

# e-Announcer

December

2012



## Schedule of Services

### December 2012

#### Inside this issue:

Advent...	2
Sunday School	3
Poinsettias	
Holy Spirit	
Open House	
Parish Meeting	4
Women's Retreat	
Dinner...	
Care Notes	5
EYC @ Work/Play	
Giving...	
Room in the Inn	6
Favorite Hymns	
Odds & Ends	7
Thank you...	
Anniversaries	
Birthdays	

### *The Second Sunday of Advent, December 4*

*8:00 a.m.—Holy Communion and Sermon*

*9:15 a.m.—Annual Parish Meeting in the Sanctuary*

*10:30 a.m.—Holy Communion and Sermon*

### *The Third Sunday of Advent, December 11*

*8:00 a.m.—Holy Communion and Sermon*

*10:30 a.m.—Advent Lessons and Carols*

### *The Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18*

*8:00 a.m.—Holy Communion and Sermon*

*10:30 a.m.—Holy Communion & Sermon*

### *Christmas Eve, December 24*

*4:00 p.m.—Holy Communion and Sermon with Setting of the Crèche*

*10:00 p.m.—Music of Christmas with Advent's Choirs*

*10:30 p.m.—Festal Holy Communion and Sermon*

### *Christmas Day, December 25*

*10:30 a.m.—Holy Communion and Sermon*

### *Epiphany Celebration, Sunday, January 8*

*4:00 p.m.—Epiphany Celebration: A Feast of Lights*

# Advent...

## *It's All About Anticipation*

Advent is about preparation --- preparing for the coming of Jesus now and again. Advent is about waiting --- waiting for salvation which comes not from us or on our own but by means of a savior. Advent is all about anticipation. Yet, Christmas moves further backwards every year. The retailers must think it is a good idea because before Halloween (another holy day that has been usurped by the commercial world) is over, the Christmas "stuff" appears. Before Thanksgiving, now we hear "previews" of Christmas Music...on Christian radio stations, no less. So much for anticipation... We may not be able to fight the world and "win" at their game; however, we can use our world, the Church, and the Advent season to our spiritual benefit.

We can **retreat** with quietude as we prepare for the advent, the coming of God's love in Emmanuel. We are called to "cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which our Lord Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility..." (Romans 13:12 and the BCP, Collect for First Sunday of Advent).

We can **return** in love and service to the world with its many needs. In a season that is to be filled with joy, there are often crises and difficulties and sadness which surface. We, the family of God, can offer ourselves to others both individually and through the many programs of giving. Also, we can bring the burdens and hopes shared with us in prayers of supplication, thanksgiving, and anticipation of God's work and love.

And, we can **renew** our sense of wonder, awe, and joy as we travel the road to Bethlehem once again with a young mother bearing God's Son. As we open the doors of an Advent Calendar and count the days to Jesus' birth with childlike intensity... As we look up at the stars and imagine the Magi led to a stable "rude and bare"... As we carry a gift to a neighbor or friend who needs the visit more than the "token"... As we gather with friends to share the warmth of company and fellowship... All remind us that we are anticipating someone's arrival.

*A few resources available:* Two different handouts for daily family prayers around your Advent wreath are available in the Narthex. Additionally, there are several resources available for individuals to use for daily devotions during this season.

Also, a favorite idea given by dear friends in the ministry years ago is to use your crèche all during Advent season. Set up your "Bethlehem" location and begin Mary and Joseph (and their donkey, if you have one) on their journey. Share the task/joy of moving the figures - from windowsill to cabinet-top --- each day among the family members. The encouragement to all is to have fun and learn about the "journey" to Christmas as we do the steps ourselves. Past experience tells that all ages enjoy participating as we prepare for Bethlehem and the birth of our Lord.

In anticipation with all joy!  
Tom H.

## Adult Sunday School Offerings In December

Adult classes will **NOT** meet Sunday, December 4th due to the Annual Parish Meeting or Christmas Day, December 25th.

We continue with the study of the **First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians** in the library led by Larry Douglass & Tom Jurka.

**“Reel Theology: Christian Themes from TV & Film,”** facilitated by Jane Simmons, Marcia Hotchkiss and the Rev. Tom Hotchkiss, continues in the Moss Room. There will be a wide variety of “clips” shown and wide-ranging discussion around the themes discovered. Please feel free to join once or for the whole series.

