



# The Franciscans

January 2023

A newsletter for friends and members of St. Francis Episcopal  
Church  
Goldsboro, NC 27534

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christmas is here! In these 12 days, we celebrate the remembrance of the birth of Jesus Christ. In that Holy birth through the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Word of God became flesh. Through that incarnation of God, our Lord dwelt among us and labored to redeem all who would but believe so they may be brought back to the Father. The celebration of Christmas, however, is not just a birthday party. Christmas is not just remembering the beginning of the story of salvation.

Christmas is the beginning of a real and personal relationship with God, and with all of humanity. Through the Incarnation, God came among us through the birth of Jesus Christ. Christmas is a time of joy in which we praise God for the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ. It is also a yearly reminder that with His birth came His ministry, death, resurrection, and ascension. At Christmas, we should seek to grow in the relationship that began with His birth. We are invited to grow into deeper relationships with Jesus at the celebration of His birth. It is a reminder that a God who loves us gave us Jesus so that we have a chance at that relationship. Through that relationship the primary purpose of Jesus' birth is fulfilled. Jesus was born not just to heal the divide our sin created between the Father and us. It is through the birth of Jesus we can find spiritual and physical healing. It is through His birth that we are given our great physician. It is with Jesus that we are given the healing that only He can give. At Christmas, the brokenness of the world and the pain of Sin can be redeemed.

As we celebrate these twelve days of Christmas, let us not just let them pass us by. Let us not just think of ourselves in these twelve days. Let us, in our joy, focus on the source of that joy, Jesus Christ. Let us, in gratefulness, use these twelve days as a celebration of His birth and our relationship with Him. Let us grow deeper in that relationship so we may honor the gift God gave us in the birth of His only Son, who lived and died and was resurrected so He may continue to dwell with us.

Yours in Christ,  
Father Whit Stroud







**ADVENT SERIES:  
THE HOLY EUCHARIST**
















<p><b>The Gathering</b> Wednesday, November 30, 6pm St. Francis Episcopal Church 503 Forest Hill Drive Goldsboro, NC 27530 Worship/Supper/Program</p>	<p><b>Liturgy of The Word</b> Wednesday, December 7, 6pm St. Andrew's Episcopal Church 901 Harris Street Goldsboro, NC 27530 Worship/Supper/Program</p>
<p><b>Liturgy of The Table</b> Wednesday, December 14, 6pm Holy Innocents Episcopal Church 6861 NC Highway 55 W. Seven Springs, NC 28578 Worship/Supper/Program</p>	<p><b>The Going Out</b> Wednesday, December 21, 6pm St. Stephen's Episcopal Church 200 N James St Goldsboro, NC 27530 Worship/Supper/Program</p>







# January 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<p>1 Holy Name 9am Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour</p>	<p>2 OFFICE CLOSED</p> 	<p>3 Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Christian Formation</p>	<p>4 10-11am </p>	<p>5 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm </p>	<p>6  EPIPHANY</p>	<p>7</p>	
<p>8 Baptism of Our Lord 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour</p>	<p>9 Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>10 Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Christian Formation</p>	<p>11 10-11am </p>	<p>12 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm </p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	
<p>15 Second Sunday After The Epiphany 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour ECW</p> 	<p>16 OFFICE CLOSED</p> 	<p>17 Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Christian Formation 7pm </p>	<p>18 10-11am </p>	<p>19 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm </p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	
<p>22 Third Sunday After The Epiphany 9am Holy Eucharist BISHOP VISIT With Brunch and Q &amp; A after!</p>	<p>23 Fr. Whit in office/ Beverly away</p>	<p>24 Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Monthly Potluck for everyone!</p> 	<p>25 10-11am </p>	<p>26 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm </p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	
<p>29 Fourth Sunday After The Epiphany 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour</p>	<p>30 Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>31 Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Christian Formation</p>	<p>Please join us Sunday, January 22. Bishop Skirving will be with us and after the service we will have brunch with a Q &amp; A time.</p>				

Lay Server Schedule January 2023	January 1 <i>HOLY NAME</i> Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	January 8 <i>BAPTISM OF OUR LORD</i> Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	January 15 <i>SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</i> Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	January 22 <i>THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</i> Holy Eucharist Bishop Skirving	January 29 <i>FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</i> Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud
	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am
CRUCIFER	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond
LECTORS	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
USHERS	John Koegel Dave Meador	John Koegel Dave Meador	John Koegel Dave Meador	John Koegel Dave Meador	John Koegel Dave Meador
ALTAR	Judy Moyer Jackie Gurley	Judy Moyer Jackie Gurley	Judy Moyer Jackie Gurley	Judy Moyer Jackie Gurley	Judy Moyer Jackie Gurley
FLOWER	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
TELLERS	Jill Brogneaux Patti Donnelly	Jill Brogneaux Patti Donnelly	Jill Brogneaux Patti Donnelly	Jill Brogneaux Patti Donnelly	Jill Brogneaux Patti Donnelly
SOCIAL HOUR	Patti Donnelly	Patti Donnelly	Patti Donnelly	Patti Donnelly	Patti Donnelly

# January

# Vestry

- 2...Gerald Herring
- 5...David Powell
- 11...Karen Turner
- 17...John Koegel
- 18...Annette Jackson
- 19...Cory Valenzona
- 25...Pat Biggers



*If your birthday has been omitted, please notify the church office so that the birthday lists are up-to-date.*

**Hosts are needed for Social/Coffee Hour!  
Please sign up on the tower . Thank YOU!**

**2023**

Debbie Stedner  
Dave Meador  
*(Jr. Warden)*  
Brandon Robbins

**2024**

Jill Brogneaux  
*(Sr. Warden)*  
Patti Donnelly

**2025**

Barbara Pederson  
Lamar Aycock

*Al Elmore, Treasurer  
Paula Wills, Clerk*

**Priest-in-Charge**  
The Rev. Whit Stroud



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**The Franciscans** is published 11 times a year. The **deadline** for items to be considered for inclusion is the **15<sup>th</sup> of each month.**





To: St. Francis Episcopal Family

We the Valenzona Family are happy to announce the arrival of Baby Maverick Valenzona Sorey into this world .

