



The Franciscans

April 2021

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

I have often heard it said that Episcopalians are Easter People, which I think is to say we are all about the Resurrection. And while this past year in many ways has felt a lot more like Good Friday than Easter Morning, there have still been so many glimpses, maybe even full-on experiences, of the resurrected life. Death is always painful, and its agony often calls us into the process of grieving. Many of us have had to grieve significant and painful losses this past year: losses of loved ones and family members, of careers and financial stability, of social events and travel, and for all of us at St. Francis, of worshipping together in our beloved sanctuary and gathering for coffee and conversation in our Parish Hall. While some losses and deaths have been more painful than others, these losses are all significant, and added all together, these losses can feel overwhelming. The grieving process gives us space and time to learn how to live with loss, pain, and death. While certainly not a desirable or an easy journey, grieving, like dying, can allow us to see and experience resurrection.

I would imagine many of us have been through the various stages of grief over the past year (or may still even be in the process) experiencing all the emotions that come with the journey of grieving: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. I know I certainly have. While it has been a difficult and trying year allowing the emotions and the experience to come like the waves of an ocean, sometimes refreshing the soul and other times smacking us on the side of the head, it can allow us to create more space and room to see a new way forward.

On Sunday, April 4th, we will celebrate our second Easter and Resurrection Sunday in a pandemic. And, on Sunday, April 11th, we will celebrate our first Sunday of indoor worship at St. Francis. While I am tempted to say that this will be our own resurrection, returning to the four walls of our church home, I think it wise to pause, and remember that as Episcopalians, we are Easter People. This past year in the face of loss, death, and pain I believe we have still seized the opportunity to experience resurrection and stay true to our identity as Easter People. Through the unbelievably fabulous work of Deacon Rebecca Bean in bringing all three Episcopal Churches in Goldsboro together, to the dedication of all of you to continue calling and checking in on one another, we have connected and reconnected in new ways. From sharing stories on Sunday mornings, to hearing beautiful musical offerings from talented parishioners in all three churches, and gathering to begin a new outreach mission—there is so much new life that has sprung forth during this time. It should be recognized, celebrated, and lifted up as our dedication to live into the Resurrection, despite the pandemic and despite our physical church doors being closed.

This Easter season, I see the resurrection in you and your work and your dedication to our church, to the Episcopal Churches of Goldsboro, and to the Christian mission to share the love of Jesus Christ in the world. I am so excited to begin breaking bread at the altar all together again on Sunday mornings. And, I am excited by all the little resurrections we have seen and experienced that have shaped and changed how we know and understand what it means to be the Body of Christ and what it means to be Episcopalians (Easter People).

Your Sister in Christ,
Kate









On Saturday, March 20, at 10 am, we enjoyed fruit, orange juice, coffee, and Patti's cream cheese-bacon-ranch roll-ups while we listened to speaker Jill Brogneaux describe the Wednesday Night Lenten Programs that explore the Holy Land via St. George's College Jerusalem. Roger said he enjoys revisiting sites Jill and he saw on their in-person trip. We have rejoiced to meet in our small group, but we are ecstatic that we will meet en masse very soon!

Liz Meador



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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1  7:00pm Maundy Thursday (ZOOM)	2 12 Noon Stations of the Cross (outside) St. Francis 	3  5:00pm Great Vigil of Easter (outside) St. Francis
	4 EASTER DAY 10:00am Holy Eucharist with Episcopal Churches of Goldsboro (outside) St. Andrew's 901 Harris Street	5 Office Open 9am-3pm	6 Office Open 9am-3pm	7 10:30am- 3:30pm Socially Distanced Pastoral Care	8 FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	9
11 EASTER 2 10:00am Holy Eucharist (inside) <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin-top: 10px;"> St. Francis FUNDRAISER @ Texas Roadhouse </div>	12 Office Open 9am-3pm	13 Office Open 9am-3pm FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	14 10:30am- 3:30pm Socially Distanced Pastoral Care	15 FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer DEADLINE Newsletter 	16	17
18 EASTER 3 10:00am Morning Prayer (inside)	19 Office Open 9am-3pm	20 Office Open 9am-3pm FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	21 10:30am- 3:30pm Socially Distanced Pastoral Care	22 FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	23	24
25 EASTER 4 10:00am Holy Eucharist (inside) 11:30am—Vestry 	26 Office Open 9am-3pm	27 Office Open 9am-3pm FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	28 10:30am- 3:30pm Socially Distanced Pastoral Care	29 FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer	30	



