



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

THE PARISH PAPER

THAT CHRIST'S LIGHT BE SEEN IN US.

OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE RECTOR

Grounded in Love, Joy & Gratitude

Dearly Beloved,

My, oh my, how time has flown! In some ways, I feel like I just arrived here and am still the new guy. But in other ways it feels like I've been here for years. I think the reason that I sometimes feel like I've been here for much longer than 9 months is because of *you*, the people of The Advent. Y'all have warmly embraced Emily, Julian, Madeleine, and me and made us feel like we grew up here. You have taken us in and made us a part of your family, and for that, we are profoundly grateful. It was a big decision to pick up and move our family (with two young children) to an entirely new city, state, and church. We were happy where we were. But we felt God calling us to something and somewhere new, and that call brought us here to The Advent. And we are delighted to be here with you!

When reflecting on my time with you here, I keep landing on the *people*. Y'all are probably so used to yourselves that you don't realize just how remarkable you are—as individuals and as a parish. The number of human resources we have here makes ministry so much fun for me. There is never a week that goes by when I am not impressed by *yet another* parishioner or staff person who demonstrates a special gift for ministry. The bottom line is that I'm surrounded by talented, gifted, faithful Christians every day, and for that, I couldn't be more inspired, enthusiastic, and grateful.

One example of what I mean by my access to such impressive human resources has to do with our Stewardship Leadership Team, headed up by Trey Thies. Abigail Seay, King Mueller, and Trey each delivered incredibly authentic, meaningful, and inspiring stewardship messages in Sunday worship over the past three weeks. And the rest of the team has been working with our staff behind the scenes, preparing for our Consecration Sunday worship service (10:15 AM) and Celebration Luncheon afterwards on Sunday, October 4. I feel so blessed to be surrounded by such a capable, motivated team of folks who *love* The Advent and are serving on this team as a faithful, grateful response to that love.

My hope and prayer is that you have experienced this stewardship season as being grounded in love, joy, and gratitude. I am grateful to God for bringing my family and me to this incredible parish and community. My heart is full. And I pray that your heart is full as well and that together, our stewardship response will be grounded in that gratitude, love, and joy that we experience here at our wonderful parish!

Yours in Christ,



CONSECRATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 4





Wednesday Night
DINNER & PROGRAM

Schedule for Wednesdays:

- 5:15 PM Vessels of Grace (Holy Eucharist)
- 6:00 PM Dinner
- 6:30 PM Program

Wednesday Nights at The Advent are in full swing—come be part of it!

Schedule for October:

- **October 7**—St. Luke's Free Medical Clinic Presentation
- **October 14**—Bingo for Birdie ***see page 10***
- **October 21**—The Advent Bells History
- **October 28**—Vision Trip to Ecuador Recap



Reservations for Wednesday Night Dinners are **due by the Monday at 12 PM prior, each week.**

Meals are \$10, \$5 for children ages 4-12, and free for children ages 3 and under.

If you are unable to reserve online, please contact Gail Owens (gowens@churchofadvent.org or 864.583.2438). Gail is happy to accommodate any dietary restrictions (gluten-free and vegetarian) - just let her know when you make your reservation!



CALLING ALL FORMER ECW BAZAAR CHAIRS!

If you've ever chaired the Bazaar, we'd love to hear from you. As we prepare to celebrate our 80th ECW Bazaar, we're gathering memories, interesting tidbits, and funny stories from years past to help us remember some of the people and moments that have made the Bazaar so special over the years.

If you have a story or memory to share, please reach out to **Julie Schwartz at 864-504-8776.**

As you tidy up your home or begin making room for the seasons ahead, please consider donating to the Love Gifts and Emporium Booths!

- **Love Gifts**=Carefully maintained furniture, lamps, china, treasures, silver, and art.
- **The Emporium**=Accessories (costume jewelry, handbags) and any Holiday fun décor that needs a new home.

Please **contact Elisabeth Hayes** (586-2150 or email) to **coordinate a drop off time.** Drop off times are limited.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

IN THE KITCHEN—UP NEXT!

Come join us in the PCLC Kitchen as we cook up delicious casseroles and soups for the **ECW Bazaar's Prepared Foods!**

We'll be cooking from **9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Many hands make light work, so come lend a hand, enjoy some fellowship, and help us stock the Prepared Foods section for this year's Bazaar!

