

SEPTEMBER 2023

Franciscan a monthly publication of *St. Francis Episcopal Church*



Supply Clergy

St. Francis would like to welcome and thank the DSO Supply Clergy who have generously celebrated worship with us these past couple weeks and will be worshipping with us in the future as we transition.

We give special thanks to The Rev. Canon Jason Oden who was our Clergy on August 13 and August 20.

Special thanks to The Rev. Dick Swan for celebrating with us on August 31 and who will worship with us again on September 3.

The Rev. Greg Hinton who will be our Clergy on September 10. We look forward to having him as our guest preacher and celebrant that day.

We are excited about the future and look forward to meeting new Clergy as we determine our path for St. Francis Episcopal Church. 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.

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

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am	4	5 Election Day Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm	6 Morning Prayer Service 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am	7 Alanon 7:30 pm	8	9
10 Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am	11	1 Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm	13 Morning Prayer Service 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am	14 Alanon 7:30 pm	15	16
17 Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am	18	19 Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm	20 Morning Prayer Service 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am	21 Alanon 7:30 pm	22	23
24 Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am	25	26 Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm	27 Morning Prayer Service 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am	28 Alanon 7:30 pm	29	30

September Birthdays

Nancy Glass on September 27



September

Anniversaries

Jeff and Teena Baldrige on Sept. 12

David and Virginia Culp

Morning Prayer and Healing Service

We would like you to join us for our Morning Prayer and Healing Service every Wednesday starting at 9:00 am with Jeff Baldrige as the officiant.

The focus will be: “We seek God through Christ and the Holy Spirit to provide healing and wholeness of life to all those hurting or in need”.

There is a mini booklet that anyone can access on our website at www.saintfran.org.

Parents can use them for their children during Morning Prayer.

You can participate by coming to St. Francis and meet with us in our Sanctuary or by watching us on Facebook. Send any prayer requests to prayer@saintfran.org, we would love to pray for you!

Questions or comments?

Please contact Jeff Baldrige at prayer@saintfran.org.

CHURCH COOKOUT



GRILLMASTER JACK IS AT IT AGAIN!

On Sunday, September 10, Jack will be grilling chicken for a back-to-school Fellowship Coffee Hour.

Many thanks to Jack for the numerous barbeque parties he has hosted.

THE RETURN OF THE POTLUCK

Be ready for Second Sunday Potlucks **STARTING IN OCTOBER.**

Mark the second Sundays on your calendar and bring your favorite dish to share during the Fellowship Coffee Hour.



Fall Rummage Sale

St. Francis would like to hold a Rummage Sale sometime this Fall. If there is enough interest from the Congregation and Community, then we will finalize a date and time for the event. All donations will go to our Outreach Fund.

If you would like to be involved in this Community Outreach or would like to donate any items, please contact Mary Harris at (937) 672-7993 or Allison Ferriell at (937) 430-5201. Please make sure to let Mary and Allison know that you want to be involved, otherwise we won't be able to have this event this year.

ECM Food Insecurity Fund

Join together to support neighbors helping neighbors facing escalating food insecurity

For this month, the Outreach jars will be donated to DSO EMC Food Insecurity Fund. Please look for jars around the church to throw in your loose change. They will be located on the table in the Foyer, near the coffee pots in the kitchen, and on the table during coffee hour.

Hunger is a growing problem in Southern Ohio. More and more people are seeking help from local food ministries as rising inflation and government cutbacks push them into food insecurity. Our local congregations continue to serve with various feeding programs, but they can only do so much as food costs soar, donations shrink, and needs rise. Thanks to two generous gifts of \$10,000 each—one from an anonymous donor and the other from the Bishop's Discretionary Fund—**Episcopal Community Ministries** (ECM) has launched a new **Special Food Insecurity Fund** and opened applications for a new **Special Food Insecurity Grant**.

"We've seen a 45% increase in people requesting food assistance over the past year," said John Mitchell, a board member of the Madison County Food Pantry and member of Trinity, London, who supports the pantry. "Unfortunately that increase shows no sign of lessening. Even with the great support of the community and organizations that we have, it's a struggle for the pantry to stay ahead of the exploding need for basic food items." "Food insecurity is a reality in the city of Athens," said David Burton, a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd. "Pre-pandemic, one could find multiple places to get a hot meal on most days of the week. Now there are fewer places. Our Sharing Cabinet is now one of the few places in Athens where one can get a few items to stave off hunger without judgment. We do this because we believe this is the way we show the love of Christ, by caring for and sharing with our neighbors."

