

The Episcopal Church of the Advent

# Chronicle

Building a Strong Christian Family

## Letter from the Rector—The Rev. David Thomas



Dear Friends,

October is a transition month. At the first part of the month it is not unusual to have warm weather – in fact within the first couple of weeks we often experience what is known as “Indian Summer”. Then the temperature begins to drop and by the end of the month it is clear that fall has arrived and out come the sweaters and down come the leaves.

This is always a busy month at the church. To be very honest it is a time when we find out if our summer scheduling is effective or if we need to make some changes in our fall plans. It is a time when new members are getting acquainted and use to the new surroundings. It is also a time when the school schedule has become a normal part of the family routine.

For some folks October is a difficult time in the life of the church because we begin to talk about the financial needs of the church. I want to be very clear. There is nothing sinful about money. The misuse of money can become sinful, but money itself is not sinful. The church needs money to operate. In fact, Advent needs more money than she receives if we are to continue to offer the pastoral and program ministries that we presently do. Some people don't realize that giving to God's work through a church is just as important to God and to one's spiritual life as attending worship or becoming involved in church activities. It is not a contribution made out of civic or humanitarian concerns. It is not just another charity to support – giving to God is about our journey with Him.

I pray that each of you will give some serious and prayerful thought to what you commit to give to the work of the church for 2010, before you sign a commitment card. God has really blessed each of us in many ways and what we return to Him financially is one significant way of acknowledging our gratefulness.

Sincerely,

The Rev. David Thomas

### Inside this issue:

- Jazz Vesper **2**
- Adult Forum Info
- Finance Corner
- Harvest Celebration
  
- Outreach Project **3**
- Sugar & Spice Dinners
- Coat Drive
- Hayride & Corn Maze
  
- Advent Spotlight: **5**
- Ministries are the Church's Bedrock
  
- October Calendar **6-**

### Parish Register

#### Baptisms

Griffin Peter Steffensen  
9/6/09

## Welcome Back Picnic

Steve & Michelle Griffith would like to thank everyone who volunteered and participated in this year's Sunday School Registration and Welcome Back Picnic. It was, once again, a huge success. Please remember to thank the sponsors who so generously contributed.

## Adult Forum Fall Kickoff

The Fall Adult Forums will be kicked off with a two part forum on "Spiritual Gifts" by Father Dave on consecutive Sundays: October 4th and 11th. All Forums will be in the St. Nicholas Room beginning at 10:20 a.m. Attendees are encouraged to get coffee or tea and bring it to the Forum.

## Outreach Community Concert Jazz Vespers

The Outreach Committee is proud to announce that Advent's first Community Concert of the season will take place on Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM. This Jazz Vespers is the first of two Jazz concerts this season and will feature special guest, the Wilson Somers trio with Advent's own, Ed Kirkpatrick on saxophone. Joining the instrumentalists will be the Advent Youth Choir coupled with the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Tatnall Treble Choir conducted by Nick Ronaghan.

Ed Kirkpatrick and wife, Donna, both West Chester graduates are retired educators. During his last year at the University, Ed was the featured Alto Saxophonist of the renowned "lab band" Criterions. The Wilson Somers Trio performed in the Rodney Square Club in Wilmington, Delaware from 1986 to 1999 performing "The Great American Songbook."

The Outreach Committee has designated the Kennett Food Cupboard as the recipient of the free will offering taken at this concert.



## Harvest Celebration

The Harvest Celebration is October 25th! Mark your calendar now! Directly after the concert we will gather in the Parish Hall for good ol' fellowship, fun and of course, FOOD!

**Bring the entire family, friends and neighbors! All are welcome!**

Events: Chili cook-off, best soup du jour, best use of pumpkin (soup, bread, dessert), best salad creation, pumpkin carvings/decorating.

For those folks who like to hear "THANK YOU" a lot... sign up for set up, clean up, bringing your best fall dish, and decorating—what can YOU do with a bale of hay and corn stalk???

Musicians: anybody out there play the fiddle, banjo or piano?

Look for more information in the coming weeks! In the meantime, if you want to be involved in the planning, organizing etc., call or email Jennifer Scales at (610) 444-3680 or [jsscales@cs.com](mailto:jsscales@cs.com).

## Finance Corner

July actual collections were \$50,311 versus \$52,753 pledged or a shortfall of \$2,442. July year-to-date actual collections were \$375,163 versus \$395,650 pledged or a shortfall of \$20,487.

As previously mentioned, 2009 is going to be a difficult financial year for the church. I want to thank all of you for keeping your pledges up to date. This year more than ever it is important for all of us to do what we can to fulfill our pledge commitments. The Vestry is carefully watching spending in an effort to keep spending at or below budgeted levels.