Here are those cook dates:

- Thursday, October 1
- Tuesday, October 6
- Thursday, October 8
- Thursday, October 15
- Thursday, October 22
- Thursday, October 29





What Makes Us Episcopalians? A Conversation about the historical, theological and relational ways we follow Jesus

Bring your curiosity and questions to a class designed to help us enter more deeply into the thoughts and practices that make our way of worship and living so rich and transformative. Together we'll explore how the "denomination" we

have chosen to be a part of was formed with roots in the 16th-century Reformation movement that swept through Europe and then into the American colonies, while still holding to many of the sacramental practices of the Roman Catholic Church. We'll see that the foundation of Anglicanism, which undergirds The Episcopal Church in the United States, makes our way of being Christian unique and compelling.

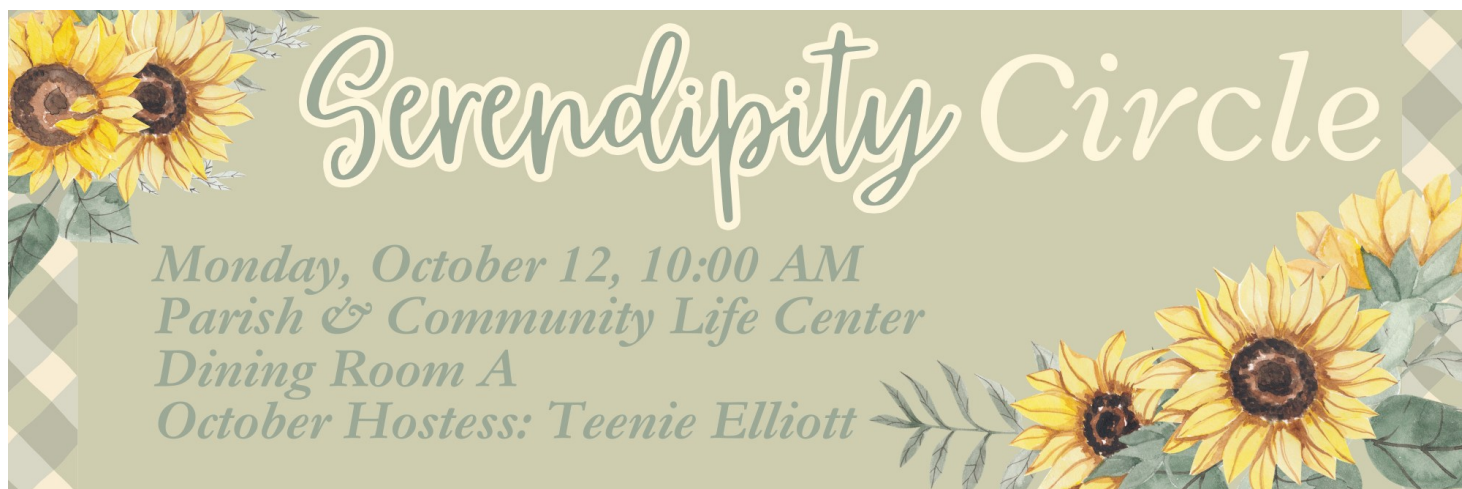
This class will be different from the traditional Confirmation Class that many of us have taken during our journey of faith formation. We'll dig a little deeper into the background and beliefs that inform our practices. We'll look especially at our denomination's reverence for *scripture*, our understanding of the role of *tradition*, how we engage our God-given *reason*, and the place that *experience* holds in how we find and follow Jesus day by day.

Whether you've been an Episcopalian your whole life, have come to the Episcopal Church from another tradition, or have just recently begun to explore this way of being Christian, you will grow in faith through this four-week class and the discussion it will generate.

Classes will be held from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM in the Parish and Community Life Center, Dining Room A, on Sundays, November 1, 8, 15, and 22.

A light lunch will be served, followed by a lesson and conversation. Join class leaders Trey Thies, Agnes Martin, and the Reverend Debbie Apoldo, who will guide us through this study.

