



DEC. 2018 | monthly newsletter
 JAN. 2019 | churchofadvent.org

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DEC. - JAN. HIGHLIGHTS

- 12/2 | Reception for The Rev. Debbie Apoldo**
- 12/5, 19 | Wednesday Dinner & Advent Programs**
- 12/6, 13 | Dinner's Ready Meal Pickup**
- 12/16 | Bishop's Visitation: 10:15am Bishop's Forum, 11:15am Youth Confirmation Service**
- 12/23 | Pageant (2 Services)**
- 12/24 | 4:30, 7:30, & 11pm Festival Holy Eucharist with half-hour prelude before each service**
- 12/25 | 10:30am Christmas Day Service**
- 1/6 | Three-Service Schedule and Sunday School for All Ages**
- 1/6-13 | SPIHN Week**
- 1/27 | Annual Meeting, 10am; Youth Pilgrimage Chili Sales**

From the Rector - "Setting Priorities"

In October, I received a wonderful gift. I was with our then newly hired Parish Administrator, Joanne Wood. We were having our first one-on-one meeting, when Joanne asked me, "What's the most important thing you would like for me to be working on?" She asked the question again another way, "What are the top priorities you would like for me to focus on?"

The question may seem like an obvious one to ask for someone beginning a new job. It was a great conversation starter and proved to be very fruitful.

We discussed several possibilities and narrowed it down to two specific items related to her duties as Parish Administrator and mine as Rector. One priority we identified was revising and updating the Employee Guidebook, and the other was to do the same with several job descriptions. Both of these projects needed to be done and although some progress had been made over the past several years, both had been placed on the backburner for one reason or another.

Joanne and I identified the Employee Guidebook as the first priority. We realized that both of these projects would need to be done along with our weekly duties, and around those unforeseen events that require our attention and time. We also realized that we would need help from others. The goal is to have the revised Employee Guidebook ready by January 1, 2019.

Since that meeting with Joanne, I've been reflecting on our life together as a Parish Family. I find myself broadening the scope of the question to ask, "What is the most important thing we, as the People of the Episcopal Church of the Advent, are supposed to be doing?"

Considering this question is at the forefront of my mind when it comes to

making decisions regarding the direction and vision for our Church moving into 2019. Prioritizing my time – especially in the ordering of my duties, tasks, and responsibilities as Rector – and working closely with our Vestry and Staff to develop and carryout the mission of our Church helps me to clarify my response to the above question.

The broadest and most comprehensive answer I can give is, "As the Episcopal Church of the Advent, we will commit ourselves and our resources toward shining the Light of Christ so that all my see God's redeeming love at work through us as we seek to transform the lives of everyone we encounter." In short, "We need to be about transforming lives!"

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Wednesday Night Dinners in December

Dinner is served from 5:45-6:30pm/ Program - 6:30-7

December 5 – ACC Children's Christmas Program will delight all!

December 19 – Advent program

Please reserve your meal(s) by 5pm the Monday prior by contacting gowens@churchofadvent.org or 583-2438.

SORTA YOUNG/Baby Boomers Fellowship Group, December 7, 6:30pm will meet at the home of Jody and Donna Traywick – 635 Crystal Drive. Please let the Traywicks know you are coming by texting them at 864-978-4332 or emailing dwtraywick@gmail.com. Bring your favorite appetizer to share and beverage of choice. Friends are always welcome!

Serendipity Circle and *Lunch Bunch* will have their annual Christmas lunch on Monday, December 10, at 12pm in Dining Rooms A and B of the Parish and Community Life Center. (PCLC) Come enjoy fellowship and a delicious holiday meal prepared by our very own, Gail Owens. Please let Gail know you are coming by calling 864-583-2438 or emailing gowens@churchofadvent.org.

20S, 30S, 40S CONNECT HOLIDAY GATHERING/ DECEMBER 10/ 6-8PM at Bond Street Wine in downtown Spartanburg. Come join your friends for wine and cheese and a time of holiday cheer. Cost is \$15 per person, payable at the event. Nursery at the church will be available, but reservations are required. Call or email Laura Bauknight at lbauknight@churchofadvent.org or 864-504-3692 by Thursday, December 6. Drop off begins at 5:45 and pick up is at 7:45. Snacks will be served.

EPISCOPALS /DECEMBER 12/ 11:45AM The Rev. Paula Griffin will offer an Advent program, "A Clean Heart for Advent." Please remember to reserve your wonderful \$7 lunch by emailing gowens@churchofadvent.org or by telephone to 864-583-2438. Advent members who are 45+ and their guests are invited. Please join us!

EPISCOPALS/ JANUARY 9/ 11:45AM. Advent's very own Betty Montgomery will present a program on "The Winter Garden - Waiting for Spring." Advent members who are 45+ and their guests are invited. Please reserve your \$7 lunch by phone to 864-583-2438 or by email to gowens@churchofadvent.org.

