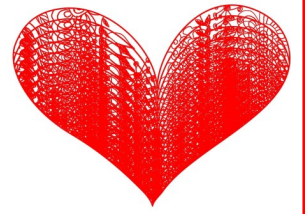


# The Franciscans



February 2023

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I don't know if it is just me or if it is something the rest of you wrestle with, but my problem is the urge just constantly to look forward to "the next big thing."

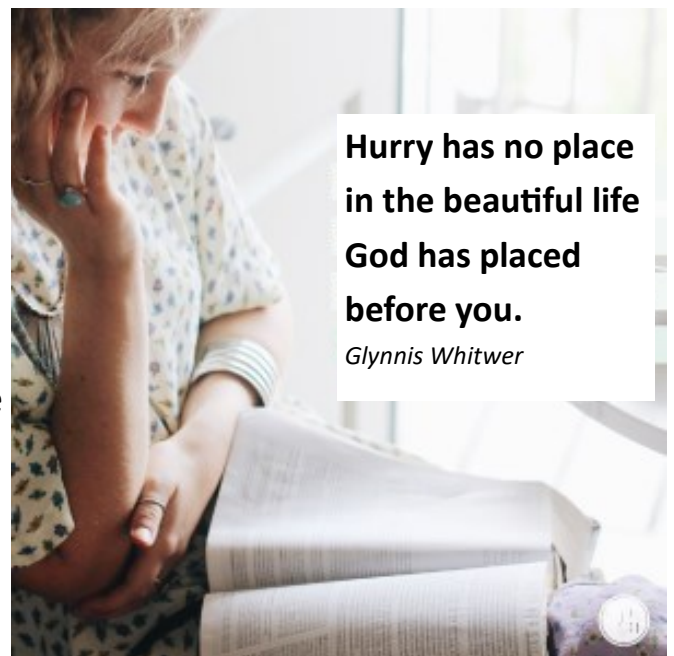
Christmas, in all its glory and splendor, has come and gone. Now all the planning of Lent and the knowing that the weight and work that are to come to make the Lenten season meaningful spiritually begins to grow heavy. With so much to do in the near future, it seems irresponsible not to give Lent our focus and time. Despite the sense of that notion, I think it is a disservice to our spiritual lives to jump to Lent too quickly.

We are currently in the season of "Epiphanytide," or the less cool name, "The season after Epiphany." Epiphany means "manifestation" or "appearance." It is the appearance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of the entire world. As such, these weeks between such monumental events, that is, Christmas and Lent, should be honored in their own right. The Gospel lessons we have had since the beginning of Epiphanytide reveal to us the nature and mission of Jesus. We see the power of Jesus and of what He calls His disciples and us to do and be. On the 29th, we have a perfect example of this. On the fourth Sunday after Epiphany, we have Jesus giving us the "Beatitudes," some of the most well-known and powerful yet difficult teachings of Christ. In it, everything we know of the world is reversed. In it, those who are the least of the world and those who suffer the most are lifted by Him who is the Most High. It is lessons like these, these powerful truths of who our Lord is and what it means to be a Christian, that are lost if we are already focused on Lent.

My challenge to myself and to you all is to slow down. Do not let the world or the worries or stress of what is to come stop you from living in the *now*. If we become blinded by the concerns of tomorrow, we will not see Christ revealed to us in today. Let us all seek to look for Jesus working in our lives every day. For it is in the everyday seeking of Christ that we can be His disciples who continue the mission of defying the sin of the world and bringing the grace of Christ to all people.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Whit Stroud



**Hurry has no place  
in the beautiful life  
God has placed  
before you.**

*Glynnis Whitwer*



Thanks to all who helped at Clean-up Day: Jill Brogneaux, Jackie Gurley, Judy Moye, Jane Anthony, Nina Silverthorne, Al Elmore, and Dave Meador. The grounds look better after raking and pine cone collection. Thanks to Liz who provided pizza for the workers.

Dave Meador, Junior Warden

Barbara Pedersen and Lamar Aycock were commissioned in our service Sunday, January 15, as the new Vestry members for 2023. They will serve until December 31, 2025. Thank you Barbara and Lamar for your willingness to serve in this area of ministry.