Please reserve your spot using the QR code or [this link](#). Donations will be collected for the meal, and reservations are requested so we can plan accordingly. (*Reservations for each Sunday due by Thursdays at 12 PM.*)



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Hike & Hang

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1
4:00 - 6:00 PM

921 MURPH RD, PAULINE

BRING AN APPETIZER &
BEVERAGE TO SHARE

Fruit of the Spirit

Preparing Sour Cream
Rolls for the Bazaar &
Chats in the Kitchen

PCLC Kitchen

Bring an appetizer to
share and a drink of your
choice!

Tuesday, October 20, 5:30 PM

AUGUST

BY THE NUMBERS

August Average Attendance

Sunday	251 Total of both services (61 at 8 AM, 190 at 10:15 AM)	14% increase over August 2025
Wednesday	14	80% increase over August 2025

August Giving Report

	August	YTD Total (as of 8/31/2026)
Pledge Payments & Offerings Collected	\$157,582	\$1,495,048
Budgeted Amount	\$145,129	\$1,393,310

Our yearly budget is based on anticipated pledges and offerings, aiming for financial equilibrium with neither profit nor loss. Your generosity makes this possible.

2026 Pledge Update

- Thus far, 268 of 450 Advent households have pledged, totaling 60%.
- Thank you to all who have pledged!

We are excited about **Consecration Sunday, October 4.**

Reminder we have one worship service (10:15 AM) that day.

Building a Bright Future for Our Children and Youth

Exciting things are happening for children and youth at Advent! Last spring, we invited Ministry Architects to help us assess our children's and youth ministries and identify ways to build a stronger, more sustainable future. Through 10 focus groups involving 53 people, along with 13 survey responses, we heard from across our parish about our strengths, opportunities, and hopes for the future.

From this assessment came **24 recommendations**, organized into "What's Important Now" and "What's Important Next." An Implementation Team of parishioners began meeting in July to turn those recommendations into action—and we are already seeing progress!

In our first quarter, we have:

- Introduced attendance and sign-in/sign-out software for children and youth
- Refreshed our children's Sunday School classrooms
- Established a prayer team
- Begun developing a centralized 18-month ministry calendar
- Set a date for an on-site Vision Summit
- Begun streamlining communication for children, youth, and families



The Implementation Team meets weekly to celebrate progress, identify next steps, and work through challenges. Once a month, we meet for deeper discussion and planning.

The team is creating systems and support that will help our children's and youth ministries grow, thrive, and welcome more young people and families into the life of Advent.

Thank you to everyone who has shared ideas, offered prayers, volunteered time, and supported this important work. **There is much to celebrate—and much more to come!**



**Join the Celebration:
Sunday, October 25
Following the 10:15 AM service
Gathering by the Cleveland Bell Tower**

Hear, hear! The Advent's bells are turning 100!

On **October 24, 1926**, the bells of The Advent rang out over Spartanburg for the very first time. Installed in the Cleveland Bell Tower by Meneely Bells of Troy, New York, the bells—technically a *chime of bells*—made history as the first set of bells to be rung in Spartanburg.

For a century, their sound has been woven into the life of our parish—calling generations to worship and marking moments of celebration, remembrance, and community life.

On **Sunday, October 25, immediately following the 10:15 AM service**, our Advent family will gather to celebrate **A Century of Sound** and this special milestone in our parish's history. Come hear the bells, enjoy music, lemonade, and special centennial cookies, and help us mark 100 years of their music ringing out from our tower.

Come celebrate this once-in-a-century moment as we honor the first 100 years of The Advent's bells—and ring in the next 100!

► CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**TRUNK OR
TREAT—
SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 25,
4:00–6:00 PM**

**Double the
FUN and
Double the
CANDY!** We
are collecting
for both Mary
H. Wright and
The Advent
Trunk or Treat!



Use QR code or [click here.](#)



Use QR code or [click here.](#)



It's Time! [Sign up your child](#) to play basketball!

Deadline: October 30.

Questions? Contact Tricia Liollo.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wolfe Schoonover
Everette Rhodes
Ruthie Spencer
Vivian Mathis
Carlyle Hammett
Kaden Rody

John Moore
Zayden Hall
Sophie Williams
Stella Williams
Karson Rody

PRAYER BREAKFASTS

HIGH SCHOOL

Tuesday @ 7:15 AM
Chick-fil-A Hillcrest

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Thursday @ 7:00 AM
The Advent
PCLC Dining Room A
\$5/person

Following the Middle Prayer Breakfast on Thursdays, buses are available to take students to either McCracken Middle School or Spartanburg Day School. Each student must make sure you have a completed Liability Form.



