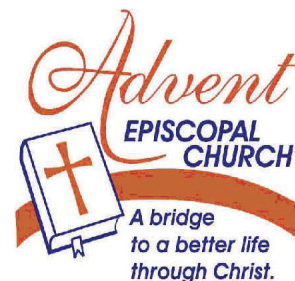


LUMINARY

January 2012

The Rev. Dr. Gabriel A. Sinisi, Rector

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



Dear Friends,

Another year! And I thought they went fast after we had the girls. Now with our grandson Jay on board time just seems to fly. Gosh, it will soon be Lent. Well a year for God is like a thousand years and a thousand is like one.

There are two country songs that speak to this issue of time: **I'M NOT HERE FOR A LONG TIME; I'M HERE FOR A GOOD TIME** and **THIS IS MY TEMPORARY HOME**. [OK, so now everybody knows I like Country Music.]

I think we Christians can certainly hear the relationship with our professed belief system in these songs. We are reminded that our time on earth may be short but we can make the most out of it. The good time in the song may be different from our good time. For us the good time is not just time spent selfishly catering to our own whims but rather time spent serving God in the people we encounter along life's path. And don't we get so involved in our day to day lives that we sometimes forget that this is only our temporary home and the place we really belong is with God.

The New Year is a great time to ponder these things. It comes up short, however, if all we do is ponder.

We must allow, in fact invite, the Holy Spirit to work in us. We must accept the transforming grace of God. We must grow spiritually and change into the kind of person God wants us to be.

We must recognize that we live in God's Kingdom and that we are called to further the Reign of Christ on earth until the day when the King returns. We don't have a lot of time on earth to grow spiritually so we can't put it off.

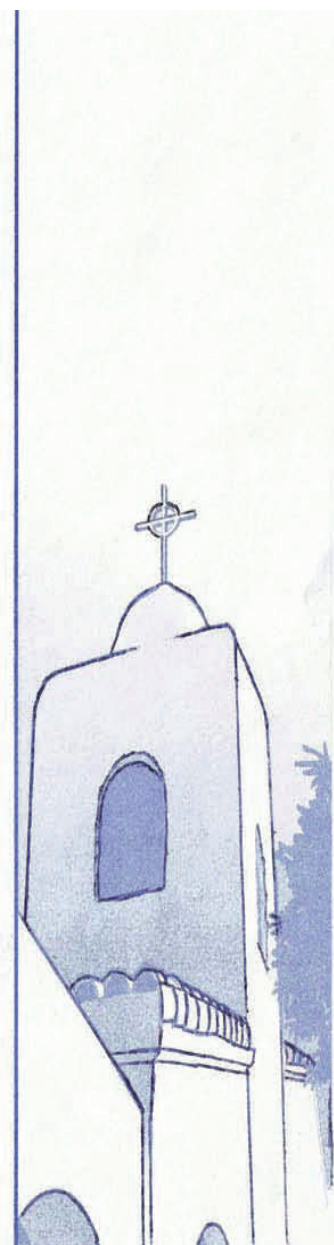
If we don't get to work on this now, My Friends, no one will. And the forces that stand over and against the principles of our Christian Faith will remain unopposed... You, parents, grandparents and friends may carry this to its logical and inevitable conclusion if you dare to contemplate that.

Why not resolve, this New Year, to acknowledge our Creator as the one from whom ALL OUR BLESSINGS flow? Why not be grateful for the abundance we have by God's grace?

This will bring us all a very happy and blessed New Year.

In Christ's love,

Gabe +



13150 Spanish Garden
Drive
Sun City West, AZ 85375

A WORD FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN by *Phil Andrews*

Advent is a wonderful place to celebrate the Birth of Jesus. We have a wonderful place because we are willing to work together to make it special. Thanks to all of you who participate in the many different ministries that work toward making it great!

Karen and I count our blessings every year at Christmas. We are blessed with a great family that offers us love and support all year. We are blessed with many extraordinary friends that are such an important part of our lives. Thanks to all of you for being there.

