



Church of the Advent

Advent Advisor

September 2022



The Blessings of a Small Church

Lucia Peel, Senior Warden

For me, Church of the Advent represents a group of people who, after spending time together and getting to know each other, have become an extended family for each of us to either lean on or support as we all maneuver through the highs and lows along this journey we call life. It means a place to pray, share your faith and beliefs as well as your hopes for your church and parish without judgment or criticism. *And it means we **come together** to look outside of ourselves and learn to be of service to others in our parish and our community.*

Service to others in our parish and community - we do a great job of that here. Over the years, we've raised money for domestic violence, cancer research, meals for underprivileged children on weekends away from school, and farm animals for poor third world countries via Heifer International. Kit Reddick and the Outreach Commission have made sure we collected supplies for social services, migrant workers, school teachers, victims of hurricanes and nor'easters, and struggling families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. ECW has supported the Senior Center by paying for alert watches for several needy elderly women and has spent lots of time and energy renovating the parlor, parish administrator's office, kitchen and bathrooms (actually making the bathrooms much more accessible).

Togetherness - we've had fun doing it. We've had cookouts at Slade's Farm over the years and at the

Horton's and Don Beach's home, special Christmas Eve services, dinners at Sunnyside Oyster Bar, Christmas parties at Mary Anne's home, Wine & Cheese parties, Blessing of the Animals services, 12th Night parties, brunches to celebrate our young people getting married, Bible Study classes, game nights, Stewardship events, Casserole Patrols for families enduring loss or suffering from illness or disease, wedding receptions, visiting each other and making an effort to help people participate when their situation makes it difficult, and, in the end, seeing ourselves as part of a larger "whole" - eastern NC where many of us were born and bred.

When I first moved back to Williamston after having worked as a lobbyist in Raleigh and Washington DC, I was asked by someone how could I possibly move to such a *small* town. I replied that I think there are two rules: first, you have to give up just wanting to hang out with people your own age...you'll get very, very lonely. Second, you need to choose your church very wisely because in a small community like ours, your social life as well as your spiritual life will begin with your church family.

There is no one-size-fits-all for churches whether you are in Charlotte, Greenville or Williamston. Churches are by their very nature diverse and we look for one that answers some of our needs, one where we feel at home with the ministries, pastor and parishioners. COVID has deeply impacted our sense of closeness these past 2½ years but each of us can help restore our community: continue to reach out to others in our parish who are struggling or who still need to quarantine; attend services and events whenever possible; get involved with one of the Commissions and bring your ideas to the table; and get ready for a busy fall and holiday season! And, finally, thank you so much for your continued patience with the leadership. We have done the best we can in uncharted waters. *God Bless You Guys!*



**Evening Prayer
Wednesday
September 14
6:00 PM
Kit Reddick, Officiant**



Kick-Off for FALL Y'ALL

*September 11th 11 am
Holy Eucharist Service
followed by
Lunch in the Parish Hall*

Special Plans in the Works!

Mary Anne Crowe has donated a special meal to us that she purchased at a Silent Auction to benefit the Martin County Arts Council. Parish Life Commission will be providing drinks, entrée and dessert - It would be awesome some of you brought salads to share with everyone!

WELCOME BACK, CHOIR

The choir resumed practicing during August, working on music planned through Christmas.

The choir returns to the choir loft for services beginning in September,

There is always a place for anyone who is interested.

Home Improvements at the Rectory



During recent weeks, much work has been done at the rectory under the supervision of Junior Warden Doug Chesson.

The sewer line has been replaced.

Debris under the house has been removed and plastic laid on the ground. The space has been fumigated to combat mold.

Windows have been reglazed and painted.

Work has been done on the gutters to redirect the flow of water away from the house,

Thinking of Our Graduates



As a new school year begins, we pause to catch up with our spring graduates, and to wish them well.

Paul Sessions successfully

completed his master's program in classical guitar studies in Netherlands and is now back in the United States planning to move to New York City.

The church received a thank you note from Will Michel on the presentation of his Bible for his high school graduation, Will is off to Pitt Community College and then to East Carolina University to study computer technology.

