



The Franciscans

March 2023

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



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Lent is upon us; we have entered our forty-day pilgrimage to the joy of Easter. It is a time in which we are called to travel in our hearts and minds with Jesus as He prepares for the suffering of the Cross. Lent is the journey to Jesus' Cross, and in that journey, we, too, are called to take up our own cross. Lent points us toward the reality of our human condition of sinfulness due to original sin. It is a time we are called, with bravery and trust in the grace of Christ, to take on the darkest parts of our soul and our world. This is a tough and scary thing to willingly seek to acknowledge the parts of ourselves we would much rather leave in the dark.

Some people see following a Lenten discipline as a simple thing, like giving up popcorn or chocolate for forty days. While these practices can be beneficial by eliminating distractions or temptations, it misses the key point of Lent. These practices themselves can become a distraction from the true work of Lent. Lent calls us to confront our sins and what is creating a rift between our Creator and us. If Lent is a journey towards the method of Christ's passion, we are called to look at our wayward decisions that require such a great sacrifice. The great theologian and author C.S Lewis writes:

"Christianity has lots to say about self-denial, but not about self-denial as an end in itself. We are told to deny ourselves and to take up our crosses in order that we may follow Christ. Nearly every description of what we shall ultimately find if we do so contains an appeal to desire."

Lent is not the Church calling us to beat ourselves up over the things we struggle with. It is, as Lewis states, calling us to desire something greater than what the world has to offer. Lewis has a famous quote, "We are far too easily pleased." Lewis compares us to a child who is content with making mud pies in the street because the child can't imagine anything greater. Lent calls us to look at the failings of the world and strive for the divine. We are pleased with giving up chocolate or popcorn; we feel maybe it'll even help us be healthier. Yet, I think if we go bigger, if we are intentional with seeking to follow Christ to the Cross, we'll seek to take on more. What if instead of giving up sweets, we give up 30 minutes of watching TV and give that time to intentional prayer? What if instead of giving up social media, we dedicate some of that time to talking to friends and family about the paramount importance of our and their faith?

This Lent, I hope you will rest in the assured grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and look inwardly at what God is calling you to change or confront. Let us no longer be content with the state of our fallenness or the despair of the world. Let us take on the burden of our crosses this Lent and labor with all our being to follow our Lord Christ to His passion. For it is only through His death and resurrection that we may achieve the happiness God has intended for His Creation.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Whit Stroud



The Episcopal Churches of Goldsboro and Holy Innocents

Wednesday 6:00pm Lenten Opportunities:

**Join us for worship, light supper, and program every
Wednesday during Lent.**

March 1—St. Francis Episcopal Church
503 Forest Hill Drive, Goldsboro, NC 27534

March 8—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
901 Harris Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530

March 15—Holy Innocents Episcopal Church
6861 NC-55, Seven Springs, NC 28578

March 22— St. Francis Episcopal Church
503 Forest Hill Drive, Goldsboro, NC 27534

March 29— St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
200 N James St, Goldsboro, NC 27530

April 5— St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
200 N James St, Goldsboro, NC 27530

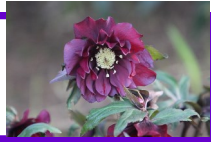
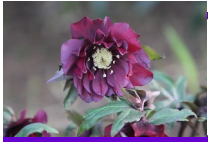


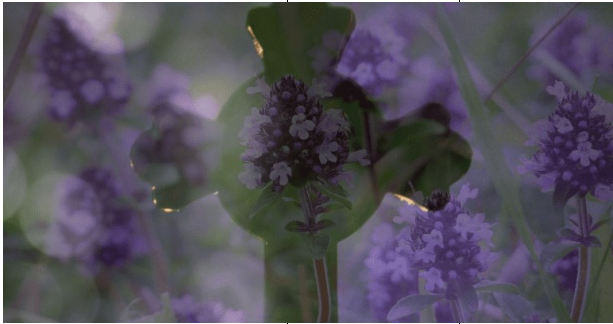















Dave and Liz delivered our donated supplies to Wayne Uplift on February 6.



Please sign up on the tower in the Parish Hall to join a St. Francis Social Team. We need all hands on deck to help us host St. Francis events. Thank you! All help is appreciated.

March 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<p>1 10-11am</p>  <p>6pm: Lent w/ ECOG & HI (Host Church: St. Francis)</p>	<p>2 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm</p> 	3	4
<p>5 2nd Sunday in Lent 9am Morning Prayer <i>(Bishop Visit at Holy Innocents)</i> Coffee/Social Hour</p>	<p>6 Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>7 Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	Whit on vacation		<p>10</p>	<p>11 Move those clocks ahead before bed!</p> 
<p>12 3rd Sunday in Lent 9am Morning Prayer Coffee/Social Hour</p> 	<p>13 Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>14 Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>15  10-11am</p>  <p>6pm: Lent w/ ECOG & HI (Host Church: Holy Innocents)</p>	<p>16 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm</p> 	<p>17</p> 	<p>18</p>
<p>19 4th Sunday in Lent 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour ECW</p> 	<p>20 Whit in Office, Beverly away</p> 	<p>21 Whit in Office, Beverly away 7pm</p> 	<p>22 10-11am</p>  <p>6pm: Lent w/ ECOG & HI (Host Church: St. Francis)</p>	<p>23 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm</p> 	<p>24 Office open 9am-3pm (Beverly)</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 5th Sunday in Lent 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour</p>	<p>37 Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>28 Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>29 10-11am</p>  <p>6pm: Lent w/ ECOG & HI (Host Church: St. Stephen's)</p>	<p>30 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm</p> 	<p>31</p>	

