



ADVENTures *a weekly newsletter*

July 23rd, 2023 The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to Advent Episcopal Church and may God bless your worship today!

Bishop Anne Jolly Holds Diocesan Wide “Listening Sessions”

To build and deepen relationships in the diocese and with the Bishop and her staff, Bishop Anne Jolly is inviting everyone in the diocese to participate in 18 Listening Sessions this summer. These will include facilitated discussions and table conversations about the vision for the diocese and how the Bishop and her staff can support congregations in living out their missions. The development of a Diocesan Strategic Plan is an expected outcome. On June 27 I attended a Session in Sandusky. I prayed about what I should say/not say and to be gracious in any remarks. I believe my words were not mine but Holy Spirit guided and I don't sense people heard judgment or condemnation.

The sessions included table conversations then reporting highlights to the plenary. Topics discussed included: strategies of a Diocesan Strategic Plan that might include congregational development; attracting families with children; church growth; building community across all in the diocese; fighting systemic racism; implementing technology across all congregations; prioritizing Bellwether Farm; and being attractive to the LGBTQ community. I recommended “spiritual formation” to be the #1 and central or core priority, which my table agreed with and which was positively received by the entire group. (My table was quite liberal.) We were asked to prioritize these strategies. Then, all discussed concerns/likes/dreams associated with implementing these strategies over the next 5 years. To the entire group, I expressed my dream that “The diocese, each congregation and each congregant would acknowledge Jesus as Lord and that making Him known and foremost would be the top priority for all in implementing any Strategic Plan.” The first thing Bp Jolly expressed in her closing remarks was her vision that that dream is hers also, and that that's what we should all strive for through the power of the Holy Spirit. I was blown away at how Christ-centered, Spirit-inspired and authentic were her impromptu remarks. Upon leaving, one-on-one, I commended her for her fervent, evangelical, and politically-risky remarks – “The first time in a long time I've heard what seemed to be a genuine commitment to Christ coming from an Episcopal bishop or even priest.” She was visibly moved. Pray for her leadership. I believe she would be warmly received by the Advent community.

Healing Ministry – Save the Date: July 30

Healing has a central place in our Christian faith. The pages of the Bible are filled with healing. God heals, prophets heal, Jesus heals, and Jesus' followers heal. Healing is a form of divine service, as Jesus tells his followers that when they care for the sick, they are indeed caring for Him. Christians look forward to God's coming kingdom in which all will be healed. God's mission in the world is inconceivable without healing and caring concern.

Bill Benedict actively prays for healing in the Healing Rooms on the second Tuesday of each month at Advent. Kathryn Laursen has described countless stories of healings, many dramatic. She has trained others in praying for healing. Advent parishioners give personal testimonies of their first-hand experiences of being healed in body, mind and spirit. Bishop William Love visited Advent on August 28, 2017. Our almost 3-hour evening service with 82 in attendance was a glorious celebration including a Litany of Healing, a Litany of Forgiveness, Holy Eucharist, his anointing with oil of those seeking healing followed by prayers with Advent healing prayer teams. Recently, parishioners have requested a more focused healing mission at Advent. Vestry has discussed this idea and is fully supportive. Paul Laursen is as well.

We'd like to hear from parishioners. Do you have an interest in receiving prayers for healing? Are you interested in being trained to pray for others seeking spiritual, physical and emotional healing. Are you willing to become part of a healing ministry team at Advent? What might that ministry look like? If these questions stir an interest within you, we invite you to an open session on Sunday July 30 after the 10:00 service to brainstorm and pray about the possible launch of a Healing Mission at Advent. We'll meet in the sanctuary. Let us know of your interest!

This Week at Advent

Sunday, July 23

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
9:00 a.m. Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, July 24

Tuesday, July 25

Wednesday, July 26

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study at Advent
9:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayer Group
7:00 p.m. **NO The Praise Community**

Thursday, July 27

Sunday, July 30

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
9:00 a.m. Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Prayer Request

Health and Recovery

Joan Joye	Gus Cratcha	
Mary Lou Dixon	Marilyn Decker	Stacey Smith
Karen Zolar	Shirley Moore	Barb Frank
Arthur Beel	Sue Boyce	Michael Uhrich
Sharon Rice	Bill & Judy Arkley	Steve Boyce
Dave Luptak	John Crothall	Anne Crothall
Bev Cummings	Bill & Joyce Carangio	Pat Perris
John Vasicek	Nita Ritchie	Richard Guzowski
Cynthea Sabolich	Nancy & Ed Medley	Jason Evans

Friends of Advent

Toni Kulma, wife of	Pastor Kulma	Fr. Richard Lutz
Jim Johnson	Betty Clark	Bill Liptak
Eliza Jennings residents		Ray Coy
Residents of Pinzone Tower		Gary Conaway
Andrew Bodi & Bodi Family, friend of	Cynthea Sabolich	
Gabe, grandson of Jan & Jerry Nagy		
Mike Wilson, father of Debbie Priefer		
Dar Khoury's Mom		
Jane, Jan and Carol, friends of Beverly Cummings		
Pastor Julia Wertz, Pole Methodist Church, and Easton Methodist Church		
Jeff Campbell, nephew of Mary Lou Dixon		
Baby Ruby, 2 year old, friend of Sue Boyce		
Ann, sister of Mary Lou		
Cade and the Maurer Family, friends of Denise Geyer-Keller		
Sandy, friend of Sue Boyce		
Melissa, friend of Joan Joye		
Pat, friend of Sue Boyce		
Ernie, friend of Katherine Jensen		

Safety Protection

David Arkley, son of Bill & Judy Arkley
Rachel Moffitt, ER Nurse daughter of Bill & Judy Arkley
All Workers at Cleveland Crisis Pregnancy Center
Please contact the church office if you would like your name added or removed from our list.

Server Schedule Today, July 23

8:00 a.m.

Assistant Dick McCormick

10:00 a.m.

Assistant Dick McCormick

Lector Dick McCormick

Prayers of the People Dick McCormick (Form 2)

Usher Peter Meckes

Intercessory Prayer Bill Benedict

Counter Anne Crothall (7/24)

Close Advent Peter Meckes

Server Schedule Sunday, July 30

8:00 a.m.

Assistant Kathleen Huffman

10:00 a.m.

Assistant Denise Geyer-Keller

Lector Denise Geyer-Keller

Prayers of the People Denise Geyer-Keller (Form 3)

Usher Max Gage

Intercessory Prayer Ray Busony

Counter Anne Crothall (7/31)

Close Advent Denise Geyer-Keller

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

Zoom Invitation

This is a recurring invitation for worship services at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday morning. You can use the same link, Meeting ID, and Passcode Sunday after Sunday. This way, the link won't change week by week. You can launch the link from this transmittal link.

Peace be with you!

There are no changes, just the same info in an abbreviated format. **These are not new, just shortened.**

Join Advent Service via Zoom from PC or tablet

<https://zoom.us/j/93790207331?pwd=NWFhZVhVVGdEY1Z5dzRCSjNVOzZlZOT09>

Meeting ID: 937 9020 7331

Passcode: 988930

From your smartphone, dial 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 937 9020 7331

Passcode: 988930