EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE
of West Texas

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of West Texas

PRAYER FOR THE PROCESS

Almighty God, giver of all good gifts, you have called us to a life-giving fellowship in the Diocese of West Texas: Encourage and build up in us the love of Christ Jesus that we might continue to strengthen the legacy of those who have tended and led this diocese with godly courage; look graciously upon us and on your whole Church; by your Spirit, guide the Bishop Nominating Committee, the delegates, and the clergy who shall discern the one you call to be a bishop for our diocese; send us a faithful shepherd who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries. All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns now and forever.

Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF A BISHOP IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IS

- To represent Christ and his Church, particularly as an apostle, chief priest, and pastor of a diocese;
- To guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the whole Church;
- To proclaim the Word of God;
- To act in Christ's name for the reconciliation of the world and the building up of the Church;
- To ordain others to continue Christ's ministry

from *The Book of Common Prayer*, page 855

CORE VALUES OF THE DIOCESE OF WEST TEXAS

FAITH
We pattern our lives on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

SCRIPTURE, PRAYER, AND SACRAMENTAL WORSHIP
We are grounded in Scripture, prayer, and sacramental worship.

EVANGELISM
We proclaim by word and example God's saving love revealed in Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit.

MISSION
We reach beyond ourselves to serve all people in our communities and throughout the world.

RECONCILIATION
We are a community committed to living in reconciled relationship with God and all people.

OUR CORE PURPOSE
Be Jesus' witnesses.

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of West Texas

DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS:
A GLIMPSE INTO THE LIFE OF THE DIOCESE

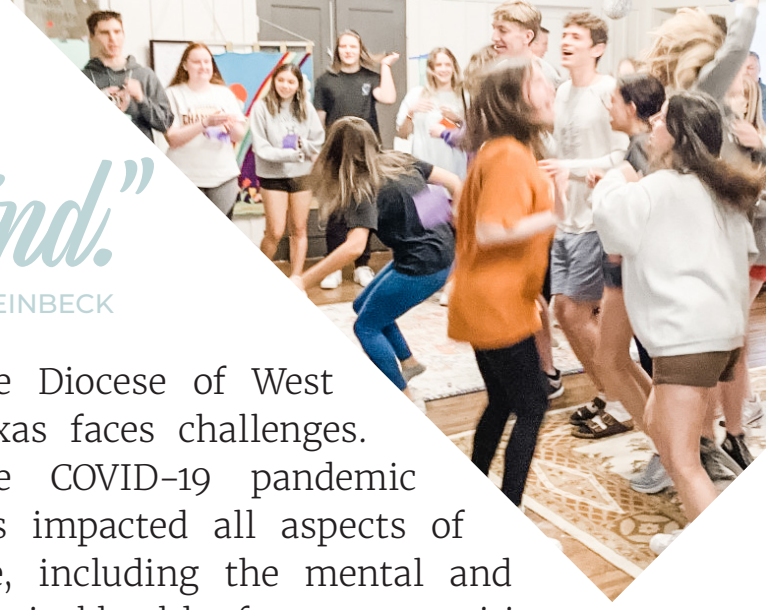
The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas is deep in the heart of Texas, covering a vast expanse of land from the Gulf of Mexico and Coastal Bend prairies to the Rio Grande border and up through the Hill Country. While the name says West, in reality the Diocese is spread across Central and South Texas. Our landscape and cultures are rich and varied, comprised of rugged ranchland and thriving cities, laid-back beach towns and world-renowned centers of education and art. In South Texas especially, Mexican American culture brings a unique vibrancy to our communities and churches. Together the people of the Diocese of West Texas (DWTX) form a rich tapestry of cultures, languages, and ethnicities.

Texans pride themselves on being friendly, and the Diocese of West Texas is no exception. Our diocese enjoys an especially collegial relationship between bishops, clergy, and laity. We love to gather together for fellowship, and we love to eat good food. You'll find the best tacos, BBQ, and seafood from the Gulf of Mexico within our diocese.

The congregations of our diocese are dedicated to serving God and loving their neighbors whole-heartedly. Some congregations are small and gather without a full-time priest. Others are larger, with multiple clergy and lay people on staff. Some are low-church and some have incense and Sanctus bells. All of our churches bring unique gifts to the Diocese and to their local communities.

"Texas is a state of mind."

