



The Franciscans

November 2020

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

Recently I have been hearing the term “new normal” a lot. And, it has made me wonder: Is this really the new normal? Physically distancing ourselves from one another? Having to navigate public interactions with the fear of being infected, or even worse, of infecting someone else? Not knowing when we will gather as a community again? Or, when we will see one another’s faces (below what has been concealed by our masks)? Or, even when we will be able to feel the embrace of our loved ones and friends? These unknowns beg the question: Is this really the new normal, or is it just the new for now?

My hope, prayer, and belief is that this is just our new reality for right now. As humans we were made for connection, so nothing about how we are living in this moment is normal, which probably accounts for why it is so difficult. In navigating this new season of our lives, I am reminded of the famous passage from Ecclesiastes 3:1: “for everything there is a season.” This passage, known as wisdom literature, speaks to the ebb and flow of life. While the way we are living at this moment is far from any sense of normal we have ever known before, it is far from new. Pandemics have come and gone for as long as germs and host bodies have inhabited the earth. And, while the Coronavirus is novel to our time, history has shown us that pandemics are not, and, moreover, neither are humans' responses to them. As we begin entering the potential second wave, there is a weariness that comes with it. During the Spanish Influenza, the most severe pandemic in modern history, the second wave was the deadliest, for the mere fact that the pain of separation was too much to bear any longer. And, there is no denying that our separation is painful, and it has been long. We (or at least I) are growing weary of having to live into this new reality.

Many of us, myself included, are experiencing quarantine fatigue, growing more and more impatient and tired by this “new normal”. But, as Ecclesiastes reminds us, it is just a season. It will not last forever. And, the more we live into our call to love our neighbor as ourselves, by wearing our masks, washing our hands, and keeping social distance, the sooner we can return to “normal” (whatever that may mean). I long for the day when we can share in the full communion, sing at the top of our lungs, and embrace one another. And, while that season will return, it is not yet that time, and so we will refrain from embracing (for now).

As I said earlier, humans are made for connection, so we at St. Francis will continue to find new creative and safe ways to connect to each other. This October we began hosting Outdoor Evening Prayer, Faith & Fellowship, and even a Drive Through Pet Blessing. As we continue living into this new time, we will keep looking for ways and opportunities to connect to God and one another, so stay tuned! And, until the day we return to a sense of “normalcy,” keep the faith, stay safe, and know I am here if you need me, kate@stfrancisgoldsboro.org, (703) 582-2997.

Until soon, blessings, peace, and love,

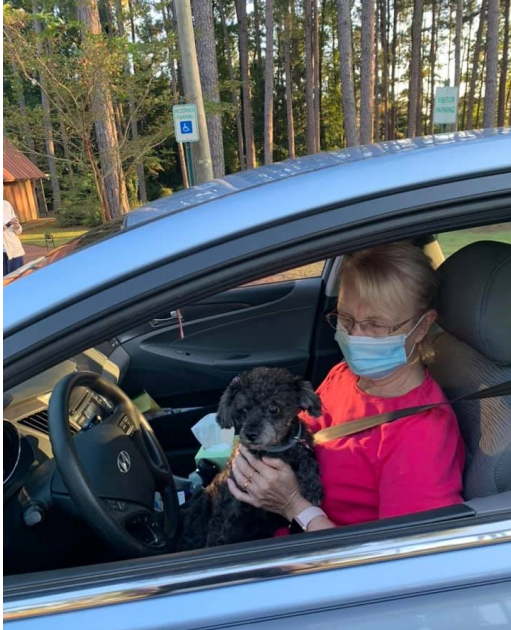
The Rev. Kate Byrd





PET BLESSING

Enjoy the photos from October 7.
Thank you to all photographers!