Fellowship Group/Sunday, January 20/ 6:30pm – will gather at the home of David and Debbie Bowdish- 421 Mustang Drive. Please bring and appetizer to share and your beverage of choice. Email dsr49@bellsouth.net or call 864-579-2037 and let them know you are coming! Friends welcome!!

Serendipity Circle will meet on Monday, January 14, at 10am at the home of Brenda Lytle, 1289 Brentwood Drive. The February meeting will be at Cathy Minch's on the 11th.

Lunch Bunch will meet on Monday, January 14, at 12pm in Dining Rooms A and B of the Parish and Community Life Center. Please reserve your meal by contacting Anne Bomar at bomar.anne@gmail.com.



Mark your calendars!! We are going back to Kanuga!!

March 8-10, 2019

Our Speaker will be the Rev. Michael R. Sullivan

PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT CHANGES FROM KANUGA

- All registration has to be made through Kanuga's guest services. A registration link will be provided soon – watch for it in upcoming communications.
- When you register, please be prepared to identify EVERYONE in your group that you want to room with.
- Reservations must be made 30 days in advance. DEADLINE is Friday, February 8.

Scholarships are available, please contact Laura Bauknight at lbauknight@churchofadvent.org or 864-504-3692.

From the Rector - continued from page 1

One way to begin to understand how we're doing in this effort as individuals first, is for us to ask ourselves, "How is Christ's light being seen in my life?"

Next, we need to ask the question in terms of our life together at the Advent. "How is Christ's light being seen in what we do as a Church?"

Here it's important to think in specific terms. For example, we might ask, "How is Christ's light being seen in the upkeep of our buildings and grounds?"

In order for this question to be truly beneficial, we must be more specific. "How is Christ's light being seen in the condition of our worship space – the exterior doors, the narthex, choir loft, nave, chancel, and sanctuary?"

Now we need to be even more specific. "How is Christ's light being seen in our worship space when it comes to accessibility for those in wheelchairs, for those who use walkers, or those who have difficulty navigating steps?"

This is just one example of how we can understand our call to transform lives. As we move forward together, I hope you will join me, our staff, vestry members, and commission members, as we strive to be agents of transformation. Please include our efforts as a community of faith in your prayers. Listen for how God may be calling you to be more engaged with and involved in the life and mission of the Advent. I hope you will discover that at the top of your list of priorities is to strive to shine the light of Christ as brightly as you possibly can!

God bless you and yours throughout the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and into the New Year!

Ned Morris+

Farewell to The Reverend Debbie Apoldo

We bid a fond farewell to Debbie Apoldo as she prepares to begin her new role as the Vicar of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, Spartanburg. Yes! Spartanburg! Thanks be to God for her nearly four years with us as the Associate Rector for Christian Formation. Thanks be to God that she will be close by.

Please join us Sunday, December 2, as we celebrate her ministry which began in January 2015. Following the 11:15am service, there will be a reception in the Parish and Community Life Center to thank and honor her and to congratulate her on this next chapter in her priestly life.

We will miss her down to earth approach to ministry, her wonderful preaching, and her special way of shining the light of Christ in our midst!

Make 2019 the Year of Your Legacy

What better goal for this year than to create your own personal legacy to continue your ministry beyond your own lifetime? We support our congregation, community, and other ministries with our gifts during our lifetimes, but creating a legacy through The Advent Foundation means our ministries will continue for all perpetuity.

Create a list of the ministries you love and support now. Consider your own dreams for those ministries for the future. Next consider all the goals you have (support your family, provide for your own retirement, provide an education for grandchildren).

Meet with your professional advisor to learn how informed planning can increase the overall value of your estate with a gift of tax-burdened assets (like IRAs, 401(k), or savings bonds) to the church.

It is indeed comforting to know that our Advent Foundation will be there to provide outreach to our community, maintenance funds for our church buildings, and pastoral support for our people. Long after our lifetimes, there will be people of the Advent teaching others about Jesus Christ. Create your legacy now to support these ministries now and beyond your lifetime. Please remember our church in your will, we will all be remembered by our giving.

To learn more, please contact Kit Jennings at 864-504-3689 or via email at kjennings@churchofadvent.org.

MORNING PRAYER is said Monday-Friday at 8:15am in Olney Chapel when the church office is open.

