

The Sower

St. Francis Episcopal Church

To seek and serve Christ by making God's love known.

November 2009—Volume X, Issue 8



Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Charles G. vonRosenberg

Rector: The Rev. H. Joseph Minarik

P.O. Box 29, 158 W Norris Road, Norris, Tennessee 37828

Phone: (865) 494-7167 **Fax:** (865) 494-8943 **E-Mail:** stfnorris@bellsouth.net **Web page:** <http://www.discoveret.org/stf/>

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays

8:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:15 a.m.—Christian Ed
10:30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist Rite II

Wednesdays

10:15 a.m.—Morning Prayer & Fellowship
5:30 p.m.—Bible Study with meal
7:00 p.m.—Holy Eucharist

CLERGY

Rev. H. Joseph Minarik, Rector

Phone: Office—865-494-7167

Home—865-494-0097

Email: stfjoseph@bellsouth.net

CHURCH STAFF

Linda Goins, Office Administrator

Email: stfnorris@bellsouth.net

George Davis, Senior Warden

Phone: 865-494-9864

Email: georgedavis102@gmail.com

Bill Manning, Junior Warden

Phone: 865-494-0225

Email: billmanning@msn.com

Scott Branham, Treasurer

Phone: 865-494-0544

Email: branhams@bellsouth.net

Toni McDaniel, Choir Director/Organist

Phone: 865-494-7006

Jim Brent, Organist

Phone: 865-482-6968

Bill Manning, Webmaster

Phone: 865-494-0225

Email: billmanning@msn.com

Angela Alley, Nursery School Director

Phone: 865-494-7160

Office Hours

Monday - closed

Tuesday & Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday & Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Nominations for New Vestry Members in 2010

In accordance with the bylaws of St. Francis, each year at the Annual Meeting of the Parish, three new Vestry members are to be elected for a 3-year term to replace the three members of Vestry who are rotating off of their terms. The annual meeting this year is on December 6, 2009. Qualifications for nominees to Vestry include being:

- A confirmed communicant in good standing
- At least sixteen years of age
- Regular in attendance at worship services
- Willing to participate in the accomplishment of the parish mission and programs
- Active in his/her financial support of the parish mission and programs
- Able to attend Vestry meetings and retreats

Please think about a member(s) of St. Francis who would be a good candidate(s) for Vestry. The bylaws provide that each communicant may submit up to three nominees. Talk with this person(s) to confirm that he/she is willing to be nominated and to serve on Vestry. If so, fill out a nomination form with the person's name. Sign your name to the nomination form and submit it to the Nominating Committee **by November 22, 2009** so that the committee can prepare biographical information about each candidate for the parish members. Nominating forms will be provided in *The Sower* and in the Parish Hall. Completed forms may be placed in a box provided in the Parish Hall, dropped off at the church office, or mailed to the church office. Please contact any member of the Nominating Committee with questions.

Nominating Committee:

George Davis (2009)

Barbara Dyer (2009)

Bill Manning (2009)

A Message from Our Rector!

“Be still, and know that I am God.”

November is a busy church month. We started out with All Saints Day, (on the first), the twenty-second is Christ the King, the twenty-sixth is Thanksgiving Day and the twenty-ninth is the First Sunday of Advent. We have the benefit auction and the community service to look forward to, also. We have a potluck dinner, the stewardship campaign and vestry nominations to keep us moving along, also.

It makes me tired just to think about all that goes on in our little parish. Where can we find the time for ourselves, after we add our church life and social life to our work life? It really is hard to find a few moments just to sit and “be” isn’t it?

Every time I visit my parents’ home, I go through old church books that have been sitting on the shelves untouched for years. I come from a long line of Episcopalians and my mothers’ side was especially active in the church in Portsmouth, Virginia.

I came across a booklet titled “*CHURCH CUSTOMS, SOME ABC’S*”. I found the following custom and manners section of the service interesting, in that it relates to our busy lives and the lack of opportunity for “God thinking.” As a reminder, I would like to share this with you:

In the period before the Service, we commend the keeping of silence. In the midst of our busy lives, we have all too little time for silence. “It is seldom,” writes one Christian, “that God finds a soul quiet enough to speak to.” When a pan of milk is quiet, the cream rises to the top; and so it is with us. The silence before this Service begins can be used as a time for quiet preparation. Read thoughtfully the Gospel and the Collect for the day. Read thoughtfully the words of the opening hymn, so that when you join in the singing of it, it may mean more to you. Think of the Holiness and Power of God into whose Presence we should come only with humility and reverence. “Be still, and know that I am God.”¹

Some parishioners still observe this Church Custom. Most do not. I suggest you give it a try. You would probably find it meaningful and even spiritual.

