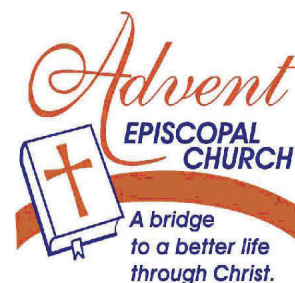


LUMINARY

February 2012

The Rev. Dr. Gabriel A. Sinisi, Rector

A monthly publication featuring news and events at the Advent



Dear Friends,

This Annual Meeting is where we have to be very honest as to where we stand regarding our relationship to this particular Church.

Look and see what the gifts given by people in gratitude for God's work in this place, combined with some real dedication by Bill Mendonsa and various other individuals and committees, have accomplished in this past year. All was done in response to the wishes and priorities of the members of this congregation who accepted the invitation to participate. If you did not participate, I invite you to do so now. Everyone will benefit from the time, talent and treasure you provide.

The same will continue into this year with the expansion of our parish hall, as your parish leadership continues to respond to the needs outlined and prioritized by those who chose to participate.

All of this, by the way, was and will be financed with bequest funds which were never intended to be used for the day to day operation of the parish but only for projects, etc., such as the above. We thank God for the generosity of faithful parishioners. Their generous response to God's love manifest here at Advent Episcopal Church has made all of this possible.

The concern that I share with our Vestry and finance ministries, however, is the day to day operation of this parish. It costs money, specifically pledge money, to pay for insurance, electricity, equipment, supplies, and salaries, etc.

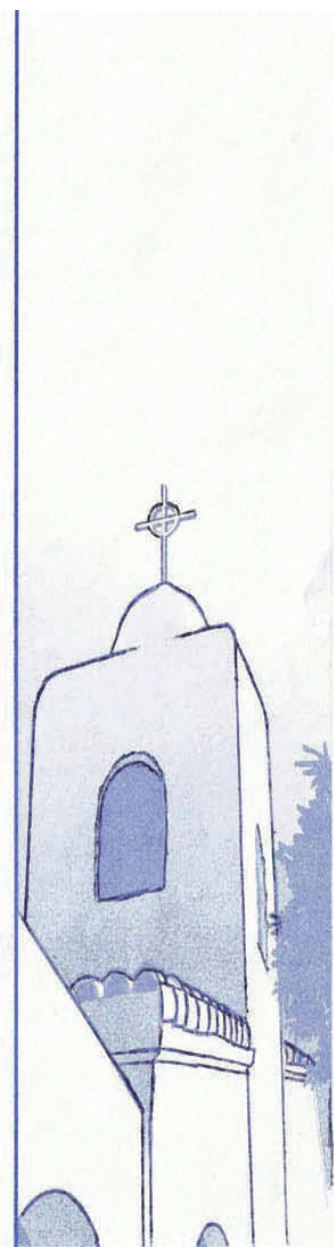
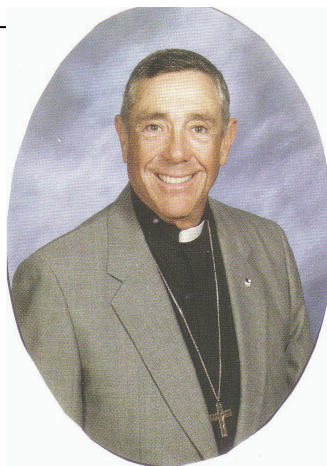
In my report last year I wrote, "The bad news is we have lost many members, some have died, and some have had to move away. While we have been blessed with new members, pledges have not been up to par. Advent pledging is well below the national average, and even some local Episcopal parishes with fewer members have a higher pledge income than we do."

This year I am forced to repeat my request, "Friends, I think it is time for us to consider our pledging as a spiritual exercise that enables us to express our gratitude for God's many blessings. I urge you to prayerfully consider increasing your pledges if you can, pledge if you don't."

Please know that I would be happy to meet, at your request, with anyone of you individually to discuss this situation with you, and perhaps address any questions or concerns you might have.

In Christ's love,

Gabe +



13150 Spanish Garden
Drive
Sun City West, AZ 85375

A WORD FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN *by Phil Andrews*

“TOGETHER WE WILL GROW GOD’S PLACE, ADVENT IN 2012. FEEL THE CONNECTION”

We will strive to better help our community through our faith, actions and attitudes; all are welcome. We come to this place to worship, to feel the joy of our faith, to experience the mystery of the table, as we share the Body and Blood of our Lord Christ.