Chris Cooke is beginning his last semester at East Carolina University, studying in the School of Communications. He had the opportunity to intern with Henry Hinton of Talk of the Town radio.



God Among the Rubble



FEEDING THOSE IN NEED

The nonprofit World Central Kitchen provides fresh meals for communities in need following natural disasters or during humanitarian crises. After Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, WCK fed millions of people in the country and refugees at border crossings.

When I feel discouraged by tragic news and ask where God is, I'm reminded that God shows up precisely in people such as the WCK teams.

They are God's hands serving healthy food to people fleeing home. They are God's heart and arms welcoming those in need to be nourished.

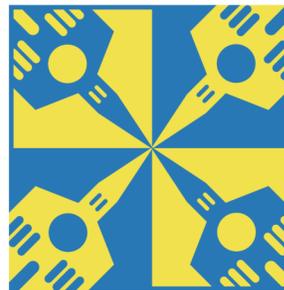
Often in the Bible God shows up around meals: Sarah and Abraham host the Lord in the form of three visitors; God rains manna from heaven for the Israelites; an angel provides food for exhausted Elijah; Jesus eats with "tax collectors and sinners" and feeds crowds with a few loaves and fish. Surprisingly, Jesus gives to all the meal of Holy Communion, the bread and wine that are his very body and blood.

In our broken world, God is among the rubble, among the helpers, among us.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

New Seat, New Perspective

In older sitcoms, family members, especially parents, each had their own chair in the living room. No one else sat there. If its "owner" wasn't present, the on-set chair remained empty. Church can be like that too, with people claiming the same seat week after week. Our view of the service and of fellow worshippers is familiar and comfortable.



Recently, our family was "bumped" back a bit, which felt surprisingly different at first. But we interacted just the same with the service. As a bonus, I talked with different people. And after church we stayed to visit a bit longer.

I'm glad church seats don't have nameplates. And I'm thankful that God nudges me out of my comfort zone from time to time, giving me a new perspective.

—Janna Firestone

Besides being known for his proverbs about wise living, King Solomon was knowledgeable in other fields, including which of the following?



- A. zoology, including ornithology and ichthyology
- B. botany
- C. herpetology
- D. songwriting
- E. A and C
- F. B and D
- G. All of the above

Answer: See 1 Kings 4:29-34.

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
- Mrs. Jean Rogers
- Connie Connelly
- Ann Wallace
- Jessie Critcher
- Lucia Powe
- Nita Smith
- Bill Karas
- Sharon Griffin
- John Byrum
- John Taylor

Birthdays

- 6 ~ Sue House
- 8 ~ Nita Smith
- 9 ~ Will Chesson
- 11 ~ Rob Spainhour
- 23 ~ Brandon Woody
- 23 ~ Billie Roney
- 25 ~ Cathy Skinner
- 27 ~ Caroline Galler



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

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

- Sept. 4 Morning Prayer 11:00 am
- Sept. 11 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Luncheon 12:00 noon
- Sept. 14 Evening Prayer 6:00 pm
- Sept. 18 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Sept. 25 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Vestry Meeting 12:00 noon
- Oct. 2 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Oct. 9 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Oct. 12 Evening Prayer 6:00 pm
- Oct. 16 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Oct. 23 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- Vestry Meeting 12:00 noon
- Oct. 30 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am
- The Oct. schedule is still mostly TBD

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

September 2022

Lay Schedule

	4 <i>13 Pentecost</i> MP II <i>11:00 A.M.</i>	11 <i>14 Pentecost</i> HE II <i>11:00 A.M.</i>	18 <i>15 Pentecost</i> HE II <i>11:00 A.M.</i>	25 <i>16 Pentecost</i> HE II <i>11:00 A.M.</i>
MP Leader	Jane Jernigan			
Lector	Chuck Cohen	Kit Reddick	Ginny Webb	Cathy Skinner
Intercessor	Cathy Cohen	Kit Reddick	Bill Webb	Lucia Peel
Eucharistic Minister		Doug Chesson	Don Beach	John Price
Acolyte				
Altar Guild	Bill Webb Ginny Webb			
Ushers	Bill Webb Ginny Webb			

Note the changes to the schedule.