

THE VIEW FROM ST. CHAD'S



What is Advent? Why is the color blue instead of purple? When does Christmastide begin?

Have you ever wondered about any of these questions? Here are some quick answers:

What is advent? Advent is the first season of the liturgical year beginning with four Sundays before Christmas. It is the season that prepares us for the “coming” of Christ. The first Sunday of Advent is considered the birthday of the “church.” It is a penitential season and sometimes referred to a “little Lent” because it is less strict (no fasting) [Phew!].

Why is the color blue instead of purple? The color Sarum blue was chosen for several reasons: First, it represents the sky at first light symbolically reminding us of the coming of the Christ Child. Secondly, the first bishop of the now Episcopal Church was ordained/consecrated bishop in Scotland; the flag of Scotland is light blue. Thirdly, when mixing colors red + blue= purple. If we take away the red for a less penitential season, we get blue. Some Episcopal Churches prefer to keep the season purple, so you will observe both colors in use in our diocese.

When does Christmastide begin? Christmas actually begins on what we term Christmas Eve. We celebrate the coming of Christ on the night before Christmas Day with “midnight mass.” Christmastide begins on the 24th and runs to January 5. January 6 is Epiphany. Traditionally, in the church, we don’t sing Christmas carols until Christmas Eve and continue the joy of those songs until Epiphany.

The third Sunday in Advent is Gaudete Sunday or Rose Sunday honoring Mother Mary. The season color may be changed to “Rose” for that Sunday. (It is the same with the fourth Sunday of Lent known as Laetare Sunday). It also represents the acknowledgement of the second coming of Christ.

The first reference to Advent was in the 6th century in the Western Church.

Have a blessed Advent season. I pray you utilize the Advent meditation booklet with offerings from your fellow parishioners. May you rejoice in the advent of the Light of Christ and may you find the Holy!

Amen
Mother Jan+

TOOL TALK

Gunnar Mutz

As I write this month's article for the newsletter, I'm experiencing different emotions as I complete this second-to-last Tool Talk as your Building and Grounds Vestry representative. A part of me is relieved that my Vestry term is coming to an end and I can look forward to taking sometime to relax and let my computer take a rest! The other half is sad because I see more projects that I'd like to do. Building maintenance is a vital mission of any church. I've been blessed with the wonderful members of B&G that devote so much time and talent doing projects and keeping up with maintenance. Without this team, my "job" would have been much more difficult. I thank these parishioners for all that they do!

While several big projects have been completed, there are a few items that need attention. These things are not necessarily need to be done tomorrow, but do need taken care of within the next couple of years. The church stucco will need to be redone within the next couple of years. We've sealed cracks and repaired some areas to extend the life of the stucco, but stucco has a lifespan of around 15 to 20 years. Our stucco is getting close to requiring a redo. We can have someone repair the cracks, but that only lasts so long; you can only place so many bandaids on top of each other!

Another item that needs to be addressed is the sanctuary heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) system. During my tenure, I've received several complaints that the sanctuary is too hot or it's too cold; sometimes in the matter of a few minutes! I remember a couple of occasions when I've ushered (yep, I do that too) seeing people putting on jackets or sweaters and people in the next row from them taking off sweaters or jackets and fanning themselves because they are too hot! A new system will help improve the comfort of everyone in the sanctuary by regulating the temperature and changes in ducting can keep people from freezing!

These two items are just the two big priorities for the building. There are many other items that need attention. From rescreening windows to replacing the junipers to building an "outdoor sanctuary," there is always things that need to be done caring for a building! I thank each and everyone at St. Chad's for their support with time, talent, and treasure to keep St. Chad's going!

Gunnar Mutz
Junior Warden, Building and Grounds Chair

OUTREACH

LARRY BOST

At this time of thanksgiving and celebration, the Outreach Committee pauses to count the blessings that all of St Chad's brings to so many in our Parish and to those around us in our larger communities. Please continue to remember those in need as we plan this special time of giving.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Larry Bost, Outreach Committee Chair | 505-379-7891 | lbost11@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Leslea Lehoucq

I will send my messenger ahead of you,
 who will prepare your way —
 a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
 'Prepare the way for the Lord,
 make straight paths for him.' --Mark 1:2-3

Are you prepared?

Each year I reach the end of November already wearied from what's come before, and I look back to see what my December newsletter was the previous year to gain some inspiration.

Reading the December 2016 and 2015 newsletter entries reminded me of the overwhelm I've let myself feel, instead of the joy of preparation. Overwhelm is not part of my plan this year.

Do you and your family have Advent and Christmas traditions? Please take time as we rush towards December 25 to honor Advent with things you will fondly remember each year.

We hope that St. Chad's can be part of those traditions! On Sunday, December 3, please join us from 4-7 pm for our annual St. Nicholas Celebration. The evening is filled with fun crafts and activities, stories, and a potluck fellowship dinner. Sign up to attend on the board outside the sanctuary, and take a flyer or four to share with friends you'd like to invite to attend.

Another tradition is our Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve. Your child is welcome and encouraged to participate. Sign up on the board outside the sanctuary and please try to have your child attend Sunday school all Sundays in December as we prepare for the pageant. Children not participating in the pageant will have their own Sunday School class each week. If you can help with the pageant, please let me know--I'd appreciate the help. Thanks!

