



Church of the Advent

# Advent Advisor

October 2022



## Make Us Instruments Of Your Peace

Christmas joy spreads across the globe, but the Christmas spirit of one Idaho couple took an unfamiliar turn in 2012. They were struck with the realization that in the bitter cold Idaho winter a family's children had to sleep on the floor because they had no beds. That couple got to work to remedy that. In early 2013 they founded Sleep in Heavenly Peace, an organization that has grown to 220 chapters across the country and two affiliate organizations in Canada. The mission statement "No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in our Town" has roused thousands of volunteers to come together on Saturday mornings in their own localities or regions to build, deliver and install free beds for children. Mattresses and bed linen are included. National and local business sponsors supply materials and funding to reduce the costs of the over 100,000 beds already provided.

A chapter in Rocky Mount has had substantial success getting kids off the floor in Nash and Edgecombe Counties and has an interest in expanding to Pitt and Martin Counties. They have identified over 800 children in Martin County who need beds, and have approached us to become involved. They insist that the satisfaction of participating in such a worthwhile mission and the camaraderie developed doesn't quite match the delight of the children and the gratitude of parents. We did not get on board in time for the Bunks Across America annual blitz build on September

10, but there is plenty to be done in our county where over 20% of the children live in poverty. We have resources on hand to get at least 12 children off the floor and into warm beds. What we need is your willingness to show up and help. Skilled as well as decidedly unskilled persons can be put to work. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex the next few Sundays to indicate parishioners' interest that we will convey to the Rocky Mount team. We initially may participate with them or be guided by them to form our own team. Stay tuned to learn more.

Kit Reddick has taken the lead in our outreach efforts and has marshalled our assistance in filling backpacks for children who need food on weekends when school meals are unavailable. This past Sunday, Kit spoke about a new program in the schools called Care Corner. She spoke about a child who was glad that getting a new toothbrush meant no longer having to share a single toothbrush with two siblings. I bet that moved all of us present to step up and supply a lot of toiletries. As Kit said, "We can do this!"

We're generous people who reach out to our neighbors in ways that not only provide relief but also help meet the vital human longing of knowing that they matter. The backpack program is one opportunity. Kit will keep us informed of others. Some of us may be drawn to another type experience of working alongside fellow parishioners in a common mission. We can make a huge difference in the life of someone in need, especially in the life of a child. Getting kids off the floor and supplying toiletries to fill backpacks are such opportunities.

The Sleep in Heavenly Peace website had a June 29 entry posted by Michael Sohn. It is a reminder of our calling to follow our Lord who came not to be served but to serve. Sohn referenced Philippians 2:3-5 that states, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let this same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus."

Lord, help us bear your love and be instruments of your peace.

*Connie*

## A Call to Help Support Care Corner for Children

A local guidance counselor has begun a grass-roots project called Care Corner found in all the Martin County Schools,

In each schools is located a hang up shoe storage bag which is kept filled with hygiene and school supplies and other items that students might request. The children know that they may go by and look and take anything they need, no questions asked.



**Helping Our Students**

A child came into the counselor's office and spied a multipack of toothbrushes on her desk. The child asked, "May I have one (toothbrush)?" The counselor replied, "Sure, you may have one (pack)." And the child said, "Oh,

good, now I do not have to share." The child was sharing a toothbrush with two other siblings,

During October we will be collecting hygiene items to help stock these Care Corners.

Requests are posted in the narthex and offerings may be left in the wagon.

The toiletries need to be travel size so that they will fit in the shoe pockets, and more importantly so the children can put them in their pockets for transfer to backpacks. Food Lion and WalMart both sell such items.

Kit Reddick will gladly accept cash or check donations for personal shopping, Please make checks out to her.

Needed are:

- toothbrushes
- shampoo
- conditioner
- lotion
- bar soap
- body wash
- combs
- deodorant
- hair elastics

## Midweek Holy Eucharist and Meal

Rev. Connie Connelly will celebrate Holy Eucharist beginning at 6 p. m. on Wednesday, October 12th.

After the service, worshippers will move from the communion table to the supper table in the Pariah House. The menu includes barbeque sliders and collards and salads and dessert.



