

# THE ANCHOR

## Newsletter



**Episcopal Church of the Advent**

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**Fr. H. Alan Leonard, Rector**

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Dear Friends,

Evangelism can be a scary topic for us. Episcopalians shudder and envision going door to door inviting people to come to church or standing on a street corner preaching. But *The New Oxford American Dictionary* defines evangelism as, "the spreading of the Christian gospel by public preaching or personal witness." I want us to focus on the "personal witness" part of this definition.

When we live our lives as Christians, we are an evangelical witness. All of us can and should engage in this type of evangelism. We can tell people that we live as we do because of our faith. We also can share why we choose to worship at Advent.

Every church wants new members. Most churches hope that their priest will grow the church! But studies tell us that the vast majority of people join churches because a member of the church invited them to come to church. Invite people to join you! If you sense they are reluctant to come to a worship service, invite them to a church activity. We have Men's Breakfasts on the second Tuesday of every month and Lenten soup suppers every Wednesday in Lent. Invite them to a concert, bring them to one of the ECW Markets or a potluck. Advent has many activities and all of those I've been to have been fun!

Statistics from the national Episcopal Church tell us that many of our churches are growing. Why? People who left churches years ago are discovering that the Episcopal Church is different from the public perception of judgmental people. Evidently many people see this as a place where they can connect with God in a positive environment. That's good news — and it means that now is a terrific time to introduce people to Advent.

This summer, on June 19, Advent is organizing a bus trip to visit historical sites related to slavery in New Jersey, helping us learn about slavery as it was connected to the Episcopal Church. You can read more about the trip in this newsletter. Perhaps you have a friend who would find this fascinating, as well. Invite them to come, too!

Remember, the easiest way to double our Sunday attendance is for everyone to invite one person to church. Kids are great at this — they bring friends all the time, and this is one of the reasons we have more children at Advent these days! Adults seem to find it harder, but really, we like to invite people to come with us to our favorite restaurant, so why not invite them to come to our favorite church?

Faithfully,

Alan+

## FROM THE DEACON'S DESK

Lent is upon us and we are getting weary. Personal self-examination can be difficult. I often think it is like housecleaning or spring cleaning of our gardens! Each required a lot of heavy and hard work. It is not like the maintenance that we do on our house plants or the weekly dusting or vacuuming that we do to maintain our home.

Lent requires more. There are so many things we do here at Church of the Advent, opportunities are everywhere to experience the housekeeping for our souls. Ash Wednesday, as we acknowledge our creation from dust of the earth and our return to the dust of the earth to come. We begin each of our Sunday worship services with the Penitential order and our readings point to a loving father who shares with us his desire for us to make kingdom on Earth like it is in Heaven. A father who knows we will fall short but has compassion for his children. Quiet services on Wednesday morning, Stations of the Cross Wednesday evening, Thursday Noonday Eucharist and healing service, Sunday adult education between services, and a Wednesday Women's Spirituality gathering at noon.

The journey of Lent, our wilderness experience, will lead us to the heart of our faith: We are the Easter People and Alleluia is our name!!

The table has been set at Church of the Advent! Come and be fed so that you too will find the Easter joy of a clean house, a beautiful garden, and a renewed relationship with a loving and compassionate God!

Faithfully,

Deacon Charlene

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**Make the heart of your life be Jesus and Who He is!**

**Wednesdays at Noon, beginning April 2, 2025**

**Led by Deacon Charlene Snyder**

Week 1: Who is Jesus?	John 8: 58, John 4: 1-42
Week 2: I AM the Bread of Life	John 6: 1-41
Week 3: I AM the Light of the World	John 8: 12-20
Week 4: I AM the Door	John 10: 1-10
Week 5: I AM the Good Shepherd	John 10: 11-18
Week 6: I AM the Resurrection and the Life	John 11: 25
Week 7: I AM the Truth, the Way and the Life	John 14: 6
Week 8: I AM the True Vine	John 15: 1

## FREE CONCERT

On Sunday, April 13, 2025, Classical Cape May is hosting a free concert at Church of the Advent. This hour-long concert begins at 4:00 PM and features Main Street Chamber Players, works for violin, viola, cello, double bass and piano. The concert will be followed by a reception in the parish hall. No admission charge but donations are welcomed.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025**  
**THERE WILL ONLY BE ONE SERVICE AT 9:00 AM.**  
**THIS SERVICE WILL BE FOLLOWED BY AN ENHANCED COFFEE HOUR**

**ECW NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

ECW so appreciates your help in all that we do! Because of your donations we were recently able to have a fun and successful Author's Night teaming with ECM, a Pot Luck Dinner and a lovely reception after the concert in March. Below is a list of upcoming events that ECW is sponsoring. Please consider making a donation or baking or volunteering time to these events.