This is just a reminder that we resume our more hectic fall schedules to do all that you can to keep up with your pledges. If you can pay ahead it would be very much appreciated.

Thank you for your continued financial commitment to the church.

Michael Bell, Treasurer



## Halloween Hayride and Corn Maze

"This year's 2nd Annual Halloween Party will be held at the Marlborough Valley Corn maze (Rt. 842) Friday, October 23rd. Everyone is invited. Tailgate party from 6 pm -7pm (bring snacks). Costumes recommended but optional. Flashlight maze starts at 7pm. Tickets may be purchased for the Flashlight maze or the all three combo (Haunted Woods, Haunted Hayride, and Flashlight Maze). Children under 2 are free.

Discounted tickets may be purchased at the door and include:

- 8.5 acre corn maze
- Hay jump
- Corn box
- Petting zoo
- 20 minute hayride
- Large goat walk
- Corn cannon
- Pick your own pumpkin patch (any size \$3)
- And much more . . .

Sign-up sheet is located in parish hall under Fellowship or contact: Chris White at [cwhite@declasi.org](mailto:cwhite@declasi.org) or 610 869-2394 or Steve Griffith at [thebugman4u@verizon.net](mailto:thebugman4u@verizon.net) or 610 869-3858.



## Save the Date

The fall rummage sale is Saturday, November 7th from 7 a.m.—1 p.m.

Please check your Sunday bulletins for a list of acceptable rummage, and the dates and times to drop off your items.

## Sugar and Spice Shaker Dinner

Looking for a way to help Build a Strong Christian Family?

Check out our Sugar & Spice Shaker Dinners!

Monthly dinners that include a few families that enjoy a meal together. It's a wonderful way to meet new as well as long standing parishioners. Dinners are held monthly starting October 10, 2008. You may attend one or all. Please contact Michelle Griffith at 610 869-3858 or [shellyg1207@verizon.net](mailto:shellyg1207@verizon.net) to sign up to be a host or attend a dinner.

## Outreach Project

Gift Bags are needed!

Who will volunteer to fill just 5 birthday or student of the week bags for kids at the Chester County Youth Center? It is simple, fun and quick to do. The kids at the Center really appreciate the fact that we care!

Call Suzanne Pusey at (610) 444-0752 or email at [suzpu@yahoo.com](mailto:suzpu@yahoo.com) for details and the special items to put in the bags. Thanks so much in advance!



## Bible Study

Father Ray is leading a Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 9am. All are welcome!

It is based on the Gospel of John. This study will continue through the end of

November. On Wednesday, December 2, we will begin a lectionary-based Bible Study. Each session will use the readings from the Sunday Service as a basis for study. This study will be led by clergy on a rotating schedule. Please call the office for further information.

## Brian's House

One of the most appreciated ministries of the Outreach Commission is the making of bibs for Brian's House, a home for severely mentally and physically disabled children. These bibs are used almost constantly for not only the children in the house, but for adults in their day care and work program, but also for the summer camp which is also open on various weekends during the winter for respite care.

Since so many bibs are needed, we meet twice a year, spring and fall, and each time make 200 bibs. Many hands are needed to help, not only to sew, but to pin as well. The bibs are made of Turkish hand towels with a finishing tape around the neck.

Though we have one very dedicated person who does all the cutting at home, we need people to pin the tape to the towels, and, if you can sew on a machine (either your own portable, or we have two machines which were given to us) WE NEED YOU!

Our next sewing session will be on October 9th so if you are able to help please let us know. As an added incentive, a light lunch is served.

## Advent's Parishioner's Photo Directory

It's that time again! This year, we have asked Lifetouch Photography to be the official Advent Photographers. Lifetouch will provide Advent parishioners with free online and printed directories, a free 8 x 10 to each family sitting as well as a variety of products (including photo Christmas cards).

Family portrait seating times do need to be scheduled. For your convenience, there are several ways parishioners can schedule:

- Sign-up table available on Sundays,
- Call the office at 610-444-4624,
- Reserve your time yourself by visiting Lifetouch's website at <http://churchdirectories.LifeTouch.com>.

Photos will be taken on site on the following days/  
times. Friday 11/6/09 – 3-9:00 pm  
Saturday 11/7/09 - 10am – 4pm  
Friday 11/27/09 – 3-9:00 pm  
Saturday 11/28/09 - 10am – 4pm  
Thursday 1/14/2010 – 3-9:00 pm  
Saturday 1/16/2010 - 10am – 4pm

Please note: if you believe you will be ordering the Christmas cards, you will need to have your seating scheduled no later than November 28, 2009.

