



The Franciscans

September 2021

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

Scrolling through social media the other day, I saw this passage from C.S. Lewis quoted below a picture of a daddy and daughter dancing in a living room without a care in the world, other than the joy of the other person with them.

In one way we think a great deal too much of the atomic bomb. "How are we to live in an atomic age?" I am tempted to reply: "Why, as you would have lived in the sixteenth century when the plague visited London almost every year, or as you would have lived in a Viking age when raiders from Scandinavia might land and cut your throat any night; or indeed, as you are already living in an age of cancer, an age of syphilis, an age of paralysis, an age of air raids, an age of railway accidents, an age of motor accidents."

In other words, do not let us begin by exaggerating the novelty of our situation. Believe me, dear sir or madam, you and all whom you love were already sentenced to death before the atomic bomb was invented: and quite a high percentage of us were going to die in unpleasant ways. We had, indeed, one very great advantage over our ancestors—



anesthetics; but we have that still. It is perfectly ridiculous to go about whimpering and drawing long faces because the scientists have added one more chance of painful and premature death to a world which already bristled with such chances and in which death itself was not a chance at all, but a certainty.

This is the first point to be made: and the first action to be taken is to pull ourselves together. If we are all going to be destroyed by an atomic bomb, let that bomb when it comes find us doing sensible and human things—praying, working, teaching, reading, listening to music, bathing the children, playing tennis, chatting to our friends over a pint and a game of darts—not huddled together like frightened sheep and thinking about bombs. They may break our bodies (a microbe can do that), but they need not dominate our minds.

— C.S. Lewis, "On Living in an Atomic Age" (1948) in *Present Concerns: Journalistic Essay*

When we entered 2021, there certainly was a lot more hope and optimism for the future. And while we have enjoyed some of the benefits with the new vaccine, we have also felt the pain of increased case numbers, hospitalizations, and death, not to mention the continued political divide and divisive actions in our schools, our political arenas, and our everyday interactions with fellow passersby. Compound that with the pain, chaos, and destruction we see happening in Afghanistan as the Taliban works to take back control, or in Haiti as an already struggling country is literally torn apart by a massive earthquake, or in the North West United States as we are beginning to witness the true devastation of our global warming crisis. While it all can seem like too much to bear, C.S. Lewis' words remind me that we have but one life to live and one life to share.

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Knowing the works of this Christian Apologetic, I think it fair to assume that Lewis was not suggesting that we throw caution to the wind and forget we are living in the time of a pandemic, or in the age of global warming, or even in a world of violence. Instead, he suggests that we remember Jesus' call at the feeding of the 5,000, "you give them something to eat" (Mark 6:37). As Christians we celebrate, remember, and are invited to participate everyday in the Body of Christ. And as we come to the table to receive Christ's flesh and take on that flesh and share it with others through our actions of love and kindness and witness it in the world all around us, that reflects the light and love of Christ. While we cannot deny these are trying and anxiety-producing times, we can still find ways of "doing sensible and human things -- praying, working, teaching, reading, listening to music, bathing the children, playing tennis, and chatting to our friends over a pint and a game of darts."



I pray you are partaking in those things now. And I look forward to continue partaking in them with you as we continue being the Body of Christ together at St. Francis, in our Episcopal Churches of Goldsboro Community, and in our world. There is no way to predict what the next half of 2021 will hold for us, as a world, nation, or church community. But I am confident, as we continue to support one another, to share loving kindness in the world, and reflect the light of Christ all around us, that it will be one worth protecting, worth savoring, and worth sharing.

+Kate





September 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 9:00am Lectio Divina	2	3	4
5 PENTECOST 15 10:00am Holy Eucharist Social Hour	6  OFFICE CLOSED	7 Office Open 9am-3pm	8 9:00am Lectio Divina	9	10	11
12 PENTECOST 16 10:00am Holy Eucharist Social Hour ECW meeting	13 Office Open 9am-3pm	14 Office Open 9am-3pm	15 9:00am Lectio Divina Newsletter 	16	17	18
19 PENTECOST 17 10:00am Morning Prayer Social Hour <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;">St. Francis FUNDRAISER @ Texas Roadhouse</div>	20 Office Open 9am-3pm	21 Office Open 9am-3pm	22 9:00am Lectio Divina	23	24	25
26 PENTECOST 18 10:00am Holy Eucharist Social Hour Vestry Meeting 	27 Office Open 9am-3pm	28 Office Open 9am-3pm	29 9:00am Lectio Divina	30		