Peace be with you,

✠ *Father Joe*

¹Forward Movements Publications, Church Customs



A Prayer attributed to St. Francis

*Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. **For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.***

Stewardship 2010

A Congregation of Generous People: First Fruits II (2010)

Our theme for Stewardship this year is *A Congregation of Generous People: First Fruits II (2010)*. Stewardship Sundays will begin on the 11th of October and continue until the 8th of November. The Stewardship calendar is as follows:

November *presentation will made at both services.

8 **Numbers—George Davis**
 Final Ingathering

Special music will be offered up as prayers for the success of our Stewardship Campaign 2010.

*The Stewardship program will be presented at both services,
8:00 and 10:30.

Nomination for Vestry Member(s) Three-Year Term Beginning January 2010

Nominee: _____

Nominee: _____

Nominee: _____

By: _____

Please submit your nomination to the Nominating Committee, in the drop box in the parish hall, at the church office, or by mail to the church office. Thank you.

Nominating Committee:

George Davis (2009)

Barbara Dyer (2009)

Bill Manning (2009)

A Reminder!

Advent begins November 29th.

There are no flowers on the Altar during Advent, only greenery.

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH BENEFIT AUCTION AND ITALIAN DINNER



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2009
6:30 PM**

The auction and Italian dinner is sponsored by the Outreach Committee.

**We need for everyone to think
of what item(s) or service(s)
they could make available for this occasion.**

Gift certificates, show tickets, unwanted Christmas gifts, art or crafted items (anything of value) are welcome. Also, if you have a talent or a service you could offer (like cooking up a Mexican dinner for six or so), babysitting, leaf raking, lawn mowing, etc., any and all such things would be welcome. So start thinking of how you can help make this a great opportunity for fellowship, fun, and fundraising.

**SIGN-UP SHEETS,
FOR DONATIONS AND ATTENDANCE, ARE POSTED IN THE PARISH HALL!**



*Bring your family and join us on
Sunday, November 22nd,
between the 8:00 am and 10:30 am service
to make Advent Wreaths.*

Advent Wreath

A wreath with four or five candles, used in most Episcopal churches and in some homes during the season of [Advent](#). Four candles are placed in a circle, and a fifth may be placed in the center. One candle is lit on the first Sunday in Advent, two on the second Sunday, three on the third and four on the fourth Sunday in Advent. On [Christmas Day](#), the fifth candle is lighted.

CHURCH DINNER

OUR NEXT

FIFTH SUNDAY

POTLUCK

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH,
FOLLOWING THE
10:30 AM SERVICE

EVERYONE IS INVITED
TO ATTEND



*Wednesday Night
Dinner and Fellowship*

5:30-6:00 pm

After dinner we have Bible
Study and then Eucharist.

During this time

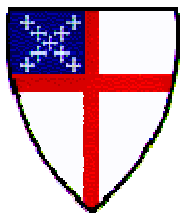
the Golden Rulers

do their community service.

Everyone is welcome to share
dinner, fellowship, and worship.

It's great fun!

*Please make your reservation on Sunday
if you are attending on Wednesday night
so they will know how much food to prepare.
The Reservation Sheet will be in the Parish Hall.*



ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH Annual Meeting Sunday, December 6th

As usual the meeting includes the election of new vestry members, a discussion of the proposed budget, and reports. Vestry elections will begin at 7:30 a.m. and close at approximately 11:45 a.m. The votes will be counted and the results announced. The meeting will begin following the potluck.

Parish Family potluck lunch following the 10:30 a.m. service.

Please plan to attend!

The Vestry Highlights

October 19, 2009

Clergy Report

- Searching for nursery worker
- Bishop retiring 2011

Senior Warden Report

- Discussed stewardship campaign
- Annual Parrish meeting Sunday December 6th

Junior Warden Report

- Hope to have kitchen remodeled by November 14th
- HVAC units still need attention
- Proposed work day Saturday October 31st

Budget Brainstorm

- Brainstormed ideas on how to trim expenses in budget

Ministry Reports

- Game night proposed for Thursday nights more info to come.

New Business

- Recruitment of new Vestry members (nominations)

Highlights by Mark Casey

Vestry Members 2009

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP 832 #57

George Davis, Sr. Warden (865-494-9864) [2009]

Bill Manning, Jr. Warden (865-494-0225) [2009]

Barbara Brown (423-562-9767) [2010]

Brandon Fisher (865-457-7154) [2011]

Mark Casey (865-494-6083) [2010]

Barry Voskamp (865-457-4156) [2011]

John Cole (865-457-6637) [2010]

Martha Webb (865-859-9008) [2011]

Barbara Dyer (865-494-9555) [2009]

Treasurer—Scott Branham (865-494-0544)

Clerk—Martha Kopp Shear (865-494-9021)

Committees—Vestry Liaison

Buildings/Grounds—Bill Manning (865-494-0225)

