



ADVENT

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



ADVENTURES

February 1, 2024

Rector's Corner

Dear Friends,

From ancient times, Christians have seen Lent as an opportunity to focus on their spiritual lives, especially aspects that could particularly benefit from attention. The core Lenten practice is, of course, faithful attendance at all Sundays and holy days (Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday), followed by fasting, almsgiving, and private prayer. The resources from Episcopal Relief and Development later in this email should help with both almsgiving and prayer.

After these disciplines, study has a supporting role to play, hence our congregational study of *Seculosity*. But if there is an aspect of your spiritual life that would be enriched by additional reading – and you still have time after giving sufficient attention to the above practices, [these books](#) come with the recommendation of The Bishop's Institute of our diocese.

The word Lent comes from the Old English word for the season of spring, *lencten*, referring to lengthening days. Therefore, I hope and pray that each of you experiences Lent not as an unpleasant imposition, but as an awakening to spiritual renewal as the lengthening days awaken new growth in the natural world.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Bret B. Hays+

Lenten Study



This year we're studying the phenomenon of "Seculosity," the tendency to seek righteousness, or "enough-ness," by embracing everything *but* the grace of God. Join us Wednesday nights in Lent (except Ash Wednesday), 6-7 pm, for a potluck dinner and a provocative, wide-ranging conversation. We'll start with a discussion of the introduction and Chapter 1, so **buy your copy of the book now.**

Breakfast Sunday

This Sunday is First Sunday and that means **Advent Breakfast.**



Pancake Supper



Pancake Supper: Everyone is welcome to our Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, February 13, 6-8 pm.

Ash Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday: Advent Church will observe this sacred day with services at noon in the chapel and 6 pm in the church.



Grace Mission Adventure



One-Day Mission Trip: Experience the many ways Grace Mission helps our most vulnerable neighbors by joining them February 22, 9:30 AM – 2 PM. Engage with a variety of service opportunities, from prayer in the chapel, to serving food, to giving out clothes. Contact Fr. Bret to sign up. This will take the place of the Fellowship Lunch this month.

Happy Anniversary Advent!

Bring-a-friend Sunday: In celebration of Advent's 65th anniversary, Advent will have an especially festive Sunday on March 3. (Yes, it will be Lent, but all Sundays are Feasts of Our Lord.) Invite everyone you know for Godly Play & Adult Forum, an "annotated" Eucharist at 10:30, and an enhanced coffee hour with a display of some of our liturgical treasures and a game of "stump the clergy."

Honors to Adventers

Dr. Cyndy Stewart to be honored: On March 9, the Tallahassee Chapter of the National Hook-Up of Black Women, Inc. will honor Cyndy at its 31st annual Gold Star Awards Program, held at 2 pm at the Old West Florida Enrichment Center, 2344 Lake Bradford Rd. Please join her and Fr. Bret at the celebration! "In being a Gold Star Award recipient, I am among a group of distinguished female leaders whose accomplishments are being recognized for our work in churches, educational institutions, and social/civic projects."

A Letter of Thanks from ERD

Dear Adventers,

Please accept my sincere gratitude for your faithful support and partnership this year. Thanks to you — and the collective generosity of this community — we're turning hope into reality and changing lives for the better.

I encourage you to linger on the incredible impact of your gift. Your contribution has played a direct role in our work all around the world. From alleviating hunger and disease, to empowering women, to providing children with a foundation of health and learning, we are strengthening our global community together.

Your compassion will carry through in the year ahead, too. As we begin a new year, we're already collaborating with local leaders and residents who are best equipped to identify and address the most pressing needs in their communities. We remain focused on strengthening and growing our programs alongside our partners to reach even more of our sisters and brothers who may need support.

On behalf of Episcopal Relief & Development, thank you. You have shown us the abundant power of faith and community this past year. Indeed it's true: When we work alongside each other for lasting change, we are moving closer to God's dream for the world.

Wishing you a most happy and healthy New Year.

Faithfully,

Robert W. Radtke

President & CEO

Episcopal Relief & Development

Flowers in Advent Church and St. Clement's Chapel

If anyone would like to sponsor the Flower arrangements in Advent Church or St. Clements Chapel, please contact Pat Akins in the church office at

(850) 386-5109 or email her at pakins@advent-church.org

You can sponsor the flower arrangement in honor of someone's birthday or anniversary. Your loved one will be mentioned in the church bulletin on the Sunday that you have chosen. The cost for Advent Church is \$75 and St. Clements Chapel is \$35.



Lenten Study from ERD



2024 Lenten Meditations

Psalm 51:10 reads, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me."

Reflect on your newness in Christ as you journey through Episcopal Relief & Development's Lenten Meditations, written by Miguel Escobar, and discover new ways your faith is guiding you through the world.

