

The Franciscans

February 2021

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

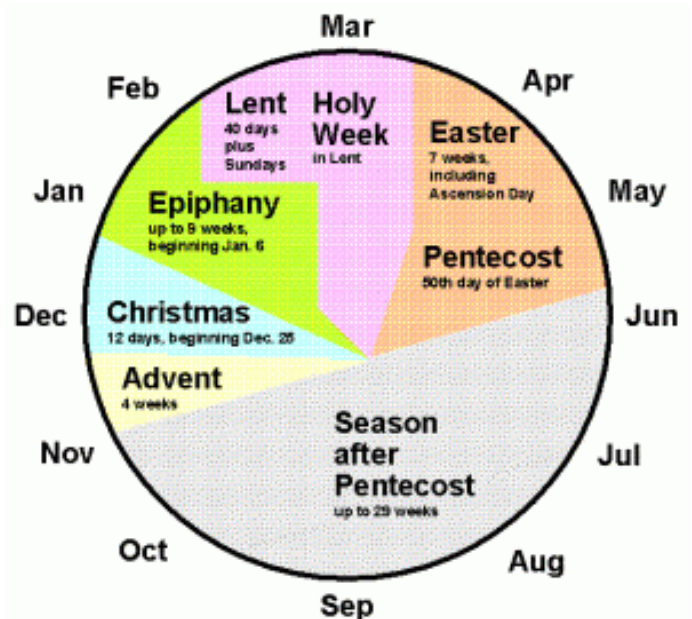
Dear St. Francis Family,

So much is going on in and around our parish, and it is all thanks to you! Thanks to your continued support through your time, talent, and treasure! Thanks to your continued prayers and dedication to the work of our church and your participation in this body of Christ. Our garden is nearing completion. We have just celebrated our first Drive-Thru Eucharist. We will be hosting our first Lunch-Learn with Deacon Rebecca Bean on behalf of the Episcopal Churches of Goldsboro outreach initiative. And, we are looking towards Lent, with three Ash Wednesday services (one hosted by each of our Episcopal Churches of Goldsboro) and a shared Wednesday Lenten Study focusing on a virtual Pilgrimage Through the Holy Land.

While we may still find ourselves in the midst of a global pandemic that has required us to keep our distance, the Spirit is moving with vigor throughout our parish and our community! This Spirit sparks inside of us the drive and call to find new ways to connect to one another, to engage in our community, and to be the church in a world that is more desperate than ever to know and experience the love of God and the grace of Jesus. As we look toward our Lenten season my hope is that we can take this spirit and energy, using it to fuel our shared relationship and work with the Episcopal Churches of Goldsboro. This year the three churches will gather together on Zoom each Wednesday at 7 PM to for a virtual pilgrimage through the Holy Land as we explore our faith through the history, geography, and theology that surrounds this sacred space. Each week we will “travel” to a different space of the Holy Land and to explore what the physical space means for our spiritual lives.

Also, during Lent the garden will be made available with an interactive prayer experience, so stay tuned for more information on that. And the Episcopal Churches of Goldsboro will again share our Holy Week experience as well as Easter service offerings. I look forward to our Lenten Pilgrimage together to see how the Spirit continues to spark joy and life in our parish and in our larger community.

Your sister in Christ,
Kate +




Our 1st DRIVE-THRU EUCHARIST!

If you were unable to come,
watch for future Drive-Thru Eucharist dates.





February 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 Office Open 9am-3pm FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	3 10:30am-3:30pm Socially Distanced Pastoral Care	4 FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	5	6
7 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY: 10:00am-MP (Zoom)	8 Office Open 9am-3pm	9 Office Open 9am-3pm FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	10 10:30am-3:30pm Socially Distanced Pastoral Care	11 FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	12	13  138th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina Saturday, February 13, 2021
14 LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY: 10:00am-MP (Zoom) <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px; width: fit-content;"> St. Francis FUNDRAISER @ Texas Roadhouse </div>	15 Office Open 9am-3pm 	16 Office Open 9am-3pm FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	17 Imposition of Ashes in the Garden 	18 FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	19	20 Faith and Fellowship in the Parish Hall 10am (socially distanced)
21 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 10:00am-MP (Zoom)	22 Office Open 9am-3pm	23 Office Open 9am-3pm FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	24 10:30am-3:30pm Socially Distanced Pastoral Care	25 FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	26	27
28 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT 10:00am-MP (Zoom) 11:30am—Vestry  Vestry Meeting						<div style="background-color: #ccc; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> MP = Morning Prayer </div>



Nicolle Robbins.....1
 Dave Boseman.....7
 Norma Powell.....12
 Sandra Tucker Franks...12
 Drew Byrd.....18
 Patti Donnelly.....24

February

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

Jesus was
 in a small group.
 I'm just sayin'...
 (Life change happens in small groups)

Faith and Fellowship with Liz Meador will move to the 3rd Saturday this month due to the Diocese Annual Convention. If you have not yet attended, please join them!

