“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
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
Shelia Crane, Treasurer ♦ Lenora Corbin, Clerk

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<tr>
<th>Class of 2020</th>
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<th>Class of 2022</th>
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<tr>
<td>Elaine Cantelou</td>
<td>Lynn Armstrong</td>
<td>Deris Bagli</td>
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<tr>
<td>(423) 364-1509</td>
<td>(423) 313-5247</td>
<td>(423) 503-0634</td>
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<td>Jane Diamantais</td>
<td>Mike Bowland</td>
<td>Sandy Moore</td>
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<td>(423) 238-4688</td>
<td>Sr. Warden</td>
<td>Jr. Warden</td>
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<td>(423) 322-2629</td>
<td>(423) 290-6957</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ellen Dobbs</td>
<td>Norm Zwitter</td>
<td>Annie Powell</td>
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<tr>
<td>(423) 595-3411</td>
<td>(423) 315-3520</td>
<td>(423) 667-7910</td>
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With Ash Wednesday around the corner, Feb. 26, we begin preparations for the season of Lent. Inside you’ll find announcements on our special worship services and other opportunities to gather together in prayer, study, and reflection. All are invited to join us as we observe a holy Lent here at St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church.

Stay in touch with us through our weekly emails, our website at www.sfaec.org, and our Facebook page. You can also reach us at 423-238-7708 or sfaec@comcast.net.

The Hoot is published by St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church. Deadline for the next issue is March 16. If you’d like to submit an article or announcement for the next issue of The Hoot, please send it to sfaec@comcast.net.

For our sake God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21
As the Worship Committee gathered on a recent Sunday afternoon to plan for Lent, we began by asking what we wanted to share for the Lenten season. Quick response around the table centered on time for reflection, time away from the “noise” of our daily lives, and time with God. The reminder of the noise that fills our daily lives was evident as I traveled to Chicago. Beginning with the blare of regular overhead announcements, to the cacophony of voices in areas of waiting, to raised voices on the plane to overcome engine noise, and through it all, so many people have ear phones positioned in their ears. There are signs everywhere that we are surrounded daily with audio input.

Pondering the challenge for finding moments of quiet, the Worship Committee made some plans for us to enter the more reflective time of Lent. Here are some of the ways we hope you will join us this Lent.

1. The time before service will be “quiet time” in the Nave. We ask that conversations be held outside the worship space before entering for worship. Since noise carries from the Narthex to the Nave, please help us keep those noise levels down for the sake of those in the Nave praying and reflecting.

2. Once again, we will have dissolving paper and pencils in the Narthex for you to take and write a word or a phrase that represents your prayer requests. In addition to prayers of intercession for others, please consider a prayer for yourself. You may use this slip of paper to offer up to God challenges or things which cause heartache in your life. We will invite you to bring the paper forward to the glass bowl at the end of confession.

3. We will have a finger labyrinth printed on the front of our Sunday worship booklets. You may use your finger or the pencil you get from the Narthex to trace the labyrinth path in and then back out. We will also provide some written material on using the labyrinth for a forgiveness exercise.

4. We will not have announcements at the beginning of service. We will begin worship at 8 am, at 10 am, and at 5 pm. We hope this will enable everyone to more fully enter worship uninterrupted.
5. There will be a time of silence after the Homily following an invitation to reflection.

May this Lent be a time of reflecting and reconnecting. As we enter this Season of Lent, may God guide and lead us as we seek to keep a Holy Lent.

Lou ✡

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**Open House Recipe for Green Beans**

Since 2011, when Mark and I first were able to host an Open House for the St. Francis Parish, it has been a great privilege and pleasure to invite you all to Mud Puddle Manor. Through the years, I have played with the menu and explored varying options for food that can be eaten while standing and balancing a plate. A few years back, in a conversation with Mark’s younger sister, Jennifer, she shared a recipe for Green Beans served cold. That recipe, with a couple of tweaks through the years, has become one of the most requested recipes from our yearly Open House. As I pondered sharing recipes, using The Hoot seemed the most efficient way to do this. Over the next several months, we will share the recipes for which we have received the most requests. This column will be referred to as Cooking with Momma Lou.

4 lbs. Fresh Green Beans
1 ¼ teaspoon Dijon Mustard
5 teaspoons Cider Vinegar
3 tablespoons finely chopped Shallot
5 tablespoons Olive Oil
5 ounces crumbled Blue Cheese.
2 ½ cups pecans sautéed in ½ tablespoon Olive Oil for about a minute and then coarsely chopped after cooling

Prepare the dressing in a large bowl using the mustard, vinegar, shallots and olive oil. Whisk all the ingredients together and set aside. Bring a large pot of salted water to a full boil and then add the green beans. Boil for 4 minutes, and then drain the beans and immediately submerge them in ice water to stop the cooking. Toss the cooled green beans with the dressing, pecans, and blue cheese before serving. For ease of handling, I actually cook the beans in 2 batches with 2 pounds in each batch, then use half the dressing, pecans and blue cheese to serve one before preparing the next batch.
Come one, Come all!
Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper
Shrimp & Grits too!

