



The Song of Saint Francis



Saint Francis by the Sea Episcopal Church, Salter Path, NC July, 2024

Parish Office Hours:

Tues-Thurs: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.



Weekly Activities

Prayer Shawl-Wed, 10 a.m.

Celtic Eucharist Service-Wed, noon

"Be Still and Know" Prayer Group-

Tues, 10 a.m.

Other Activities

*Tues, July 2, July 16, July 30

11:00 a.m.-Meals on Wheels Cook
Dates

*Wed, July 17, 10:30 a.m.-Poetry
Class

*Sat, July 20, 8:00 a.m.-Men of St.
Francis Fellowship Breakfast

*Tues, July 30, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Blood Drive



Song of St Francis July 2024

A "St. Francis moment," I have been told, is a glitch or a blooper or a blunder during the Sunday worship service that anyone at anytime might make and then with great relief realize, that in the bigger scheme of things, is no big deal.

But last month I learned of another kind of St. Francis moment when I heard about the delay in removing a tree on the property in deference to a nest of titmice.

The story I heard from Scott Shelton, junior warden, was that just before the tree was to come down, one last run up the tree for a safety check of the lines revealed a hole in the trunk high up and a nest in that hole which contained four hungry recently hatched baby birds. A quick scan of the area around the tree located the mother titmouse waiting nearby with a mouth full of food for her babies. The crew was tremendously relieved to see the mother return to the chicks as soon as the coast was clear. She did not abandon the nest.



Work on the tree was immediately halted and postponed until the titmice were fledged and had flown away, which I was told last week, it appeared they had done.

Such respect for the life around us is befitting a parish named for the great saint beloved among people of many religions and no religion, across the world for his gratitude for and delight in God's creation. It was St. Francis, the legend has it, who first insisted that the natural world be represented at the crèche portraying the nativity of the baby Jesus; and so we put the animals around the manger at Christmas time.

It is to the natural world I turn when I feel the need to regroup and ground myself once again in what really matters. And what really matters includes responsible stewardship of Creation.

In the little things we do to care for the diversity of life on earth, we sow the seeds of compassion that bear a great harvest in the lives of all who love God.

Mary+



Vestry View
July 2024

Dear SFBTS Friends,

Have you heard of glimmers?

A "glimmer" is a term used to describe small moments or experiences that bring a sense of joy, peace, or connection. These positive, fleeting instances can uplift our mood and provide a sense of well-being. Unlike triggers, which often evoke negative emotions, glimmers are gentle reminders of goodness in the world around us. I believe that Jesus Christ sprinkles glimmers along our path to remind us that he is working with us and for us in every moment.

I see glimmers at SFBTS on a regular basis. Some glimmers are silly, some are sweet, some relate to honoring our planet or providing much needed food to the hungry...here are few of my glimmers:



When I look down and see Elizabeth Sheeks in Episcopal flip flops.

I was visiting with Ann Grigg, and she said boldly, "The Men's group is really crushing it!"

During the peace at a service, when everyone continues roaming around and sharing peace, and Chris Carlin has to go, "Whoo Hooo, lets get back together." Can you hear her?

I look up at everyone walking up for communion and see Stover and Marion Morris holding hands on the way. Makes me smile every time.

When Deacon Robin and many others load and push a very full cart of book bags or food items for a blessing prior to distribution.

A new overflowing recycle bin.

The childlike playfulness of both Robin and Mary when they get to ring the bell ten times!

When I walk the Labyrinth in the sunshine all by myself.

The sound of every song and every instrument by our Choir and Craig, and especially my favorite, The Prayer of St. Francis.

When there are deviled eggs at coffee hour!

Thank you for reading my glimmers. What SFBTS glimmers do you see?

Wishing you a few glimmers everyday.

Dr. Sharon Birmingham





Parishioners of St. Francis,

We had our annual audit of Parish Financial Systems for 2023 on June 8th. Here are some of the auditor's comments:

Financial statements accurately represent the financial position of the Congregation for the year.