We wish you a happy and joyous Christmas and a bountiful New Year!

Peace, *Phil Andrews*

Paine Hall (Kitchen) Remodel Project

Submitted by **Claus Beneker and Bill Mendonsa**

As part of Advent's Strategic Plan, a Master Plan for the Facility was developed and approved by the Vestry in May of 2011. Over the summer the first project of this plan was implemented, when the altar and sanctuary were remodeled. As a result our church now has a brighter, more inviting look, and the expanded altar gives the choir and clergy more flexibility. When the weather warms up, we will enjoy the new, upgraded air conditioning system.

We are now ready to proceed with the second project of the Facilities Master Plan, namely, the Paine Hall (Kitchen) Remodel. On December 8 a plan for this remodel was presented to the Vestry and approved for go-ahead. This project will double the size of the current kitchen and reflect many of the features previously identified by the congregation (in Focus Group Meetings) as desirable in a new kitchen. And, as was the case for the first project, a new, upgraded air conditioning system will be installed.

The usable floor space in Paine Hall will increase significantly, much needed new storage space will be created and we will finally have space for meeting and practice rooms. This is an exciting project that will be financed from bequests made to Advent. It will make it possible for us to pursue activities attractive to the broader community in our area, thereby addressing our need for growth. We are blessed indeed to be able to launch this next project.

ADVENT MEN'S CLUB by *George Winandy, President*

The regular January meeting for Jan. 3rd has been canceled because too many are going to be unavailable due to travel over the holidays. We will have a social breakfast at La Petite Cafe on January 17th at 8:15AM. The next formal meeting will be Tuesday, February 7th where we will be planning the Pancake Supper which will take place on February 21st. Dues for 2012 will also be due at the February meeting. Dues are \$5.00.

LIBRARY CORNER by Meribeth Jones, Librarian

Recently, Rev. Dennis R. Maynard was a guest speaker at our services. He is a writer and we now have several of his books on the shelves. If you liked his talk, you'll love his writing.

THOSE EPISKOPLOLS (293) is a set of answers to questions we and non-Episcopalians often ask. His answers are crisp and clear with an A-HA! presentation. Talking about why we read our prayers, he says, "These prayers are appropriate for public worship because these are the prayers that we have all agreed upon. We hold these prayers in **common**." Amazingly clear, yes?

FORGIVE AND GET YOUR LIFE BACK. This book is devoted to making a distinction between forgiving those who have injured us and making the decision to reconcile with them or restore them to their former place in our lives.

THE MONEY BOOK. The primary goal of this book is to present some practical teachings on money and Christian Stewardship. It also encourages the reader not to confuse his self-worth with his net worth. And the MAGNOLIA series – novels featuring Rev. Steele Austin who can solve mysteries and pull together churches in philosophical splits and emotional angst. Enjoy hours of good-to-read, good-for-you reads.

Bookmarks in the checkout are free.

**ADVENT NEWS CLIPS**

Save the date!

"Helping Hands" for Children in Crisis will have their seventh annual spaghetti supper fund raiser on Saturday January 28, 2012.

Menu: spaghetti, salad, bread, dessert and beverage. Questions? Please call Sharon Gullikson 214-4828



Outreach item for the Food Bank for January is canned fruits or vegetables. Please remember those less fortunate.

Note from the Editor—I wish to thank Mike for working on my computer and bringing it back to life. I never thought I would pray over a machine, but as he was installing my new power source, I was saying quite a few and I don't even know what a power source is. Also thank you to my husband for the foresight of buying insurance that covered frying my power source. He knows me so well and how inept I am with mechanical things.

