunshine State to see friends and family, soak up some summer sun by some water, and generally unwind. Even though Beka and I traded off being sick for parts of the trip, we had a great time! We brought down some "White Collar" (a beer we made in partnership with local brewers, Cabin Boys) to share with friends around FL. It was a big hit! I got to play some golf at a legendary Orlando course called Dubs Dread, and Beka got some relaxing pool time. We spent much of our trip in Sarasota, FL. Although Sarasota is a beautiful bayside town with great seafood and lots of vacation activities, we like to visit our old stomping grounds at the Church of the Redeemer in downtown Sarasota. We spent a Sunday there with Dr. Zach and his family and just enjoyed being at a vibrant and loving parish, with no responsibilities other than giving God thanks for his blessings in his Son. A bonus of our trip was hearing one of my former youth group members, Fritz, give his spiritual autobiography with his wife, Annie. He's very serious about his faith, loves his family, and works very hard to help lead that parish. It's very exciting to see a kid from my senior high group become the Junior Warden! Even as Beka and I enjoy seeing old friends, the most important draw for us throughout the week is the opportunity to attend a daily offering of the Holy Eucharist. Yes, we are unashamed church nerds, and we deeply appreciate the chance to worship together in the same pew when it arises.

Hearing Fritz and Annie made me so grateful for what God is doing here at Saint John's, as they are both young people who were discipled in strong youth and family ministries. When we got back, I was delighted to hire Emily Foon as our Director of Children and Family Ministry. We strongly believe that her joining us was by the Spirit's guidance. In the short time she and her family have been among us; we feel like we've known them for years. We're so excited to see what God will do in her ministry, as she applies her obvious gifts to kids' ministry and helps us towards our vision for continued faithful discipleship here at Saint John's. She jumped right into our amazing VBS, which Fr. Thom led extremely well. You'll recall that he was serving as interim leader of our Children and Family ministry. Thankfully, his ministry among us has changed and not ended! He is working on a parish-based college ministry called Cranmer House, and he'll have much more to share as he builds our outreach to ORU and TU this fall semester.

As we leave behind this busy summer, I want to thank our staff and volunteers for all their hard work. Some of their efforts are obvious, like the grounds and cement work outside. Others are less so, like all the work that goes into making Sundays, funerals, and weddings as incredible as they are. I hope you'll consider new ways to get involved in the life of the parish as we look towards Rally Day in September, even as we celebrate God's faithfulness at Saint John's at our 75th Anniversary party in October. In thinking of you, I'm reminded of what Paul wrote in Ephesians 1:15-16, "...I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers." Indeed, I am grateful for you, pray for you, and ask the same of you, my friends!

Blessings,



TREASURER'S REPORT

First, thank you for your faithfulness, prayers, and commitment to Saint John's. Your presence, service, and support help make our congregation a vibrant community of faith.

Over the past several months, we have noticed that fewer people are participating in the offering during our worship services. We understand that many people now give through other methods, and we are grateful for every contribution. However, weekly financial support remains essential to sustaining the ministries and missions of our church.

The offerings we receive from the collection plate also help fund worship services, ministry programs, building maintenance, and support for those in need. These ministries are only possible through the generosity of our congregation.

As the collection plate is passed each week, we encourage you to prayerfully consider how you can support the work of the church. Giving is an act of worship and gratitude that reflects our trust in God and our commitment to His work through this congregation. Whether your gift is large or small, consistent giving enables us to continue serving our church family and community effectively. If you are already giving faithfully, thank you for your generosity. If you have not been participating when the collection plate is passed, we invite you to join us in supporting the ministries that bless so many lives.

Together, we can ensure that our church remains strong, vibrant, and equipped to carry out God's mission.

Bill Chevaillier

OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSE THRU JUNE COMBINED

TOTAL INCOME OF $902,305 IS <$94,893> UNDER BUDGET FOR THE YEAR TO DATE. TOTAL PLEDGES OF $604,083 ARE UNDER BUDGET FOR THE YEAR BY <$37,783>. CONTRIBUTIONS & PLATE OF $81,937 ARE <$40,563> UNDER BUDGET FOR THE YEAR. MISCELLANEOUS INCOME OF $216,286 IS <$16,546> UNDER BUDGET.

EXPENSES OF $852,254 ARE $142,445 UNDER BUDGET FOR THE YEAR TO DATE.
NET INCOME IS $50,051 VS. BUDGETED NET INCOME OF $2,500.