November 2020

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|--|---|--------|--|
| <p>1</p>  <p>10:00am-MP (Zoom) Rev. Kate Byrd</p>  | <p>2</p> <p>Office Open 9am-3pm</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer</p> | <p>3</p> <p>Office Open 9am-3pm</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer</p> | <p>4</p> <p>OPEN SANCTUARY PRAYER 10:30am-2:30pm</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer Socially Distanced Pastoral Care 1:30-3:30pm</p> | <p>5</p> <p>ALL THURSDAY activities moved to Wednesday this week only!</p> | 6 | 7 |
| <p>8</p> <p>23 PENTECOST (Proper 27) 10:00am-MP (Zoom) Rev. Kate Byrd</p> <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px;"> <p>St. Francis FUNDRAISER @ Texas Roadhouse</p> </div> | <p>9</p> <p>Office Open 9am-3pm</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer</p> | <p>10</p> <p>Office Open 9am-3pm</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer</p> | <p>11</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer 1:30pm—FAITH and FELLOWSHIP ZOOM **Outdoor Evening Prayer</p> | <p>12</p> <p>OPEN SANCTUARY PRAYER 10:30am-2:30pm</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer Socially Distanced Pastoral Care 1:30-3:30pm</p> | 13 | <p>14</p> <p>10am-FAITH and FELLOWSHIP (socially-distanced at St. Francis)</p> |
| <p>15</p> <p>24 PENTECOST (Proper 28) 10:00am-MP (Zoom)</p> <p>NEWSLETTER</p>  | <p>16</p> <p>Office Open 9am-3pm</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer</p> | <p>17</p> <p>Office Open 9am-3pm</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer</p> | <p>18</p> <p>Rev. Kate in office</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer</p> | <p>19</p> <p>OPEN SANCTUARY PRAYER 10:30am-2:30pm</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer Socially Distanced Pastoral Care 1:30-3:30pm</p> | 20 | 21 |
| <p>22</p> <p>LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: CHRIST THE KING (Proper 29) 10:00am-MP (Zoom) Rev. Kate Byrd</p> | <p>23</p> <p>Office Open 9am-3pm</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer</p> | <p>24</p> <p>Office Open 9am-3pm</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer</p> | <p>25</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer</p> <p>**Outdoor Evening Prayer</p> | <p>26</p>  <p>HAPPY THANKSGIVING!</p> | 27 | 28 |
| <p>29</p> <p>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 10:00am-MP (Zoom)</p> | <p>30</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>FACEBOOK Noonday Prayer</p> | | | | | |

MP = Morning Prayer

there is ALWAYS something to BE GRATEFUL for



- 2.....Katherine Phinizy
 3.....Roger Brogneaux
 6.....Charlotte Campbell
 10.....Jesse Dodson
 15.....Garrett Faust
 16.....Peggy Helms
 17.....Betsy Powell
 19.....Sharon Shepard

November

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

The Franciscans

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.**

Vestry

2020

Elaine Elmore
 Diana Hammond
 (Senior Warden)
 Stan Stedner
 (Junior Warden)

2021

Barbara Pedersen
 (Bookkeeper)
 Kimberly Stedner-Clayton

2022

Liz Meador
 George Moye

Al Elmore, Treasurer
 Shelley Mills, Clerk

Priest-in-Charge

The Rev. Kate Byrd



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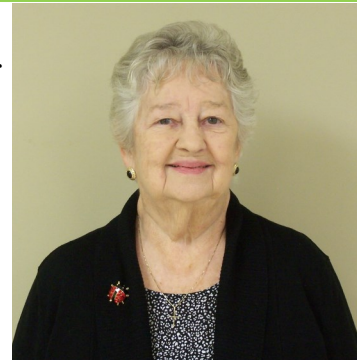
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FOCUS ON A FRANCISCAN

Born at home in Goldsboro on Simmons Street near the “Big Ditch,” Betsy Powell learned about hard work from her mother who had a contract with the Base to sell sandwiches. She had one sister who died young. In high school, Betsy was an athlete, something she had in common with her tennis playing husband Paul whom she grew up with because their parents were friends and neighbors.



Betsy Powell

Betsy’s grandfather influenced her church life when she was a young girl as they attended First Baptist Church and other churches. After graduation from Goldsboro High School, Betsy went to nursing school in Kinston. Eventually she spent 18 years at Wayne Memorial Hospital, one year teaching at Wayne Community College, a year at Britthaven (now Brookdale), two years at a hospice company, and more years with Wilson Mental Health.