JOHN STEINBECK



Within the Diocese of West Texas, the overall population is growing rapidly. The San Antonio – Austin corridor is one of the fastest growing regions in the nation, and our most recent church plant – St. Nicholas in Bulverde – is thriving within this region. Counties in the northern parts of the Diocese, including Bexar, Kendall, Comal, Guadalupe, and Hays, are experiencing explosive growth that analysts project will continue for several decades. The Rio Grande Valley region of South Texas, located along a portion of our country's border with Mexico, has also seen tremendous growth. For example, the city of McAllen grew 12.4% between 2010 and 2020. Texans of color accounted for 95% of the state's population growth during that time. While many regions of West Texas are growing, some of our more rural counties are experiencing a gradual population decline.

The Diocese of West Texas faces challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all aspects of life, including the mental and physical health of our communities, church attendance, and congregational momentum. The political polarization felt so pervasively throughout the broader culture can lead to division and frustration within our congregations. Many feel that these are frightening and uncertain times.

As the Diocese of West Texas prayerfully searches for our next Bishop, we trust that the Holy Spirit will bring us a leader who will shepherd the Diocese into the next chapter of our story with grace and courage.

We hope and pray for a Bishop who will love this Diocese, unify us in Christ, and cast a bold vision for our future.

DID YOU Know?

There are over 300,000 college students that attend school within the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, at universities in San Antonio, San Marcos, McAllen, Brownsville, Seguin, Kerrville, and more!

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of West Texas

A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A WEST TEXAS BISHOP

In decades past, the Bishop of West Texas traveled the Diocese on horseback, railroad, and river boat. Today, our bishops travel in the comfort of an air-conditioned car, but they must still cover a lot of ground to reach our 87 congregations. If you want to put yourself in the Bishop's boots, here is the travel itinerary for Bishop David Reed over a couple weeks in July. Even while Sunday Bishop Visits are on summer hiatus, our bishops are on the move!

WEDNESDAY Drove from San Antonio to Mason to visit St. Martin's Episcopal Community, *229 miles roundtrip.*

THURSDAY Traveled to Camp Capers in Waring for Staff Night, *100 miles roundtrip.*

FRIDAY Presided at a funeral in San Antonio, *10 miles roundtrip.*

MONDAY Back to Camp Capers to confirm a staff member, *100 miles roundtrip.*

WEDNESDAY Drove to Sonora to install the new rector of St. John's Church, *346 miles roundtrip.*

THURSDAY Drove to Mustang Island Conference Center in Port Aransas for Family Camp, *172 miles roundtrip.*

SUNDAY Traveled to Victoria to attend the Happening closing service, *230 miles roundtrip.*

TOTAL MILES DRIVEN
1,187 miles or approximately 19 hours.

BY THE NUMBERS

- **87** Congregations
  - **61** Parishes
  - **24** Missions
  - **1** Church Plant
  - **1** Worshiping Community
- **170** Canonically-Resident Clergy
  - **81** active in churches, **18** non-parochial, and **71** retired clergy
- **28** Episcopal Schools
  - **27** parochial and **1** diocesan school
- In-Person Average Sunday Attendance
  - 2022 January – May: **5,781**
  - 2021 Full Year: **4,748**
  - Pre-COVID 2020: **7,791**
- Average Pledge Amount 2021: **$5,448**
  - Pre-COVID 2020: **$4,960**
- 2022 Operating Budget for the Diocese: **$5,528,498**
- Total Communicants 2021: **19,947** members
  - Pre-COVID 2020: **20,626** members

DID YOU Know?