A love offering will be taken for the organ project. the Episcopal Church Women will present a \$500 .00 donation to the project as well.

During and after supper, you are invited to peruse the collection of photographs from the church office in hopes you can help identify people and place and date.

## Happy 50th Birthday!

If you should take a moment to look at the bottom of the first page of the *Advent Advisor*, you will see that it is in its 50th year of continuous publication.

In 1972, Church of the Advent found itself without a priest. Senior Warden Pete Fowden was anxious to keep the parish together during this time of transition.

Betty Reddick volunteered to be the editor. She also named the new publication. Sherrod Fountain volunteered to produce it on the office mimeograph machine and mail it out monthly. Parishioners were asked to donate \$1.50 yearly to defray costs of postage and printing supplies.

The first issue debut Wednesday, June 28th.

In that first issue, Tim and Keathley Malone invited the parish family to come to a covered dish picnic at Green Acres on a Wednesday night at 7 p. m. and to enjoy the campground facilities.

Can you believe it — we have continued this tradition 50 years!

In the second issue, a call went out for choir members. Some things change but then some things stay the same.

Beginning in May 1992, the *Advisor* began to include monthly calendar grid with handwritten notes.

Beginning in September the *Advisor* had a new look — a two column layout with headlines.

Hazel Loper volunteered to produce the newsletter on her home computer. Kit Reddick took over the job of editor with Betty Reddick as circulation manager.

Hazel was the organist at the Presbyterian Church which prevented her from worshipping with us but wish to contribute to the life of the parish.

Regina French was the church secretary at the Presbyterian Church and introduced graphics which literally had to be cut out by hand and taped to copy.

Hazel worked for three years until she and her husband relocated upon his retirement.



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In September 1995 the vestry purchased the first church computer and publishing software using an anonymous gift of \$1,000.00, interest income from Specified Gifts and the balance from the 1994 budget.

Kit took over the task(s) of writing and producing the newsletter on the new church computer along with developing the layout.

The layout and the production of the Advisor had evolved and progressed significantly over the ensuing years.

Production software has been updated several times.

The church now subscribes to an online graphic service that allows Kit to import graphic directly into the document. Graphics can be now be edited to

be inline with Church of the Advent. Try finding religious graphics that use the word *vestry*!

Kit continues to write and produce the *Advisor*. Pariah Administrator Joe Jernigan is circulation manager, sending it out as both online and as hard copy. The use of color has really brighten the look of our newsletter.

In December 1995, the *Advisor* announced that the father of Ellen Miller, fiancée of Johnny Miller, would begin producing handcrafted stained glass replicas of the Episcopal Church shield. And Mr. Jesse Harris had been doing this for 27 years and still continues to do so.

And Sherrod Fountain, who typed the first Advent Advisor, relocated to Tarboro and joined Calvary Episcopal Church and became a friend of Brandon Woody and suggested to Brandon to come worship with us at Church of the Advent when he took a job with Martin County Schools.



## Story of 'Precious Lord, Take my Hand'

Note: Church Organist and Choirmaster Brandon Woody plans for the choir to sing "Precious Lord" from the supplemental hymnal *Lift Every Voice and Sing* (LEVAS) during the month of October. This is the story of that hymn.

On July 1, 1899, little notice was taken of a baby boy of color, born in Villa Rica, Ga., a small town some 40 miles west of Atlanta. He, one of seven brothers and sisters, was around the church most of his early life. His dad was a devout Baptist preacher, and



his mother was an organist. She started young Thomas on the piano when he was 7 years old.

In his late teens, he decided to embark on a career as a blues musician, billed as Georgia Tom. This took him through the night clubs of Atlanta to the jazz houses on the south side of Chicago. Because of his heritage, he very shortly tired of that kind of life and gravitated toward Christian music.

At age 21, he joined the Pilgrim Baptist Church in Chicago where he directed choirs and wrote more than 300 songs. In a taped interview in 1977, Thomas A. Dorsey told this writer the following story, which happened 45 years earlier.

"My wife, Nettie, was about to bear our first child. I was called to St. Louis to sing in a revival. I wondered if I should go because of my wife's condition. She persuaded me that I should go ahead, so I, alone in my Model A, drove to St. Louis."

