

Holy Week leads us to Easter

The special services for Holy Week leading up to Easter Sunday morning are some of the most beautiful and meaningful of the Church year.

Beginning at 11a.m. on March 25, the Palm Sunday liturgy begins in the parish hall with prayers and the Blessing of the Palms before a procession by the whole congregation into the sanctuary, commemorating the procession that accompanied Jesus into Jerusalem. During the Liturgy of the Word, the Passion Gospel is read in parts, a drama enacted of the last day in the life of Jesus leading up to his death by crucifixion.

Wednesday of Holy Week, March 28, at 6 p.m., we will conclude our Lenten Series with a Rite I Eucharist, followed by a simple meal and our last program discussion.

The Maundy Thursday service at 6 p.m. on March 29 is a Eucharist celebrated to recall the institution of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper of Christ with his disciples before his arrest and death. It was then that Jesus washed their feet, and during the service participants will be offered the opportunity to live out his command to his disciples to wash one another's feet. At the conclusion of the service the altar is stripped and the bread and wine which was consecrated but not consumed will be placed in the tabernacle as the Reserved Sacrament.

On Good Friday, the community of Williamston is invited downtown at noon to participate in an outdoor Way of the Cross. Beginning in the small park across from the city offices, clergy from various churches will lead in a walk to commemorate the path Jesus walked to Calvary where he was crucified.

On Friday evening, March 30 at 6 p.m.,

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Church of the Advent will hold a service of the Stations of the Cross prior to the Good Friday liturgy and communion from the Reserved Sacrament.

Saturday evening at 8 p.m. is the service of the Great Vigil of Easter. This service historically was the night that those in the early church were brought into the community by Baptism. The first part of the service is held by candlelight while the stories of God and God's people are read from the Bible. We renew our Baptismal Covenant and then then the lights come on and we begin the first service of the Resurrection as if coming out of the empty tomb. Many who have experienced an Easter Vigil service have said it is one of the most deeply moving liturgies in the Episcopal Church.

Then Sunday Morning at 11a.m. we will celebrate a traditional Easter Sunday Eucharist, rich with Alleluias and flowers and all the joy of the Resurrection and its power to trample our fears of death.

I encourage you to attend as many services in Holy Week as you are able as the commitment to take that sacrificial walk with Jesus all the way to his tomb will expand your joy at Easter beyond measure.

By Rev. Ellen Richardson



Lenten Series continues

Can we change the world with a change of heart?

Join us on Wednesday evenings in Lent for a quiet Holy Eucharist Rite I at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary, followed by a simple meal of soup and sandwiches and a discussion program in the parish hall to be concluded by 7:30.



A Change of Heart

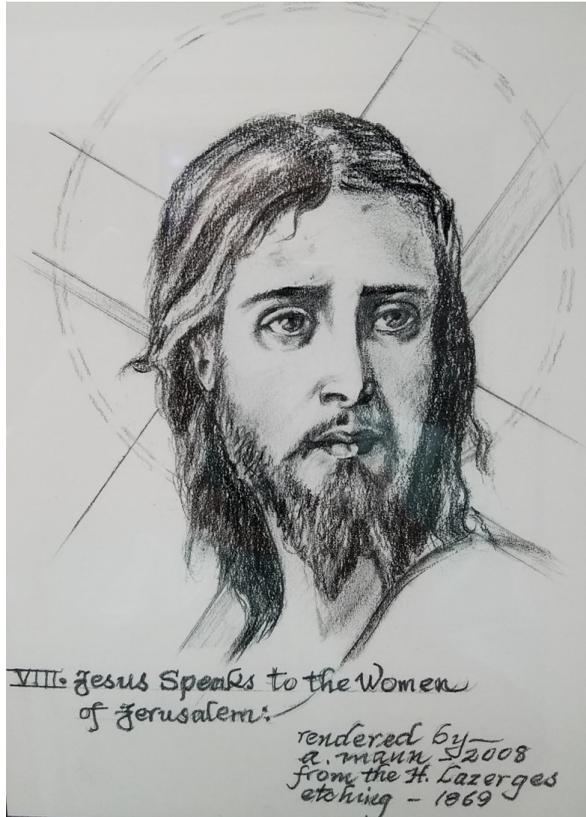
- March 7 The Heart of Hospitality with Susan Husson of Interfaith Refugee Ministries, New Bern
- March 14 The Heart of Justice
- March 21 The Heart of Reconciliation
- March 28 The Heart of Compassion

