



The Episcopal Church of the Advent

February 11, 2025 Newsletter

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany



A picture from our new welcome video

A message from Father Mark

In Scripture, “Here I am, Lord” is a frequent response from people whom God calls to perform various prophetic tasks and other purposes. But these callings rarely come to us in fully developed plans with clear instructions. Much of the time it’s just an inkling or a recurrent passing thought. Notice in the Gospel reading that when Jesus tells Peter to move to deeper water, he doesn’t tell him exactly how things will happen, only that they will.

Why did Peter go along with his call? The text doesn’t tell us about Peter’s thought process. The most likely explanation is that something told him that he was in the presence of someone extraordinary, someone calling him to his true purpose, a greater purpose. And so Peter took a chance on Jesus. Some might call this “going with your gut.” But I think what Pete did was respond in faith. Like Abraham, Moses, Samuel, and others before him, Peter said, in his own way, “Here I am, Lord.”

This phrase - “Here I am, send me!” – is the only faithful response to the call of God on our lives. It doesn’t mean we have an instantly clear vision of what that response means. It doesn’t mean we don’t have doubts. It doesn’t mean that we know what will happen next. But, when called, the only response to the God who has been faithful to us in more ways than we can conceive, is to say “yes.” Isaiah knew that. Peter knew that. We know that.

So the next time we feel that tug of the Spirit, that hunch that God is calling us to serve God's people in a new way, even if it freaks us out a little, let us pray for the will and the courage to say, "Here I am, Lord. Send me."

Question of the Week: Do you suspect that God might be calling you to use your gifts in a new way? How do you know?

Thank you and peace,
Mark+

New welcome video

We have produced a new Advent welcome video. It is now up on the front page of our website, <https://adventmadisonga.com/>.

Pastoral Care Questionnaire Reminder

If you haven't already done so, please email Penny Lyle (penny5128@comcast.net) with your input regarding the lay-led pastoral care activities Advent should prioritize. An explanatory sheet was handed out at the Annual Meeting and included in last week's newsletter. Email info@adventmadisonga.com if you need additional information.

Shrove Tuesday

The annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper is fast approaching. This is a festive occasion as the parish comes together to share food and engage in camaraderie and fellowship. To make this party a success we need people and food. So all you cooks out there who want to participate, get your spatulas ready and let's cook some pancakes! In addition to the pancakes, which will be cooked in the parish hall kitchen, a request is being made for parishioners to bring cooked bacon and sausages of all varieties. We would also appreciate any other food items that you would like to share to make this meal complete. Of course we will need help with setting up, decorating, and clean up. Please email or text Vic regarding how you would like to support the supper. Save the date, Tuesday, March 4. It would be most appreciated if the cooks, the set-up volunteers, and the requested food items were at the parish hall at 5:00, on the evening of the 4th. The event begins at 6:00. vicjacksonga@aol.com: (404) 735-0065

Ash Wednesday

Don't look now, but **Ash Wednesday, March 5** is just around the corner! This year, we will have three options to observe the day, all with the imposition of ashes:

9:00 a.m.: Morning Prayer with Imposition of Ashes

12:30 p.m.: Ash Wednesday service (without Holy Communion or music) with Imposition of Ashes.

7:00 p.m.: Ash Wednesday service (with Holy Communion and music) with Imposition of Ashes.

Rota for the Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 10:30 A.M.

Altar Guild – Jackson-Lewis, Hawkins, Hilsman, Pike

Flower Guild – Rick Crown

LEM/PoP 8:00 AM – Richard Simpson

LEM/PoP 10:30 AM – Rick Crown

1st Reading – Debbie Permar

2nd Reading – Kelly Freyer

Vestry of the Day – Vic Jackson-Lewis

Organ Tech - Betsy Quillin

**Readings for the Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 10:30 A.M.**

[Link to Readings](#)

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

The Psalm: 1

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

The Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

Parish Prayer List

Parish: Carol Blow, Bob Cupples, Flossie Dodge, Jeanne Dufort, Sally Green, Kate Jackson, Shandon Land, Kathy and Brian Lehman, MaryAnn Lisle, Anna Maret, Dutton Morehouse, Jennie Newton, Annette Piazza, Lynne Roach, Dick Schmidt, Livy Scholly, Betty Thomas, and Ellen Warren.

Friends and Family: Eugene Broadbridge, Jane Brooks, Daphne Carter, Lynn Cupples, Lillian and Turner Eby, Mary Ann Edelman, Joseph Gagliano, Annita Hunt, Grainger Hunt, Johanna Dufort Hunt, Julie Hancock Jones, Jan Kozel, Nancy Labak, Meg Limmer, Tracy Limmer, Jerry Maddox, Ross Mason, Dustin Pullen, Dennis Reeder, Carla Sherrill, Robin Thomas, Parker Westphal, and Jay Whitecombe.

Community and Beyond: Iliana Arias, Bishop Michael Curry, Beth Tamplin Jones, Bill Kurtz, Sherry MacMahon.

February Birthdays

11 Doug Adkins; **12** Debbie Permar; **14** Dan Jubelt; **16** Janet Mason; **19** Nancy Bush; **21** Grace Yost Kovar, Francis Ramfos; **23** Woody Burriss; **25** Paige Banaszak; **26** Cale Cronic; **28** Kathy Lehman

February Anniversaries

17 Dianne & Patrick Yost; **21** Annie Hunt & Woody Burriss

Week at a glance

Date	Time	Location	Event
Monday, February 10, 2025	12:00 PM	PH	AA - Off the Rails Group (open discussion)
Tuesday, February 11, 2025	12:00 PM	PH	AA - Off the Rails Group (open discussion)
Wednesday, February 12, 2025	9:00 AM	CH	Morning Prayer, Rite I
Thursday, February 13, 2025	12:00 PM	PH	AA - Off the Rails Group (open Book study)
Thursday, February 13, 2025	7:30 PM	PH	AA - Madison Group (closed discussion)
Thursday, February 13, 2025	7:30 PM	PH	Al-Anon (open meeting)
Friday, February 14, 2025	7:00 PM	PH	AA - Madison Group (closed Book study)
Sunday, February 16, 2025	8:00 AM	CH	Holy Eucharist, Rite 1
Sunday, February 16, 2025	9:15 AM	PH	Sunday School - Lectionary Study
Sunday, February 16, 2025	10:30 AM	CH	Holy Eucharist, Rite 2
Sunday, February 16, 2025	7:30 PM	PH	AA - Madison Group (open meeting)

PH - Parish House CH - Church

The Episcopal Church of the Advent

338 Academy Street, Madison, Georgia 30650. 706-342-4787.

www.adventmadisonga.com. adventmadison@bellsouth.net.

Office hours by appointment.

The Right Reverend Robert C. Wright - Bishop of Atlanta.

Reverend Mark Stewart Johnson - Interim Priest-in-Charge.

Devon Dartnell - Senior Warden, Vic Jackson - Junior Warden.

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