



Greetings in Eastertide!

The Great 50 Days of Easter is a joyous gift of the Church that can only be compared to a warm spring bursting with new life and color after a long cold winter. The season of Easter always begins on the Sunday after the first full moon of Spring and goes through Pentecost Sunday. The 50 days were set to match the ancient Hebrew *Feast of Weeks*—a week of weeks (49 days) plus *Shavout* or Pentecost—which commemorates the giving of the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai. Eastertide is a season where we use white, keep the Paschal Candle lit, celebrate Baptisms, and eliminate the confession, kneeling, and fasting. And we use every chance we are given to say *Alleluia!*

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by

him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Welcome to Church of the Advent

What comes to mind when you hear the word, “welcome”? Perhaps the Welcome Center on an interstate highway that invites you in for a break whenever you cross a state line? Or the desk clerk who greets you when you first walk into the lobby of a hotel to check in? Sometimes it is a greeting you hear when you walk into the door of a restaurant whose staff has been highly trained in the ways of hospitality. “Welcome to Moe’s!” or “Welcome to Zaxby’s!” or just a “Hi, how are you today?” when you walk into a Publix grocery store. What experiences have you had going to a new or unfamiliar church? Which ones made you feel comfortably welcome, like they would like to have

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you back? Which ones were more like going to the movies, when every patron is pretty much on their own?

What if every church in the land offered genuine welcome to someone new who has come with a friend, or who stumbled in on that person’s own? It’s great to feel warmly greeted and attended to when you are out to lunch or to get groceries; how much more important is it to be welcomed when seeking what might be found in church, where belonging supports believing?

To be church, we are called to worship, to pray, to love our neighbor, and to seek our salvation in community. We are not meant to be exactly alike; we *are* meant to see Christ in each other, and everyone else who God might be sending our way. As we celebrate and share the great gift of Eastertide, may we be aware of who and how we are called to the ministry of welcome.

Ever living God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. Amen

Part of a larger family

One of the most wonderful things about being the Episcopal Church is the relationships that are formed with other Episcopalians near and far. Being with others in our larger church family can provide opportunities for shared worship, fellowship, and learning the joys and challenges that come with being church in all kinds of communities. Church of the Advent belongs to a geographic group of Episcopal Churches in

the Diocese of East Carolina called a deanery. Rev. Ellen Richardson recently attended an Al-bemarle Deanery meeting on March 13 at All Saints Southern Shores. She met clergy and lay members of several congregations from very large to very small and felt tremendous support in her new call to Diocese of East Carolina. The next deanery activity will be a support and work day on Saturday April 28 for a fledgling parish making a comeback: St. Mark’s in Roxobel, NC. Everyone attending is invited to join together in worship, to help with some painting and landscaping needs that are beyond the tiny congregation, and to share a meal together.

John Price, Stephen Batten and Rev. Ellen Richardson attended the Parish Leadership Conference at Trinity Center on Saturday March 17, and Kit Reddick was there for the weekend. Bishop Skirving and the Diocesan Staff made several presentations to representatives of many of the 74 worshipping communities across East Carolina on improving communication skills, imagining what God is up to in individual congregations, and creative new ways for smaller congregations to come together with their gifts and resources to share clergy and raise up new lay leaders in ministry in their own communities. There was ample time for input from participants in smaller workshop discussions where congregations could share suggestions, celebrations, and support. To learn more about the Diocese of East Carolina, go to the web page:

Friends of Baby Iris Biondi, granddaughter of Michael Biondi, are hosting a light reception at Big Mill and Breakfast on April 8 beginning at 1 pm after the baptism. Guests are asked to park behind the Pack House Barn on the grass.



Coming in May

Bishop Rob Skirving will be at Church of the Advent on **Sunday afternoon May 13 at 4 pm** for a service of Holy Eucharist, Blessing of New Ministry, and Confirmation of Khalil Jefferson, Khira Jefferson, and Exum Taylor. Make a note: there will not be an 11am service on that Sunday!

Our seminarian Stephen Batten will graduate from Virginia Theological Seminary on Thursday, May 17th. He will be ordained as a transitional deacon on Saturday, May 19th, at 10:30 am at Christ Church in New Bern.

May 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Recycle for reuse

You have heard the old adage – one person’s trash is another’s treasure.

In this case your trash can be turned into craft projects for children participating in the Summer Reading Program at Martin Memorial Library.



The program is in need of the following items:

- cardboard toilet and paper towel tubes,
- empty coffee cans
- empty Pringle cans,
- straws

empty plastic bottles with caps

Bottles can be 8 oz. or 16 oz. and can be water or soda bottles.

Donations may be left in the narthex until June 1. See Kit Reddick for assistance if you need anything picked up of if you have questions.



