
ADVENT MESSENGER

The Episcopal Church of the Advent, Louisville, Kentucky

Whoever you are, or wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

The Church of the Advent

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Louisville, KY 40204
(502) 451-6066
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advent.episcopalky.org

Advent's Staff

Rev. Dr. Tim Mitchell, Rector
rectoradvent@aol.com
Rev. Dr. Eva Markham, Deacon
emark01@louisville.edu
Mr. Bryan Hoover
Organist-Choirmaster
adventmusic901@aol.com
Parish Administrator
adventlouky@aol.com
Mr. Christopher Skye, Sexton
christopher.skye@gmail.com

Office Hours

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9-4
Wednesday 9-1

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January-February 2010

From the Rector

"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, on them the light has shined." (Isaiah 9:2.) Indeed, we have seen the light of the Christ child; we have celebrated his birth once again; and we now follow the star in the sky, announcing the Christ child's arrival, as people with open hearts of faith. As we start the New Year, we have much to be grateful for at Advent, for on us the light has shined. On Sunday, January 24, Bishop Ted Gulick will join us in a celebration that marks his final visitation to our parish; Bishop Ted's 15+ years of ministry as Bishop of the Diocese of Kentucky will conclude at the end of July of this year. Details about the work and timeline of the Bishop Search Committee can be found on the diocesan website: <http://bishopsearch.episcopalky.org/> When he presides at the 10:30 am service on January 24, the Bishop will initiate six new members through Confirmation and Reception into our faith community at the Church of the Advent.

On the following Sunday, January 31, Advent's Annual Meeting will take place. One of the primary agenda items at that meeting is the election of new vestry members. This coming year, we will elect four new vestry members: 3 three-year terms and 1 one-year term. During Sunday services in recent weeks, we have urged consideration of the nomination of parishioners for service on the vestry. We ask that all nominations be submitted by Sunday, January 17 to the Chair of the Nominations Committee, Douglas Pfendler (d.pfendler@insightbb.com, tel. 454-3165.) Also, we will ask all nominees to write a short essay, introducing themselves to the parish and sharing why they would like to serve on the vestry.

I imagine that some of you may have questions about the duties of a vestry member. So, here's some technical information about duties of a vestry member: According to Canon 23 of the Diocese of Kentucky, the duty of the vestry of each parish shall be to provide for and regulate its temporal affairs in accordance with Canon 15 and cooperate with the Rector for the promotion of the spiritual welfare of the Cure. It is the duty of the vestry to raise and pay promptly the money stipulated for the support of their ministers. For more detailed information about the

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Advent's Vestry

Kim Wadlington, Senior Warden, 2009
kim.wadlington@louisville.edu
Cathy Hicks, Junior Warden, 2009
cathybird@bellsouth.net
Douglas Pfendler, Clerk, 2011
d.pfendler@bellsouth.net
Kara Amundson, 2009
karayes@yahoo.com
Mary Kay Flege, 2011
mflege@bellsouth.net
Alane Hart, 2009
aelspethhart@gmail.com
Dru Kemp, 2011
dru.kemp@insightbb.com
Denise Rivers, 2010
drivers@insightbb.com
Jeff Stodghill, 2010
jstodge@mac.com
Stanley Whetzel, 2010
sww192323@aol.com

Dates to Note

Sundays – Holy Eucharist, 8:30 & 10:30

Thursdays – Taizé Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 24 – Bishop's Visitation with Rites of Christian Initiation. Bishop Gulick will celebrate and preach at both services.

Sunday, January 31 – Noon Annual Meeting of the Parish

Sunday – January 10
Vestry Meeting, 12 noon

Wednesday – February 17
Ash Wednesday Liturgies at 12:15 p.m. and at 6:30 p.m.

Thursdays - January 21 & February 25
Food Pantry Boxing, 7:45 p.m.

Saturdays – Jan. 19 & Feb. 23
Food Pantries, 9-11 a.m.

Saturday, March 6-
Tuesday, March 9-
Joint Lenten Retreat with St. Mark's and St. Andrew's

In Our Prayers

Robert Bratcher, Alice Bratcher, Jimmy Brown, Dorothy Busam, Bob Ehret, Bill Gassmann, Katherine Horton, Laura Lukat, Barbara Mims, Louis Schaefer, Hans Schauer, Sarah Thacker, Noah Mancuso and family, Ann Rendeules, Jeff Fowler and his platoon.