We are blessed to have great spiritual leadership, our clergy and staff, to guide us on our journey of faith. They teach us and tell us the stories and lessons of the Bible. They support us in times of need. They are the heart and soul of our spiritual lives. We must love and respect what they do for us. We must care for them as they care for us.

What lies ahead? Our theme for 2012 will be:

“TOGETHER WE WILL GROW GOD’S PLACE, ADVENT, IN 2012. FEEL THE CONNECTION”

My challenge to each of you in 2012 is to bring one new member to Advent.

*Above are excerpts from my final report to the parish for 2011. I also mentioned several accomplishments we achieved in 2011. They will be covered in detail plus others in our fourth quarter “STATE OF THE PARISH” soon to be sent.

MEN’S CLUB ACTIVITIES *by George Winandy*

Our regular February meeting will be on February 7th at 8 AM. Dues in the amount of five dollars for 2012 are now due. The speaker for February will be Jerry Scanson of Benevilla. February 9th is the ECW fashion show and we need five or six men to work as waiters to serve dessert and coffee that day. We will also be planning for the pancake supper to be held on February 21st. In addition, we are looking for volunteers to work at the Rummage Sale during the week of February 13th to 18th. We need help collecting large objects for the sale and for set up of tables and clothing racks. We will also need men to work on sales of larger items on the patio on February 17th and 18th.

Children in Crisis Fundraiser

While the final numbers are not in yet for the amount of “funds” earned at the Helping Hands for Children in Crisis’ Seventh Annual Spaghetti and Meatball Fundraiser, the ratings for the “Fun” portion of the “Fundraiser” are off the chart. The evening started with a wonderful meal including spaghetti and meatballs prepared by our in-house chef, Chuck Siconolfi. The meal would have challenged any served in any fine Italian ristorante in the valley. (Just maybe the vowel at the end of the name was the secret to his culinary success??) The meal ended with what else but home-made cannolis from the kitchen of Warren Sax.



From left to right are the key players for the event: Sharon Gullickson, Chuck Siconolfi, Joyce Rozon, and Judy Purdy.

LIBRARY CORNER by Meribeth Jones, Librarian

We receive donations often and just landed a large carton of books. Some of the ones to go on the shelves are:

TALES OF A MAGIC MONASTERY by Theophane the Monk. (248.4) In two pages per story, we read a tale and ponder the idea presented. Most turn the light on over the mirror (so we can see ourselves clearly.)

THE VESTRY HANDBOOK by Christopher Webber, (254 WEB). The table of contents lists what a vestryperson will handle as his duties.

LEARNING TO MEDITATE by Thomas Zanzig (248.3 ZAN). Follow the exercise directions, keep track of how you feel and what you're thinking each day and find that meditation is comfortable and a welcome addition to your activities.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP by Lovett H Weems, Jr. (262.1 WEE) The five sections cover leadership, vision, team, culture and integrity. Being a leader in a church situation is not the same as in a business—or is it?

SAYING YES AND SAYING NO—on rendering to God and Caesar by Robert McAfee Brown (261.7 BRO) Here are questions and discussion on the dilemma that exists when official government policies seem to clash with ideas about God's kingdom of peace and justice. Samples are from around the globe.

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, Barclay (226.2 BAR.) Four hundred pages of interpretation, explanation and discussion about the 1068 verses that are quite similar to those of Luke and Mark. Do you know the differences and what they indicate?

ONE DAY MY SOUL JUST OPENED UP by Iyanla Vanzant (291.4 VAN). A glorious renewal occurred in her life and she tries to share that with you by giving exercises plus personal commentary. She asks you give 40 days and 40 nights toward spiritual strength and personal growth.

The library has books with 200 numbers on the spine. Lists of the topics by tens (210, 220, 230 etc.) are posted. If you don't find something, leave me a note on my desk (and your phone number).

ECW News by Sibyl Krebs, President

Fashion Show

“Cupid’s Fashion Review” will be on Thursday, February 9th at 1:00 PM. There will be a “Heartfelt” dessert served. Be sure to buy your ticket for this fantastic event. Bring your items for the tabletop treasures and gently - used clothing and accessories to Paine Hall January 30th through February 6th between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM. If you have questions or need items picked up, call Margaret Cwieka at 774-238-1310.

Rummage Sale

The annual Rummage Sale will be February 17 and 18th. You may bring your donations to the rear door of Paine Hall from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Monday the 13th through Thursday the 16th. The set-up dates will be from Monday through Thursday, February 13 through the 16th. This year we will be extending the hours for set-up from 8:00AM to 4:00PM. We really need your help in getting this, the biggest project of the year, sorted, set up arranged and priced. We also need people to bring treats for the workers and men to assist in pick up of items. All are welcome. Questions call Arlene Arnold 623 876-0919

(Continued on the following page)

ECW News by Sibyl Krebs (Continued from page 3)

Soup for shut-ins

Flu and cold season is here and the soup kitchen has soup ready to give to anyone under the weather. Please be sure to sign the soup registry. Judy Purdy

General Meeting

The next General Meeting will be on Thursday, March 8, as there were too many activities in February.



