



E-Pistle

December 9, 2025

News & Announcements

- > **Christian Education for Advent** - During this season, we will be using the **Living Compass: Living Well Through Advent** materials, which can be found at this link: <https://www.livingcompass.org/advent>. Limited paper copies are available for \$1; please see Sandy or Chuck for a copy. Classes continue through December 28. They will be held in the Faith room from 9:00 - 9:45 a.m. As we plan to continue Christian Education into the new year, your input is important. Please take a moment to fill out [this form](#) or pick up a paper copy on the table in the breezeway. Responses are needed by **Sunday, December 14**.
- > **Advent Lunches** - Our second 2025 Advent lunch will be held after the 10:00 a.m. service on **December 14**. Please see the sign-up sheets in the breezeway.
- > **Food for HHEH (men's winter shelter)** - On Wednesday, **December 17** from 4-5 p.m., St. Alban's will be providing dinner for the men's shelter. Howard and Julie will make chicken soup, but we are looking for people to donate salad, fruit (apple, banana, cuties), and desserts. Please sign up in the breezeway or email Shelly Madsen at shelly_madsen@yahoo.com and please deliver food to the St. Alban's kitchen between the hours listed above. If you have any questions in advance or may be late to drop off food, please contact Shelly, Mary Doak (410-603-7679) or Howard Doak (410-422-9758). HHEH's wish list for breakfast/snack items include: pop tarts, boxes of cereal, individual packages of oatmeal, single serve packages of chips/crackers/cookies. Please leave any donations in the church kitchen (under the parking lot window with "HHEH" written on them).
- > **Buy your holiday gift cards** through P.E.O. at no cost to you! This fundraiser helps support women's educational goals. See Jenny Buchanan or Cristina Machin to place an order. Gift cards will be delivered to you between 12/21-23.
- > **The Gottschalk Family** invites you to a Christmas Party on Saturday, **December 13** at 6:00 p.m. at their home at 29879 Deer Harbour Drive. R.S.V.P to Jani or Jim via text at 443-365-4689 / 410-251-9972 by December 10. Feel free to bring any festive fare you'd like to share, if you so desire.
- > **Christmas flowers** - Christmas is celebrated to mark the coming of Jesus. It is the perfect time to honor those you love with a dedication of Christmas flowers. We invite you to make a contribution in memory of, in thanksgiving for, or in honor of, your loved ones. Your dedication will appear in the Christmas bulletin. Please make check payable to St. Alban's Church and write "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line. Flower offerings may be put in the offering plate on Sunday morning or you may send a check to St Alban's Church, 302 St. Alban's Drive, Salisbury, MD 21804. Flower offerings must be received by **December 14!**
- > **Altar Guild invites you** to help polish the brass in anticipation of our Christmas celebration. Novice and experienced polishers are welcome. Please come to the kitchen at 10:00 a.m. on **Friday, December 19**.
- > **Here we go a caroling....** on **December 14th** after the Advent lunch. If you are interested in going, please contact Rebecca Jones-Hochmuth (rjoneshochmuth@gmail.com) or Kim O'Grady (pkogrady3@yahoo.com) by December 12. We also need suggestions for parishioners to visit and brighten their holiday. Please ask them if they are OK with us coming to their homes before suggesting them.
- > **Salisbury Middle School Holiday Shop** will be open **December 18 and 19**.
- > **Wicomico High School Holiday Shop** will be open **December 19**. Volunteers are needed to wrap at both sites - see sign up sheets in the breezeway for dates, times, instructions. DONATIONS, items the students can "buy" are needed too. Please bring donations to the church by **December 14** and leave them in the Joy Room. Wrapping materials are also greatly appreciated!

> **SOCIAL SUPPERS 2026** - The Fellowship Committee will be starting “Social Suppers” in the new year. This will be an opportunity to see old friends and make new ones in informal settings involving FOOD over the course of a year. Please see sign up sheets in the breezeway for hosts and participants. Sign-up deadline is Sunday, December 21. If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Hoke / cherhoke@gmail.com

Weekly Schedule

Tuesday, December 9

> 7:00 p.m. Choir

Saturday, December 13

> **New Vestry Orientation 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. - Faith Room**

> **Gottschalk Family Christmas party 6:00 p.m. (see announcement)**

> **Hanukkah begins at sundown**

> **Third Sunday in Advent**

Sunday, December 14

8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Rite I Service

CELEBRANT: The Rev. Nathaniel Pierce

LECTORS: Geoffrey Smoot

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Carrie Connelly

ACOLYTE: Toby Porter

TECH TEAM: Cristina Machin

> **9:00 a.m. - Christian Formation in the Faith Room - Living Well Through Advent**

> 10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Rite II Service

CELEBRANT: The Rev. Nathaniel Pierce

PARISH MUSICIAN: Veronica Tomanek

LECTORS: Mike Mathers, Maarten Pereboom

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Sandy Grim

VESTRY PERSON: Nancy Linck

ACOLYTE: Maggie O’Grady

ALTAR GUILD: Linda Torbert

TECH TEAM: Katherine West

GREETERS/USHERS: Cristina Machin, Linda Torbert

> **Advent Lunch after the 2nd service**

> **Christmas Caroling after the Advent Lunch (see announcement)**

> **DEADLINES: 1) Last day to sign up for Christmas flowers; 2) last day to bring in donations for Salisbury Middle School / Wicomico High School Holiday Shops; 3) last day to complete Christian Education survey (see announcement)**

> **Mary and Joseph continue their journey**



David Southern - December 12

Mary and Joseph - This week the Holy Family explored some of Salisbury's best home decorations. This outdoor home was really lit up, and even moved to the music on the radio! Then, Donna Parks welcomed Joseph and Mary inside. She told them that the beautiful wreath in this photo came from a St. Alban's auction. Would you like a visit from the Holy Family? If so, send a note to mikemathers@gmail.com or sign up in the breezeway.



Christ Centered - Radically Embracing People and Creation

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