“Find the lost; Heal the broken; Celebrate God’s love for all.”
St. Francis of Assisi
Episcopal Church

7555 Ooltewah-Georgetown Road ♦ Ooltewah, TN 37363
(423) 238-7708 ♦ sfaec@comcast.net ♦ www.sfaec.org

Holy Eucharist – Sundays at 8:00 am, 10:00 am & 5:00 pm
Compline (Evening Prayer) - Tuesdays at 7:30 pm
Weekly Bible Study – Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

The Rt. Rev. Brian L. Cole, Bishop of East Tennessee
The Rev. Louisa Parsons, Rector
The Rev. Josh Weaver, Deacon
Melissa Howell, Seminarian
Marie Sugrue, Parish Administrator
Charles Nix, Evening Music Coordinator
Pam Harris, Organist
Rebecca Brewer, Youth Minister
Kirsten Herzog, Children’s Music Ministry
Pam Early, Nursery Minister

Vestry
Lenora Corbin, Clerk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2019</th>
<th>Class of 2020</th>
<th>Class of 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shelia Crane</td>
<td>Elaine Cantelou</td>
<td>Lynn Armstrong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>(423) 364-1509</td>
<td>(423) 313-5247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(423) 309-0761</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamie Hartman</td>
<td>Jane Diamantis</td>
<td>Mike Bowland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(423) 967-1646</td>
<td>(423) 238-4688</td>
<td>Sr. Warden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(423) 322-2629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joan Rose</td>
<td>Ellen Dobbs</td>
<td>Norm Zwitter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jr. Warden</td>
<td>(423) 595-3411</td>
<td>(423) 315-3520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(423) 240-5248</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As the season of Advent begins, we invite you to join us at St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church as we prepare for the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. Come walk Stations of the Nativity Wednesday evenings. Reflect at our Advent Study and Simple Soup Supper Sunday evenings. Watch with joy our Annual Youth and Children’s Nativity Play. These are just a few of our upcoming gatherings as we come together in fellowship and worship. Look inside for all we have to offer these next few weeks and please see p. 15 for a change in our Christmas Eve Services this year.

You can stay up to date with our schedule at St. Francis via our website at www.sfaec.org, our Facebook page, weekly email updates and the sign out front. You can also reach us at sfaec@comcast.net or (423) 238-7708.

The Hoot is published by St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church. If you’d like to make a submission for the next issue, please send it to sfaec@comcast.net.

“Come now, sing with full heart and voice, and to the name of the Lord give praise!”

Ecclesiasticus 39:35
For the first time since 2013, the first Sunday in Advent falls on December 1 this year. This means that we will celebrate the Church’s New Year a full month before the secular New Year. As we prepare for this New Year, the Worship Committee pondered how we might share in a common practice at St. Francis in the first weeks of December. Our Organist, Pam Harris, told us about her preparatory practice of choosing a single word for her focus in the New Year. The word can be whatever one wants to be his or her intention. The first part of this New Year Discipline is narrowing down to one word. The next part is to prayerfully offer that word up to God. This offering of our word will occur over and over again, and as we do, we can reflect on how that word is guiding us, as well as where we might need to apply that word in our lives. In order to give space and time in our worship for reflection on our word and for prayer with God, we will allow times for silence between scripture readings, in our Prayers of the People, and in our preparation for Holy Communion. This is a practice we can all embrace as a New Year Resolution.

Another offering from St. Francis, as we enter this Advent season of preparation and waiting for Christmas, is our suitable-for-coloring Advent Calendar ... “Slow down. Quiet. It’s Advent: Twenty-four Days and Ways to Turn to Jesus.” Filled with activities and reflections for each day of Advent, this calendar invites us to consider, “We tidy up for guests. What needs tidying in your heart to prepare for Jesus?”

Other Advent-focused offerings include our Simple Soup Suppers and Study of A Crazy, Holy Grace taking place Sunday nights at 6 pm November 24 – December 15; Walking the Stations of the Nativity in community Wednesday nights at 6 pm December 4 – January 1; and preparing gift bags for Santas for Seniors with the due date of December 8. Gift bags and gift lists are available in the Narthex with the request to limit the amount spent on filling each bag to $25.
This season of Advent is a wonderful time to be reflective, to be prayerful, and to be listening for the call of God in our lives. As we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child at Christmas, how are we also preparing a place in our hearts to receive this greatest of gifts? As we watch with anticipation the progress of the new building in our church, how are we being called to seek and serve the face of Christ in all persons in this corner of God’s vineyard? May this time of waiting be filled with Holy anticipation, and may we greet the Coming of the Prince of Peace with open hearts, open arms, and open lives.

