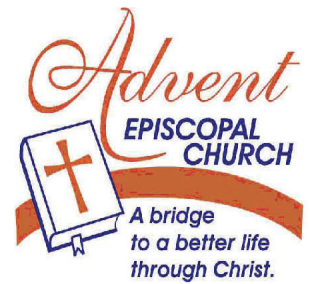


# LUMINARY

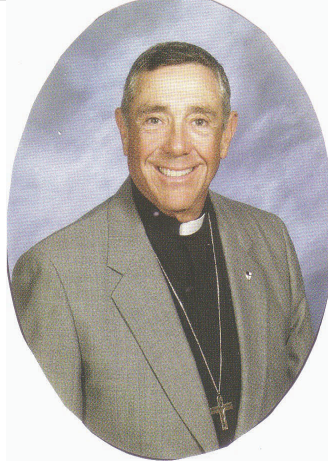
August/September 2011    The Rev. Dr. Gabriel A. Sinisi, Rector

A monthly publication featuring news and events at the Advent Episcopal Church



Dear Friends,

As I returned from vacation to see our renovations in full swing, all I could think of was gratitude. I am grateful for our ministry in, and for the resources to advance the Reign of Christ on this earth. It also occurred to me that those resources are the result of the gratitude for God's work through Advent, of those who have gone ahead.



You know we are blessed, folks, and so we must behave as ones who are blessed. Christ shows us that we are not blessed for our own sakes alone. We are not blessed just so that we can feel good, be comfortable, and sit on top of the world now. We are blessed, friends, so that through us others may be blessed now and into the future. We are called to serve out of the abundance we have been given, as Christ's Body, as His hands and feet in the world.

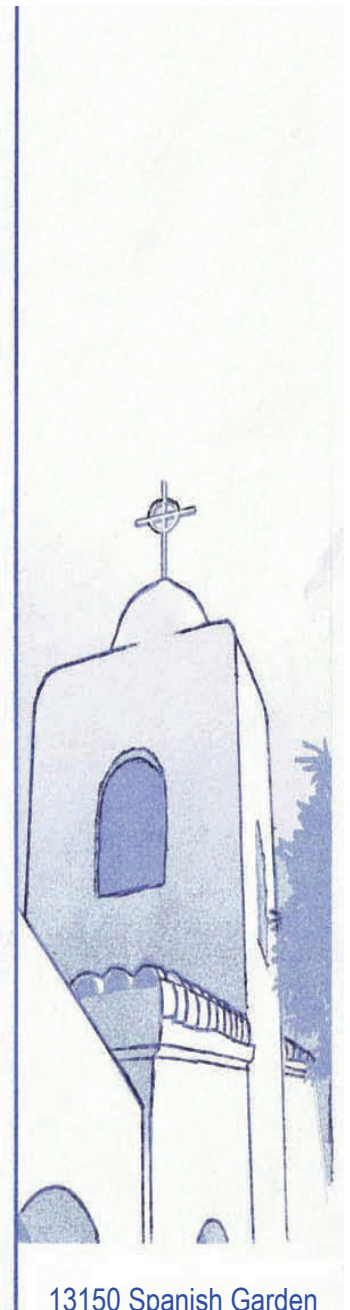
Through the decades of its existence Advent Episcopal Church has been doing just that. I know that as long as you and I remain here we will continue to do so. I ask you now to think about the decades to come. Will "we" still be the Body of Christ in the West Valley far into the future, after you and I are long gone?

I ask you to consider how you express your gratitude now for the abundant gifts you enjoy by God's grace. Have you thought about making provisions for the future ministry of Advent Episcopal Church?

You know it doesn't help if we all just think and talk about it. So please call the church office and let us know that you are interested, and we will get back to you with some suggestions as to what you can do.

Peace and all good,

*Gabe* +



13150 Spanish Garden  
Drive  
Sun City West, AZ 85375

## **A WORD FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN** *by Phil Andrews*

### **THANK YOU, MR. MENDONSA**

Our Jr. Warden, Bill Mendonsa, is doing an excellent job in managing and executing our Altar/Sanctuary renovation project. He has continued to involve the Committee that made all of the decisions regarding this project. The work is on schedule. Most of the painting and lighting are complete. The tile floor/altar expansion will be complete in the first two weeks of August. The new altar rail and cabinetry will also be complete in August. We will upgrade the air conditioning in October when it is cooler. (The system will have to be down for a few days.) I am confident that we will all be very satisfied with our new worship space.

