

EPISCOPAL CHURCH of the
HEAVENLY REST

God's Love. For All.

Heavenly Rest is dedicated to serving and creating community by proclaiming the good news of God's love for all. New here? Please fill out a welcome card from the back of the pew or on our website at heavenlyrestabilene.org/visit.

THIS SUNDAY

Exploring Spiritual Treasure - Join us Sunday, January 12th for a special video message featuring The Rt. Rev. Claude Payne, former Bishop of the Diocese of Texas. In is through Bishop Payne's vision that we participate in this program we call Exploring Spiritual Treasure. EST is a place to grow in discipleship, learn more about the Episcopal Church, strengthen your community in this parish, and recognize where God is showing up all over your life. Join us for breakfast and stay for a terrific discussion.

Coffee Talks - The *Coffee Talks* Sunday school class meets each Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the Gen von Ende room. Participants watch a carefully selected video followed by a discussion. Video topics are diverse but inevitably lead to rich conversations about authentic and intellectually honest Christian living. These conversations are typically facilitated by Mark Waters with a variety of other facilitators when Mark is away. We invite anyone aged 18 or older. The intergenerational nature of the group adds to the variety, insight, and depth of the interactions. To date, participant ages have ranged broadly from 19 to early 80's.

LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Hands-On Outreach - We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who generously donated money and supplies for the holiday grocery bags. Your support made a significant difference for many families in our community, and the parish deeply appreciates your kindness. As the weather cools, we are now asking for donations of canned soup and chili. Donations can be dropped off at the church offices. Additionally, financial donations are always welcome and appreciated to support this ongoing ministry. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Abilene Interfaith Council: How to have a Peaceful Conversation - Join Abilene Interfaith Council for "How to Have a Peaceful Conversation." Learn practical tools and insights to foster empathy and respect with those who see the world differently. Dr. Dan Stiver, President and Professor of the Jesse C. Fletcher Seminary, will lead the discussion at the Community Foundation of Abilene, 850 N. 1st Street, on Thursday, January 16, at 12:00 pm. Sandwich lunch provided. Questions? Linda Goolsbee, 325-692-3353.

Walk in Love: Stewardship 2025 - We are in the midst of stewardship season at Heavenly Rest when we invite you to consider your financial commitment to this place for the coming year. This year's theme is "Walk in Love," borrowed from the most frequently used offertory sentence at Heavenly Rest. This is not the only reason "Walk in Love" is a natural choice for a stewardship theme. At its heart, stewardship is about discerning how we are connected to the Church and one another. It is about ensuring that Heavenly Rest remains a place where people can show love to one another week in and week out. Stewardship is, in other words, about walking in love.

Mark your Calendars! - During the season of Lent, we will be reading "The Road Back to You: An Enneagram Journey to Self-Discovery" by Ian Morgan Cron and Suzanne Stabile. As part of our series, we will be welcoming Suzanne Stabile to Heavenly Rest on Wednesday, April 2. A bestselling author and highly sought after speaker Suzanne is a world class teacher on the enneagram. Join us as she shares her insights and explores the way the enneagram can enliven our faith!

Nominees for Vestry and Diocesan Convention

The Nominating Committee convened late last year to nominate candidates to serve as members of the Vestry and delegates to Diocesan Convention. The Vestry is the governing body of the parish, and is responsible for supervising the parish budget, as well as discussing and making decisions about strategic priorities. Diocesan Convention meets annually to conduct the business of the Episcopal Diocese of Northwest Texas, of which Heavenly Rest is a part. Nominees will be up for election at the Annual Parish Meeting on February 2.

The following persons have been nominated for three year terms on Vestry: Kimberly Brumley, Dru Hall, and Mary Reyes. Harry Hurt has been nominated for a one year term. Four members of Vestry will be elected at the Annual Meeting. More information about these nominees may be found elsewhere in the Lay Reader.

The following persons have been nominated to serve as delegates to Diocesan Convention in October of 2025: Connie Collier, L'Nae Craig, Cheryl Holmes, Dustin Rainwater, Jay Moore, Meg Garcia, Bush Ramsey, Carol Ramsey, David Byerly, Amy Eddington, Sarah Martin, and Bijoux Mashauri. Eight delegates will be elected at the Annual Meeting. Those not elected will serve as alternates.

Mark Your Calendar!