Lay Server Schedule Sept 2021	Sept 5 <i>Rev. Kate Byrd</i> Holy Eucharist	Sept 12 <i>Rev. Kate Byrd</i> Holy Eucharist	Sept 19 <i>Morning Prayer</i>	Sept 26 <i>Rev. Kate Byrd</i> Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am
WORSHIP LEADER	TBD	TBD	Don Skinner	TBD
SERMON READER	N/A	N/A	Diana Hammond	N/A
LECTORS	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
USHER	John Koegel	John Koegel	John Koegel	John Koegel
ALTAR GUILD	Judy Moye Jackie Gurley	Judy Moye Jackie Gurley	Judy Moye Jackie Gurley	Judy Moye Jackie Gurley
FLOWER GUILD	David Powell	David Powell	David Powell	David Powell
TELLERS	George Moye Barbara Pedersen	George Moye Barbara Pedersen	George Moye Barbara Pedersen	George Moye Barbara Pedersen
SOCIAL HOUR	Jill and Roger Brogneaux	Jill and Roger Brogneaux	Jill and Roger Brogneaux	Jill and Roger Brogneaux

September



- 1.....Don Skinner
- 2.....Brandon Robbins
- 6.....Tom Phinizy
- 15.....Bill Hayes
- 28.....Karen Shoemake

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

Vestry

2021
Barbara Pedersen
(Bookkeeper)

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

Change of Address: The Byrd Family
712 S Vermont Street
Smithfield, NC 27577

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

FOCUS ON THE ST. FRANCIS GARDEN

Even though you have read about the Garden at St. Francis in the December 2020 *Franciscan*, we want to focus on it again this month as one of the beautiful features of the St. Francis property and to appeal for a Garden Committee to volunteer for regular maintenance of this valuable resource. We had such a committee in the past, and we need one again. Volunteers need have no previous gardening experience. We can even use an app on our phones to determine what is an unwanted weed and what isn't!

The Garden began in 1978 as a memorial to Tom Norwood's wife Margaret after her death in 1970. Tom, an experienced gardener, planned the Garden in the shape of the Episcopal shield, with quadrants reflecting red, white, and blue (purple) flowering plants, 25 plants in each quadrant. He bordered the Garden with boxwoods, had several concrete benches installed, and used finely ground limestone rock in the walkways.

Uses of the Garden

We have used the Garden for Stations of the Cross, for Palm Sunday processions, and for placement of the Columbarium. The Garden makes a peaceful meditation and prayer area. Deer are familiar with the Garden, too.

Updates on the Care and Maintenance

Thanks to a generous benefactor, the Garden saw a much-needed reinvention last year. Overgrown and weedy, the Garden needed a make-over, one which the Vestry approved under the direction of Debbie and Stan Stedner with some advice from Dave Meador, retired forester. We employed Crumpler's Lawncare and Landscaping to achieve the heavy work: cutting down trees, removing dead boxwoods and other worn-out vegetation, and generally stripping the area before re-planting new boxwoods and other plants.

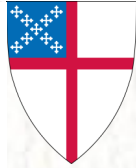
Last Saturday, five volunteers worked in the yard and Garden: Al Elmore cleared pinecones from the yard, John Koegel used the weed eater and hedge trimmer to clear areas in the Garden, Dave Meador sprayed weed growths in the walkways, Gerald Herring leveled the gravel walkways, and Liz used the blower and mowed the grassy area in front of the Columbarium. Thanks to Stan Stedner, past Junior Warden, we have three Kobalt yard tools—a weeder, trimmer, and blower—all battery-operated, all efficient and easy to use. Liz uses a small reel mower for the small areas difficult for our yard man, Brian Tart, to access with his large mower.

We owe a great thanks to Brian for his hard work at low cost to us. A deputy with the Wayne County Sheriff's Department as his full-time work, Brian has a mission to mow for churches and private citizens. We appreciate all he does to keep our grounds neat and tidy. Please contact Junior Warden Liz Meador if you can devote time to our Garden. Her email is lizmeador@earthlink.net, landline is 919-735-2316, and cell, 919-223-4014.



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503 Forest Hill Drive
P. O. Box 11406
Goldsboro, NC 27532



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~ The Franciscans — September 2021 ~

Thanks to Al, John, Gerald, and Dave for their fine work in some hot weather! (August 14 Clean-up)



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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

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