

# The Franciscans

A Newsletter of St. Francis Episcopal Church

December 2010

## ADVENT - 2010

**ARE YOU READY FOR PEACE? ARE YOU READY FOR LOVE? ARE YOU READY?!**

The Scripture lessons for Advent focus on the second coming of our Lord.

Isaiah envisions reconciled nations coming to the New Jerusalem (Isaiah 3, 35).

Paul stresses that salvation is “near at hand.” That God’s mercy and grace are so close. He calls upon the early Christians to live into Christ’s future kingdom NOW. “Live into that!” They are to live out of hope, not fear.

In Matthew, Jesus calls us not to live as if this is any old day in which we eat, drink, buy and sell (Mt. 24), but to be ready NOW for the coming of His Kingdom of peace and justice. Jesus asks us if we are ready to work for peace - to work for justice - to work for beauty -- to allow grace in our lives.

Yet we often have so much to do, we are anxious about the future, we feel so blessed, yet so empty, our hearts are often heavy with grief, and we walk in darkness. We are not prepared for Christ’s coming.

During this season of Advent, let us pray the prayer of Henri Nouwen,

*Lord Jesus,  
Master of both light and darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas,  
We who have so much to do (may we) seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,  
We who are anxious over many things (may we) look forward to your coming among us,  
We who are blessed in so many ways, (may we) long for the complete joy of your kingdom,  
We whose hearts are heavy, (may we) seek the joy of your presence,  
We (who) are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light,  
To you we say, “Come Lord Jesus!” Amen*

During Advent we light the four candles of hope, faith, love and joy, affirming our openness to Christ’s coming into our lives. These lighted

candles remind us that Jesus is the light of the world that comes into the darkness of our lives to bring newness, life, peace, hope and joy. They also remind us that we are called to be a light to the world as we reflect the light of God’s grace and love to others.

As we light the candles over this 4 week period of Advent, we envision the darkness of fear and hopelessness receding -- we experience the shadows of sin falling away as more and more light is shed into the world. “The flame of each new candle reminds the worshippers that something is happening and that more is yet to come. Finally, the light that has come into the world is plainly visible as the Christ candle is lighted at Christmas, and worshippers rejoice over the fact that the promise of long ago has been realized.” (Dennis Bratcher)

May your Advent and Christmas be filled with many new beginnings, times of new hope, and filled with many blessings.

Fr. Van +

**ADVENT IS A TIME OF PREPARING FOR THE LORD.**

**HOW MIGHT EACH OF US RECEIVE THIS GRACE DURING ADVENT?**

We need to find times and ways to be present to the Lord’s Coming in our lives for there is only one gift at Christmas, the gift of our Lord. “The Father is always willing to give, but it is up to us to unwrap the Father’s gift of Jesus to you.”



**Attend the Wednesday Evening Advent series here at St. Francis December 1, 8 & 15!**



## ECW NEWS

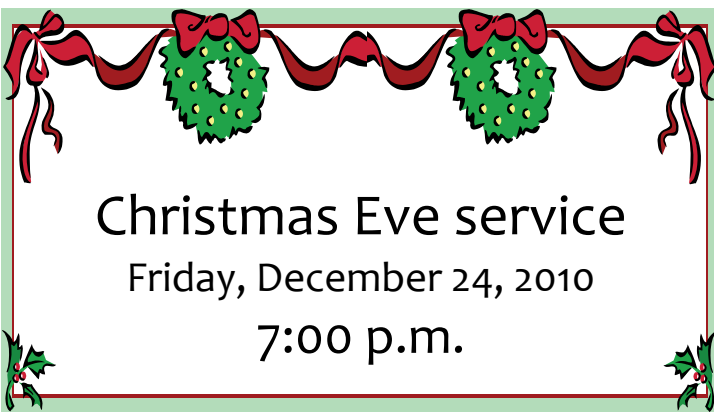
### *The December Women's Book Club Meeting is Postponed until January (date to be announced)*