Taizé at Advent

Advent's Thursday evening prayer services have resumed after a short hiatus during the holidays. Leadership during the past year has been expanded to include several lay members of Advent when Fr. Tim is away. This has become a parish-wide gift to the Highlands community. Join us for this contemplative and introspective prayer service Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

Parish E-mail Addresses

E-mail is an important tool for communication within the parish. Please contact the parish office with any changes to your e-mail address so we can keep you up to date with happenings here at Advent.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

January 2 – Bronson Howell
January 5 – MacKay Young
January 10 – Joellen Johnston
January 12 – John Hines
January 19 – James Gissendaner, Jr.
January 20 – Kenneth Koenig
January 23 – Joe Brentzel
January 23 – Christopher Skye
January 29 – Kathryn Rampy
January 30 – Christopher Gissendaner
January 30 – Alane Hart
February 2 – George Brentzel
February 4 – Freddie Dunnagan
February 7 – Cathy Hicks
February 9 – Kim Wadlington
February 13 – Alice Schaefer
February 3 – Valerie & Earle Collins, Jr.

From the Rector, continued . . .

Duties of Vestries, and related canons, you may want to consult resources on the Diocese of Kentucky website: <http://www.episcopalky.org/resources/canons.html>.

Who can serve on the vestry?: The church canons state that all adult communicants in good standing (who, if they have previously served on the vestry have been off for at least one year, unless they were appointed to fill an unexpired term) are eligible to serve. An adult communicant is any active person, age sixteen or over, who has been baptized (in any Christian denomination), is a registered member of this parish, and has made an adult affirmation of faith -- by baptism, confirmation or reception into the Episcopal Church. A communicant in good standing is one who regularly attends and participates in the life of the parish and gives of his or her time, talent and treasure. Good standing members are faithful in corporate worship and in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God and whose membership certificates are recorded in the office of the Church. If you have any questions as to whether you are a communicant in good standing, please contact the Rector.

Advent's vestry has ten members, three of whom are elected each year to serve three-year terms, and one elected for a one-year term. (The Rector is ex-officio a member of the vestry and its presiding officer.) Two of the current vestry members, Kim Wadlington and Cathy Hicks, are eligible to run for election to new terms since they have filled the unexpired terms of others. The vestry typically meets monthly to oversee the pastoral, financial, ministerial and physical matters of the parish. Each vestry member is asked to serve as a liaison to one of the following Standing Committees: Finance (Senior Warden, Chair); Building and Grounds (Junior Warden, chair); Altar Guild; Hospitality; Outreach and Pastoral Care; Stewardship; Spiritual Formation and Christian Education; Taize; and Marketing. Also, at this time in Advent's history, it is expected that vestry members will be able to roll up their sleeves to work as a team for church renewal and growth.

My proposal for this coming year is that we meet as a vestry on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. Ideally, meetings will last 90 minutes, but practically-speaking they can go as long as 2 hours. Vestry members should miss no more than two meetings per

Messenger Schedule and Deadlines

The Advent Messenger will be published bi-monthly beginning in 2010. Deadlines for submissions will be approximately the 25th of December, February, April, June, August and October. Specific deadlines will be published in the previous *Messenger* and in the Sunday service leaflets. The deadline for the March-April issue is February 23.

year. In May, the vestry goes on an overnight retreat to All Saints Retreat Center to pray and play together, and to focus our vision for the coming year. The vestry reviews the parish's financial position throughout the year and makes decisions about financial matters. All vestry members should serve as examples to the congregation and make an annual pledge during our financial commitment campaign, while being willing to encourage pledging and the raising of financial resources among others. All vestry members are available to be ears for the congregation and to give voice to those concerns, while also educating members of the congregation about parish mission as well as vestry actions. There's no question that vestry membership requires a serious commitment of time and energy, but the rewards are abundantly rich. If you are considering serving the church through this vital ministry, I encourage you to ask current or previous vestry members about their experiences.

Last but not least, I would like to invite your reflections on the experience of our common worship in the rearranged altar space at Advent, where in September we re-positioned the altar at the foot of the chancel steps to promote engagement in the liturgical action. If you have comments or suggestions for how to improve our rearranged worship space in terms of the liturgical experience, please feel free to share them with any members of the Liturgical Working Group, which includes Kim Wadlington, Gail Bonnell, Charles Raith, Douglas Pfendler, Bryan Hoover, Eva Markham, Sam Dorr, Cathy Hicks and me. Of course, we've already received quite a bit of feedback about the community's experience of the altar move, but we would welcome any further thoughts you may have as we look to move beyond this experimental period in our common worship.

