



THE FRANCISCAN STAFF

The Newsletter of the people of
Saint Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church
600 South La Cañada Drive
Green Valley AZ 85614

Vol. 58, No. 7

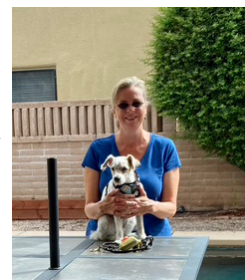
September 2021

Our mission is to live as Christ's heart and hands in the world.

Words From Warren . . .

It finally happened!!

After nearly nine months of waiting, I was able to go north and bring Annette and our dog back to Green Valley! We both look forward to visiting the many historic sites around the area, as well as hiking trails and local artisans. Annette would like to meet you, so please let me know when would be a good time for us to visit.



I want to offer my thanks to Fr. Nelson for keeping an eye on everything while I was on vacation, and to our Wardens, Julie Reppenhagen and Kristi Menix, for keeping up with needs in the Parish, and especially Kristi and our new Lead Sexton, Deana Bond, who had to deal with multiple leaks in our buildings.

The fall is always a busy time at St. Francis. Even with COVID 19 restrictions, the campus is coming back to life with many user groups returning. It is my hope that we can have volunteers back at the reception desk this fall to welcome visitors through the week. If you are interested in helping, please speak to me directly or send me an email at frwarren@stfrancisgvaz.org.

COVID 19 continues to offer us challenges. We hoped that the fall would be almost back to normal. Unfortunately, the Delta variant is extremely contagious and spreads even among the fully vaccinated. While most will never catch the virus, there are some in our congregation that do have underlying health issues that make them more vulnerable to catching the virus.

Safety of our parish family is our priority. For that reason, the Vestry moved to make masks mandatory in worship and large church group meetings until the Delta variant is no longer a threat. The quicker the population gets vaccinated, the quicker life can go back to a more normal existence.

Installation Service: Next month we welcome Bishop Reddall to our Parish as we (finally) get to celebrate my Installation as Rector. The service will be on Saturday October 9th at 5 PM. The service will be followed by a reception to be held in the Parish Hall and outside in the Courtyard. Due to social distancing that limits attendance, we will be taking reservations for the service and reception. The service will be live-streamed for those unable to attend in person.

I hope you all had a good Summer and stayed dry through the monsoons! We have lots to do as we go through the next few months and our seasonal friends return. Let me know if you are interested in getting involved helping on Sundays or attending any activity groups.

Blessings to all,

Fr. Warren

New Mask Protocols

At their August meeting (10 August 2021) members of the St. Francis Vestry voted to require parishioners to once again wear masks during in-person Sunday worship services. This measure applies to all worshippers, including those vaccinated against COVID 19, and is intended to be a temporary measure. The Vestry considered carefully the urgent need to protect all worshippers—parishioners and visitors alike; recommendations from the Diocese and Bishop Reddall were also a major part of the decision. (For small groups meeting in St. Francis facilities masks will be optional.)

Coffee Hour

Sunday morning Coffee Hour will be held outdoors until further notice. Masks will not be required. Coffee Hour is always in need of volunteers; if you can lend a hand contact Gail Haight at ghaight758@aol.com - she will be glad to hear from you.

Forward Day by Day

FORWARD DAY BY DAY devotional booklets for August, September and October are available in the Parish Office during the week, and on Sunday mornings you can find them in the Parish Hall as well as the Office.

Scheduled Meeting Cancellations

If you or your group have regularly scheduled meetings in our Parish facilities and, for some reason, you decide not to meet, please let us know of the cancellation. Our Sexton staff are charged with preparing rooms for all meetings (e.g., opening rooms, seeing that the air conditioning is up and running, etc.) and, as their time is valuable, it is important that you let us know if you are not going to need their services. Let Gerald (gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org) or Deborah (deborah@stfrancisgvaz.org) know of your change of plans and they will inform the Sextons. You can also call us at 520-625-1370. Thanks for your cooperation.