February 25 at 6:00 p.m.
At St. Francis Episcopal Church

Join us for good food and fun.
Invite your family, friends and neighbors.

This will likely be our last party in the Nave before our Parish Hall is complete. Hope to see you there!

Out-to-Lunch Group
Wednesday, March 11 @ 11:30 am
All are invited! Dutch Treat.

Located at Cambridge Square, Ooltewah

Please sign up in the Narthex.

For more details, call Nancy at (423) 910-0558.
Ash Wednesday Services
February 26 at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Ashes-To-Go
You’ll find our Rector, Lou, by our street sign on Ash Wednesday 8:00 to 8:45 a.m. and again 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. (weather permitting)

Stations of the Cross
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.
Beginning March 4 through Holy Week

The Vestry elected officers as follows: Lenora Corbin as Clerk, Shelia Crane as Treasurer, Sandy Moore as Junior Warden, Mike Bowland re-elected Senior Warden.

Building Fund Update: $875k pledged, $423k collected, $218k disbursed, cash available $204k. We have been approved by the Diocesan Opportunity Fund for a $600k line of credit, this is not a loan. To be used only until final pledges are collected. The Vestry approved spending up to $650k for continued work on building.

Stewardship Update: Pledges for 2020 giving total $220k. If you have not submitted a pledge card please do. The vestry is finalizing the 2020 budget.

The Vestry voted to continue using the 2019 budget until 2020 is approved at the February meeting.

The Vestry approved the Annual Diocesan Voluntary Commitment of $30,957, which is less than a 10% increase from 2019.

The Vestry retreat was very active and engaging. Flip charts from our meeting are in the Narthex which detail the topics and ideas discussed. If you have any questions, please see a vestry member.

Our next meeting is Monday, February 17, at 6:15 pm. All are welcome.
Simple Soup Supper & Lenten Study
St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church

Sundays at 6:00 pm
March 1 through March 29

“This series comes right from the heart of our life as monks, and we are excited to share with you an offering like none we’ve ever made before. This series takes up the signs and symbols of our shared Christian worship, illustrated by rich footage of our own life here at the monastery.”

Br. James Koester SSJE, Superior Society of Saint John the Evangelist

All are welcome. No preparation needed ahead of time.

If you’d like to help provide soup one Sunday, please sign up in the Narthex. Thank you!
On January 15, Senior Warden Mike Bowland, Treasurer Shelia Crane, and I went to Diocesan House to request a Construction Loan from the Diocesan Opportunity Fund for up to $600,000. Members of the Finance Committee had helped us prepare the many pages of paperwork needed for this loan request, including financial records for the church for the past five years. These records, along with information that we had $875,000 pledged and had collected over $400,000 in pledges for the Building Project, were sent in advance to the members of the Standing Committee before our Diocesan Meeting.

Reviewing the numbers before we presented, I was struck by how carefully we plan and budget each year. Seen in the larger picture of a five-year spread, it was remarkable how carefully your leadership in the Vestry attended to the resources with which you entrusted us. I was also struck by how often we are helped in addressing an opportunity or a challenge by the committed work of many in the parish. Our calls for outside assistance are few because our church has capable and generous people in a variety of areas. These numbers told a compelling story of a faithful parish that is committed to stewarding her resources.

This story was so clear that the Standing Committee used their time with us to engage in pleasant conversation around the history of the Parish and the plans that had led to our building project. Twenty minutes later, we heard the affirmation that they had the information they needed to approve our loan. Our delegation left with joyous hearts.

We will only draw money from the Opportunity Fund as we need it. As of today, we have paid over $300,000 towards the Building Project and still have almost $100,000 in our Building Project Fund to address the ongoing costs of building. We remain most grateful for the generous response to both our Capital and our Annual Campaigns. And, we remain ever grateful for the ongoing commitment to Stewardship of all with which our God has blessed us through the many of you who share your time, your talent, and your treasure.

Lou †
It’s amazing how much progress has been made in spite of the weather this winter. Come and see!

(Photos taken Feb. 7, 2020)
Happening #79 is the weekend of February 28- March 1.

Happening is a spiritual awakening and renewal weekend where high school youth have a face-to-face encounter with Christ through Christian community. This is done through a series of talks given by youth about their experiences in faith and in life. Each talk is followed by small-group discussion and activities, including lots of fun songs and games, and worship through liturgies that youth may or may not have experienced before.

We come together for praise, for reconciliation, for healing. Of course, there are a few fun surprises throughout the weekend as well!

**Happening is open to all youth grades 9-12.**
**Register here [https://www.etnyouth.org/registration](https://www.etnyouth.org/registration)**

If you have questions or would like to support this ministry in any way, contact me at becca9628@gmail.com.