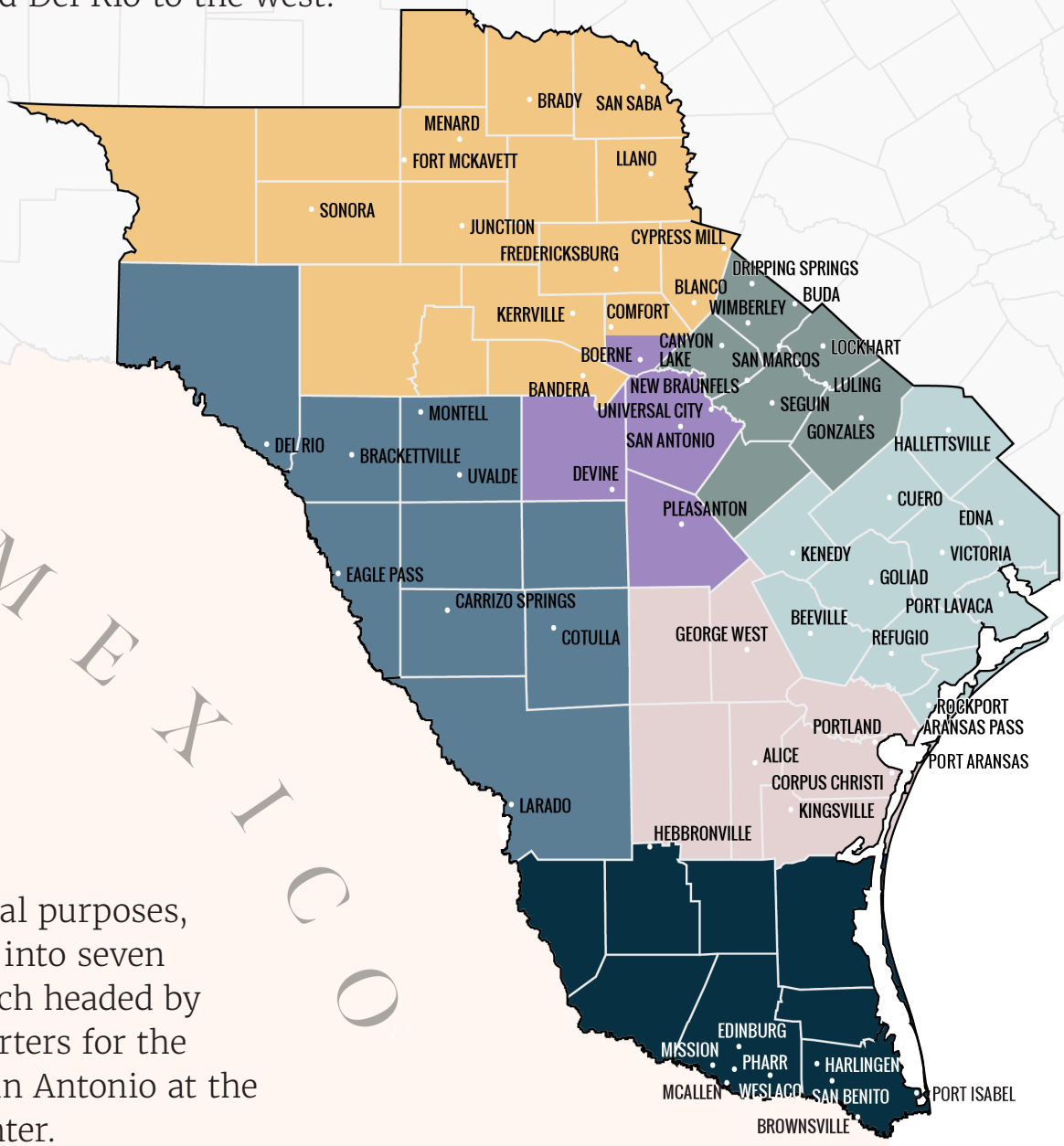
The Diocese of West Texas does not have a formal cathedral! Many consider St. Francis Chapel at Camp Capers the unofficial diocesan cathedral.

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of West Texas

FAST FACTS

We are 20,000+ persons gathered into 87 congregations, spread across 60 counties and 69,000 square miles.

Our geographical boundaries are roughly Brady to the north, Port Lavaca and Edna to the east, Brownsville to the south, and Del Rio to the west.



For organizational purposes, we are arranged into seven convocations, each headed by a dean. Headquarters for the diocese are in San Antonio at the Bishop Jones Center.

The diocese has 30 full-time employees, most of whom office in San Antonio, others at our camp and conference centers – Camp Capers, Mustang Island Conference Center, and Duncan Park.

DID YOU Know?

The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas is one of only four Episcopal dioceses to share a border with Mexico.

BUDGET

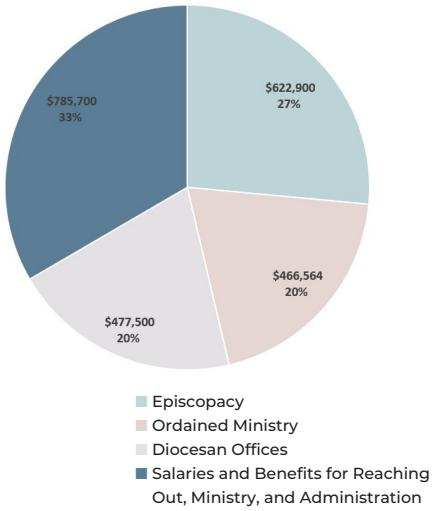
The diocesan budget is organized into two different budgets:

The Operating Budget consists of six parts that fund the travel of the bishops, supports development of lay and ordained ministries, and includes some salary and benefits costs.