JR WARDEN COMMENTS

If you don't see any workman during the redo of concrete around the building, it's because of the heat. They actually start work by 5:00 am and quit when it starts getting really hot. This photo show freshly poured concrete on the East side of the building. The photo was taken at 7:00 am and they were finished pouring for the day. Coupled with that are occasional pop-up storms which can ruin a freshly poured sidewalk before it sets. So if there a squall in the forecast, the concrete guys wait until another day. As of this writing, they are approximately 60% complete on the entire job, so we are actually making pretty fair progress. Please continue to be patient with the mess. It will be worth it in the end.



As of a couple of weeks ago, the insurance company completed their inspection of our roof in consideration of our claim filed for weather related damage. They are now analyzing the situation to determine their response. It could take several weeks for that to be completed. In the meantime, we will be talking to roofing companies about some temporary repairs to stop the leaks that will occur again this fall if we don't get ahead of it.

And finally, we have reduced the very large proposed cost of completing the patio for more outside seating. However, the amount we have available is not enough to complete the work. We are continuing to work to bring those two numbers together and get it started. More to come as we make more progress.

Joe Wilkinson

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

Wednesday Night Youth Group Continues This Summer

We're keeping our Wednesday nights going through the summer. Join us for: **5:30 pm Eucharist. 6:00 pm Dinner. 6:30 pm Lessons & fun!** This month we're diving into the Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and what this mystery means for us. Bring your kids for nights of fun, faith, and fellowship!

We need volunteers - it's all hands on deck! We're looking for help with welcoming the kids, leading crafts, running experiments, preparing snacks, teaching, decorating the parish, and so much more. There's a place for everyone. Please reach out to me as soon as you can if you're willing to help; we need as many people as possible to make this a great week for our children and visiting families.

Choristers - resumes on Wednesday, September 2nd at 5:30 pm. If your child or grandchild loves to sing, consider enrolling them in our Saint John's Chorister program. This youth ensemble is open to kids in second grade and up, and sings throughout the liturgical year. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Zach or Hank for more information.

Acolyte - Join the team! We're inviting all kids ages 8 and up to serve during worship. Being an acolyte is a special way to grow in faith and leadership. To sign up, reach out to Fr. Thom!

Wednesday Evening Potluck - If you're able to provide or donate a meal for 10–15 people, we would be so grateful. Your generosity helps create a welcoming space where our youth can gather, connect, and be nourished in more ways than one. Questions? Reach out to Fr. Thom.







BACKPACK BLESSING PHOTOS



Thank you for joining us on August 16th!

We pray you have an amazing school year.





VBS THANK YOU

VBS was so great this year. We had more kids than we've seen in several years and they had fun and were engaged in science projects, arts & crafts, games, and most importanly in lessons about God and worship. What also warmed my heart was how much the members of our parish came together to support this week. All of you who were here made a real impact on these kids' lives and did such good work in sharing the light of Christ with them. I am so thankful to have been a part of this and excited to see what our parish does next year.

In Christ, Fr. Thom Crowe+

VBS VOLUNTEERS

























VBS PHOTOS





















BISHOP VISIT!

On Sunday, August 23rd, we welcome the Rt. Rev. Poulson Reed, Bishop of the Diocese of Oklahoma. He will be with us for the 10 am service to preach and to confirm new Episcopalians!





GETTING TO KNOW EMILY FOON

Welcome Emily

Q: What is your job title, and what do you hope to accomplish with Saint John's? A: Director of Children's and Family Ministries. I hope that every child at Saint John's comes to understand that they are a beloved child of God, and that they find their truest identity there.

Q: Where were you born? A: Austin, Texas

Q: Would you like to tell us a little about your family? A: My husband, Jeremy, and I have four amazing children: Charlotte (age 12), Hank (age 9), Mary Nell (age 7), and Sullivan (age 5). Jeremy is an ENT, and our kiddos attend Eisenhower Elementary and Carver Middle School.

Q: What is the most unusual place you have lived? A: Galveston, Texas. The history, the local characters, Mardi Gras, island time.. there's no place quite like it!

Q: What books are you currently reading or that you recommend? A: I'm currently reading Land and The Wreck of the Mentor. My favorite book of the last 5 years is Demon Copperhead.



Q: What is your favorite genre of books to read? A: Historical nonfiction. Nerd alert!

Q: What is your proudest accomplishment? A: My marriage and our amazing children.