ADVENT NEWS CLIPS

Prayers of the People - Any one interested in participating in the reading of the Prayers of the People at the 8:00 AM service, please contact Carol Gunderson at 546-5571 or memegun4@cox.net.

The Forward Day by Day continues to offer daily inspirational reflections and meditations. The February, March and April publication is available in the tract rack in Paine Hall for one dollar Try it; you will like it!

Food bank item for February is Spam!

CPR and emergency preparedness is offered monthly through the SCW Fire Corps. You never know when you might need this sort of training. For more information, call Janet Gooltz at 623 594-9739

ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS! Advent is participating in the Rewards program with Safeway and also a program with Albertson's. Every time you shop you are able to contribute one percent of your total to Advent! You can not register at Safeway. You must do it by computer, either through me or your home computer. On your home computer search for "escrip", you then can pull up "supporter registration". They will want your eleven digit card number, name, address, phone and it is optional if you want to give them your email address. Advent's group number is "9606502" If you have had your card affiliated with another group, you will have to call me so that we can have it changed to Advent. For your shopping in the future, you only have to give them your phone number that you have registered at the check out counter and it is not necessary to carry your card. We all like to carry fewer cards. If you do not have a computer or want me to register for you, please call me. Any questions? MJ Schreiner, 623 546-8399.



For Albertson's we have a tab for your key chain that can be swiped at the checkout counter to identify that the one percent goes to Advent. They are located in the Narthex, Paine Hall, and in the office during the week in the morning. I have even given one to my neighbor who does not go to our church. You can do that also.

We have received as much as \$2,500 in the past with our participation. Please don't put this important task off and help Advent with the extra income. Thank you!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

C. Parker Gibson	February 2
Marie Keary-Carr	February 2
Nelly Makridis	February 2
Leonard Woods	February 2
Carol Mezzelo	February 5
Susie Ralston	February 5
Joyce Rozon	February 6
Thomas Flaherty	February 8
Eleanor Syckes	February 8
Margaret Cwieka	February 9
Jeanne Jones	February 9
Ginny Boyce	February 10
Erik Christensen	February 10
Betty Jones	February 10
Sharon Besser	February 11
Thomas Carroll	February 11
Martha Ramsey	February 12
David Somerville	February 12
Donald Pearson	February 13
Meribeth Jones	February 16
Robert Stewart	February 16
Karen Moran-Joseph	February 18
Barbara Vaughan	February 18
Earl Dagg	February 19
Joy Kapsala	February 19
Marjorie Fowler	February 21
Ferne Hoag	February 21
Charlotte Stiehl	February 21
Earl Thomas	February 22
Tamiko Thompson-Pittocco	February 22
Janice Schope	February 24
Carolyn Keating	February 25
Flavia Mendonsa	February 25
Kent Olson	February 25
Patricia Lawrence	February 27
Ward Lawrence	February 28



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Harry & Marguerite Evans	February 2
Peter & Jean Russell	February 4
John & May Froneberger	February 7
Noel "Bud" & Karen Thomas, Jr.	February 7
Thomas & Ruth Truscott	February 14
Tom & Joanne Doran	February 16
Bob & Shannon McLaren	February 18
Victor & Joan Koll	February 24



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

Irene Hambright



I would like to thank everyone who donated money for the purchasing of Poinsettias and those who gave money in the envelopes earmarked for flowers for decorating the church for Christmas.

I also want to thank my committee and all of the other volunteers who showed up and gave of their time to help with the decorating our church both inside and out. I could not have done it without their help.

Flavia Mendonsa

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

**Doug & Robin Friendshuh
Keli McCabe
Meg Lewis
Terry & Leila Wanke**



While there are many different roads that we take in life, it is those who walk with us that make the journey worthwhile.

General Operating Fund Income and Expense as of December 31

	Dec Actual	Dec Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income				
Pledges	\$22,985	\$21,667	\$274,400	\$260,000
Plate	\$ 7,102	\$ 4,167	\$ 62,230	\$ 50,000
Other	\$ 341	\$ 4,166	\$ 10,639	\$ 50,000
Total	\$30,428	\$30,000	\$347,269	\$360,000
Expenses	\$22,133	\$32,608	\$382,770	\$380,440
Net Operating	-\$5,713	-\$2,608	-\$35,501	-\$20,440



Moses and Jesus were playing golf. On the first hole was a long fairway with a water hazard. Moses said, "Jesus, we should tee off from the novice tee. We can't make it over the water from here".