**Reception** after Classical Cape May concert April 13 (see sign-up list in the church).

**Enhanced Coffee Hour** after the 9:00 a.m. single service the Sunday after Easter, April 27, 2025. ***To donate see sign up list on the ECW bulletin board in the Parish Hall.***

**Spring Market – May 17 from 10 - 2:30** It is time to begin thinking about donations to our annual spring market. These are the tables that we need to fill with donations: Antiques/Collectibles, Baked Goods, Books, Crafts/Plants, Jewelry, Raffle Baskets, and Refreshments.

*-Carol Obligado*

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS**

For many years this parish, through the agency of its Outreach Committee, has provided monetary relief to the Collateral Repair Project (CRP), operating out of Amman, Jordan. There, with the local assistance of the international Anglican parish and global contributors like us, we have helped sustain a significant population of displaced and traumatized families and persons fleeing from the ravages of war in the Middle East and North Africa. The project operates two community centers in Amman that provide space and opportunity for social gathering, fellowship, education and skills training, advice, assistance with job placement, and the distribution of food, clothes, and household items. Two major activities are especially notable: the actually setting up of households to begin new, functioning lives in the local economy and a special educational, cultural, and social program for young women. A dollar goes a long, long way in Amman, Jordan. For the past two years, the parish has been able to facilitate matching, Sustained Development diocesan grants that leverage our own contributions up to \$750 each year.

There are still some mustard seed jars available on the table at the back of the church. Simply collect your loose change in the Mustard Seed Jar during Lent. We will collect the filled jars on Sunday, April 27, 2025. Rest assured that what you collect and donate will once again be cited in a sustained development goal grant request to the Diocese of New Jersey in support of this worthy project. If you do not have any loose change you can always use paper cash or a check to donate to this important project.

## ADVENT BOOK CLUB

The Advent Book Club will meet Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the home of Carol and Fred Obligado. The book for discussion is The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

## EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to donate toward Easter flowers please complete this form and send it with your monetary donation to Church of the Advent, PO Box 261, Cape May, NJ 08204. *Donations must be received by April 14, 2025.* Thank you.

### Easter Flowers

**In Memory of:**

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**In Thanksgiving for:**

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Enclosed is a check made payable to Church of the Advent Altar Guild for  
\$\_\_\_\_\_.

**Your Name(s):**

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### ***April Birthday Celebrations***

### ***April Anniversary Celebrations***

2	Susan DeHart		
4	Martha Stafford		
18	Fr. Alan Leonard		
19	John Coyle		
20	Kristen Craig		
21	Kathe Christensen		
23	Trisha Andrzejczak		
30	Nellie Laborowicz		

## **WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES**

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

**Wednesday: The Anglican Rosary at 9:00 a.m.  
Morning Prayer at 9:30 a.m.**

**Thursday: The Holy Eucharist at 12:00 Noon**

## **SPECIAL LENTEN ACTIVITIES**

**Sundays: All about Lent Classes – 9:00 AM – Parish Hall  
April 6 – Lenten Season across the Globe**

**Wednesdays: April 2, 9, 16 - Stations of the Cross – 5:30 PM  
Followed by a Lenten Soup Supper– 6:00 PM - Parish Hall**

