THE ANCHOR
Newsletter

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Dear Friends,

November begins with All Saints' Day and ends with Thanksgiving. Although they come from very different traditions, both invite us to remember how much of what we have, and who we are, we owe to others.

On All Saints' Day, we remember the saints whose names are familiar from Scripture and the history of the Church. But we also remember the saints who never made it onto a church calendar—the parents and grandparents who taught us to pray, the teachers who encouraged us, the friends who stood by us, and the faithful members of congregations who showed us what it means to live a Christian life. Most of them probably never thought of themselves as saints, but their influence remains with us.

Here at Advent, we are surrounded by reminders of those who came before us. Generations of parishioners have worshiped here, cared for this building, supported its ministries, and welcomed others into its fellowship. Much of what we enjoy today is the result of their dedication and generosity. We have inherited a great deal from people whose names we no longer remember.

But the life of the Church is not simply something we inherit. It is something we share responsibility for today. St. Paul describes the Church as the Body of Christ, with each member having a part to play. I am thankful for the many people who give their time and talents to Advent—those who serve in worship, visit our shut-ins, care for our buildings and grounds, serve on committees, and organize outreach and fellowship. A parish needs people willing to do the ordinary, unglamorous work just as much as it needs those who take on the more visible responsibilities.

I am also grateful for the quieter acts of kindness that are so much a part of a Christian community. A phone call to someone who is lonely, a meal for someone who is ill, or a welcoming word to a visitor—these things don't appear in vestry minutes or receive public recognition, but they matter enormously.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving later this month, I hope we will remember to give thanks not only for the blessings we have received, but also for the people through whom so many of those blessings have come.

I am grateful for those who built and sustained Advent through the generations, for those who serve our parish today, and for those who are finding a home among us. Each brings something important to the life of this church.

God has given Advent many gifts, and I am confident that those gifts will continue to bear fruit in the years ahead. May we always be grateful for what we have received and generous in what we offer to those who come after us.
Faithfully,

Alan+

DEACON'S DESK

Happy New Year!! The First Sunday in Advent begins a new liturgical year. We begin again our journey through the Older and Newer Testament, and that will allow us to see our wonderful God in new and renewed ways, acting in our history as His people and his loving action in our lives today!

As we begin this journey through this liturgical year, I hope for each of us, that we listen and hear the story as children do. If you have ever read a book to a child, you know that they approach hearing a story with anticipation and excitement to learn what will happen! Sometimes they hear new stories with delight and sometimes they hear old stories that they know by heart. In time they know the story so well that they love retelling it or reading it to someone else.

May your journey through this New Year bring you that childhood delight and anticipation of things to come and may you become so excited about what you hear that you too will love retelling it.

May God bless you and Happy New Year,
Deacon Charlene

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

On Sunday, October 18, Fr. Alan blessed 4 prayer shawls at the10:30 a.m. service. The shawls will be taken by Fr. Alan and Deacon Charlene to people who are dealing with body, mind or soul issues.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has received letters from recipients telling the members how much the shawls mean to them. Just knowing how much the shawl means to a recipient is a reward for the knitters and crocheters who made them.

Prayer Shawl Ministry members Pam Bullington, Carolyn LaMountain, Carol Obligado and Sally Snyder made the shawls that were blessed on the 18th.

These prayer shawls are not made just for members of our parish. They are for anyone who needs to have the love of God wrapped around them. If you know of any person for whom a prayer shawl would be a blessing, please let Fr. Alan or Deacon Charlene know.

Prayer shawls are a part of our Outreach Ministry.

-Carolyn LaMountain

ECW NOTES

ECW met on October 15 to talk about the events we have for the rest of 2026. They are:

Craft making for the Bazaar on December 5. We are looking for donations as listed in this newsletter, and for volunteers to help sell at the bazaar.

On the evening of December 5 we will host MAC's Christmas Candlelight House Tour from 5:30 to 8:30 PM, making restrooms available, serving cookies and beverages and also opening the church for tours. We will need volunteers in the Parish Hall and church for that evening. MAC does pay for us to do this, so it is a fundraiser. We need tons of cookies, as in the past we have had up to 600 people come in. Do consider spending the evening at the church and/or donating cookies to make this happen. Mark your cookies for MAC Tour so they don't get mixed up with the bazaar bake sale.

Our receptions to the end of the year are: after the Classical Cape May Concert on November 1, when we look forward to performances from Brenda Leonard and Robert Bullington. We also look forward to the reception after Lessons and Carols on December 13 at 4:00 PM where we "pull out all the stops" and have fun doing it. Christmas is a wonderful time. Come join us.

-Carol Obligado

OUTREACH NEWS

We will be collecting items to donate to the Seaman's Church Institute in Philadelphia again this year. So many container ships travel to the Delaware River Ports with sailors from around the world. Most of those folks are unable to leave the ship even when it's docked due to a lack of visas, etc. Life on these ships is hard. We'd like to let the sailors know that someone is thinking of them during the cold, lonely times as they work to transport goods for our use. Seaman's is collecting warm hats & scarves, work gloves & socks, Chapstick, hand lotion, nail clippers, playing cards, puzzle books, toothbrushes & toothpaste, bar soap & deodorant, shampoo & combs, pens & small notebooks, mini sewing kits, hand warmers, candy, mints, gum, microwave popcorn & cough drops. We will have baskets at the entrance of the church and in the church hall between Sunday November 1 and 22.