EYC SUNDAY NIGHTS
weekly @ 5:30 - 7:00 PM, dinner served, Unless noted

- 10/4 - Blessing of the Animals *5:15*, then dinner @ Bronco's
- 10/11 - Graveyard Scavenger Hunt + Cookie Decorating
- 10/18 - PCLC
- 10/25 - Helping "run" the Trunk or Treat. (setup starts at 2 PM)

Sundays—Meets weekly* 5:30-7:00 PM—for all Middle School and High School students. Meets in the PCLC Lobby*
*unless otherwise noted

[Trunk or Treat helpers sign up here.](#)



SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:10 AM

For all 6th - 12th Graders. Meets weekly in the PCLC Room 202.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

October 4: We will attend the 8:00 AM service at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, followed by class at 9:10 AM - location to be determined.



Pilgrimage FUNDRAISER
CAR WASH
SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday, October 24
WE WASH, SO YOU CAN SHINE!
11 AM - 2 PM
781 East Main Street

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Bear Brannon
Henry Montgomery
Phoebe Montgomery
Mary Elisabeth Reid

Miles Little
Tab Cannon
Noah Moore
Abigail McGarity



SUNDAY School



The Gleaners Class gathers at **9 AM** in the Library Conference Room in Satterlee Hall (first floor). The Gleaners meet each Sunday to discuss the readings in the bulletin. They enjoy “figuring it out,” and their thoughtful conversations bring the readings to life. When it comes to the Bible, if you’ve ever “wondered why,” “always meant to ask why,” or are simply “still figuring it out,” come join the Gleaners! Your questions are welcome. You’ll have the opportunity to engage with others as they share their interpretations of the week’s readings—or try your own.

The Seekers Class meets in Dining Rooms A & B in the Parish & Community Life Center (PCLC). Their theme for the program year is “Sacred Signs, Sacred Stories, Sacred Service.” Refreshments start at 8:50 AM, class is from 9:10-10 AM. All adults are invited to attend!

The Sowers Class meets in Dining Room C in the PCLC at 9:10 AM. They are using the book *See for Yourself: How to Study Your Bible with Confidence & Joy* by Kelly Needham. If you would like to purchase a copy of the book, here is a [link](#).

The Village Class meets in Room 106 in the PCLC. This class meets for mutual support and fellowship at 9:10 AM. Their current series is “Cultivating Caring Relationships.”

October Schedule & Topics

Date	Gleaners	Seekers	Sowers	Village
October 4	Studying the Lectionary readings each week	The Ten Commandments presented by Kit Jennings	The Structure of the Bible - one story, two testaments, many genres	Where the Streets Have No Name
October 11		History of Paraments presented by Jan Goldstein	The Structure of the Bible - Timeline of the Bible	It’s All About Love Sermon
October 18		Vestments—What Not to Wear presented by Mtr. Debbie Apoldo & Mtr. Paula Griffin	Get to Know Your Bible	Signs & Grace – The Sacramental Rights
October 25		End-of-Life Education, Part 1 presented by members of the Advent Foundation	The Focus of the Bible - the Bible is about God	Signs & Grace – Holy Baptism



MIDWEEK Classes



Explore our midweek offerings and find a place to connect, learn, and grow.

Weekday & Time	Location	Class	Details
Tuesdays 12:15 PM	Satterlee Hall Library Conference Room	Book & Brown Bag	Reading <i>The Rule of Benedict: A Spirituality for the 21st Century</i> by Joan Chittister.
Wednesdays 12:00 PM	Satterlee Hall Library Conference Room	Lectionary Lunch & Learn	Gather with Fr. Richard for a weekly study of the upcoming Sunday's scriptures and prayers. Bring your own lunch (if you'd like) and join in thoughtful discussion, learning, and fellowship.
Thursdays 6:45 AM / 7 AM	PCLC Dining Room C	Men's Bible Study	6:45 AM for breakfast and 7:00 AM for Bible study. Currently studying the book of Romans.
Thursdays 10:00 AM	Satterlee Hall Conference Room 2	Women's Bible Study	Studying the book of Acts. Their resource book is written by Episcopal priest Justin Holcomb (part of <i>The Knowing the Bible</i> series).