Worship leaders for Morning Prayer

As your Priest-in-Charge who has been called by Church of the Advent to a part-time position (30 hours per week and 12 Sundays away per calendar year), it has been the decision of the leadership to conduct lay-led Morning Prayer with music on those Sundays I am scheduled to be away.

If you feel led to be a lay worship leader by reading the service of Morning Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer on a rotating schedule with others, please contact me for a conversation of discernment about it. I am happy to train, guide, assist with preparation, and provide all the resources needed for this important ministry at Church of the Advent.

Stations of the Cross follows the last journey of Jesus to Calvary



The Stations of the Cross, also known as the Way of the Cross, is a series of 14 images representing the experience of Jesus as he walked the path through Jerusalem to his cross on Mount Calvary on the day of his crucifixion. A familiar tradition in Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist and Anglican churches, moving and praying through the Way of the Cross is meant to be a spiritual pilgrimage for Christians, particularly during Lent, when the Church offers a season of contemplation on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ

that preceded the day of his resurrection we celebrate as Easter.

The set of Stations of the Cross as depicted by Arch Manning in 2008, inspired by the 1869 etchings of the French artist Hippolyte Lazerges, have been placed in the sanctuary of Church of the Advent through the season of Lent. They were given to the parish by Arch and Raquel Manning in memory of Iris and Jim Cooke. Printed descriptions and prayers for each station are available in the narthex for individual devotions at any time there is someone available to open the church.

There will be two opportunities to pray the Way of the Cross with others on Good Friday, March 30, 2018. At noon, Rev. Ellen will join other community pastors in a walk through the Stations of the Cross beginning at the corner of Main and Smithwick and moving through the downtown area of Williamston. That evening at 6 p.m., Church of the Advent will hold a service of the Stations of the Cross in the sanctuary, with the Good Friday liturgy and communion from the reserved sacrament to follow.



Lenten outreach project

During the month of March for its Lenten project, the Church of the Advent is participating in Blessings in a Backpack. The program provides six items of food for at-risk students identified by school staff to take home to feed themselves during the weekend.

Volunteers are needed on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 10:30 to unpack and organize food and repack the food in plastic bags. The packed bags are then packed into large courier bags for delivery to the schools. Volunteers are needed to deliver to a few of the participating schools.

The work is done at Memorial Baptist Church located at 109 West Church in Williamston. Volunteers enter through the church office door by ringing the doorbell. The work is done in the fellowship hall.

If you are interested in helping, call Kit Reddick at 792-1158 and leave a message if necessary.

The Church of the Advent works in conjunction with other local churches in this weekend feeding program.



The Mardi Gras Fundraiser for Blessings in a Backpack raised \$1,235.00 which will feed over 11 children for the entire year.

Relay for Life

Beginning April 8, 2018 in support of the American Cancer Society, votive candles will be available in the church for individuals to light during the Sunday Eucharist throughout April in honor of a cancer survivor or in memory of a friend or loved one who has died of cancer.



The names of those to be honored and remembered may be placed on a list to be read during the Prayers of the People by notifying Joe Jernigan in the parish office and dropping off a check for \$10 per name made out to the American Cancer Society.

If you have any questions, please contact Lucia Peel at 792-0070.