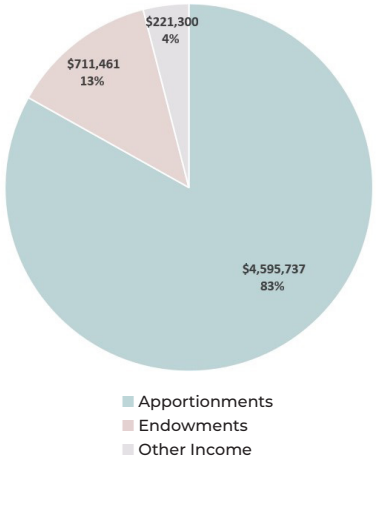
The Reaching Out Budget funds programs for mission and outreach, resources for all congregations, and support for ordained ministry in mission congregations.

OPERATING BUDGET

Operating Expenses 2022

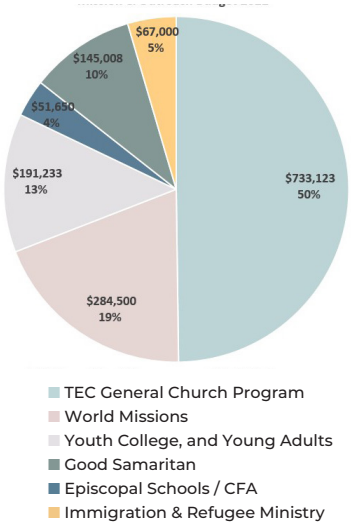


Revenues 2022

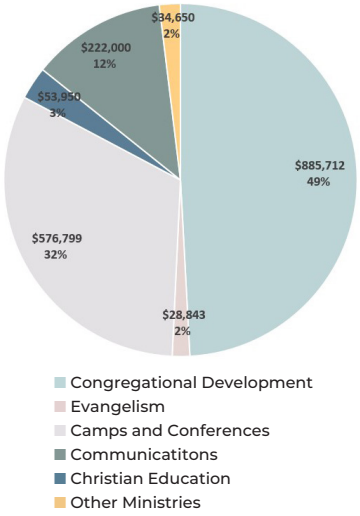


REACHING OUT BUDGET

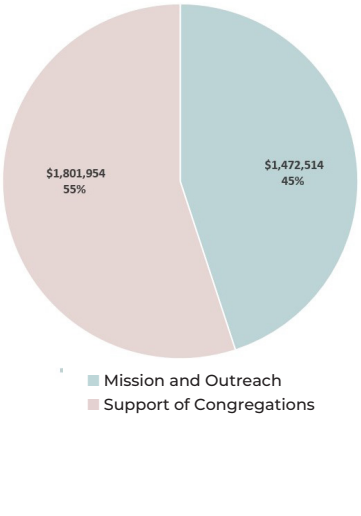
Mission & Outreach Budget 2022



Support of Congregations Budget 2022



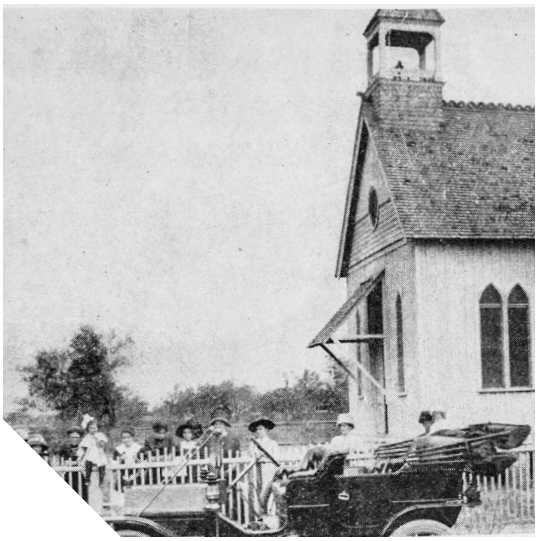
Reaching Out Budget 2022



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of West Texas

HISTORY
OF THE DIOCESE OF WEST TEXAS

The Rt. Rev. Robert Woodward Barnwell Elliott became the first Bishop of the Missionary District of Western Texas in 1874. Upon arriving in San Antonio, he took responsibility for 12 active congregations scattered across 110,000 square miles, on the frontier of the nation. He found the District populated by hearty people and a rapidly growing number of new immigrants from the states. The 427 communicants were served by seven priests, two deacons, and itinerant military chaplains. The harvest was plentiful, but the laborers were few. 150 years later, the Diocese of West Texas has many of the same core characteristics encountered by Bishop Elliott: faithful lay and clergy people, a missionary spirit, vast geography, and growing populations in many areas.