Concert Tribute to Grant Michel

Saturday, April 14
3pm
Martin County Auditorium

The Church of the Advent will light a candle every Sunday in April in memory of someone who has died from cancer or in honor of someone who has is living with cancer. If you would like to honor or memorialize a friend, family member or loved one, please give the following to

Lucia Peel or Joe Jernigan at your earliest convenience.

1. List of the names of the person or persons you would like remembered or honored
 - 2 A check made payable to the American Cancer Society for \$10.00 per person
- If you have any questions, please contact Lucia Peel at 792-0070.

Food collection in April

The Martin County Department of Social Services Food Pantry is in dire need of donations. The pantry has plenty of canned vegetables.

Posted in the narthex are requests to fulfill the pantry’s wish list. You may leave your donations in the narthex anytime during April. Donations will be delivered at the end of April.

If you need a personal shopper, please call Kit Reddick for assistance.



The Prayer List is found in the notebook marked “Prayer Lists” on the usher’s table in the narthex of the church. Names may be added at any time by writing them in the notebook or calling the church office after requesting permission of those for whom prayer is requested.. The Prayer List is read aloud weekly at Sunday services. Contact the church office if you wish to have a name added, re-listed, or taken off the list.

Prayer List

- James Ford Mary Charles Coppage
Margaret & Asa Bailey
Paul DelMastro Mac Allen
David Martin Howard & Coral Daniels
Bridgette Fleming Luther Hardin
Frank Ganis Evelyn Smith
Michael Lilley Ricky Roberson
Nan Chesson Nita Smith
Candy Chambers Reesie Bradshaw
Warren Gordon Lindburgh Mitchell
Florence & Marc Reynolds
Pat Jones Findlay Judy
Annie Jones

Birthdays

- 16, Angi Godard
17, Douglas Chesson
18, Rachel Raiford
23, Standrick Jefferson
25, Bill Smith
27, Toussaint Biondi

The Church of the Advent
Founded 1850

The Rev. Dr. Ellen Richardson,
Priest-in-Charge
Sunday-Thursday, 9:30 a. m.-3:30 p. m.
ellenrichardson52@gmail.com

Doug Chesson, Senior Warden
Don Beach, Junior Warden

Joe Jernigan, Parish Administrator
Monday-Friday, 9:00 a. m. –12 noon
1:00 –2:00 p. m.

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April 2018

Church of the Advent

Lay Schedule

	<i>1 Easter Day 11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist II</i>	<i>8 2 Easter 11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist II Baptism</i>	<i>15 3 Easter 11:00 A.M. Morning Prayer II</i>	<i>22 4 Easter 11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist II</i>	<i>29 5 Easter 11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist II</i>
<i>Acolyte</i>	Chris Cooke	Jean Miller	Will Michel	Dawson Taylor	Chris Cooke
<i>Acolyte</i>	Jean Miller	Khalil Jefferson	Adison Bosso	Will Michel	Adison Bosso
<i>Acolyte</i>	Khira Jefferson				
<i>Acolyte</i>	Standrick Jefferson				
<i>Lessons</i>	Valerie Cooke	Michael Biondi	Chuck Cohen	Jane Jernigan	John Price
<i>Intercessory Prayers</i>	Al Chesson	Lucia Peel		Jane Jernigan	Lucia Peel
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	Chloe Tuttle	John Price		Doug Chesson	Don Beach
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Lori Taylor	Lori Taylor	Lori Taylor	Lori Taylor	Lori Taylor
<i>Ushers</i>	Jim Allen	Jim Allen	Jim Allen	Jim Allen	Jim Allen
	Maria Allen	Maria Allen	Maria Allen	Maria Allen	Maria Allen

Church of the Advent

April 2018



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Easter Day 9:45 am, Choir Practice No Sunday School 11:00 am, HE II	2 Church Office Closed	3	4	5	6	7
8 2 Easter 9:45 am, Choir Practice No Sunday School 11:00 am, HE II / Baptism 5:30 pm, Vestry Meeting	9 Women's Club Parish Hall 6:00 pm	10	11	12	13	14 Tribute for Grant Michel @ Martin Co. Auditorium 3:00 pm
15 3 Easter 9:45 am, Choir Practice 10:00 am, Sunday School 11:00 am, MP II	16 Girl Scouts Parish Hall 6:00pm <i>Angi Godard</i>	17 <i>Douglas Chesson</i>	18 <i>Rachel Raiford</i>	19	20 Acolyte Festival	21 Acolyte Festival
22 4 Easter 9:45 am, Choir Practice No Sunday School 11:00 am, HE II	23 <i>Standrick Jefferson</i>	24	25 <i>Bill Smith</i>	26	27 <i>Toussaint Biondi</i>	28 Albemarle Deanery Workday in Roxobel
29 5 Easter 9:45 am, Choir Practice 10:00 am, Sunday School 11:00 am, HE II 12:15 pm, Episcopal 101	30					<i>Birthdays in Italics</i>