Lou †

Our Christmas Outreach Project is “Santas for Seniors” again this year. Gift bags and lists are in the Narthex and all gifts should be delivered to St. Francis by December 8. (Please limit spending on each bag to $25.)

Questions? Contact Kathy Landstreet.
Simple Soup Supper & Advent Study
Sundays @ 6:00 pm • Nov. 24 - Dec. 15

A Crazy, Holy Grace
The Healing Power of Pain & Memory

All are welcome to join us for a video discussion based on the book by Frederick Buechner.

If you’d like to volunteer to provide soup or bread for the meal, sign-up in the Narthex or contact us at sfaec@comcast.net.
Come walk the **Stations of the Nativity**

*and experience this special way to prepare for the birth of the Christ Child*

6:00 p.m. every Wednesday
December 4 through January 1

In the Nave at St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church

Prints of **Stations of the Nativity** are available for purchase with proceeds benefiting our Outreach Program. Single prints are $20 each; a complete set of 14 is $250; and the Meditation Book/CD is $50. Order forms can be found in the Narthex.

For more information:
Contact us at 423-238-7708
or sfaec@comcast.net
Men’s Breakfast - Dutch Treat
Thursday, Dec. 19, 8:00 am
Cracker Barrel in Ooltewah

Please sign up in the Narthex.
Questions? Contact Norm at 423-315-3520.

Men’s Breakfast meets the third Thursday each month at Cracker Barrel in Ooltewah.

RU55 Christmas Party
Saturday, December 7, at 5:00 p.m.

Hosted by Irma & Ed Herzog
7854 Trout Lily Drive, Ooltewah, TN 37363

Bring an appetizer or dessert to share as well as your drink of choice. Each person who would like to participate in the gift exchange is asked to bring a wrapped non-gender gift, homemade or store bought, not to exceed $15.

Please sign up in the Narthex.
Questions? Contact Irma at 423-910-1081.
Congratulations to our new Vestry Class:

Deris Bagli
Sandy Moore
Annie Powell

Your Vestry met on November 18th:

We will have our Christmas Eve Services at 4:00 pm and 9:00 pm this year. We will also have a Christmas Day Service at 10:00 am.

Lessons and Carols will be December 29th at all three services: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, and 5:00 pm.

Construction has begun! Work is starting this week on the new parish hall and we’ll see more work on the footing and slab for the extension of the nave in the coming weeks.

As was announced at our Annual Parish Meeting, we have had $872,300 pledged towards our Capital Campaign from 68 pledging units, and roughly $330,000 of that has already been collected.

Our Annual Vestry Retreat is scheduled for January 17th and 18th.
On Monday night, the Vestry meeting was boisterous and filled with laughter. Giddiness kept breaking out even as we seriously dealt with the business before us. One could not help but wonder what our newly elected first time Vestry member and our Seminarian were thinking as hilarity erupted at periodic intervals throughout our one hour and 45 minute meeting.

Reflecting back on the meeting the next day, I began to verbalize what was happening in that raucous meeting: Gratitude. This was a celebration of all the ways in which we are thankful.

Behind this celebration was a sense of how blessed we are at St. Francis, a sense of blessedness heightened by Stewardship Chair Deris Bagli’s sermon on Sunday at all three services. In that sermon, which you can watch on YouTube, Deris enumerated many of the ways our congregation shares their gifts and talents with one another. From the ways we serve within and outside our church walls, to the ways we have worked together to reach the exciting time in which we find ourselves as the new building project is well under way … we have much to celebrate. He also announced that we now have $872,300 pledged to our Forward with Faithful Vision Capital Campaign. With both sincerity and humor, Deris reminded us that our greatest gift is the life we share as members of this part of the Body of Christ. To see Deris’ sermon on YouTube, go to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6mE6dS0s6ac&fbclid=IwAR2Vtp9b7gNoFY2IwCFmhshb2zCOqfehfEjVTXOvJwjqJPpScNQrsA3z5A

