



Church of the Advent

# Advent Advisor

April 2020

## Opportunities for Worship

Each Sunday in April, Senior Warden Johnny Miller will ring the church bell at 11:00 to call us to home.



On the Facebook page of the Diocese of East Carolina, Bishop Rob Skirving will lead a service of Morning Prayer from the chapel at the Diocesan House in a live stream. Afterwards you can access the taped service through the diocesan website.

Also, at cathedral.org the dean of the National Cathedral invites us to worship with him.

*"We're gathering each day to pray and worship. Join us!*

*The comforting rhythm of daily prayer offers a sense of solace in anxious times. "Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you," the Scriptures tell us.*

*We invite you to join us in spending time together each day, online, in the presence of God, with morning and evening services of prayer and a livestreamed Sunday Holy Eucharist. Request a prayer for yourself, a loved one or the world, and download resources, including our Prayers for Times of Uncertainty."*

You can also access the worship booklet for the Sunday service complete with music. Sunday service begins at 11:15 a.m.

On Palm Sunday, palms will be left on the bench in front of the columbarium. for you to pick up.



Also, thank you to Lori Taylor and Brandon Woody for making palm crosses which will also be available on the bench as well.

If you can not pick up palms or palm crosses, please call the church office and let Joe know what you would like and where to leave outside of your house. A

volunteer will deliver according to your instructions.

## HOLY WEEK



Thank you to Brandon Woody who has volunteered to change the altar hangings from Palm Sunday through Holy Week to Easter Sunday.

The church is always open during office hours for private prayer and meditation.

## EASTER Sunday



On Easter Sunday, the Rev. Jim Horton will celebrate Holy Eucharist at 11 a.m. in a live video posted on the web site of St. Peter's in Washington where he is serving as interim rector.

At the Church of the Advent, the traditional Flowering of the Cross will be in place outside the church in covered walkway. You are invited and welcomed to stop by and place flowers on the cross with will also be adorned with greenery.



Thank you to Lucia Peel for posting thoughtful poems in *Comings and Goings* for our reflection and comfort.

Our Presiding Bishop Rt. Rev. Michael Curry has issued an invitation for reflection with him entitled *Habits of Grace*.

"As we learn how to adjust our lives given the reality of the coronavirus and the request to do our part to slow its spread by practicing social distancing, I invite you to join me each week to take a moment to cultivate a 'habit of grace.' A new meditation will be posted on Mondays through May."

<https://episcopalchurch.org/habits-of-grace>

## Update on Blessings in a Backpack

Because Martin County students are no longer attending school until May 15, church representatives working with Blessings in a Backpack met with co-ordinator Jody Bickerstaff and Director of Student Services Clay Wagner of the Martin County School to develop an alternative feeding plan.



The new plan calls for all the participating churches to come together and work as one team to provide weekly home delivery of foodstuffs with more than food for a weekend. For instance, instead of a packet of oatmeal, the bags now contain a box of oatmeal.

Due to Governor Cooper's Stay at Home Directive in effect until April 29, the packing will be done by the pre-school staff at Memorial Baptist Church who are already in place working.

Home delivery will be done by church volunteers carrying essential workers travel letters.

If you are interested in delivering, please call Kit Reddick to schedule specific dates and times.

## Outside the church...

Thank you to Don Beach for tree trimming work in the crepe myrtles.

Thank you to Joe Jernigan and Brandon Woody for taking the lead to renew and renovate the Church Street flower beds.

Joe is reworking the brick border while Brandon is weeding and planting.

Volunteers are welcome to come by and weed as you feel able.



You can get out and enjoy the spring air and practice social distancing.

Contact Joe or Brandon as to what needs to be done.

## and inside the church

Two church pews have been downsized to accommodate worshippers in scooters and wheelchairs.

The carpet in the Parish House has been cleaned.

Parish Administrator Joe Jernigan is reworking the present lay schedule to create one that will begin with May and continue through June.



## Loosed from Death



Almost 100 years ago, one-time U.K. poet laureate John Masfield wrote a play called *The Trial of Jesus*. In it, the centurion who oversaw Jesus'

execution returns to give Pontius Pilate an official report. When Pilate's wife requests and receives details about the crucifixion, she asks, "Do you think he is dead?" Despite what he had witnessed, the centurion answers, "No, lady, I don't."

Confused, Pilate's wife inquires, "Then where is he?" The man's response: "Let loose in the world, where none can stop his truth."

Indeed, as 2 Timothy 2:9 (ESV) attests, "The word of God is not bound!"



## Recycling at the Church of the Advent

Plastic bags are no longer needed for Blessings in a Backpack. But newspapers are needed to be used as mulching material for the Church Street flower beds.

the newspaper is laid under the mulch for weed control. The papers decay and enhance the soil's fertility.

The newspapers may be left in a bin outside the church office.

Please do not leave colored inserts such as advertisements and Sunday comics.

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

Jeanette Peel Mike Moore  
 Cameron Price Nikki Rogerson  
 James & Janice Ford  
 Deloris Staton Rose Marie Allard  
 Joan and Francis Ganis  
 Louisa Celebrezze Lucia Peel Powe  
 Laurel Cox Smith Lynn Beach  
 Riffe Culpepper Anthony McNeile  
 Rev. Susan Bentley Ryan Kovac  
 The McNamara Family  
 Roy Fisher Dido Heath  
 Teresa Perry Ariah Rotunda  
 Bob Holtz

Birthdays

3 ~ Diana Greene  
 16 ~ Angi Godard  
 16 ~ Virginia Medford  
 17 ~ Douglas Chesson  
 18 ~ Rachel Gauvin  
 23 ~ Amanda Allen  
 23 ~ Standrick Jefferson  
 25 ~ Bill Smith  
 27 ~ Toussaint Biondi



**Church of the Advent**

*Founded 1850*

**Johnny Miller, Senior Warden**  
**Don Beach, Junior Warden**

**Joe Jernigan, Parish Administrator**  
**Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon**

**Brandon Woody, Organist/Choir Master**

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

**Williamston, NC 27892**  
**Telephone: 252.792.2244**

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

All April Services Cancelled

May 3 Morning Prayer / Kit Reddick 11:00am

May 10 Holy Eucharist / Rev. Adele Dees Hatfield 11:00am

May 11 Vestry Meeting 5:30pm

May 13 Evening Service 6:00pm

May 17 Green Acres - Holy Eucharist / Rev. Ted Malone 11:00am followed by Luncheon

May 24 Holy Eucharist / Rev. Polk Culpepper 11:00am

May 31 Holy Eucharist / Rev. Mal Roberts 11:00am

June 7 Holy Eucharist / Rev. Mal Roberts 10:00am

June 14 Holy Eucharist / Rev. Polk Culpepper 10am10:00am

June 21 Morning Prayer / Bill Webb 10:00am

June 28 Holy Eucharist / Rev. Polk Culpepper 10:00am

*The Church of the Advent is a nurturing, vibrant, and inclusive community inviting spiritual growth through liturgical worship, outreach, and fellowship.*