Born on December 13th 2022 @ exactly 8:15 pm.

Weight: 7 lbs. 5 ounces Length: 22 inches

A new little baby to cuddle and love, to spoil just a little and think the world of. A bundle from heaven to simply adore who in the world could ask for more. Welcome to our lives Maverick!

Thank you St. Francis Episcopal Family for all your prayers for a safe delivery for Elisama.

Proud parents: Bobby Sorey & Elisama Valenzona

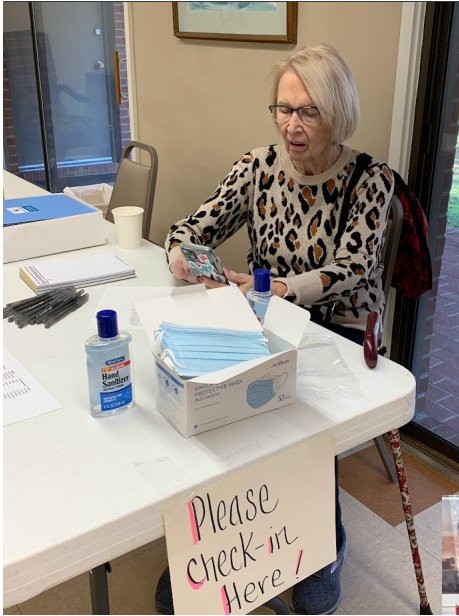






At the December 3 work day, inside workers included Patti Donnelly and Judy Moye while the outside team consisted of Dave Meador and Liz, George Moye, and the Valenzona brothers--Dino in the garden, and Jimmy and Rod on pine cones and leaf removal! Thanks to these good workers.  
Liz Meador





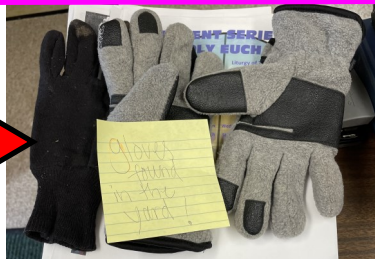
**FREE Advance Care Planning Workshop**

ALL AGES WELCOME! LUNCH PROVIDED!

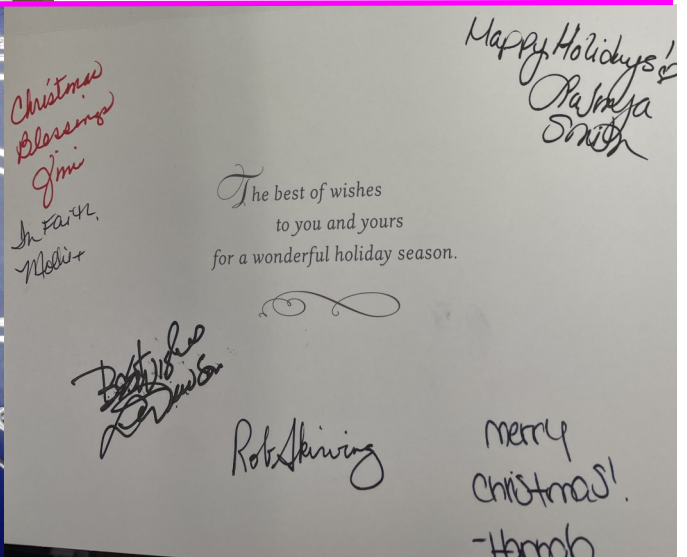
Hear from experts, complete your own Advance Care documents (Health Care Power of Attorney, Living Will), and learn how you can own your health by planning for care in advance.



**LOST AND FOUND** with a red arrow pointing right.



**Claim from the desk in the office.**





Thank you to everyone who has pledged support to St. Francis for 2023. We have \$73,220 in total pledges with just 22 pledging units. It is never too late to add a pledge no matter how small. You may also increase your pledge at any time during the year. As always we are grateful for every contribution you make to the life of the Franciscans.

*Roger Brogneaux,  
Stewardship Chair*



“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”  
I Peter 4:10



*We were so blessed by your gift of Christmas money! Thank you also for your many acts of kindness shown to us during this Christmas season. We look forward to serving with you in the coming year.*

*Fr. Whit, Bill,  
Luz, Brian & Beverly*

We are very grateful to our St Francis Family for all the prayers, food, calls, cards shared with us during Jill's recovery from hip surgery. We are fortunate to be part of such a giving and caring church family. It is in these times, we realize how much we are loved and cared for by so many.

With deep appreciation,  
*Jill and Roger Brogneaux*







**December 22 was decorating day and Longhorn lunch day! Thank you to all those who joined in the fun!**



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St. Francis Episcopal Church  
503 Forest Hill Drive  
P. O. Box 11406  
Goldsboro, NC 27532



# Happy Year!

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~ The Franciscans — January 2023 ~

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### St. Francis Episcopal Church

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The Rt. Rev. Rob Skirving,  
Bishop of the Episcopal  
Diocese of East Carolina

Father Whit Stroud,

Priest-in-Charge

William Hayes,

Organist/Choirmaster

Beverly Anderson,

Parish Administrator

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**Christmas Eve-a true candlelight  
service! No heat with warm hearts!**