



Church of the Advent

Advent Advisor

September 2019

A Season of Renewal

The days are getting shorter, the mornings are getting cooler, the yellow buses are rolling again, and the last blooms in the gardens are fading away with the lazy days of Summer. In the American South, we look forward to the fall season like Northerners look for the spring. Traditionally it is the season of new beginnings: new school year, new concert seasons, a reboot of social and service club meetings, and a renewal of social ties that thinned out while everyone was on vacation--whether they went away anywhere or not. Fall festivals and craft fairs populate the calendar and pumpkins and corn mazes pop up everywhere overnight.



Traditionally, the beginning of fall has been a reboot for many church congregations, too. New education programs and opportunities for service to others, a slate of traditional social events that bring parishioners and their friends together, and a season of return to worship after being away for the summer, for churches large or small, fall can be a time of renewal, a call to refocus our energies towards our spiritual center, and our relationship with God.

Though it has become smaller over the years, Church of the Advent is still a source of many opportunities for a season of spiritual renewal and service.

- The **Choir** will be back each Sunday morning beginning September 9, rehearsing from 9 to 10:30 am before the 11am service and is always ready to welcome new members.
- Everyone is invited to the **Fall Luncheon in the Parish Hall** immediately following the return to the 11am service of Holy Eucharist on September 9.
- The **Outreach Committee** is winding up its collection of suggested items for our prepacked food bags offered to members of our community who are

struggling to make ends meet. Suggested offerings are found on cards in the narthex and should be brought in and place in the wagon.

- For our monthly Wednesday evening worship, we will meet **September 11 at 6pm**, for Evening Prayer, followed by a pot-luck meal (Asian theme) and the first program on World Religions on **Buddhism**.
- The Albemarle Deanery of the Diocese of East Carolina is planning a Fall Event, possibly a service project for the **Albemarle Food Bank** in Elizabeth City. Stay tuned for details or consider volunteering yourself or making a contribution to this organization who delivers food to Williamston on a regular schedule. Information can be found here: <https://afoodbank.org/>
- One reality of fall in East Carolina is that it also brings Hurricane Season. The **American Red**



Cross is busy making preparations for is looking for 12-15 volunteers from Martin County who would be willing to be trained to assist in opening a Disaster Shelter at Riverside High School if needed, and staff it in shifts for about two days

until outside teams could arrive to take over. This is an important, specific, time-limited, and rewarding way to love our neighbors who are anxious and otherwise helpless in the face of a devastating natural disaster in East Carolina. If you want to know more, contact Rev. Ellen Richardson at ellenrichardson52@gmail.com or **Mark Lenz, Disaster Program Manager with the Red Cross** at mark.lenz@redcross.org. A team from Church of the Advent could be a tremendous help and the training would be local and convenient to everyone.

In this season of pumpkins and corn mazes and cool breezes, may God bless each of you as he calls you into new places of refocus, recommitment and renewal.

Ellen+

Wednesday Evening Program on World Religions

Based on the preferences gleaned from a survey of those who have regularly attended the monthly Wednesday evening worship at Church of the Advent, Rev. Ellen will offer a monthly program on World Religions, based on a college class she taught at ABAC while serving St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Tifton, Georgia.

The first class on **Wednesday September 11**,



will begin with a brief review of Hinduism, which sets the stage for Siddhartha Gautama, who was born into a Hindu family and culture and is credited as the founder of **Buddhism**.

On **Wednesday October 9**, we will explore **Judaism**, how it is interconnected with our own Christian beliefs scripturally and historically. And on **Wednesday November 13**, we will learn about the basic beliefs in **Islam**.



As we grow into Christ's commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves, it becomes increasingly important in our diverse and fractious world to know and understand our neighbors as best we can. We will begin each of the Wednesday evenings with Evening Prayer in the church and follow with a simple pot-luck dinner and the program in the Adult Classroom of the Parish Hall. Please join us!

Choir Notes

St. Augustine has often been quoted as saying that "those who sing pray twice." Music is an important component of worship and community in most churches. We at Advent are blessed with dedicated choristers who lead our worship and provide music for special services throughout the year. The choir began practicing in August in preparation for the choir's much anticipated return to the stalls (I know I've missed them this summer!) We will resume normal practice for the 2019-2020 term on September 8th at 9 a.m. We will hold practice each Sunday morning from 9 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. Please pray for our current choristers and pray for those who may be interested in joining. We welcome anyone of any level/ability! All you need is a desire to sing; we'll take care of the rest! All are welcome to join us in making music to the Glory of God.