We will continue with our schedule of the first and third Sunday of the month at St. Francis meeting with the youth following the 10 am service.

*Rebecca Brewer*
becca9628@gmail.com
423-571-1615
Walk In Love Shoe Collection  
February 27 through April 9, 2020

We are accepting donations of New or Nearly New Men’s Walking Shoes (larger sizes are needed), Women’s Walking Shoes, New Socks and other foot care products. Items will be blessed Maundy Thursday, April 9, at the 7:00 pm liturgy and then delivered to the Chattanooga Community Kitchen to help those in need.

Drop off donations at our door.
For more information, please contact us at (423) 238-7708 or sfaec@comcast.net.

On behalf of St. Francis and our friends at Samaritan Center, thank you for giving so generously to our Annual Soup Drive.
Ooltewah Connects invites you to enjoy an Evening of Engaging Music and Fellowship

Friday, March 13th, 7:00 pm
St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church

About six years ago, Franklin and Tresa McCallie teamed up with Eleanor and Mel Cooper and started inviting friends and neighbors to come together in an effort to have conversation about the racial divides in our community. A smaller “satellite” group, informally known as Ooltewah Connects, continued this dialogue by meeting every few months over a potluck dinner. Listening to one another’s life stories and discussing the hard truths of racial differences, we discovered we were also building friendships and respect for one another.

In our effort to “widen the circle” for embracing cultural differences, we invite you to an evening of engaging music and fellowship on Friday, March 13th, at 7:00 pm. Peter Cooper, the head of the music department at Southern University and an advocate of community building, will play the piano for us here at St. Francis. Afterwards, a few folks have volunteered to share their brief stories and the impact of these inter-racial relationships on their lives. Time to greet and fellowship over dessert will follow.

We hope your schedule will permit you to join us March 13th at St. Francis.

We climb higher as we climb together.

In anticipation,
Suzy and Curtis Baggett
Starting March 23

Al-Anon Meetings
Mondays 6:30-7:30 pm

All Saints House located at
St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
7555 Ooltewah-Georgetown Rd.
Ooltewah, TN 37363

A new weekly Al-Anon Meeting begins Monday, March 23, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at All Saints House - the cabin on the hill directly behind the church. This is a support group unaffiliated with St. Francis.

For more information, contact:
Kimberly at kimsimpson371@gmail.com
Eric at ELarkins72@gmail.com

Feel free to park in the church parking lot and walk up to the house or park in the driveway and space next to the house.

Men’s Breakfast - Dutch Treat
Thursday, Feb. 20, 8:00 am

Garden Plaza of Greenbriar Cove
4586 Forsythia Way, Ooltewah

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

Men’s Breakfast meets the third Thursday each month.
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good...

PSALM 107:1
...and a special thanks to you.

Just wanted to send a thank you note. One of your members saw where our little church had a situation with our electric. Church Christmas dinner a 220 heater was left on over a month. Our bill went to 4 times over and we were really in a bind. Your member reached out wanting to help. I just want to say thank you so very much. The Lord touched your members heart and we are very grateful. Many blessings to your church and caring.

Calvary Life Fellowship
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

March:

3 - Becky Woodeson Pelfrey
5 - Karen Martin, Gerry Rouser
7 - Kirill Sniff
10 - Madeline Powell, Linda Swift
11 - Abby Worlen
12 - Dan Crane
13 - Rebecca Brewer, JoAnn Sawyer
14 - Jeannie Snyder, Paul Williams
16 - Sue Bagli
18 - Paul Johnson III
19 - Malcolm Bowden, Lucretia Callen
21 - Gary & Carol Morton’s Anniversary
24 - Bo Armstrong
27 - Kevin & Linda Sneary’s Anniversary
30 - Clay Hall, Peter Ceren

Lunch Pals
First Tuesday of the Month
Join us March 3 at 12:30 pm
in the St. Francis Library.
Just bring your lunch and enjoy
fellowship and good conversation.

All are welcome!
**ROTA for March 2020**

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*All Nations Seventh-Day Adventist Congregation will be using our Church and classrooms on Saturday this weekend from 10:00 to 1:00.*
47TH ANNUAL
THORNE SPARKMAN
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
“BUILDING PEACE”

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT | 2020

MARCH 4 | THE RT. REV. PHOEBE ROAF
MARCH 11 | THE REV. GARY MASON
MARCH 18 | FRAN MCKENDREE
MARCH 25 | THE REV. DR. LAUREN WINNER
APRIL 1 | THE RT. REV. BRIAN COLE

5:15 P.M. – HOLY EUCHARIST
5:45 P.M. – DINNER
6:30 P.M. – KEYNOTE SPEAKER
7:30 P.M. – OPTIONAL SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

HOSTED AT ST. PAUL’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH | 305 WEST SEVENTH ST.
DOWNTOWN CHATTANOOGA | WWW.THORNESPARKMAN.ORG