Our Sunday School students sing for us on Children’s Sunday (the last Sunday in each month). They sing songs that help them memorize the Bible verses for the Bible Bee game on the first Wednesday, Family Night potluck. Recordings of the kids singing their songs will be available for you to download off the church Facebook page very soon. Anne Bressert

**UTA Planetarium Trip, October 16th**

UTA Planetarium is one of the three largest planetariums in the State of Texas located in a groundbreaking research facility. With its 60-feet dome projection surface, fully digital projection system and advance software, UTA Planetarium provides its visitors views of realistic night sky, the Solar System, stars, and distance galaxies complemented with Dolby surround sound.

The UTA Astronomer provided a night sky tour, presenting the Solar System and other Point-Of-Interest objects, and covered trending Astronomy topics. The session was followed by Q&A, and a pre-recorded program (continued p. 3).
I tend to not make a big deal out of “stewardship season.” We have our annual pledge drive, pledge cards are in the bulletins and available at the back of the church, and we have our ingathering Sunday. Not a lot of fanfare, no particularly pointed sermons, no testimonials, we just take in the pledge cards and plan our budget accordingly. There are two major reasons for this. First among them is that we have a congregation of faithful givers. Most everyone at St. Gregory’s understands our financial needs and the importance of knowing what we can expect to bring in for the year so we can anticipate our income. We have made an effort to be as transparent and forthcoming as possible in regards to the finances of the parish and preschool. I don’t feel that such a concentrated focus on giving is particularly necessary or even helpful at St. Gregory’s. This is a generous parish and I have not seen stewardship as a pressing spiritual concern. It would be foolish to think that is the case across the board and if you do struggle with how to be faithful with your money, please come and see me. But I know that I am blessed to be in a place with people who are willing to give and to do so sacrificially.

Second, I try to make an effort to preach on appropriate stewardship when the lectionary lessons give me the opportunity. Honoring God with what we have been given is something we should focus on all year long, not just when we are trying to encourage pledging. It is always best when we can look at stewardship from a biblical perspective and thankfully that opportunity presents itself throughout the church year. Aside from the Kingdom of God, Jesus talks more about money than any other subject which should lead us to a couple of conclusions. First, that struggles with handling our material treasure faithfully is nothing new and second, that it is clearly of spiritual significance. Our material possessions are something that we need to be very conscientious of because of the unique risks they pose to our spiritual health in our reliance on God and our attitude toward others.

Dealing with money is a fact of life. We all have to do it to some degree, with our family budgets, with our employers, with the government, etc. At St. Gregory’s we strive to honor God and to use what our parishioners have provided responsibly and respectfully. As I recently mentioned during the Sunday morning announcements, the vestry and I are working to incorporate the various expenses that can reasonably be anticipate as well as planning to give, by adding maintenance costs, parish life costs, as well as outreach into our budget. We are doing this to alleviate the need to be regularly asking for you all to go above and beyond what you have pledged to fund these various needs.

I want to thank you all for your faithfulness and generosity as we continue to grow and thrive, seeking to fulfill our mission of “making disciples of Jesus Christ, for the transformation of the world, by knowing, loving, and serving God.”

Fr. Alan Horton+

Sunday sermons are recorded, each Sunday. http://stgregorysmansfield.org/sermons.

November Birthdays
25 ~ Meredith Melton

November Anniversaries
03 ~ Rick & Terry Black
26 ~ David & Janie Smith

November Memorials
Clyde & Betty Reed ~ Jonathan’s Birthday Thanks
Kathy Walker
Heinz & Nancy Liedke
Angela Katanic ~ In memory of Jason

Mark Your November Calendar
01 ~ Genealogy Grp. at Bradburn’s, 9 am
02 ~ All Soul’s Day, 6:30 Mass
03 ~ Men’s Breakfast & Study
04 ~ All Saints Day, Daylight Savings ends
07 ~ Monthly potluck following 6:30 pm Mass
08 ~ Choir practice, 7 pm
10 ~ DHC, Parish Hall, 10 am
13 ~ Vestry meeting, 6 pm
14 ~ Holy Eucharist at Watercrest, 1 pm
15 ~ Preschool Thanksgiving Feast, Choir practice
17 ~ Men’s Breakfast & Study
22 ~ Thanksgiving, office closed
23 ~ Office closed
25 ~ Canned meat collection, Children’s service
28 ~ Holy Eucharist at Watercrest, 1 pm

Every Tuesday, Small group study at home of Cheri Davis, 10am

Every Wednesday following 6:30 pm Mass ~ Adult study on book of Hebrews

The Men’s group is continuing a study of “The Rule of St. Benedict”. It is interesting to discuss how the Rule that was written centuries ago for monks applies to our relationships with one another and our own community. We meet at Rosa’s on Broad at 8 AM on the first and third Saturdays of each month. The breakfast is good and the background music is lively. I encourage all the men to come join us for our study and fellowship.