Financial systems and controls are in exceptionally good order and transactions are well documented.

Lay leadership is actively involved in financial review and decision making.

This visit included extensive discussions with the Parish Administrator, as well as the Sr Warden and Treasurer, and I continue to be impressed with the level of attention to detail and thoroughness of the Staff and Lay Leaders, as well as the Financial Control Systems.

A huge thank you to Ann Grigg, our Parish Administrator, and Dave Phillips, our Treasurer, for exemplary work. It is a comfort to know the gifts of our members are so well managed.

Stover Morris

Sr. Warden



Towel and Basin

By Deacon Robin

July brings all kinds of summer fun as we celebrate Independence Day, enjoy the beach, and spend some quality time in the porch swing. But that doesn't mean that outreach efforts at St. Francis by the Sea are in a summer slump; there are plenty of ways for you to participate in activities in July.

The Meals Ministry Team will convene three times in July to cook for Meals on Wheels and parishioners with special needs. On July 2, we will prepare baked pasta, green beans, and dessert. On July 16, we will make chicken broccoli cheese casserole with dessert, and on July 30 (by special request!) we will make summer chili with corn muffins and dessert. There are at least four ways for you to support this ministry: provide ingredients by signing up on the sheets located on the MMT table in the parish hall, join us to cook any of these days at 11:00 AM, write a check to the church and designate it for Meals Ministry, and/or pray for us as we **serve the hungry in our community.**



We have created bags with coloring books and crayons to engage our young visitors on Sunday mornings, and they are located next to the visitors' book. *We are grateful to Pat Jones, who donated crayons and pencils*

from the Teddy Bear Nursery School she used to own. Thank you, Pat! On the very first Sunday these were available, we had three youngsters who were so happy to have them. If you see a family with young children, feel free to offer them bags. **Thank you for welcoming others to worship with us.**

At Martha's Mission, the need is especially high in the summer, since children are out of school. Items we especially need include pasta, pasta sauces, dried beans corn, jelly, Ricearoni or Knorr-type side dishes, Hamburger Helper, and hygiene items - soap, shampoo, disposable razors. You can leave these on the MMT table in the parish hall, and I will take them to Martha's Mission. **Thank you for helping families in our community.**



In July, we will begin our healthy snack collection to support Carteret Preschool. Many of the children served at Carteret Preschool are NC PreK students. NC PreK is a needs based program for four year-olds who meet one or more of the following risk factors:

Income at or below 75% of the state median income level

Identified developmental disability

Limited English proficiency (LEP)

An educational need indicated from an approved developmental screening or an existing Individualized Education Plan (IEP)

A chronic health condition as indicated by the diagnosis from a professional health care provider

Children who are the dependent of a member of the United States Armed Forces, that was on active duty within the past 18 months, injured while serving, or killed while serving

At this link, you can learn more about Carteret Preschool:
<https://carteretcountycpc.ss19.sharpschool.com/>

Snacks needed at the preschool:

Goldfish

Cheez-its

Whales

Mandarin orange cups

Nabs (especially the Ritz ones and the Captain Wafer kind)

Vanilla Wafers

Go gurts

Pretzels

Animal crackers

Graham crackers

Popcorn

Chocolate chip chewy granola bars

Small bottles of water

Fruit and gummy snacks

Uncrustables (will keep in freezer)

Saltine crackers

Small cans of ginger ale (for when students are nauseated)



If you would like for me to shop for you, designate a check made to St. Francis as "Preschool," or contact me at sfbtsdeacon@gmail.com . **Thank you for serving needy children in our community.**

We would welcome you to become part of the grocery recovery team. Team members pick up donations weekly at area grocery stores and deliver them to Martha's Mission in Morehead City. You need a roomy vehicle and a couple of hours one morning a week, and we could use some additional substitute drivers as well as permanent ones. Let me know if this is a ministry you could undertake. It's a great way to **feed the hungry**.