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April

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

DID YOU KNOW? Celery is the often used (but more often overlooked) vegetable of the month. **April is National Fresh Celery Month** and a time to celebrate this household staple. A member of the carrot family, celery was first mentioned as a food plant in 1623 in France. According to fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov, celery seed was brought to America in the 1850's from Scotland and became an important commercial crop in Michigan. Today celery is predominately grown in California and Florida for the commercial market.



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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 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.**

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2021
 Barbara Pedersen (Bookkeeper)
 Kimberly Stedner
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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Kim Stedner

Currently a member of the Vestry, KIM STEDNER wears many hats: mother, teacher, innovator, caretaker—all with grace and resolve.

Born in Middletown, NY, Kim moved with her family to West Virginia, Georgia, and North Carolina, following her dad Stan's work experiences. Kim received an associate degree in art and science from Wayne Community College, a B.S. in middle grade education with a concentration in math and science from East Carolina University (ECU), and a master's degree from ECU in education. Kim graduated summa cum laude with a 4.0 grade point average.

Her own family consists of Makala Foss and her husband Joe, Max Tapiz, Isabelle Casey, and pet dogs Ginger and Puma. In these past years, she has moved closer to her parents, Debbie and Stan, to help care for her grandmother, Gen Miller.

Kim's varied public service career includes roles as firefighter, paramedic, law enforcement officer, and now, teacher—first at Eastern Wayne HS, Dillard Middle, and currently at Frink Middle School. She is considering a role in the church in her future, inspired in part by a visit to a convent when she was eight years old in Walden, NY.

In her interview for the position at Dillard where black students are the majority, the principal asked, "Do you see color?" Kim responded that she does see color: She *must* in order to appreciate and empathize with other cultures, to walk in their shoes.

Her most recent innovation involves a collaboration with a history teacher at Frink to study astronomy and history. She hopes to find some funding for telescopes, sanitizing materials, etc. for a stargazing event for her students.

Kim said her family first attended St. Francis in 1985, and she has always considered it her home church, serving on the Vestry in the past as well as now where she is valued for her ideas to use social media and technology to move the church forward and attract new members. She said she appreciates the history she has with St. Francis, recalling the influence of past members like J. B. Tyler who showed her how to fish.

Kim's hobbies and interests include going to the beach (where she would like to live permanently in the future), fishing, drawing, and reading.

We look forward to the future with Kim's generation leading the way to new ideas and involvement.



St. Francis now has a new wifi connection thanks to Rev. Kate. Next time you are on our campus and wish to connect, choose St Francis. The password is Goldsboro1964.

Palm Sunday with the Episcopal Churches of Goldsboro at St. Francis.

Many thanks to those who submitted photos!





THE
PASSION
OF THE CHRIST



Easter Blessings!

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~ The Franciscans — April 2021 ~

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Easter Lilies will be delivered to St. Francis Shut-ins this week provided by these donors:

In Memory of Sam Mills and Jim Allen (my Dad)
by Shelley Mills.

In Memory of Gene and Hazel Baker
by Jodi and Tony Baker.

In Memory of My Parents, Grandparents, Sister
and Oldest Brother by Mitch Baker.

In Memory of Our Parents by Jill and Roger Brogneaux.
In Memory of Herb Anderson by Beverly Anderson.

In Honor of Joe and Cissy Bowden by Jodi and Tony Baker.
In Honor of Peter and Marion Cotton by Jodi and Tony Baker.

In Honor of my Grands and
Great-Grands by Mitch Baker.
In Honor of the All the Beautiful
People of St. Francis
by Mitch Baker.

In Honor of The St. Francis Staff
by Mitch Baker.

Patti Donnelly
Elaine and Al Elmore



Junior Warden Liz Meador is calling all helpers at 9am on Saturday, April 10 for a St. Francis Clean-up Day! Lunch will be provided around 12noon!