



The Bell Ringer



The Weekly Newsletter of the Episcopal Church of the Advent

December 3-10, 2017

Upcoming Worship Services

Monday, December 4

8:15am Morning Prayer (Olney Chapel)

Tuesday, December 5

8:15am Morning Prayer (Olney Chapel)

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

Wednesday, December 6

8:15am Morning Prayer (Olney Chapel)

5:30pm Evening Prayer & Reflection (Olney Chapel)

Thursday, December 7

8:15am Morning Prayer (Olney Chapel)

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

Friday, December 8

8:15am Morning Prayer (Olney Chapel)

Sunday, December 10

The Second Sunday of Advent

7:45am Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:15am Holy Eucharist Rite I

This Week

Fruit of the Spirit – Advent Evening Women’s Circle, December 4, 7pm: Come enjoy supper at the new Mezcal restaurant, 143 W. Main Street. If you can come early, join us at Bond Street Wines (next door to Mezcal) at 6pm. Please RSVP for supper to Nicole Brown (jnbrown4@charter.net) as we will need reservations.

Dinner’s Ready for December 7 - Homemade Meals To-Go: Pre-orders are required and may be placed by calling 864-504-3684. This menu will be prepared by Chef Bill Schwartz and Friends: California Chicken Boneless Breast, Brown Rice, Zucchini & Squash Casserole, Parmesan Garlic Bread and Key Lime Pie slice. The cost is \$9 per meal. Each meal serves one adult or two small children. *The deadline to order is 5pm on Monday, December 4.* Pickup time in the PCLC Lobby is 5:15 to 6:15pm. If you have questions, please contact Leigh O’Shields at 864-706-1350 or Dodie Cubitt at 864-542-4706.

Book & Brown Bag: On Tuesdays from 12:15 to 1:10pm in the PCLC Dining Room C, join our rector, Ned Morris, as we continue our discussion of *Made for Goodness: And Why This Makes All The Difference* by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu. The book is \$10 and is available from Libby Adamson in Satterlee Hall or from Fr. Ned at the beginning of class. Please prepare by reading Chapters 3-5.

Evening Prayer and Reflection, Wednesdays in Olney Chapel: What would you give to have just a bit of peace and quiet and prayer during this very busy time of year? Perhaps you’ll carve out just 45 minutes each week from 5:30-6:15pm and join us in the Olney Chapel as we embark of an Advent journey that looks so very different from what is swirling around us “out there.”

Wednesday Evenings in Advent, December 6: Join us for dinner at 5:45pm and a program at 6:30pm. The nursery will open at 6:15pm. *Please RSVP for dinner by noon on Monday, December 4, by contacting Gail Owens at 864-583-2438 or gowens@churchofadvent.org.* Cost: \$6 for adults and \$3 for children ages 4-12. Children under age 3 are free; \$25 max per family.

- An offering of adult formation will be led by the Gleaners Class. There will be focus on works of art, some hymns, and traditions surrounding this season of anticipation.
- All children ages 4K through 5th grade are encouraged to join Suzanne Dantin to learn about the Advent season and play some games. Our activity this week will be a special visit in the church from Saint Nicholas!
- Youth Unplugged will meet in the Youth Center at 6:30pm.

The Men’s Fellowship and Bible Study Group meets at 7 am this Thursday in the PCLC, Dining Room C. Newcomers are welcome. It’s the kind of conversation you can easily join, whether or not you’ve had a chance to read the text. For additional information, please contact Dave Rodrick at 864-266-7438 or darodrick@gmail.com.

Events and Opportunities

Canned Food Collection: The Christmas school break is a joyous time for students; however, it can be financially stressful for families who rely upon the free meals provided during the school day. Let's help our food pantries prepare for this time by placing a canned food item in the bins located in the PCLC and Satterlee Hall. You may also take a yellow "Buy One, Give One" grocery bag and return it later. Thank you for your help!

Polar Express Day at Mary H. Wright: We will have Polar Express Day on Thursday, December 21. It is a half day and the last day of school before the Christmas break. The children wear their pajamas to school, and the main hall is decorated like the Polar Express. Contact Joy Oates (joyoates@aol.com) or Julie Schwartz (julieschwartz@charter.net) to learn more. Thank you for sharing God's light and love with these children!

Looking Ahead

Serendipity Circle and Lunch Bunch will have their annual Christmas lunch on Monday, December 11, at 11:45am in Dining Rooms A and B of the PCLC. Come enjoy fellowship and a delicious holiday meal prepared by our very own, Gail Owens. Contact Anne Bomar at bomar.anne@gmail.com if you can come.

EpiscoPals, December 13 at 11:45am in the PCLC, Dining Rooms A and B. Our guest will be the Rev. Mia McDowell of St. Matthews and Epiphany churches speaking on "Advent at Advent." If you are an Advent member or guest aged 45+, we hope you will come! Please reserve by noon on Monday, December 11, to gowens@churchofadvent.org or by phone to 864-583-2438.

Deadline to Register for Kanuga Parish-wide Weekend (March 9-11, 2018) Extended to Friday, December 15. Cost per person: Adult/double \$188; Adult/single \$264; Youth (ages 10-17) \$98, Child (ages 4 to 9) \$59 and Infant (to age 3) \$25. The cost includes lodging, meals, education and social activities. *A \$50 deposit per adult registrant is due by December 15 to hold your spot.* Please register online at <https://tinyurl.com/yas3dwyo>. Questions should be directed to Laura Bauknight at 864-504-3692 or lbauknight@churchofadvent.org.

Christmas Memorials Deadline is Monday, December 18: If you wish to make a memorial to the Altar Guild for the 2017 Christmas altar, please complete the form and return it, along with your donation, to the church office. Forms have been placed in Satterlee Hall, Pendleton Hall and the pews. You may also put your completed form and donation in a pew envelope and place it in the offering plate or make a donation on our website, www.churchofadvent.org. The deadline for inclusion in the Christmas Eve bulletin is Monday, December 18, at 4pm. We regret that memorials may not be made over the phone.

Sunday, December 10 - The Second Sunday of Advent

Services at 7:45, 9 & 11:15am. Sunday School begins at 10:10am, and the nursery opens at 8:45am.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew will meet for breakfast and a program at 8:45am in the PCLC, Dining Room C.

Rector's Forum: *Christmas traditions; funny, touching, or otherwise noteworthy* - We'll gather in the Parish and Community Life Center to share stories of our own experiences of Christmas. Yes, we all have them – traditions that began because someone in the family thought it was important to . . . or funny to . . . or no one really remembers why we do . . . With a little prompting we'll pass the microphone and tell the stories of our Christmas memories. No doubt, some will be moving, others will be inspiring, and still others will be just a little bit quirky. Hot chocolate and donuts will be served.

Convocational Service of Advent Lessons and Carols, 5pm, at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, 400 Dupre Drive. This service will feature members of Episcopal churches in Spartanburg, Cherokee and Union counties. A reception will follow. All are welcome.

Sunday Night Youth ConneXion Group Christmas Party! We will meet at 6pm. Stay tuned for the location. Questions? Contact ddixon@churchofadvent.org or 864-541-1861.



December 17: The Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 & 10:30am Holy Eucharist; Christmas Pageant at 10:30am

Christmas Pageant: We will need lots of animals, angels and shepherds. All kids are encouraged to participate! There will be a 3pm rehearsal on Saturday, December 16. Please let Suzanne Dantin know if you would like to have a part: sdantin@churchofadvent.org. We will have a post-Pageant celebration in the Parish and Community Life Center with doughnuts and hot chocolate. Please plan to join us for this fun and exciting time!