



The Bell Ringer



The Weekly Newsletter of the Episcopal Church of the Advent

June 18-25, 2017

Upcoming Worship Services

Monday, June 19

8:15am Morning Prayer (Olney Chapel)

Tuesday, June 20

8:15am Morning Prayer (Olney Chapel)

5:30pm Holy Eucharist with Healing (Olney Chapel)

Wednesday, June 21

8:15am Morning Prayer (Olney Chapel)

5:30pm Evening Service (Olney Chapel)

Thursday, June 22

8:15am Morning Prayer (Olney Chapel)

12:15pm Holy Eucharist with Healing (Olney Chapel)

Friday, June 23

8:15am Morning Prayer (Olney Chapel)

Sunday, June 25

The 3rd Sunday After Pentecost

8:00am Holy Eucharist Rite I/Baptism

10:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Advent Shoppe Closing

In the fall of 2007 The Advent took a leap of faith by expanding its Outreach ministry to include the religious-themed Advent Shoppe. Staffed at first entirely by volunteers, it came under professional management when Bill Hunter became the Shoppe manager in May 2009. Over the years The Shoppe and its volunteers have supported the church's ministry with discounted blankets for SPIHN (Spartanburg Interfaith Hospitality Network), school supplies for Mary H. Wright students and backpacks for the Children's Advocacy Center, books for church study groups, as well as many unique gifts for special occasions. For the last 5 years, The Shoppe has run a deficit in spite of significant efforts to increase advertising, encourage more foot traffic, create broader inventory, and run special shopping events. The fiscal reality has been that The Shoppe has yielded negative returns with no funds available for Outreach. Based on the Advent Shoppe's continuing deficit, Vestry members at their May 30, 2017, meeting made the difficult decision that it was in the church's best interest to close the Advent Shoppe following its 10-year run.

Beginning Monday, June 12, The Advent Shoppe will begin winding down with a 30% store-wide, going-out-of-business sale.

Special appreciation is given to the nearly 40 volunteers and to Bill Hunter, Advent Shoppe Manager, for their dedication and tireless service to running The Shoppe during its 10-year history. An appreciation event in the near future will be held to honor Bill and all of the volunteers who have worked with him.

This Week

Fellowship Group, 6:30pm, at the home of Gail Rodgers, 638 Crystal Drive. Please bring your favorite appetizer and beverage of choice. Let Gail know if you're coming by emailing gail4888@gmail.com or call 864-582-4888.

20s, 30s, 40s CONNECT will have a kick-off to summer social on Tuesday, June 20, at 6pm at the home of Alyson Campbell and Andrew Taber, 518 Gadsden Court. Bring your favorite appetizer and beverage of choice. Childcare provided on site. You **MUST** register your children by contacting Laura Bauknight at lbauknight@churchofadvent.org. Please indicate the names and ages of your children. There's plenty of parking on Gadsden Court!

ECW Bazaar Country Store Cooking, Wednesday, June 21: We'll be making cranberry chutney at 9:00am in the Parish and Community Life Center (PCLC) Kitchen and invite you to "stir the pot" with us!

Wacky Wednesdays, June 21: We'll be kicking off Wacky Wednesdays with a day trip to North Carolina. We will travel to Chimney Rock, have lunch in Hendersonville, then end up at Sliding Rock. Please RSVP to David Dixon at ddixon@churchofadvent.org or 864-541-1861 as soon as you know if you are going. If you are going, bring \$5 for travel, money for lunch, a water bottle and - if you're going down Sliding Rock - a swimsuit and towel.

Wednesday Evening Worship will meet in Olney Chapel. Please join us for a brief, informal service Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:15pm. It's a time of praying together, talking about ways that the gospel touches our everyday lives, built around a liturgy shaped by members of the congregation.

Vacation Bible School Volunteers Needed on June 24 and June 26-29: Thanks to everyone who has delivered supplies! We are still in need of artificial greenery. If you would like to help us decorate and transform the PCLC into Rome, please meet us at 9:00am on Saturday, June 24. We also could use a few extra sets of hands to help guide the children through the VBS stations - teenagers are welcome too! Please contact Suzanne Dantin at 864-237-0570 or sdantin@churchofadvent.org if you are able to help.

Thank You, Lathrop Mosley!

Well, that six months really flew by! After this Sunday's services, our new friend and sister-in-Christ, Lathrop Mosley, will be returning to St. Christopher's from whence she came. Lathrop has been with us on an internship that is a requirement in the ordained ministry discernment process in our diocese. The internship has two purposes. One is to help the applicant to evaluate whether or not the day-to-day life of a parish priest is something that person is gifted for and is appealing to them. The second purpose is to allow the body of Christ in a parish setting to help the applicant to identify their gifts in a ministry setting. Lathrop has been a wonderful asset to our community. She has a warm way of connecting with people and serving selflessly. While she has been here, Lathrop has gone above and beyond the usual requirements of an internship and has assisted with many tasks. Her project has been helping the Wednesday evening prayer service leadership team to organize and explore a variety of resources to use in their prayers and discussion. Thank you, Lathrop, for being a cheerful and helpful part of The Advent family these last six months. We pray blessings on your further discernment. Debbie+

Looking Ahead

Wacky Wednesdays: On June 28, we will be helping with VBS in the morning and going to a movie that night. The remaining activities are Adventure Center in Asheville, Day in Greenville and Carowinds. To sign up, please download a form from the Quick Links section on our website, churchofadvent.org.

Save the Date - Ecumenical Blood Drive, Sunday, July 23: The bloodmobile from the Blood Connection (TBC) will be with us that morning. This is an important part of the Advent's community outreach. We have had great success with our ecumenical blood drives, and we hope that everyone in the parish, who is able to do so, will consider being a part of this drive.



Sunday, June 25

Sunday School: The Gleaners Class will meet at 9:00am in the Undercroft.

Summer Choir: Come sing in the Church of the Advent's low-stress, high-fun summer music ensemble, the summer choir! Anyone between ages 10 and 110 can join. Please come to the choir room upstairs in Pendleton Hall at 9:30am any Sunday this summer to learn whatever the anthem is for the 10:30am service. All the music will be kept as easy as possible. No regular commitment is required; just a desire to make a joyful noise!

Lemonade in the Shade: Summer provides a pace that allows us to slow down just a bit. How about taking a few minutes after worship and enjoy some lemonade and conversation with your fellow Advent friends? Visiting or new? We'd love to have some time to meet and learn more about you. See you on the lawn!

Help Us Keep Up – Our Records, That Is: Drop by the table outside the church and make sure our records reflect your current contact information. We want to be good stewards of our resources and up-to-date records make a difference. The lists will be alphabetized to expedite the process. PLEASE take a few minutes to let us know! If everything is correct, just put a check so we know you approved what we have. Thank you!

Vacation Bible School Families - take Mallory's advice and join us for the VBS Kick-Off Lunch right after the 10:30am service. We will have a delicious BBQ lunch on the lawn. There will also be an inflatable slide for the children to enjoy. Rain location will be in the PCLC gym. Thanks for the reminder, Mallory!