The Women's Book Club will meet in January (date to be announced). The book is *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel — Enter Thomas Cromwell, a self-made man who ascends to King Henry VIII's right hand. Rigorously forward-thinking, Cromwell has little interest in what motivates his Majesty, and although he makes way for Henry's marriage to the infamous Anne Boleyn, it's the future of a free England that he honors above all else and hopes to secure. Author Mantel admirably fills in the blanks, portraying Cromwell as an oft-beaten son who fled his father's home, fought for the French, studied law and was fluent in French, Latin and Italian. Mixing fiction with fact, Author Mantel captures the atmosphere of the times and brings to life the important players: Henry VIII; his wife, Katherine of Aragon; the bewitching Boleyn sisters; and the difficult Thomas More, who opposes the king. This is a Must Read!!!

Discussion Leader: Liz Meador

If you are new to St Francis and have questions about our very active ECW (Episcopal Church Women) group please let us know! We are involved in service, outreach, fellowship together, prayer and Bible study and welcome all women to join us!

— Jenny Kelly, ECW President



## Christmas Eve service

Friday, December 24, 2010

7:00 p.m.



### *A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR*

The deadline to submit items for the next newsletter is December 10th for the January 2011 issue.

— Corinne Stewart, Parish Administrator

Annual  
Parish Meeting  
Sunday, December 5, 2010  
during 10:30am service  
Lunch following — Please bring a  
covered dish to share!  
Drinks provided.

*Dear St. Francis Family,*

*As you probably already know, I am at home recovering from a broken right ankle and a stress fracture & pulled ligaments in my left ankle which has left me unable to walk.*

*I took a bad fall off a curb when I stepped backward while taking a photo of a beautiful tree on Friday, November 12.*

*Thanks to Chris Cowan and a co-worker of Michael's, I am now able to work and communicate by lap-top from home.*

*Bare with me the next few weeks as I work from home and recuperate from my bed.*

*Thank you for all your good wishes, thoughts, and prayers. Your continued prayers will be greatly appreciated.*

*Corinne*



### *The Franciscans*

**St. Francis Episcopal Church**

(503 Forest Hill Drive)

P.O. Box 11406

Goldsboro, NC 27532

Tel (919) 735-9845, Fax 735-9893

E-mail: [parish@stfrancisgoldsboro.org](mailto:parish@stfrancisgoldsboro.org)

Web Page: [www.stfrancisgoldsboro.org](http://www.stfrancisgoldsboro.org)

The Rt. Rev. Clifton Daniel, III, Bishop  
of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina  
The Rev. Dr. A.O. "Van" Vannorsdall, Priest-in-Charge  
William Hayes, Organist/Choirmaster  
Corinne Stewart, Parish Administrator

*The Franciscans:*

Corinne Stewart, Editor

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

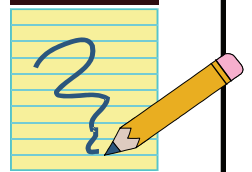


*A Sincere Thank You to all our angels here at St. Francis who donate items to fill our Wish List throughout the year.*

*A special thank you to one very special angel in particular who faithfully fills the Wish List!*

*Your generous support is greatly appreciated!*

## St. Francis' Wish List



1) Paper Towels

**Thank you for your Continued Support!**



## Items of Note



### ADVENT SERIES

Advent Supper series **Wednesdays, December 1, 8, & 15** beginning at 6:30 pm. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. Sign up on Tower in the Parish Hall.

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting on **Sunday, December 5** during the 10:30am service. **Lunch following.** Everyone is asked to bring a Covered Dish to share.

### FRANTASTIX'S PARTY

St. Francis Frantastix's Christmas Party is **Thursday, December 16** at **6:00 PM** at The Merritt's home. See page 6 for additional information.