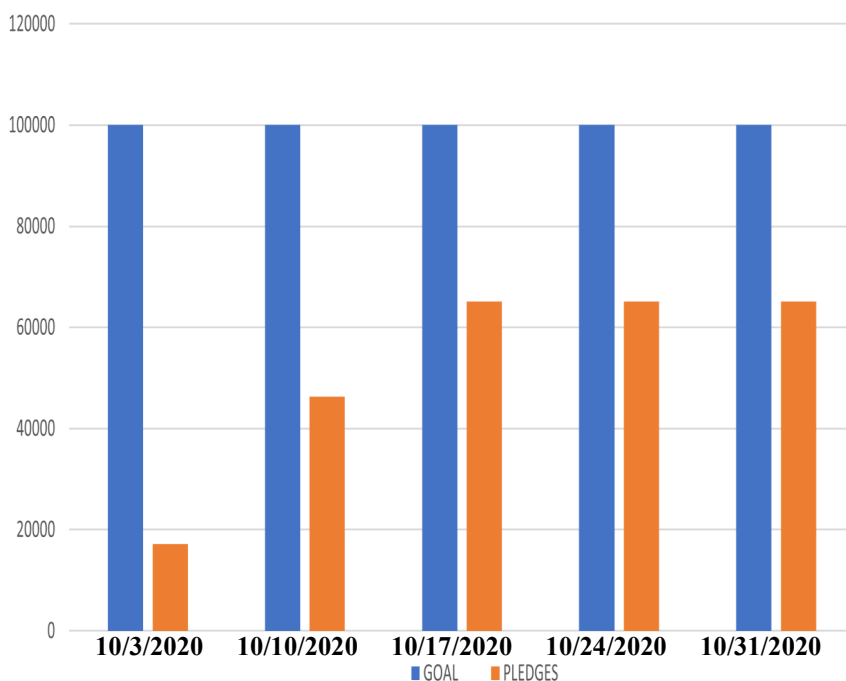
Marrying her childhood friend Paul in 1960, after graduation from nursing school, she and Paul welcomed son Trey in 1964 and younger son David in 1972. Trey is a manager at Marshall’s in Raleigh while David, who began his career as a graphic artist, teaches fourth grade at Carver Elementary in Mount Olive. David sings tenor in the choir and takes care of the artwork and decoration of the grounds and sanctuary.

Betsy and Paul joined St. Francis in 1972. Paul worked for Dewey Brothers and the National Guard for 42 years before his retirement. He died in 2012.

Retired for 19 years, Betsy spends time with Josie, her part-rat terrier-corgi-rescue from Diamonds in the Rough, and with her sons. She enjoys puzzles and watching TV, though vision difficulties limit her reading at present. We appreciate Betsy’s participation in the Episcopal Church Women, with the Altar Guild, and with other aspects of church life.



2021 FAITH-FILLED GENEROSITY



With \$65,130 pledged and 11 days to go we are \$34,870 away from our \$100,000 pledge goal. You can make your pledge online, email it to the office, mail it in or call one of our co-chairs, Roger Brogneaux or Liz Meador.



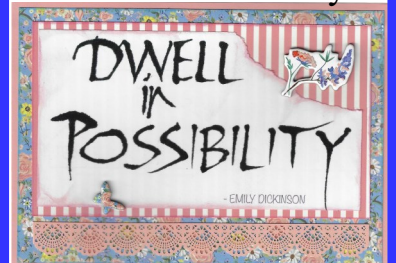
**October 14
Evening Prayer
moved to the
parking lot!
Join us for our
October 28
Outdoor Evening
Prayer at
6:30pm.**



We recently spent two nights at Trinity Center and were thrilled to be back in the peaceful surroundings. Our room was equipped with a small refrigerator and a Keurig



From the Mailbox: Look at this beautiful handmade card Patti Donnelly sent to express her feeling about our 10AM Morning Prayer on ZOOM each Sunday!



