

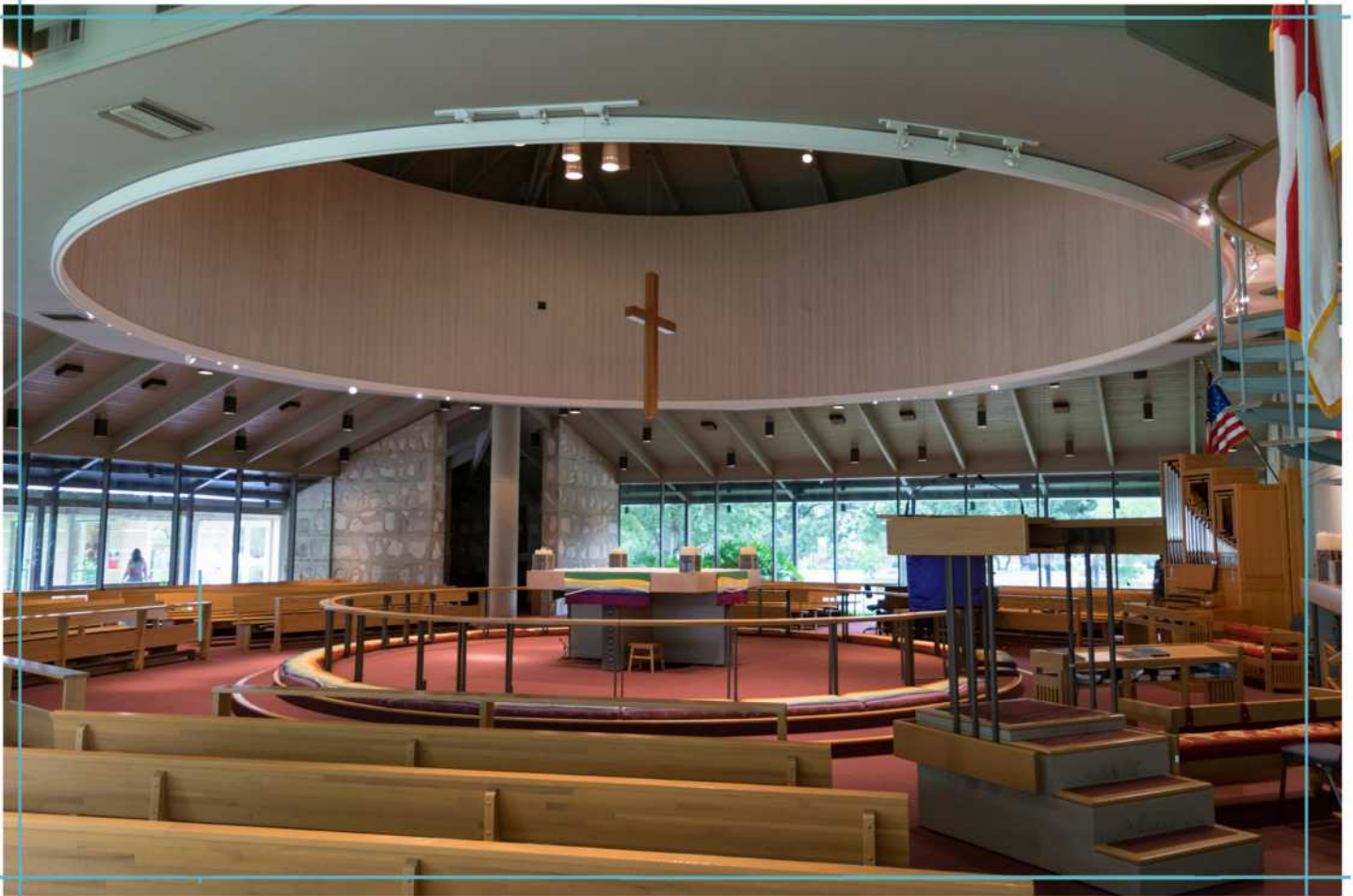
A photograph of a church courtyard. In the foreground, a wooden bench sits on a dirt path next to a large tree. A stone well is in the center of the courtyard. A white lamp post stands to the right. In the background, a church building with a metal roof is visible. The scene is surrounded by lush green trees and foliage.

WELCOME

I am the Church of Reconciliation,
an ever-expanding circle of welcome to *anyone*
because *everyone* is a child of God.

My life has been faithful to the vision of a spiritual community for diverse yet passionate pilgrims to worship, forge bonds and cultivate relationships beyond the walls of a church building.

My Sanctuary includes the grounds that surround it. They are equally cherished as places of prayer, rest and comfort.



My design reflects the unbreakable bond between all beings, the sacred relationship with all Creation.

I was baptized
Church of Reconciliation.

My people seek to expand their circle of welcome as they serve the world God so loves.

They are dedicated and dynamic: artists, poets and pathfinders;
veterans of service and perseverance; radical in love
and steadfast in faith.