The diocesan seal, designed by the Rev. Louis A. Parker, former rector of Trinity Church, Victoria, was adopted in 1927. In the upper left, the Alamo, cradle of Texas liberty, represents the planting of the Church banner in the new world. The star in the upper right represents the Lone Star of Texas and the star of Bethlehem.

In the lower left is the lion of St. Mark, signifying the first cathedral site in San Antonio and the wild nature of Texas. In the lower right, the ox represents St. Luke the Physician and the cattle of Texas.

Six capped flags remember the number of flags over Texas during its history with the seventh being that of the Church. Within the bishop's miter, a spray of lilies (for St. Anthony of Padua), and a field of bells (for St. Anthony of Alexandria) are reminders of the namesake of San Antonio, the diocesan center city. Pearls for truth adorn the miter, and tabs for the Old and New Testament hang from the miter. The motto, in Greek, from Mark's Gospel, 9:23, reads "Everything is possible to one who has faith."

DID YOU Know?

Faithful West Texas lay leader Dr. Artemisia Bowden was called from North Carolina to San Antonio by the Rt. Rev. James Steptoe Johnston, Second Bishop of West Texas, to establish an Episcopal School for African American women. This school became St. Philip's College in San Antonio, which continues to thrive today. She was recognized as a saint by The Episcopal Church in 2015.

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of West Texas

MINISTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS OF THE DIOCESE OF WEST TEXAS

Learn more about the programs, organizations, and groups listed here as well as information about all of the ministries of the Diocese online, at dwtx.org/what-we-do.

BISHOP JONES CENTER AND CATHEDRAL PARK

The diocesan bishop and staff are housed at The Bishop Jones Center in San Antonio. Each Wednesday, a Service of Holy Eucharist is held in St. John's Chapel, led by the Bishops and Archdeacon, as well as other diocesan clergy. The Bishop Jones Center sits on 19-acres of land, known as Cathedral Park. Open to the public, Cathedral Park is a peaceful, green space perfect for a family picnic or personal prayer walk. In addition to hosting chapel services, committee meetings, and gatherings for the diocese, the Bishop Jones Center is available for congregations and local organizations to reserve for leadership retreats, fellowship gatherings, and events.

CAMPS AND CONFERENCES

The diocese is blessed with three camping and retreat facilities: Camp Capers in Waring, Texas; Mustang Island Conference Center in Port Aransas, Texas; and Duncan Park in Colorado. The diocesan camping program is dedicated to bringing children and young people of all ages and backgrounds to Jesus Christ, so they may reach into the world in his name. Each facility also serves adults of all ages through various spiritual retreats and conferences. The program is flourishing, with tremendous support from across the diocese, leading to new construction and new programs.

CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACTION

Several strong ministries make up the Department of Christian Faith in Action (CFA), including Kairos Prison Ministry, Recovery Ministries Commission, Creation Care Committee, and the Habitat Builders for West Texas. Kairos Prison Ministry in the Diocese of West Texas is especially active in Beeville, where 40 Kairos weekends have been held. The Recovery Ministries of the diocese host two Spiritual Retreats in Recovery each year for anyone in a 12-step recovery program, and the ministry also encourages and helps facilitate Recovery Sunday programs for diocesan churches.

DID YOU Know?

The Diocese of West Texas is the only Episcopal Diocese with three camps: Camp Capers in the Hill Country, Mustang Island Conference Center on the Gulf Coast, and Duncan Park in the Colorado Rocky Mountains!

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

The Christian Formation Committee provides formation resources for the diocese and guides congregations in forming disciples of all ages. This is accomplished through written resources, videos, workshops and other events throughout each calendar year. The Bishop's Deputy for Christian Formation consults with churches directly via Zoom, phone call, email, and in-person visits.

COLLEGE MISSIONS

There are over 300,000 college students that attend school within the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas! The College Missions Council (CMC) supports ministries of, to, and with young adults (ages 18–30) both on and off college campuses. After a period of transition the Diocese has hired a Campus Missioner to be the point person on campus to gather with students and a College Missions Coordinator to work with churches and clergy in the diocese to build and grow the College Missions outreach in collaboration with the CMC.