Pray for Liz Meador & Kimberly Stedner as they serve as the St. Francis delegates to the 138th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina, Sat., February 13th.

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 (503 Forest Hill Drive)
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 E-mail: parish@stfranciscgoldsboro.org
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 The Rt. Rev. Rob Skirving, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina
 The Rev. Kate Byrd, Priest in Charge
 William Hayes, Organist/Choirmaster
 Beverly Anderson, Parish Administrator
The Franciscans: Beverly Anderson, Editor
The Franciscans is published 11 times a year.
 The **deadline** for items to be considered for inclusion is the **15th of each month.**

Vestry

2021
 Barbara Pedersen
 (Bookkeeper)
 Kimberly Stedner-Clayton

2022
 Liz Meador
 (Junior Warden)
 George Moye
 (Senior Warden)

2023
 Debbie Stedner
 Dave Meador
 Brandon Robbins
 Al Elmore, Treasurer
 Shelley Mills, Clerk
Priest-in-Charge
 The Rev. Kate Byrd

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Patti Donnelly

Who lies behind the beautifully unique, creative cards we all have received from St. Francis? Most of us know Patti Donnelly is the mastermind behind this effort to celebrate our birthdays and holidays.

Patti was born in Binghamton, NY. The oldest of ten children, she graduated from Whitney Point High School and had one year at Bob Jones University. After working in flower shops for a few years, she was employed for thirty-four years as the final inspector of the black boxes General Electric makes for airplanes. She met Paul Donnelly at GE, and

during their travels to North Carolina to visit her sons, they noticed St. Francis and talked about visiting sometime, but their short holiday visits then didn't allow time for coming to a service.

Paul and she were members of a small Episcopal church, All Saints, where they were involved in many aspects of church life. From an early age, Patti had attended a Baptist church with her grandmother, and she said she has loved church from that time to this.

After Paul died in 2018, Patti moved to Goldsboro to be near her sons Larry in Rosewood and Christopher in Pikeville. A third son, Steve, lives in Idaho with his daughter, ten-year-old Madalyn. Larry has two children, Tara and Michael, and Patti has a great-granddaughter, Maelin, age eight.

Patti's hobbies include quilting, cardmaking, and cooking. She enjoys reading World War II fiction. She said a saving grace during Covid was making forty-five lap quilts to send to a nursing home in Morganton, West Virginia, where Paul's brother Phillip is Executive Director.

Patti says, "I am thankful for the talents I have that can cheer and help others." She doesn't allow arthritis in her right hand to slow her down too much, as we can tell!

Once she moved to Goldsboro, Patti satisfied her curiosity about St. Francis by attending a service. She said that Elaine Elmore at that first visit made her so welcomed and comfortable that she felt at home already.

The St. Francis Garden work in progress!

Many thanks to all those who submitted photos!





Psalm 24: 1: The earth is the LORD'S and all it contains, The world, and those who live in it.



Many thanks to Crumpler's Lawncare & Landscaping crew for all the work in our garden. They also built and donated this beautiful new cross.



The St. Francis Garden completed.

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A look inside...

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1st Drive-Thru Eucharist.....pg 2
FOCUS on a Franciscan.....pg 5
Garden refurbished.....pgs 6&7
Absalom Jones.....pg 8

~ The Franciscans — February 2021 ~

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Absalom Jones

Absalom Jones is commemorated in The Episcopal Church on February 13. Jones was an African American abolitionist and clergyman and the first African American ordained a priest in The Episcopal Church. Absalom Jones was born enslaved to Abraham Wynkoop in 1746 in Delaware. Jones moved to Philadelphia after his master sold his plantation along with Absalom's mother and six siblings. Jones bought his wife Mary's freedom and later his master granted Absalom's emancipation in 1784.

In 1787, with his friend Richard Allen, they founded the Free African Society, a mutual aid benevolent organization that was the first of its kind organized by and for black people. Bishop William White ordained Jones a deacon in 1795 and a priest on September 21, 1802. Jones faithfully served the people at the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas in Philadelphia, a church which remains a vibrant congregation. A corrected and updated biography of Absalom Jones is now available through the Historical Society of the Episcopal Church's web site: <https://hsec.us/news/9398482>