Forming a medley of spiritual styles, they are grounded in the
Christian tradition yet curious about any path
that leads to abundant life in Christ.



We strive to live into the true meaning of our name,
and to honor the DNA of a dream that ignited the imagination
of The Rev. Joseph Brown and his band of dream-builders.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We seek and experience God through worship and discovery as we welcome, embrace, and serve one another and our neighbors, respecting all of Creation and living on Earth in the assurance that by God's love all things have their being.



CORE VALUES

Following the Way of Jesus Christ, as Reconcilers we are

AUTHENTIC

We embrace transparency and spontaneity in order to be true to ourselves, to God, and to one another.

INCLUSIVE

We welcome all persons into our common life and celebrate the gifts and growth that come with diversity.

CREATIVE

We experience the fusion of the Divine and the human when we express and celebrate all of God's gifts.

LITURGICAL

We connect with God in worship through traditional and innovative symbols, rituals, and the arts.

COMMUNITY

We become more fully alive and one with God as we connect, care and collaborate.

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DIOCESE OF WEST TEXAS

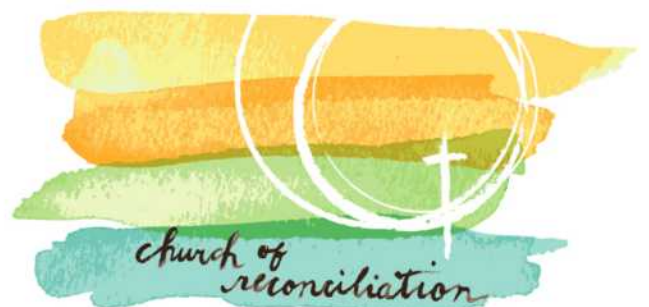
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A photograph of a garden with a winding stone path, large trees, and people walking. A green banner with the text "OUR HISTORY" is overlaid on the image.

OUR HISTORY

In the summer of 1968, The Rt. Rev. Everett Holland Jones, Bishop of the Diocese of West Texas, and The Rev. Joseph Brown kindled the spark of a dream for a new Episcopal church on the northeast side of San Antonio.

On Christmas Eve we held our first service at St. Mary's Hall School. In one year we transitioned from mission to parish.

Within a few years more a five-acre patch of land scattered with scraggly oaks would become our permanent home.



Our name signifies God's reconciling love through Christ:
an unconditional love that reconciles broken relationships;
a love that holds the dynamic tensions of different ideologies,
races, identities and politics.

The Rev. Joseph Brown articulated our DNA, the core of our identity:

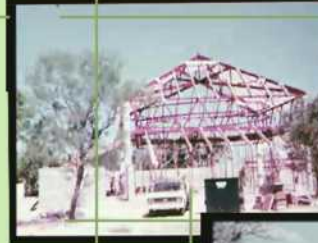
*"We feel that our church should be
incarnational, sacramental and agapeic—that is,
we would be involved in the world, expressing the deepest
verities of human existence by an outward interpretive action and
that in love and compassion be a reconciling force
in the family, the community and the world."*

In 1973 plans began
for our church building.

The sacred circle design
included floor-to-ceiling
windows that today reveal
our Labyrinth and lush
Courtyard, where ashes
of former Reconcilers are
spread, carved stones
marking their names.



All along the way we intentionally shaped our sacred spaces:
cleaned each stone placed in the walls;
created altar hangings to mark liturgical seasons;
crafted rainbow communion kneelers, a golden thread
of the Divine Impulse connecting each to its neighbor.