Q: What are you most excited about? Lots of things, but especially looking forward to the arrival of our "Spanish daughter," Sofia, in September. Thanks to our children's elementary school, we have exchanged children with a family in Madrid and can't wait to have their next kiddo join us for 2 months.

Q: If you have a pet(s), tell us about them. We have many pets. A large Pyrenees mix dog named Rocco, three indoor cats (Vinny, Sonny, Tony), and 2 legendary garden cats named Aunt Beast and Beans.

Q: What activity or travel is on your "bucket list?" Mexico City is top of my travel list.

Q: What is an unusual talent, interest, or experience that your fellow SJC staff members or the congregation might find surprising to learn about you? A: I am a lifelong needlepointer, and my daughters stitch as well. I also have a large garden where we grow pretty much everything except eggplant.

Q: Tell us about your family. What are your favorite things to do together? A: We love to explore, spend time with extended family, go on adventures, and try new foods together.

Q: Would you share a favorite passage that is of help, comfort, healing, or inspiration to you? A: From scripture: Psalm 121, and the Prayer of St. Francis is a family favorite.

Q: What is your favorite pastime activity? A: Exercising, needlepoint, gardening

Q: If there were three words you would use to describe this church community, what would they be? A: Warm, sincere, welcoming.

SAINT JOHN'S RALLY DAY & MINISTRY FAIR

Join us for the 2026 Saint John's Rally Day & Ministry Fair on Sunday, Sept. 13!

Parishioners, neighbors, and friends are all invited to join us following the 10 am service. Celebrating the many ways to connect, serve, learn, and grow in Christ at Saint John's in honor of our 75th Anniversary!

This year, Rally Day is all about experiencing ministry! Instead of simply visiting ministry tables, you'll have the opportunity to experience our ministries hands-on. We invite you to try something new, meet the people who make our ministries happen, and discover where you might find your own place to connect.

And because Ministry Fairs are always better with good food, we'll have tacos from El Ranchero's taco truck and delicious Mexican pastries from a local bakery to enjoy as we gather.

Come celebrate where we've been, discover where we're going, and find your place in the next chapter of Saint John's!



HOSPITALITY NEWS

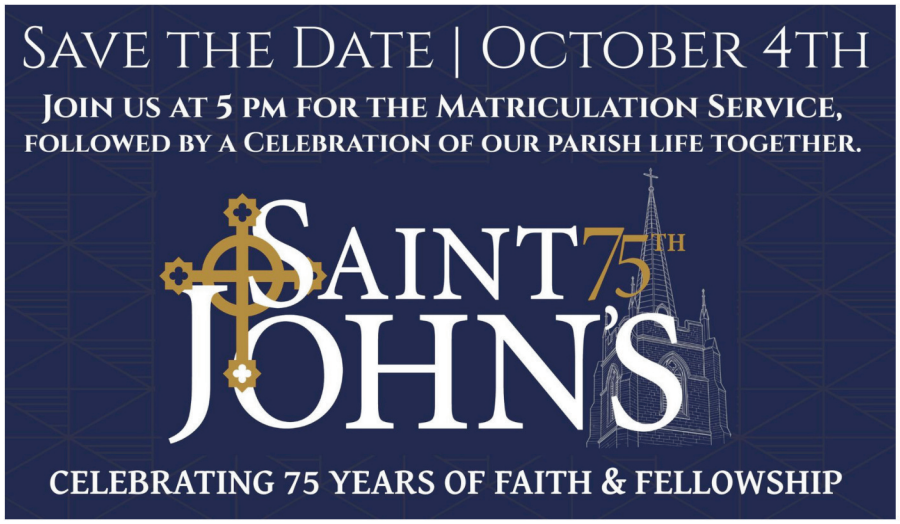
Passionate about community? Enjoy delicious snacks? Become a part of our Hospitality Team! It's simple, enjoyable, and a fantastic way to build connections. We rotate Sundays, focusing on teamwork, creativity, and making everyone feel at home. No prior experience required, just bring your enthusiasm! To sign up today and make a difference, reach out to Amanda Storms at astorms@sjtulsa.org. **Or join us at Rally Day and learn how to get involved in Hospitality!**
Reminder: No nuts at Hospitality Hour!

Amanda Storms

75TH CELEBRATION

Mark your calendars! We can't wait to celebrate with you on Sunday, October 4 at 5:00 pm for our Michaelmas & Matriculation Service!

