



The Franciscans

May 2023

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Alleluia! Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia! These are the joyful words we have been proclaiming at the beginning of our communal worship since the glorious Easter Day; I also pray that you have been proclaiming it in your soul and actions as we continue to celebrate this Eastertide. In our world, it is easy to see the joy and power of Easter as solely a day. For a lot of people, Easter is over, and they're back to normal. Our tradition, however, and many others, holds that the joy of Easter is a *season*, and as such, we, in the past few weeks and in the weeks to come, will continue to marvel and be thankful for the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ.

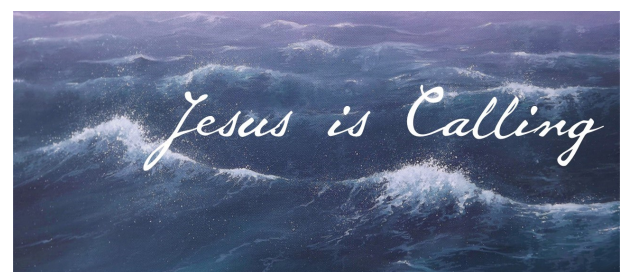
As disciples of the Risen Christ, we are all called to a life of service to others and devotion in worship and learning of our faith in our Triune God. One of the aspects that is so powerful about our Lord Jesus' resurrection is that it has changed everything. We are not called to be just as we are; through the freedom of Christ, we are able to follow in His footsteps, to take up our own crosses, and labor just as He and the Apostles did. When I think of Jesus' death and resurrection, I always think of what it must have been like for Mary Magdalene to be the first to witness the resurrected Christ. Mary Magdalene sadly does not get as much written about her as others in the Gospels, but that does not mean she is not a wonderful example for us. What are we, who come face to face with the Risen Christ each week in the Blessed Sacrament, called to go out and do? What are you being called to take on in service to our Risen Lord? I can assure you there are ample opportunities.

People are always welcome to get involved in our corporate worship on Sundays; consider if you are called to be a reader or to serve around the altar, it is a great way to get a hands-on understanding of what goes on in our liturgies. Are you being called to deepen your faith and your understanding of it? Consider joining those of us who gather for a Christian formation every Tuesday, or the Zoom book study of *Mere Christianity* beginning on May 4th. Are you being particularly called to the service of others? Countless organizations do all different types of work for the service of others. We have some opportunities for outreach coming up, so please plan on being involved in those. Maybe you are being called with an idea of how we, as a parish, can better serve our community! Please do not keep the idea to yourself; meet with either me or a member of the vestry and let us know. Ideas are always wonderful; maybe you are called to spearhead that idea or a new ministry; once someone starts something, people are quick to join, so I can assure you that you will not be alone.

The work of being a disciple of Christ is never ending; we are all called in a variety of ways. God has given each one of us talent and gifts that can be used for His service and glory, so let us in the joy of Easter not look at the work ahead of us as a chore but as an opportunity to joyously proclaim that Jesus is alive and active in our community and world!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Whit Stroud



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am thrilled to say that beginning on May 4th at 7 pm, the congregations of St. Andrews, Holy Innocents, St. Francis, and St. Stephens are invited to join on Zoom for a book study. In an 8-week study, we will break down *Mere Christianity* by C.S Lewis. Lewis is one of the most well-known Anglican authors; he is known for *The Chronicles of Narnia* but is also a well-respected and influential theologian. Lewis' impact on Christian theology and understanding is among, in my opinion, one of the greatest of the 20th century. Lewis wonderfully blends a simple, straightforward way of right with a deep and intellectual faith. Lewis and his ideas and teachings on Christianity are accessible to anyone who is willing to sit down and be intentional about their faith, so fear not if this is your first foray into understanding our faith.

So why should you be excited about *Mere Christianity*? This book provides concrete and logical evidence and an understanding of why Christianity is true. It isn't simply a book on apologetics but a desire to understand why Christianity is true and what that means for those claiming to be Jesus Christ's disciples. In the book, we will be discussing Christian ethics and what is right and wrong, the necessity of free will, and the existence of evil in our world. This book covers many of the questions people have about Christianity. I pray that studying and discussing *Mere Christianity* will be a time for us to grow closer together as brothers and sisters in Christ and embolden us to go out into the world to serve others as disciples of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Whit Stroud



**You are invited to our
Birthday Brunch honoring 5
St. Francis folks who are turning 80
this year
Sunday, May 7, 2023
following the church service.**

**Dave and Liz and their family are hosting,
and Phyllis Patterson is catering.
Honorees (George, Eldica, Norma, Liz, and
Dave) may invite friends and/or family
to join us, but we need final numbers
by Wednesday, April 26.
Please let Liz know: cell 919-223-4014;
home 919-735-2316**