Recurring Weekly Activities

Sunday

4:30pm Youth Choir
8pm High School Game Night
Mon.-Fri., 8:15am Morning Prayer
Mon., Wed., Fri., Noon-1pm - FAVOR All Recovery Group
Mon. & Thurs., 1:30pm - Al-Anon
Monday
6pm Co-Dependents Anonymous
Tuesday
10am Staff Prayer/Meeting
12:15pm Book & Brown Bag
3pm Co-Dependents Anonymous
4:30pm Meditation Group
4:45pm Gabriel's Instruments
5:30pm Holy Eucharist/Healing
6:30pm Troop 1 Meeting
6:30pm FAVOR Family Group
Wednesday
9:30am Archives Committee
5:15pm Angel Choir/Junior Choir
6:30pm Advent Schola
8pm AA and Al-Anon
Thursday
8:30am Cherub Choir
12:15pm Holy Eucharist/Healing
6:30pm Advent Toner

Saturday, December 1

9am Acolyte Training
SUNDAY, December 2 -1st Advent
7:45am Holy Eucharist I
9am Holy Eucharist II
10:15am Sunday School for all ages
11:15am Holy Eucharist II
12:30pm Reception for The Rev. Debbie Apoldo
4pm Youth ConneXion: Movies NCG

Tuesday, December 4

7am High School Prayer Breakfast
2pm Listening Hearts Group
Wednesday, December 5
5:30pm 2020 Pilgrimage Meeting
5:45pm Wednesday Dinner/Program

Thursday, December 6

7am Men's Bible Study
7am Middle School Prayer Breakfast
5:15pm Dinner's Ready Meal Pickup
SUNDAY, December 9 - 2nd Advent
7:45am Holy Eucharist I
9am Holy Eucharist II
10:15am Sunday School for all ages
11:15am Holy Eucharist I

12:45pm Senior Gabriel's Instruments
5:30pm Sunday Night Worship Committee
6pm Youth ConneXion: Youth Christmas Party

Monday, December 10

11:15am ACC Parents Christmas Program
12pm Serendipity & Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, December 11

7am High School Prayer Breakfast
11:45am Cancer Association Luncheon
12:15pm ECW Board
7:30pm Venus Pie Group 11th-12th Grades

Wednesday, December 12

6pm Youth Confirmation Rehearsal

Thursday, December 13

7am Middle School Prayer Breakfast
10:30am Summit Hills Holy Eucharist
5:15pm Dinner's Ready Meal Pickup

SUNDAY, December 16-3rd Advent

Bishop's Visitation & Youth

Confirmation

7:45am Holy Eucharist I
9am Holy Eucharist II
10:15am Bishop's Forum
11:15am Holy Eucharist II/Youth Confirmation
12:45pm Reception honoring Bishop & Mrs. Waldo and the Confirmands
3pm Youth ConneXion at Ronald McDonald House, Greenville

Tuesday, December 18

Deadline to submit Christmas Altar Guild Memorials for bulletin

7am High School Prayer Breakfast
8am Operation Magi Gift Distribution

Wednesday, December 19

12pm Staff Christmas Party

Thursday, December 20

6:45am Men's Bible Study Breakfast
7am Middle School Prayer Breakfast

Friday, December 21

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

8am Polar Express Day at Mary H. Wright Elementary School

Saturday, December 22

10am Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

SUNDAY, December 23- 4th Advent

Two-Service Sunday

8am Holy Eucharist I
9am Gleaners & Seekers Sunday School Classes
10:30am Holy Eucharist II/Christmas Pageant
11:45am Pageant Participants Reception

Monday, December 24-Christmas Eve

Office closes at noon

VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY

A Half-Hour Prelude will precede each service

4pm Nursery available for 1st service
4:30pm Festival Holy Eucharist Rite II
7:30pm Festival Holy Eucharist Rite I (Incense)

11pm Festival Holy Eucharist Rite II (Incense)

Tuesday, December 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY Office Closed

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

10:30am Christmas Day Service/HE Rite II

Wednesday, December 26- Office Closed

SAINT STEPHEN, DEACON AND MARTYR

Thursday, December 27

SAINT JOHN APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

7am Men's Bible Study
7:30pm Advent College Board Games
7am Men's Bible Study & Fellowship
12:15pm Holy Eucharist/Healing
7:30pm Board Games & Theology

Friday, December 28

THE HOLY INNOCENTS

Office Closes at 1pm

SUNDAY, December 30

The First Sunday After Christmas Day

Two-Service Sunday

8am Holy Eucharist I
10:30am Holy Eucharist II

Monday, December 31

Office Closes at 1pm; Deadline to deliver year-end donations for 2018

Tuesday, January 1

Office Closed

5:30pm Holy Eucharist/Healing

Wednesday, January 2

10am Staff Meeting

Thursday, January 3

7am Men's Bible Study & Fellowship
12:15pm Holy Eucharist/Healing

SUNDAY, January 6-THE EPIPHANY

7:45am Holy Eucharist I
9am Holy Eucharist II
10:10am Sunday School for all ages
11:15am Holy Eucharist I

Tuesday, January 8

7am High School Prayer Breakfast
9:15am ECW Board
11:45am Cancer Assoc. Luncheon
5:30pm Holy Eucharist & Healing
7:30pm Venus Pie Group 11th-12th Grades

Wednesday, January 9

11:45am EpiscoPals

Thursday, January 10

7am Men's Bible Study & Fellowship
7am Middle School Prayer Breakfast
10am Summit Hills Holy Eucharist
12:15pm Holy Eucharist/Healing

Wow, Thank You All!