## Dedicate A Poinsettia This Christmas

Every Christmas, Adventers may dedicate poinsettias in memory of... or in thanksgiving of... loved ones. These poinsettias will be displayed on Christmas Eve and the next two Sundays (after which you may take your poinsettias home). Your poinsettia dedications will be printed in both of

the Christmas Eve bulletins. The cost is \$10.00 per plant.

Form are available in the Narthex metal literature rack. Please put “Poinsettia” in the memo line of your check. **Sunday, December 18th** is the deadline to make your dedications.

## Chapter Of The Holy Spirit Christmas Potluck Dinner

The Chapter of the Holy will meet again on **Thursday, December 8th** at **6:30 p.m.** (\*note earlier date & time!) at the home of Betty Douglass. They will forgo the book discussion and join in fellowship and a Christmas Potluck. The main course will be provided, but everyone is

asked to bring a side dish (veggies, fruit, rolls, dessert, etc.).

Holy Spirit is a relaxed book club who (*usually*) meet on the third Thursday of every month. Visitors are always welcome and you need not commit to attend *every* meeting. For further information contact the church office.

## Advent Open House At The Rectory

On **Sunday, December 18th**, the Third Sunday of Advent, there will be an **Advent Open House** at the Rectory hosted by The Rev. Tom and Marcia Hotchkiss from **3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.**

Drop by anytime between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Come enjoy the company of “fellow saints” and help celebrate the Church of the Advent during “our season.” Everyone is welcome.

## Annual Parish Meeting

The 153<sup>rd</sup> Parish Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, December 4th from 9:15-10:15 a.m.** The meeting will be held in the church and conclude promptly before the 10:30 a.m. service. All are invited to attend. Confirmed members 16 years and older are permitted to vote. Children's Sunday school teachers will have ballots brought to them.

We will hear reports on the past year from the Senior and Junior Wardens and the Treasurer, Lay Assistant, Pastoral Care, as well as

the Rector. We will recognize several accomplishments of the past year, and we will recognize and thank our outgoing Vestry Members.

At the meeting, we will vote to replace outgoing Vestry Members, Wayne Bennett, Liz Lee, Christian Niemeyer, Landy Norris, and Paula Taylor. Parishioners consenting to run are: Bill Ballard, Joe Collins, Agenia Clark, Bill Hurst, Oliver McIntyre, and Stuart Nicholson. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the meeting.

## Annual Women's Retreat

The Advent Women's Retreat will be held on **January 27, 28, 29, 2012** at Montgomery Bell State Park. This year our speaker will be Marcia Hotchkiss. Marcia will be talking with us about Listening—Listening to Others and Listening to God. **Registration deadline is December 5th (firm).** So make plans now.

Double Room Occupancy \$ 140.00  
Single Room Occupancy \$ 198.00  
Weekend Rate includes Saturday Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Sunday Breakfast. Everyone is on their own for Friday dinner, although dinner at the lodge is \$16.95 plus tax and gratuity. First Session is at 7:00 on Friday evening.



If you have any questions, please call  
Melissa Albert, Lynn Conroy,  
Carol Lynn McCarty, Virginia Stokes  
or the church office.

## Stockholder's Dinner

The Youth of Advent will host a dinner on **Sunday, December 4th at 6:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall to express appreciation for those who supported last summer's mission trip to the Appalachian Mountains in North Carolina. There will be great food, a wonderful video production, testimonials by participants, and some swanky dance steps performed to worship music.

The entire congregation is invited to attend (whether or not you "bought stock"). There is no cost! There will be some items available for Silent Auction with the proceeds going towards our Youth Missions. The youth will be reminiscing about last summer's trip while also anticipating the upcoming 2012 mission trip opportunity. Please come to find out more and to support the outreach ministry of Advent's Youth.



## Care Notes

- ♥ We welcome into the body of Christ:



Cadence Edwards  
Matthew Hailey and  
Nicholas Hailey who  
were baptized on  
November 6, 2011.

- ♥ We mourn the loss of Bill Parsons who died on November 10, 2011. Our prayers of sympathy are extended to his wife, Andrea and their entire family.