*I have so enjoyed the Sunday zoom services
Patti*



coffee maker. We took cereal to eat breakfast in or



near our room and Trinity Center staff gave

us a list of restaurants for take-out or outdoor seating.

If you have been to Trinity Center you know that the setting is wooded (take bug spray!) and the beach is delightful, especially in October. We were able to take a good walk along the shore and the dunes. They are working to rebuild the dunes which take a beating with every storm.

Call Jill at 919.920.9973 if you would like more information.

*Handmade
with
love
Patti*



Hi! I am Crissie Lewis, and I have been asked to serve on our upcoming Vestry. This has been a crazy time for all of us, with Covid and quarantining. Additionally, over the last 16 months, major foot surgeries have slowed me down considerably, so, for those I have not met, here is a bit about me.

My family moved to Goldsboro in 1981, and we found our church home at St Francis. I became involved in EYC and served as an acolyte. I attended Happening in East Carolina, a diocese-wide event for youth. I have taught Sunday School and have been an EYC leader. I became involved with Christmas in the Forest, eventually chairing the event its last several years. I have been an active member of the ECW, serving as President and in other offices. I

have served on the Vestry twice. During my first term, we were in the process of acquiring a new priest, and in the second term, we were looking for a Priest-in-Charge. During the second term I served both as Jr. Warden and Sr. Warden. Additionally, I wrote the Diocesan grant for the sidewalk to the garden and was happy to see it to fruition.

I am currently on the Worship Committee and am the scheduler for lay service persons.

I am very excited about continuing my service to St Francis and the opportunity to serve on the Vestry.

Debra Miller Stedner—I was born and raised in Ellenville, NY. A cradle Episcopalian, I attended St John's Episcopal Church. I married Stan Stedner in 1971 at St John's. I was a stay-at-home mom until our two girls (Kimberly & Stefanie) were out of high school. I worked part time at retail, also as a CNA at Northwestern Community Hospital Chicago. Stan and I returned to North Carolina in 1996 where I started working with children as a substitute teacher. I am currently a substitute teacher for Lenoir and Greene counties.



I have been involved in Episcopal Churches wherever we moved, including Ellenville, NY; Ona, WV; Rochester, NY; Syracuse, NY; Walden, NY; Smithfield, NC; Goldsboro, NC; Atlanta, GA; and Chicago, IL.

We chose to move back to Goldsboro in 1996 as Stan and I both felt this is where we belong and could make a difference. We love the people at St Francis, and we love small churches. It just felt like home.

I have been involved with the children's programs at every church we attended. I was also involved with many different women, social and fund-raising programs. My involvement includes Lay Eucharistic Visitation, Sunday School (English & Spanish), Lector, Sub Deacon, World Without Hate, ECW (President and Vice President), and Christmas in the Forest.

We have niches in the St Francis columbarium. This is our forever home.

I believe I can use my experience to be an asset to the St Francis vestry.

Dave Meador has been a member of St. Francis since 1975 during which time he has served on the Vestry as both Senior and Junior Warden multiple times.

As an Air force veteran, Dave has an empathy with and interest in the service persons at SJAFB. As a professional forester, having retired from the Forest Management Technology program at Wayne Community College, Dave has been a go-to person for tree and grounds related issues at St. Francis. Dave was involved in the planning and construction of the Columbarium. He has served as a Eucharistic Visitor in the past and as a lector now.



Dave has sung in the choir for nearly 20 years. He shares with many parishioners a concern over diminishing numbers at St. Francis, especially young people. He looks forward to serving on the Vestry again as St. Francis considers its future in the Episcopal community.



**THANKS
GIVING**

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A look inside...

