

NOVEMBER 2023

Franciscan a monthly publication of St. Francis Episcopal Church



To the St Francis Episcopal Church Family,

St. Francis is our home, a loving community to which we return throughout our lifetime, if not every Sunday. Christian stewardship calls us to return to God what belongs to God – return our time, talent and treasure to the place where you know God’s work is being done, where God’s love is returned to God and our neighbor. “Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.” 1 Chronicles 29:14

St. Francis parishioners work in many ways to provide needed services to our parish and to our community. Week in and week out our Worship Ministers coordinate with our Organists to plan our weekly church and healing services. Altar guild members work behind the scenes to keep our altar appropriately adorned. Parish members donate food and their time setting up our coffee hour socials after Sunday services. Our volunteers and staff have supported our ongoing pastoral care activities visiting our elderly members, donating to our food drives and elementary school supply drives. Other volunteers have donated their time and energy maintaining our building and grounds. Our newest parish family are coordinating the upgrade of our webcast video equipment enabling St. Francis to maintain broadcasting of our weekly Eucharistic and Healing services on the internet. Our Vestry members give of their time to support and oversee our church operations. St. Francis Church has been there in the past and with your continued support will work to be good stewards today and in the future.

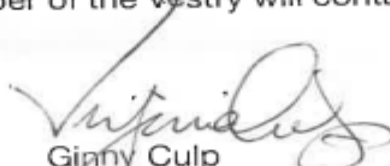
Your past financial support has been crucial to the work of our church. Now, as we begin this year’s Annual Pledge campaign, we hope we can count on you again. Please prayerfully consider increasing your annual pledge. Your increased support will allow us to continue to sustain and grow our ministries, extend our reach and share God’s love with even more people.

Please join the Vestry, staff and the stewardship team in making a commitment to sustaining our beloved St. Francis Church! Thank you for your consideration of a gift and many thanks for those who have demonstrated such amazing generosity.

A pledge card for the 2024 Annual Pledge Campaign is available in the bulletin and on the table in the narthex. We ask that you return your pledge card on All Saints Sunday (November 5th) by placing it in the offering plate. If you are unable to attend, please mail it back to our church prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. For any questions you might have, please call the Church Office and a member of the Vestry will contact you.

In Christ,


Tom Phillips
Sr. Warden


Ginny Culp
Stewardship & Vestry

Jacqui Parker
Jr. Warden



“A Publication of St. Francis Episcopal Church—“Proclaiming the Good News in word and deed.”

NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Morning Prayer Service 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am	2 Alanon 7:00 pm	3	4
5 Sunday School 10:30 am All Saints Sunday Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am	6	7 Election Day Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm	8 Morning Prayer Service 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am	9 Alanon 7:00 pm	10	11 DSO Convention in Portsmouth 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
12 Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am Veterans Celebration Potluck Sunday	13	14 Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm	15 Morning Prayer Service 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am	16 Alanon 7:00 pm	17	18
19 Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am	20	21 Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm	22 Morning Prayer Service 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am	23 Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26 Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am	27	28 Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm	29 Morning Prayer Service 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am	30 Alanon 7:00 pm		

Supply Clergy

St. Francis would like to welcome and thank the DSO Supply Clergy who will generously celebrate worship with us in the month of October.

November 5th the Supply Clergy is the Rev. Dick Swan.

November 12th the Supply Clergy is the Rev. Elaine Silverstrim.

November 19th the Supply Clergy is the Rev. Emmanuel Tuyishime.

November 26th there is no Supply Clergy.

If you have any question, please feel free to contact anyone on the Vestry or the office at 937-748-2592 or parishsec@saintfran.org.

"Sometimes God brings times of transition to create transformation." Lynn Cowell



On Sunday, November 5

at 2:00 am, our clocks

will go back an hour.

Don't forget so you can be

at church on time.

Have a very Happy
Thanksgiving everyone!
Don't forget that the office
will be closed on Thursday,
November 23 in celebration
of Thanksgiving Day.

