

The Franciscans

December 2022

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On November 20th, I was, for the first time, blessed to be able to celebrate Holy Eucharist. This is one of the most essential aspects of fulfilling my vocation as a priest. The Eucharist is one of the most visible of our Sacraments, and it will be for us as it is celebrated every Sunday. We should be rejoicing in our newfound regularity of the ability to share in the Blessed Sacrament. Not that our worship of God by the participation in the Daily Office was lacking, but in the Eucharist, we experience Christ, at least in my faith, physically.

In the Eucharist, we proclaim that we are joining with the great hosts of Heaven and with all believers in the worship of God and sharing Christ's Body and Blood with all. It is a physical manifestation of Jesus alive and present in our world. I believe with our having had to go for some time without the Blessed Sacrament; that this is a time for us to truly appreciate the gravity of what Jesus allows us to participate in. In the Holy Eucharist Jesus Christ not only continues His earthly ministry but empowers us to share in it. G.K Chesterton, one of my favorite theologians, wrote: " If I am to answer the question, 'How would Christ solve modern problems if He were on earth today', I must answer it plainly; and for those of my faith, there is only one answer. Christ is on earth today, alive on a thousand altars; and He does solve people's problems exactly as He did when He was on earth in the more ordinary sense. That is, He solves the problems of the limited number of people who choose of their own free will to listen to Him."

It is through the Eucharist that we are brought by Christ's sacrifice and love of us to join in the great worship and praise of God. In the Eucharist, we are given the strength to continue in the work Jesus has called us to do. It is in the Eucharist that our Savior is with us and continues to teach and love us. So let us rejoice that we can now participate in this great Sacrament regularly. Let it be a blessing to all of us that we never take for granted.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Whit Stroud

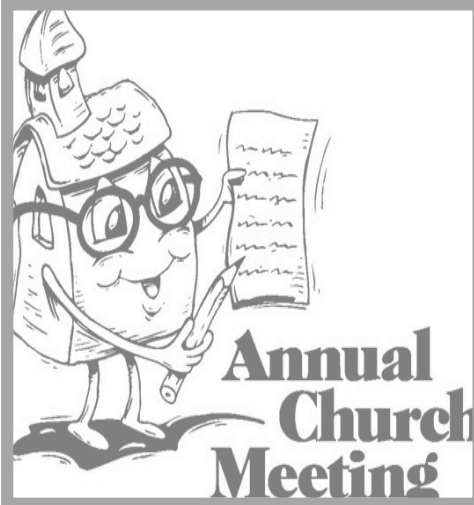


Saturday, December 3, 9am

Lend a Helping Hand Church WORK DAY



Before our Advanced Care Planning Workshop on Saturday, December 10, we need to take care of the following things: 1. Pick up pinecones. 2. Clear away dead foliage in the garden. 3. Trim any hedges in need. 4. Other.



**November 20th
Annual Parish
Meeting Results:
Thank you to Barbara
Pederson and Lamar
Aycock who agreed to
serve as our
Vestry Class of 2025.
Thank you also to
Liz Meador and
Barbara Pederson who
agreed to serve as our
delegates to the 2023
Diocesan Convention.**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
I want to thank all the people of St. Francis for their work, presence, and prayers leading up to and on the day of my ordination to the priesthood. I know an immense amount of work went into making sure the service and the reception went well. That work could not have gone any better; the service was beautiful and went off without a flaw. I would especially like to thank George for being one of my presenters, Dave for reading, Jane for being the cantor, and Barrett and Diana for serving around the altar. The reception had wonderful food and a great time for rejoicing and fellowship. I would like to especially thank Paula Wills, Liz Meador, and Jackie Gurley for serving on the ordination committee alongside the members of Holy Innocents. Thank you to the entire parish for the beautiful gift of the St. Francis pendant; it is a wonderful and thoughtful gift which I am especially grateful to have to mark such an important day in my life. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I am so grateful to be called as your priest.
















Yours in Christ,
Whit Stroud



Thank You!

December 2022



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm 	2	3 
4 2nd Sunday of Advent 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour	5 Office Open 9am-3pm	6 Office Open 9am-3pm	7 10-11am  6pm Advent Series St. Andrew's Episcopal Church	8 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm 	9	10 FREE Advance Care Planning Workshop ALL AGES WELCOME! LUNCH PROVIDED! Hear from experts, complete your own Advance Care documents (Health Care Power of Attorney, Living Will), and learn how you can own your health by planning for care in advance. 
11 3rd Sunday of Advent 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour	12 Fr. Whit in office (Beverly away)	13 Office Open 9am-3pm	14 10-11am  6pm Advent Series Holy Innocents Episcopal Church	15 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm  	16	17
18 4th Sunday of Advent 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour ECW 	19 Office Open 9am-3pm	20 Office Open 9am-3pm 7pm 	21 10-11am  6pm Advent Series St. Stephen's Episcopal Church	22 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm 	23	24 5:30pm Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist and Candlelight Service
25 Christmas Day 9am Holy Eucharist Coffee/Social Hour	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27 Office Open 9am-3pm (Fr. Whit away)	28 10-11am 	29 4:30pm Choir 6-7pm 	30	31 9:30am St. Francis at Soup Kitchen 