**“Thank you” Bill. Great job!**

### **GROWTH**

Don Cox’s Growth Committee has come up with three priorities for developing new members. They are: retirees living in the surrounding communities, young families and youth and a satellite location on the other side of Grand Avenue. Consistent with the first priority, we are preparing a post card mailing to new home buyers in Sun City West. We hope that some of them will respond to our invitation to come and worship with us.

### **“COWBOY NIGHT”**

Please hold October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011, for our first annual “Cowboy Night” and silent auction. We have already received several very nice items for you to bid on. (If you have anything to donate, let me know.) We have also contracted a Country/Western band, “Cottonwood Stash” for entertainment. The committee is finalizing plans and we expect that everyone will have a great time.

Thanks to all of you for your patience and understanding during our “Construction Project” .

Peace, *Phil Andrews*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **MEN’S CLUB RECYCLE COMMITTEE** *by Tom Carroll*

Thank you friends, our recycling efforts continue to generate significant revenue. We have found a vendor that will reimburse us for aluminum beverage cans @ \$1.00 per pound. However, this vendor wants only aluminum beverage cans. The pet food cans, aluminum pie plates, vegetable cans or other food items that are packed in aluminum will not be accepted. Please, beverage cans only! Parks and Sons Trash and Recycle Company that picks up all Sun City West residential trash and recycle will accept the above items. When delivering your cans to the enclosure behind Paine Hall please try and use plastic bags, especially during the rainy season.

Thank you for your cooperation.



## Financial & Stewardship

### Financial Snapshot as of June 30

	June Actual	June Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income				
Pledges	\$15,490	\$25,000	\$148,155	\$150,000
Plate	\$ 3,162	\$ 4,167	\$ 36,930	\$ 25,000
Other	\$ 320	\$ 3,442	\$ 4,110	\$ 20,250
Total	\$18,972	\$32,608	\$189,194	\$195,650
Expenses	\$25,145	\$32,608	\$204,714	\$195,650
Net Operating	-\$6,173	\$ 0	-\$15,519	\$ 0

Expenses have been higher than budget in the following areas: 1) Diocesan assessment is now based on current income 2) new server which was expected to be in last year's office expense didn't get paid till this year 3) landscaping work to reduce water usage 4) insurance payments which don't happen uniformly through the year 5) marketing expense in January.

Some of you, when you have gotten behind on your pledge, have made it up by either putting the weekly amount in each of several envelopes, or putting the total in one envelope and sending us all the other envelopes. This is unnecessary. Just put the total in one envelope and throw away the other envelopes. This will make life easier for the counters. Thank you.

### Stewardship: our gift to God and family *submitted by Nita Martin*

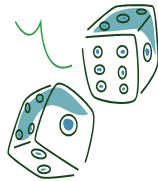
When the Vestry was asked to each take a turn writing an article about Stewardship, I began reflecting on what Stewardship really meant to me. My parents always practiced good Stewardship in my youth and I think I've always taken it for granted as opposed to knowing what it really meant. Yes, we all know it is Time, Treasure, and Talent, but what do those three words really mean? Treasure, we know, is carefully discerning our gift to God from what he has rewarded us with financially. Time and Talent is the giving of ourselves physically and emotionally for the good of the church. Stewardship is our responsibility and our gift to God and family.

When we were growing up, we all had responsibilities in our family home because we shared the home with our parents and siblings and it was expected of us. But, what about Advent; we are a church family sharing in worship and fellowship. We come together every Sunday, and often meet during the week for some activity, but what do we do to contribute to Advent. In Romans 12, Paul reminds us that we are one body with many gifts, each unique to the person with the gift. These gifts are our Talents and the Time we give to utilize our God-given gifts is what stewardship is all about. Do you call Advent Episcopal Church your church home? Are you investing in others, working toward a common goal, contributing financially, and serving with love? Prayerfully reflect on your gifts and share with your church family what comes naturally to you.

That is stewardship!

#### **DON'T FORGET BUNCO....**

August 12 and September 9  
the dice will be  
rolling in Paine Hall  
beginning at 6:00PM. Come  
have some fun with other  
members of your church and  
bring a friend!



**CHOIR WILL HAVE FIRST PRACTICE - 8:30AM on September 18.** This is great way to give to your church of your time and talent and the members always seem to have a good time doing so. Please think about joining us as we are always looking for new voices.