This will be a particularly special evening as we gather to celebrate 75 years of faith, fellowship, worship, and ministry at Saint John's. What better way to honor all that God has done through our parish than by coming together as one for
an evening of worship, celebration, food, music, and fun?



Following the service, the celebration continues out on the labyrinth and lawn! We will have live music, delicious food, home-brewed beer, something special from Cabin Boys, wine, refreshing sparkling water, and tea. And, of course, special surprises and fun for the kids!

Bring your family, invite a friend, and come ready to celebrate the wonderful community that has been growing here for 75 amazing years. Whether you've been part of Saint John's for decades or are just getting to know us, you are part of the story, and we'd love to celebrate with you!

It's going to be a fantastic evening of faith, friendship, gratitude, and a whole lot of fun. We hope you'll join us! **More details coming soon... but for now, SAVE THE DATE!**

OUTREACH

Some things are as predictable in August as... dog days, lazy hazy days of summer, anticipation of football season, and school starting! With students returning to school, supplies for teachers, healthy snacks, and clothing for students are always needed. Our donation table is ready for your generous contributions for Eliot Elementary, Edison Middle and High School, and Patrick Henry Elementary.

ITEMS NEEDED:

SUPPLIES	SNACKS	CLOTHING
Pencils (Ticonderoga)	Fruit Cups	For young boys, girls, and teenagers in sizes S, M, L, XL, 2&3 X
Erasers	Fruit Snacks	
Ball Point Pens	Trail Mixes	
Highlighters	Granola Bars	
Crayons	Teddy Grahams	
Copy Paper	Cheese Crackers	
Scissors	Whole Wheat Crackers	T-Shirts
Deodorant	Pretzels	Underwear
Clorox Wipes	Dried Fruit	Socks
Dry-erase Markers	Protein Bars	Shorts
Glue Sticks	Popcorn	Small Hairbrushes
Paper Towels	Shelf-stable Milk	Hair Ties
	Pop Tarts	Chap Stick

Janice Ingle

BACK TO SCHOOL





Saint Simeon's FOUNDATION

Scan the QR code for more information.

This year at Western Days, we will honor three founding families: **Ellen and Don Atkins; Patricia and Malcolm Deisenroth; and Phyllis and George Dotson.** Their leadership and generosity helped shape Saint Simeon's into what it is today. In their honor, our 2026 theme is "Stars and Stories – Remembering Our Legends," celebrating visionary leadership and the lasting impact of those who step forward when it matters most.

ADULT FORMATION & ACTIVITIES

The Rector's Forum Sundays at 9 am in Powell Hall - Father David will show you how to enjoy the Bible through a careful reading of the Joseph story in Genesis. There's more to the book than just a fancy coat!

Iron Gate – On Saturday, September 5th, at 8:15 am, our Saint John's volunteers will head to Iron Gate with The Brotherhood to serve breakfast to our neighbors with dignity and kindness. Your presence can make a meaningful difference, sometimes more than we ever realize. If you feel called to serve, please reach out to Bob Baker at 918-688-7777 to sign up.

Dead Theologians Society (DTS) - Dead Theologians Society is back for the summer! Join us on Thursday evenings at White Lion Pub at 6:30 pm. Over the summer, we're studying St. Basil's "On the Holy Spirit." No theology degree needed; come to read and discuss the ancient wisdom of the Church and how it applies to our lives today.

MUSIC NEWS

This month, our music department continued preparing for the full fall season. On August 6th, we gathered for the Feast of the Transfiguration, and on August 16th, we celebrated the Feast of the Virgin Mary. Thank you to everyone who joined us for these special Evensongs and helped make them such meaningful occasions of worship and music.

At our remaining Evensongs this month, we featured new canticles for our choirs by beloved Anglican composers Richard Shepherd, Charles Wood, and Edward Bairstow. We look forward to sharing the beauty and richness of Anglican choral music with our parish community.

Finally, all choirs and choristers will be returning to regular rehearsals in September as we begin a new season of music ministry. If you or your family are interested in singing with us, please let me or Hank know!

Dr. Zach Malavolti



LIVING CHURCH - RADIANT PAGES: REDISCOVERING THE BIBLE

Join us from September 24-26, 2026, for A Living Church Conference, hosted by All Souls' Episcopal Church in Oklahoma City.