"During the first night of the meetings, a lad brought a telegram to me while I was still on the platform. It was horrible news. It was a message that my wife had died giving birth to our son."

"I rushed to a phone while the people were still singing and found that the message was true. Mr. Gus Evans drove me back to Chicago that night."

"When I arrived I found that the wonderful baby boy was seemingly fine, and yet, that night he also died. I buried my wife and little son in the same casket."

"I became very despondent and filled with grief. A few days later I visited with my good friend, Professor Frye. We walked around the campus of Annie Malone's Poro College for awhile and then went into one of the music rooms."

"I sat down at a piano and began to improvise on the keyboard. Suddenly, I found myself playing a particular melody that I hadn't played before that time. (It was an adaptation of George N. Allen's melody used with the old hymn, *Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone?*) As I played I began to say, 'Blessed Lord, blessed Lord, blessed Lord.' My friend walked over to me and said, 'Why don't you make that precious Lord?' I then began to sing, 'Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand.'"

"When I finished the song, we began to use it and it has been going ever since. I have gotten letters from people all over the world. It was a great tragedy, but we got the message to the world."

*Precious Lord, take my hand,  
lead me on, let me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
Through the storm, through the night,  
lead me on to the light:  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.\**



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 Carrol  
Betty Jones  
Mr. & Mrs. Jean Rogers  
Connie Connelly  
Ann Wallace Bill Karas  
Jessie Critcher  
Lucia Powe Evelyn Little  
Nita Smith  
Cheryl Klein Sharon Griffin  
John Taylor*

**Birthdays**

*3 ~ Chloe Tuttle  
3 ~ Will Greene  
8 ~ Bill Webb  
14 ~ Ellen Miller  
17 ~ Joe Jernigan  
18 ~ Jane Jernigan  
21 ~ Betty Peel  
22 ~ Ann Slade  
28 ~ Amanda Smith  
28 ~ Sheri Orvis  
30 ~ Valerie Cooke*



**Church of the Advent**  
*Founded 1850*

**The Rev. Connie Connelly, Priest in Charge**  
**Lucia Peel, Senior Warden**  
**Doug Chesson, 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](mailto:advent1850@gmail.com)**  
**[www.williamstonepiscopalchurch.com](http://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, Doug.**

**\*\*\*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 Doug will determine how to proceed.**

**Connie 704-651-0244**  
**Joe 252-809-3405**  
**Lucia 919-523-3382**  
**Doug 252-809-2476**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Oct. 2 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am**  
**Oct. 9 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am**  
**Oct. 12 Evening Eucharist 6:00 pm**  
**Oct. 16 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am**  
**Oct. 23 Morning Prayer 11:00 am**  
**Oct. 30 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am**  
**Vestry Meeting 12:00 noon**

**Nov. 6 Morning Prayer 11:00 am**  
**Nov. 9 Evening Eucharist 6:00 pm**  
**Nov. 13 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am**  
**Nov. 20 Stewardship Sunday/Holy Eucharist & Luncheon 11:00 am**  
**Nov. 27 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am**

**No Vestry Meeting in November**

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

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# *Church of the Advent*

## *October 2022*

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### *Lay Schedule*

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	<b>2</b> <i>17 Pentecost</i> <b>HE II</b> <b>11:00 A.M.</b>	<b>9</b> <i>18 Pentecost</i> <b>HE II</b> <b>11:00 A.M.</b>	<b>16</b> <i>19 Pentecost</i> <b>HE II</b> <b>11:00 A.M.</b>	<b>23</b> <i>20 Pentecost</i> <b>MP II</b> <b>11:00 A.M.</b>	<b>30</b> <i>21 Pentecost</i> <b>HE II</b> <b>11:00 A.M.</b>
<b>MP Leader</b>				John Price	
<b>Lector</b>	Kit Reddick	Chuck Cohen	Valerie Cooke	Cathy Skinner	Jane Jernigan
<b>Intercessor</b>	Kit Reddick	Cathy Cohen	Lucia Peel		Bill Webb
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	John Price	Doug Chesson	Don Beach		Bill Webb
<b>Acolyte</b>					
<b>Altar Guild</b>	John Price Cathy Skinner				
<b>Ushers</b>	Lowell Taylor Robert Bonner				