

## VESTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 15, 2019

Good morning and welcome to Christ Episcopal Church! Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. We are glad you are with us. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am a member of the Vestry.

### **ONLY IF THERE ARE GUESTS!**

If you are a guest with us today, we invite you to provide your contact information on one of the guest cards in the pew racks; you can place it in the collection plate or hand it to an usher.

**Christmas Memorial Envelopes** are in the back of church. If you want to remember someone, please fill out the envelope and put it in the collection basket. ***We need them in the office by this Wednesday, December 18.*** Donations are not required, but of course are still welcome.

The **Vestry will meet** this coming Tuesday, December 17, at 6 p.m.

The **Greening of the Church** will take place after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service on December 22. The altar guild invites everyone to help.

We are in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of our two Advent series:

- Between the Services we are learning about *The Prophets and the People*. Today we have Esther and next week Isaiah.
- The other series is on Monday evenings, at 5:15 p.m. featuring a discipleship course called "*Living Well through Advent: Practicing Peace with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind.*" This week the theme is "Finding Peace Where We Are Planted."

We will have **choir practice** today at 11:45 – the choir will sing on December 22 and Christmas Eve.

It's not too late to get your tree: We are **selling Christmas trees until they are gone!** And we still have several left.

Christmas Eve Service will be at 7 p.m. with the choir. The Christmas Day Service will be at 8 p.m., a quiet service. If you are available to read lessons, lead the prayers of the people, meet-and-greet, or serve as chalice on Christmas Eve, *please let us know!* Thank you.

There will be a Coffee Hour Post-Christmas Pitch-In after the 9 a.m. combined service on December 29.

There is still time to consider the level of financial support you will be able to offer in 2020. If you have not turned in a pledge card yet, we do have cards available for you today. We've received pledges from roughly half the congregation at this time. Please make every effort to provide us with your pledge as soon as possible, so the Vestry and Finance committee can begin drafting the budget for next year.

One of the main concerns we have is being able to pay our staff – including Mother Evelyn – and continue to meet our financial obligations to the diocese, our service providers and suppliers, and to provide support for the Clearinghouse House of Hope food pantry and other formation, mission, and evangelism opportunities that may arise. If you are able to increase your pledge over prior years, we would very much appreciate it. Thank you.

Are there any other announcements from the Congregation?

**10:00 Service Only:** We begin our service today with the hymn printed in the new Advent Worship Booklet, *Love Astounding*.