Brandon, Choirmaster



Game Night

Tuesday, September 3

6:30 pm

Parish House

Games available or bring your favorite.



Thank you...

I am always amazed and in awe when the spirit moves around the Church of The Advent.

Once again, that spirit moved among you as you responded to requests for school supplies for the foster children of Martin County.

Your overflowing hearts filled an overflowing Love on Wheels wagon as your donations of much needed supplies for the students and their classrooms spilled out onto the floor of the narthex.

I am especially grateful for your donations of over 20 backpacks!

And a special thank you to Johnny Miller for his donation of Under Armour cinch bags.

Kit Reddick, Outreach

and thank you again.

August 16, 2019

Dear Church Members,

Martin County Child Welfare Services sincerely appreciates your recent donation of school supplies for our foster children. The book bags have been filled and are being distributed this week to assure that each child feels prepared for the start of the new school year. Thank you especially for the classroom supplies (Kleenex and hand sanitizer). These items help the children feel that they are contributing to their classroom. The notebooks, paper, pens, pencils, folders, crayons, scissors, and glue sticks are all items that the children will use throughout the year. Your church continues to be a support to these children and we are grateful for your willingness to provide these items for their school supply needs.

Gwendolyn Goddard
Martin County DSS Supervisor
Foster Care and Adoption



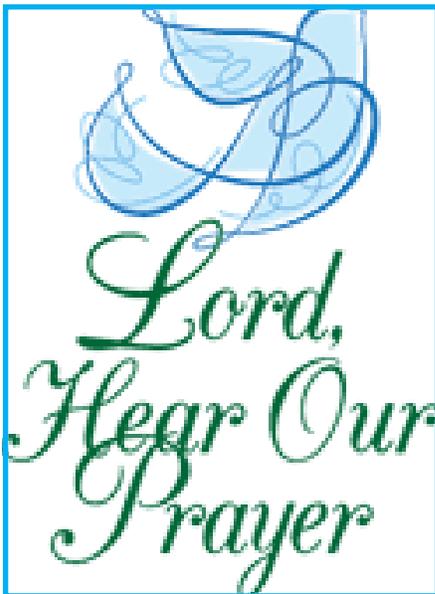
The Prayer List is found in the notebook marked "Prayer Lists" on the usher's table in the narthex of the church. Names may be added at any time by writing them in the notebook or calling the church office after requesting permission of those for whom prayer is requested. The Prayer List is read aloud 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

*Mary Charles Coppage David Martin
James & Janice Ford
Bridgette Fleming & Family
Warren Gordon Berkley Cone
Bill and Nita Smith
Valarie Hamilton Lucia Peel Powe
Ryan Kovac Mary Wood
Lindbergh Mitchell Lynn Beach
Lilly DelMastro Doward Jones
Amber Harney*

Birthdays

*6, Harrison Peel
6, Sue House
8, Nita Smith
9, Will Chesson
23, Brandon Woody
23, Billie Roney
27, Caroline Galler*



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, 8:00 a. m. -12 noon**

**124 West Church Street
P. O. Box 463**

**Williamston, NC 27892
Telephone 252.792.2244
advent1850@gmail.com**

www.williamstonepiscopalchurch.com

Diocese of East Carolina

**The Rt. Rev'd. Robert S. Skirving,
Bishop**

**Diocesan House
705 Doctors Drive
P. O. Box 1336**

**Kinston, NC 28503
Telephone 252-522-0885
Fax 252.523.5272**

www.diocese-eastcarolina.org

**Trinity Center
P. O. Drawer 380
Salter Path, NC 28575
Telephone 888.874.6287
Fax 252.247.3290**

**trinity@mail.clis.com
www.trinityctr.com**

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 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 12 Pentecost 10:00 am, MP II	2 Labor Day Church Office Closed	3 6:30 pm, Game Night	4	5	6 <i>Harrison Peel</i> <i>Sue House</i>	7
8 13 Pentecost 11:00 am, HE II 12:00 noon, Luncheon Parish House <i>Nita Smith</i>	9 <i>Will Chesson</i>	10	11 6:00 pm, Evening Prayer, Dinner & Program on World religions: Buddhism	12	13	14
15 14 Pentecost 11:00 am, HE II 12:00 noon, Vestry Meeting	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 15 Pentecost 11:00 am, HE II	23 Autumn Begins <i>Billie Roney</i> <i>Brandon Woody</i>	24	25	26	27 <i>Caroline Galler</i>	28
29 16 Pentecost 11:00 am, HE II	30					