In this new year of Advent's life, I give special thanks to all those who have served as vestry members during this past year, and I pray for the Spirit's guidance as we discern the selection of new vestry members -- of those who will lead our parish in following the star of the Christ child.

Yours in Christ,

Tim+

Name Tags

Name tags are available for everybody on the credenza at the rear of the church. Please pick yours up and wear it whenever you're at church so we can all learn each others' names. We've tried very hard to If there isn't one for you, please write your name on the pad of paper next to the display of tags and we'll do our best to be sure you have one. And be sure to return the tags to their place after use.

Apartment Available

Advent's apartment in the back of the Parish Hall is currently for rent. If you know anyone interested in the space, please speak with Cathy Hicks, the Junior Warden and Chair of the Property Committee.

Advent's Food Pantries

Both of our food pantries have experienced significant increase in demand in recent months. At the same time, contributions to Dare to Care (where we get most of the food) have decreased making less food available. We are especially in need of canned vegetables and soups and non-perishable boxed items like macaroni and cheese. The pet pantry is always in need of cat food and litter in addition to dog food. Please consider a contribution of either food or money. Make your check to The Church of the Advent and mark it "Food Pantry" or "Pet Pantry" (or both!). Contributions of food may be made any time during office hours.

Nominating Committee

Nominations for vestry members are currently being accepted. Vestry members serve three-year terms and must be members in good standing of the parish. If you are interested in serving as a member of the vestry or if you would like to nominate someone else, please contact Douglas Pfendler, Father Tim or a current vestry member. Nominations are due by January 19.

Annual Meeting

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the parish lunch and Annual Meeting after the 10:30 liturgy on Sunday, January 31. Among items for that meeting are reports from the rector, wardens, treasurer, staff and chairs of standing committees; the presentation of the budget for 2010; and the election of vestry members to replace those whose terms are expiring. Written reports

Calendars

There are still a few copies of the 2010 church calendar available in the Parish Hall. Have your very own copy for a donation of only \$5. What a bargain!

Recent Happenings

The Rummage Sale and Christmas Bazaar was a big success on December 5. Many thanks to Amanda Gissendaner and her crew for a job well done!

Santa visited Food Pantries Dec. 19. A number of people, pets and pantry volunteers sat on Santa's lap for their portraits. Thanks to Santa and his helpers for ringing us so much holiday cheer.

are due by January 19; please e-mail them to adventlouky@aol.com.

H1N1 Flu Shots

The Louisville Metro Department of Health and Wellness has announced it will be offering immunization clinics for anyone interested in obtaining the H1N1 vaccine. The clinics will operate four days a week for three weeks from January 4 through January 22 and will be by appointment only. Both the nasal flu mist and the injection forms of the vaccine will be available. The clinic locations and hours of operation are:

Urban Government Center, 810 Barrett Avenue,
Monday 12-7, Wednesday 9-4

Middletown Fire District, 108 Orton Lane,
Tuesday 9-4, Thursday 12-7

Pleasure Ridge Park Fire District, 4500 Kerrick Lane,
Tuesday 9-4, Thursday 12-7

For an appointment, please call 568-4161.

Bishop's Visitation

Bishop Gulick will make his annual visit Advent on Sunday, January 24, preaching and celebrating at both services. Included in the 10:30 liturgy that morning will be the Rites of Christian Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Reception). Please join for this very special day as we welcome both the bishop and new members into our community.

Church Cleaning

Bring your buckets, rags, polish and plenty of enthusiasm to help spruce up the church for the bishop's visit. Come any time between 9:a.m. and noon on Saturday, January 16, and join the fun!

Lenten Retreat

The Church of the Advent will join with St. Mark's and St. Andrew's for a Lenten Retreat in early March. Led by the Rev. Anne Vouga from St. Mark's, the retreat will present a series of reflections on the Lenten Psalms. Anne Vouga is a scripture scholar, specializing in the Psalms. There will be more information in the next *Messenger*.

Farewell Alane Hart

Alane Hart has left her Advent family in order to take up an internship in music therapy in Wisconsin. She came to Advent about 2 and a half years ago while a student and U of L. At Advent, Alane served on the vestry, on the altar guild, served as a lector and sang in

the choir. Alane's phone number and e-mail address are still current as printed in the parish directory. Her mailing address is available from the parish office for anybody who would like to have it. We will miss Alan ever much and wish her well.

An Introduction to Centering Prayer

On February 6, 2010, St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Louisville will host an Introduction to Centering Prayer Workshop from 9:30 am until 3:00 pm.

