

10/14/16

Dear Family & Friends of St. Francis ECC,

Here is some of the news and information which our members and friends are talking about around the church for this week:

- Wow what a great time was had at our 7th bi-annual Holy Synod for the Ecumenical Catholic Communion in Ft. Worth Texas this week. Deb Faulkner, Barb Fichter and John O'Grady represented St. Francis as Lay delegates to the House of Laity and Fr. Victor Ray represented us to the House of Pastors. Leo Champagne, Michael Maurice and Terry Winslow were there attending as Observers. It was a truly sacred time together and the Holy Spirit was among us and working through us. Please feel free to ask any of them about it.
- Tomorrow, Saturday, October 15th at, 6:30PM - St. Francis will participate in a combination fellowship/outreach project, set to music. The Florida Pops is holding it's FREE for all Concert in Vinoy Park, St. Pete. Although there is no charge for the concert, you are asked to bring a can or 2 of food to help feed the hungry for the upcoming holiday season. This concert includes some great, popular music and singing and some fabulous fireworks. We'll stake out some space for St. Francis, in direct sight of the bandshell, so bring blankets and folding lawn chairs, along with beverages & snacks you might enjoy (wine is OK). A cooler will be available to store your beverages. WEAR YOUR ST FRANCIS SHIRTS to introduce the St. Pete community to St. Francis. if you have not signed up yet, but you would still like to attend, or if you should have any questions, please contact Barb Fichter.
- On Saturday October 22nd, we will be having a Masquerade Ball at the church from 5-8PM. There will be food, music and raffles. Please bring a dish to share. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like a mask. Or, you are welcome to wear a costume if you prefer? If you have any questions, please see or contact Cheryl Velez.
- We are continuing to accepting nominations for our 2017 Church Council through October 30th. Please prayerfully consider this important opportunity to help serve our parish of St. Francis ECC. Nomination forms located in the vestibule in church. You are allowed to self-nominate, or you can nominate someone else. We only need 1 nomination per candidate. If you should have any questions, please see any council member for more information. Thank you.
- During the month of November, 11/6-11/20, we will be collecting canned and dry goods for the Interfaith Food Pantry in Seminole to help those less fortunate during the upcoming holiday season. We're announcing this now so that, as you find items on sale, or BOGO's, you can maximize on whatever donations you might wish to make. We have a "wish-list" posted on the bulletin board in the social hall with suggestions of items which are most in need. Thank you.
- Florence Jean-Pierre (Anthony's mother) will be available in the back of the chapel after Mass each Sunday for anyone who would want or need, personal one on one prayers. Florence is also available for prayers before Mass, but by appointment only. Florence has had personal prayer and chaplain ministries in a previous church. If you should have any questions about it, please see Florence. She would be happy to speak with you about it.
- Voter registration has been extended for one additional week because of Hurricane Matthew. Our Council member, Jon Laubscher, will be available this coming Sunday and have Voter Registration forms available for anyone who is not yet registered to vote or anyone who needs to update their voter registration. This Sunday will be the last Sunday to be able to register for the General Election next month.
- We now have our Brick Program in effect. The funds raised with this program will be "restricted funds" and will only be used down the road for the purchase and or renovation of our own permanent church space. If you would like to purchase a brick we have them for sale for \$100 each or 4 for \$350. The inscriptions will be up to 36 characters or spaces over 3 lines. Forms are available in the lobby at church. This will be an on-going program, our first goal is to sell 100 bricks. Please see any council member if you should have questions. Completed forms with payment can be given to Larry Roush or Jim Villafana. Thank you for helping out with this most worthwhile program.
- We will not have any First Friday Masses in November and December. First Friday Masses will begin again in January. We will have our next Healing Mass on Wednesday October 26th at 7:00PM. You are welcome to attend and to receive a healing or receive in absentia for someone who may need it. All are welcome to attend.
- Mike Velez is always looking for additional choir members. If you are thinking you would like to possibly sing with the choir, please let Mike know. Remember, when you are singing, either in the choir or in your pew seat, singing is like praying twice. Please think about it.

That is all for this week's Council letter. Please let us know if you should have any questions, concerns or comments. You are always free to e-mail us or contact any member of the church council. Thank you, and as always, we look forward to seeing you in church!!!

In God's Peace, Your Church Council,
Leo, Jon, Larry, Jim & Barbara