### POINSETTIAS

The deadline to order Poinsettias to adorn the church for Christmas is **Sun., 12/19.**

### PROJECT CHRIST CHILD

Gifts should be wrapped & returned no later than Sunday morning December 19! THEN everyone is invited to the **Project Christ Child Christmas Party** in the Parish Hall for our Hispanic children that afternoon, **Sunday, Dec. 19** following the 4PM Santa Misa at approximately **5:00 p.m.**

### VESTRY MEETING

The Vestry will meet on **Monday, December 20** at **7:00 PM** in the Library.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Christmas Eve service at St. Francis is **Friday, December 24** at **7:00 PM.**

### NEW YEAR'S EVE

New Year's Eve service and Party **Friday, Dec. 31** at **11:00 p.m.**

**Don't think that love, to be true, has to be extraordinary. What is necessary is to continue to love. How does a lamp burn, if it is not by the continuous feeding of little drops of oil? When there is no oil, there is no light and the bridegroom will say: "I do not know you". Dear friends, what are our drops of oil in our lamps? They are the small things from every day life: the joy, the generosity, the little good things, the humility and the patience. A simple thought for someone else. Our way to be silent, to listen, to forgive, to speak and to act. That are the real drops of oil that make our lamps burn vividly our whole life. Don't look for Jesus far away, He is not there. He is in you, take care of your lamp and you will see Him."**

**– Mother Teresa**



## Christmas Poinsettias

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 \$10.00; please make checks payable to "St. Francis."

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

OR

In Thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

Total # ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash: \_\_\_\_\_ Check: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline to Order is Sunday, December 19th**



**SUNDAY LAY SERVER SCHEDULE**

**DECEMBER 2010**

	<b>December 5</b> Annual Parish Meeting Then—LUNCH	<b>December 12</b>	<b>December 19</b> Deadline to return Christ Child gifts for Party TODAY at 5:00 p.m.!	<b>December 26</b>
	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>
<b>VERGER</b>	Jodi Baker	Chris Cowan	Jodi Baker	Jodi Baker
<b>SUBDEACON</b>	John Pegram	Sarah Merritt	Barrett Parker	Roger Brogneaux
<b>LECTOR</b>	Sharon Sarvey	Rick Coor	Pat Biggers	Susan Moser
<b>CHALICE BEARER</b>	N/A	Debbie Stedner	N/A	Debbie Stedner
<b>CRUCIFER</b>	Jacob Sarvey	Colin Coor	Quincy Cunningham	Jacob Sarvey
<b>TORCH BEARERS</b>	Quincy Cunningham Emily Moser	Mikaela Freeman Lauren Howard	Lauren Howard Jacob Howard	Mikaela Freeman Emily Moser
<b>USHERS</b>	Mitch Baker John Pegram	Mitch Baker John Pegram	Mitch Baker John Pegram	Mitch Baker John Pegram
<b>EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS</b>	Jill Brogneaux Vann Daniel	Karen Witt Dave Meador	Dave Meador Liz Meador	To Be Determined
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Jodi Baker Norma Powell	Jodi Baker Norma Powell	Jodi Baker Norma Powell	Jodi Baker Norma Powell
<b>FLOWER GUILD</b>	Jeannie Siler Charlotte Campbell	Jeannie Siler Charlotte Campbell	Jeannie Siler Charlotte Campbell	Jeannie Siler Charlotte Campbell
<b>TELLERS</b>	Roger Brogneaux Rick Coor	Roger Brogneaux Rick Coor	Roger Brogneaux Rick Coor	Roger Brogneaux Rick Coor
<b>COFFEE HOUR</b>	The Meador's	The Meador's	The Meador's	The Meador's

**If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please find a replacement AND notify the church office.**



**Lay Server Schedule  
CHRISTMAS EVE**



**Friday, December 24, 2010 ~ 7 PM**

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 5 Tony Baker**
- 10 Ruth Kemp  
Steve Gregorcyk**
- 11 Ashley Pedersen**
- 19 Jonathon Cowan**
- 20 John Pegram**
- 21 Max Tapiz**

- 25 Chris Cowan**
- 31 Zeb Jones  
Janette Thode**



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

<b>SUBDEACON</b>	Jodi Baker	<b>BOOK BEARER</b>	Quincy Cunningham
<b>CHALICE BEARER</b>	Nick Cunningham	<b>TORCH BEARERS</b>	Jacob Howard Lauren Howard
<b>CRUCIFER</b>	Jacob Sarvey	<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Jodi Baker Norma Powell