Flowering of the Cross

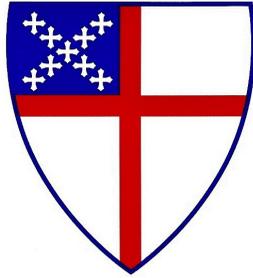
Children attending the Easter Eucharist are invited to participate in the Flowering of the Cross. Please bring whatever flowering plants you have to place on the Easter Cross.



Episcopal 101

By Rev. Ellen Richardson

Episcopal 101 is a class designed to be an introduction to the Episcopal Church for those who are interested in the Rite of Confirmation or formal Reception into the Episcopal Church and for those who just want to learn more about the Episcopal Church and why we do the things we do. Rev. Ellen will teach the class in 4 sessions on Sundays after church with lunch provided on the following dates: **March 4, 18 and 25 and April 29.**



Bishop Robert Skirving will make a special visit to Church of the Advent for Confirmations and a Blessing of New Ministry on **Sunday afternoon, May 13.**

If you would like to join the class, please let Rev. Ellen know so she can have enough materials available for participants.

Discretionary Fund

The Discretionary Fund is a designated account set up in each Episcopal Church as set by Canon Law (Title III Canon 9, Section 6(b) 2015). The fund is for “such pious and charitable uses as the Rector or Priest-in-Charge shall determine” and is meant to assist those who present to the priest with individual financial hardship of an emergent nature, whether from within the parish or from the wider community. Payments for food, rent, utilities, medical bills, and the like for persons in need are typical uses

of these funds. Once a need has been determined, the Priest-in-Charge requests a check from the treasurer made out to the vendor requiring payment. Requests for cash for any reason are not honored.



The funds deposited into the Discretionary Fund account come from the loose offering or designated check donations placed into the collection plates on the last Sunday of every month, from honorariums paid to the Priest-in-Charge for funerals or other private services, and from any personal donations made to Church of the Advent and designated for that fund.

Vestry Organization

Outreach

Kit Reddick

Worship and Education

Regina French and Lori Taylor

Buildings and Grounds

Don Beach

Fellowship

Regina French

Pastoral Care and

Welcoming New Member Ministry

John Price, Don Beach, Jim Allen,

Betty Jones

Sustainability and Marketing

Doug Chesson, Johnny Miller

If you should have any concerns or suggestions in these areas, please share them with the appropriate vestry member

Convention report

The 135th Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina held February 8-10, 2018, in New Bern, NC, was attended by Church of the Advent Lay Delegates Doug Chesson, Christine Chesson, and John Price. Rev. Ellen Richardson also attended as a Clergy Delegate as her Canonical Residence as a Priest in the Episcopal Church has been transferred from the Diocese of Georgia to the Diocese of East Carolina.

The Lay Delegates enjoyed seeing old friends from around the diocese and Rev. Ellen enjoyed meeting many new ones. She was interviewed by Ben Harper of the Diocesan office regarding her impressions of her first Convention in East Carolina and was elected as a one-year appointee to The Disciplinary Board of the Diocese of East Carolina. The members of this board follow Canon Law when asked to address a disciplinary issue involving clergy. Rev. Ellen served on the Disciplinary Board in the Diocese of Georgia for three years.

Rev. Ellen attended a workshop on *Disaster Relief and Recovery*, learning about the cooper-

ative work being done in East Carolina since Hurricane Matthew through engagement of Episcopal Relief and Development and Disaster Relief representatives from the United Methodist Church. Another session attended by all COA delegates led by Bishop Skirving was *Engaging in Difficult Issues Without Getting Political*.

Resolutions passed during the Convention included an amendment to the Diocesan Canons giving greater opportunities for more advance planning for future Conventions. The venue for the 2019 and 2020 conventions will be in Wilmington, NC. Resolutions were passed regarding guidelines for use of alcohol at church sponsored functions, a change of administrative oversight for the Ministry of Reconciliation, and a renewal of the Companion Diocese relationship with the Dominican Republic. There was also a floor resolution submitted in honor of Rev. Tom Wilson of Southern Shores, who will retire in April, 2018.