Come to our first meeting and help choose our name and discern our vision for our path forward. Meeting at 6 PM in the PCLC Dining Rooms. Dinner will be served so please reserve by Friday, October 9. Donations will be collected for the meal.

Any questions? Please reach out to Deacon Al.

[Make your reservation here:](#)



This group will begin meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 PM.



Birdie's Flight

FOR A KDM5C CURE

Bingo for Birdie
Wednesday, October 14
6 PM

Join us for a fun filled night of BINGO for all ages! Bring your family and friends for an evening of Bingo, prizes, food, and fun!

All proceeds will benefit Birdie's Flight. Come play, laugh, and help us show our Birdie some love and support! Everyone is welcome!

To learn more about Birdie please visit: www.birdiesflight.com . If you are unable to attend and want to donate, [please click here](#).



Birdie's Flight was created to support Birdie Reutter, one of our young parishioners, diagnosed with an ultra-rare KDM5C-related disorder for which there is currently no cure or approved treatment. The organization is raising funds for research aimed at developing a personalized antisense oligonucleotide (ASO) therapy that could help Birdie and potentially others with KDM5C-related disorders.

*Through research, fundraising, and community support, **Birdie's Flight** hopes to forge a therapeutic path that gives Birdie—and other children with this rare diagnosis—a chance to thrive.*



Looking ahead...



UPCOMING
EVENTS AT
THE ADVENT

NOVEMBER

NOV
1

All Saints' Day

- Baptism at 10:15 AM
- Daylight Savings Time ends
- What Makes Us Episcopalians series begins at 11:30 AM
- All the Faithful Departed Service at 5:15 PM

NOV
8

Bible Sunday at 10:15 AM for First Graders

NOV
13-14

Diocesan Convention at Trinity Cathedral

NOV
14

Troop 1 Piggly Fest Fundraiser

NOV
19

ECW Bazaar

NOV
22

Christ the King Sunday (the Last Sunday after Pentecost)
UTO Sunday

NOV
24

Community Thanksgiving Service
at Unitarian Universalist, 6:30 PM

NOV
26

Thanksgiving Day
Service at 10:15 AM

NOV
29

Confirmation Sunday (no 8 AM)

- 9:00 AM Bishop's Forum
- 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist & Confirmation
- 11:30 AM Reception following
- 5:00 PM Advent Season Kickoff with Wreath-making and Dinner

DECEMBER

DEC
7

ACC Art Show, Program & Dinner

DEC
9

St. Nicholas service & dinner

DEC
20

- Children's Pageant Rehearsal at 9:00 AM
- Blue Christmas service at 5:15 PM
- Kinda Adults Christmas Party at 6:00 PM

DEC
24

- Christmas Eve services at
- 4:00 PM (Children's Pageant)
 - 7:00 PM
 - 11:00 PM

DEC
25

Christmas Day service at 10:15 AM



CHILDREN'S CHOIR**Wednesdays**
5:15 – 6:00 PM**ST. CECILIA SCHOLA****Wednesdays**
6:30 – 7:30 PM**HANDBELL CHOIR****Thursdays**
5:30 – 6:30 PM

Michael Cole will begin serving as our Interim Organist on Sunday, October 11, and will also help lead the St. Cecilia Schola. Michael shares:

"I feel privileged and honored to serve The Episcopal Church of the Advent as your interim organist. I have many years of experience serving as both an interim and permanent organist in Protestant churches throughout Vermont, Ohio, and South Carolina. I look forward to sharing in worship with you for the glory of Christ and to serving The Advent with joy."

Kelly Vaneman will continue leading the Children's Choir, and Stephen Canny will help the Advent Bell Choir resume rehearsals beginning October 1.

THE ADVENT FOUNDATION **Planning Well, Living Well**

"The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people . . . about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, [and] if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses."