Sally Lambert, our workshop leader, has led numerous retreats and workshops on Centering Prayer and is on the Leadership Committee of Contemplative Outreach of Kentucky.

Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplation: the experience of God's presence within us. The practice emphasizes prayer as a personal relationship with God and a movement beyond conversation with Christ to Communion with Him. Centering Prayer traces its roots to the mysticism of the Desert Mothers and Fathers in the earliest days of Christian tradition. In more recent

Eight o'clock becomes Eight-thirty

A reminder to the Sunday early birds: you don't have to be quite so early from now on. The 8:00 a.m. Sunday liturgy is moving to 8:30 effective January 10.

times the work was continued by Thomas Merton, Cistercian monk and author.

This introductory workshop will be the first of seven presentations about Centering Prayer. The six follow-up presentations, which will each last about an hour to an hour-and-a-half, will be scheduled at the conclusion of the workshop at a time or times that are convenient to those wanting to go forward with this practice.

For more information, please contact either the Rev. Anne Vouga at 502-895-2429 (avouga@gmail.com) or Sally Lambert at 502-552-5812 (shlnamste@insightbb.com). All participants need to register before Monday, January 25. A \$10 contribution is asked to cover the cost of lunch, payable the day of the workshop.

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for use in paying 2010 pledges are available in the parish office. If you made a financial pledge to Advent for 2010 and would like to use envelopes please pick up a box and be sure to sign the accompanying sheet so we can match your name with the envelope numbers.

Prayer Calendar

Our prayers are asked each week for the Church in the Anglican Communion,
in the Diocese of Kentucky, and in Highlands Community Ministries.

January 3 – The Anglican Church of Australia; Retired Clergy & spouses, Paducah; Concordia Lutheran Church

January 10 – The Church of Bangladesh; Trinity Church; Owensboro; Calvary Lutheran Church

January 17 – The Anglican Church of Brazil; Episcopal Relief and Development; St. James' Church, Shelbyville; Highland Baptist Church

January 24 – The Anglican Church of Burundi; The Church of the Advent, Louisville; Deer Park Baptist Church

January 31 – The Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia; St. Peter's Church, Louisville; Bethany Baptist Church

February 7 -- The Church of the Province of Central Africa; Vine Street Baptist Church

February 14 – The Anglican Church of Central America; Edenside Christian Church

February 21 – The Anglican Church of the Congo; Douglass Boulevard Christian Church

February 28 – The Church of England; Highland Presbyterian Church

Note: The Prayer Cycle from the Diocese of Kentucky for February was not available at press time.

Eucharistic Visitors

Advent is fortunate to have a team of dedicated people who serve as Eucharistic Visitors. If you would like the Holy Communion brought to you in your home, please contact the parish office and we'll make arrangements for one of our Eucharistic Visitors to visit you.

Happenings at your Cathedral

On Sunday, January 24, *Concert Spirituel* will be presented by the Ensemble Fiore della Vita from the Indiana University School of Music in Bloomington. This program will consist of wide-ranging vocal and instrumental chamber music by Georg Philipp Telemann 1681-1767 and will showcase his remarkable dexterity as a composer. A contemporary of J. S. Bach, Telemann is thought to be the most prolific composer in the history of music. The concert is at 5:00 p.m.

And, in the Cathedral's ongoing series of Second Sunday events, these Evensongs:

January 10: Schuyler Robinson, organist, with the Girl's Choir from Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, Kentucky.

February 14: Robert L. Bozeman, piano and organ, with the choir from St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Anchorage, KY.

Each event begins at 5:00 p.m. with a 30-minute concert or recital followed by Choral Evensong.

Lectionary Readings

January 3 – Proper for the Feast of the Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72: 1-7; Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12

January 10 – Epiphany 1 The Baptism of Christ

Isaiah 43: 1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 17 – Epiphany 2

Isaiah 62: 1-5; Psalm 36: 5-10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

January 24 – Epiphany 3

Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a; Luke 4: 14-21

January 31 – Epiphany 4

Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71: 1-6; 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13; Luke 4:21-30

February 7 – Epiphany 5

Isaiah 6: 1-8 (9-13); Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; Luke 5: 1-11

February 14 – Last Sunday after Epiphany

Exodus 34: 29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3: 12-4:2; Luke 9: 28-37 (37-43)

February 21 – Lent 1

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11; Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16; Romans 10: 8b-13; Luke 4: 1-13

February 28 - Lent 2

Genesis 15: 1-12, 18-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13: 31-35

The Church of the Advent

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Louisville KY 40204

Address Service Requested