The Rev. Debbie Apoldo, Associate for Christian Formation

When we take a new position in the world of business, we generally tell people we were *hired*. We are *recruited* to take on a volunteer opportunity. We might be *asked* or *invited* to join an organization. In the church we often speak of a transition or a new opportunity as a *call*. That is to say, we try our best to discern whether or not such an opportunity is something that God is presenting to us – something to which he is calling us.

In the summer of 2014 I knew I was being called to something new. My time at the church in Louisville was coming to an end and I was looking for the next great thing the Lord had in store for me. That next great thing turned out to be a call to The Advent. The way it all came together is still a marvel to me; a great church, a great community and a rector whom I'd known, respected and loved for several years.

This four years has been pure joy for me. I have loved worshiping, serving and just being with all of you here at The Advent. I can honestly say I've never worked with a more committed group of colleagues on a staff anywhere either in my secular career or as an ordained person. As for the various ministries of this parish, all I can say is "wow." It has all been an inspiration.

Please know that I will never forget the love and care that so many of you showed to me and to my brothers when my mother died last February. The notes and food and prayers and love were extraordinary gifts that we cherish.

So now I believe the Lord has called me to St. Christopher's. Am I happy that this calling is just down the road from The Advent? You bet I am! How blessed am I that I get to go from one great thing to another? Thank you, Lord.

Thank you friends on the staff. Thank you, Ned. Thank you brothers and sisters in Christ at The Advent. It has been a lot of fun.

With much love,

Debbie

[Editor's Note: **Reception for The Rev. Deborah Apoldo:** Please join us in the Parish and Community Life Center Lobby following the 11:15am service on December 2 as we honor Debbie and bid her farewell.]

Advent 2018

The new church year begins with the first Sunday of Advent which this year is December 2.

Devotional Booklet Available beginning November 25

Several parishioners, clergy and staff members have created a devotional booklet titled *Keep Company With Me* as just one way to enhance our Advent journey. In this booklet you will find Scripture readings and reflections that speak to themes of waiting and watching. Pick up your copy at various locations around the church and in the Parish and Community Life Center. You may also view and download it online at <https://tinyurl.com/y9xdagzp>.

Wednesday, December 19 – Dinner and a special Advent program for all ages with teaching and traditions of the season.

Sunday Formation Opportunities for Adults

10:15-11:05am

The Gleaners Sunday School Class

The Library Conference Room in Satterlee Hall

This is an ongoing class with singing, religious art appreciation and Bible study based on the lectionary readings for the week. There is a strong sense of fellowship and belonging among all who participate in the Gleaners. It's a great place to plug into the life of the church and meet new friends. All are invited and welcome.

The Seekers Sunday School Class

Dining Room A in The Parish and Community Life Center

The current study is focused on the faith and influence of various groups in the history of our own Anglican (Church of England) tradition. The lecture and discussion is being led by Dr. Anne Rodrick, Associate Professor of History at Wofford College.

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Parents in Community Fellowship

Dining Room C of the Parish and Community Life Center

Parents of children of all ages gather to learn from one another and to discuss teachings from various sources. Sometimes the class uses a DVD series, sometimes there are guest speakers, and sometimes the focus is a discussion on an article or current concerns that have to do with raising a family. All topics are centered around our lives of faith and how we both grow in our own faith and convey Christian principles to our children.

Welcome to Sunday!

Dining Room B of the Parish and Community Life Center

This class focuses on the traditions and practices of The Episcopal Church including such topics as: Anglican Spiritual Traditions, Church Music and The Hymnal 1982, Seasons of the Church Year, The Book of Common Prayer, etc. The format is informal and includes both teaching and discussion in a seminar approach. The weekly classes are designed to accommodate drop-ins. It's a great place to dig deeper into the hows and whys of being an Episcopalian.

Book and Bible Study Opportunities**Men's Bible Study and Fellowship**

Thursdays at 7am. On the third Thursday, we meet at 6:45am for breakfast.

Dining Room C of the Parish and Community Life Center

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.

Book and Brown Bag

Tuesdays through December 10

12:15-1:10pm in Dining Room C of the Parish and Community Life Center

Join our rector, Ned Morris, as we continue our discussion of *Yes, Jesus: A Pilgrimage* by James Martin. The book is \$13, and it is available from Jeanelle Smith in Satterlee Hall.

