

**LEOH Trip**

**Brookwood  
Community**

June 11, 2026



# BROOKWOOD COMMUNITY

- **MISSION**

Through the grace of God, The Brookwood Community provides an educational environment that creates meaningful work, builds a sense of belonging, and awakens genuine purpose in the lives of adults with disabilities.

- **VISION**

To change the way the world thinks about adults with disabilities.

- **CORE VALUES (GOD RICH)**

**G**race, **O**ppportunity, **D**ignity

**R**espect, **I**nterdependence, **C**ontinual Improvement, **H**onesty

- **CORE COMMITMENTS**

- Truth-safe environment
- Excellence
- Faithful Stewardship
- Safety
- Neurodiversity



**Vicki Streit** contracted mumps at age one. Complications resulted in encephalitis and meningitis and left Vicki severely brain damaged. Her parents soon learned that the field of medicine could not help Vicki improve, so they turned to the field of education, hoping for the best outcome for her.

Travels to universities in other states to learn about special education and how to teach necessary life skills led them to present what they learned to Houston-area school districts; however, the districts were not interested.

Using her knowledge from degrees she earned in psychology and education, Yvonne Streit teamed up with parents of other special needs children to begin their own school.

This became the foundation for Brookwood, which the Streits founded in 1983.

Funding comes from tuition, enterprise revenue, and donations.



Currently, a total of over 200 Brookwood citizens perform meaningful work at the 475-acre Brookshire campus and the satellite locations in Richmond and The Woodlands.

Over 100 citizens live and work at the Brookshire campus, with more potential citizens on a waiting list.



As you enter Brookwood, you immediately notice these beautiful items in display cabinets, all crafted by Brookwood Community citizens.



Inspirational thoughts and displays can be seen throughout Brookwood.



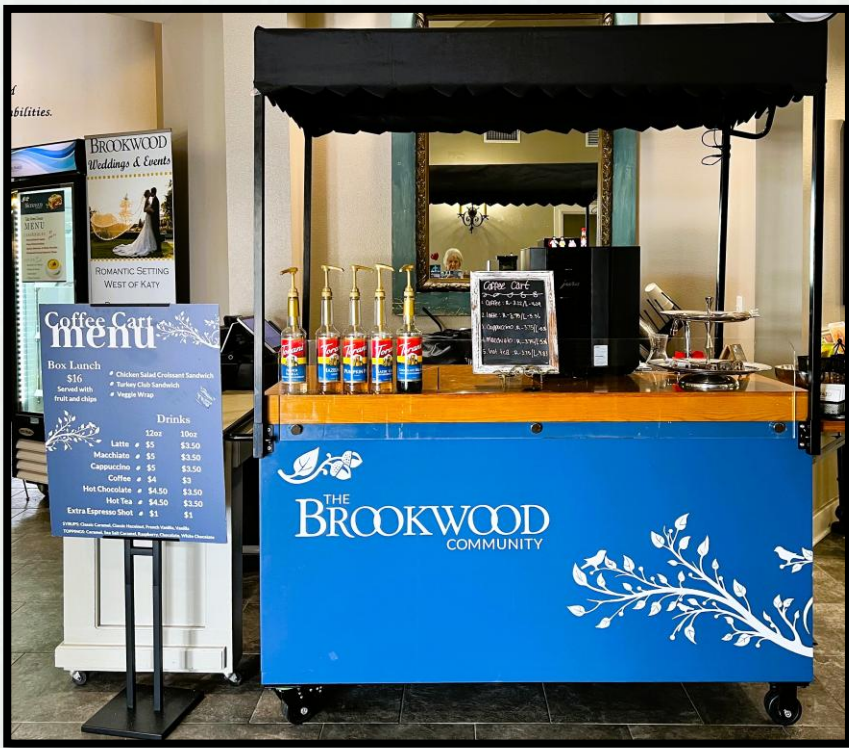
### The Story of God's Jar

God's Jar plays a special role at Brookwood. There is a jar in each studio. When a Community Member has troubles or concerns, we write it down and put it in the jar. It is a symbolic way of giving our problems to God and "letting go." God's Jar really helps us to understand that God cares about us and His presence is always with us. So please feel free to join us and give what is troubling you to God.