Prayer Lists

It's important that we keep our lists of persons in need of our prayers current, and you can help. If you would like to add the name of a loved one, friend or family member, to the list of names to be read in the Sunday morning liturgy—including the list of those who have died—please let one of the Clergy know and they will convey the information to Gerald for inclusion in the Prayers of the People. (And be sure to let the Clergy know of any pastoral need
continued page 3, column 1

THE FRANCISCAN STAFF

Published monthly
except June & August by

Saint Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church
600 South La Cañada Drive, Green Valley AZ 85614
(520) 625-1370 – www.stfrancisgvaz.org
www.facebook.com/stfrancisgvaz

THE RT. REV. JENNIFER REDDALL,
Bishop

THE REV. DR. WARREN LEIBOVITCH
Rector

The Rev. Nelson Mendoza
Curate

The Rev. Becky Williamson
Deacon

THE VESTRY

Julie Reppenhagen, Senior Warden
Kristi Menix, Junior Warden

Ginny Arundell, Marybeth Bates, Barbara Bundy,
Sandy Eckstein, Janie Hessong, Glenn Matto,
Helen Mullaly, Vince Remillard, Cheryl Tardy-Albin
ex officio: Erik Ringkjøb, Treasurer
Bobbi Tucker, Clerk

CHURCH STAFF

Gerald Near
Parish Administrator

Deborah Harby
Financial Officer

Gerald Near
Director of Music

J. Michael Case
Organist

Sharlyn Matthews
Director Emeritus, Handbell Ensemble

Sophia Witte
Handbell Ensemble Director

Deana Bond
Lead Sexton

*The mission of
St. Francis in the Valley,
Green Valley,
is to live as Christ's heart and hands
in the world.*

continued from page 2

you have or know of; don't let the Church be always 'the last to know.')

Remember too to let us know when we can remove names from the list. You may also let Gerald know directly (*gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org*) of the names of persons you would like to include in the POP (Prayers of the People), but we encourage you to go through the Clergy.

Earthquake Relief

On Saturday, August 14, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck the southwest portion of Haiti. This devastating earthquake was followed by Tropical Storm Grace on Monday night and much of Tuesday. More than 1 million people, including more than half a million children, have been impacted by the back-to-back disasters, and the death toll is close to 2000. Episcopal Relief & Development and its partners are responding immediately with direct assistance to vulnerable households in the region, as partners plan long-term recovery. Your generous gift can provide assistance to help people in the wake of these disasters. To assist in these efforts, visit episcopalrelief.org/haiti-relief.

KBI (Kino Border Initiative)

Your help is needed, and it's easy. KBI is currently preparing and serving meals for between 800 and 900 persons every day at their Comedor location. They need plastic containers (clean, please, and complete with lids) for 'takeout' purposes since recipients are not served on site. Yogurt and cottage cheese containers—or any kind of durable takeout container (with lid)—will do. Bring your contributions to church on Sunday and place them in the marked boxes in the Parish Hall. (In the past, several generous members of St. Francis prepared, delivered, and helped serve a morning meal once a month at KBI, a ministry that has had to be suspended due to the Covid pandemic.) You can also make a monetary contribution: make your check payable to St. Francis with 'KBI' in the Memo line. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Parish Offices will be closed...

Labor Day

Monday, 6 September

Our New Lead Sexton

Welcome, Deana J. Bond! Deana is the new St. Francis in the Valley lead sexton. She began her position officially on July 1. However, she gained an earlier appreciation for the Church buildings and grounds in June as a temporary employee by helping with the completion of larger projects—ceiling tiles replacement in the Parish Hall—and smaller projects—creating the storage space and hangers for new treegators/slow leaking canvas bags used for watering trees and shrubs.

Deana well meets the elements of the lead sexton job description. Most recently she was self-employed as a general contractor and handy ma'am. Prior to that, she was an integral part of a residential design and build remodeling company. Over 27 years she moved through the levels of work (production) to near the top of the company.

She is a doer and has experience managing up to 30 people. She speaks about achieving excellent outcomes through effectively overseeing, coordinating, and organizing. She says she likes the straightforward approach to solving problems using a team approach. She believes in respectful communication and bringing out the best in each person with whom she interacts, collaborates, and partners. If you are involved in projects at the Church, please offer your support to Deana.

I invite all parishioners, clergy, staff, and volunteers to seek out Deana, introduce yourselves, learn more about Deana, and let Deana know a bit about you! By the way, it is Deana as in Dean, the name of her father.

We are glad to have you part of the St. Francis in the Valley parish, Deana! I'm looking forward to partnering with you!