Outreach—Martha Webb (865-859-9008)

Calendar—Brandon Fisher (865-457-7154)

Parish Life—John Cole (865-457-6637)

Communication—Barbara Dyer (865-494-9555)

Recognition—Barbara Brown (423-562-9767)

Incorporation/Marketing—Mark Casey (865-494-6083)

Youth Liaison—George Davis (865-494-9864)

Vestry Member Responsible (VMR)

A vestry member will be responsible each Sunday for one month for closing up the building after church on Sundays after the 10:30 service and coffee hour. A laminated list of check points furnished by John Coobs is tacked to the bulletin board for the VMR's use. This position is called Vestry Member Responsible (**VMR**) and will be listed on the monthly schedule and in the bulletin. Listed here are our VMR's through December:

November—Martha Webb **December**—Barbara Brown

The next Vestry Meeting

will be Monday, November 16, 2009, 6:30 p.m., in the Parish Hall.

REMINDER!

Sunday, November 8th
"Tooth Brush, Tooth Paste, & Floss Sunday"
at St. Francis.

REMEMBER you can bring your items, the featured item(s) of the month or any other items, you would like to donate for the Norris Food Pantry, **at any time** and leave them in the Parish Hall.

**The next Norris Food Pantry
will be Thursday, November 19th,
9:00 am to noon.**

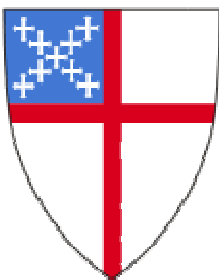
A Prayer for Our Armed Forces

Heavenly Father, we commend to thy gracious care and keeping all the men and women in our Armed Forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with thy heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that beset them; and help them to know that none can pluck out of thy hand those who put their trust in thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Norris Community Senior
Gathering
every Wednesday, 1:00 pm,
at the Norris Cafe

"Life without thankfulness is devoid of love and passion. Hope without thankfulness is lacking in fine perception. Faith without thankfulness lacks strength and fortitude. Every virtue divorced from thankfulness is maimed and limps along the spiritual road."

—John Henry Jowett



The Episcopal Shield

Several crosses appear on the shield. The large, red cross that divides the shield is a cross of St. George, the cross of the Church of England, and it represents our ties with our mother church.

There are nine small crosses in the upper left quadrant arranged in a St. Andrew's cross, the cross of the Church of Scotland. When no Anglican bishop would ordain a bishop for the fledgling Protestant Episcopal Church in the USA, bishops of the Church of Scotland agreed to lay hands on Samuel Seabury, ordaining him the first bishop of the Episcopal Church. This cross honors the part the Church of Scotland played in the birth of our church. Each of the nine small crosses that comprise the St. Andrew's cross represents one of the nine dioceses that in 1789 founded the Episcopal Church. The shield's layout, which is reminiscent of the American flag (the founding fathers of the Episcopal Church were also the founding fathers of our country), and its red, white, and blue motif signify that the Episcopal Church is the American representative to the Anglican Communion. The colors each have a symbolic meaning: Red is for the blood Christ shed for us and for the lives of the martyrs of our faith; White is the color of purity; Blue is the traditional color of the Virgin Mary, the mother of the Son of Man. Above information taken from:

www.episcopalchurch.org.

Diocesan News

THE DIOCESE
OF EAST TENNESSEE

THE RIGHT REVEREND
CHARLES G. VONROSENBERG
BISHOP
cgvonr@etdiocese.net

814 EPISCOPAL SCHOOL WAY
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37932

(865) 966-2110
FAX: (865) 966-2535

WWW.ETDIOCESE.NET

October 15, 2009

Dear Friends,

Today I have spoken with the Standing Committee about my intention to retire in early 2011. Or, to use the proper canonical language, I will resign my office as Bishop of East Tennessee then. While a year and a half seems like a long time from now, actually there is much work to accomplish during those months. And, the special work leading up to election and consecration is in the very capable hands of the diocesan Standing Committee.

There will be many opportunities over the next year and a half to reflect on the past and to anticipate the future. At this moment, though, I simply want to say "Thank you" for the opportunity and the blessing of being your bishop. That has indeed been a special privilege for me, and I am grateful to God and to this diocese for entrusting me with the responsibility of serving as the third Bishop of East Tennessee.

Annie and I will continue to live in Knoxville until retirement, and I will continue to serve actively as bishop during that time. We look forward to the opportunities that God has in mind for mission and ministry with you during the next year and a half. May God bless us all on the journey ahead!

Faithfully,



Charles G. vonRosenberg

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN EAST TENNESSEE,
UNIFIED AND EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD,
EMBRACES THE CALL OF JESUS
AS SERVANTS FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD
AND AS FAITHFUL STEWARDS
OF GOD'S GRACIOUS BOUNTY.

