

THE ADVENT

The Monthly Newsletter of The Church of the Advent, Southern Pines

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(New) He is Risen! Come, Holy Spirit! We continue to celebrate the joy of the Risen Christ in Word and Sacrament, and in our hearts and lives. The Easter Season is celebrated from The Great Vigil of the Resurrection until sundown on the Eve of Pentecost. On the Feast of Pentecost we celebrate and receive anew the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church as the Body of Christ, and in our hearts. *“God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us”* (Romans 5:5b). The Holy Spirit enables us to participate in the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, in whom we come to know God as our Father. May the joy of the Risen Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit continue to overflow from our hearts and in our life as a church family. Glory to God!

(NEW) Special Upcoming Holy Days: Every Sunday is a celebration and participation in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. In addition, we will be celebrating the following special holy Feast Days in the coming month.

- Sunday, May 12: The Sunday After the Ascension
- Sunday, May 19: Pentecost
- Sunday, May 26: Trinity Sunday
- Sunday, June 2: Corpus Christi – The Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion (**Solemn High Eucharist*)

(NEW) Diocesan Synod: Our church family is an integral part, and local expression, of The Anglican Diocese of the Living Word (ADLW). Once a year the clergy and elected lay representatives of our diocesan family gather with our Bishop to pray, fellowship, learn, and conduct the business of the Diocese. Fr. Michael, Fr. Bill, Chris Lamm, and Sarah McKinnon will be representing our church family at Synod this year. Other members of our church will also be in attendance. Please pray for our Bishop, The Right Reverend Julian M. Dobbs, and our diocesan clergy and lay representatives as we gather together in Synod from Thursday, May 23 – Saturday, May 25. *Come, Holy Spirit!*

(REMINDER) Our Weekly Schedule:

- Sunday, 11:00 a.m. The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
- Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist (30 minutes)
- Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (The Book of Revelation)

(UPDATE) Family Promise Groceries: My thanks to everyone who donated grocery items for the families presently living at The Family Promise House. The items were delivered on Easter Wednesday. Family Promise of Moore County is an organization that reaches out to women with children who find themselves homeless, providing them with shelter, food, and opportunities to advance. One way we are helping Family Promise is by providing groceries each month for the families living in the house. We already have some of the items needed for this coming month, so our list is much shorter this time around. I am asking that we provide three families with the following items to be delivered in early May (please see below). You may bring these items to the church anytime between now and Sunday, May 12. Thank you!

- 4 cans of veggies per family (12 cans total are needed/green beans or corn only)
- 4 cans of fruit per family (12 cans total are needed/single type of fruit only)
- 1 large jar of peanut butter and 1 large jar of jelly (for the whole house to share)
- 4 boxes of spaghetti and red sauce per family (12 boxes and 12 jars total are needed)
- 4 cans of beef stew or chili with beans per family (12 cans total are needed)
- 1 loaf of bread per family

(NEW) Pictures Needed: Resurrection Sunday (aka, Easter Sunday) was a wonderful, joy-filled celebration. The children had so much fun with the Easter Egg Hunt, and the Cross adorned with flowers and greens was beautiful. If you have pictures from that morning, or any from Lucas' and William's Baptism, and Adam's First Holy Communion, the night before, please send them to Jeff Wennberg to be added to the website. Pictures of children must have the permission of their parents before they can be posted. Thank you!

(NEW) Vacation Bible School: Sarah McKinnon is looking for volunteers who may be interested in helping her offer our first Vacation Bible School as a church family. We have been growing so quickly over the past year and are blessed with so many wonderful children. VBS is a great opportunity for our church community to combine our talents and efforts to give our children a chance to grow closer with God while having lots of summertime fun! It is also a great opportunity for evangelism. Invite your neighbors to bring along their children. However, if we are to do this, Sarah needs several volunteers:

- A leader for each class (likely 3 different age groups)
- A craft leader
- An assistant music leader
- Teen helpers ages 13 - 18 to offer games, other fun activities, and to help supervise the children
- Extra volunteers to help during the day with sign in, snack, first aid, etc.

Please let Sarah know if you are interested in helping. If we have enough volunteers, Fr. Michael will pitch the financial commitment to the Parish Council. Thank you!

(NEW) Family Promise Work Day: On Saturday, June 8, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., our church family will be volunteering at the Family Promise House, Southern Pines. Much of the work will be inside; kitchen, dining area, play room, den, stairs, entryway, and volunteer/staff room. Items needed include cleaning clothes, disinfecting/cleaning products (something like Mr. Clean), buckets to mix cleaning product with water for the cleaning, some paper towels, window cleaner, gloves for protection of your hands in cleaner, small brushes, etc. A sign-up sheet will soon be placed in the Narthex.

(NEW) Spring Supper Clubs: The Spring Supper Clubs have started. Summer Supper Club sign-up is coming soon!

(NEW) Pentecost Sunday Fellowship: On Pentecost Sunday, May 19th, we will be having a *Pentecost Celebration and Tongues of Flames Pot Luck Lunch and Hot Wings Contest*. This fun time of fellowship will take place at the church. Entrance for the hot wings contest is \$5. Flyers and sign-up sheets are available.

(NEW) Youth Sunday: On Sunday, June 9, we will be having our first Youth Sunday. Youth will serve as Greeters, Readers, and participate by bringing up the gifts at the Offertory. Children, 5 (ish) and under will be singing during the Offertory. Mark your calendars. *“Children are not the future of the Church, they are the Church!”*

(UPDATE) Women’s Coffee and Fellowship: The women of our church family are invited to share in fellowship over coffee at 9 am every other Friday at Red’s Corner (weather permitting). If you are interested in knowing more or receiving an invitation, please let Ann Hardin, our Rector’s Warden, know and she will add you to the list.

(NEW) Quarterly Women’s Breakfast: We will soon be having our Quarterly Women’s Breakfast. Details to follow soon.

(NEW) Friar Tuck’s Men's Fellowship and Theology on Tap: Fr. Michael is inviting the men of the church family to join him for fellowship and a beer/soda. This is a time for men to enjoy some Christian fellowship and to discuss what it means to be Christian men in today’s Church and world. Our first get together will be 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 6. The place is TBD.

Together we are making a difference for the Kingdom of God!