**ADVENT SERIES**

**Wednesdays, DECEMBER 1, 8, 15  
6:30 p.m.**

**Bring a dish to share!**



**Sign up on the Tower in the Parish Hall!**



# Deциembre/December 2010



<i>Domingo</i> Sunday	<i>Lunes</i> Monday	<i>Martes</i> Tuesday	<i>Miércoles</i> Wednesday	<i>Jueves</i> Thursday	<i>Viernes</i> Friday	<i>Sábado</i> Saturday
CE = Christian Education (Sunday School) ALL ages HE = Holy Eucharist (Communion) Service Santa Misa = Spanish Mass			<b>1</b>  6:30 PM Advent Dinner Series	<b>2</b>  5:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 2 Advent NO 8:30 AM  10:30 AM HE w/ Annual Parish Meeting LUNCH after the service! 4 PM Santa Misa	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  6:30 PM Advent Dinner Series	<b>9</b>  5:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> (Franciscans Deadline)	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 3 Advent 8:30 AM HE 9:30 AM CE 10:30 AM HE 4 PM Santa Misa	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  6:30 PM Advent Dinner Series	<b>16</b> 5:45 PM Choir Rehearsal  6:00 PM Frantastix's Christmas Party @ The Merritt's	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 4 Advent Deadline to order Poinsettias 8:30 AM HE 9:30 AM CE 10:30 AM HE 4 PM Santa Misa  5:00 PM Christ Child Christmas Party	<b>20</b>  7:00 PM Vestry Meeting	<b>21</b> (Feast of St. Thomas, the Apostle)  First Day of Winter	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service Christmas Eve	<b>25</b> (Feast of The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ)  Christmas Day
<b>26</b> Christmas I 8:30 AM HE 10:30 AM HE 4 PM Santa Misa	<b>27</b> (Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist)	<b>28</b> (Feast of The Holy Innocents)	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 11:00 PM New Year's Eve Service and Party New Year's Eve	<b>January 1, 2011</b>  New Year's Day

To the Parishioners of St. Francis

Dear Friends

This is a hard letter to write, because I love you all so much and will miss being with you. You are a very special congregation that spreads the love of Christ freely to all. I have been nourished spiritually as well as physically at your table.

However, the time has come for me to move on.

My health has been such that the Bishop, Archdeacon and I decided that it might be wise for me to transfer to St. Andrews.

At St. Andrew's I can help the Rev. Mary Reese in her new ministry and get to know this other dear parish family.

I will be seeing you occasionally and will also hold you in my prayers and heart always.

In Christ's love and mine,  
Gloria Price  
Deacon

## Meditations from the Flower Guild

*Taken from "God in the Garden" by Maureen Gilmer*

Lord, as my life becomes holiday- hectic, remind me that your birthday is to be celebrated not in stores or while battling traffic or by racing around at the last minute. When I forget that your coming is more important than material things, let the scent of evergreens, the vivid red of poinsettias, and the fragrance of the feast continually remind me that your coming is at hand. Amen.

*Meditation:* A great deal of folklore surrounds Christmas night and how all of creation paused at the moment of Jesus' birth. It is said that the cattle fell to their knees, as did the deer in the forest. Bees awoke from their winter sleep to hum a hymn of praise to the Christ child. The birds sang all night, and the lowly sparrow sang in the lilting voice of the nightingale. And all the trees and plants on the banks of River Jordan bowed in reverence toward Bethlehem. The Holy night is one in which we treasure tradition, honor generosity, and remember the most important event in the history of humanity. No wonder all of nature pauses, for we cannot conceive of life without our Lord.



St. Francis FRANTASTIX'S  
CHRISTMAS PARTY  
Thursday, December 16, 2010  
6:00pm

St. Francis Frantastix's  
Annual Christmas Party  
at Sarah & Jeff Merritt's home:  
1501 Evergreen Ave., Goldsboro

Everyone please bring a \$10 gift to exchange

Also, bring an appetizer or dessert  
to share and your favorite beverage.  
(tea and soda will be provided)

We will also be celebrating with  
Catherine & Jason LeChot!  
(They are registered at Babies R Us!)