Robin
 Bill Branham
 Bettie Coobs
 Doris Farrar
 Joseph Geraud
 Fred Grantham
 Janet Heffern
 Susan Lacy
 Herb Lay
 Fran Long
 Stephen McMillan
 Madeline McNeeley
 George Owens
 Liza Roberts
 Sandy Sanders
 John Tackett
 Kate Wagoner
 Penn Warriner Family
 Ronnie Weaver



Dennis Webber
 Maria Weiss
 Rachel Werner
 Anne Windrow
 Alex Carroll
 Rosie Cecil
 Jack Coobs
 Carson Dissete
 Anne GlenSherrill
 Gene Law
 John Morris
 Barbara Muhlbeier
 Anne Murray
 Annabelle Grace Powell
 Linda Rasmussen
 Hannah Skeens
 Elaine Trent
 Keven Tupper
 Barry Voskamp

Those serving at home and abroad in our military service

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP 823, #25

Travis Arsenault	Colt Jennings	Michael Shear
Keith Douglas	Dane Kaley	Jordan Thomas
Mark A. Farrar	Sue Knapik	David Trent
Victor C. Farrar	Mitchell Littler	Danielle Varner
Susan Fink	Joe Loar	Travis Vaughn
Darrell Hull	John Minarik	
Matthew Hobbs	Zach Rand	



O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP 830, #50

November Birthdays

1 John Roberts	15 Jack Black
2 Dee Boody	18 Faith Minarik
Addison Edmondson	Gretchen Payne
4 Jason Elkins	20 Mike Dobrogosz
5 Jake Bridges	21 Loretta Black
Kim Mowery	22 Greg Leach
8 Emily Powers	26 Jo Ann Fehr
10 Sarah Ahlstedt	Toni McDaniel
Brad Shear	29 Linda Ahlstedt
12 Barbara Dyer	Christopher Dobrogosz
Andy Heffern	30 Todd Heffern
14 Lucretia Boody	

December Birthdays

1 Sarah Casey	21 Elijah Hutchinson
2 Andrew Chaniott	22 Jenny Edmondson
4 Sandy Sanders	23 Howard McNeeley
5 Jacob Yankee	25 Jim Ryland
7 Deborah Fisher	Anne Windrow
13 Nancy Carroll	29 Alice Moriarty
Bensley McNeeley	30 Becky Jolly
14 Tupper Morehead	31 Joe Feeman
Martha Shear	



We thank you, most gracious God, for consecrating our marriage in Christ's Name and presence. Lead us further in companionship with each other and with you. Give us grace to live together in love and fidelity, with care for one another. Strengthen us all our days, and bring us to that holy table where, with those we love, we will feast for ever in our heavenly home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Book of Occasional Services

November Anniversaries

6 Joan and Duane Sanders
 10 Penny and Tom Ogles
 27 Susan and Don Forbes

December Anniversaries

9 Sheila and Tupper Morehead
 13 Rose and Mike Templin
 16 Bonnie and Bill Manning
 31 Sally and Don AuBuchon
 Kay and George Davis

If you have a birthday or anniversary this month or next and it is not listed, that means we do not have it in our Parish Database. Please contact the office at 865-494-7167 and let us know so we can add it to our database.

THANK YOU

CHURCH CALENDAR—NOVEMBER 2009

SERVICES & MEETINGS EVERY WEEK

SUNDAYS

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:15 a.m. **Christian Education:**
Adult
Young Adult
Godly Play for ages 2-11
J2A for Middle and High School Children
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
6:30 p.m. Prayer Service at Norris Health and Rehab Center
(*1st Sunday Holy Communion*)
8:00 p.m. AA Meeting (*Parish Hall*)

MONDAYS

- 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting (*Parish Hall*)

WEDNESDAYS

- 10:15 a.m. Morning Prayer and Fellowship
(*Administrative Building*)
1:00 p.m. Norris Community Senior Gathering at Norris Café
5:30 p.m. Dinner and Fellowship (*Parish Hall*)
6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Golden Rulers
7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing
(*on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays—Rite I,
on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays—Rite II*)

THURSDAYS

- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room Downstairs*)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- PLEDGE CARD IN-GATHERING
TOOTH PASTE, TOOTH BRUSH AND FLOSS SUNDAY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- 6:30 p.m. BENEFIT AUCTION & ITALIAN DINNER

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- 6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting (*Parish Hall*)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- SOWER Deadline

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- 9:00 a.m. Norris Food Pantry until noon (*Norris UMC*)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- VESTRY NOMINATION DEADLINE

- 9:15 a.m. Make Advent Wreaths

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- 11:30 a.m. Parish Potluck Dinner



The Sower

St. Francis' Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 29
158 West Norris Road
Norris, TN 37828

Address Correction Requested