



ADVENTures *a weekly newsletter*

Advent Episcopal Church ◇ 3760 Dover Center Road ◇ Westlake ◇ OH ◇ 44145

December 29, 2019 ◇ The First Sunday after Christmas Day

Preaching this Morning at Advent

Advent welcomes Pastor Paul Laursen to our 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services today. Pastor Laursen will be here for Sundays in December and beyond.

Bible Study

There will be no 9:00 a.m. Bible study on Sunday December 22 and on Sunday December 29. Advent's study on the Book of Revelation will resume at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 5, 2020.



The 2020 Advent Flower Calendar

The 2020 Flower Calendar is posted on the wall outside the parish office. If you wish to donate flowers for the altar, please add your name to the Calendar. Please print clearly if you are donating the flowers in memory of a loved one, as a thank offering, or as a celebration of a birthday or anniversary. Flower costs will be the same as 2019, \$40.00.

Safeguarding Family Harmony

At our November Vestry Meeting, we read and reflected on Bible passages that spoke to us regarding upcoming family gatherings during the Thanksgiving weekend. And now, the Christmas holidays are upon us. Do you anticipate or fear the possibility of difficult discussions with family members who hold opposing political or religious or sexuality views sometimes expressed strongly and in uncivil ways? Did they occur over Thanksgiving? Do you think it may become necessary to encourage a "time out" if you foresee such difficult encounters in this coming Christmas season? Perhaps these Bible passages offer some guidance.

2 Timothy 2:16-17, 22-25 Good News Translation (GNT)

¹⁶ Keep away from profane and foolish discussions, which only drive people farther away from God. ¹⁷ Such teaching is like an open sore that eats away the flesh. ²² Avoid the passions of youth, and strive for righteousness, faith, love, and peace, together with those who with a pure heart call out to the Lord for help. ²³ But keep away from foolish and ignorant arguments; you know that they end up in quarrels. ²⁴ As the Lord's servant, you must not quarrel. You must be kind toward all, a good and patient teacher, ²⁵ who is gentle as you correct your opponents, for it may be that God will give them the opportunity to repent and come to know the truth.

Titus 3:2-8 Good News Translation (GNT)

² Tell your people not to speak evil of anyone, but to be peaceful and friendly, and always to show a gentle attitude toward everyone. ³ For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, and wrong. We were slaves to passions and pleasures of all kinds. We spent our lives in malice and envy; others hated us and we hated them. ⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior was revealed, ⁵ He saved us. It was not because of any good deeds that we ourselves had done, but because of his own mercy that he saved us, through the Holy Spirit, who gives us new birth and new life by washing us. ⁶ God poured out the Holy Spirit abundantly on us through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that by his grace we might be put right with God and come into possession of the eternal life we hope for. ⁸ This is a true saying.

This Week at Advent

Sunday, December 29

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
No Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

Monday, December 30

Tuesday, December 31 New Year's Eve
Church Office is Closed

Wednesday, January 1, 2020 New Year's Day
Church office is Closed

Thursday, January 2

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 5

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
11:00 a.m. Birthdays and Anniversaries

Prayer Request

Health and Recovery

Lillian Kwasny	Dave Luptak	Joan Joye
Mary Lou Dixon	Marilyn Decker	Velta Sanborn
Bob Allen	Karen Zolar	Rose Walker
Barb Frank	Lois Zolar	Arthur Beel
Michael Uhrich	Sharon Rice	George Belinsky
Bill & Judy Arkley	Steve Boyce	

Friends of Advent

Toni Kulma, wife of Pastor Kulma
Eliza Jennings residents
Sylvia Little, Bishop Little's wife
Trevor, grandson of Art Beel
Ken and Jim
Richard Ward, Jr.
Jack Morgan

Comfort

Barb Frank and family on the death of Irv Frank

Please contact the church office if you would like your name added or removed from our list.

Server Schedule Today, December 29

8:00 a.m.

Chalice Bearer/Lector Kathleen Huffman

10:00 a.m.

Chalice Bearers Bunny Meriam & Cynthea Sabolich

Lector Lewis Meriam

Prayers of the People Dick McCormick (Form 4)

Acolyte Bunny Meriam

Usher Peter Meckes

Intercessory Prayer Sharon Rice

Altar Guild Bunny Meriam

Coffee Hour

Close Advent Peter Meckes

Counter / Date Marcia Duennes (12/30)

Next Sunday, January 5, 2020

8:00 a.m.

Chalice Bearer/Lector Dick McCormick

Acolyte Alex Dzurec

10:00 a.m.

Chalice Bearers Denise Geyer-Keller & Bunny Meriam

Lector John Crothall

Prayers of the People Anne Crothall (Form 3)

Acolyte Denise Geyer-Keller

Usher Max Gage

Intercessory Prayer Ray Busony

Altar Guild

Coffee Hour Teddi Augustine & Sharon Rice

Close Advent Max Gage

Counter / Date Anne Crothall (1/6)

Note: It is your responsibility to contact another volunteer directly to take your place. Please call the office with all changes. Thank you.

Heavenly Father, I think about my family, my relatives, co-workers, the neighbors, people with whom we spend each day. Dear Jesus, as we approach New Year's Day, help us to appreciate these special people you put into our lives. Give us the encouragement we need to reach out to those around us, use our lives to help them to know you. We thank you for all that you give us. Amen.