RECTOR ACTIVITY REPORT FROM 11-17-2011 TO 12-22-2011

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:

16	PASTORAL CALLS
10	PARISH RELATED MEETINGS
1	PREMARITAL MEETING
1	SPECIAL VESTRY MEETING
3	PARISH RELATED SOCIAL EVENTS
1	COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE
1	SPECIAL SERVICE FOR EFM GRADUATION
1	SPECIAL SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS
1	DAY WITH BENEVILLA CLIENTS @ RANCH
1	CARDINAL RECTORS MEETING WITH
	BISHOP

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Gabe Sinisi+



ECW NEWS by Sybil Krebs, President**Fashion Show**

The Episcopal Church Women will usher in February with festivities and fellowship and special enjoyment for all. February 9th at 1:00PM will bring forth in celebration Cupid's Fashion Review. Stylish ensembles will be modeled with accessorizing opportunities abounding—**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.**

Treasurers lovely to behold will decorate the tables and will be awaiting new homes with their purchase. Cupid's scrumptious gourmet desserts will be enjoyed while melodious background piano music completes a delightful event not to be missed.

Join us on February 9 at 1:00PM in Paine Hall for Cupid's Fashion Review and yummy "heartfelt" dessert.

Please bring all gently used clothing and accessories as well as discovered treasures for table-capes to Paine Hall, beginning January 30th through February 6th between 9:00AM and 1:00PM.

Tickets will be on sale starting Sunday, January 29th. There will be limited seating. Plan to make your reservations early. Detailed information to follow in Advent announcements.

Margaret Cwieka 774-238-1310

Rummage Sale

The Annual rummage sale will be held February 17 & 18, 2012. Start gathering your donations and save the date. We will be working February 13-16th setting up the sale. All volunteers are welcome; come join us and share the fun. If you have room to store rummage, or want to ask any questions, contact Chairman Arlene Arnold 623 876-0919.

Prayers Shawls

There is always a need for prayer shawls in our congregation and beyond. To that end, please keep knitting and crocheting. There is an ample supply of the Homespun yarn in the Paine Hall closet. We use that yarn only for the shawls since it is nice and soft. Many thanks to all the dedicated knitters and crocheters. Sigrid Cox, Chairman

E.C.W. Dues

A reminder to all that, if dues have not been paid, now is a good time to do so, with the beginning of this new year. Nancy Ellsworth, Treasurer

The annual "Helping Hands" Christmas Open House was held on Monday, December 12, 2011 at the home of Sharon Gullickson. As you can see from the picture (Chase with grandmother, Muriel Erickson), the guest list was not limited by age or gender. What a wonderful treat the gingerbread house, made by Pat Failla, was, and that can be seen in Chase's eyes. Yes, Chase was "the popular guest" at the party. In our community, having children around to share this special Christmas event, was a wonderful treat for the ladies.. Watching him taking in the many, many shades of Christmas at the Gullicksons' home was a Christmas present for the ladies. There is nothing like watching children experience and learn about with this holy day. The delight of a blessing, they remind us of the meaning of Christmas as well as help bring back memories of our own Christmases long past, when we were children. Thank you, Chase, for joining the "Helping Hands" Christmas Open House. Come to think of it, Chase is not new to this group. Often when time and transportation permits, Chase joins the ladies on Monday mornings and is always quite willing to lend a hand.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

James Hamilton	January 3
Nannine Wheeler	January 3
Sandra Amidei	January 4
Athur Rakestraw	January 4
Sheroll Rudel	January 5
H.G. Whittington	January 5
Adrienne Carpenter	January 6
Jimmy Hall	January 6
Richard Riley	January 7
Edwin Willimson	January 8
Donald Brown	January 10
James Sherwood	January 11
Willa Keller	January 14
George Ralston	January 14
Robert Rechter	January 14
Marjorie Kleis	January 15
Marilyn Van Wagenen	January 16
Paula Bachman	January 18
Elizabeth Somerville	January 18
Philip Andrews	January 19
Christine Payne	January 19
Anne Pellett	January 19
Donna Smock	January 20
Carolyn Luft	January 22
Fleet Bell	January 24
Louise Shields	January 25
James Seme	January 26
Leonard Fowler	January 27
Robert Fritz	January 27
Gary Goings	January 28
Morris Jobe	January 29
John Vincent	January 30
Rick Baldwin	January 31
John Pipis	January 31