## Financial & Stewardship (Continued from page 3)

Stewardship:

It is easy to equate stewardship with fundraising, but this is only a partial definition. In a fuller sense, stewardship is the practice of caring for the bounty of creation and the gifts of creativity and life which God has bestowed on each of us. As such, stewardship should involve the giving of our time, talents and worldly possessions. Many published articles remind us of our parish vision: "A Bridge to a better life through Christ." We must continue to build this bridge through our many ministries, our beautiful building and grounds, our many worship services, our generous outreach funding and our fellowship functions. Our bridge building efforts are apparent when one looks around and sees the various improvements that have been made to the curb appeal of our church exterior. The interior improvements have just begun and we are looking forward to an end of summer completion. However, there is much more to do. We must increase our exposure in the northwest valley neighborhoods as a multigenerational Episcopal Church. Our Lord has blessed this parish with many hard working and dedicated folks who have a desire to share the joy of their efforts. In the coming months our stewardship committee will have another fall program to present to the congregation. Don't think of just a fund raising program, rather an opportunity to give thanks to God and allowing our parish to do His work.

In all, give thanks.

*Tom Carroll*

Stewardship Chairman

\*\*\*\*\*

### ECW NEWS NOTES *by Sibyl Krebs, President*

On Saturday, October 1, the Diocesan Women's Ministries will be held at Trinity Cathedral. This is for ECW, The Order of Daughters of the King and Altar Guild and any interested woman. We will car pool to this event.

On Thursday, October 20, our ECW will open the season with our salad luncheon.

Watch for more details later for these events.

### **Helping Hands** *by Sharon Gullickson*

"Helping Hands" for Children in Crisis will meet Mondays August 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> and September 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. I know it's 110 degrees in the desert, a blanket you say; but night is the worst time for abused children. That blanket or pillow is something to hold on to, during or after abuse. It also says someone who does not know me cares about me.



"Helping Hands" for Children in Crisis Sunday will be September 11, 2011. Blankets will be on the pews for you to see & hug. At the coffee social we will celebrate our seven years of "Helping Hands" Birthday and ladies will be making our blankets and pillows. Then it's our Ice Cream Social Fund Raiser at 6:00 p.m. for \$6.00. Eat your supper at home and come for an Ice Cream Sundae for dessert and a fun game. Can't come but wish to help, write a check to Advent's Episcopal Church ECW with Helping Hands in the memo line. Cash works too! Remember - every ten seconds four children are abused in the USA.

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



Marie Farmer	August 1
Dorothy Ayan	August 5
Shirley Kraft	August 5
Barbara MacDonald	August 6
Karen Zito	August 6
Sally Bregar	August 7
Cecily Sola	August 9
Robert Carson	August 11
Sigrid Cox	August 11
James Madole	August 12
John Jacobsen	August 14
Jeanne Sulley	August 14
Janet Adams	August 15
Barbara Burder	August 15
Marjorie Pinkerton	August 15
Betty Sturm	August 15
Susan Kelln	August 17
Olivette Miller	August 20
Nancy Bell	August 21
Carl Deiner	August 21
Rita Deakin	August 22
Jean Sax	August 22
Michael Swallow	August 22
Nancy Grout	August 23
Norman Gough	August 25
Ellen Morrison	August 25
Gene Stickles	August 25
Bettie Doeblner	August 26
Jack Evans	August 26
Donald May	August 27
James Forrest	August 28
Emily Peterson	August 29
John Cottingham	August 30
Frances Loge	August 30
Norma Manglos	August 30
Dorothea Reinert	August 30

*Our sincere condolences  
go out to the  
family and friends of*

**Dick Van Keuren**



*"In youth the days are short and the years are long. In old age the years are short and days long."*

*Pope Paul VI*

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

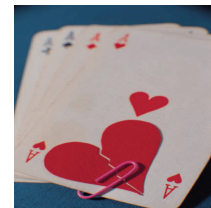
George & Dorothy Cooper	August 1
Donald & Bertie Brown	August 7
Richard & Wanda Flora	August 7
Donald & Patricia Lawrence	August 7
Jerry & Grace Overton	August 9
James & Nancy Grout	August 10
John & Jean Turnbull	August 10
John & Muriel Erickson	August 11
Max & Jane Hawk	August 12
Fred & Jane Jones	August 12
John & Maureen Reynolds	August 12
Rex & Sharon Mather	August 15
Wayne & Janice Schope	August 20
Ed & Sally Williamson	August 22
Earl & Melvine Dagg	August 25
Warren & Jean Sax	August 25
Phil & Mary Reister	August 27
Chuck & Deb Fowler	August 30



## ADVENT NEWS CLIPS

**Forward Day by Day** continues to offer daily inspirational reflections and meditations. The August/September and October booklets are in the rack for \$1.00. Try it - you'll like it!