Kristi Menix, Junior Warden

Monday Morning Prayer

Looking for a great way to start your week? Consider joining the Monday Morning Prayer group at 9 am on, you guessed it, Mondays. The Prayer Book service—led by some of your fellow parishioners—offers prayers for all needs, earthly and heavenly, in a quiet and reverent atmosphere. If you have questions, please direct them to Wayne North at (715) 205-8374

Too Many Books

Please, no more book donations for the Church Library will be accepted starting August 26. Right now we are sorting 5-6 boxes of books, most that regretfully may need disposition elsewhere

Clergy Discretionary Funds

Donations to Clergy Discretionary Funds are always needed and always welcome; these funds make it possible for us to offer assistance to people in our community who are struggling. Because of your generosity, we've been able to help people with such things as food, gas, utilities, rent, school clothing, school supplies, unexpected medical bills and even burial expenses. As we see it, it's not the clergy being able to help people in need, it's all of us, together, touching the lives of people who feel like they've hit a dead end due to adverse circumstances in life. Thank you so much for your generosity.

A Few Words

About the Organ, Organists, and Composers

The organ is a wonderful instrument; it is also a complex instrument to build (if we're talking an instrument with pipes and all the mechanical apparatus necessary to support a wind-driven instrument with keyboards), to play, and to write music for. As a composer, one who has written lots of music for the organ, I'm happy to claim an advantage: I'm also an organist. I can always tell when I'm looking at a piece of organ music written by a composer, even a great one, who is not a player. I've written a fair amount of music for stringed instruments and, although I hesitate to think of myself as a great composer, I'm quite sure any string player can tell I'm not a violinist, violist, cellist, or bassist, no matter how well written my wonderfully inspired offerings may be. That said, I think it's possible—since it has been done over and over and over again—to write effective music for strings without being a player. Not so with the organ. Not even a good pianist necessarily makes a good organist and certainly not a good composer of organ music.

For one thing there's this little matter of play-

continued page 6, column 2

Senior Warden's Thoughts

The Vestry is gearing up for the Fall activities. Fr. Warren has returned from Canada safely with Annette at his side. We are all so happy to welcome her to our St. Francis family. Deacon Becky has returned as well and Fr. Nelson will be back soon, so we will be fully staffed once again.

We are all delighted that our move inside for worship is going very well with an increase in capacity. Unfortunately, with the rise in COVID, the Vestry has brought back required masks, vaccinated or not, for the worship service. Masks are optional for small church groups in our meeting rooms. These decisions will be reevaluated as time goes on.

Our Coffee Hour continues to be well received. Unfortunately, due to COVID, it was moved outside again. Thank You to those who have stepped up to help and thanks so much to Gail Haight for all she does to keep this ministry going. Volunteers are always needed, just contact Gail, ghaight7582aol.com to sign up. Remember, no volunteers no Coffee Hour.

As we look to Fall, Fr. Warren's Installation Service will be Saturday, October 9, 2021, at 5 PM. Bishop Reddall will be here to officiate. There will be a reception to follow. Numbers will be limited due to the pandemic, so watch for more information.

The Annual Diocesan Convention will be online for its Business program on October 9 at 9 and will be live and online Friday, October 22-23 for the program portion. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will be the guest speaker.

The Stewardship Committee is actively planning for speakers for Fall and Winter. It's time to think about sharing your time, talents, and treasure with St. Francis. Hopefully our Ministries will be becoming more active, but right now, we are in need of all kinds of talent: we need some techies to help with our sound on Sundays, help with our website, some folks to work the Front Office, help on all our committees, we need Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes and Alter Guild members. As we plan our 2022 Annual Budget, it will be time to consider our pledges for the coming year. It's never too soon to start planning and start serving.

We look forward to seeing the whole family of St. Francis begin to return as Fall begins. We pray that you stay safe and well.

Jullie Reppenhagen, Senior Warden

Junior Warden's Notes

How can it be September? The unexpectedly heavy monsoon rains have come and left our building and grounds with things to repair, replace, pull, and reconfigure! Various changes in staff have occurred. Father Warren has returned with his wife, Annette, and dog, Piper. The pandemic has revitalized, so we are back with more precautions hoping to keep everyone safer. But, what about the state of the buildings and grounds and the staff and volunteers who maintain them?

Deana (pronounced Dean with an a at the end) is our new and capable lead sexton who began officially on July 1. John Colip and Clark Green are filling in with security responsibilities. Our ground volunteers continue their watering, weed controlling, sand replacing from runoffs, and cleaning of surfaces in our courtyards, Memorial Garden, and labyrinth. Craig Reid continues his efforts to support the needs of other volunteers while maintaining the grounds overall. Reg Kahrimanis, Chris Arundell, Gary La Barre, Arliene Stremming, and Joyce & Vince Remillard also appear like angels to complete their valuable work. All have worked on consistently regardless of the oppressive heat. Thanks to all these individuals for their work! If you have an hour to donate, contact Craig Reid, who will set you up with tools and an area of prolific weeds to remove!