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Donald & Charlotte Hynes	January 1
Charlie & Sharon Besser	January 2
Morris & Betty Jobe	January 3
John & Sally Jacobsen	January 18
N. Robert & Carolyn Carlson	January 19
Stephen & Helen Scharschan	January 20
Herb & Susan Norton	January 23
Patrick & Cornelia Chorpenning	January 27
A. Michael & Karen Giel	January 31

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

**Jim Taylor
and
Betty Wilson**



Thank You

“My thanks to all the Office Volunteers (regulars and subs) who work hard all year long with only appreciation as pay: Jeannine Slee, Flavia Mendonsa, Jean Carlson, Glenn Gullickson, Sue Stroefer and Nita Martin. They go the “extra mile” during the Christmas season. And to the Rubber Fingers group who help stuff bulletins-Mary Ridgley, Paula Rutili and Marilyn Arndt. Last but not least, thanks to Rich Raszkiewicz who keeps our office machines running - he’s “on call” 24/7. *JeNiene*

ECW BAKE SALE

Chairperson Muriel Erickson and Chris Payne wish to thank everyone who baked, wrapped and bought the delicious goodies at the ECW Annual Bake Sale making it a great success!



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

Pat & Nini Chorpenning
Wilton & Eleanor Syckes
George & Judy Huffman



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Charley Smock is our youngest acolyte. He was asked to write an essay about things his life that make a difference. Charley's Mom, Lynda, told me he had written this composition. We asked Charley for permission to print the parts of it that pertained to his church life. He said "sure, go ahead." Below are those excerpts.

Thanks, Charley, for your faithful service and stewardship to Advent.

Phil Andrews, Youth Acolytes

Charles Smock
Exposition Essay
Language Arts 3
Mrs. Urban
December 2011

No matter the age, no matter the height, you can always do something right. My Dad and I saw a man with a plastic bag and nothing else, he was homeless so I decided to make a difference and donate my clothes to our old church's thrift store where they give homeless people clothes. I thought it was a good idea to make a difference so that I can make a big difference in someone's life. Instead of ordering pizza for dinner our family voted to give the money to our church in Tombstone to restore their 150 year old stained glass windows. So I decided to make a difference in my church, school and my neighbor's life.

First, I made a difference in my church. To get started, I planned to serve on the alter two times a month. Although, I am the youngest person that works at the church, I can do almost everything that everyone else does. My brother, sister and I get to carry the cross, but I wanted to carry the metal cross instead of the wood one, because the wood cross is too light.

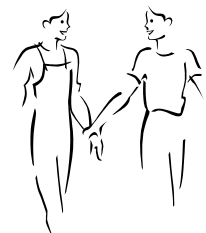
Afterwards, I helped clear off the tables in the Paine Hall because people eat and leave some trash behind. I wasn't too excited at first, but after a while it was kind of fun. Although I wasn't excited anymore my brother got lucky because he got to be a chalice bearer. In addition to helping my church I decided to help put all of the bible books, gospel books and prayer books away. The books always need to be put away, but we wait until the end of the service and then collect the books. We thanked everyone for coming to help serve for our church, but maybe there is a way to thank everyone for coming that is not serving. Whew! I felt like I did a good job in putting an effort into making a difference in my church.

My church, school and my neighbors' house are the places I worked hard to make a difference. I guess I did not know what I was getting myself into at first because it was harder than I thought I thought that, that was a lot of work and a lot of fun by helping people by doing make a Difference Day. Now I feel great. I feel like I helped a million people.

Remember no matter the age, no matter the height, you can always do something right.