Bishop Waldo's Visitation, Bishop's Forum, and Youth Confirmation Sunday, December 16

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Waldo will join us at the Bishop's Forum during the Sunday School hour and will be the celebrant and preacher at the 11:15am service. Join us for a reception immediately following the 11:15am service in the PCLC Lobby.

Adult Confirmation Class in the Spring

Confirmation Sunday for adults will be May 19, 2019. If you are thinking about officially joining the Episcopal Church or if you'd like to refresh your memory about the core tenets of our Anglican heritage and traditions, be on the lookout for the dates for the next confirmation class. Information will be forthcoming in the Parish Paper and in the Bell Ringer.



Troop 1 Piggly Fest Preparations



Youth Breakout Room Success



Enjoying Lunch at the Bazaar

Message from the Vestry

We are making big strides at the Advent to show that Christ's Light Be Seen in Us, our vision statement. We established the new Seekers Sunday School Class, taught by Dr. Anne Rodrick and attended by ~ 40 people each week. We have set a goal of funding the Outreach Director's position so that we can increase and strengthen ties to our community partners. For example, what has been accomplished by dozens of Advent volunteers at Mary H. Wright Elementary School has been transformative for her student and staff. We can do much more! This year's Oyster Roast and ECW Bazaar were amazing examples of community-building experiences within our parish. As a result of these fundraisers, we are able to partner with local nonprofits to improve the lives of many in our community. Help sustain these efforts with your enthusiasm, prayers, service and gifts!

Please help us wrap up the 2019 Stewardship Campaign by December 25 by making your pledge. Pledges can be made through the church's website (www.churchofadvent.org), telephoning or emailing Joanne Wood, Parish Administrator (864-504-3691, jwood@churchofadvent.org), or using a pledge card found in the pew rack. A BIG THANKS to everyone who has already pledged! As of November 26, we have received \$1,558,938 in pledges and need ~ \$ 241,000 more to reach our goal. Your gift makes a difference!

Mary H. Wright Elementary School Ministry

Warm Fuzzy Trees: In conjunction with Operation Magi, the Parents In Community class is resurrecting the Warm Fuzzy Tree benefitting the children of Mary H. Wright Elementary. The Warm Fuzzy Tree will be set up in the Parish and Community Life Center Lobby and donations of sets of gloves, hats, scarves, extra-warm socks, ear muffs, etc. will serve as decorations. Please help us to load down the tree by December 18 when the MHW families come to pick up their Operation Magi packages. While those parents are invited to select one item, most "warm and fuzzies" go the school coat closet and are distributed by teachers/administrators based on need.

Polar Express will take place on Friday, December 21. It is 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. We are assessing our volunteer needs. Please call Joy Oates at 864-415-9095 or Julie Schwartz at 864-504-8776 to learn more. Thank you for sharing God's light and love with these children and volunteering for our Fall activities!

*SPIHN (Spartanburg Interfaith Hospitality Network) Week: January 6-13, 2019*

Spartanburg Interfaith Hospitality Network families will be joining us for the first full week of January. We will need your help for setup & breakdown, meals, hosting dinner time and staying the evening. If you are able to assist, please use our SignUpGenius link: <https://tinyurl.com/y73zdkak>. You may also contact Steve Wyman at 864-621-4148 or jsstevew@gmail.com.

December 2018 Flowers

First Sunday in December - December 2**Altar Memorial**

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Dr. Francis N. Belmont by his family

Baptismal Font

The flowers that adorn the baptismal font are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Steve A. Reynolds and Gladys M. Strout by their family

Second Sunday in December - December 9**Altar Memorial**

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of William Alton Crow and Mathilda Dixon Kyser Crow given by their son, George

Third Sunday in December - December 16**Altar Memorial**

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Elizabeth and Theodore Gage and Watt Smith II by their family

Fourth Sunday in December, December 23 (none)**Christmas Eve, December 24**

The flowers that adorn the altar and the baptismal font are given to the glory of God by families honoring their loved ones with Christmas Memorials.

Fifth Sunday in December - December 30**Altar Memorials**

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of William and Grace Rothemich and Austin and Jeanette Sykes by their family
in thanksgiving to God for the blessings He gave to us through the life of William Sidney Bagwell, Jr.