**Let's celebrate!
No gifts, please, or donate to the
St. Francis floor cleaning fund!**

**The battle is on! Join us Sunday, April 30,
5pm at Holy Innocents in Seven Springs as we
battle a game of Trivia.**

**Trivia
Night**

**This is the 1st of our 5th Sunday Trivia nights with
Holy Innocents. We will host the one in July.**

May 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>ZOOM Book Study with Fr. Whit every Thursday at 7pm</p>	<p>1 Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>2 Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Christian Formation</p>	<p>3 10-11am </p>	<p>4 4 pm Choir 6-7pm  7pm ZOOM Book Study</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 9am Garden Clean-up </p>
<p>7 Fifth Sunday of Easter 9am Holy Eucharist 80 Birthday Brunch </p>	<p>8 Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>9 Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Christian Formation</p>	<p>10 10-11am </p>	<p>11 4 pm Choir 6-7pm  7pm ZOOM Book Study</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 Sixth Sunday of Easter 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour  </p>	<p>15 Office Open 9am-3pm </p>	<p>16 Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Christian Formation 7pm Vestry </p>	<p>17 10-11am </p>	<p>18 4 pm Choir 6-7pm  7pm ZOOM Book Study</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 Mitch Baker funeral </p>
<p>21 Ascension 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour ECW  </p>	<p>22 Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>23 Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Monthly Pot-Luck </p>	<p>24 10-11am </p>	<p>25 4 pm Choir 6-7pm  7pm ZOOM Book Study</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 Pentecost 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour </p>	<p>29 OFFICE CLOSED </p>	<p>30 Office Open 9am-3pm 6pm Christian Formation</p>	<p>31 10-11am </p>	<p>Don't Forget Mothers Day! </p>		

Lay Server Schedule May 2023	May 7 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	May 14 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	May 21 ASCENSION Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	May 28 PENTECOST 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	Eldica Cyrus Lamar Aycock Scott Summers	Eldica Cyrus Lamar Aycock Scott Summers	Eldica Cyrus Lamar Aycock Scott Summers	Eldica Cyrus Lamar Aycock Scott Summers
FLOWER GUILD	David Powell	David Powell	David Powell	David Powell
ALTAR GUILD	Patti Donnelly Brenda Chambers	Patti Donnelly Brenda Chambers	Patti Donnelly Brenda Chambers	Patti Donnelly Brenda Chambers
EUCCHARISTIC VISITOR	Jill Brogneaux	Eldica Cyrus	Liz Meador	Jane Anthony
TELLERS	Jill Brogneaux Barbara Pedersen	Jill Brogneaux Barbara Pedersen	Jill Brogneaux Barbara Pedersen	Jill Brogneaux Barbara Pedersen
SOCIAL HOUR	Elaine & Al Elmore	Elaine & Al Elmore	Elaine & Al Elmore	Elaine & Al Elmore

May



3...Jenny Kelly

7...Liz Meador

10...Barbara Pedersen

16...Kristine Wright

22...Sarah Dodson

27...Diana Hammond

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

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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503 Forest Hill Drive
P. O. Box 11406, Goldsboro, NC 27532
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Web Page: www.stfranciscgoldsboro.org

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



ECW NEWS:

*Thanks to all the women who donated food and cleaned up following the Powell reception.

*Liz and Barbara plan to attend the annual ECW Diocesan meeting in Beaufort May 9-10. See the notice about Martha's Cupboard. Please bring food items by May 7.

Martha's Mission Cupboard Needs Our Help.



The Episcopal Church Women of St. Paul's, Beaufort, has a community food drive every Tuesday morning to collect for Martha's Mission Cupboard.

Martha's Mission Cupboard is an emergency food pantry, solely run by volunteers, established to provide the needy citizens of Carteret County a temporary supply of nutritious and balanced food at no cost.

Martha's Mission provides food to an average of 300 and 350 families every month who have been screened and referred by state or federal social service agencies in Carteret County. The goal is to tie the families over during a temporary financial crisis or while they are awaiting permanent assistance.

Martha's Mission is a non-profit, tax exempt corporation, not affiliated with any church or religious organization.
(www.marthasmission.com).

Here Is How You Can Help.

Please bring any of these items that you can in any quantity that you can to the Diocesan Episcopal Church Women Annual Meeting in Beaufort on Wednesday, 10 May 2023.

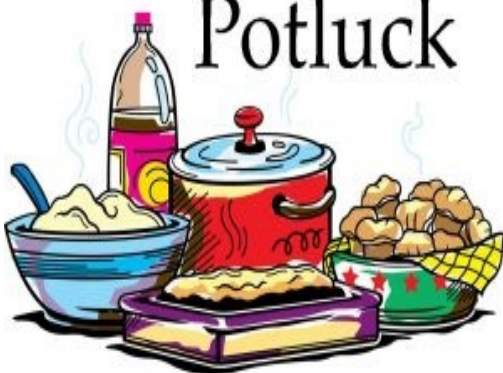
cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, dried beans, rice, grits, saltines, peanut butter, jelly, powered milk, applesauce cups, Mac and Cheese, snack cakes, bar soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper.