*Through the Grace of God,  
The Brookwood Community provides  
an educational environment that creates  
meaningful work, builds a sense of belonging, and  
awakens genuine purpose in the lives of adults with disabilities.*

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THROUGHOUT THIS PRESENTATION, THE PRIVACY OF BROOKWOOD CITIZENS HAS BEEN PROTECTED BY** ❤️ **OBSCURING THEIR FACES AS NEEDED.** ❤️

Upon arrival by Precinct One bus, we enjoyed a quick look around the *Gift and Garden Center* before being seated for lunch in *The Café at Brookwood*.



Lunch was excellent, as it always is at Brookwood! That includes a selection from the dessert cart to the left. The Brookwood citizen seen at the cart has resided at Brookwood for over 40 years and enjoys greeting and chatting with diners. At the encouragement of management, she also treated everyone to a heartfelt rendition of *Amazing Grace*.



Following lunch, we journeyed to the chapel, where docents (pictured below) discussed Brookwood's history and the programs offered.

The Streit family was instrumental in establishing the chapel. Brookwood founder Yvonne Streit is quoted as saying that "God is the true founder of Brookwood. I just work for Him".



Those who hope in the Lord  
Will renew their strength.  
They will soar  
On wings like eagles;  
They will run  
And not grow weary  
They will walk  
And not be faint.

Isaiah 40:31

"Spiritual Life Rhythm" at Brookwood includes Sunday worship, led by citizens, daily work program and home devotions, and Group Bible studies. The Campus pastor provides citizens with spiritual leadership, counseling, and coaching.

Citizens serve others by participating in Meals on Wheels, contributing to the local food bank, and making cards and crafts for nearby nursing homes. They also act as prayer warriors for those in need.



## Schedules are important!

A daily work schedule with visuals is posted in this workroom. Starting at 9:00 a.m., the workday begins with a morning meeting, then work, followed by a break, then more work, a lunch break, work, then a fitness workout (on Mondays & Wednesdays), followed by a break, work, clean up time, and lastly, going home after a busy and productive day.