Lay Server Schedule December 2022	December 4 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	December 11 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	December 18 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud	December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY Holy Eucharist Father Whit Stroud
	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am
CRUCIFER	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond	Barrett Rae/Diana Hammond
LECTORS	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
USHERS	John Koegel Dave Meador	John Koegel Dave Meador	John Koegel Dave Meador	John Koegel Dave Meador
ALTAR GUILD	Patti Donnelly Jill Brogneaux	Patti Donnelly Jill Brogneaux	Patti Donnelly Jill Brogneaux	Patti Donnelly Jill Brogneaux
FLOWER GUILD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
TELLERS	Liz Meador Patti Donnelly	Liz Meador Patti Donnelly	Liz Meador Patti Donnelly	Liz Meador Patti Donnelly
SOCIAL HOUR	George and Judy Moye	Dave and Liz Meador	Dave and Liz Meador	Dave and Liz Meador

December



5.....Tony Baker
31.....Al Elmore

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!**

St. Francis has received an anonymous grant from The Collins "Great Outdoors" Fund of the Community Foundation of the Dan River Region. This \$1200.00 grant will assist with the maintenance of the St. Francis Church Garden so all who visit will continue to enjoy the beauty of God's creation. We are so grateful for this anonymous grant from The Collins "Great Outdoors" Fund.

Vestry

2022
Liz Meador (Junior Warden)
George Moye (Senior Warden)

2023
Debbie Stedner
Dave Meador
Brandon Robbins


2024
Jill Brogneaux
Patti Donnelly

Al Elmore, Treasurer
Paula Wills, Clerk
Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Whit Stroud



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@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.**



St. Francis Parish Retreat 2022 Trinity Center



**Save the Dates:
2023 Parish Retreat
October 6-8
2024 Parish Retreat
September 20-22**

ADVENT SERIES: THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Gathering

Wednesday, November 30, 6pm

St. Francis Episcopal Church

503 Forest Hill Drive

Goldsboro, NC 27530

Worship/Supper/Program

Liturgy of The Word

Wednesday, December 7, 6pm

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

901 Harris Street

Goldsboro, NC 27530

Worship/Supper/Program

Liturgy of The Table

Wednesday, December 14, 6pm

Holy Innocents Episcopal Church

6861 NC Highway 55 W.

Seven Springs, NC 28578

Worship/Supper/Program

The Going Out

Wednesday, December 21, 6pm

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

200 N James St

Goldsboro, NC 27530

Worship/Supper/Program



We rejoiced Sunday, November 20, as Father Whit was able to celebrate his first Holy Eucharist with us since being ordained to the Priesthood, Wednesday, November 16!