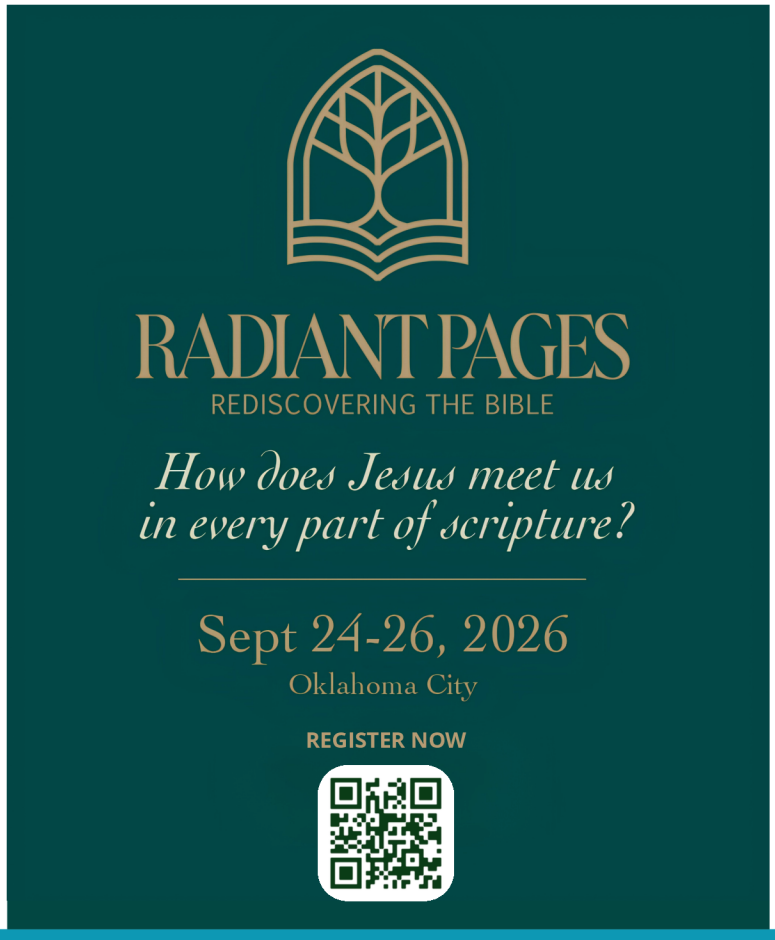
What does it mean to love Scripture? How does Jesus encounter us through every part of the Bible, even the most difficult parts, revealing God's Wisdom? How can we better "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" God's beautiful and life-giving Word together?

Join The Living Church in Oklahoma City for "Radiant Pages: Rediscovering the Bible." This three-day conference will empower lay people and clergy alike to read the Bible with greater skill, care, and confidence. It will also provide tools for priests and teachers to reinvigorate their teaching and preaching.

In keynotes, conversation, and practical workshops, we'll delve into questions like:

- Is there an "Anglican way" to read Scripture?
- Do Christians still need the Old Testament?
- Did Paul preach the same gospel as Jesus?
- How do I reconcile John with the rest of the gospels?
- How can I encounter Christ in devotional reading?
- How can I deepen Bible reading for preaching?

Scan the QR code below and use code ASOKC at checkout for $100 Registration!



ST. BARBARA'S GUILD

St. Barbara's Guild is a group of women dedicated to the study of the Bible, service projects, fellowship, and support of each other and Saint John's Episcopal Church.

On Thursday, August 13th, we made Rosaries with Susanne Methven. Thank you to everyone who joined us! These rosaries will be distributed to women in the prison system.

Join us at our next meeting on September 10th at 11 am. Bring a sack lunch and your Bible. Water and coffee are provided.

Kathleen Moss













DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Before taking a brief summer vacation from meetings, the Daughters met to make enough Pocket Prayer Squares to refresh the baskets in the Narthex of the church and on the table by the bulletin board outside the sacristy. The pocket prayer squares are a tangible token that can be used when one needs to talk to God. One of the daughters found these at a church in New Mexico and found it was very comforting at a troubling time. Because of her experience, our chapter decided to offer a similar token to serve as a reminder of God's presence and care for us. Please feel free to take one for yourself or for a special friend.



In July, Pat Elsberry hosted a fun bridal shower for our President Emeritus – Janice Ingle, who is engaged to marry Dan MacLemore on August 8th. Dan has already started helping with church hospitality and is proving to be a great asset in the kitchen.
The Daughters will resume their schedule of meeting the first Thursday of the month in September. The Daughters of the King is a national organization, and prospective members complete a 12-week study before making a membership commitment. New members are always welcome.