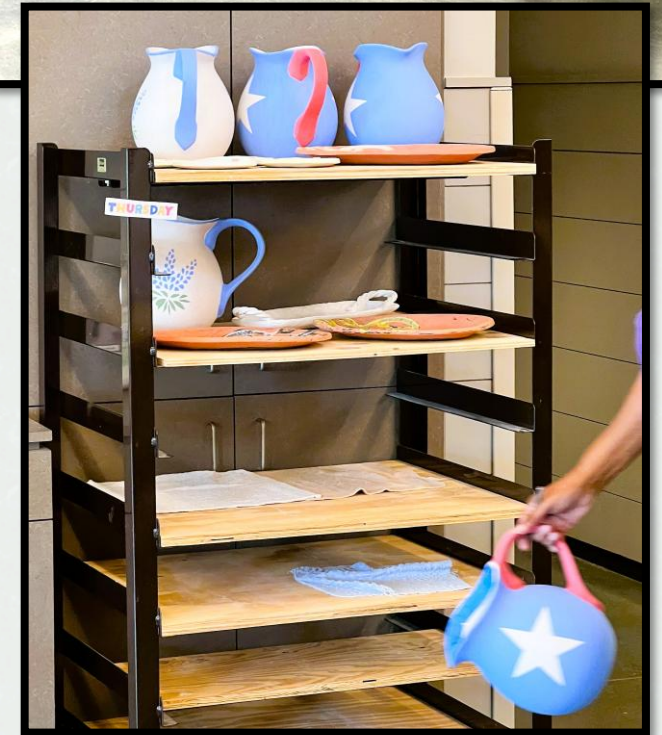
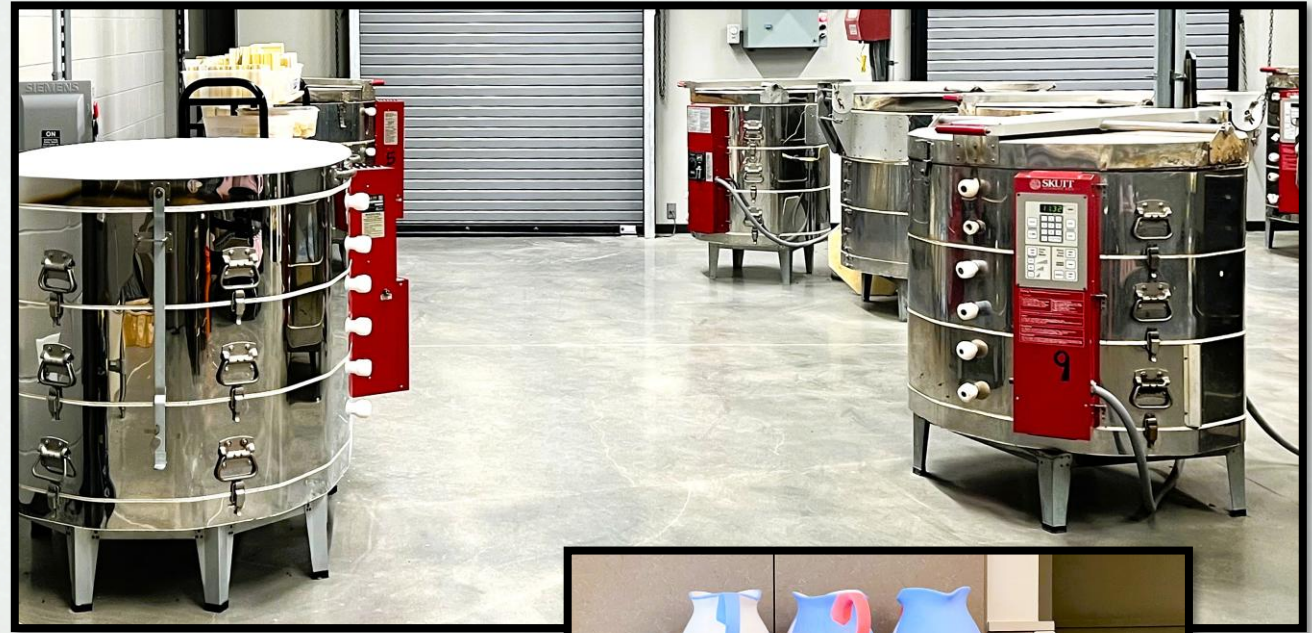
We learn what is involved in preparing and painting ceramics,  
as a citizen reads a description of the process.



Above, a citizen is happy to discuss  
the piece he is working on.



*Note: our large LEOH group was split into two groups for touring;  
tour experiences may have varied between our two groups.*



Brookwood provides the space and equipment needed for its artists. Note the kilns, paints and paintbrushes, plus racks of ceramics in different stages of completion.