January 2019 Flowers

First Sunday in January - January 6**Altar Memorials**

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Frank and Rosie Cunningham by Mr. and Mrs. Reed L. Cunningham,
Mr. Frank H. Cunningham IV, and Mr. Charles C. Cunningham

Second Sunday in January - January 13**Altar Memorial**

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Louise and Jim Hodge from their children

Third Sunday in January - January 20**Altar Memorial**

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Dick and Kathryn Nesbitt Galloway by June and Glen Boggs
in the memory and celebration of the life of Roy McBee Smith, Senior

Fourth Sunday in January - January 27**Altar Memorial**

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Timothy Scott Llewelyn, M.D. by his family
in loving memory of Jean Price Blackford, John William Drake IV, Roger Steven Refshauge and other loved ones
by their family

Baptismal Font

The flowers that adorn the baptismal font are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Andrew Garrison Goldstein by his family

Friday, January 11

6pm Cello Times Two Dinner & Concert

SUNDAY, January 13-2nd Epiphany

7:45am Holy Eucharist I

9am Holy Eucharist II

10:15am Sunday School for all ages

11:15am Holy Eucharist II

5:30pm Sunday Night Worship Committee

6pm Sunday Night Youth ConneXion

Monday, January 14

10am Serendipity Circle

12pm Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, January 15

7am High School Prayer Breakfast

5:30pm Holy Eucharist & Healing

Thursday, January 17

6:45am Men's Bible Study Breakfast

7am Middle School Prayer Breakfast

12:15pm Holy Eucharist/Healing

SUNDAY, January 20-3rd Epiphany

7:45am Holy Eucharist I

9am Holy Eucharist II

10:15am Sunday School for all ages

11:15am Holy Eucharist Rite I

6:30pm Fellowship Group

Monday, January 21-Office Closed

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Tuesday, January 22

7am High School Prayer Breakfast

5:30pm Holy Eucharist & Healing

7:30pm Venus Pie Group 11th-12th

Grades

Thursday, January 24

7am Men's Bible Study

7am Middle School Prayer Breakfast

12:15pm Holy Eucharist/Healing

5:30pm Sunday Night Worship Committee

7:30pm Board Games & Theology

Saturday, January 26

8am-4:30pm Troop 1 Merit Badge College

SUNDAY, January 27-3rd Epiphany

Annual Meeting Sunday

7:45am Holy Eucharist I

9am Holy Eucharist II

10am Annual Meeting and Pilgrimage Chili Sales/Adventure Kingdom

11:15am Holy Eucharist II

Tuesday, January 29

7am High School Prayer Breakfast

5:30pm Holy Eucharist & Healing

Thursday, January 31

7am Men's Bible Study

7am Middle School Prayer Breakfast

News from the Advent Children's Center

The Advent Children's Center's FOURS class will perform for the Wednesday Night Dinner on Wednesday, December 5. The parents and children will join in the dinner and fellowship prior to singing! Reservations will be necessary for the dinner.

The preschool's last day before the Christmas holiday is Friday, December 21. The classes will resume on Monday, January 7. The staff would like to wish all of the parishioners a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The support of the parish is vital to the quality of our program.

The Advent Children's Center will begin the 2018-2019 registration on February 11, 2019. Registration on February 11 is for children currently enrolled in the ACC and siblings. Registration for parishioners of the Episcopal Church of the Advent, not already enrolled will begin on February 19. Registration will be open to the public on February 25. Please contact the ACC office for registration information at kborowski@churchofadvent.org or 864-585-7143. Please visit the preschool website for more information.

Youth Happenings

Bishop's Visitation and Confirmation Sunday: Bishop Waldo will be with us on December 16. Youth Confirmands and their families will join him for the 12:45pm reception that will follow the 11:15am service. Rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, December 12.

Sunday Night Youth ConneXion Group Christmas Party! 6pm on December 9 in the Youth Center.

Prayer Breakfasts: December 11 and 13 will be the last Prayer Breakfasts for 2018. We'll resume on Jan. 8 & 10.

The 2020 Pilgrimage Chili Sale will take place after the Annual Meeting on January 27. The Youth will offer White Chicken Chili and Black Bean Turkey Chili. The cost will be \$9.



Holiday Office Schedule

Monday, Dec. 24 - closed at noon

Tuesday, Dec. 25, and

Wednesday, Dec. 26 - closed

Friday, Dec. 28 - closed at 1pm

****Monday, Dec. 31 - office closes at 1pm. Deadline to deliver year-end donations for 2018****

Tuesday, Jan. 1 - closed

Monday, Jan. 21 - closed for MLK Day

Reminder: The Parish Paper Submission Deadline for the February issue will be Wednesday, January 16.

Christmas Memorials bulletin deadline is Tuesday, Dec. 18

Christmas flower donations may be made in memory, honor or thanksgiving of loved ones. Please return your form with your donation to the church office or place it the offering plate enclosed in an envelope. Forms have been placed in Satterlee Hall, Pendleton Hall and the pews. The deadline for inclusion in the Christmas bulletin is Tuesday, December 18, at 4pm. We regret that memorials may not be made over the phone.

News from the Music Department

The Upstate Brass Project inaugural concert was a big success!

Christmas pageant! Sunday, December 23 – “Light of the World”; third year in a row; it’ll be glorious!

Christmas Eve Music – Rhea Jacobus, flute and Ken Frick, trumpet at 4:30pm; “A Garland of Carols” by Anna Laura Page for the pre-service music at 7:30 and 11pm; half an hour of music before each service.