UTA Planetarium

Astronomy is not an easy science to study. Unlike biologists, geologists and others, astronomers can’t walk up to a star or planet to study it because they are incredibly far away. Even the Earth’s nearest celestial neighbor, the moon, is nearly 240,000 miles away. The closest star to Earth, the Sun, is 93,000,000 miles away. The best way to study a distant object, like a star or planet, is to study its light. (see p. 3)
Preschool Happenings

The month of November is a time to remember all that we are thankful for, a time to reflect on the many blessings bestowed on us by our gracious heavenly father. It is absolutely my favorite time of year. I am thankful to have the opportunity to come to work each day and have a positive impact on the lives of so many children and families. I am also thankful for a workplace where I am surrounded and supported by like-minded staff who share in my beliefs, and where we can openly share our faith. This freedom I do not take for granted. I am thankful for St. Gregory’s preschool and church and for the work we do together!

During this month we have several activities planned to share with our preschool families. November 7th we will have pony rides here at the school, this has been a big hit the last two years, and the families are looking forward to this event. (it had to be rescheduled because of all the rain in October). This event also serves as a fundraiser for the preschool, we receive a portion of the profits from portrait sales.

Our annual Thanksgiving feast will be Thursday November 15th. Kathy Walker and I will be compiling a sign-up list for anyone who would like to help with this event. We will be seeking assistance for monetary donations, food donations, and volunteers to help set up, cook, serve, clean up, etc. If you have any questions please see Kathy or stop by the preschool office.

The preschool will once again be partnering with the church for the Angel Tree project. We have a very giving group of parents and we are pleased to be able to assist those in our community thru this outreach. Kathy and I will be meeting very soon so we can get the info out to everyone as soon as possible.

We often think of light as the Electro-Magnetic Spectrum, or EM spectrum. The EM spectrum is like a rainbow, with many different forms of radiation, or light! On the coldest end of the EM spectrum we have radio waves, in the middle of the spectrum we have visible light, the small portion of the EM spectrum that our eyes can see; and at the hottest end of the EM spectrum we have gamma rays. Astronomers can collect the light from anywhere on the EM spectrum using telescopes. The larger the telescope, the more light it can detect. By studying all parts of the EM spectrum astronomers can learn about an object’s temperature, distance and age, to name a few. Finding the Little Dipper from the Big Dipper is a very simple star-hop. Using the 2 stars at the end of the bowl of the dipper as a guide draw a line connecting the bottom of the dipper to the top. Continue the line into the sky about 2 hand lengths. This will take you to Polaris, the North Star, which is the last star in the handle of the Little Dipper.

All that space travel made us hungry, lunch at Fish City Grill.

Participants included: Jeff and Bernice Baldwin, Gayle Bradburn, Maria Casamento (and friend), Cheri Davis, Colin Hiley, Dorian Johnson, Angela Katanc, Heinz and Nancy Liedke, Mike Sabourne, Thomas and Martha Turner (and niece), Kathy Walker, Jim Willbern, and Abby Wilson

Elizabeth Rivera
Daughters of the Holy Cross

Daughters of the Holy Cross met on Saturday, October 20, 2018, at St. Gregory’s. We continued our discussion on our Book Study, “Intercessory Prayer” by Dutch Sheets.

The DHC will also be collecting 2019 Calendars to be given to residents in area Nursing Homes. Please leave the calendars in the back of the Church. Thanks

Our DHC Christmas Party will be at the home of Abby Wilson, on Sunday, December 9, 2018, after the 9:00am Service. Any women who is interested in becoming a Daughter is welcome to join us. Please bring a teddy bear or stuffed animal to be donated to Cook’s Children Hospital.

The DHC Women’s Silent Retreat will be on February 8th and 9th, 2019, at beautiful Camp Crucis, located outside of Granbury, Texas. All women of the Church as well as family members or friends are invited to attend.

A picture of the Daughters and Father Horton that attended the DHC Assembly at the Church of the Holy Communion in Dallas, Tx, on September 13-16, 2018. We are standing next to our DHC Banner.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, November 10, 2018.