As in past years, Caring for Kids of Cape May County will be providing us with Angel Tags for our Advent Trees. Each tag will have a short wish list for a local child whose family is in need of assistance providing Christmas gifts. Look for the tags and our trees in late November.

Several churches in the Cape May area are collaborating to host a community dinner on Christmas Day. It will be a sit-down meal of holiday ham, side dishes, and desserts. There will be music and other festivities. The goal is to bring folks together to share the joy of the season. It will be held at Cold Spring Presbyterian's Price Hall at 2:00 p.m. More details to follow.

-Pam Kelly

ADVENT BOOK CLUB

The Advent Book Club will meet on Tuesday, November 10, at 7:00 PM. Project Hail Mary, by Andy Weir is the book for discussion. New members are always welcome. Please join us. For more information please call Lynda Cogswell at 609-884-6675.

November Birthday Celebrations ***November Anniversary Celebrations***

1	Frank Garcia	3	Jason & Kathryn Brown
10	Kitty Garcia	8	Dale & Joanne Morrison
12	Dale Morrison	22	Corbin & Lynda Cogswell
19	Lew Price		
20	Savannah Brown		
23	Donafaye Burke		
25	Dwight Coleman		
30	Jane Carol Wilson		

WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday: The Holy Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
The 10:30 service is also livestreamed on YouTube
Thursday: The Holy Eucharist at 12:00 Noon



ECW Christmas Bazaar

December 5 from 10:00 to 2:30

It's time for our annual Christmas Bazaar! It is an old-fashioned church bazaar with everything handmade and/or donated by the good people of Church of the Advent. As usual, we need your help to make this fund-raising effort a success.

Please bring your donations starting Nov. 29 and continuing all week from 9-1. On Monday we will be decorating and pulling things out. We will be sorting and pricing on Tuesday through Friday. Here's what we need:

Soup-to-go: donations of homemade soups. We can't have too much homemade soup and we sell it all. Let Marty Torpey know what kind you're making and she will tell you when to bring it.

Baked Goods: Do you bake? Joy Wadleigh is in charge of the table this year at the bazaar. Please tell her that you are donating baked goods. (Make sure you label your cookies clearly so that we know whether they are for this table or for the MAC house tour.)

Crafts and Handmade needlework: If you are into crafts and needle work, please consider making something for this table. The Santa at the top of this page is a product of our Craft Group. We hope to have lots of really good things to sell.

Chance Table: Carol Obligado is in charge of the Gift Baskets at the Chance Table. Please let her know what gift basket you are donating. If you can't make a basket but still want to help, you might donate to someone else's basket.

Collectibles and Antiques: We are looking for new or gently used items that you would love to keep if only you had room or maybe you changed the color scheme, and they don't match anymore. Call Lynda Cogswell to discuss.

Jewelry: This is a great time to clean out your jewelry box and donate those gems that you haven't worn for a while. Regina Dougherty-McCarren (twgables@verizon.net) and Karann Murphy can answer your questions.

Christmas Pasts: Please consider looking through your gently used decorations for things that are still good but you want a new look! Richard Hudson will look forward to your donations.

Thanks to the ECM, we have some men not assigned yet, but willing to help. We will certainly need them during the week and at the sale. Contact Carol Obligado at 609-972-1820 or cobligado@aol.com if you have questions or want to donate your time at the bazaar.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Holy Eucharist -8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30	**2** **ECW Crafts** -4 PM-Parish Hall **Bible Study**-7:30-9:00 PM Zoom link: https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003 Mtg ID: 531 252 800	**3**	**4 Office Closed** **Advent Walkers**-8 AM-Promenade	**5** **Holy Eucharist-Noon**	**6**	**7**
8 Pentecost 24 Holy Eucharist -8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30 **Livestream Training after 10:30 service**	**9** **Outreach Comm. Mtg.**-3:00 PM **ECW Crafts** -4 PM-Parish Hall **Bible Study**-7:30-9:00 PM Zoom link: https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003 Mtg ID: 531 252 800	**10** **Men's Breakfast** – 8:00 AM **Advent Book Club**- 7:00 PM-	**11 Office Closed** **Advent Walkers**-8 AM-Promenade	**12** **Holy Eucharist-Noon**	**13**	**14**
15 Pentecost 25 Holy Eucharist -8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30 **Vestry Mtg**.-Noon	**16** **ECW Crafts** -4 PM-Parish Hall **No Bible Study**-	**17**	**18 Office Closed** **Advent Walkers**-8 AM-Promenade	**19** **Holy Eucharist-Noon** **ECW Mtg.** – 10:30 AM-Parish Hall	**20**	**21**
22 Last Pentecost Holy Eucharist -8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30 **Return 2027 Pledge Cards**	**23** **ECW Crafts**-4 PM-Parish Hall **Bible Study**-7:30-9:00 PM Zoom link: https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003 Mtg ID: 531 252 800	**24**	**25 Office Closed** **Advent Walkers**-8 AM-Promenade	**26** **Holy Eucharist-Noon** **Thanksgiving Day**	**27**	**28**
29 Advent 1 Holy Eucharist -8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30	**30** **ECW Crafts**-4 PM-Parish Hall **Bible Study**-7:30-9:00 PM Zoom link: https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003 Mtg ID: 531 252 800		**CHURCH OF NOVEMBER**	**THE ADVENT 2026**		AA Meetings: Sun-4:00 PM Mon – 7:30 PM Tues-7:30 PM Sat – 6:30 PM