

FACEBOOK LIVE Sundays at 10am

CHURCH OF ST DUNSTAN

800 N. Johnson ♦ P. O. Box 81 ♦ Mineola TX 75773

Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m. and LIVESTREAM via Facebook

Virtual Morning Prayer: Mondays at 11 a.m.

Adult Study: Wednesdays at 11 a.m.

Men's Bible Study, 2nd & 4th Saturdays at 8:30 a.m.

Women's Bible Study, each Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.

Prayer in the Nave, Tuesday at 5PM

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Website: www.churchofstdunstan.org



To learn more about St. Dunstan, click on the black QR code at left, the blue QR code at right is a giving link.



SAVE THE DATES:

THIS MONTH:

- **NOV 1: 5-7PM**, Youth Group Meets, Parish Hall
- **NOV 2: Ministry Annual Reports due!!**
- **NOV 3-4:** Diocesan Convention
- **NOV 10: ECW Stew Luncheon & Gift Basket Sale**, (Details pg. 2)
- **NOV 16: NOON**, ECW meeting, Brown Bag
- **NOV 18: 10PM**, Vestry meeting
- **NOV 19: Annual Parish Meeting & POTLUCK, following the service**
- **NOV 23: OFFICE CLOSED for THANKSGIVING DAY**
- **NOV 28: Noon**, Grace Chapter DOK meets

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 11 NOVEMBER 2023

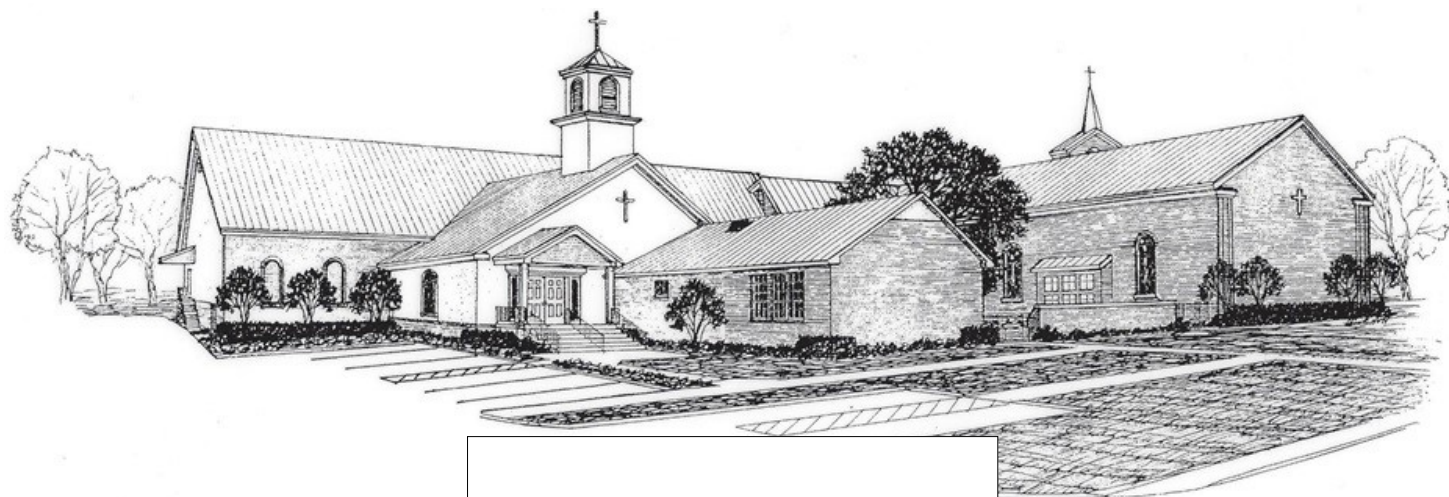
SCRIPTORIUM

THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN

Thanks to God for blessings given.



The Church of St. Dunstan
800 N Johnson Street
P. O. Box 81
Mineola, TX 75773



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The fall is the “traditional” time in the Episcopal church to address “stewardship” (usually code for talking about financial giving). Finances is also something that often gets avoided. It’s an interesting tension – to not allow talk about money and the need to give versus the temptation to *not* talk about it in order to not offend. There can be an association with talk about money and the idea that churches are just out to “make money.” Money can be a touchy subject for us, especially in the church. However, the bible has a lot to say about it. I think it can be an emotionally laden topic precisely because of its significance in our lives. At St. Dunstan’s, we have an added layer of complication in that this traditional time of addressing financial giving coincides with our Annual Parish Meeting and the presentation of our budget. There is much that can, and probably should, be said about our attitude and use of money as Christian disciples. However, rather than present a teaching in the newsletter, I thought I’d reflect some on my own answers to the questions of “Why do I give? Why should anyone?” When you look at our budget, you will note that the vast majority of the income for the parish comes from us – the parishioners. You will also see that we use every bit of it. However, I do not give (and don’t believe anyone should) in order to meet my “fair share” of the budget. That said, the scripture is clear that mature believers contribute to the work of the gospel and the mission of the church and to enable personnel to carry on its work. We “sow” into the mission field. Still, that’s not the primary reason. There are two main reasons I give my tithes, and, sometimes, offerings. The first is really simple: God said to do it. It is an act of obedience. But, why? Why would God want me to give? He doesn’t need what I might give in order to accomplish His purposes. He told us in His word, that He already has “the cattle on a thousand hills.” The direction to give isn’t for His sake, but mine. When I give, it acknowledges that what I have has come from His provision (including whatever ability I have to be able to be gainfully employed). To give a tithe is to take the first portion as being set aside for God as an acknowledgement of His provision and that what I have isn’t “mine”, but is entrusted to me by Him to serve His purpose. The Old Testament commands a tithe (10%). The times the New Testament speaks of giving, it’s usually higher! So, we tithe. When I get my pay check, I write one for that amount before, usually, any others. It’s enough to certainly feel the cost, but leaves me 90% to use as seems best. It is an exercise in discipleship. It is an exercise that undermines my natural un-generosity. It is an act of worship. I don’t give to please people or to help meet the bottom line. I do it because it helps me fix my eyes on God and to give Him something to Him as a “physical” expression. It puts Him first. It orders my finances, or at least helps, in a godly way. The testimony of our family is that God has always been faithful to us. We haven’t often, if ever, been “comfortable” financially or had much of a cushion. We’ve foregone expensive vacations (often staying with family) and our children didn’t take part in some extra-curricular activities. We weren’t able to put them through university. However, we’ve also never really been without. We’ve always had a place to live, food on our tables, and all that we’ve truly needed. We have vacations and experiences given us that we couldn’t do on our own. We’ve always paid our bills. In other words, we’ve never “outgiven” God. God has provided for us in sometimes miraculous ways. Our experience is that as we’ve entrusted our finances to God, given in obedience, given willfully and worshipfully, God has blessed in so many ways. Why do I give? Because God is faithful and we’ve been blessed beyond measure.