The primary concern since the end of July has been the heavy and driving monsoon storms that have resulted in mostly small roof leaks with little damage in the Church proper and some to the ceiling tiles in the Parish Hall, office complex, and classrooms. We are working diligently to make repairs and prevent further damage. We are working with roofing and heat and air conditioning contractors to assist with repairs and provide estimates for the possibility of replacing some tile roofs. The last heavy storm also flooded the Chapel floor. The water was quickly mopped up and floors dried. Sandbags have been placed outside the side door to prevent further runoff into the Chapel.

Thank you for your support! Blessings to all.

Kristi Menix, Junior Warden
kmenix18@gmail.com

Parish Library

The Vestry has expressed interest in reestablishing a library committee. The purpose of this committee will be to evaluate the congregation's interest in having and supporting an active library. If so, there will be many decisions to be made. This is not an undertaking for one person; it will take many minds and hands to make this a success. This notice is for the whole congregation, those of us here in Green Valley and those of you spending your summer in cooler places. If you are interested in serving on this committee please contact me at 520-838-0006 or jadglendale@gmail.com. When you email or call please leave your name, contact information and when you will be available for a discovery meeting in the parish hall. I, Joyce Davison, am a Library Technician with many years of experience.

St. Francis Men's Group

The Men's Group, previously meeting by Zoom call, will now meet in the Parish Hall at 9 AM on the first and third Tuesday of each month. A kick-off breakfast will be held September 7. Please let Scott Whiteside know if you plan to attend. He can be reached at scott.whiteside@gmail.com or 404 863 6815

Committee Chairpersons

Calling all committee and group chairpersons: please let the Parish Administrator know of any and all upcoming meetings and events, including those regularly scheduled—i.e. recurring. Include meetings and events conveyed via Zoom as well as all in-person gatherings. As we begin to open our facilities to both Parish and outside groups, we must have an accurate calendar of events to post on our media outlets (service leaflets, newsletters, website, email). *Even if you think you are currently on the calendar*, please let Gerald know about what you and your group or committee have planned and/or scheduled. You can reach him via email (preferred) at gerald@stfrancisgvaz.org.

Prayer Chain

For Prayer Chain requests contact Jim Ratley at 253-365-5093 or, via email, at jnjrats@gmail.com.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Geoffrey Hill
- 2 Janet Hill
- 3 Virginia Scott
- 4 Eva Jenkins
- 5 Donald Hart
- 5 Pat Kirk
- 6 Mark Day
- 7 Julie Breitenbucher
- 7 Joan Henrich
- 7 Gilda Nelson
- 8 Wally Mullaly
- 9 Dana Micari
- 10 Pamela Barnes
- 10 Anne Gillespie
- 10 Michael Staples
- 11 Tom Neyland
- 11 Susan Tenney
- 11 Kristi Thompson
- 11 Kathryn Wanek
- 15 Bob Allen
- 15 Barbara Bundy
- 15 Mista Wilt
- 19 Daniel Ryan
- 20 Pat Ghoca
- 20 Gary La Barre
- 22 Judith Burgess
- 23 Kate Hutson
- 24 Eric Gough
- 25 Paula Altamirano
- 25 Barbara Glover
- 26 Mark Eckstein
- 26 Marilou Johnstone
- 26 Susanne Reed
- 26 Sue Richards
- 28 Nancy Milsovic
- 29 Nelson Mendoza

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Barnes, David & Katherine
- 1 Nelson, Norman & Gilda
- 6 North, Stephen & Dorothy
- 8 Miller, Bill & Marie
- 11 Richards, Don & Sue
- 18 Jakubiak, Kenneth & Joan
- 19 Welch, Richard & Sandra
- 24 Schappach, George & Shirlee
- 29 Hill, Geoffrey & Wendy



A Few Words

About the Organ

continued from page 4

ing with your feet. An organ will always have at least two keyboards—usually three or more—one of which is engaged by the organist's feet. The keyboard itself looks like a regular one, that is, the arrangement of 'white' keys and 'black' keys is like any keyboard played with the hands. Any keyboardist could sit down to an organ pedalboard—as it's properly called—and play it. The rub comes when you have to coordinate hands and feet, i.e., when you have to play them together. Most organists will tell you that that's the student player's greatest challenge to meet. And most players will add that, after weeks—or even months—of work to meet this challenge, all of a sudden the problem disappears, as though it hadn't existed.