Remember that Advent is a time of waiting and preparing. I pray that we all might wait and prepare joyfully and with anticipation instead of with stress and dread. Jesus Christ is Born—let's celebrate!



SAVE THE DATE

St. Chad's Newcomers Party
 Winter Wonderland
 January 20th, 2017
 More Info To follow
 Questions?

Contact Cathy Conn 263-4004 or Don Smiset 720-7800



Mustard Seed Babies Home, Hoima Uganda

Mother Jan

In January 2018 I will once again travel to Uganda to do a mission trip at the Mustard Seed Babies Home. This orphanage was established in the early 90's in response to the AIDS crisis houses 51 children ranging in age from a few months to high schoolers.

I shared some of the children's stories last year when I returned and will do so again. You all were so generous in support of the mission trip by providing me with transportation and housing. You also supplied many items to give to the children and staff.

This Mission of Hope for 2018 is no different. The home as a physical plant as well the children, have many needs. As we continue our work reaching to spread God's love throughout His creation, I pray you will consider supporting this trip once again. Below is listed some of the items for which we need funding and a list of things I'm trying to accumulate.

Financial support for:

Excess luggage (\$200 per bag, I will have 8 bags)

Furniture: rocking chairs, chests, bookcase

Fruit for each day

VBS Supplies

Healing the Orphan Heart (a symposium for the older children)

Cemetery Gate

ITEMS

Butcher paper 6 foot lengths (about 10)

Bags (Trader Joes) 35

Chap stick (100)

Small stuffed animals (6-8) inches 30

Thank you all for your generous support.

Checks can be made out to St. Chad's noting MOH 18.



DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Margaret K. Edwards

Bill Kuhl's memorial service was held Saturday, 4th November. Bill & Jean have been parishioners at St. Chad's since moving here from Los Alamos in 2010. Daughters of the King members were privileged to provide the food for the reception following Bill's service. Mother Jan Hosea, Daughters of the King Chaplain for the Diocese of the Rio Grande, gave a wonderful sermon talking about Bill's life as a Christian role model.

"Hats for the Homeless" was a very successful project which everyone enjoyed. Our chapter purchased the fabric and were grateful to many parishioners who were able to help us assemble and sew fleece caps. These warm caps will be distributed by St. Martin's Hospitality Center and The Rocket at Noonday.

During 2018, we will begin reading a new book (yet to be determined). This year we read *The Praying Life: Seeking God in All Things* by Deborah Smith Douglas. We enjoyed studying this book together. We were excited Ms. Douglas accepted our invitation to speak at our Daughters of the King Diocesan Assembly. Our chapter is hosting this annual event which is scheduled in August at the Bosque Center.

Margaret K. Edwards
Vice President



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

1	Paul Brocard	19	Bruce Hosea	3	Frank & Morrell Eggert
	Michael Lehoucq	21	Ann Dales	17	Eric & Laura Rector
3	Betty Lee Harris		Nancy Sneed	19	Bert & Ann Dales
	Betty Kellam	23	Aaron Alexis-Destine		Gunnar & Dani Mutz
4	Taylor Winter		Joan Bailey	28	Fred & Karen Winter
8	Dessa Halasz	25	Carl Henry	29	Paul & Liz Titus
9	Mother Jan Hosea	27	Larry Babineaux	30	Father Steve & Barbara Caldwell
13	Eileen Simpson		Jean Gough		
17	Kristie Sawant		Harrison Ross		
18	Alice Bailey	29	Cathy Conn		
	Jan Kingsbury		Alxys Gaus		

BOOK CLUB

Book Club will meet on 12/11 at the home of Marcia McCleary, 291-3274. Our book is "The Girls of the Atomic City" by Denise Kearnan.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Vestry Reports Due 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Christian Formation 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 10:15 am Come to the Cross 10:15 am Youth Sunday School 4:00 pm St. Nicholas Party 6:00 pm Evening Eucharist Service	4 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	5 10:00 am Bible Study 5:00 pm Vestry Meeting 6:00 pm Stewardship	6 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	7 11:00 am Holy Eucharist @ La Vida Llena 12:00 pm Healing Holy Eucharist	8	9 8:00 am David Peters Event
10 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Christian Formation 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 10:15 am Come to the Cross 10:15 am Youth Sunday School	11 2:00 pm Book Club 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	12 10:00 am Bible Study	13 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	14 11:00 am Holy Eucharist @ Montebello 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist 6:30 pm Cibola Search and Rescue	15 Boy Scout Lock In Newsletter Deadline	16 AFS Pre Departure Orientation 7:30 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew 10:00 am Daughters of the King
17 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Christian Formation 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 10:15 am Come to the Cross 10:15 am Youth Sunday School 6:00 pm Evening Eucharist Service	18 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	19 10:00 am Bible Study 12:30 pm Foundation Board Meeting	20 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	21 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist	22	23
24 Christmas Eve 9:00 am Morning Eucharist Service 4:00 pm Candlelight Holy Eucharist with Pageant 9:00 pm Candlelight Holy Eucharist with Incense	25 Christmas Day 10:00 am Christmas Day Holy Eucharist 7:00 pm Boy Scouts OFFICE CLOSED	26 10:00 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Building & Grounds OFFICE CLOSED	27 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal OFFICE CLOSED	28 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist OFFICE CLOSED	29	30
31 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Christian Formation 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 10:15 am Come to the Cross					December 2017	

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