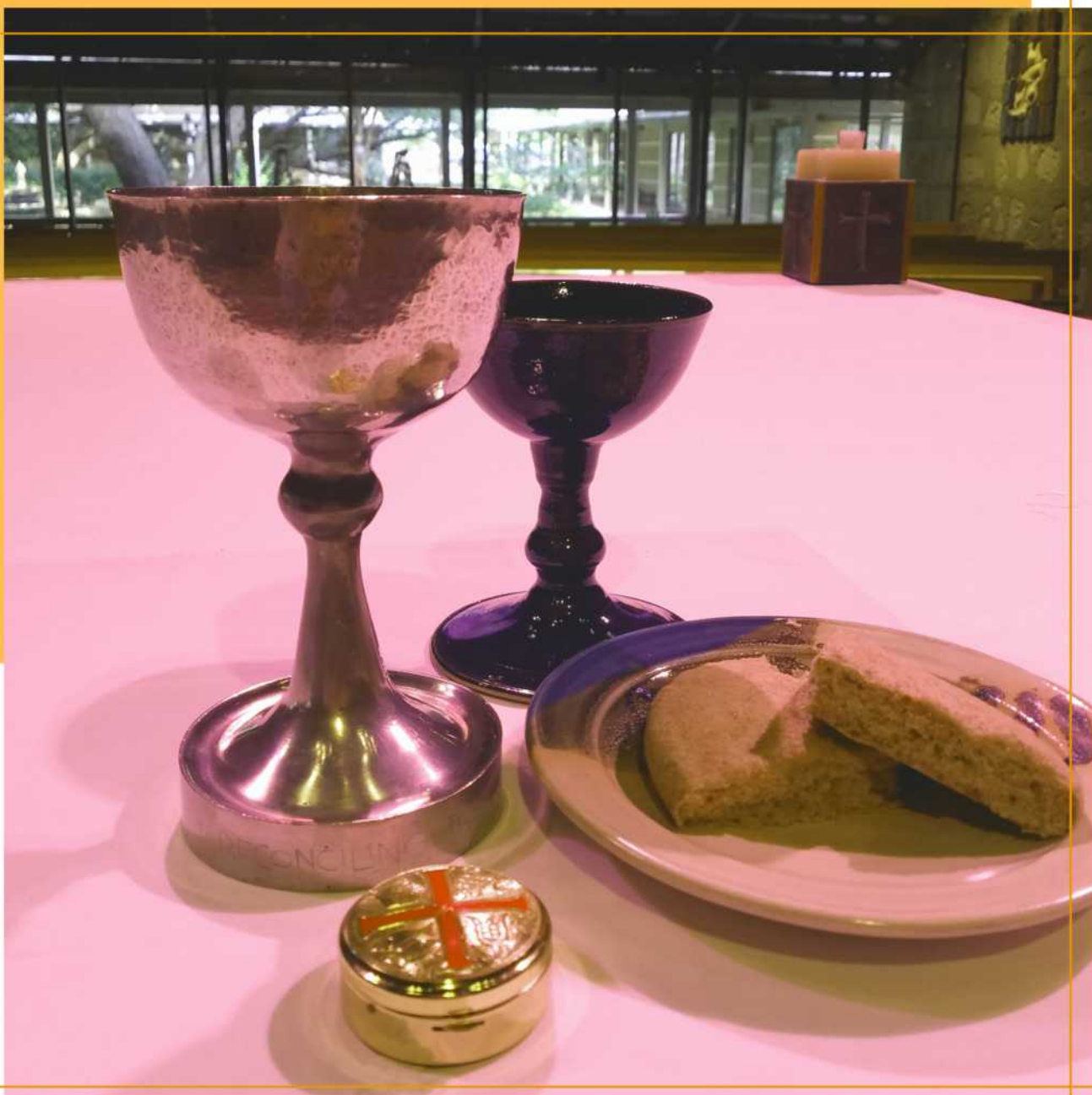


Seasons of change have brought us rectors with diverse gifts
and strikingly different leadership styles:

innovators, scholars and liturgists,
contemplatives and healers,
each honoring our past,
while moving us forward.

Now we are being guided in wisdom by
our Interim Rector, The Rev. Judith Rhodes,
walking with us every step of the way during
this interim time of reflection, hope and
prayerful waiting.





"This is the Table of the Lord.

It is made ready for those who love and for those who want to love more.

So, come, you who have much faith, and you who have little.

You who have been here often, and you who have not been here long;
you who have tried to follow and you who have fallen short.

Come, because it is the Risen Christ who invites you.

It is the Risen Christ who wants to meet you here."

(Adapted from the Wee Worship Book of Prayer,
Wild Goose Worship Community of Iona)

OUR WORSHIP

Worship is the heartbeat of our spiritual community. Our deep roots in the Book of Common Prayer also welcome innovative liturgies that urge us to see, hear and feel anew the very pulse of prayer.

Five amazing Vergers shepherd us.

Our Acolytes include friends from the Reaching Maximum Independence community, who serve with discipline and joy, transforming our worship and our hearts.



The 8 AM service is intimate and contemplative in nature. Quiet reverence fills the air.

At 10:30 we celebrate with music. Our dedicated choir always enriches our worship.

Featured vocalists and instrumentals add utterly unique offerings of prayer and praise.



As we gather for Holy Eucharist there are no boundaries to worthiness.
From our central altar a greeting is issued, then passed around the communion rail.

Our communal circle is most deeply felt at this time as we come together, seeking to be like the One we receive.



Eucharistic Greeting for the Season of Creation:

*Greeting: "The KIN-dom of God is yours today."
Response: "And yours also."*

By integrating diverse art forms into our worship we sustain our founding Rector's call to welcome inventive expressions of prayer as new ways to proclaim the Gospel.





Our “Second Sunday” tradition often features a guest speaker or performance artist who offers an alternative “sermon” or meditation on Holy Scripture.



SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

8:00 AM—Contemplative Holy Eucharist, Rite II

8:30—9:15 AM—Breakfast in Brown Hall

9:15—10:15 AM—Spiritual Formation for all ages

10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist, Rite II ... Choir and Music

12 NOON—Coffee, Confections and Fellowship in Brown Hall

MID-WEEK SERVICE

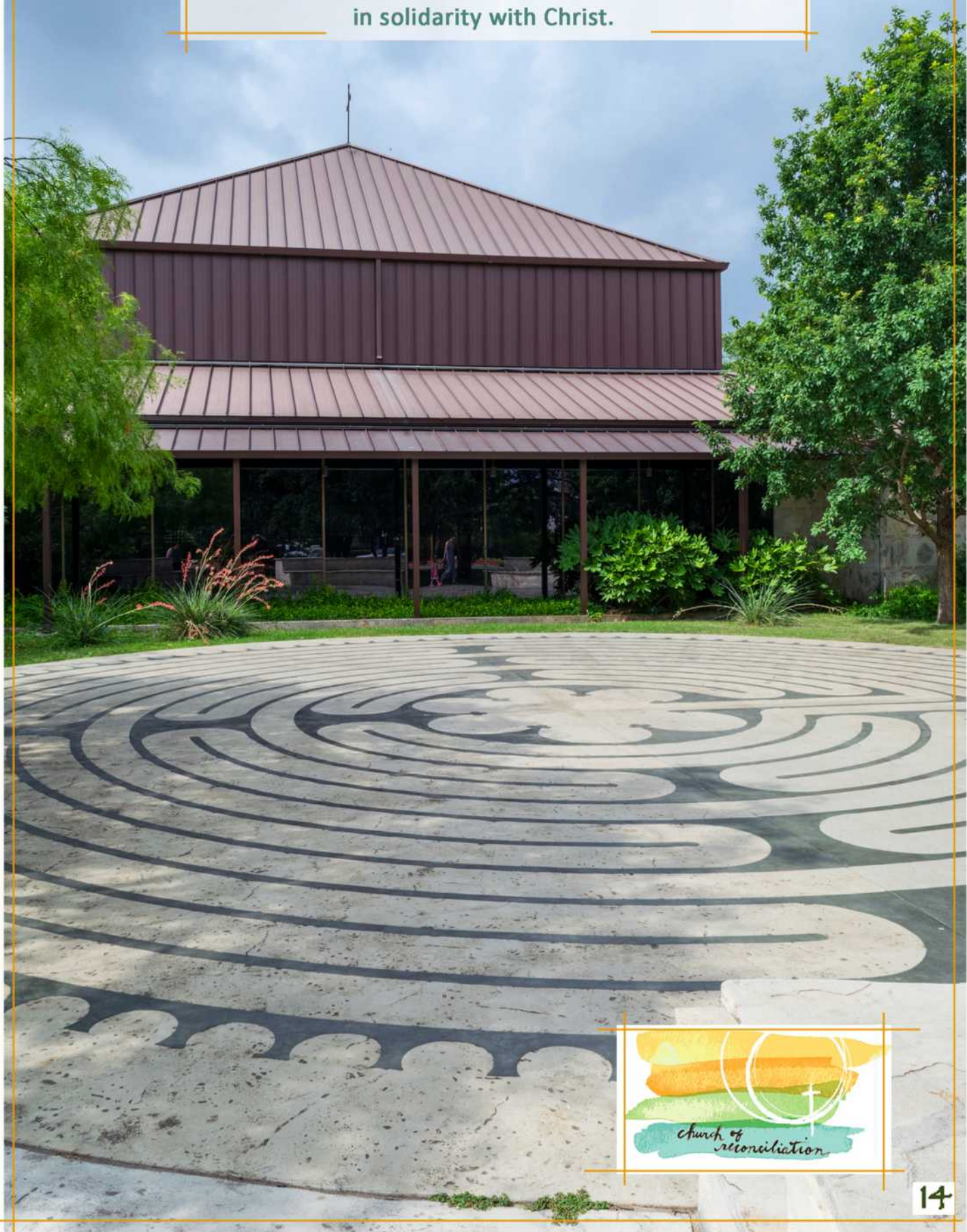
12:30 PM on Tuesdays—Holy Eucharist, Rite II

MONTHLY SERVICE

(3rd Tuesday of each month)

12:30 PM—Holy Eucharist with the Laying on of Hands for Healing Prayer

Our Labyrinth plays a unique role in private prayer
and communal worship.
It beckons us away from the hustle and bustle
of our daily lives as we move toward its center
in solidarity with Christ.



FELLOWSHIP & FORMATION

Parishioners of all ages enjoy faith-filled learning and lively fellowship at Reconciliation.

For many, the invitation to fully engage in the life of a welcoming spiritual community is a new experience.



Our Nursery is a safe and loving place for wee ones 6 weeks to 3 years old.

Children age 4 through fourth grade prayerfully and playfully explore *Godly Play Bible Stories* in Sunday School and Children's Chapel.

Family Ministry connects families through rich and rewarding fellowship. Every experience is a chance to share our lives, strengthen our faith and deepen our bonds of friendship.