~ Alisha Minamyler,
Parish Secretary

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Joe Spangler on November 1

Lisa Spangler on November 19

John Emerson on November 26

Allison Ferriell on November 29



If your name does not appear on our birthday or anniversary list, please contact the church office.

November 12th

Church Potluck



*Second
Sunday
of every
Month
during
Fellowship
Coffee
Hour*

*Bring a dish to share
with others!*



St. Francis Episcopal Church of Springboro Ohio

Join us
for

TOY DRIVE



Collecting till
December
10th

PLEASE BRING A NEW
UNWRAPPED GIFT

FLOC CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS
**BRINGING
SMILES for the
HOLIDAYS**

TOY'S WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON DECEMBER 22ND

TOY DONATION CENTER LOCATION
**FOR LOVE OF CHILDREN (FLOC)
FLOC ON FIVE, DAYTON, OHIO**



2023 St. Francis Outreach Christmas Ministry

Each year For Love of Children, Inc. (FLOC) organizes their annual Christmas For Kids event. This year St. Francis will be collecting toys starting November 5 until December 10.

There will be a few Christmas trees located in the Commons with cards that anyone can take home and find gifts for our local area kids. Please make sure to bring them back unwrapped and place them near or under the trees.

Every donation FLOC receives helps a child that will go without in one way or another. Children attending two local area schools, and those represented through Montgomery County Children's Services are given the chance to have their own presents from Santa with your help. Holiday giving is truly a magical time for children and that's what we hope to provide every year with Christmas for Kids.

Questions: contact Mary Harris at (937-672-7993) or Betsy Hoobler (937-748-1840). Want to give a donation? Please make checks out to FLOC and put them in the alms or give it to Mary Harris.



All Saint's Sunday is on Sunday, November 5.

If you would like loved one's or friend's names to be included on the list of those that have passed away and want them to be read as we celebrate, please contact the church office at (937) 748-2592 or parishsec@saintfran.org.



Veterans Day Celebration



Please join us for a celebration to honor our Veterans in our area on Sunday, November 12. Stay after the service for coffee hour. Please invite all of your Veteran family and friends to this special event! An RSVP is not required, but if possible please call the church at (937) 748-2592 to leave your name.

148th Diocesan Convention

St. Francis will be attending the 149th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio will convene on Saturday, November 11, 2023 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm at the Vern Riffe Center for the Arts at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio.

ANYONE can register to watch via Zoom at www.dsoconvention.org.

Special thanks to Stephan Graham and Allison Ferriell for volunteering to be our delegates that day!



Canterbury Court is having its annual Christmas Cookie Event!

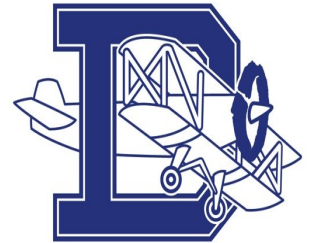
You can help by donating food items that will be delivered on November 16.

Those items include flour, butter flavored Crisco, parchment paper, walnuts, butter cake mix, nutmeg, sugar, brown sugar, almond flavor, vanilla, cherries in heavy syrup, chips, and condensed milk. Any donations will be very much appreciated as we help with our senior community.

If you have any questions, you can contact Mary Harris at 937-672-7993.

Annual Career Day

On Friday, November 17, Dixie High School in New Lebanon will host our annual Career Day. It is from approximately 8:00 am – 11:00 am and speakers meet with small groups of students in five 30-minute sessions.



If you know someone who would be interested in presenting their career to students and answering questions from students in grades 9-12, please send them to Allison Ferriell's contact information and she can give them more details.



We will be decorating cut out Christmas cookies during coffee hour on December 3.

Cookies, frosting and sprinkles supplied.

Join the fun and plan on taking some home to share. Make sure to wear your cookie decorating clothes!



**The Diocese
of Southern Ohio**
Episcopalians in Connection

Diocese of Southern Ohio News
News around the Ohio area

“It’s our connection to God and each other that gives meaning to our lives.”