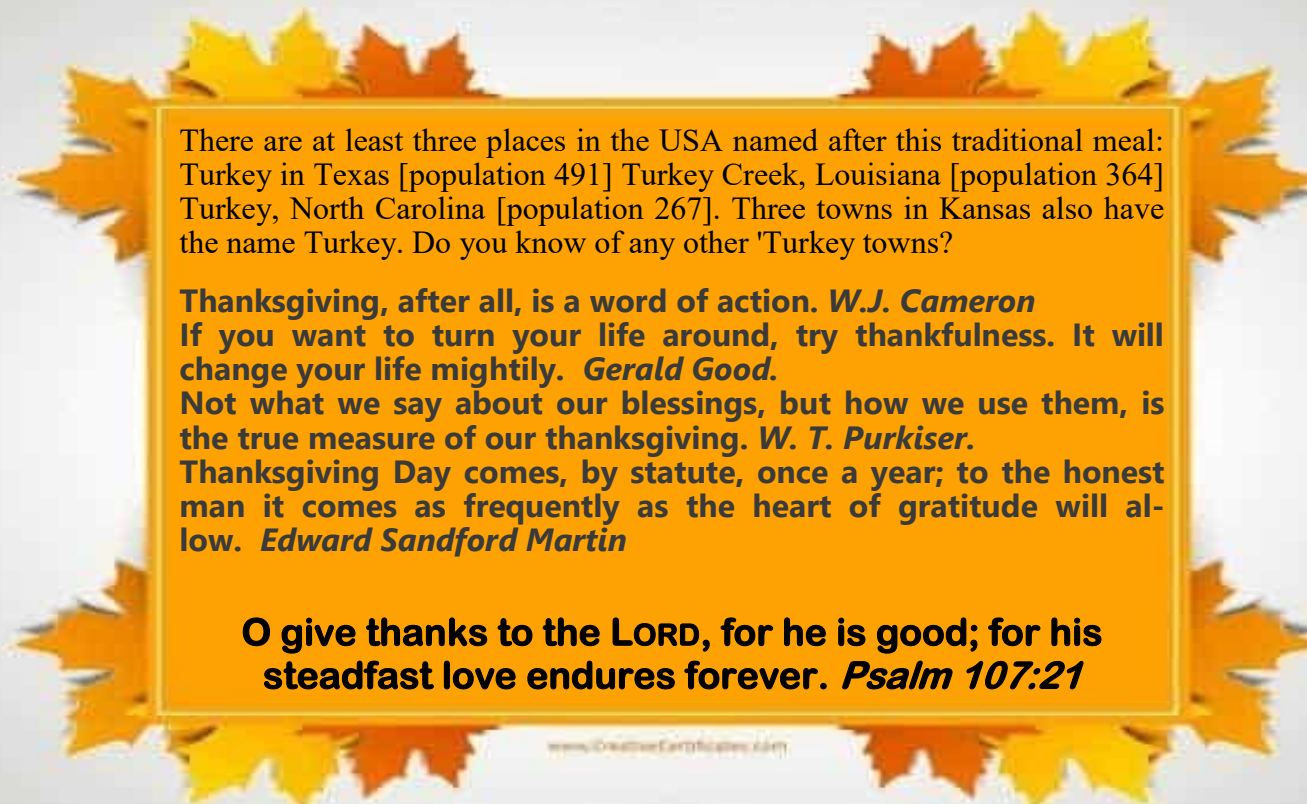
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|--|-------------|
| A Time for Everything..... | pg 1 |
| Drive-thru Pet Blessing photos..... | pg 2 |
| November Calendar..... | pg 3 |
| November birthdays..... | pg 4 |
| Pledge Update..... | pg 5 |
| Visit the Trinity Center..... | pg 6 |
| Vestry Nominees..... | pg 7 |
| Happy Thanksgiving..... | pg 8 |

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~ **The Franciscans — November 2020** ~

8



There are at least three places in the USA named after this traditional meal: Turkey in Texas [population 491] Turkey Creek, Louisiana [population 364] Turkey, North Carolina [population 267]. Three towns in Kansas also have the name Turkey. Do you know of any other 'Turkey towns'?

Thanksgiving, after all, is a word of action. *W.J. Cameron*

If you want to turn your life around, try thankfulness. It will change your life mightily. *Gerald Good.*

Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving. *W. T. Purkiser.*

Thanksgiving Day comes, by statute, once a year; to the honest man it comes as frequently as the heart of gratitude will allow. *Edward Sandford Martin*

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. *Psalm 107:21*

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