Pam Diaz





Milestones

July Birthdays

1 Karen McCartney
Mary Spangler
2 Jace Pavlik
3 Tyler Breaux
Teresa Burkett
Mary Elsa Hocker
Tim Wilson
4 Donna Allison
Mary Deisenroth
6 Paula Bryant
Dona Morris
Etta Walker
7 Kathy O'Kelley
8 James Blanton
Phyllis Dotson
Janice Ingle
10 Jayden Earle
Dan Prather
Christopher Short
12 Leah Burkhardt
Keith Clark
Natalie Fischer
Babs Harrill
Tony Jezek
14 Dave Collins
15 Julie Allen
Corbin Boston
Abby Kurin
Parker Souter
Amy Young
16 Foster Gillingham
Deane Oven,
17 Anson Pohl
18 Justin Gassaway
Kay Owens
20 Candace Merifield
21 Joe Gold
Kimberly Souter
22 Rick Ballard
Alexander Nunley
Ashton Pohl
Whitney Westbrook
23 John Byers
24 Tyler Farquharson
25 Diana Carter
Carolyn Hart
26 Linda Wilson
27 Barbara Van Hanken
28 Peggy Schroedter
30 Anne Brown
Glen Gravender
31 Jesse Pavlik

Births:

Elizabeth Abercrombie



SCOUTING NEWS

We are incredibly proud to celebrate seven Scouts from Troop 153 who recently participated in an outstanding leadership experience at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico!

In the photo, Eli Thomas is pictured on the far left. Eli had the opportunity to serve on staff at Philmont, helping make this incredible experience possible for fellow Scouts. The other six Scouts participated in the National Advanced Youth Leadership Training course.



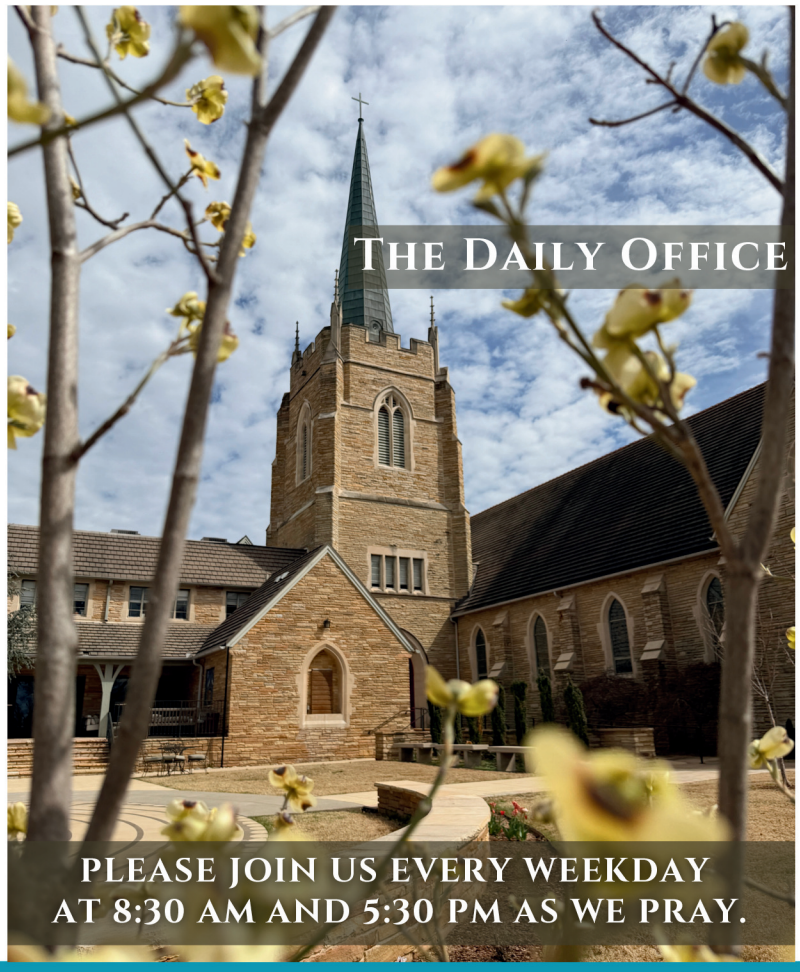
GIFT & BOOKSTORE



Whitney Moss

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THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH & MONDAY, OCTOBER 5TH