RSVP by Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>  
Sarah  
skninely\_merritt@hotmail.com,  
735-9192  
or Barrett  
bpt30@aol.com, 751-3928



## ***ST. FRANCIS: GET INVOLVED!!***

<b><i>ACTIVITY — GROUP — MINISTRY</i></b>	<b><i>CONTACT(S)</i></b>
Acolytes (Scheduling)	Jodi Baker 751-1844
Altar Guild	Jill Brogneaux 751-0897
Budget/Finance/Accounting	Katherine Phinizy, Treasurer 736-1080
Building & Grounds	Steve Gregorcyk, Jr. Warden 429-1930
Christian Education	Fr. Van 252-258-2211
Christmas In The Forest 2010 Baking Coordinator	Judy Moye 778-4898
Café Coordinator	To Be Determined
Pantry Coordinator	Charlotte Campbell 735-9090
Vendor Coordinators	Crissie Lewis 734-8866 & Sharon Sarvey 273-3584
Church Choir	Bill Hayes, Organist & Choirmaster 735-9845
Coffee Hour Volunteer (Scheduling)	Whitney Jansta 317-331-7592
Columbarium	Liz Meador 735-2316
Communication Commission	Liz Meador 735-2316
Deanery Representatives	Fr. Van 252-258-2211
Episcopal Church Women (ECW)	President: Jen Kelly Co-Vice Presidents: Crissie Lewis & Brenda Coor Secretary: Nina Silverthorne      Treasurer: Karen Witt
Eucharistic Visitors Coordinator	Dave Meador 735-2316
Flower Guild	Jeannie Siler 778-2107
<i>The Franciscans</i> , Newsletter	Corinne Stewart/Parish Office 735-9845
Frantastix's (20's, 30's, & 40's Social Group)	Barrett Parker 751-3928 or Sarah Merritt 735-9192
Garden	Sandy Siler 778-2107
Hospitality—Parish Socials/Picnics	Whitney Jansta 317-331-7592
Lay Pastoral Care Ministry	Fr. Van 252-258-2211
Lectors, Subdeacons, Vergers (Scheduling)	Jodi Baker 751-1844
Media Coordinator	Liz Meador 735-2316
Outreach Commission	Harriet Pegram 658-8762
Parish Membership, Baptism, Confirmation	Fr. Van 252-258-2211
Prayer Chain	Kitty Boseman 734-5934
Project Christ Child	Walker Campbell 735-9090
Soup Kitchen (Contact at St. Francis)	Eldica Cyrus 751-1964
Stewardship 2011 Chairperson	Rick Coor 778-0210
United Thank Offering (UTO) Coordinator	Betsy Powell 778-2774
Ushers (Scheduling)	Mitch Baker 920-1975
Youth Group-EYC (Middle School & High School)	Catherine LeChot 739-0150

# The Franciscans

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

## Of Current Interest . . .



Christ Child

Christmas Party

December 19 ~ 5:00 PM

Christmas Eve Service

December 24 ~ 7 PM



New Year's Eve

Service and Party

December 31 ~ 11 PM

### *Mission Statement*

**St. Francis Episcopal Church:**

*As a Christian community, we seek to share the Gospel by welcoming all people, nurturing them through Word and Sacrament, and equipping God's people to serve others in Christ's name.*

Dec. 1, 8, 15

Advent Dinner Series

6:30 PM

Dec. 5

Annual Parish Meeting

@ 10:30 service

LUNCH following

Dec. 16

Frantastix's Christmas

Party 6 PM @ Merritt's

Dec. 19

Poinsettia Deadline



### **2010 Vestry:**

Roger Brogneaux, Sr. Warden

Steve Gregorcyk, Jr. Warden

Norma Powell, Clerk

Rick Coor

Chris Cowan

Jim Howard

Jenny Kelly

Catherine LeChot

Liz Meador

(Katherine Phinizy, Treasurer)