At the end of Sunday’s sermon, Pledge Cards for 2020 were handed out with the request that we all try to match what we committed for 2019. More Pledge Cards are available at church. We will be mailing Pledge Cards to those we do not hear from by December 1. Please prayerfully consider your commitment to support the ministry of St. Francis in 2020. And, for all you have done and continue to do: Thank you. We are so grateful for each and every one!
Poinsettias can be purchased for $10  
Starting Dec. 1 thru 22  
Used to decorate the church for Christmas in memory of family members and friends or in thanksgiving for people or events in our lives  

Sign-up and payment can be made in the Narthex or feel free to contact us at sfaec@comcast.net or 238-7708.

Out-to-Lunch Group
Wednesday, December 11 @ 11:30 a.m.
All are invited! Dutch Treat.

Garden Plaza of Greenbriar Cove
4586 Forsythia Way, Ooltewah, TN 37363

Please sign-up in the Narthex by Dec. 9.
Questions? Contact Nancy Socha at 423-910-0558.
December 8, we will gather with other youth from the Chattanooga area at the Church of the Nativity in Fort Oglethorpe for our Christmas ChattEY! This event will be from 4 to 6 pm and will be filled with games, fellowship, worship, and maybe even some s’mores. Tacky Christmas sweaters are encouraged! If you have any questions or would like to carpool, please let me know: becca9628@gmail.com.

Rebecca

Young Adults:

“Vocare” is a form of a Latin word meaning “to call.” The Vocare weekend is a renewal weekend addressed to young adults at a time when they face many serious decisions that set the direction for much of their adult life.

A Vocare weekend is a FREE weekend December 13-15 for young adults in the 20-30 age group, staffed by young adults and a few clergy. This weekend follows a series of talks and discussions to help us grow in awareness of being called by God and to help one another in answering this call.

Besides talks and discussions, we will pray, eat, sing, and play together. There will be time for rest and quiet thinking alone, along with some time for talking with our spiritual directors.

*** THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS DECEMBER 1 ***

Register at https://www.dioet.org/vocare/

If you have questions or would like to support this ministry in any way, contact Rebecca Brewer (becca9628@gmail.com).
Annual Youth and Children Nativity Play  
Sunday December 22 at the 10:00 am Service

Ms. Kirsten is working with the children of St. Francis each Sunday at 9:00 am as we get ready for our Annual Nativity Play. All children ages 3 and up are welcome to join us for this creative and engaging telling of the Wisemen.

A special Dress Rehearsal is scheduled for Saturday, December 21, at 5:00 pm. Dinner provided.
Liturgy begins and ends with the work of the Altar Guild. To care for the sacred vessels, the bread and wine, the fair linens and hangings, and the candles used for worship in the Sanctuary is far more than a task, it is a true ministry.

We are told that all things must be done "properly and in good order." It is the work of the Altar Guild that makes it possible to do so. The contribution of each Altar Guild member is important; together these contributions are a devotion to the greater glory of God.

As we conclude another year, I would like to thank the members of the Altar Guild here at St. Francis of Assisi for their hard work and dedication.

Also, a special thank you to Irma Herzog for her time, talent and treasures – the Amazing Floral Arrangements.

Peace,
Lenora Corbin
Please note time change for our services:

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services are now 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Service remains the same at 10:00 a.m.

The church office will be closed Dec. 25 in observance of the Christmas holiday and again on Jan. 1 for New Year’s Day.
OCTOBER GUESTBOOK

- 472 Households
- 667 Adults
- 440 Children

GUESTS IMPACTED BY CORE SERVICES

- 207 Housing costs
- 235 Food vouchers
- 431 Utility costs
- 213 Senior Grocery Store
- 952 Supportive services

"It is water’s special status as essential to public health that makes ensuring access more than a charitable cause."

-EPA

Volunteers serve an average of 356 hours each month.

23 pets received loving care from the Humane Society and Dr. Jordan Mracna and his team during the October Veterinary Clinic.

MetMin celebrated our 40th birthday this month at Songbirds with the MetMin Motown Throwdown. We took a walk through the organization’s past and future and honored our founding mother, Mrs. Claire Mulkey. Thank you to all who joined the party!

LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP AT MET-MIN.ORG
We wish to thank the members of St. Francis for their many prayers, cards, phone calls, and expressions of concern and support following Gay’s recent heart surgery.

We would also like to offer our heartfelt thanks to Mother Lou for her visits, prayers, and constant support during Gay’s hospitalization and beyond.

This is truly a loving and caring congregation! Thank you to all of you!

Gay & Sandy Moore

Lunch Pals
First Tuesday of the Month

Join us Dec. 3 at 12:30 p.m. in the Library at St. Francis. Simply bring your lunch and enjoy fellowship and good conversation.

All are welcome!
December
Birthdays & Anniversaries

2 - John Rouser
Lennis & John Du Ban’s Anniversary
5 - Dot Patten
13 - Mary Ceren
14 - Lynn & Bo Armstrong’s Anniversary
17 - Kayle Vayda
18 - Charlie Curle
19 - Suzanne McKenzie
20 - Carol Woody
21 - Tye Daugherty
22 - Sue Scruggs
23 - Tom Drake
25 - Buckley Robbins & Josh Weaver
26 - Mary Burgette
27 - Jeremy Bramblett
Mary & Al Ceren’s Anniversary
30 - Ellen Dobbs
31 - Stacy & Andy Hall’s Anniversary

If you’d like to include your birthday and/or anniversary, please let us know at sfaec@comcast.net or (423) 238-7708.
## ROTA FOR DECEMBER 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry</th>
<th>Dec. 1</th>
<th>Dec. 8 *</th>
<th>Dec. 15</th>
<th>Dec. 22</th>
<th>Dec. 29</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 Opener</td>
<td>Cherie &amp; Larry Haggard</td>
<td>Ed McCoy</td>
<td>Lenora Corbin</td>
<td>Mike Bowland</td>
<td>Ed McCoy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altar Guild</td>
<td>Elaine &amp; Dexter Cantelou</td>
<td>Becky McCoy &amp; Debbie Bird</td>
<td>Lenora Corbin &amp; Jeanne Greenwell</td>
<td>Elaine &amp; Dexter Cantelou</td>
<td>Becky McCoy &amp; Debbie Bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verger</td>
<td>Deris Bagli</td>
<td>Carol Woody</td>
<td>Dexter Cantelou</td>
<td>Sandy Moore</td>
<td>Deris Bagli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greeters</td>
<td>Elaine &amp; Dexter Cantelou</td>
<td>Joan &amp; David Rose</td>
<td>Sue &amp; Deris Bagli</td>
<td>Stacy &amp; Andy Hall</td>
<td>Kathy &amp; Dentzel Landstreet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ushers</td>
<td>Stacy &amp; Andy Hall</td>
<td>Annie Powell &amp; Sarah Tullock</td>
<td>Kathy &amp; Dentzel Landstreet</td>
<td>Joan &amp; David Rose</td>
<td>Annie Powell &amp; Sarah Tullock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crucifer</td>
<td>Jackson Love</td>
<td>Ethan Zeliski</td>
<td>Daniel Zeliski</td>
<td>Jackson Love</td>
<td>Ethan Zeliski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Lesson</td>
<td>Deris Bagli</td>
<td>Joe Greenwell</td>
<td>Curtis Baggett</td>
<td>Shelia Reynolds</td>
<td>Mary Ceren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Lesson</td>
<td>Kirsten Herzog</td>
<td>Joan Rose</td>
<td>Maureen Scott</td>
<td>Daniel Zeliski</td>
<td>Jackson Love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prayers of the People</td>
<td>Lenora Corbin</td>
<td>Diane Honeycuttt</td>
<td>Greg Love</td>
<td>John Croteau</td>
<td>Dexter Cantelou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucharistic Ministers</td>
<td>Jane Diamantis &amp; Greg Love</td>
<td>Elaine Peters Gannon &amp; Sandy Moore</td>
<td>Carol Woody &amp; Ché Mason</td>
<td>Andy Hall &amp; Lenora Corbin</td>
<td>Kathy &amp; Dentzel Landstreet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refreshments</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Kathy Landstreet</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All Nations Seventh-Day Adventist Congregation will be using our Church and classrooms on Saturday this weekend from 10:00 to 1:00.*
"For a child has been born for us, 
a son given to us; authority rests 
upon his shoulders; and he is named 
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, 
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Isaiah 9:6