



Church of the Advent

# Advent Advisor

May 2021

## Giving Thanks for My Treasures

I treasure relationships and value things that seem particularly representative of persons I love. Most such items have been given to me, which makes them all the more special. Some of the things received from family and friends are not in sync with my preferred décor, but I treasure them all the same. I have had a strong sense of kinship with the churches with which I have been associated, so I count each of those bodies and their members among my familial relationships.

My collection of gifts from churches is various, including artwork, photos, books, histories and many memories. Remarkably, each gift represents a distinct characteristic about a parish that I recognized when there and always will hold in my heart. The Church of the Advent made a claim on me seven years ago when I served as supply. In this strange time of COVID we cannot do church as usual and some folks are keeping their distance. Still, as is its tendency, love is becoming more and more deeply rooted and my respect for you as a people is growing as I learn more about you.

For me, the picture of the edifice of the Advent symbolizes your spirit. Even though most of you were not around when fire destroyed the interior, resilience and generosity are part of the legacy that lives on in you. Over 50 years ago, the exterior depicted in your gift to me was a shell. Determination, hard work, sacrifice and faith had to have been paramount in rebuilding and so beautifully furnishing the interior. I see the good work begun by your spiritual ancestors and continued by you, and, when the pandemic subsides, I'll be so glad to work alongside you as part of your loving, faithful community.

I have enjoyed the treats discovered among the shredded bulletins that lined the basket presented to me on Easter Sunday. I will make good use of the noise machine and have read each card and note at least three times. I was surprised and delighted by your gifts and generosity,

and very grateful for God's grace in our call to journey together.



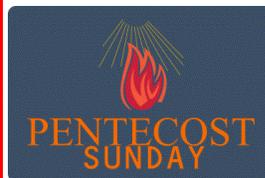
The Catechism defines grace as "God's favor towards us, unearned and undeserved; by grace God forgives our sins, enlightens our minds, stirs our hearts, and strengthens our wills." The Church of the Advent is full of grace, and your graciousness to me, unearned, undeserved and totally unexpected, has roused my spirit and strengthened my resolve to be a dedicated pastor and priest, devoted to God's purpose of stirring our hearts and deepening relationships with one another and with our Lord Jesus.

Thank you for all your gifts.

Connie +

## Pentecost Ends Great Fifty Days of Easter

*The liturgical color red will be the color of the day as the Great Fifty Days of Easter ends with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist for Pentecost Sunday on May 23.*



*The service commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles*

*as they gathered seven weeks after Passover to celebrate the ancient Jewish feast of Shavuot to acknowledge the revelation of the Law on Mount Sinai.*

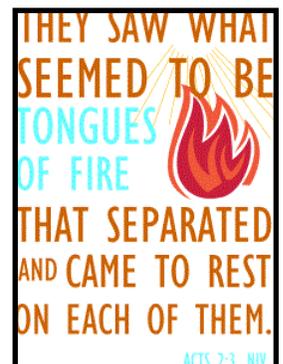
*Now filled with the Holy Spirit, the apostles began to go out and preach.*

*Subsequently, Pentecost is informally referred to as the birthday of the church, the day the church began to grow.*

*In the early church, Pentecost was a time for the administration of the sacrament of baptism.*

*Sometimes Pentecost is called Whitsunday for Whitesunday in reference to the white robes worn by those being baptized.*

*Green is the color of the coming season of Pentecost, which continues until Advent.*



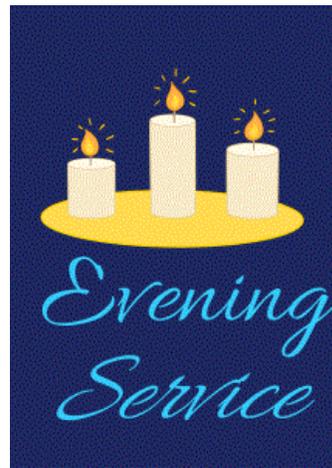
## Annual service at Green Acres

The Sunday morning service on May 23 will move to the Green Acres Campground as part of the worship schedule for the campers.

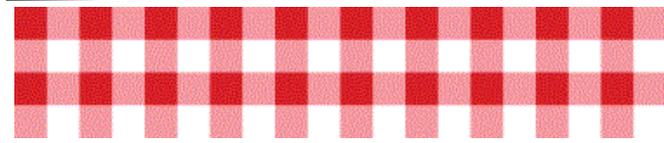
The service begins at 11:00 a.m. at the Outdoor Amphitheater. In case of rain, the service will move indoors to the Clubhouse.

Out of concern for proper protocol due to the Covid-19 pandemic, plans at this time are still in the making concerning the traditional church picnic that follows the service. Stay tune to Comings and Goings for updates.

Green Acres is located six miles south of Williamston at 1679 Green Acres Road. Take Highway 17 South and turn right onto Rodgers School Road and right at Green Acres.



Wednesday  
May 12  
6:00 p. m.



## Parish Family Weekend XXIX Coming in July

A signup sheet will be posted in early May in the church narthex for Parish Family Weekend at Trinity Center in Pine Knoll Shores from July 16-18. This will be the 29th gathering for the Church of the Advent.

Sunday service for July 18 will be held at Trinity Center with no service at Church of the Advent.

Prices are as follows:

(adults) \$85.00 per person, per night  
(double occupancy)

(adults) \$105.00 per person, per night  
(single occupancy)

(5 to 17 years old) \$32.00 per person, per night

(1 to 4 years old) \$12.00 per person, per night.

### In Case of Emergency

The Vestry and the Rev. Connie have developed the following guidelines for emergency contact for various reasons around the Church of the Advent.

The information will appear on the last page of each issue of the *Advent Advisor*.



#### EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

\*\*\*For fire, police, injury or other emergencies, call 911 for assistance. Then please contact in this order: Connie, Joe, Lucia, Don.

\*\*\*For pastoral emergencies, contact in this order Connie, Lucia, Joe.

\*\*\*For all problems or issues dealing with the church and rectory buildings and grounds, please contact Joe and then he and Don will determine how to proceed.

Connie 704-651-0244

Joe 252-809-3405

Lucia 919-523-3382

Don 203-645-4614



Scripture does not know of any human life which is so commonplace that it is not valuable enough to become eternal, and this is its high optimism. Nothing is too much for Scripture. Since every person is known by God by name, and since every person exists in time in the presence of the God who is judgment and salvation, every person is a person of eternity, and not just the noble spirits of history.

—Karl Rahner

## A Pastoral Letter from Bishop Skirving

April 23, 2021

To the people of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina,

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ!

Yesterday morning, it being Earth Day, my morning contemplation focused on the beauty of God's creation and I found myself drawn to the following prayer:

*Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose: in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Book of Common Prayer, page 827)*



In particular, the phrase “the infinite complexity of living creatures” stood out to me. Of late, I have been challenged by the difficulty of saying anything about local or national current events without watching the resulting discourse fall victim to politically partisan rhetoric. We “living creatures” who are human dwell in a deeply complex time, and it has become difficult for many of us to understand or be sympathetic to perspectives besides our own.

It therefore seems to be an appropriate time to share a first glimpse of the logo we will more fully introduce when we launch our diocese's new website. For now, I simply want to point to the bridge featured in the logo. There are many bridges across the waters of our diocese. This image is intended to represent that reality, but also the ministry of reconciliation given to us by God (2 Corinthians 5) and affirmed in our Church's catechism: “The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ” (BCP, p. 855).

As I write today, the people of Elizabeth City are living in turmoil as they seek answers about events of Wednesday morning when Andrew Brown, Jr., an African American man, was killed by police. Let us commit ourselves to pray for the Brown family, for all members of the Pasquotank County Sheriff's office and other police services, for community leaders and for all members of the community. Let us pray that the people of Christ Church, with others of faith, will effectively bear witness to God's love for all in their community, while working together to bring peace and calm, healing and reconciliation.

All of us across the Diocese of East Carolina are called to this work, as we live more fully into the promise of God's kingdom here “on earth as it is in heaven.” I give thanks to God for our Diocese's newly reformed Racial Healing Commission and the ministry they will lead, and for this Easter season's prayerful discernment of mission priorities for the Diocese. All are invited to join in this prayerful process, using the resource titled “We Will, With God's Help.”

May God's Holy Spirit hold us together when other forces seek to divide us. May that same Spirit lead us in seeking God's justice for all people. And may God's Holy Spirit empower us for the ministry of reconciliation in the name of his risen Son Jesus.

Yours in Christ,

*Robert A. Skirving*



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**

Janice Ford Frankie Biggs  
 Betty Jones Norma Casper  
 Christian Switzer  
 Linda Findels & Family  
 Chris Carrol  
 Bill & Nita Smith  
 Lucia Peel Powe Jackie Miller  
 Lisa Mauriello  
 Wayne Mickie Nelson  
 Rev. Connie Connelly

**Birthdays**

2 ~ Shannon Stanton  
 7 ~ Zach Dickerson  
 9 ~ Jim Horton  
 12 ~ Rick Voorhis  
 12 ~ Connie Connelly  
 14 ~ Chris Stanton  
 14 ~ Mary Bonner  
 15 ~ Exum Taylor  
 19 ~ Michael Biondi  
 20 ~ Jeanne Batten  
 25 ~ Henry Mills



**Church of the Advent**  
*Founded 1850*

**The Rev. Connie Connelly, Priest in Charge**  
**Lucia Peel, Senior Warden**  
**Don Beach, Junior Warden**  
**Joe Jernigan, Parish Administrator**  
**Church 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

Email: [advent1850@gmail.com](mailto:advent1850@gmail.com)  
[www.williamstonepiscopalchurch.com](http://www.williamstonepiscopalchurch.com)

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Connie 704-651-0244  
 Joe 252-809-3405  
 Lucia 919-523-3382  
 Don 203-645-4614

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

May 2 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am  
 May 9 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am  
 May 12 Evening Prayer 6:00 pm  
 May 16 Morning Prayer 11:00 am  
 May 17 Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm  
 May 23 Holy Eucharist/Green Acres 11:00 am  
 May 30 Morning Prayer 11:00 am

June 6 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am  
 June 8 Evening Prayer 6:00 pm  
 June 13 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am  
 June 20 Morning Prayer 11:00 am  
 June 21 Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm  
 June 27 Holy Eucharist 11:00 am

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

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# Church of the Advent

## May 2021

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### Lay Schedule

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	<b>2</b> <i>5 Easter HE II 11:00 A.M.</i>	<b>9</b> <i>6 Easter HE II 11:00 A.M.</i>	<b>16</b> <i>7 Easter MP II 11:00 A.M.</i>	<b>23</b> <i>Pentecost Green Acres HE II 11:00 A.M.</i>	<b>30</b> <i>Trinity Sunday MP II 11:00 A.M.</i>
<b>MP Leader</b>			Jane Jernigan		John Price
<b>Lector</b>	Michael Biondi	Chuck Cohen	Brandon Woody	Kit Reddick	Valerie Cooke
<b>Intercessor</b>	Kit Reddick	Catherine Cohen		Kit Reddick	
<b>Chalice Bearer</b>					
<b>Acolytes</b>					
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kit Reddick Lucia Peel				
<b>Ushers</b>	Kit Reddick Lucia Peel				

**\*\*\*\*\*Notice schedule changes from the quarterly schedule sent out earlier.\*\*\*\*\***