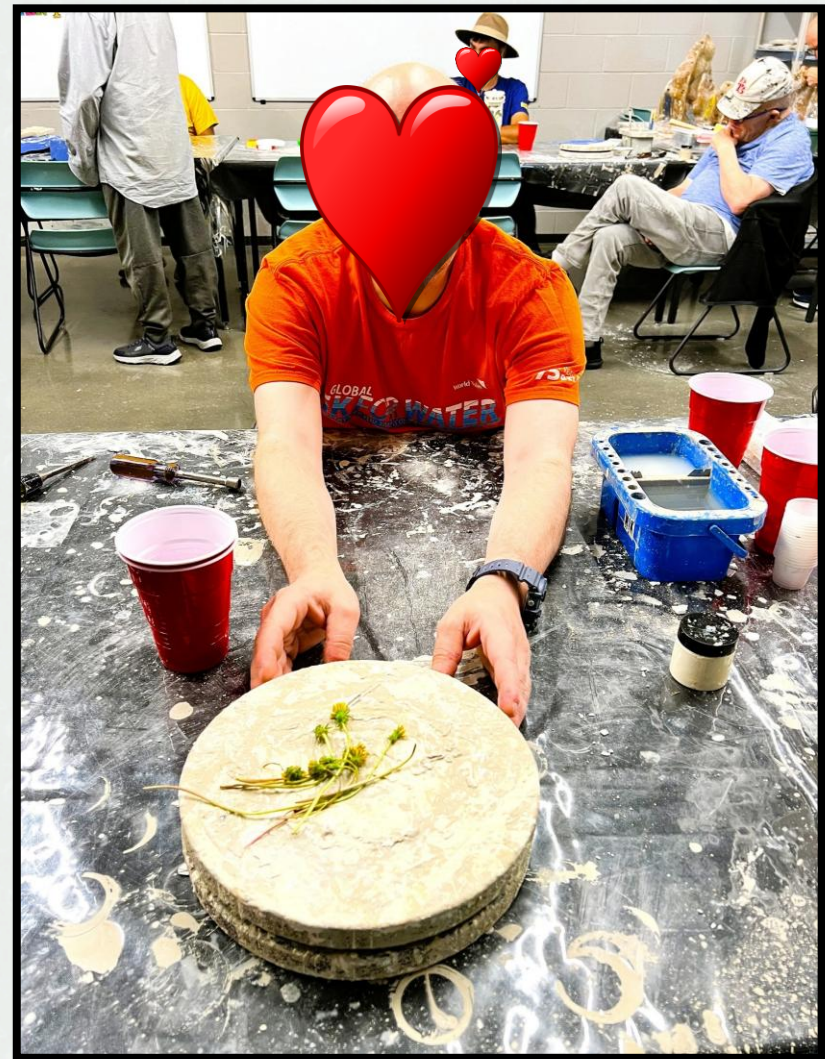


Ceramics can be found throughout Brookwood; some finished and on display; others in various stages of preparation.





*Above:* We were in awe of the skill and no doubt determination and patience of this artist as she paints this piece of art.



Even in this very early stage of his work, this artist was very eager to display his progress.

PLANT

SHOP

PLANTING

PROCESS



1. PASS OUT TRAYS



2. LOAD SOIL MACHINE WITH POTS



3. PUT FILLED POTS IN TRAYS



4. STACK TABLES WITH FILLED TRAYS



5. PUSH PLEGS



6. PLANT PLEGS



7. TAKE PLANTED PLEGS



8. TAKE PLANTED POTS TO THE TRAILER



9. TAKE PLANTS TO THE GREENHOUSE



10. UNLOAD PLANTS

Our tour included a stop in the agriculture section, where we learned about the multi-step preparation and planting process.



Citizens cultivate approximately 210,000 plants annually, utilizing 49 greenhouses.



Our tour was on a Wednesday, which meant a fitness workout was on the schedule.

We had the opportunity to pass by a classroom of citizens enjoying their workout.

*Bloom Fitness* has partnered with Brookwood to provide additional fitness activities. Citizens enjoy bike/trike rides and other outdoor activities, plus time in a pool and gym.

Health care providers offer all needed services, whether on or off campus.