Help ECM fund faith in action!

The need is great, and the generous \$20,000 seed money will go fast. That's where you come in. ECM needs your help to get the word out to parishioners across the diocese that donations are desperately needed.

We know that your parishioners support the outreach ministries of your congregation, and that it may feel odd asking for them to support another. But the beauty of the connectedness that ECM fosters is that small gifts given by many can make an incredible difference to our congregations that are doing heroic work with fewer members and less dollars all across the diocese.

If you have any further questions about the grant or the fund, please contact Andrea Owens, ECM Administrator, at aowens@diosohio.org. Have a food ministry? Apply for a grant at <https://diosohio.org/episcopal-community-ministries-food-insecurity-grant/> by September 15.

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

Meet & greets begin Sept. 11; FAQs now online

The final [slate of nominees](#) to be the Tenth Bishop of Southern Ohio is the Rev. Canon Whitney Rice, the Rev. Dr. José Rodríguez, the Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, the Rev. Dr. Elaine Ellis Thomas, and the Rev. Canon Kristin Uffelman White.

Learn more about the nominees [here](#), or watch the [videos](#) submitted by the nominees to introduce themselves in advance of the [meet-and-greet sessions](#) on our [YouTube channel](#).



[Meet & Greets](#)

From September 11 through 15, the Bishop Transition Committee will hold seven meet-and-greet sessions for the people of the diocese to meet our [bishop nominees](#). Each public meet-and-greet session will also be livestreamed to our [YouTube channel](#) and available on the [diocesan website](#).

[Sign up for childcare](#) during the meet-and-greets **by September 5**.

***New* [Meet & Greet FAQ](#)**

Meet & Greet [FAQs](#) are now available on the [bishop search website](#).

[Ordination](#)

The ordination of the 10th Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Ohio will take place on February 17 in the Short North Ballrooms of the [Greater Columbus Convention Center](#) (GCCC), located at 400 N. High Street in Columbus.

Special Electing Session on September 30 Registration closes Sept. 22



The 149th Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio will be held in two sessions this fall--one in September and the other in November. Clergy and elected lay delegates are expected to participate in both sessions.

The first, a Special Electing Session, will meet in person on **Saturday, September 30** at **Christ Church Cathedral in Cincinnati**. On that day, clergy and lay delegates will elect the **Tenth Bishop of Southern Ohio**.

Registration for the Special Electing Session will close September 22. **Learn more about the Electing Session** at <https://diosohio.org/special-electing-session-of-the-149th-annual-convention/>



Business Session on November 11 Registration opens October 1

The business session of the 149th Convention will be held on **Saturday, November 11** at the **Vern Riffe Center for the Arts** on the campus of **Shawnee State University** in Portsmouth.

During the business session, clergy and lay delegates will elect diocesan commission leadership; consider resolutions and changes to the diocesan constitution and canons; and vote on the 2024 Mission Share budget.

Delegates and clergy may attend the business session either in person or virtually via Zoom. Registration will open on October 1.

Learn more about the Business Session at <https://diosohio.org/business-session-of-the-149th-annual-convention/>

Nominations are now open for diocesan **leadership positions** to be elected at convention. Consider **standing for election** to one of the vital commissions, committees, and task forces that will work with the new bishop to carry out the ministry of the diocese. Nominations are preferred by **September 26**; the absolute deadline is **November 3**.

Resolutions to the 149th Diocesan Convention must be submitted by **September 26**.

Proposed changes to the diocesan **constitution and canons** deadline is **September 11**. **Learn more about proposing changes** at <https://diosohio.org/event/constitution-or-canonical-change-deadline/>

Exhibits

We will offer exhibit space for ministries and vendors at the business session of convention. Registration for exhibits will also open on October 1. **All forms and resources for both sessions of the 149th Convention can be found on the website at diosohio.org/diocesan-convention/.**

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 September

Father, as September marks the end of summer and the beginning of fall, I pray for new opportunities and fresh starts in our lives. Let every ending be a new beginning in Your plan 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.