In the past few weeks, we have heard from various ministries in our area as part of our Community Awareness. We were grateful for those who came out from CRY FREEDOM, 4DAY MOVEMENT, and THE HOPE CENTER to share what they are doing in the Goldsboro area with us.

**CRY FREEDOM**



**4DAY MOVEMENT**



**HOPE CENTER**





# February 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 10-11am 	<b>2</b> 12noon Presentation Service 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm 	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 5th Sunday After The Epiphany 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour	<b>6</b> Office Open 9am-3pm	<b>7</b> Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Christian Formation	<b>8</b> 10-11am 	<b>9</b> 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm 	<b>10</b> 	<b>11</b> 140th Annual Convention Greenville Convention Center
<b>12</b> 6th Sunday After The Epiphany 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour	<b>13</b> Office Open 9am-3pm	<b>14</b> Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Christian Formation	<b>15</b> 10-11am  	<b>16</b> 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm 	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 8:00am <b>Vestry</b> Retreat <b>2023</b>
<b>19</b> Last Sunday After The Epiphany 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour <b>ECW</b> 4pm Absalom Jones Celebration St. Andrew's Episcopal Church	<b>20</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>21</b> Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Christian Formation 7pm 	<b>22</b> 10-11am  5pm  Service	<b>23</b> 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm 	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 1st Sunday in Lent 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour	<b>27</b> Office Open 9am-3pm	<b>28</b> Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Church-Wide Potluck 				

Lay Server Schedule February 2023	February 5 5TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	February 12 6TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	February 19 LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	February 26 1ST SUNDAY IN LENT Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud
	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am
CRUCIFER	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond Jodi Baker/Jimmy Valenzona	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond Jodi Baker/Jimmy Valenzona	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond Jodi Baker/Jimmy Valenzona	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond Jodi Baker/Jimmy Valenzona
LECTORS	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
USHERS	John Koegel Dave Meador	John Koegel Dave Meador	John Koegel Dave Meador	John Koegel Dave Meador
ALTAR GUILD	Elaine Elmore Brenda Chambers	Elaine Elmore Brenda Chambers	Elaine Elmore Brenda Chambers	Elaine Elmore Brenda Chambers
FLOWER GUILD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
TELLERS	Dave Meador Lamar Aycock	Dave Meador Lamar Aycock	Dave Meador Lamar Aycock	Dave Meador Lamar Aycock
SOCIAL HOUR	Judy and George Moye	Judy and George Moye	Judy and George Moye	Judy and George Moye

# February

- 1...Nicolle Robbins
- 12...Norma Powell
- 15...Stephanie Bersabal
- 19...Paula Wills
- 24...Patti Donnelly



*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!**

## Vestry

- 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



St. Francis Episcopal Church  
503 Forest Hill Drive  
P. O. Box 11406, Goldsboro, NC 27532  
Tel: 919-735-9845, Fax: 919-735-9893  
E-mail: parish@stfranciscgoldsboro.org  
Web Page: www.stfranciscgoldsboro.org

**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.**

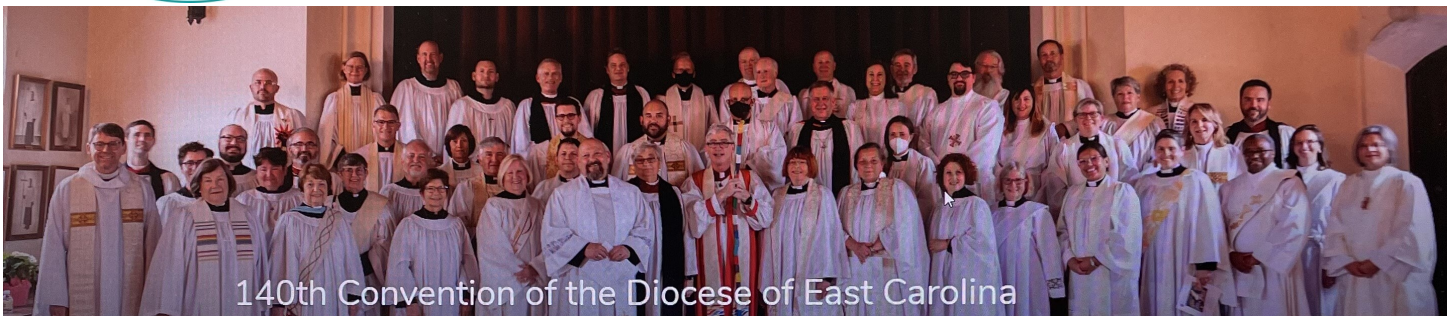


# The Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple

Thursday, February 2, 12 noon  
St. Francis Episcopal Church  
503 Forest Hill Drive, Goldsboro, NC