JOIN US FOR AN ADVENT
WREATH MAKING PARTY!
SAT. DEC. 2
1:00AM-5:00PM
\$10 PER HOUSEHOLD, OR PAY WHAT YOU CAN
HOT CHOCOLATE & S'MORES, TOOLS & CANDLES INCLUDED

**POP-UP
ADVENT**

Find * Make * Pray

Kirk Peterson of The Living Church recently interviewed the Rev. Canon Kristin Uffelman White, who was elected last month to be the Tenth Bishop of Southern Ohio.

Southern Ohio Bishop-Elect's Church Roots Go Deep:
Kristin Uffelman, a future priest, felt her first call to the pulpit at the age of 3.

“My first memory is of being in midnight Mass, with my grandparents and parents at St. John’s Church, in Milwaukie, Oregon,” said the woman now known as the Rev. Kristin Uffelman White. “My grandmother loved to tell the story. And I have pieces of images of it. Somewhere in that liturgy, I got out of the pew and went up to the pulpit while the rector was preaching his midnight Mass sermon. And, and he picked me up and held me for the rest of his time preaching, and then set me back down at the end of the sermon and I went back to the pew.”

This was before everybody had a camera on their cell phone. “There’s no picture of it, unfortunately,” she said. “But I have images of that time, I have images of him and of the candles and the service, and of getting back to my pew.”

Over the next few decades, she developed memories at many other Episcopal churches in at least five states. After nine years in parish ministry in Illinois, she has served since 2018 as canon to the ordinary for congregational development and leadership in the Diocese of Indianapolis.

On September 30, she was elected to be the 10th Bishop of Southern Ohio. Assuming she receives the necessary consents from a majority of diocesan bishops and standing committees, she will be consecrated in Columbus on February 17, 2024.

White and her two younger sisters were all born in Anchorage, Alaska, where her parents lived for nine years during the Alaska Pipeline migration of the 1970s. (The memorable midnight Mass occurred on a Christmas trip home to Milwaukie, a suburb of Portland.) The family moved back to Oregon and eventually settled in Prineville, a town of about 10,000 on the edge of the vast East Oregon desert.

She grew up in St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church of Prineville, where her dad has served as the priest since 1996. It’s a tiny church — pre-pandemic average Sunday attendance of about 20 — but with a long-time loyal membership. When White’s father stood up at announcements earlier this year to say his daughter had been nominated to run for Bishop of Southern Ohio, Mrs. Van Voorhees stood up to say she had been White’s sixth-grade teacher. “And Mrs. Berger stood up and said, she sang in my girls choir in middle school,” White said.

White’s father, Stephen Uffelman, had been ordained at St. Andrew’s, and her parents had both served there as wardens. When Bishop Rustin Kimsey had church visitations in the area, he would stay with them overnight to take the pressure off from the two-hour trip to The Dalles. White remembered the bishop sharing with her about his experience at the Lambeth Conference of 1988, when she was 16 or 17. “That’s the first kind of clear sense that I had a call to the priesthood,” she said.

White paused in her Zoom conversation with TLC to check her text messages, then confirmed that she had gotten permission from Bishop of Eastern Oregon Patrick Bell to preach on October 15, her birthday, at St. Andrew’s. She was visibly moved by the prospect.

Despite the momentum toward ordained ministry throughout her childhood, White first spent nine years teaching high school writing. “And I have experienced that as very preparatory for my work in ministry, in a multitude of ways, both in order to organize thoughts and be clear about the purpose before us,” she said. She started a program where upper-class students would mentor new freshmen throughout the school year — sort of like formation for high school. The experience taught her how to “help lower the threshold to welcome folks in, and help them be incorporated into the life of the body,” she said.

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When asked why she didn't go straight into ministry, she said simply, "I wasn't ready." Fresh out of high school, she discovered a bit of a rebellious streak when she started studying toward an associate's degree at Cottey College in Nevada, Missouri. "My great rebellion was going to be sleeping in on Sunday mornings. And I made it three weeks. And I felt like the liturgy was oxygen," she said. "So the church has just always always been my home."