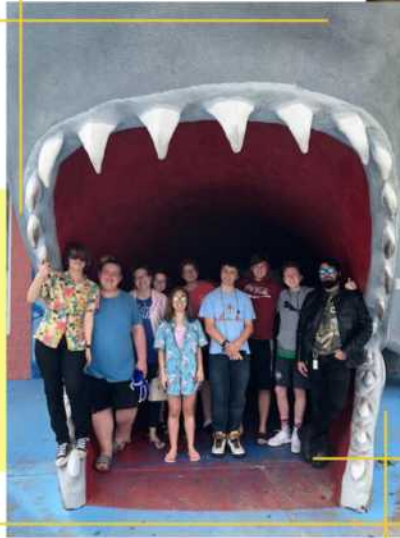
Family centered activities include Camping in the Courtyard, Halloween "Trunk or Treat," a Valentine's Dance, and so much more.

Our calendar is chock-full of events that say, *"being with family is fun!"*



RECONCILIATION YOUTH MINISTRY (RYM)

We offer countless opportunities for middle and high school students to truly learn what it means to be of service to the world. Our youth participate in mission trips and local service projects, lead worship and cook breakfast on special Sundays.



They gather each week for Sunday School and Wednesday Night Youth Group, deepening their own closely knit and spirit-filled community.

ADULT FORMATION



Sunday classes range from Bible Study to environmental awareness, meditation to social justice and faith in action.



With workshops, seasonal series, and book studies, we stretch and grow as we explore diverse spiritual callings.

MINISTRIES

We strive to be the hands and feet of Christ through fellowship and service in our ever-expanding ministries.



Hospitality and Breakfast Ministries

On Sunday mornings between services rotating teams prepare hearty hot breakfasts; after our 10:30 service, a feast of healthy and indulgent snacks awaits!

Matthew 25 Breakfast Team

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..."

Since the 1980s Reconciliation has partnered with the St. Vincent de Paul Society to feed the homeless in Bexar County. Each month we volunteer and serve an average of 400-450 meals.

Centering Prayer Group

Twice a month contemplatives engage in silent meditation, book study and fellowship.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

These prolific artists knit luxurious shawls plus a variety of knitted-with-care items for those in need of prayer and comfort.



MINISTRIES

Landscape Team

Volunteers tend all of our green spaces. We've never hired a landscape company, a standing tradition since our founding. "Colonels for Christ" began this ministry to maintain the grounds ourselves.



Military Matters Ministry Team

Lifting up our military men and women who continue to sacrifice so much on our behalf, our mission is to serve, support, honor, and care for active duty military members, veterans, DOD/GS employees, and their families.

Mental Health and Wellness Ministry

Reconcilers with mental illness and families who have loved ones with diagnoses meet monthly to support each other, share stories and resources, and offer hope.

ARTS@REC

Supporting artists at Reconciliation and throughout the San Antonio community with rehearsal space and performance or exhibit venues, ARTS@REC celebrates artistic creativity as a God given gift to share.

AND THERE ARE SO MANY MORE!

Our ministries are varied and vital. Some are small, quiet and hardly ever seen, while others are vibrant and visible signs of Christ's call. All of our ministries seek to serve our neighbors and steward God's Creation.



SOME OF OUR MINISTRY COMPANIONS

Friends of RMI

Our campus is home to the weekly Day Program of Reaching Maximum Independence, assisting adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Our RMI friends remind us what fullness of heart really looks like!



12-Step Groups

Reconciliation provides space for more than 20 12-step meetings each month. We fully support and often celebrate anniversaries of sobriety at our Sunday services.

GLEF: Gay & Lesbian Episcopalians & Friends

An interparish ministry, GLEF connects the LGBTQ+ community for fellowship and fun. GLEF meets monthly for potluck dinners, often partnering with others, such as DignitySA, for interdenominational events.

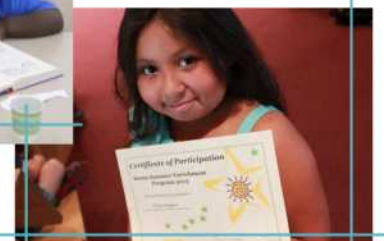


Barrington Neighbors

Founded by Reconciliation, this nonprofit community outreach program promotes relationships within our community to enhance the quality of life for all.

The Serna Summer Enrichment Program serves up to 60 elementary children in a 5-week camp, curbing the “summer slide” for those at risk of falling behind. Free breakfast and lunch, academic instruction and outdoor activities abound. Reconcilers volunteer in a wide variety of ways and offer financial support.

Barrington Neighbors also supports our community garden, our basketball court, and sponsors anti-bullying campaigns.