Questions? Please contact Suzette Butler at 610-255-0042 or [suzettejrv@yahoo.com](mailto:suzettejrv@yahoo.com)

## Memorial Garden Lay Weeders

A most grateful thank you to all who devoted time and loving care to the Memorial Garden this past season. We are blessed to have so many people who care and are willing to give of themselves. There were 40 plus adults and children who worked the weekly schedule and an additional 28 who helped with the spring clean up and to spread the mulch. The Memorial Garden committee members deserve an extra thank you: Ann Benzel, Alice Bucher, Tala Graham, Jill Gray, Donna and Ed Kirkpatrick, Fran and Lyle Mall, Troy Patterson, Ealise Rundle, Deb Schmittle, Bill and Alice Steltzer, Peggy Stewart, Rick Ullrich, Bobbie Wanta. We could not function without the support of Ann, Kathy, Brian and Jim.

Each gardening season offers a challenge. This year it was the rain. Oh, how it rained! The water bill must be less and we did not have to drag heavy, cumbersome hoses through the beds but we lost some plants from the excess water. In between the rain days, Ed Kirkpatrick, with the assistance of Brian Walls, painted the reflecting pool. Extra thanks to them.

A garden is always a work in progress. We are so fortunate to have so many dedicated people willing to give our garden such tender, loving care.

Thank you one and all.  
Phyllis Wenner



## **Advent Spotlight**

### **Behind the Scenes, Ministries are the Church's Bedrock**

**By: Tony Cadwalader**

Congregants at the Church of the Advent, used to the seamless Sunday services provided by our clergy may be surprised to learn of the wealth of volunteer behind-the-scenes effort that goes into making our church run as smoothly as it does. On the back of the Chronicle you can see listed the names of many of the people responsible for the day-to-day running of the Church of the Advent.

But what you don't see are the numerous good folks who volunteer their time and energy so that our church goes beyond filling the pews on Sundays and reaches out to the community to support it and, as good Christians, prove that we are passionate and deeply committed to loving, giving and caring for each other.

The breadth of behind-the-scenes activity is worth highlighting: Membership / Newcomers Ministry, Finance Commission, Stewardship, Fellowship, Communications, Buildings & Grounds, Christian Education, Pastoral Care & Hospitality, Outreach Ministry, Worship, Adult Spiritually. Many of these committees have ministries (sub-ministries?) also headed by volunteers who really get the work done.

Take the Pastoral Care & Hospitality ministry as an example. By far the largest of the ministries at the Church of the Advent it has nine committees (sub-ministries?) that play important roles within the church and the community. Linda Mercner heads up the casserole ministry, Sandy Cumbaa wears two hats heading the altar flower distributions and the prayer chains.

Jan Schroeder knits together the warmth and love of the church's community as head of the prayer shawls ministry. Carolyn Gillan, Amy McIlvanine, Ealise Rundle, Laura and Stokes Nolte lead Greeting Card, Kitchen, and Sunday Coffee Hour ministries, respectively. All are volunteers.

Often it's the accumulated outcome of these many small deeds that makes a church like Advent work. The small but important roles such volunteers have on the different ministries plays a pivotal role in the church's commitment to its members and the community.

Volunteers helps to establish the parish's role in the community while it fosters a tremendous sense of accomplishment.

For Parish Administrator Jim Power, the results of the commitment by parishioners has the power to extend further than just than filling the pews.

"If we as Christians were passionate and deeply committed to loving, giving, protecting, encouraging, removing barriers, doing good and caring for each other as God's family how different would our world be?"

If 30 days hath September than the calendar says that all but four of them have some church-sponsored, -organized event planned. The other months of the year, whether they be April, June or November or the upcoming month of October are not much different. There is always something going on at the Church of the Advent. That means there is always someone helping make things happen here.

<b>October 2009 Calendar</b>			
<i>(This calendar was prepared on 9/15/09 and is subject to change)</i>			
<b>Note: PCOC is the Pastoral Care &amp; Office Center</b>			
Thurs	10/1	9:45 a.m.	Staff Meeting
		11:00 a.m.	Eucharist at Jenner's Pond
		7:30 p.m.	Chancel (Adult) Choir
Fri	10/2	<b>Chronicle Deadline</b>	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10/4</b>	<b>18 Pentecost</b>	
		<b>7:45 a.m.</b>	Holy Eucharist - Rite I
		9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
			Children's Chapel - St. Jude Room
		10:00 a.m.	Fr. Ray's Class on the book <i>Christ &amp; Culture - St. Ann Room</i>
			Coffee Hour
		10:20 a.m.	Adult Spirituality Forum - St. Nicholas Room
		11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		4:00 p.m.	Blessing of the Animals - Parking Lot
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Group - Youth Room, PH, St. Jude, Chapel
Tues	10/6	6:30 p.m.	Youth Choir
Wed	10/7	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study - St. Ann
			E.F.M. - St. Timothy Room
		10:30 a.m.	Eucharist - Chapel
Thurs	10/8	9:45 a.m.	Staff Meeting
		7:30 p.m.	Chancel (Adult) Choir
Fri	10/9	9:00 a.m.	Bib Making for Brian's House - PCOC
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10/11</b>	<b>19 Pentecost</b>	
		<b>7:45 a.m.</b>	Holy Eucharist - Rite I
		9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II & Baptism
		10:00 a.m.	Fr. Ray's Class on the book <i>Christ &amp; Culture - St. Ann Room</i>
			Coffee Hour
		10:20 a.m.	Adult Spirituality Forum - St. Nicholas Room
		11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Group - Youth Room, PH, St. Jude, Chapel
Mon	10/12	7:00 p.m.	Outreach - PCOC Conference Room
Tues	10/13	12:00 p.m.	E.F.M. Book Group - St. Ann Room
		6:30 p.m.	Youth Choir