## **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

**Palm Sunday: Sunday, April 13 – 8:00 and 10:30 AM**

**The Anglican Rosary: Wednesday, April 16 – 9:00 AM**

**Morning Prayer: Wednesday, April 16 – 9:30 AM**

**Stations of the Cross: Wednesday, April 16 – 5:30 PM**

**Maundy Thursday: Thursday, April 17– 6:00 PM**

**Garden Watch: Thursday to Friday, April 17 to 18 – 7:00 PM to 8:00 AM**

**Good Friday, April 18 – Liturgy and Veneration of the Cross -  
12:00 Noon at Church of the Advent**

**Easter Day: Sunday, April 20 – 8:00 and 10:30 AM**



# Juneteenth Pilgrimage

Church of the Advent  
Cape May, NJ



1ST STOP 8:00 AM	<b>Tractor Supply Parking Lot</b> Rio Grande, NJ
2ND STOP 9:00 AM	<b>K-Mart Parking Lot</b> Pleasantville, NJ
3RD STOP 10:00	<b>Perth Amboy Slave Trade Marker</b>
4TH STOP 11:00 AM	<b>Tinton Manor African Burial Ground</b>
5TH STOP 11:40 am	<b>Marlpit Hall</b>
6TH STOP 1:00 pm	<b>Sandy Hook</b>
7TH STOP 2:00 pm	<b>Armory Restaurant for Lunch</b>

Checks payable to  
Church of the Advent  
p.o. Box 261  
Cape May, NJ 08204

CALL WITH QUESTIONS:  
609-220-9666  
LAY-AWAY AVAILABLE  
DEPOSIT \$50 BY  
APRIL 15TH  
2ND - MAY 15TH - \$50  
LAST - JUNE 15TH - \$50

DONATION: \$150.00  
EARLY BIRD :\$125  
BEFORE APRIL 15TH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>CHURCH OF THE ADVENT April 2025</b>	<b>Beginning April 2 there will be a Women's Bible Study at 12:00 Noon in the Parish Hall each Wednesday</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2 Office Closed</b> <b>Advent Walkers-8 AM-Promenade</b> <b>Morning Prayer-9:30 AM</b> <b>Stations of the Cross-5:30-Soup Supper-6:00 PM</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Holy Eucharist- Noon</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <b>Lent 6</b> Holy Eucharist -8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30 <b>Lent Class-9 AM</b>	<b>7 ECW Crafts-4:00-</b> Parish Hall <b>Bible Study-7:30-</b> 8:00 PM Zoom link: <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003</a> Mtg ID: 531 252 800	<b>8</b> <b>Men's Breakfast-8:00 AM</b>  <b>Advent Book Club-7:00 PM-</b>	<b>9 Office Closed</b> <b>Advent Walkers-8 AM-Promenade</b> <b>Morning Prayer-9:30 AM</b> <b>Stations of the Cross-5:30-Soup Supper-6:00 PM</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Holy Eucharist- Noon</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13 Palm Sunday</b> Holy Eucharist – 8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com Livestream at 10:30 <b>Free Concert-4 PM</b> Reception follows	<b>14 ECW Crafts-4:00-</b> Parish Hall <b>Bible Study-7:30-</b> 8:00 PM Zoom link: <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003</a> Mtg ID: 531 252 800	<b>15</b>	<b>16 Office Closed</b> <b>Advent Walkers-8 AM-Promenade</b> <b>Morning Prayer-9:30 AM</b> <b>Outreach Mtg-3:00 PM-Parish Hall</b> <b>Stations of the Cross-5:30-Soup Supper-6:00 PM</b>	<b>17</b> <b>ECW Mtg-10:30 AM-Parish Hall</b> <b>Holy Eucharist- Noon</b> <b>Maundy Thursday-6 PM</b> <b>Garden Watch-7 PM to 10 AM</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Good Friday-Noon to 1:30 PM</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20 Easter Day</b> Holy Eucharist – 8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30 <b>No Vestry Meeting</b>	<b>21 ECW Crafts-4:00-</b> Parish Hall <b>Bible Study-7:30-</b> 8:00 PM Zoom link: <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003</a> Mtg ID: 531 252 800	<b>22</b>	<b>23 Office Closed</b> <b>Advent Walkers-8 AM-Promenade</b> <b>Morning Prayer-9:30 AM</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Holy Eucharist- Noon</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27 Easter 2</b> Holy Eucharist – <b>9:00 AM only</b> followed by Enhanced Coffee Hour Youtube.com livestream at 9:00AM	<b>28 ECW Crafts-4:00-</b> Parish Hall <b>Bible Study-7:30-</b> 8:00 PM Zoom link: <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003</a> Mtg ID: 531 252 800	<b>29</b>	<b>30 Office Closed</b> <b>Advent Walkers-8 AM-Promenade</b> <b>Morning Prayer-9:30 AM</b>			AA Meetings: Sun-4:00 PM Tues-7:30 PM Wed-7:30 AM Thurs-7:30 PM