**Marathon Bridge** - Please call Sally Olson at 623 792-8949 if you would like to play in the Bridge Marathon this year.



**Attention** - A lay minister's training course will be scheduled in September for anyone who might be interested in this ministry. We have information available for anyone who wants to read about what is involved in serving as an altar minister.

This information will be available all summer. This is a wonderful experience and a spiritually fulfilling way to serve God. We ask you to pray on this and if you are curious about how it all comes together, please contact Sue Strofer, 537-4031 or Jeannine Slee, 214-9975

**FOOD BANK COLLECTION ITEMS FOR**  
August - Instant Mashed Potatoes or dry milk  
September - Condiments (catsup, mustard, etc.)

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**



Robert Kraft	September 3
Rex Mather	September 5
William Baer	September 9
Muriel Erickson	September 12
Dolores McLoughlin	September 13
Diane Beneker	September 14
Joyce Fritz	September 14
Maureen Nichols	September 15
Jean Siegfried	September 15
Stella Syckes	September 15
Elizabeth Gough	September 16
Elinor Rabon	September 16
Margaret Clemett	September 18
Robert Homes	September 19
Myrtle Idland	September 19
Glenn Gullickson	September 21
Sue Stroefer	September 22
Harry Evans	September 23
Jo Sonagere	September 23
Bob Wilson	September 23
Carolyn Carlson	September 25
Dirk Prather	September 25
Dorothy Eubank	September 26
William Vaughan	September 26
Dorothy Halonen-Elmiger	September 27
Patti Hirst	September 28
Paula Rutili	September 28
James Grout	September 29
Margaret Krawczyk	September 29
Keith Morrow	September 30

**SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**



Jim & Mary Lou Hamilton	September 1
Clifford & Marjorie Pinkerton	September 6
Claus & Diane Beneker	September 7
Dick and Gene Stickles	September 9
William & Joyce Rozon	September 10
Jack & Lois Evans	September 11
Thomas & Marian Porter	September 12
Russell & Zellamae Hood	September 15
Robert & Ferne Hoag	September 16
Art & Fran Rakestraw	September 18
C. Parker & Gaynor Gibson	September 19
Ron & Marlys Gere	September 22
Tom & Pat Carroll	September 24
Donald & Muriel (Peggy) Pearson	September 30

**I know you are out there, but I don't know who you are.....**

As Editor of the Luminary I would like to include all of our members who have anniversaries on the above list for the proper month. If your spouse is not a member of Advent, I have no way of knowing your anniversary date or have their names. If you would like to be included in this way, please email me the information at AHUGrace@aol.com or telephone me at 623 556-1267. I have started a anniversary book that I can add your names and date in for the proper month. Thank you. *Grace Overton*



**Episcopal Church of the  
Advent  
welcomes our  
new members**



**Linda & Braden Santarcangelo  
and  
Barbara Johnson**

*The family of Warren Fisher would like to extend thanks and appreciation to our loving Advent family. Their prayers, cards, flowers and so many expressions of support have made it possible for us to accept God's will with peace.*

*Love and God bless,  
Charlotte and family*

## RECTOR ACTIVITY REPORT FROM 5-26-2011 TO 6-23-2011

THE RECTOR IS ON CALL FOR EMERGENCIES 24/7.

BESIDES PREPARATION FOR REGULAR PARISH WORSHIP SERVICES, ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AND WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, INCLUDING SCHEDULED SERMONS ETC., AND EfM MEETINGS WHEN APPLICABLE, THE RECTOR WAS PERSONALLY INVOLVED WITH:

- 14 PASTORAL CALLS
- 8 PARISH RELATED MEETINGS
- 1 AREA MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION RELATED MEETING
- 1 EPISCOPAL COALITION MEETING
- 2

NOTE: VACATION FROM MAY 20 THROUGH JUNE 4.