## Advent's Youth At St. Luke's Carnival

Advent Youth manned games at the annual St. Luke's Halloween Carnival on October 27th. Pin the Nose on the Pumpkin, Attach the Spider to His Web, and Make Your Own Mask were a few of the activities in which pre-schoolers and elementary students were



able to compete in order to win prizes. It was a busy two hours with hundreds of children on hand to participate. St. Luke's Community House certainly knows how to throw a Halloween party. It's yet to be determined who actually had more fun: the children or the volunteers.

## Special Charitable Giving Opportunity

If you have a 401K or IRA and are 70 ½ or older at the time you make the gift, you may give directly from one of these accounts to your favorite charity. ***It must be done correctly and before December 31, 2011.*** To do so, you contact the broker or firm managing your account and authorize them to transfer

the funds *directly* to the charity before December 31, 2011. For many folks this helps satisfy their Required Minimum Distribution for the year and may be excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Your broker is the source of correct/further information.

### **Rector**

The Rev. Thomas S. Hotchkiss  
**Lay Assistant for Youth &  
Young Adult Ministry**  
Lynne Walker

### **Officers**

**Senior Warden**  
Frank Field  
**Junior Warden**  
Jerry Rice  
**Treasurer**  
Gregg Conroy

### **Vestry**

Barbara Jones, Bobbie Krieger,  
Stuart Nicholson,  
Christian Niemeyer, Landy Norris,  
Phocian Sampson, Paula Taylor,  
Flora Ukoli, Anne Williams

### **Men's Club**

**President**-Dick Light  
**Vice-President**-Andy Milliken  
**Treasurer**-Landy Norris  
**Secretary**-Landy Norris

### **ECW Leadership Council**

**Bishop's Guild**-Vickie Markham  
**Fellowship**-Delaniah Bringle  
**Outreach**-Lynn Conroy  
**Parish Meals**-Joan Vollmer  
**Prayer Ministry**-Anoosh Howser  
**Treasurer**-Betty Douglass

### **Staff**

**Bookkeeper**-Lisa Gaines  
**Music Director**-Waldemar Wensell  
**Office Administrator**-Tina Cozby

## Room In The Inn

On Saturday night, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 12 Advent parishioners hosted eleven homeless men selected by Nashville's Campus for Human Development at the Rogers Center at St. Luke's Community House. Meat loaves by Emily Walker and Betty Douglass were complimented by mashed potatoes from Landy Norris, green beans by George Kelley, cornbread by Delaniah Bringle, soda by Kenny Prince and banana pudding by Enid Wiggins. Jim Gibson furnished the Sunday morning breakfast and Dede Samford provided sack lunches. As always, the food was superb. Transportation was accomplished by Deryck Wiggins, Jim Gibson, Kenny Prince and Larry Douglass. Kenny Prince's expertise with electronics enabled us to view the Louisiana State vs. Alabama football game in spite of many obstacles.

**Our next opportunity will be on Saturday night, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, followed by January 7<sup>th</sup>, February 4<sup>th</sup> and March 3<sup>rd</sup>. We already have several parishioners signed up for these events, but don't let this discourage you. **You, too, are needed.** You can furnish food or clothing, or you can furnish money to buy food or clothing. Men are always needed to spend the night with our guests. However, the most important part of this ministry is your opportunity just to spend an hour sitting at table, listening to and fellowshiping with our guests. This is a unique opportunity to see the world through the eyes of the homeless. It is also an important opportunity for you to dine with Royalty for, as Father Hotchkiss told us in his sermon on Matthew 25, the King will be there.

To make your reservation contact George Kelley or Larry Douglass.

## Favorite Hymns

Cecil Frances Alexander died on October 12, 1895. She was a remarkable woman (please do not be misled by the 'Cecil') who has given at least three or four favorite hymns to our worship. She was the author of *All things bright and beautiful*, *I sing a song of the saints of God*, and *There is a green hill far away*. In addition, she translated from the original Irish, St. Patrick's Breastplate, *I bind unto myself today*.

Perhaps, her best-known (and best-loved) hymn is the *Once in royal David's city*. Many people believe that Christmas really begins when the solo choirboy's voice sings out the first verse at the Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols Service broadcast from King's College Chapel, Cambridge, England.

As always, tunes are important, and there seems to be no dispute that H. Gauntlet's tune 'Irby' written for Alexander's *Once in royal David's city* is perfect. It fits the words and the words tell the story with beauty, strength, and conviction.