Charley Smock

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



January 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Fri	Sat	
<p>1 HOLY NAME SUNDAY-NEW YEAR'S DAY ONE SERVICE AT 9:00AM 8:30AM Choir Practice 9:00AM Holy Eucharist w/music & Sermon 10:00AM Coffee Social</p>	<p>2 8:30AM Helping Hands</p>	<p>3 12:00PM Happy Home Helper</p>	<p>4 2:00PM EfM 5:00PM FEAST OF EPIPHANY (from Jan.6) HEALING SERVICE</p>	<p>5 10:00AM Al Anon 11:15AM Bible Discussion 8:00PM AA Variety Group</p>	<p>6 8:30AM Rubber Fingers</p>	<p>7 8:30AM Altar Guild</p>
<p>8 8:00AM Holy Eucharist-no music 8:30AM Choir Practice 10:00AM Holy Eucharist w/music & Sermon 11:00AM IT Comm.</p>	<p>9 8:30AM Helping Hands</p>	<p>10 12:00PM Happy Home Helper</p>	<p>11 9:00AM ECW Board Mtg. 2:00PM EfM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/Anointing</p>	<p>12 10:00AM Al Anon 11:15AM Bible Discussion 8:00PM AA Variety Group</p>	<p>13 8:30AM Rubber Fingers</p>	<p>14 8:30AM Altar Guild</p>
<p>15 8:00AM Holy Eucharist-no music 8:30AM Choir Practice 10:00AM Holy Eucharist w/music & Sermon 11:00AM Daughters of the King</p>	<p>16 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY 8:30AM Helping Hands</p>	<p>17 8:15AM Men's Club Social Breakfast 12:00PM Happy Home Helper</p>	<p>18 9:00AM Caregivers 2:00PM EfM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/Anointing 6:45PM Couples Bridge</p>	<p>19 10:00AM Al Anon 11:15AM Bible Discussion 8:00PM AA Variety Group</p>	<p>20 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 12:15PM Ladies 3rd Friday Bridge 4:00PM Spaghetti Supper Setup</p>	<p>21 8:30AM Altar Guild 5:00PM "Helping Hands" Spaghetti Supper</p>
<p>22 8:00AM Holy Eucharist-no music 8:30AM Choir Practice 9:00AM Holy Eucharist w/music & Sermon</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 12:00PM Happy Home Helper</p>	<p>25 2:00PM EfM 5:00PM Holy Eucharist w/Anointing</p>	<p>26 8:00AM Vestry Mtg. 10:00AM Al Anon 11:15AM Bible Discussion 8:00PM AA Variety Group</p>	<p>27 8:30AM Rubber Fingers 10:00AM Universal Pest Control</p>	<p>28 8:30AM Altar Guild</p>
<p>29 ONE SERVICE AT 9:00AM 8:30AM Choir Practice 9:00AM Holy Eucharist w/music & sermon 10:00AM ANNUAL MTG.</p>	<p>30 9:00AM Fashion Show Setup</p>	<p>31 9:00AM Fashion Show Setup 12:00PM Happy Home Helper</p>				

FINANCIAL By Herb Norton, Treasurer

General Operating Fund Income and Expense as of November 30

	Nov Actual	Nov Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income				
Pledges	\$17,993	\$21,667	\$251,414	\$238,333
Plate	\$ 6,247	\$ 4,167	\$ 55,128	\$ 45,833
Other	\$ 1,298	\$ 4,166	\$ 10,291	\$ 45,834
Total	\$25,538	\$30,000	\$316,841	\$330,000
Expenses	\$31,251	\$32,608	\$360,638	\$348,736
Net Operating	-\$5,713	-\$2,608	-\$43,796	-\$18,736

The budgeted figures in this report are different from previous reports, because it was discovered that one of the reports on which this snapshot is based was using incorrect budget figures

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

Directory information

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

Phone (623) 584 0350 FAX (623) 584 2131 Website www.adventepiscopalaz.org E-mail information@adventepiscopalaz.org