She and her husband John White met at Western Oregon University, where she obtained a bachelor's degree. She began to feel called to ministry again after the birth of their daughter, Katherine Grace, who was extremely premature — about 27 weeks. Bishop Kimsey visited her in the neonatal intensive care unit. She developed a close circle of friends at St. Timothy's in Salem. One day while attending an ordination, "I couldn't not see it. I had a profound experience of God's presence and call to ordained ministry. And I didn't know how it would work," she said.

The way it worked was, John left a "wonderful job" as local construction coordinator at Habitat for Humanity in August 2006. They sold their house, and "packed up our our 8-year-old and our dog and moved across the country" to what was then Seabury-Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, a northern suburb of Chicago. (John White now works as an electrician, a role that likely will be transportable when the couple moves again, to Cincinnati.)

Kristin White was the student representative to Seabury's board in February 2008 when the board "declared financial exigency and voted to release all professors from tenure," she said. She was able to finish her master of divinity degree on campus, but "it was a it was a time of significant institutional change." Some vestige of Seabury lives on today as part of Bexley Seabury, a "seminary beyond walls" that offers online degrees from the second floor of Chicago Theological Seminary in Chicago.

White has been a strong proponent of the Seattle-based Congress for Congregational Development since she took her first course in 2016. CCD provides a "vocabulary of faith and [provides] leaders both lay and ordained with very practical ways of building the body of Christ."

"And I'm excited about that in the context of southern Ohio," she added, citing "the history that they told in their profile about Bishop Henry Wise Hobson, after the floods in 1937, using the proceeds from the sale of St. Paul's Cathedral to buy an Airstream trailer and travel around the river country and minister to people whose lives have been devastated in the floods." She said it was a story of "a bishop who was with them at a time and in a way that they so needed."

White was elected on the third ballot. The other candidates were:

The Rev. Canon Whitney Rice, canon for evangelism and discipleship development, Diocese of Missouri

The Rev. Dr. José Rodríguez, rector and vicar of the Episcopal Churches of Christ the King and Jesús de Nazaret, Orlando, Florida

The Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, canon to the presiding bishop for evangelism, reconciliation and creation care

The Rev. Dr. Elaine Ellis Thomas, rector of All Saints, Hoboken, New Jersey.

The Diocese of Southern Ohio was established in 1875 in Cincinnati, which was and is home to a candle and soap maker called Procter & Gamble. The diocese shares the state with the Cleveland-based Diocese of Ohio.

Southern Ohio is a midsize diocese that is remarkably affluent, thanks to Jane Procter, wife of the co-founder's grandson, who bequeathed 30,000 shares of P&G stock in 1953. The William Cooper Procter Memorial Fund today is worth about \$68 million, and provides more of the diocese's budget than the assessments on 71 congregations.

Saint Francis Episcopal Church
The Episcopal Church in Springboro
225 N. Main Street, Springboro, OH 45066
(937) 748-2592 *www.saintfran.org*

GATHERING TIMES

Sundays at 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Wednesdays at 9:00 am - Morning Prayer and Healing Service
Wednesdays at 10:30 am - Bible Study

PRAYER NOVEMBER

Father, it is almost time for thanksgiving. Help us to continually show gratitude as we understand everyday is a gift from you. You have gone before us and created today and tomorrow. Help us to release the pain of yesterday, the worries of tomorrows, and keep our focus on the gift of the present. We are grateful for all you have done, do, and will do for us. Amen.

STAFF

Senior Warden - Tom Phillips
Junior Warden - Jacqui Parker
Vestry Clerk - Allison Ferriell
Treasurer - Beth Phillips
Financial Secretary - Sue Starner
Parish Secretary - Alisha Minamyer
Organist - Diana Graham
Sunday School - Jenny Catalan
Vestry Members - Tom Phillips, Jacqui Parker, Allison Ferriell, Beth Phillips, Virginia Culp, and Diana Ledford.