The Book of Common Prayer (quoted above, p. 445), your priest, your physicians, and your financial advisor all agree: preparing for death is essential to a life well-lived. Far too often, our human instinct is to avoid this complex, sensitive topic. However, thoughtful and thorough end-of-life planning is an empowering exercise, ensuring that your personal values are honored, your wishes carried out, and your legacy secured. Moreover, detailed, documented end-of-life plans are an invaluable gift to your loved ones at a time of grief.

At Father Richard's recommendation and using resources provided by the Episcopal Church Foundation, the Advent Foundation is pleased to present a series of three upcoming Adult Formation classes to provide important pastoral, professional, and practical education about end-of-life planning. On **Sunday, October 25**, Father Richard will lead a discussion on the liturgical and spiritual elements of Christian burial. He will be followed by attorney Jim Shaw on **Sunday, November 1**, who will share his considerable expertise in estate planning. Finally, on **November 8**, Wes Collins, Coordinator of Advanced Care Planning at Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, will discuss the critical need for clear medical directives.

Please plan to join us to make good plans.



These presentations will take place during The Seekers class, but all are welcome—you do not need to be a regular class attendee to join us. The Seekers meet at **9:10 AM** in Dining Room A of the Parish & Community Life Center.

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

For generations, the Church of the Advent has stood as a place of worship, fellowship, comfort, and service in the heart of Spartanburg. Those of us who have been fortunate enough to call Advent our church home for many years know that the buildings themselves are more than brick, stone, wood, and stained glass. They hold the memories of baptisms, confirmations, weddings, and funerals, Christmases and Easters, Sunday mornings, and countless ordinary days when this church has simply been here for us.

I have been thinking about that history a great deal lately.

I had the privilege of serving on the Vestry some forty years ago, and I am reminded that every generation of this parish has inherited something from those who came before it. Each generation, in turn, has had the responsibility to care for what it received and pass it along to those who will follow.

We have reached another of those moments.

Over the years, our historic church buildings have naturally experienced deterioration. More recently, we have become increasingly concerned about moisture infiltration and the damage it can cause to masonry, plaster, woodwork, roofing, flashing, and other portions of the building. Some of these conditions are readily visible; others require professional investigation to understand their extent and, just as importantly, their cause.

We began addressing these concerns around this time last year with an initial assessment of our buildings by Building Solutions. That assessment helped identify areas requiring further investigation and provided recommendations for the specialized expertise needed to better understand them. Since then, we have been systematically engaging the recommended consultants to further define the conditions we are facing, establish priorities, and determine the most appropriate course of action.

As part of that continuing process, Meadors, Inc., a firm with considerable experience in historic preservation, recently conducted a rapid assessment of the church. Their observations confirmed that there are areas requiring attention and reinforced the importance of addressing the sources of water intrusion before undertaking cosmetic repairs.

That distinction is important. Our goal should not simply be to repair a damaged wall, repaint a ceiling, or replace a deteriorated piece of trim only to have the problem return. We need to understand how water is entering the building, how moisture is moving through these old walls and foundations, and what repairs are appropriate for a structure of this age and character.

This will require patience and good judgment.

We are fortunate to have a remarkable building, but historic buildings cannot always be approached in the same way as newer construction. Materials must be compatible. Repairs must allow these old walls to function as intended. And decisions should be based on investigation rather than assumptions.

I also believe we have an opportunity to look beyond individual repairs and think carefully about the long-term stewardship of the entire campus. There will undoubtedly be priorities to establish, costs to understand, and decisions to make. Not everything needs to be done at once. What is important is that we develop a thoughtful plan, address the most consequential problems first, and avoid spending parish resources on temporary solutions when more permanent solutions are needed.

As this work progresses, there will be much more information to share. At this stage, however, I believe the most important message is a simple one: **we are taking the condition of our historic church seriously, and we are approaching its care deliberately and responsibly.**

I find that encouraging.

The Church of the Advent has survived nearly two centuries not because its buildings never needed repair, but because generations of parishioners cared enough to preserve them. We are the beneficiaries of their foresight and generosity. Now it is our turn to do the same.

This is not simply a building project. It is an act of stewardship.

My hope is that, years from now, another generation will worship within these same walls, see the sunlight through these same stained-glass windows, hear the same bells, and be grateful that when our turn came, we cared for this place well.