Jesus replied, "Arnold Palmer made a shot from here. If he can do it, so can I."

Jesus drove his ball toward the green. It sailed out over the water and fell in. Moses sighed, walked toward the water, parted it and retrieved Jesus' ball.

"Jesus," Moses tried again. "We should tee off from up there. We can't make it from here. If you try that again and your ball falls in the water, I won't get it."

But Jesus insisted. "Arnold Palmer made a shot from here. If he can do it, so can I."

Jesus again drove his ball toward the green. It sailed out over the water and once again fell in. Jesus headed down to the water hazard and then walked on the water to where his ball had fallen in.

Moses was waiting at the tee when the next foursome came through and witnessed Jesus walking on water.



"Holy mackerel!" one of them exclaimed. "Does that guy think he's Jesus?"

"No," Moses answered. "He thinks he's Arnold Palmer."

*Live simply,
Love generously,
Serve Faithfully,
Speak truthfully,
Pray daily,
Leave everything else to GOD.*



February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00AM Fashion Show Setup 2:00PM EFM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist with Anointing	2 9:00AM Fashion Show setup 10:00AM AI Anon 11:15 Bible Discussion 8:00PM AA Variety Group	3 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 9:00AM Fashion Show Setup	4 8:30AM Altar Guild
5 8:00AM Holy Eucharist-no music 8:30AM Choir Practice 10:00AM Holy Eucharist with Music & Sermon	6 9:00 AM-Fashion Show Setup	7 8:00AM Men's Club Meeting 11:00AM Fashion Show Setup 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	8 9:00AM ECW Board Mtg. 10:00AM Fashion Show Setup 2:00PM EFM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist with Anointing	9 10:00AM AI Anon 11:15 Bible Discussion 1:00PM ECW Fashion Show 8:00PM AA Variety Group	10 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 6:00PM Bunco	11 8:30AM Altar Guild 2:00PM Bach-Thomas Wedding 3:00PM Bach-Thomas Reception
12 LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY 8:00AM Holy Eucharist-no music 8:30AM Choir Practice 10:00AM Holy Eucharist with Music & Sermon 11:00AM IT Comm.	13 8:00AM Rummage Sale Setup	14 VALENTINE'S DAY 8:00AM Rummage Sale Setup 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	15 8:00AM Rummage Sale Setup 9:00AM Caregivers 2:00PM EFM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist with Anointing 6:45PM Couples Br 	16 Diocesan-wide Clericus in Tempe 8:00AM Rummage Sale Setup 10:00AM AI Anon 11:15 Bible Discussion 8:00PM AA Variety Group	17 8:00AM Rummage Sale 8:30AM Rubber Fingers <u>Luminary Deadline</u>	18 8:00AM Rummage Sale 8:30AM Altar Guild
19 8:00AM Holy Eucharist-no music 8:30AM Choir Practice 10:00AM Ava Santarcangelo Baptism 10:00AM Holy Eucharist with Music & Sermon 11:00AM DOK	20 PRESIDENT'S DAY 8:30AM "Helping Hands"	21 8:15AM Men's Club Social Breakfast 12:00PM Happy Home Helper 5:00PM Shrove Tues. Pancake Supper	22 ASH WED. & WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY 12:00PM Holy Eucharist with Ashes 2:00PM EFM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist with Ashes	23 8:00AM Vestry Meeting 10:00AM AI Anon 11:15 Bible Discussion 8:00PM AA Variety Group	24 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 10:00AM Universal Pest Control 11:00AM Stations of The Cross	25 8:30AM Altar Guild 10:00AM Jim Taylor Memorial Service 11:00AM Taylor Reception
26 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 8:00AM Holy Eucharist-no music 8:30AM Choir Practice 10:00AM Holy Eucharist with Music & Sermon 11:30AM Worship Comm. Mtg.	27	28 12:00PM Happy Home Helper	29 2:00PM EFM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist with Anointing Lenten "brown bag" with program			

Return address:
 ADVENT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 13150 Spanish Garden Drive
 Sun City West, AZ 85375

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 Beneker, 218-6026
 Tom Carroll 547-7527
 Margaret Cwieka 774-238-1310
 Nancy Ellsworth 546-8139
 Dorothy Elmiger, 583-2217
 Pete Latino 546-4518
 Emily Peterson 214-7393

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