CHURCH OF RECONCILIATION STAFF



The Reverend Judith Rhodes
Interim Rector,
Senior Associate Rector



Erica Valle
Parish Coordinator

Bill Swann
Director of Staff &
Administration



Cindy Sanchez
Director of Music



Susan Stanley
Financial Officer



Jennifer Murphy
Director of Children,
Youth & Family Ministries

Jessica Hardy
Assistant Director of
Children, Youth &
Family Ministries



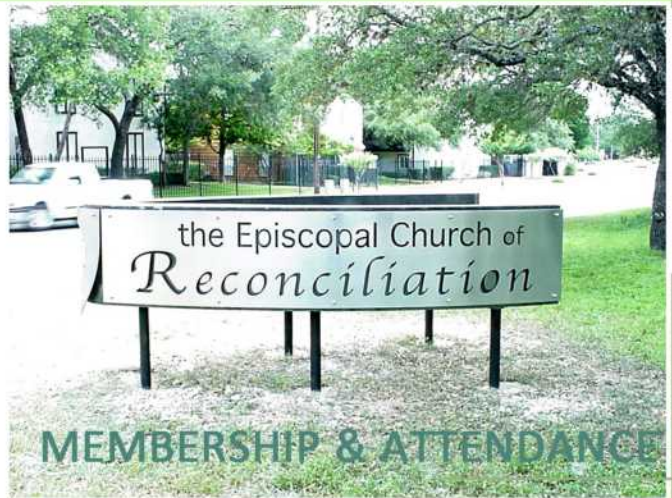
STEWARDSHIP & FINANCIAL

Revenue

Number of Confirmed Pledges: 127
 Total Dollar Amount Pledges: \$523,350
 Plate Offerings: \$9,072

Expenses

Apportionment: \$105,264
 Total Operating Expenses: \$669,901



Total Active Baptized Members: 432
 Adult Communicants in Good Standing: 389
 Youth Communicants in Good Standing: 42
 Average Sunday Attendance: 170
 Easter Sunday Attendance: 271
 Adults Engaged in Spiritual Formation: 80

BAPTISMS & CONFIRMATIONS

Baptisms: 9
 Confirmations: 8
 Received by Bishop: 5

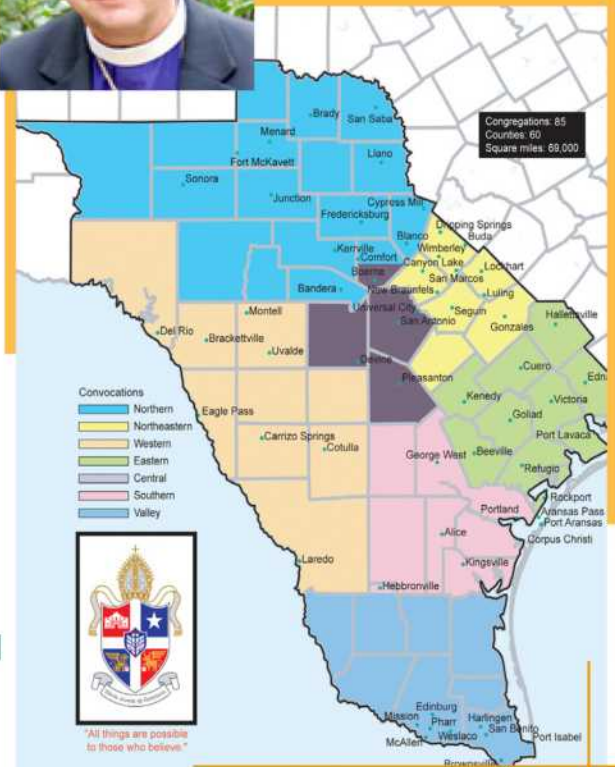
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WEST TEXAS

We are part of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, led by The Rt. Reverend David Reed, Bishop Diocesan. The DWTX includes 85 parishes and missions, extending from the Texas-Mexico border to Brady, the geographic center of Texas, to our north, Port Lavaca on the Gulf coast, Del Rio to our west, and Edna in the east. Diocesan offices are located at the Bishop Jones Center in San Antonio.

The Diocese of West Texas is guided in its purpose of being witnesses to Jesus Christ by the core values of faith, scripture, prayer, sacramental worship, evangelism, mission and reconciliation.



DAVID REED
 Diocesan Bishop



Episcopal Diocese of West Texas

111 Torcido Drive ... San Antonio, TX

www.dwtx.org ... (210) 824-5387 ... general.mail@dwtx.org

VIVA SAN ANTONIO

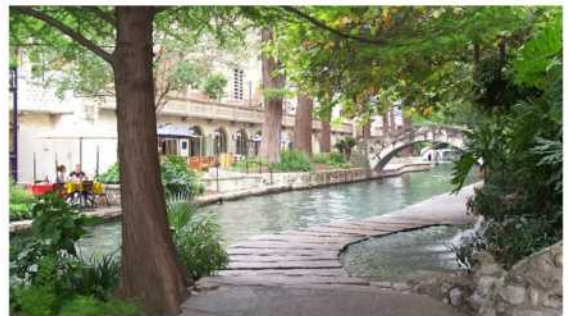
Founded as a Spanish mission in 1718, San Antonio is a rich melting pot of cultures: Spanish heritage meets German traditions, spiced with Mexican flavor. We enjoy the nickname of “Military City USA,” and as the seventh largest city in the United States, locals love to call San Antonio a “big small town.”