We can all thank God for Mrs. Alexander's wonderful gift. She was greatly loved by all who knew her. She worked tirelessly with the poor and needy, and the profits that she received from her writings all went to an Irish school for children with speech difficulties. Her hymns, especially *Once in royal David's city*, brighten our lives and worship to this day.

♥ Taddled and adapted from *Glory, Laud, & Honor* by Peter Harvey

# ▶▶ Odds & Ends

- 🔔 The Men's Club will gather for their monthly breakfast meeting on **Saturday, December 3rd at 8:00 a.m.** in the Moss Room. The date, time & place for the monthly birthday gathering will be announced a.s.a.p.
- 🔔 All Adopt-A-Family/Senior gifts **MUST** be delivered by **Friday, December 9th**. If delivering gifts directly to the family you **MUST** notify St. Luke's, 615.350.7893.
- 🔔 Join us for a Advent Lessons and Carols on **Sunday, December 11th at the 10:30 a.m. service**.
- 🔔 A sign up poster to usher at the 8:00 a.m. services through December is in the narthex. We need two volunteers each Sunday. Thank you for your gift of time.
- 🔔 Church of the Advent donated \$318.00 to the Fall United Thank Offering In-

gathering. Thanks Advent!

- 🔔 For the month of November Church of the Advent donated 56 pounds of food to the Second Harvest Food Bank. Thanks!
- 🔔 Available in the Parish Hall Media Center is the 2011 *Gifts for Life*, a Christmas catalog put out by the Episcopal Relief & Development. By selecting gifts from the *Gifts for Life* catalog you will help fight the effects of poverty and disease in communities around the globe. For each gift purchased you will receive a gift card to personalize and send to friends and loved ones. See the catalog for further information.
- 🔔 Guerry McComas' son, Clay, who is the chef at the Yellow Porch Restaurant on Thompson Lane was featured in a cooking show at the Nashville Farmer's Market. Clay cooked shrimp three different ways in fifteen minutes. Wow! And, congratulations to Clay and Guerry and Liz and the whole McComas Clan.
- 🔔 Emily & Joel Van Brocklin, who presented our Sermon Drama at the 10:30 a.m. service in October, are part of comedy troupe

who have recently produced their own DVD. You may remember from last month's e-nouncer that their group, Common Sense for Dummys, was one of six selected for airing on the Jimmy Fallon Show. The CS4D DVD is entitled "Cheap Shots for a Bad Economy." For more information, go to their website: <http://dvd.cs4d.com>

- 🔔 Mark your calendars now for the 2012 Annual Spring Parish Retreat Friday, March 23-Sunday, March 25, 2012
- 🔔 Prayer Time is held on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. All welcome.
- 🔔 Holy Communion is available Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All Welcome.
- 🔔 The first Sunday of every month is Nametag Sunday (but feel free to wear yours every Sunday).
- 🔔 If you would like to include an article in the Announcer, please remember the deadline is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday.
- 🔔 Send us your e-mail address to stay informed! Receive the monthly newsletter and pastoral updates via e-mail.

*Thank You!*

We would like to thank everyone for all of the prayers and expressions of affection and care during Nancy's recovery. She is almost fully recovered. Thanks to God.

Waldemar and Nancy Wensell

CELEBRATING AN *Anniversary*

31-Kendrick & Rebecca Edwards



- 1 Austin Hamill
- 1 Alan Koenig
- 2 Albert Koenig
- 4 Elissa Jensen
- 4 Rex Jones

- 5 Wilma Carney
- 5 T.J. DeMartino
- 9 John Bracewell
- 9 Harry Johnson
- 9 Sue Kurtz
- 10 Jim Hinson
- 10 Eric Howard
- 10 Tracy McMahan
- 11 Ruth Allen
- 12 Elizabeth Mehok
- 13 Cornelia Hollister
- 13 Enid Wiggins
- 15 Randy Dixon
- 16 Vincent DiNella
- 18 Mark Markham
- 18 Mary Dell Scobey
- 19 Nancy Wells
- 20 Leitha Stampfli
- 22 Larry Douglass
- 24 Olga Geller
- 24 Jack Green
- 26 Sandra Frank
- 28 Dick Blackburn
- 29 Albert Gross
- 30 Ava DiNella
- 30 Carla Fitzgerald