Wed	10/14	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study - St. Ann
			E.F.M. - St. Timothy Room
		10:30 a.m.	Eucharist - Chapel
Thurs	10/15	9:00 a.m.	Chronicle Folding - St. Nicholas
		9:45 a.m.	Staff Meeting
		7:30 p.m.	Chancel (Adult) Choir
Fri	10/16	4:00 p.m.	Jr. High Youth "Breakaway"
		<b>Chronicle Mailing Date</b>	
Sat	10/17	6:00 p.m.	Family Fun Night - Parish Hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10/18</b>	<b>20 Pentecost</b>	
		<b>7:45 a.m.</b>	Holy Eucharist - Rite I
		9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		10:00 a.m.	Fr. Ray's Class on the book <i>Christ &amp; Culture</i> - St. Nicholas Room
			Newcomer Coffee - St. Ann Room
			Coffee Hour
		11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Group - Youth Room, PH, St. Jude, Chapel
Mon	10/19	7:00 p.m.	Outreach - PCOC
Tues	10/20	11:00 a.m.	Eucharist at Kendal
		6:30 p.m.	Youth Choir
Wed	10/21	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study - St. Ann
			E.F.M. - St. Timothy Room
		10:30 a.m.	Eucharist - Chapel
Thurs	10/22	9:45 a.m.	Staff Meeting
		11:00 a.m.	Eucharist at Crosslands
		7:30 p.m.	Chancel (Adult) Choir
Fri	10/23	6:00 p.m.	Halloween Party - Corn Maze
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10/25</b>	<b>21 Pentecost</b>	
		<b>7:45 a.m.</b>	Holy Eucharist - Rite I
		9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		10:00 a.m.	Fr. Ray's Class on the book <i>Christ &amp; Culture</i> - St. Nicholas Room
		11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		4:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers - Sanctuary
		5:00 p.m.	Harvest Festival and Chili Dinner - Parish Hall
			NO Youth Group
Tues	10/27	6:30 p.m.	Youth Choir
Wed	10/28	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study - St. Ann
			E.F.M. - St. Timothy Room
		10:30 a.m.	Eucharist - Chapel
Thurs	10/29	9:45 a.m.	Staff Meeting
		7:30 p.m.	Chancel (Adult) Choir

Rector  
The Rev. Canon David P. Thomas

Assistant Rector  
The Rev. Raymond Nelson

Deacon  
The Rev. Nancy Hauser

Parish Administrator  
Jim Power

Music Director  
Wilson G. Somers

Christian Education Director  
Kathy Prible

Youth Ministry Director  
Jan Berry Schroeder

Office Manager  
Kathy Gebhart

Parish Secretary  
Ann Daemer

Sexton  
Brian Walls

Website Editor: Mary Doscher  
mdoscher1@msn.com



## The Episcopal Church of the Advent

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Kennett Square, PA  
Permit No. 18

Church: 401 N. Union Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348  
Offices: 201 Crestline Drive, Kennett Square, PA 19348  
Phone: 610.444.4624 Fax: 610.444.1842

**Website: [www.AdventKS.org](http://www.AdventKS.org)**

## Coat/Outerwear Drive

It's never too early to plan ahead! Get ready for Advent's Coat and Outerwear Drive set to run Sunday, October 18th through Sunday, November 22nd.

Fall will soon be here and so will the Annual Coat and Outerwear drive for adults and children. Contributions will be delivered to local people that are in need.

Items needed are Adult and Children winter coats , jackets, scarves, hats ,mittens, gloves and snow pants.

The donations **MUST** be in good condition or can be new.

Thank you . Any questions please contact Suzanne Pusey (610) 444-0752 or [suzpu@yahoo.com](mailto:suzpu@yahoo.com) or George Lewis (610) 388-1281.