From DoK:

The Daughters of the King explore different prayer pathways to God. Last month, we learned how to make Anglican prayer beads. Although there is no one right way to use the sets of beads, we talked about various ways that people have used these prayer “aids” over the years. Personally, being very tactile, I like the way the beads feel in my hands. They help me stay focused. Each bead represents a person or a thing for which I am praying. The Daughters look forward to offering a prayer beads workshop with parishioners in the fall. Look for information as we get closer to the date.

We are also bonding together as a chapter through a book study this summer. We are reading and discussing “Blessed are the Women: Naming and Reclaiming Women’s Stories from the Gospels” written by Claire McKeever-Burgett.

We are grateful to have been able to contribute the contents for ten school backpacks as part of outreach to the Farmworkers’ ministry. We also created notecards as part of the goody bag contents distributed to sisters attending the Louisville Triennial Convention. In keeping with the convention theme “A New Day Dawns,” each notecard featured a photograph of Easter sunrise over the ocean.

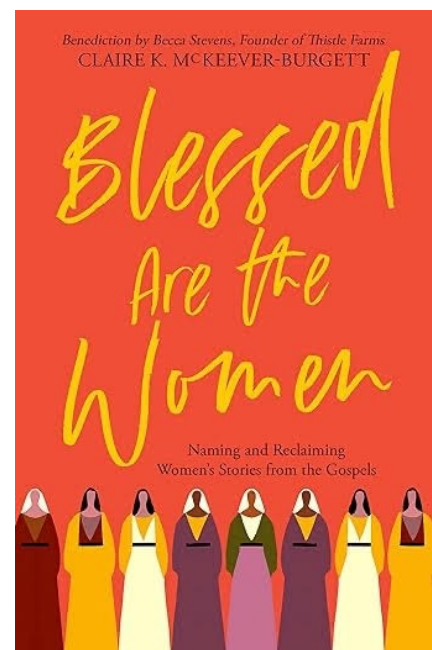
Sounds like we have been busy, doesn’t it? Yes, but we are never too busy to pray for you and those you hold in your heart. Please fill out a prayer request card and drop it in the box in the sanctuary or reach out to any of the women listed below. All requests are held in confidence, and it is an honor to be asked to pray for you.

Sincerely,
Barb McCreary

Lisa Park	Robin Smith
Beth Parker	Jerry Rita Brunton
Grace Kemp	Kay Brackins
Pam Ball	Laura Leslie
Marion Morris	Carol Holland
Linda Keeter	Joan Gracie
Rosemary Unger	Marion Youngblood
Susan Johnson	

Barbara McCreary

“At the end of the game, the king and the pawn go back in the same box.” -John Boys, 1629



Would you happen to know about the Men of St. Francis by the Sea? We do more than get together for our monthly breakfast meetings; we also do volunteer work, such as the recent painting of the Staff Bungalow at Trinity Center Beach House property.

Joey Mossor, Scott Shelton, Kim Bruce, and Kelly Sheeks finished cutting down a dead tree in the small garden in our parking lot. The tree had been home to a bird's nest, and we waited until Momma Bird and her offspring had left their hole in the tree home before the final cutting of the chainsaw.

If you would like to join us, we meet on the third Saturday of each month at 8 am at St. Francis for a breakfast meal and a short program.



Sunday School: June 30 is the last day of Sunday School. There will be no Sunday School for the remainder of the summer.



The 2024 Camp Trinity Staff showing their appreciation for our Camp Trinity Sunday donations.



Deacon Robin and Terry Smith delivered 10 book bags filled with school supplies provided by the St. Francis Daughters of the King. These books go to children served by the Farmworkers' Ministry, a ministry offered by the Diocese of East Carolina located in Dunn, NC. Thank you, DOK!



Don't Forget about our THIRD Blood Drive!