After the hand/foot coordination issue comes the problem of playing what is essentially a wind instrument from a keyboard. The difference between playing middle 'C' on a piano and playing the same note on an organ is that, on the organ, the note is sustained: the note will 'play' for as long as you hold it down. On a piano the note starts to diminish (to die away into nothing) as soon as

'played.' (It's interesting to note that the piano is included in the percussion section of an orchestra.)

The articulation of a musical phrase is quite different on the organ than it is on the piano although both are played from keyboards (and don't forget the pedalboard). That's something it takes pianists some time to master when they deign to tackle the organ. (Too much information? Probably.) All of that said, it is the organ's ability to sustain pitches that makes it the best vehicle for congregational singing. It's also another difficulty for composers who are not organists when it comes to writing for the instrument. Pianist/composers who are not organists tend always to write piano music for the organ. It then becomes the performer's problem to 'translate' what is before them. (It probably works the other way 'round too.)

Organists sometimes (lots of times, actually) envy pianists the fact that pianos are pretty much all alike. (My pianist friends would howl at me for that, but I'll stick to it.) Almost all organs, on the other hand, are unique because they are, in a way, one-man bands (okay, one-woman bands too). But I'll leave that discussion for another article.

Gerald

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH



**2021 Parish Statistics
New Members by
Confirmation or Reception**

000

Transfers In

Rena Robbins
Laura Thomas
Joyce Davison

Deaths

Max Mayes
Nancy Gardner
Kathy Helgeson
Vern Hughes
Janet Corton
Patrick Ongley
Virginia Golden
Ed Wanek
Virginia Biondi

Security Alert

Securing our buildings and spaces is everyone's responsibility. If you are the last person out, or are locking a door behind you, please check to see if that door is pulled tightly closed or is locked as intended. Thank you!

*Arizona
Episcopalian
Magazine*

The AZ Episcopalian magazine is now available online. The current issue has a variety of articles showcasing all the great things going on around the Diocese. If you would rather receive it by mail—or to sign up to receive it online—contact Deborah (Finance Officer) through the Parish Office (520-625-1370 or deborah@stfranciscgvaz.org) to sign up. It's FREE!

Video Reflections

Fr. Warren provides short weekly Psalm video reflections. They are updated Thursdays on Facebook and YouTube. Past videos back to March 2020 are also available

Covenant Fund

Thanks to the COVID pandemic we were not able this year to schedule our traditional Christmas Card Party, the annual event that raises money for the St. Francis Covenant Fund. The fund—administered by the Rector—was established in 1993 by Dorothy Baldwin to provide temporary financial aid for needy St. Francis Parishioners.

The need is still with us, pandemics notwithstanding, and you can do your part to relieve the suffering by dropping off a check to Finance Officer Deborah Harby, or you can contribute online through the Parish website. The need this year is even greater, so please help if you can.

Amazon Smile

If you purchase goods from Amazon.com (and who doesn't?), a percentage of the price can be sent to your favorite charity (or church - hint, hint) as a donation. All you have to do is sign up for Amazon Smile. Talk about easy money! Try it.

Recycle

We are able to recycle used ink jet cartridges at \$2 each, realizing over \$600 a year toward office supplies. Recycle boxes are located in the Parish Office and just inside the southwest door of the Parish Hall.

**RESERVING
MEETING TIME AND
SPACE AT SAINT FRANCIS**

Individuals wishing to reserve meeting space at St. Francis and/or discuss room set-ups should make those arrangements through Parish Administrator Gerald Near. It is **essential** your meeting be logged into the Master Calendar. If you need it, be sure to ask for 'set-up' and 'clean-up' time as part of your booking.

One week prior to your event please inventory the pantry next to the kitchen and let Gerald know if there are enough supplies to meet your needs. A parishioner usually shops for us twice a month. Thanks for your help and cooperation.

**GETTING YOUR EVENT
INTO
PARISH PUBLICATIONS**

Sunday Bulletin notices should be given to the Parish Administrator by NOON the Tuesday prior to the Sunday you wish the notice to appear. Notices should be in written form and sent via email whenever possible.

Franciscan Staff material should be given to the Parish Administrator NO LATER THAN the 10th of the month preceding publication.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Please let us know if your e-mail address, street address, zip code or telephone number changes. Get in touch with Deborah Harby in the Parish Financial Office to update your information for our records.

ST. FRANCIS-IN-THE-VALLEY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
600 South La Cañada Drive
Green Valley AZ 85614

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
Paid
Green Valley AZ
Permit No. 9