



Advent Advisor

January 2022

Journey with Luke

The Eucharist Lectionary for Sundays is arranged in a three-year cycle, in which Year A begins on the First Sunday of Advent in years evenly divisible by three. We are now in Year C commonly called the Year of Luke because the appointed gospel readings for most Sundays are from Luke. It is this gospel that presents the beloved nativity story with which we are most familiar and that is pivotal to the evangelist's message that God has acted for the sake of the whole world.

Luke's account of Jesus' birth and the first forty days of his infancy takes us on a journey that begins with great joy and tidings of good will towards all. Jesus Christ is born! The story continues with the magi's visit that signifies the manifestation of Jesus, the Christ, to the Gentiles. The infancy account culminates in Simeon's joyful announcement that the baby he holds in his arms is the Christ, the Savior for all the world. The Incarnation is central to Luke's gospel and the Church's faith, and, as its truth emerges and is grasped as God's gift for all, the Church rejoices.

We make merry throughout the Christmas season even though the commercialism wind-down makes some folks forget that Christmas is not over and done on December 25. Presents are unwrapped, decorations get a bit tawdry and traditional Christmas music is seldom heard on radios after the 25th, but the spirit of Christmas may still fill our hearts so that they swell with thanksgiving for the revelation of God entering humanity in the baby Jesus. We are enthralled by God's wondrous gift, at least while reminders of the reason for the season hold our attention.

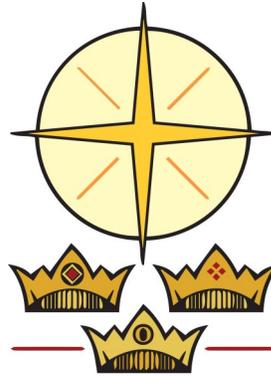
Twelfth Night, observed by Anglicans for nearly 500 years, marks the official end of the twelve days of the Christmas season and brings in Epiphany. Twelfth Night sometimes is assigned to the evening of the Feast



Glory to God
in the highest,
and on earth peace,
good will toward men.

Luke 2:14, KJV

of the Epiphany, which is January 6, but its traditional placement is Epiphany Eve, January 5. Epiphany commemorates the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles in the visitation of the magi. The story of the three Gentiles – Casper, Melchior, Balthazar – who travel far to pay homage to the infant Jesus celebrates the revelation of God incarnate to the whole world, *for the whole world.*



Twelfth Night typically is a good party with food, spirits, sometimes dancing and the presentation of a king cake with hidden tokens. The cake has both religious and secular significance. Twelfth Night sets the mood for the Epiphany Season that leads up to Lent. In many places it marks the beginning of Mardi Gras festivities. It continues through Shrove Tuesday when fatty foods are consumed to clear out the household larder in preparing for Lenten denial and fasting. A Twelfth Night party is a parish tradition that we have had to put on hold during the pandemic.

Candlemas on February 2 is a religious celebration that concludes the Christmas – Epiphany seasons. The observance, dating from the Fourth Century in Jerusalem, commemorates the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple and the Feast of the Purification of the Virgin Mary. It was customary in devout Jewish families for newborns to be presented in the temple for blessing and for their mothers to present themselves for ritualistic purification 40 days after childbirth. On the occasion of Jesus' presentation and Mary's purification rite, a devout man of the temple by the name of Simeon took the baby Jesus in his arms and announced, "Lord, you now have set your servant free to go in peace as you have promised; for these eyes of



(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

mine have seen the Savior, whom you have prepared for all the world to see: a Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.” Candlemas highlights Simeon’s proclamation and Jesus’ later reference to himself as Light of the world. Many Christians, including Episcopalians, have candles they will use in their homes throughout the year blessed on Candlemas. Although Christians ordinarily remove Christmas decorations by January 6, Candlemas marks the end of the events in Luke’s account of Jesus’ infancy and so is considered by some to be an equally appropriate deadline for removing decorations.

Journey with Luke towards a livelier and deeper faith. He may lead us to more fully appreciate the Church’s traditions that have grown out of its historic response to his narrative about the embodiment of God’s love for the whole world in the person of Jesus Christ.

Connie

From the Annual Parish Meeting

During the Annual Parish Meeting on December 12, 2021, the following were elected to the vestry: Michael Biondi, Doug Chesson, and Cathy Skinner.



Elected to represent Church of the Advent at the Diocesan Convention on February 11 and 12 in Wilmington are Lucia Peel and Bill Webb with Chuck Cohen as substitute.

Bill Webb returns as the Advent’s lay representative to the Albemarle Deanery.