Friday, January 11 – Dinner and Music Event: Dinner time two featuring “Cello times two”, Brenda Leonard and Ben Smith, cellists. Tickets are \$25 each and will be sold after Christmas Eve; 6:30pm dinner; 7:30pm concert.



Christmas Pageant: Light of the World December 23, 10:30am

We need lots of animals, angels and shepherds to make our pageant a special time of worship and celebration. Parents, please let Maggie Delaney know if your child wants to participate: 864-680-7809 or maggs623@hotmail.com. We will have a single rehearsal at 10am on Saturday, December 22.

We will have a post-Pageant celebration in the Parish and Community Life Center (PCLC) with doughnuts and hot chocolate. Please plan to join us for this fun and exciting time!

Wednesdays in Advent

December 5: Children’s Activity - Special Performance by Children of the Advent Children’s Center

Dinner will be served at 5:45pm in the PCLC Dining Rooms. The nursery will open at 6:15pm for children ages 3 and under. All other children will remain in the dining rooms with their families. Please RSVP for dinner by 5pm on Monday, December 3, by contacting Gail Owens at 864-583-2438 or gowens@churchofadvent.org. Nursery care RSVPs should be emailed to bnriviera91@gmail.com. Cost: \$7 for adults, \$4 for children ages 4-12, and free for children age 3 and under with a \$30 max per family.

December 19: Dinner and a special Advent program for all ages with teaching and traditions of the season.

BIRTHDAYS

(Ages 1-11)



DECEMBER

- 3 - Philip Allen
- 3 - Anna Hammitt
- 5 - Noelle Marchand
- 8 - Merrill Loring
- 10 - Cecilia Battocchio
- 10 - Eric Battocchio
- 10 - Trey Francis
- 14 - Emily Hammitt
- 17 - Will Swofford
- 22 - Alaina Carter
- 26 - Eleanor Bass
- 26 - Hal Bass
- 28 - Herbert Fritz
- 29 - Evans Taylor
- 29 - Mae Taylor
- 31 - Worth Montgomery

JANUARY

- 1 - Hayden Lewis
- 8 - Robert Loftis
- 9 - Herschell Montgomery
- 11 - Caroline Moody
- 11 - Olivia Moody
- 16 - William Cribb
- 17 - Eliza Fritz
- 19 - Dexter Stevens
- 21 - Jefferson Rousey
- 22 - Mallory Moore
- 25 - Audrey Soto

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT
PRAYER LIST AS OF NOVEMBER 29, 2018**

WE ARE ASKED TO REMEMBER THESE PARISHIONERS: Beverly Barrs, Gloria Bock, Ed Borg, Debbie Bowdish, Mac Cates, Judith Chase, Marianne Clark, Terry Clark, Arthur Cleveland, Ted Conwell, Phyllis Delapp, Carolyn Doepner, Roland Doepner, Roy Ellis, Sue Fisher, David Fudge, Aly Goodwin, Ed Hall, Linda Hays, Bob Heim, Taft Hunt, Betty Irwin, Pinckney Irwin, Julian Josey, Cibby Krell, George Leamy, Diane Lee, Jesse Martin, Jim McCabe, Jim McCullough, Glenn McGee, Kathleen McGee, Anne McIntyre, Iris Milhous, Cynthia Moseley, Dinny Moses, Mark Mullen, Herb Neely, Marion Nichols, Francie Satterfield, Prudy Scott, Molly McCuen Sherard, Grace Smith, Allene Taylor, Susan Taylor, Florence Twitty, James Warrington, and Ginger Watson

AND FOR THESE PERSONS: Cody Bowman, Jim Burchfield, Melvin Cantrell, Jim Carlisle, Joann Carlisle, Mason Carlisle, Danny Cash, Roy Cole, Chase Comer, Aiden Rito Cope, Steve Crane, Jennifer DeClaremont, Lester Dixon, Devin Edwards, Talon Edwards, Mary Satterlee Egglezos, Al Folcher, Sally Foster, Larry Head, Rusty Hollifield, Rick Holm, Joan Horvath, Ann Huckaby, Ken Huckaby, Barbara Humphries, Dick Humphries, Mary Kinard, Patrick Lea, Donghee Lee, Mary Jo Lounsberry, Tony Messel, Cindy Monkouski, Felicia Montabano, Julia Oates, Tony Owens, Carla Paxton, Jack Pikiewicz, Randy Romberger, Martha Sams, Madison Simpson, Carolyn Smyth, Grayson Spring, Clary Spouse, Stephanie Stewart; Karen Toth, Ray Trail, Nicholas Voyadgis, Linda Weatherred, Ellen Watters Wilkins, Myles Whitlock, and Justin Daniel Wyatt