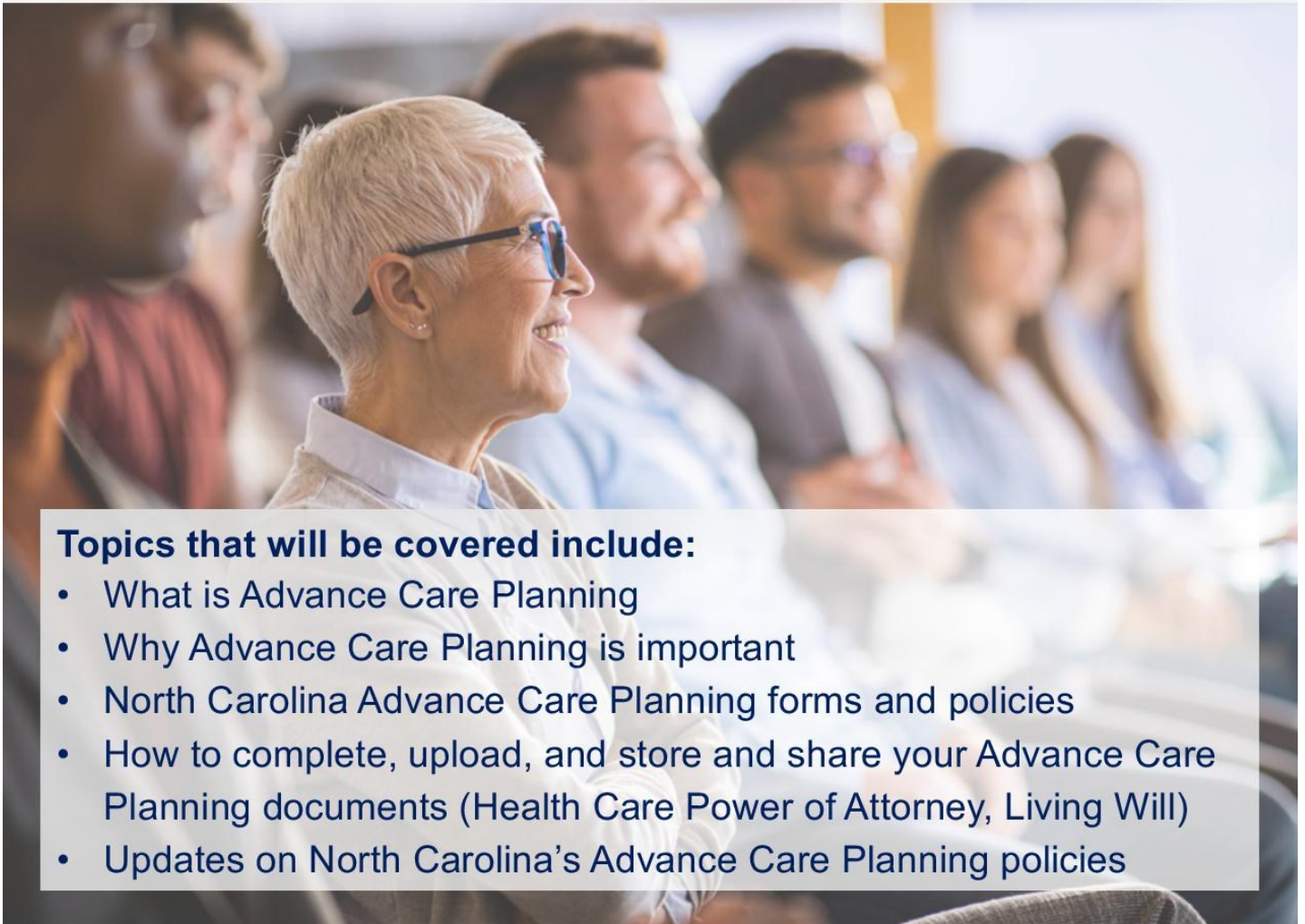
Many thanks to Norma Powell for the gift of the beautiful altar flowers.



FREE Advance Care Planning Workshop

ALL AGES WELCOME! LUNCH PROVIDED!

Hear from experts, complete your own Advance Care documents (Health Care Power of Attorney, Living Will), and learn how you can own your health by planning for care in advance.



Topics that will be covered include:

- What is Advance Care Planning
- Why Advance Care Planning is important
- North Carolina Advance Care Planning forms and policies
- How to complete, upload, and store and share your Advance Care Planning documents (Health Care Power of Attorney, Living Will)
- Updates on North Carolina's Advance Care Planning policies

Date: December 10, 2022, 11:00am–1:00pm

Location: St. Francis Episcopal Church

503 Forest Hill Drive, Goldsboro, NC

All are welcome to attend and encouraged to bring friends and family

For more information & to register, contact Margaret Sharp:

Call 919-921-8626 or email msharp@hshiq.org

Hard copies of Advance Care Planning documents will be available at the workshop

Boxed lunches will be provided



The Ordination of
 Ethan Gerald Whitfield Stroud
 To The Sacred Order of Priests
 in Christ's One, Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church
 November 16, 2022
 Six o'clock in the evening
 Holy Innocents Episcopal Church
 Seven Springs, North Carolina
 The Diocese of East Carolina



**Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist
and Candlelight Service**

5:30 PM

St. Francis Episcopal Church

503 Forest Hill Drive

Goldsboro NC 27530



**CHRISTMAS
DAY**

9:00 AM

Holy Eucharist



A service of

Lessons & Carols

Sunday, January 1, 2023

New Year's Day 9:00 AM

The Franciscans

St. Francis Episcopal Church
503 Forest Hill Drive
P. O. Box 11406
Goldsboro, NC 27532



A Look Inside...

- Page 1...Deacon Whit
- Page 2...Meeting/Workday/Thanks
- Page 3...December Calendar
- Page 4...December Lay Servers/Birthdays
- Page 5...Parish Retreat
- Page 6...Advent Series/Fr. Whit's 1st HE
- Page 7...Advanced Care Planning
- Page 8...Whit's Ordination
- Page 9...Christmas
- Page 10...Poinsettias

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
parish@stfrancisgoldsboro.org
www.stfrancisgoldsboro.org
The Rt. Rev. Rob Skirving,
Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of East Carolina
Deacon Whit Stroud
William Hayes,
Organist/Choirmaster
Beverly Anderson,
Parish Administrator
The Franciscans

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



**Christmas
Poinsettias**
**Deadline
to Order is
December 15.**

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for the church adornment,
please complete this form and turn it in with payment to the church office.
The cost of each poinsettia is \$14.00; please make checks payable to
St. Francis marked Poinsettia!

Your Name: _____

In Memory of: _____

and / or

In Thanksgiving for: _____

Total # ordered: _____

Total Cost: _____

Cash: _____ Check: _____