A collection basket will be available at the registration table for your offerings.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

And thank you to the Episcopal Church Women of St. Paul's for hosting the Diocesan ECW Board Meeting and the Diocesan ECW Annual Meeting.

Monthly Potluck



St. Francis Church-wide Monthly Potlucks are a great way to enjoy delicious food and fellowship. They are in our Parish Hall the 4th Tuesday every month at 6pm. Bring a dish and enjoy some conversation.

A Letter of Thank You

Tres and I would like to sincerely thank Father Whit and the members of St. Francis for all the love and support you've shown to Mom over the years and her later battle with dementia. There are not enough words to express our eternal gratitude. This church and parish family meant so much to her and to us as a family.

We would also like to publicly acknowledge the superb care Mom received from her two personal care aides, Tracie Barnes and Laura Reed. The care Mom received from these two "earth angels" was beyond excellent. If you should know of anyone in similar need of personal care please contact them. They have given us permission to list their contact information for the congregation: Tracie Barnes, 919-215-3967 and Laura Reed, 919-273-2073. Both numbers are cell phones.

My brother and I would also like to publicly acknowledge the expert care mom received through 3HC Hospice staff and her nurse Brenda Coor, and the Hospice staff at Kitty Askins in her final days.

Warmest regards,

Tres and David Powell



113 West End Avenue
Hopatcong, NJ 07843
April 1, 2023

Ms. Beverly Anderson / Parish Administrator
St. Francis Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 11406
Goldsboro, N.C. 27532

Dear Beverly,

Easter is on the horizon and I am again thankful to be able to send St. Francis a donation in honor of the 63 year marriage of my parents, *James and Frances Tyler*. They were married on Easter Sunday/April 17, 1938. I'm sure that the glory of this season will be enjoyed by all who attend your Easter services.

Although our pace of life is slowing with each year, Jim and I are grateful to be sharing it together. Just last evening we attended a "Senior Prom" (i.e. senior citizen prom) sponsored by the Honor Society Students of our local high school. The youngsters joined the oldsters in dancing to music provided by the student band. A king and queen were crowned and souvenir pictures were taken. It was a wonderfully positive experience for everyone.

We are keeping Bill Hayes in our prayers for improved health and send our love and best wishes to the choir and other members of the congregation that we always consider our NC family. I pray that you stay safe and well.

Sincerely,

Victoria Wheeler
Victoria Wheeler



Needed:
A volunteer to
re-stain the
benches in the
Columbarium.
Call Dave Meador
at 919-735-2316 or
Liz at 919-223-4014
to text or call.

VOLUNTEER

Thank you to all who participated in any way during the Lenten Series with Holy Innocents and The Episcopal Churches of Goldsboro. Some more photos below to enjoy.





The weather was just perfect for our Stations of the Cross.



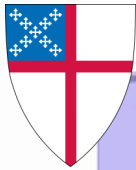
**Thank you
Altar Guild
for all you do
behind the
scenes.
Everything
looked beau-
tiful Easter
Day!**





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~ The Franciscans — May 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,

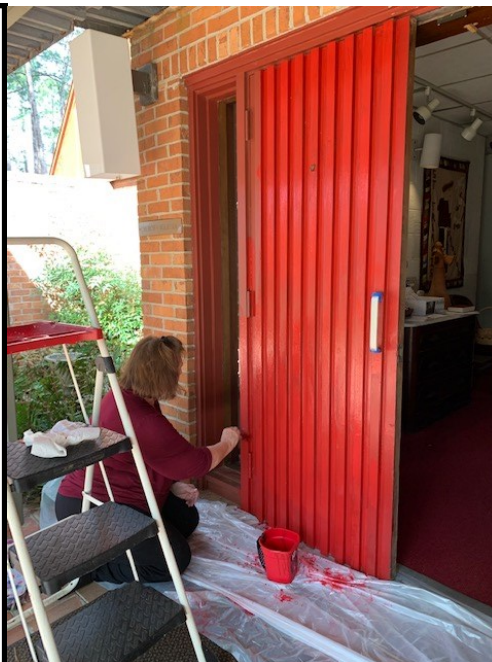
Parish Administrator

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Terrye refreshes the paint job on the sanctuary doors in time for Easter, a job she did 20 years ago, too. Thank you Terrye!



Ashley tries out the new swing seat of two the junior warden replaced!