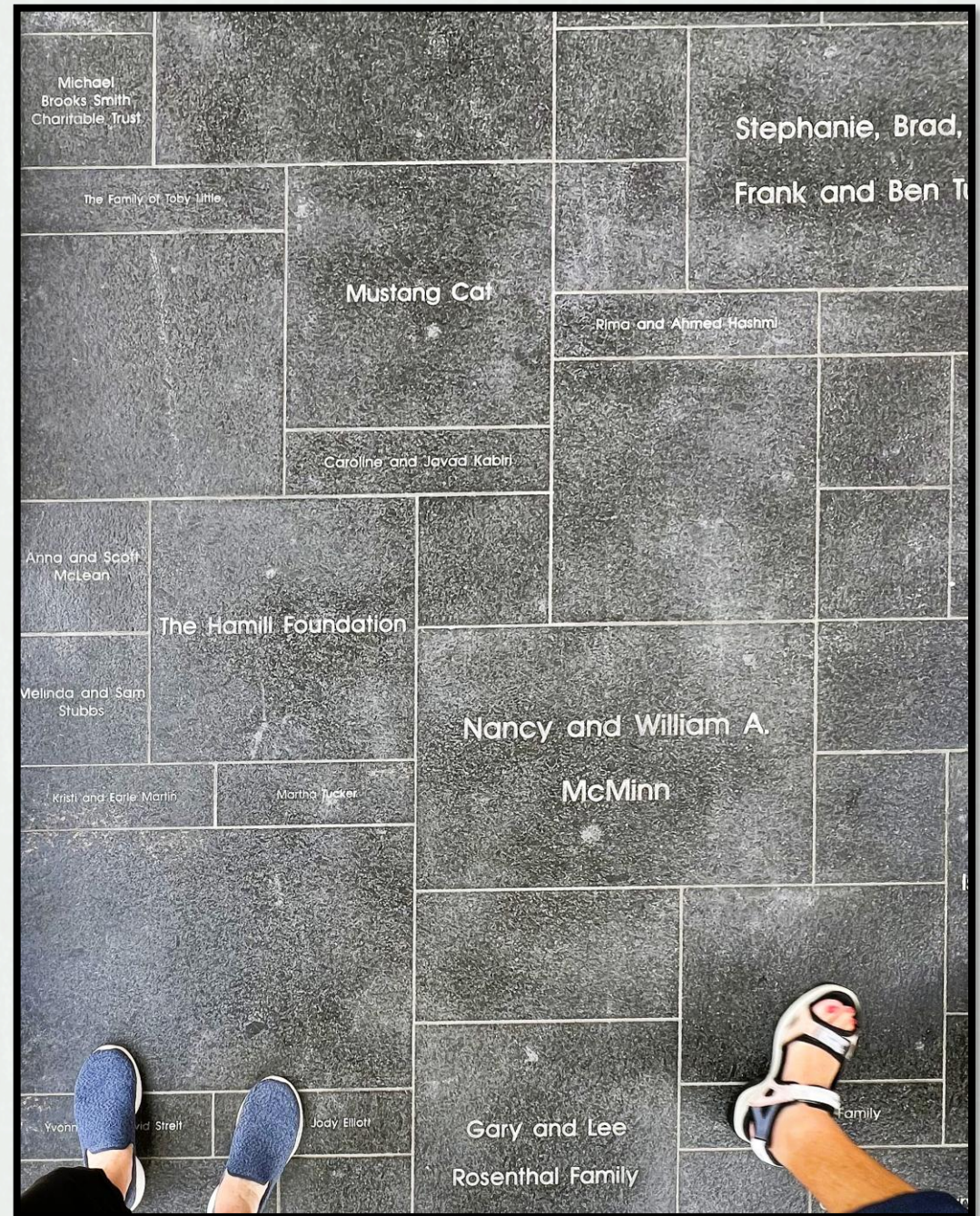
**The Center for Learning** began as a conference offered by Brookwood to mentor others in building their own communities to provide dignity and purpose for adults with disabilities.

It has now grown into **The Brookwood Way**<sup>®</sup> and is taught to organizations and individuals around the world.

Many community partners, including businesses, healthcare organizations, religious organizations, and individuals, have contributed to Brookwood's success and sustainability.

Donations come in many forms. Those interested in volunteering at Brookwood are very welcome!

To the right: Our tour took us to a walkway etched with the names of some of Brookwood's generous donors.