FOR THESE PERSONS SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: Halcott R. Carter (Navy), Maren W. Catolico (Army National Guard), Christopher Guyne (Air Force), Michael R. Hall (Air Force), Alex Holland (Army), Tripp Lynn (Navy), Travis Moore (Army National Guard), Michael McCraw (Navy), Friedan McLean (Air Force), Brian Parker (Navy), Wayne Pennington (Army), Joshua Scybert (Army), Keytrick Thompson (Army), John Watters (Navy), and Russell Westenhaver (Army Special Forces)

FOR THESE EXPECTANT COUPLES: Katherine and Ben Anthony, Caroline and Martin Boyd, Tom and Sara Blackman Dolinak, Chuck and Mary Caroline Rhodes Gray, Mimi and John Langford, Kellie and Jason Lyle, Fayssoux and JG Moss, Faith and Gary Pope, Greg and Kathleen Lynn Ricker, and Laney and Marcus White

FOR THE BIRTH OF THESE CHILDREN: Rhett McCraw, son of Anne and Rhett McCraw; and Oliver Bowman Rhodes, son of Rachel and Richard Rhodes and grandson of Mary Hope and Richard Rhodes

FOR THESE PERSONS WHO HAVE DIED: Anna Cay Hawes, Giles Lewis, John William Nelson, David Watters, and Ben Willard

For all updates or additions to the Advent Prayer List, please contact The Reverend Paula Griffin at (864)504-3686 or pgriffin@churchofadvent.org.

*In case of a pastoral emergency after hours, please call 864-590-5602 for the clergy member on call.
During office hours, please call 864-504-3686 or 864-585-2268.*

Ecumenical Blood Drive Thank You!



We would like to thank everyone who participated in our June 3 and November 4 ecumenical blood drives. The Advent has been awarded \$770, and these funds will benefit the 2020 Youth Pilgrimage! They are grateful for your participation. Please encourage your friends to join this life-saving ministry.

Our next blood drive is scheduled for Sunday, February 17. Please mark your calendars and reserve your spot on the bloodmobile when the sign-up opportunities are advertised in our weekly newsletter, the Bell Ringer, and the Sunday night Happenings email.



141 Advent Street | Spartanburg SC | 29302

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PARISH MANAGEMENT | VESTRY

DEC. 2018-JAN. 2019

2018 DONATIONS INFORMATION: All donations to the church must be delivered to the church by 1pm on December 31, 2018 or postmarked by December 31, 2018 in order to receive credit for the year 2018.

ANNUAL MEETING: January 27, 2019, 10am. PCLC Gym

Commission/Team Meetings

| | |
|--|---|
| Foundation Board 5pm December 4 | St. Francis & St. Clare 1:15pm Dec. 12, Jan. 9 |
| Parish Life Commission 5:30pm Dec. 10, Jan. 14 | Parish Management 5:30pm Dec. 17, Jan. 23 |
| Liturgy Commission 3pm Dec. 11, Jan. 8 | Adult Formation Comm. TBD Vestry |
| Stewardship 6:15pm Dec. 11, Jan. 8 | 6:15pm Jan. 8, TBD |
| Outreach Commission 12:15pm Dec. 12, Jan. 9 | Altar Guild Board: 4:45pm Jan. 9 Music Committee 4:30pm Jan. 31 |

The Episcopal Church of the Advent Analysis of Revenues & Expenses October 2018

| | YTD Actual | Last Year Actual |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| YTD Total Pledge Contribution | \$1,354,842 | \$1,333,243 |
| YTD Total Revenues | \$1,458,449 | \$1,482,155 |
| YTD Expenses | \$1,630,030 | \$1,532,415 |

2018 VESTRY MEMBERS

SENIOR WARDEN

MELISSA JOHNSON (2020) | mdjohnson0101@gmail.com

JUNIOR WARDEN

MARTHA SCHWARTZ (2019) | mwschwartz@charter.net

JUNIOR WARDEN-ELECT

JIM LITTLE (2021) | jlittle2608@charter.net

VESTRY

MILLER BRICE (2019) | millerbrice@charter.net
 DAVID BOWDISH (2019) | davidbowdish@bellsouth.net
 BILL COKER (2019) | bill.coker@southstatewealth.com
 WITNEY FISHER (2019) | witneyfisher@gmail.com
 JAMES MULLEN (2019) | jmarkmullen10@gmail.com
 NANCY GAGE (2020) | nsgage@bellsouth.net
 BRENDA LYTLER (2020) | bsevans38@gmail.com
 TRAVIS MOORE (2020) | travis@upstatelawsc.com
 JOHN PRICE (2020) | thorprice22@gmail.com
 JEAN DUNBAR (2021) | jeandunbar@att.net
 HUGH JAMES (2021) | hjames@charter.net
 CLINT SETTLE (2021) | clintsettle@scfbins.com
 BEA SMITH (2021) | beawsmith123@gmail.com