*Gabe Sinisi* +

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

### Church Leadership

The Rt. Rev. Kirk S. Smith, Bishop of Arizona  
 The Rev. Dr. Gabriel A. Sinisi, Rector  
 The Rev. Canon Geoff Dibbs, Pastoral Care Associate  
 The Rev. Janet Gooltz, Assisting Priest  
 The Rev. Dick Studley, Deacon

### Support personnel

JeNiene Dimond, Parish Administrator  
 (623) 584-0350  
 Yvonne Reed, Director of Music (602) 896-1037  
 Grace Overton, Luminary Editor (623) 556-1267  
 ahugrace@aol.com

### Advent Vestry

#### Officers

Phil Andrews, Senior Warden 544-8038  
 Bill Mendonsa, Junior Warden (602) 448-3485  
 Herb Norton, Treasurer 975-6896  
 Nita Martin, Clerk 214-9021

#### Members

Claus Bemeker, 218-6026  
 Tom Carroll 547-7527  
 Nancy Ellsworth 546-8139  
 Dorothy Elmiger, 583-2217  
 Pete Latino 546-4518  
 Jerry Overton 556-1267  
 Emily Peterson 214-7393

### Directory information

address 13150 Spanish Garden Dr., Sun City West, AZ, 85375

Phone (623) 584 0350 FAX (623) 584 2131 Website [www.adventepiscopalaz.org](http://www.adventepiscopalaz.org) E-mail [information@adventepiscopalaz.org](mailto:information@adventepiscopalaz.org)

# August 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 8:30AM Helping Hands	2 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	3 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/ Anointing	4 10:00AM AI Anon 8:00Pm AA Variety Group	5 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 9:30AM Advent's Angels	6 8:30AM Altar Guild
7 9:00AM Holy Eucharist w/music 10:30AM Yvonne Reed Conference Room	8 8:30AM Helping Hands	9 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	10 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/ Anointing	11 10:00AM AI Anon 8:00Pm AA Variety Group	12 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 6:00PM Bunco	13 8:30AM Altar Guild
14 9:00AM Holy Eucharist w/music	15 8:30AM Helping Hands	16 8:30AM Men's Club Social Breakfast 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	17 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/ Anointing	18 10:00AM AI Anon 1:00PM Surprise Study Group 8:00Pm AA Variety Group	19 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 10:00AM Universal Pest 12:15PM Ladies 3rd Friday Bridge	20 8:30AM Altar Guild
21 9:00AM Holy Eucharist w/music 10:00AM Daughters of the King	22	23 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	24 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/ Anointing	25 8:00AM Vestry Mtg. 10:00AM AI Anon 8:00Pm AA Variety Group	26 8:30AM Rubber Fingers	27 Clergy Wellness Summit 8:30AM Altar Guild
28 9:00AM Holy Eucharist w/music	29	30 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	31 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/ Anointing			

# September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00AM Al Anon 8:00PM AA Variety Group	2 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 9:30AM Advent's Angels	3 8:30AM Altar Guild
4 9:00AM Holy Eucharist with Music	5 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED 8:30AM Helping Hands	6 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	7 2:00PM EfM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/anoointing	8 10:00AM Al Anon 11:15AM Bible Discussion 8:00PM AA Variety Group	9 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 6:00PM Bunco	10 8:30AM Altar Guild
11 9:00AM Holy Eucharist with Music 10:00AM IT Committee 6:00PM Helping Hands Ice Cream Social 	12 8:30AM Helping Hands	13 8:30AM Investment Committee Quarterly Mtg. 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	14 9:00AM ECW Board Mtg. 2:00PM EfM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/anoointing	15 10:00AM Al Anon 11:15AM Bible Discussion 1:00PM Surprise Study Group 8:00PM AA Variety Group	16 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 12:15PM Ladies 3rd Friday Bridge	17 8:30AM Altar Guild 6:00PM Wine & Cheese Party 
18 WINTER SCHEDULE BEGINS 8:00AM Holy Eucharist no Music 8:30AM Choir Practice 10:00AM Holy Eucharist with Music & Sermon 11:00AM Daughters of the King	19 8:30AM Helping Hands	20 8:30AM Men's Club Social Breakfast 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	21 2:00PM EfM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/anoointing  LUMINARY DEADLINE	22 10:00AM Al Anon 11:15AM Bible Discussion 8:00PM AA Variety Group	23 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 10:00AM Universal Pest Control	24 8:30AM Altar Guild
25 8:00AM Holy Eucharist no music 8:30AM Choir Practice 10:00AM Holy Eucharist with Music & Sermon	26	27 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	28 2:00PM EfM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/anoointing	29 10:00AM Al Anon 11:15AM Bible Discussion 8:00PM AA Variety Group	30 8:30AM Rubber Fingers	