NATURE ABOUND

The San Antonio River is the heartbeat of the local ecosystem. The River Walk, a downtown tourist destination, now stretches 15 miles. Mission Reach is home to four of the five Spanish Catholic missions, comprising the *only* United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Site in Texas. Our fifth mission at the center of downtown is more famously known as the Alamo.

PARKS

Playtime in San Antonio means Texas-sized adventure at SeaWorld of San Antonio and Six Flags Fiesta Texas. For nature lovers, we offer numerous parks with more than 150 miles of trails for hiking and biking, as well as the stunning Botanical Gardens.



ARTS & CULTURE

San Antonio has it all: great theaters, museums and a visual arts scene with cutting edge styles and culturally diverse sensibilities.



FAMILY FRIENDLY

Of the many family-friendly opportunities, Morgan’s Wonderland is the world’s first ultra-accessible theme park, providing children with or without disabilities a ton of fun. Each park feature, including the world’s only ultra-accessible waterpark, accommodates children with a wide range of special needs.

Kids can also enjoy the Do-Seum, a museum full of hands-on activities just for them. At The Magik Theatre young thespians stretch their creative chops. ***Opening soon*** is a new Kiddie Park in the SA Zoo, and ***coming in 2020*** are the SEA LIFE Aquarium at the River Center Mall and a brand new Sports Center at Morgan’s Wonderland!

¡Viva Fiesta®!

Each April San Antonians honor our unique culture with Fiesta®, a 10-day celebration of more than 100 events. Nonprofit organizations sponsor every activity, making Fiesta® a party with a purpose!



SAN ANTONIO SPORTS SCENE

San Antonio's National Basketball Association team, the **San Antonio Spurs**, is a point of great pride for the city, embodying the best of our city's character: teamwork, grit, determination, humility, and passion. *We love our SPURS!*



Our sports scene also includes the San Antonio Scorpions, a minor league soccer team; the American Hockey League's San Antonio Rampage; and the Missions, an impressive AAA baseball team with a ball park to match.