Links to Bishop Rob Skirving’s address to the convention to the Diocesan Convention recap can be found on the Diocesan website.



Can you find Ellen in the official convention clergy photo?



The 2018 Diocese of East Carolina Acolyte Festival will be hosted by St. Andrews by the Sea Episcopal Church in Nags Head, NC, with a Western theme, beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday April 20. All acolytes, acolyte ministers and parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

On Saturday April 21, acolytes will attend workshops on all things necessary to be an acolyte, participate in a festival service with Bishop Skirving and Canon Sonny Browne, compete in Acolyte Olympics after lunch, enjoy the Outer Banks in the afternoon, and a Hoedown Dance with the Jamey Graves Band until 8:30 p.m.

We hope all of our excellent acolytes can attend the Festival this year. If you would like to attend the Acolyte Festival this year, you can go online at www.SaintAndrewsOBX.com. Please see Rev. Ellen so we can set up transportation and adult chaperones for the trip and assist with the participation fee of \$45 as needed. The fee includes all meals, snacks, activities, workshop materials and a T-shirt.

Dear Church of the Advent,
Thank you for the very generous gift card to Sunnyside Oyster Bar. I have already used it twice with friends and family.



I am honored that you all took the time to

remember my 60th and, I 'm assuming our work together over the years on Fellowship. It is a pleasure to work with each of you as we strive to make Church of the Advent the best little Episcopal Church in eastern NC!

Love,
Lucia

P.S. from the editor: Lucia's note was written in a very timely manner. I apologize for the delay in publishing.

Elijah and I are still in disbelief of all the gifts the church so generously gave us. Thank you for the abundance of blessings. You guys took a really awful time in our life and turned it around for us. This church was such a blessing to both of us this Christmas.

In Christ,
Candy Muncey and Elijah Pilkington

Seminarian Stephen Batten send us a post-card from his January trip to Jerusalem. Stephen will be with us on March 18th and will preach.

Christian symbolism of the pelican

In the Middle Ages, the pelican came to represent Jesus' sacrifice of his blood for the world. According to legend, a mother pelican, in times of famine, would pluck open her chest and feed her young with her own blood. An alternate myth was that she fed her dying young with her blood to revive them, losing her own life in the process. The depiction of a pelican with a drop of blood on her chest is called "the pelican in her piety."



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

- James Ford Mary Charles Coppage
- Margaret & Asa Bailey
- Paul DelMastro Mac Allen
- David Martin Howard & Coral Daniels
- Bridgette Fleming Luther Hardin
- Frank Ganis Evelyn Smith
- Michael Lilley Ricky Roberson
- Nan Chesson Nita Smith
- Candy Chambers Reesie Bradshaw
- Warren Gordon Lindburgh Mitchell
- Florence & Marc Reynolds

Birthdays

- 2 Stephen Batten
- 4 Barden Browning
- 6 Eric French Jr.
- 7 Kemp Allen
- 11 Deborah Brown
- 12 Paul Westervelt
- 13 Henry Peel
- 14 Sarah Smith
- 17 Garron Chesson
- 19 Anthony McNeile
- 19 Will Raiford
- 19 Wendy Stancill
- 29 Margaret Chesson
- 30 Lori Taylor

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, 9:00 a. m. -12 noon
1:00 -2:00 p. m.

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

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Telephone 252-522-0885
Fax 252.523.5272

www.diocese-eastcarolina.org

Trinity Center
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Telephone 888.874.6287
Fax 252.247.3290
trinity@mail.clis.com
www.trinityctr.com