We have already scheduled a third drive here at the church – on **Tuesday, July 30 from 10AM-3PM**, and we will again be reaching out for volunteers soon. The online link below is live and ready for you to schedule your appointment, and we already have eight donors signed up for this upcoming drive!! Book now to give you the best chance of getting the appointment time you wish. You may also schedule by phone at **1-800 RED CROSS**. Please share this link with your friends and encourage them to also donate at our blood drive on July 30.

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?dt=WB:PL:DR:PM&ed=07%2F30%2F2024&order=DATE&range=50&sd=07%2F30%2F2024&zipSponsor=28557>

Thanks for your donation on July 30! See you there!



Lay Ministry Schedule

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	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28
Lector	Beth Beswick	Sharon Eck Birmingham	Joey Mossor	Terry Smith
Prayers	Beverly Davison	Lisa Park	Mollie Mossor	Romaine Riddle
Altar Guild	Betsy Randall	Gay Lea	Frances Jenkins	Carol Holland
Chalice	Kelly Sheeks Elizabeth Sheeks	Sarah Criddle Martha Edwards	Libba Shelton Scott Shelton	Marian Goetzinger Marion Morris
Crucifer	Marian Goetzinger	Terry Smith	Tim Owens	Dale Elks
Torch Bearer	Scott Shelton Sarah Criddle	Larry Castle Tim Owens	Liam Mossor Kay Brackins	Bill Blanchard Sarah Criddle
Audio	Larry Castle	Stover Morris	Stover Morris	Larry Castle
Video	Skip Kemp	John Clarke	Skip Kemp	John Clarke
Coffee Hour	Stover/Marion Morris	Jay/Betsy Randall	Marian Goetzinger	Frances Jenkins
Vestry of the Day	Terry Smith	Elizabeth Sheeks	Scott Shelton	Stover Morris



July Birthdays

11



Judi Matzke – 2
Jeanie White – 5
Betty Watson – 6
Larry Castle–7
Beth Beswick–9
Logan Whitehurst–10
Vicki Blanchard–13

Amy Hahn–19
Skip Kemp–23
Stover Morris – 23
Trish Randall–26
Clark Edwards-29
Sharon Watling – 30

* If you don't see your name above and would like to be added to our birthday list, please email or call the church office.

Art and Music Ministries



Our choir rehearses each Wednesday, from 4:30-5:30 p.m., and again on Sundays, at 9:15 a.m. prior to the beginning of our 10 a.m. Worship Service. We are always looking for additional choir members. Please join us at any time with no musical audition. All are welcome!





St. Francis by the Sea Episcopal Church
920 Salter Path Road
Salter Path, NC 28512

First Class Mail

Worship Service begins at 10 a.m. , casual dress welcome

Sunday school for ages 6-12 begins at 9:45 a.m. June 30 is the last day of Sunday School for the summer.

Nursery is not available at this time.

If unable to attend, please visit <https://stfrancisbythesea.org/live> at 10 a.m. to view our worship service online or visit our website at www.stfrancisbythesea.org for additional information and viewing options.

St. Francis by the Sea Episcopal Church is a parish in the Diocese of East Carolina
The Right Reverend Robert Skirving, Bishop

Interim Supply Priest

The Rev. Mary Ogus

Priest in Residence

The Rev. Chris Carlin

Deacon

The Rev. Deacon Robin Smith

Vergers

Tim Bradford, Marion Morris

Parish Administrator

Ann Grigg

Treasurer

Dave Phillips

Sexton

George Grigg

Vestry Class of 2024

Stover Morris, Senior Warden

Elizabeth Sheeks

Scott Shelton, Junior Warden

Vestry Class of 2025

Kay Brackins

Dale Elks

Pat Jones

Vestry Class of 2026

Pam Ball

Sharon Birmingham

Terry Smith

Clerk of the Vestry

Korin Gagnon

Music Director

Craig Everett

Art Gallery Director

Tim Bradford

Communications

Penn Perry



The Song of St. Francis is a monthly publication of
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