You're invited to subscribe to Episcopal Relief & Development Lenten Meditations! Visit our [website](#) to sign up for daily meditation emails, written by [Miguel Escobar](#), on living an authentic life as followers of Christ.

Want to learn more? In this [video](#), Miguel reflects on what was in his heart when he was crafting the meditations.

Even if you have received our daily meditations in the past, you may not be subscribed to them this year. Please [click **Subscribe**](#) to make sure!

The Philadelphia Eleven

Fifty years ago, the first eleven women were ordained in the Episcopal Church. Although controversial at the time, "The Philadelphia Eleven" are now being celebrated with a documentary of the same name. Holy Comforter Episcopal Church will screen the film on Friday, March 1 at 7 pm. 2015 Fleischmann Road.

Please Remember in your Prayers

Sage and Vivian.

Grace Mission

Grace Mission has lots of needs for volunteers. Please call Brenda Christie if you need information and/or want to volunteer. (850) 599-1948 Brenda@gracemission.net. Their website is <http://gracemission.net>. Go to "Get Involved" for volunteer activities. For Grace Mission News click [here](#).



Thank you so much for hosting an Angel Tree once again for Grace Mission! We are so happy to say that so many people in need were blessed by the generosity of Advent Church! Serving people in need in the Frenchtown area & beyond is such a blessing & we couldn't do it without your ongoing support. Thank you! And God's many blessings to you and yours this year!

--Kathy Ciarlariello, Grace Mission Donor & Communications Coordinator

URGENT NEEDS

Women's underwear / sizes medium – 2XL

Women's bras / all sizes

Men's t-shirts / sizes Large – 3X

Men's socks / black and blue

Men's boxers / medium – 2X

Deodorant

As colder temperature approach, please consider donating gently used winter clothes, especially sweaters, hoodies and coats.

Godly Play

Godly Play is here! The session begins at 9:15 AM in our new Godly Play atrium (in the old youth room, next to the choir room — look for the signs in the Parish Hall). This program celebrates the spirituality of children by teaching the basics of our faith through absorbing storytelling, appreciative engagement, making art, feasting, and of course, play. The program is geared for ages 3-13 but appropriate for any child who can understand spoken language and is potty trained. For more information, contact Fr. Bret. To sign up, [click here](#).



The Choir

Welcome them!

Join Join Join! Rehearsals held Wednesdays, 7-8 pm in the choir room. Contact Ariana, acorbin@advent-church.org, if you're interested in joining!

Birthdays and Anniversaries

February Birthdays: Frances Blount and Cyndy Stewart on February 1, Debbie Payne on February 5, Larry Livengood on February 6, Andrew Huntsberger on February 8, Joseph Scheff II on February 9, Kathy Newlin on February 10, Diana Askew on February 13, Johnnie Cook on February 15, Mark Huntsberger on February 17, Ginny Smoller on February 20, Ruth Askew, Kathy Wilson and Kent Rosenbaum on February 22, Jordan Peeples on February 25, Norma Kaiser on February 27 and Mark Baird on February 28.



February Anniversaries: Judith and Jan Rogers on February 11 and Jane Berry and Roger Shields on February 15.

Coffee Hour

In the Parish Hall after the 10:30 service. Visit with friends and meet new folks while enjoying some light refreshments.

Thinking about **joining the host teams for Coffee Hour**? It is easy. Expenses are reimbursable. Supplies provided. Please contact Pat Akins in the church office at (850) 386-5109 or email her at pakins@advent-church.org



February Hosts

February 4 Sophia Tucker and Nancy Fischer
February 11 Pat Thomas and Val Tucker
February 18 Judy Graham and Mary Claire Lovell
February 25 TBA

A big Thank You to all.

Thanks to Our Vestry

Senior Warden - Mark Dent
Junior Warden - Sharon Ray
Secretary - Jane Bullen
Co-Treasurers - David Van Winkle and Ken Mills
Vestry Members - Mark Baird, Judy Graham, Nancy Hough, Amy Serles, and Barbara Sullivan

Office Hours/Contact Information

Church Office
Phone: 850.386.5109
Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 PM | Monday - Friday

The Episcopal Church of the Advent
A Community of Faith, Fellowship, and Fun
<https://www.advent-church.org>

Mission

To love and serve God and our neighbors by offering to the people of Tallahassee meaningful worship services rooted in the tradition of Episcopal liturgy and music, a high-quality education to young children in our day school, opportunities for fellowship, and outreach ministries that serve the community and the world.

Vision

To be an inclusive worshipping community that serves our neighbors through education, outreach, and giving and welcomes all who want to love God.

Next Adventures will be February 22, 2024

Funnies