Lay Server Schedule March 2023	March 5 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT Morning Prayer Worship Leader: Diana Hammond	March 12 3RD SUNDAY IN LENT Morning Prayer Worship Leader: Jodi Baker	March 19 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	March 26 5TH 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	Barrett Rae Barbara Pedersen	Barrett Rae Barbara Pedersen	Barrett Rae Barbara Pedersen	Barrett Rae Barbara Pedersen
FLOWER GUILD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
TELLERS	Jill Brogneaux Brandon Robbins	Jill Brogneaux Brandon Robbins	Jill Brogneaux Brandon Robbins	Jill Brogneaux Brandon Robbins
SOCIAL HOUR	Liz and Dave Meador	Liz and Dave Meador	Liz and Dave Meador	Liz and Dave Meador



6...Terrye Aycock
8...Jackie Gurley
10...Larry Miller
21...George Moye
22...Brenda Chambers
29...Judy Moye

March

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

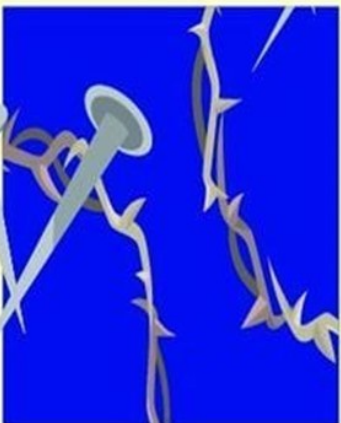


St. Francis Episcopal Church
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P. O. Box 11406, Goldsboro, NC 27532
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E-mail: parish@stfrancisgoldsboro.org
Web Page: www.stfrancisgoldsboro.org

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



Holy Week Services



April 2, Palm Sunday, 9am, Holy Eucharist

April 3, Monday, 6pm, Stations of the Cross

April 6, Maundy Thursday, 5:30pm, Holy Eucharist &

Stripping of the Altar

April 9, Easter Sunday, 9am, Flowering of the Cross,

Holy Eucharist, Easter Breads & Egg Hunt

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

parish@stfrancisgoldsboro.org

919-735-9845

Report on the 140th Diocesan Convention for the FRANCISCAN

Thank you to the Vestry for its support of our attendance and to all who prayed for us at the Diocesan Convention held Friday and Saturday, February 10-11, at the Greenville Convention Center. The theme of the convention was “New Wine in New Wineskins.”

Barbara and I attended two workshops each: for her, they were the church in the digital age and Christian Formation while I took in the small church project and care for creation in the Sound to Sea program at Trinity Center. I learned about the sea turtle and ort projects—the first to protect turtle nesting areas and the second to raise children’s awareness about food waste (an *ort* being an amount of food uneaten and gone to waste).

We enjoyed the vendors and exhibits which highlighted the work of several ministries: LATINO, relief and development, Cursillo, racial healing, UTO, and Trinity Center, to name only a few. One vendor, Zion Episcopal Church of Washington, NC, gave \$1000 of its profits to Episcopal Relief and Development on the spot.

At 5:00 on Friday, Barbara processed with our banner with all the attending churches for the Convention Eucharist. We heard an inspiring address from the Bishop and joined in hymns, prayers, and Communion.

On Saturday the Legislative portion began at 9 a.m. Representatives from the Church Periodical Club presented scholarships to seminarians and others working toward the diaconate or the priesthood. We voted for the first time using digital devices (iphones, ipads, laptops) in this first “paperless” convention. All went smoothly after several adjustments and learning curves. After lunch, we continued with resolutions before adjournment at 4:00 pm.

Bishop Skirving announced that Bishop Curry will hold a Revival in October 2023.

We urge others to volunteer to be delegates next year to learn about the work of the church, to have fellowship with others, and to grow in mind and spirit.

Liz Meador and Barbara Pedersen



Easter Lilies

If you would like to purchase a lily to adorn the church at Easter services, please complete this form and turn it in with payment to the church office.

The cost of each lily is \$12.50 ; please make checks payable to “St. Francis” marked Easter Lily.

Your Name: _____

In Memory of Deceased: _____

— OR —

In Thanksgiving for: _____

Total # ordered: _____ Total Paid: _____

Deadline to order is Sunday, April 2.



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503 Forest Hill Drive
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~ The Franciscans — March 2023 ~

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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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Thank you to all
who made our
Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper
possible and all
who attended!