CURSILLO AND HAPPENING RETREATS

The Cursillo ministry is strong in the diocese, with 285 Cursillo spiritual retreat weekends held. Four retreat weekends are planned for each year. The diocese has also held 151 Happening weekends, spiritual renewal retreats for high schoolers in the tenth through twelfth grades.

EPISCOPAL SCHOOLS

There are currently 28 Episcopal schools in the Diocese of West Texas, which serve close to 4,000 students and are dedicated to the mission of educating God's children. Our schools remain a source of pride for our communities and consistently produce committed, caring individuals who become leaders.

The schools in the diocese include ten preschools; eleven schools that combine preschool and elementary ages; seven schools that include preschool, elementary, and middle school ages. Our diocesan school is TMI Episcopal, which is a middle and high school with both day-time and boarding students. The Bishop's Deputy for Episcopal Schools provides support and resources to Heads of School, school staff, and church leadership.

GOOD SAMARITAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

The mission of Good Samaritan Community Services (Good Sam) is to serve as a catalyst for change, supporting youth, individuals and families by providing excellent community services to overcome economic poverty. The Center was established in 1951 by the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, as a downtown mission of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, San Antonio. Since then, Good Sam has grown to become a private, nonprofit 501(c) 3 organization and United Way agency that provides comprehensive services to more than 4,700 individuals and 1,800 families around South Texas. Good Sam actively serves as a place of change, reaching out to support thousands of people working to improve their lives and to overcome the challenges of poverty.

IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE MINISTRIES

The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas and Mexico shares approximately 500 border miles with Mexico along the Rio Grande. Our congregations are responding to the needs of asylum seekers along the border, as well as individuals in local law enforcement, in a variety of outreach and pastoral care ministries, including tending to the needs of asylum seekers at bus stations and in the camps along the border itself. The Diocese is also a co-sponsor of Plaza de Paz Respite Center in San Antonio, which provides day-time welcoming services for individuals and families including meals, assistance with travel arrangements, personal hygiene care, and transportation within Bexar County to the airport or bus station.

IONA SCHOOL FOR MINISTRY

The Iona School for Ministry of the Diocese of West Texas offers a three-year curriculum for the education of Bi-Vocational Priests. Students who graduate and are ordained go on to serve our smaller congregations which may not be able to support a full-time clergy person. As of this time the school has graduated nine men and women who are serving throughout the diocese.

LATINO MINISTRIES COMMISSION

The Latino Ministries Commission was launched in 2021, with a series of Zoom meetings beginning in March. Leaders also host regular El Oficio de Completas along with the Psalm and Gospel appointed for that day via Zoom for anyone in the diocese that knows, understands, but is not very confident about his or her Spanish. The Commission hopes to celebrate the rich histories and cultures of Latino individuals and communities and provide valuable resources to both serve current church members and to help in expanding church memberships in the Diocese of West Texas.

ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING®

There are over 40 Order of the Daughters of the King® chapters within the Diocese and nearly 800 Senior, Junior, and Daughters at Large. Reaffirming the promises made at Baptism and Confirmation, a Daughter pledges herself to a life-long program of prayer, service and evangelism. The Order is a community of nurturing women, accepting all

people, bridging differences and cherishing traditions.

THE RACIAL RECONCILIATION COMMISSION

The Racial Reconciliation Commission's task is to seek ways that the Diocese as a whole might more effectively foster the racial reconciliation to which the Gospel calls us and to be a resource to congregations who want to engage in reconciling conversations and work. As of August 2022, the group is engaged in Sacred Ground, the film-based dialogue series on race and faith which is part of The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society.

DID YOU Know?

Of the more than 30 military installations in Texas, 10 are located within the boundaries of our Diocese, and 1/3 of our congregations have an active Military Ministry.

RECOVERY MINISTRIES

The Diocesan Commission on Recovery Ministries recognizes that alcoholism, drug dependency, co-dependency, eating disorders and other addictions affect many persons in our community. Believing that shame about these diseases, combined with a lack of information about addiction and knowledge of resources, keeps many people from receiving available help and treatment, the Commission is committed to reducing shame and offering hope through ongoing awareness and education in this Diocese. We stay informed about community resources and offer referral assistance when needed. They offer emotional and spiritual support for persons who are struggling with addiction problems themselves, in family members or friends.

UNION OF BLACK EPISCOPALIANS

The UBE Artemisia Bowden Diocesan Chapter serves to promote understanding, to develop friendships across spectrums, and to instill a deep appreciation of education for all.