Budget, Canvass Report



If you receive the *Advent Advisor* in printed format, you will find the 2022 budget and Summary of Pledge Canvass report enclosed.

If you receive the *Advent Advisor* as an e-newsletter, you will find the budget and pledge canvass report in a file separate from the *Advisor*.



As you may know, Church of the Advent is undertaking an ambitious organ restoration.

Spearman-Hawkinson Organ Restoration Inc. has identified three areas or phases: rewiring the organ console, revoicing the pipes, and releathering the wind chambers.

The first and most pressing phase, the rewiring of the organ console, estimated to cost \$20,000, will be completed using a grant of \$12,183.00 from the Diocese of East Carolina Foundation and a portion of Mary Charles Coppage's legacy. The Church of the Advent is fortunate to have received the grant amount this year. According to the Foundation, applicant requests equaled approximately \$3 for every dollar of the Foundation's award revenue. The church will apply for the Foundation Grant next September to assist with financing phases 2 and 3. However, we will also conduct several fundraisers throughout the next calendar year to aid in funding the restoration's next phases.

Thank you in advance for your support of the organ restoration and music at Church of the Advent. If you have questions or suggestions about the organ restoration, or if you have interest in being a part of the music offering at Church of the Advent, please reach out. I'd love to talk with you about it.

Brandon Woody



Wednesday
January 12
6:00 p. m.

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

- Janice Ford
- Chris Carroll
- Betty Jones
- Jennifer Beach
- Dell DiBello
- Cheryl Klein
- Murray Elliot
- Lucia Peel Powe
- Nita Smith
- Jessie Critcher
- Sallie Conway

Birthdays

- 6 ~ Lowell Taylor
- 12 ~ Adison Bosso
- 13 ~ Will Michel
- 15 ~ Joey Godard
- 18 ~ Maria Allen
- 19 ~ Carrie Mills
- 19 ~ Laura Voorhis
- 22 ~ Don Mills
- 22 ~ Mary Anne Crowe
- 25 ~ Sara Chesson



Church of the Advent
Founded 1850

The Rev. Connie Connelly, Priest in Charge

Lucia Peel, Senior Warden
Don Beach, Junior Warden

Joe Jernigan, Parish Administrator
Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday,
8:00 a.m. – 12 noon

Brandon Woody, Organist/Choirmaster

124 West Church Street
P. O. Box 463

Williamston, NC 27892

Telephone: 252.792.2244

Email: advent1850@gmail.com

www.williamstonepiscopalchurch.com

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

*****For fire, police, injury or other emergencies, call 911 for assistance. Then please contact in this order: Connie, Joe, Lucia, Don.**

*****For pastoral emergencies, contact in this order Connie, Lucia, Joe.**

*****For all problems or issues dealing with the church and rectory buildings and grounds, please contact Joe and then he and Don will determine how to proceed.**

Connie 704-651-0244

Joe 252-809-3405

Lucia 919-523-3382

Don 203-645-4614

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Jan.2 Morning Prayer 11:00 am
- Jan.9 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Jan.12 Evening Prayer 6:00 pm
- Jan.16 Morning Prayer 11:00 am
- Jan.17 Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm
- Jan.23 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Jan.30 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Feb.6 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Feb.8 Evening Prayer 6:00 pm
- Feb.13 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Feb.20 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Feb.21 Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm
- Feb.27 Morning Prayer 11:00 am

The Church of the Advent is a nurturing, vibrant, and inclusive community inviting spiritual growth through liturgical worship, outreach, and fellowship.

Church of the Advent

January 2022

Lay Schedule

	2 <i>2 Christmas</i> <i>MP II</i> <i>11:00 A.M.</i>	9 <i>1 Epiphany</i> <i>HE II</i> <i>11:00 A.M.</i>	16 <i>2 Epiphany</i> <i>MP II</i> <i>11:00 A.M.</i>	23 <i>3 Epiphany</i> <i>HE II</i> <i>11:00 A.M.</i>	30 <i>4 Epiphany</i> <i>HE II</i> <i>11:00 A.M.</i>
MP Leader	Kit Reddick		Jane Jernigan		
Lector	Valerie Cooke	Chuck Cohen	Michael Biondi	John Price	Valerie Cooke
Intercessor		Cathy Cohen		Lucia Peel	Bill Webb
Eucharistic Minister		Doug Chesson		John Price	Bill Webb
Acolyte				Exum Taylor	
Altar Guild	Brandon Woody Lucia Peel				
Ushers	Don Beach Joe Jernigan				