Sunday, February 2nd - Annual Parish Meeting

12:00 p.m. - Nave and Gerhart Hall

Sunday, February 9th - Bishop Visitation

Services for Confirmation, Reception, & Reaffirmation

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, January 12th

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist - Rite I (Nave)*
9:00 AM Coffee Talks
9:15 AM Exploring Spiritual Treasure, Sunday School, Coffee Talks, Preaching the Good Word*
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist - Rite II (Nave & livestream)*
12:00 PM Family Ministries Meeting
12:00 PM Swahili Confirmation Class
12:30 PM Heavenly Rest Youth Activity
7:00 PM Evening Prayer
7:30 PM Encounter - Young Adult Ministry

Monday, January 13th

8:30 AM Morning Prayer
5:30 AM Breakfast on Beech Street
10:30 AM Hands-On Assistance
6:00 PM Education for Ministry

Tuesday, January 14th

8:30 AM Morning Prayer
9:30 AM Thrift House Opens (closes at 4:30 PM)
10:00 AM Sewing Circle
10:00 AM Staff meeting
4:00 PM Contemplative Prayer
7:00 PM Abilene Pipers
8:00 PM Unity Group AA

Wednesday, January 15th

8:30 AM Morning Prayer
9:30 AM Thrift House Opens (closes at 4:30 PM)
10:30 AM Hands-On Assistance
5:15 PM Wind Down Wednesdays
5:15 PM Children's Music/Choristers Rehearsal
5:30 PM Eucharist with Prayers for Healing (Chapel)
6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper
6:30 PM Wednesday Night Program
6:40 PM Canterbury Ringers

7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 16th

8:30 AM Morning Prayer
9:30 AM Bible Study
9:30 AM Thrift House Opens (closes at 4:30 PM)
12:00 PM Men's Brown Bag
1:00 PM E.S.T. Mentor Meeting
6:30 PM Unity Group AA Dinner

Friday, January 17th (offices close at noon)

8:30 AM Morning Prayer
9:30 AM Thrift House Opens (closes at 4:30 PM)
9:30 AM Hands-On Grocery Distribution
10:30 AM Hands-On Assistance
12:45 AM Bowie Elementary On Campus

Saturday, January 18th

8:30 AM Swahili Prayer
9:00 AM Altar Guild Preparation
10:30 AM Afternoon Children's Choir Rehearsal
4:30 PM Aleluya Kwaya Rehearsal

Sunday, January 19th

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist - Rite I (Nave)*
9:00 AM Coffee Talks
9:15 AM Exploring Spiritual Treasure, Sunday School, Coffee Talks, Preaching the Good Word*
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist - Rite II (Nave & livestream)*
1:00 PM Holy Eucharist in Swahili
3:00 PM Swahili Confirmation Class
5:00 PM Heavenly Rest Youth
7:00 PM Evening Prayer
7:30 PM Encounter - Young Adult Ministry

**nursery care is available for ages 0-4*

View a detailed schedule at heavenlyrestabilene.org/calendar.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God
and in memory of Suzanne Stowe by her loving family.

PRAYERS

THANKSGIVINGS

For those celebrating birthdays this week: Jackie Batjer, Cecilia Cockerell, Brandon Martin, Ophelia Stephens, Marian Wiser

INTERCESSIONS

Doug Lampkin, Michelle Fernung, Don and Sandy Bridges, Nancy Estes, Ron Rathbun, Shirlene Plocheck, Christopher Choate, Laura Dickson, Nancy Anderson, Robert O'Dell, Tommy Lindley, Leticia Castro, Freda Kennedy, Mike Hogan, David Elsey, Lisa Ellingsworth, Shane Jones, Carolyn Monaghan, Michael Street, Sydney Watson, Dorothy Guerra, Rusty Plocheck, Elton & Carolyn Jernigan, Janice Blanchard, Becky McDonald, Kenneth & Linda Majkut, Amanda Sellers, Andrew Hubbard, Edward Peterson, Catalina Marino, Sandy Graham, Elon Mues, Crystal and Abigail Keet, Andrew Behrends, Jamie Rains, Jeffy Herman, Billie Nichols, BJ Madrid, Daron Brown, Jim Cox, Mike Mansell, Lorelei Lantz-Profit, Russell McKeever, Francois Mulanda, Suzie Ramsey, Fabiola Mulanda, Michelle Fernung, Clark Mariani, Mike Hogan, Barbara Payne, Carolyn Jean Johnson, Ann Tippens, Chris Thomas, George Bijelic, Keith Boyd, Freddie Wagner, Sharon Doty, Mary Lou Robertson, Glen Funkey, Shannon Carleton, Angaza Alembo, Shiann, Sydney and Everett Taylor, Zach Hackel, Hannah Dale, Ramona Rodriguez, Stan Alcorn, Larry and Leta Bell, Steve Davis, Elizabeth Burton, Ben Mendez, Anthony Elmore, Debbie Beeksma, Rachel Marderosian, Jamie Dunn, Karen Surovik, Beth Shoemaker, Janet & Phillip Jergins

For deployed military and first responders: Michael Paisley, David Broyles, Jr., Joshua Mehaffey, Weaver Lilly, Fire, Police, and Sheriff's Departments, Health Care Workers

For the recently departed: Bob Milstead, Celia Davis, Mpaweingabire family, Melissa Parades, Suzanne Stowe, Shirley Weston Martha Morris, Chessy Gloyna



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*Is there something you would like to share with the church? Please submit announcements and materials to the Communications office.
Contact Austin Hackel at ahackel@heavenlyrestabilene.org.*