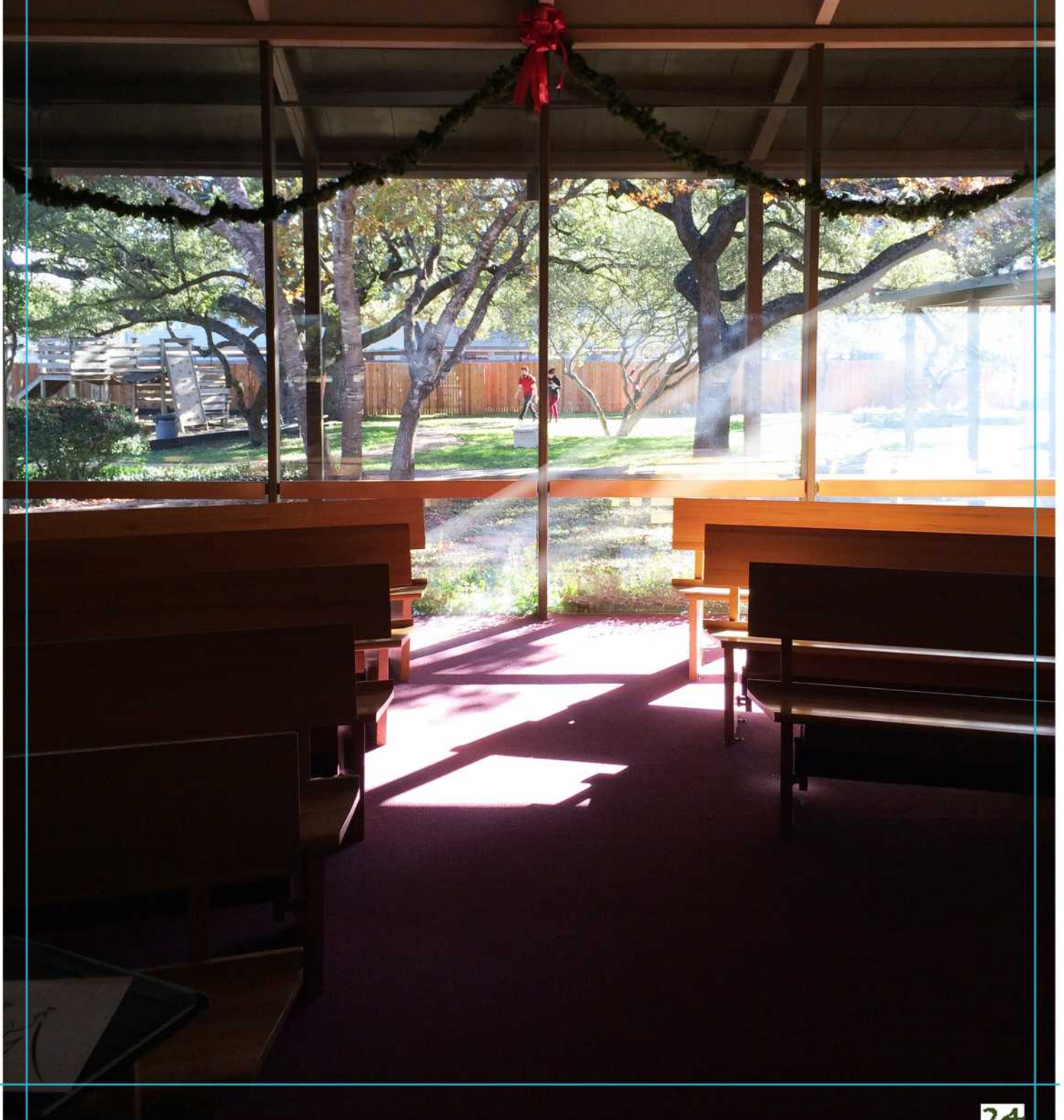


EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

We have 31 institutions of higher education, including Trinity University, the University of Texas at San Antonio, University of the Incarnate Word and Texas A&M University-San Antonio. There are 17 fine public school districts and 30 private and charter schools of top quality.



THE SEARCH BEGINS
A NEW CHAPTER



TO OUR NEXT RECTOR,

At the Episcopal Church of Reconciliation in San Antonio, we are a diverse, expressive, progressive community. But beyond the inclusivity, it is the creativity and love we share that make us unique. It is our ability to try new things while still remaining rooted in our Episcopal traditions. It is our digging deep into theology through our spiritual formation and encouraging creativity in our services. It is our blend of those seeking a deeper connection to Christ and those new to the faith—all brought together in Christ through art, music, and love. This is our DNA. This is what makes us Reconciliation.

As a parish, once you choose Rec, you are family. You can bring your weaknesses, your frailties, your strengths, and your desires. We want it all. We care about everyone where they are. This is not just a Sunday experience—it's family.

We are ready to welcome you, our new Rector, to the Reconciliation family.

In Faith,
Suzanne Scott
Senior Steward (Warden)



For our Parish Profile Workshop, the DWTX prepared a list of pastoral and ministerial skills for clergy leadership, specifically a new rector. We were asked to prioritize the list, invite the entire congregation to do the same, and return the information to the Diocese for compilation. These are the results.

Strong leadership for Reconciliation means

Directly involving laity in the planning and leadership of liturgy and worship, church programs and events

Helping us connect to the role of scripture in daily life with challenging, dynamic and impassioned preaching

Holding social justice and care of creation issues before us

Actively supporting our stewardship and generosity program by reinvigorating the call to give as an act of prayer and worship

Providing administrative leadership for the congregation's ministries with a focus on growth and active participation

Dedicated pastoral counseling for those in need

Visiting the sick, shut-in, and bereaved in their homes

WHAT ANY RECTOR CANDIDATE SHOULD KNOW

Partner with us on this ever-joyful adventure of faith.
Inspire and empower us to expand our ever-widening circle of belonging.
Become a Reconciler and walk with us as we live into this holy calling.
Your presence among us will be filled with blessing!

ENDURING STRENGTHS

INCLUSION:

We strive to be radically inclusive, welcoming those from all walks of life, regardless of race, sexual identity and orientation, ideology and spirituality.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION:

We work diligently to provide spiritual formation opportunities for all ages as we seek to learn and grow together, to remain rigorous in our studies, and curious about the countless dimensions of faith.

MINISTRIES:

We are home to a vibrant mix of ministries: for the contemplative, the pastoral, for family, children and youth, for stewards of our environment, and spirit-filled advocates for social justice in the world.

FURTHER GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

PASTORAL AND COMMUNITY CARE:

Staying connected, keeping up with families and checking in on those we miss is an ongoing challenge. We want everyone to know they matter, are being held in prayer and cared for by their Reconciliation Family.

STEWARDSHIP AND GENEROSITY:

Participating in the DWTX 2019 Revitalizing Stewardship program, we hope to inspire a renewed connection to the divine call of generosity, so that giving of time, talent, and treasure are prayer-filled offerings and acts of worship.

VOLUNTEERS:

We hope to inspire more volunteers for our ministries, further enriching the life of our spiritual community with their own unique gifts.



We are the journey that urges us forward.
The Holy Spirit knows our next Rector by name and we trust that *together*
we may further God's dream for our beloved Church of Reconciliation!



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