The Lord be with you,

+Fraser

ACOLYTE, ALTAR GUILD AND LECTOR SCHEDULES

Acolytes for November:

- 5 Wes Smith / Wendy Gholson
- 12 Howard & Kathi Ladewig
- 19 Milton H. / Patti Corbett
- 26 Chuck & Mary Lu French

Lectors for November:

- 5 Tim Boswell
- 12 Mary Achziger
- 19 Patti Corbett
- 26 Mary Lu French

Altar Guild for November:

- 5 Nancy Bogan/Cazzie Husbands/Margie Jennings
- 12 Reggie Askins / Anita Reese
- 19 Bonita Howell / Shirley Tennant
- 26 Cazzie Husbands/Margie Jennings

Consider joining one or more of the ministries at St. Dunstan. For more info, speak with Bp. Lawton or one of our ministry leaders. †



The **St. Dunstan Annual Parish meeting** will take place **Sunday, November 19th** following the service. This is also a Potluck Sunday. Bring your favorite side, salad or dessert.

You are asked to review the Vestry nominee bios and Annual meeting packet prior to the 19th. The packets will be e-mailed to everyone on November 12th to give everyone a chance to review the materials prior to the meeting.

Two Vestry positions will be voted on at the Annual meeting. There will also be an election for 2 delegates and one alternate to the 2024 Diocesan Convention as well as for two APNET council positions representing St. Dunstan.

ECW STEW LUNCHEON & GIFT BASKET

The Stew Luncheon & Gift Basket Sale will take place on Friday, November 10th, from 11AM-2PM. The pie sale fundraiser has gone by the wayside as many of our current members are not bakers. But... there are a number of ladies who are particularly gifted in crafting beautiful gift baskets! This is a first such sale here at St. Dunstan. With November

10th just around the corner, it will be interesting to see what the first fundraiser since COVID will yield.

The gift baskets are varied and will offer many an opportunity to do a bit of Christmas shopping or pick up something special for a birthday surprise.

The luncheon offers the option of beef or chicken stew with cornbread and dessert. Tickets are \$10 per meal.



ALPHA IS COMING

ALPHA starts Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 6PM. Each Thursday in the 11 week course will follow the same format: a meal, a video and a discussion. Take the time to prayerfully consider taking **ALPHA** or assisting on one of the support teams. There are several **ALPHA** teams that could use your help. Veronica is heading up the Kitchen as well as Setup and Décor. If you are good with decorations, touch base with her to see about assisting the set up and decorations team or to help with the clean up team. There are many ways to help with **ALPHA**. Pray for the teams and participants.

- ✓ **ALPHA** ask your questions
- ✓ **ALPHA** offers open discussion.
- ✓ **ALPHA** developing new leaders
- ✓ **ALPHA** forges new friendships
- ✓ **ALPHA** transforms lives and faith
- ✓ Be a part of the **ALPHA** team!

2023 DIOCESAN CONVENTION

The Episcopal Diocese of Dallas will hold the 128th Annual Meeting of the Diocese. On Friday, November 3rd, all canonically resident clergy will attend Leadership Day. The Convention begins early on Saturday, November 4th at the Episcopal School of Dallas.

This year, St. Dunstan was entitled to have one delegate. Our Parish average Sunday attendance (ASA) was based on the 2022 figures. We were still recovering from the drop in attendance during COVID. The ASA

in 2023 finds us back above of 50+. This means that our Parish will have two delegates and one alternate to attend the 2024 Diocesan Convention.

The Diocese hosts a number of activities and workshops throughout the year that are open to all parishes in the Diocese. This is an excellent opportunity to meet others from throughout the Diocese and learn about the important issues facing us as Christians in today's world.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| NOV 2 Kay Stephens | 25 Mary Lu French |
| 4 Lee Spence | 26 Michael Perkins |
| Ruth Ann Rodieck | 30 Linda Connell |
| 5 Ray Pendley | |
| 6 Sara Long | Anniversaries: |
| 10 Jill Russell | NOV 10 Jill & Ted Russell |
| 15 Tommy Campbell | 25 Richard & Lorraine Evans |
| 18 Bob Stephens | 26 John & Barbara Jarvis |
| 19 Jeanne Ann Lea | |