THE WISDOM YEARS MINISTRY

The Wisdom Years is an emerging ministry created by a small working group of adults over 70. This group believes that these are the years when we have the time to look deeply at our relationship with God, to finally live into all that God is calling us to become, and to see blessings even amidst the diminishment of aging. This group meets regularly for Zoom studies on various topics throughout the year. They also consult with parishes about how to serve the spiritual needs of congregants over 70.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

The Commission for Women's Ministries (C4WM) is the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas' branch of the National Episcopal Church Women (ECW). It works to foster active communication, spiritual enrichment, and education among women of The Episcopal Church with Christ at the center. Many Women's Ministry groups are active throughout the diocese at the congregational level, building friendships and reaching out in Christ's name.

DID YOU Know?

The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas' World Missions Department has built sustainable, long-term mission relationships in 41 countries on 6 continents over 25 years of ministry.

DID YOU Know?

In 2005 World Missions held the first Threads of Blessing workshop with 30 women in one village in one diocese in Uganda. Currently, 17 years later, we have over 650 women in 30 groups in 13 dioceses involved in the ministry!

WORLD MISSION

The World Mission Department seeks to engage every member and every church of the diocese in the work of evangelism and mission. World Missions staff, volunteer leaders, and church teams share the Gospel through both long-term missionaries and short-term mission trips in Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Belize, Turkey, Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Navajoland. Its work includes water well drilling, medical and dental clinics, veterinary work, microenterprise, and more.

YOUTH MINISTRY

The Diocese of West Texas actively supports the spiritual lives of middle and high school students, and it seeks to empower youth and adult leaders who minister to all of God's children. The Bishop's Youth Commission (BYC) is a group of youth ministers, clergy, and young people who seek to empower the youth of the Diocese through events, trainings, and fellowship. In March 2022, the BYC hosted its first Confirmation Retreat for youth interested in being confirmed but who might not have access to formal confirmation classes. 22 teens spent a Spring Break weekend talking about faith and learning about the history of the church, the Prayer Book, sacraments, and other important subjects. The BYC is planning to make the Confirmation Retreat an annual event, as well as creating diocesan seminars to empower youth leaders. The Diocese also sponsors three Happening retreats per year.

Learn more about the programs, organizations, and groups listed here as well as information about all of the ministries of the Diocese online, at dwtx.org/what-we-do.

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of West Texas

SURVEY RESULTS

In an effort to listen closely to the people of West Texas, the Standing Committee and Executive Board created and shared a diocesan-wide survey in Summer 2022. More than 1,200 people responded, giving voice to the hopes, dreams, and concerns of the laity and clergy of this diocese. Here are the highlights:

Question 1: Which three of the following do you think are most important concerning the new Bishop's relationship with the Trinity?

- Is a Christ-centered person of deep faith
- Patterns his/her life according to the teachings of Christ
- Respects the dignity of every human being

Question 2: Which seven of the following do you believe are the most critical abilities our new Bishop needs to possess to lead our diocese effectively?

- Excellent communication skills
- Is compassionate, caring, and approachable
- Ability to cast and articulate a clear vision for the future of the Diocese and ministries
- Ability to lead through change
- Has experience as a rector/vicar
- A strong record of effective congregational leadership
- Ability to work with congregations of all sizes

DID YOU Know?

Emmanuel, Lockhart, built in 1856, is the oldest Protestant church building still in use in Texas.

Question 3: Which do you believe are the top seven personal qualities needed by our next Bishop?

- A person of integrity
- Sound judgment
- Strong theological background
- Good sense of humor
- Flexible and open-minded
- Deeply spiritual and prayerful
- Good listener

Question 4: Based on your perspective, select the five most important future priorities for the Diocese in the next five years.

- Building up existing congregations
- Recruiting and retaining effective clergy to serve throughout the diocese
- Evangelism: attracting and maintaining new members
- Expanding ministries to youth
- Working toward a more diverse and inclusive diocese

Question 5: What five areas of diocesan life most need additional energy and leadership?

- Congregational Development
- Young Adult Ministries
- Youth Ministries
- Christian Formation
- Christian Faith in Action

SURVEY RESULTS, CONT.

Question 6 and Question 7 of the survey were open-ended questions, asking respondents to write in their own answers rather than choosing from a list of provided options. While the individual answers are too many to include here, distinct and significant themes did emerge from over 1,200 written responses.

Question 6: What challenges is the Diocese facing?