As we move forward, I invite every parishioner to support this stewardship work through your attention, patience, and generosity. By staying informed, allowing the process the care it requires, and responding faithfully when needs are identified, we can help preserve the Church of the Advent for generations to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Ziggy Clayton

Each Sunday, we gather around the altar to hear God's Word, offer our prayers, and share in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. But the Eucharist does not end when the final hymn is sung and we leave the church. Through the ministry of Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs), the grace and fellowship of the Lord's Table are carried beyond the walls of the church to those who are unable to be physically present with us.

This ministry is a tremendous gift, especially to those who bear the weight of isolation that illness, limited mobility, or other circumstances can bring. Through it, we live more fully into our identity as the Body of Christ: though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in the one bread and the one cup.

The ministry of our LEVs is an extension of the Eucharistic feast we celebrate together each week. They carry the consecrated bread and wine from The Advent to our homebound parishioners, drawing them into the worship and fellowship we share here. In receiving Communion from the same Table around which we have gathered, our homebound parishioners are reminded that they remain an essential part of this community—a community whose life is rooted in the risen Christ.

For this reason, the ministry of an LEV is about much more than simply delivering Communion. They carry with them the prayers, presence, and love of the entire congregation. They take the sacramental life we share at the altar out into our community and to those who cannot be with us on Sunday morning.

What LEVs do is indeed holy work, because through their hands the hand of God is extended to others. The bread we break binds us together, and when that bread is carried beyond our walls, we proclaim that neither illness, distance, nor circumstance can separate us from the fellowship we share in Christ.

We give thanks to God for our Lay Eucharistic Visitors and for the faithful ministry they offer in our name. If this is a ministry to which you feel called or you would like more information about becoming an LEV, please contact Mother Paula at pggriffin@churchofadvent.org or 504-3686.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Who?

Lay people who carry Holy Communion to homebound parishioners and others unable to attend worship

What?

They provide Holy Communion, prayer, presence, and a connection to the church community.



A Way Home is offering a special **Volunteer Training and Day of Learning on Saturday, October 10**, from **9:00 AM-3:00 PM at the Day Center (701 Saxon Ave.)**.

This day is an opportunity for current and prospective volunteers to learn more about A Way Home's ministry, gain helpful tools and insight for serving our neighbors, and connect with others who share a heart for this work. The day will include training, fellowship, meaningful conversation, and time to learn more about the ways volunteers can make a difference in our community.

Lunch will be provided. If you would like to attend, please reserve your spot using [this link](#).





SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and

- in loving memory of Henry Burritt Jennings and Martha Glen Reeves Jennings; Lottie Jennings Barksdale and Carl Downs Barksdale; Virginia Jennings Christman and Milon Stone Christman; Martha Glen Barksdale Boggs and Thomas Edgar Boggs Jr.; Virginia Christman Smith Irwin and John Davis Smith; James Renwick Wilkes III; Thomas Edgar Boggs III; Charlotte Jennings Boggs; and Erving Weeks Boggs, by their family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and

- in loving memory of The Reverend W. Waller Caldwell III on this the 15th anniversary of his death by Connie and Waller Caldwell Jr.
- in loving memory of Deborah Faye McAbee by her husband and family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and

- in loving memory of Jane Meeker Johnson by the Montgomery Family
- in honor of our precious grandchildren, William, James, Eliza, Allie, Grace and Harrison Camp
- in loving memory of Robert Bryant "Boogie" Hunt by his family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2026

The flowers that adorn the altar are given to the glory of God and

- in loving memory of Buddy Cubitt and Buddy Nelms by Jamie, Jennifer, Maggie, and Will Cubitt

Each Sunday, flowers or seasonal greenery beautify our altar, offered to the glory of God and in honor, celebration, or memory of loved ones. Sponsoring altar flowers is a meaningful way to mark a special occasion, remember someone dear, or give thanks for God's blessings. To learn about available dates or sponsorship details, **please contact Martha Blackman at marthablackman@aol.com.**



RAH Success

Dear Advent Family,

The Rise Against Hunger event last Sunday was a big success! **We exceeded our goals** of packing 10,000 meal kits, having 125 participants, and raising \$4,500! Special thanks to all who participated, especially Scoutmaster Tim Satterfield and members of Troop 1, and to the Seekers and Gleaners Sunday School Classes who made significant financial contributions that pushed us above our goal! We came together to serve others and we put our faith into action. The result is that we made a significant contribution towards providing meals for people around the world who are experiencing hunger.