Bernice

St. Gregory’s Genealogy Research Group

The genealogy group did not have its regular meeting this month. Instead, we attended a great workshop at the National Archives at Fort Worth on Friday, October 5th. We met at the Hickory Stick in Everman for lunch and then went to the workshop. It was a very informative workshop on records at the National Archives and their digitization partners, Ancestry.com, Fold3.com, and Familysearch.org.

On Friday, October 26th a group of us visited the Saints and Sinners Tour at the historic Oakwood Cemetery in Fort Worth. This awesome event portrayed the lives of persons buried in the cemetery that had some historical impact on the history of Fort Worth. The Twilight Tour started outside and then moved to the 100 year old chapel at the cemetery. It included the reenactors and special music. Before going to the cemetery, we ate at El Rancho Grande on N. Main.

On Friday, November 2nd, 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M., there will be another workshop at the National Archives at Fort Worth on Baking, Soil Erosion, and Rats...Oh My! and Records of the Extension Service. Email the archives at ftworth.education@nara.gov to reserve a seat.

Plans are in the works for a trip to the Civil War Museum in Fort Worth in November. Watch for additional information on this wonderful opportunity.

Meetings are November 1st & December 6th at my Home. Happy Hunting!!

Gayle Bradburn

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Bernice
THE POWER OF THE SPOKEN WORD

The spoken word even in a secular world has tremendous power even power over life and death.

When a person is born into a Voodoo culture and observes bad things happen to people, even death, when they defy the Voodoo priest, then that person will obey the Voodoo priest.

Someone gets sick and goes to a doctor. The doctor tells him or her, that whatever they have is incurable and they only have a certain amount of time left to live. Now with that knowledge, if they accept the doctors assessment, they have just claimed ownership. When other people, even loved ones well meaning or not, enforce that belief, then the doctors words may become reality.

Jesus sent out the 72. He told them to heal the sick and proclaim that the kingdom of God has come near them. When Jesus left He told His followers “Very truly I tell you, whosoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.”

Let us go out and proclaim that the kingdom is near and HEAL the sick.

Heinz Liedke

Parish Life

The Fall Festival was successful even though it was rained out the actual day of the event.

The raffle that was associated with the Fall Festival raised $1600 to add to the air conditioning fund. There were 37 merchants and people that donated to the raffle items. The winners were: Jim Wilberg, Father Horton, Susan McDuff, Vickie Brantley, Lauren Brown, Jack Muzzio, Mel Buck and Susie Armenta. Next years raffle will be started earlier to see if we can get some large ticket items. Thanks to Theresa Brantley for her hard work on the raffle and Gail Bradburn and Elizabeth Rivera for help selling tickets.

This year Trice Edwards had made permanent signs for us to advertise with the week prior to our event, those will still be good next year. My job as organizer can’t be done without the help of so many, it takes our village for us to keep our church on a steady path forward. I feel blessed to have been able to serve the church.

Our next event is the Thursday, November 15 for the Thanksgiving Feast that we host for the Pre-School staff, students and their families. It is such a fun day seeing these bright shining faces. This event takes a lot of food, so the parents of pre-school will be asked to help with either monetary or food items to help lessen the load of our parish. I am sure that we will still need help to fill the menu with food purchases and also we will need around 10 people to help the day of the feast. I will have a sign-up sheet on the credenza on Sunday, Nov. 4 and Nov. 11.

Finally, the Angel Tree project is just around the corner in December, so please start thinking about how you can help these families. Suzanne Dougherty and I helped with their registration, I am amazed at the need in our community. Our church and preschool is sponsoring 10 children again this year.

Thanks for all you do as a church family.

Kathy Walker

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Luna Grill
Massage Envy
Mellow Mushroom
Nothin Bundt Cake
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Our Place
Patio's Pizza
Robbins Brothers Jewelry
Rose Nail
Soulman's BBQ
Sports Clips-Mansfield 287
St. Clair's Guild
Starbucks
Super Cuts
The Popcorn Shop - Arlington
Twisted Root
Our Clergy and Staff

“Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him”
John 13:16

Rector: Fr. Alan Horton
rector@stgregorymansfield.org

Parish Secretary: Connie Barker
office@stgregorymansfield.org

Organist: Jim Maas
jwepm@hotmail.com

Preschool Administration: Elizabeth Rivera, Director
sgpreschool@stgregorymansfield.org

Bookkeeper: Doris Short
sgfinance@stgregorymansfield.org

Chant Editor: Phil Hawkins
phil_hawkins@sbcglobal.net

Webmaster/ Facebook Administrator: Tim Cannon
thetimcannon@gmail.com

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St. Gregory’s Anglican Church
1091 Country Club Drive
Mansfield, TX 76063