Top 5 themes that emerged from the written answers:

- The people of West Texas care deeply about their churches and are concerned for the future of their congregations and of the larger Episcopal Church. Again and again, respondents voiced concern that church attendance is dwindling, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic, and that congregations are aging without engaging younger members. Many called for a Bishop who can cast a robust vision that leads us into growth, evangelism, and vitality.
- A second salient theme was dismay over the political polarization occurring in our culture and in our church communities. Many respondents expressed sadness and frustration over divisions in their families, communities, and churches. They identified a need for a Bishop who could unify people of different backgrounds and viewpoints and who would model charitable Christian dialogue.
- Write-in answers consistently reflected a desire for more diversity and inclusion within the Diocese of West Texas, particularly for more Spanish-speaking or bilingual clergy and for congregational demographics to more closely resemble the diverse demographics of their local communities.
- The survey response indicated a robust desire for a Bishop who is relatable, down to earth, and has a great sense of humor. Many noted that our recent diocesan bishops have embodied this ideal and expressed a hope that the next Bishop would be similarly approachable and collegial.

Finally, respondents identified a need for our congregations to get outside the walls of their sanctuaries and into their local communities. Many expressed a desire for churches to be less insulated from the life of the local community and to engage meaningfully with our neighbors. While the desire is there, our congregations sometimes struggle with effective ways to accomplish authentic, effective and sustainable outreach. We would look to our next Bishop for guidance and energy in this endeavor.

Question 7: Is there anything else you would like to share?

This question provided respondents an opportunity to bring up anything that had not yet been addressed by the survey questions. Even without any prompting or suggestion, several themes emerged.

- Creation Care: Many respondents expressed a desire for the Diocese to model good stewardship of creation and to engage theologically with this issue.
- Mental Health: It is evident from the responses that many people, both laity and clergy, are struggling with mental health issues and specifically with the stress and isolation caused by the pandemic.
- Care for the Aging: Some respondents want to be sure that aging church members continue to be incorporated into the life of the congregation, receiving pastoral care but also sharing their gifts and wisdom with the community.
- Rural Congregations: Respondents from smaller, rural congregations commented that they want to continue to be valued and regarded as equal partners in the life of the Diocese.
- Immigration: Many respondents noted that, as a borderland diocese, the issue of immigration is real and tangible among our congregations. Many expressed a desire for more intentional outreach to migrants and refugees.

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of West Texas

DISCERNING TOGETHER:
THE PROCESS FOR ELECTING OUR NEXT DIOCESAN BISHOP

June-August 2022	Bi-weekly meetings of the Standing Committee
July 2022	Standing Committee invites Executive Board to create a Diocesan Profile
August 1, 2022	Standing Committee invites additional clergy and laity to assist in their role as the Nominating Committee
September 19, 2022	Diocesan Profile published
September 26, 2022	Nomination Process opens
October 10, 2022	Nomination Process closes
October 2022	Nominating Committee conducts interviews of nominees and makes reference calls; background checks conducted
November 1, 2022	Nominating Committee invites selected nominees to Discernment Retreat
November 14-17, 2022	Discernment Retreat - Nominating Committee and Consultant on retreat with selected nominees
December 18, 2022	Final slate of Bishop Coadjutor nominees published
January 27-29, 2023	Discernment Forums, previously called “Walk-Abouts,” will take place in the Rio Grande Valley, Corpus Christi, and San Antonio regions
February 18, 2023	Election of a Bishop Coadjutor at the conclusion of Diocesan Council in Corpus Christi
Summer 2023	Consecration of the Bishop-Elect

PHOTO CREDITS

Front Cover: We Will Continue - and How! Acolytes; Sandbreaking, Mustang Island Conference Center; St Paul's Episcopal Montessori School, San Antonio.

Page 2 - 3: The Bishop's Chair, St. John's Chapel, Bishop Jones Center

Page 4: Beautification Weekend, Mustang Island Conference Center

Page 5: Happening #150, St. Helena's Episcopal Church, Boerne

Page 6 - 7: Photo from the Archives of the Diocese of West Texas, Cover of *The Church News*, January 1949

Page 10 - 11: Photo from the Archives of the Diocese of West Texas, Artemisia Bowden Mural, St. Phillip's College San Antonio, by 2C2K Photography

Page 12: Vacation Bible School, Church of the Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi

Page 13: Summer campers, Camp Capers

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ARE YOU DISCERNING A CALL TO SERVE AS THE BISHOP OF WEST TEXAS OR WANT TO NOMINATE A CLERGY TO SHEPHERD OUR DIOCESE?

The Nomination Form will be open September 26 through October 10, 2022 at dwtx.org/bishop-nomination.