The 140th Annual Convention will be held at the Greenville Convention Center Friday, February 10 - Saturday, February 11, 2023. Please remember to pray for our delegates, Liz Meador and Barbara Pedersen, who will be attending along with Fr. Whit.

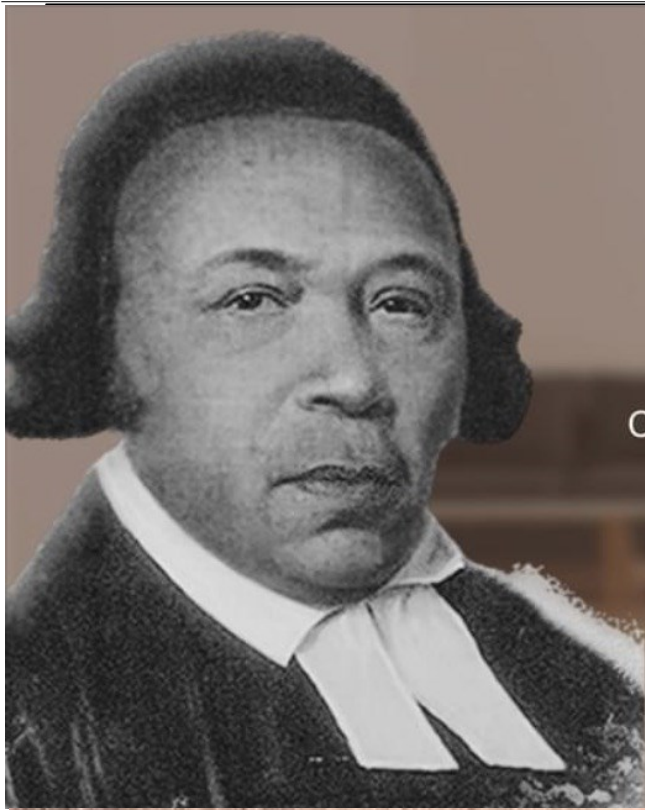


140th Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina

**Bishop Skirving's Visit**

**January 22, 2023**





# ABSALOM JONES CELEBRATION

Commemorating the Life of a Civil Liberty Pioneer

FEBRUARY 19  
AT 4:00 P.M.



There will be a repass after service

ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF GOLDSBORO  
901 HARRIS ST. GOLDSBORO NC 27530

**5:00 p.m.**  
**February 22, 2023**

# ASH WEDNESDAY



**St. Francis Episcopal  
Church**  
**503 Forest Hill Drive**  
**Goldsboro, NC 27534**



# The Franciscans

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



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## ~ The Franciscans — February 2023 ~

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**The Franciscans**

### St. Francis Episcopal Church

(503 Forest Hill Drive)

P. O. Box 11406, Goldsboro,  
NC 27532

Tel: 919-735-9845

Fax: 919-735-9893

parish@stfranciscgoldsboro.org

www.stfranciscgoldsboro.org

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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This Lent, we will be gathering with the other Episcopal churches in Goldsboro and our partner Holy Innocents. Each Wednesday night in Lent, we will come together to worship, break bread, and seek to grow in our understanding of God. In the program, we will dive deeply into what the days of Holy Week are. We will look at the historical story and what we today can learn and feel from these moments. We will be looking at the liturgies we participate in during Holy Week and how they deepen our connection with Jesus. Lent is meant to be a time of inward reflection on many different things. On top of whatever personal Lenten disciple you take on to grow closer to our Savior, I pray you will join your brothers and sisters in Christ in what will surely be a meaningful and insightful Lenten series.

Fr. Whit