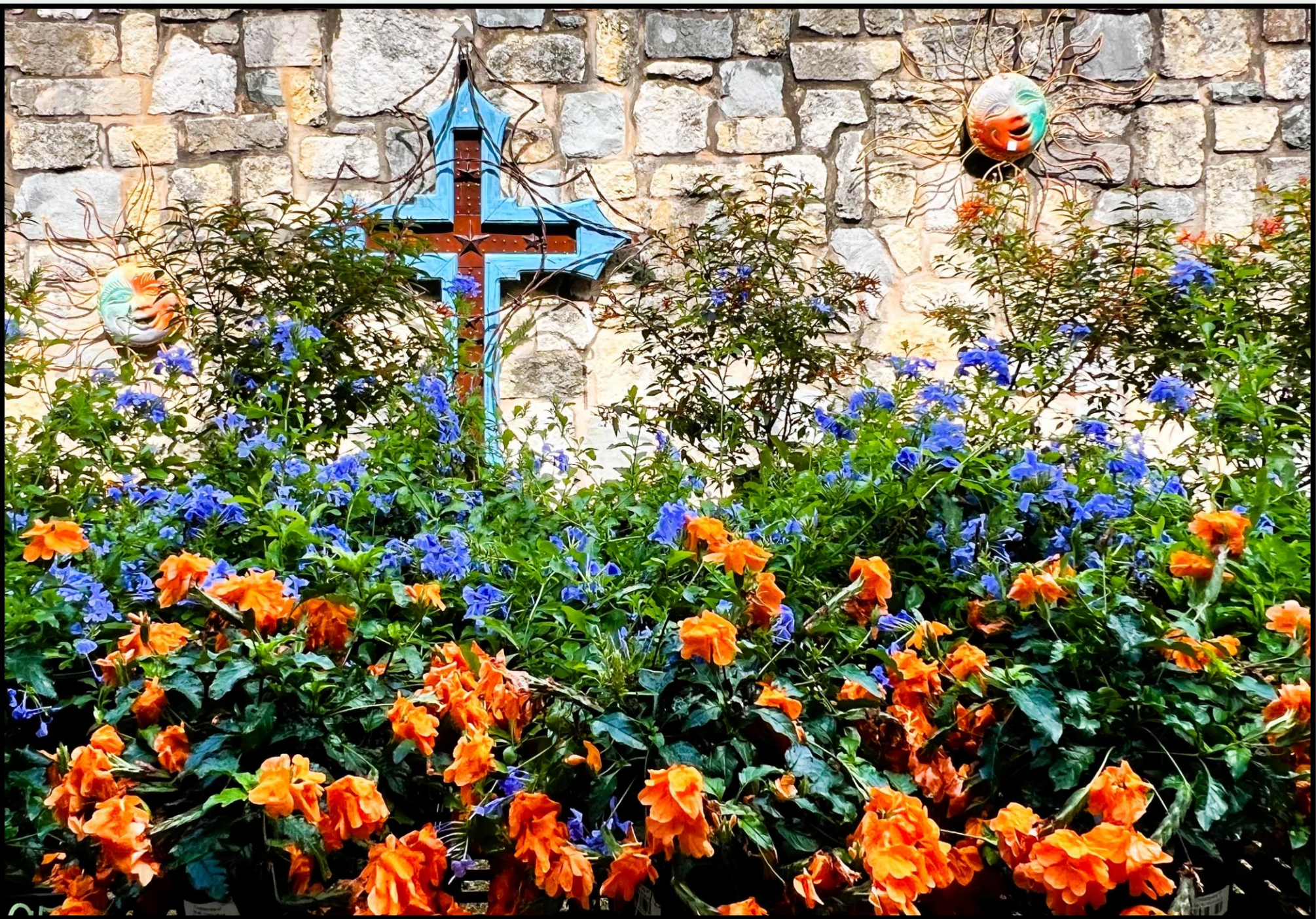




The Gift Shop includes items crafted by Brookwood citizens. These are just as unique as other items that can be found here, and all make for great gift-giving (to others or to yourself), particularly during the holidays.



There are always quality western wear items to admire, try, and possibly buy.



The Garden Center is a beautiful place to visit, rest and pause for reflection.







These happy members returned from the trip with prized plant purchases!



The Brookwood Community *main campus* is located at 1752 FM 1489, Brookshire, TX 77422.

The *Gift and Garden Center* and *The Café at Brookwood* are located at 1502 FM 1489.

Lunch reservations are recommended to ensure seating availability at *The Café*.

*There is always something going on at Brookwood! Check their website for upcoming events!*

Learn more about The Brookwood Community on their website [brookwoodcommunity.org](https://brookwoodcommunity.org).

*Thank You, Ann Fairchild,  
for planning another great trip!*

*Future Trip - by Precinct 1 bus*

*July: Amazon Distribution Center*

*Complete details/dates will follow closer to the trip date*

*Signing Up for a Trip*

Trip Coordinator Ann Fairchild may be contacted at [fairann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fairann@sbcglobal.net) or 281-686-1325.  
She will publish complete trip details, with the opportunity to sign up, closer to the trip date.

If the traveler quota is full, you may ask to be put on a waiting list.