March 2018

Church of the Advent

Lay Schedule

| | 4 3 Lent 11:00 A.M. <i>Holy Eucharist II</i> | 11 4 Lent 11:00 A.M. <i>Morning Prayer II</i> | 18 5 Lent 11:00 A.M. <i>Holy Eucharist II</i> | 25 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 10:45 A.M. <i>Holy Eucharist II</i> | 29 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 6:00 P.M. <i>Holy Eucharist II</i> | 30 <i>Stations of the Cross</i> <i>Good Friday</i> 6:00 P.M. | 31 <i>Great Vigil of Easter</i> 8:00 P.M. <i>Holy Eucharist II</i> |
|-----------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| <i>Acolyte</i> | Khira J. | Jean Miller | Khalil J. | Chris Cooke | Dawson Taylor | Khira J. | Chris Cooke |
| <i>Acolyte</i> | Dawson Taylor | Standrick J. | Adison Bosso | Khira J. | Jean Miller | Khalil J | Will Michel |
| <i>Acolyte</i> | | | | Will Michel | | | |
| <i>Acolyte</i> | | | | Standrick J. | | | |
| <i>Lessons</i> | Regina French | Michael Biondi | Kit Reddick | Ginny Webb | Chuck Cohen | John Price | TBD |
| <i>Intercessory Prayers</i> | Regina French | | Kit Reddick | | Chuck Cohen | | TBD |
| <i>Eucharistic Minister</i> | Doug Chesson | | Chloe Tuttle | Bill Webb | Don Beach | John Price | Bill Webb |
| <i>Altar Guild</i> | Mary Anne Crowe | Mary Anne Crowe | Mary Anne Crowe | Mary Anne Crowe | Mary Anne Crowe | Mary Anne Crowe | Mary Anne Crowe |
| <i>Ushers</i> | Chuck Cohen | Chuck Cohen | Chuck Cohen | Chuck Cohen | Chuck Cohen | Chuck Cohen | Chuck Cohen |
| | Catherine Cohen | Catherine Cohen | Catherine Cohen | Catherine Cohen | Catherine Cohen | Catherine Cohen | Catherine Cohen |

Lay Assistants: Please note the earlier copy that I sent out had a couple of mistakes. This is the corrected schedule. - Joe

Church of the Advent

March 2018



124 West Church Street
P.O. Box 463
Williamston, N.C. 27892

Phone:
252-792-2244
E-mail:
advent1850@gmail.com

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| <i>Birthdays in Italics</i> | | | | 1 | 2 <i>Stephen Batten</i> | 3 |
| 4 3 Lent 9:45 am, Choir Practice 10:00 am, Sunday School 11:00 am, HE II 12:00 noon, Outreach Meeting 12:15 pm, Episcopal 101 5:30 pm, Vestry Meeting | 5 | 6 <i>Eric French Jr.</i> | 7 HE I, Supper & Lenten Program 6:00 pm | 8 <i>Kemp Allen</i> | 9 | 10 |
| 11 Daylight Savings Time Begins 4 Lent 9:45 am, Choir Practice No Sunday School 11:00 am, MP II 6:00 pm, Women's Club <i>Deborah Brown</i> | 12 <i>Paul Westervelt</i> | 13 <i>Henry Peel</i> | 14 HE I, Supper & Lenten Program 6:00 pm <i>Sarah Smith</i> | 15 | 16 | 17 St. Patrick's Day <i>Garron Chesson</i> |
| 18 5 Lent 9:45 am, Choir Practice 10:00 am, Sunday School 11:00 am, HE II 12:15 pm, Episcopal 101 | 19 Girl Scouts Parish Hall 6:00pm <i>Anthony McNeile</i> <i>Will Raiford</i> <i>Wendy Stancill</i> | 20 First Day of Spring | 21 HE I, Supper & Lenten Program 6:00 pm | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Palm Sunday 9:45 am, Choir Practice No Sunday School 11:00 am, Liturgy of the Palms HE II 12:15 pm, Episcopal 101 | 26 | 27 | 28 HE I, Supper & Lenten Program 6:00 pm | 29 Maundy Thursday HE II 6:00 p.m. <i>Margaret Chesson</i> | 30 Stations of the Cross Good Friday Liturgy 6:00 pm <i>Lori Taylor</i> | 31 Great Vigil of Easter 8:00 pm |