Thank you!

Elisabeth Hayes and Melissa Johnson
Event Coordinators

The Parish Prayer List

as of September 23, 2026

We are asked to remember:

Our parishioners in need of prayer:

Barbara Adams, Kathy Allen, Beverly Barrs, Katherine Bauer, David Bowdish, Meredith Boyce, Cecil Brown, Margi Cates, Jeanne Clark, Marianne Clark, Shelby Clark, Terry Clark, Ted Conwell, John Dargan, Carole Davis, Jane Davis, John Davis, Lillian Delaney, Phillip Edge, Roy Ellis, Randy Foster, Susan Foster, Andre Frederic, Dotty Frick, Gary Frost, Julie Gnerlich, David Graham, T. Griffin, Ed Hall, Carolyn Hare, Anna Haugh, Mary Hayes, Linda Hays, Don Hinton, Nancy Hinton, Al Hipp, Jesse Martin, Jim McCullough, Linda McGee, Phil McGee, Carlton Morrow, Dinny Moses, Herb Neely, Julie Oates, Mary Peters, Birdie Reutter, Ernie Stringer, Cathy Terrell, Charlie Tulloh, Malinda Tulloh, Robin Walker, Reecie Wilkes, Logan Williams, Grantham Wood, Bobbi Wright

Others who have asked for our prayers:

Barbara Anderson, Wayne Anderson, Claudio Autenzio, Hani Baramki, Troy Beavers, John Blanton, Hugh Brantley, Johnsie Canny, Joann Carlisle, Nancy Carlisle, Michael Cato and family, Leslie Coe, Elijah Cole, Michael Curry, Inge Eubanks, Ashley F., Gordon Floyd, Beth Foster, Jeanie Frick, Gigi and Diamond, Jewell, Jonathon, Emmy & Treasure, Peggy Graham, Ellen Grbic, Mary Haddad, Nylah Hill, Gary Horvath, Fletcher Kendall, Roxanne King, Catherine Kresten, Erick Kumar, Donghee Lee, Loraine, Zaylen Lyles, Edna McAbee, Thomas McConnell, Steve Mitchell, Patti Moran, Kiley Noe, Sharon Parker, Bob Perrin, Susan Perrin, Mary Ellen Porter, Emory Price, Libby Leland Puckette, Doris Robinson, Kacie Sims, Chloe Smith, Mackenzie Steck, Olivia Steck, Ric Stone, Shelby Taylor, Sterling Taylor, Bill Ussery, Barbara Manning Bear Wallace, David Ward, Kaitlyn Weathers, Justin Daniel Wyatt

Those serving in the Armed Forces:

Patrick Abrams (Army), Michael Brooks Bock (Army), James Boyd, (USMCR), Anna-Kate Campbell (Navy), Halcott R. Carter (Navy), Christian Dunn (Army), Christian J. Eitel (Navy), Jack Gaskins (Army), Will Gaskins (Navy), Austin Groce (Army), Cameron Hall (USMC), Alex Holland (Army), Jason Kopp (Navy), Charles Lewis (Air Force), Landon Dudley McMahon (Army), Morgan Milanowicz (Army), Travis Moore (Army National Guard), Maddox Peek (Army), Matthew Smith (Army), Bascombe Traywick (USMC), Canby Traywick (USMC), John Watters (Navy)

Those expecting the arrival of a child:

Sally and Casey McRorie; Elizabeth & William Lawson; Carrie & Cole Dunn; Taylor and Alex Webb; Harriet & Michael Rawls

For updates or additions to the Advent Prayer List, please contact the Rev'd Paula Griffin at pgriffin@churchofadvent.org or 864-542-6650 | 864-504-3696.

In Memoriam

Robert Bryant "Boogie" Hunt
January 8, 1959 ~ September 2, 2026

Gerald Steven Toth
February 14, 1937 ~ September 14, 2026



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Junior Warden-elect	Reagan Holland
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The Episcopal Church of the Advent