

### The Season of Advent

Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas, November 27, 2016. Advent is a holy season in the Christian calendar. It is the beginning of the liturgical calendar. The themes of Advent are publicly affirmed, as well as displayed, by the use of Advent candles lit on the Sundays of Advent. A final candle represents Christ and is lit on Christmas Day. It is a time to celebrate light in the midst of darkness, as symbolized best by the Advent wreath. The word Advent means "the coming". It is a time that has many purposes. Advent is a time of expectations, anticipation and celebration as we center our thoughts and actions on three events: (1) the joyful event of Christ's birth, (2) the promise of his return, and (3) the continued presence of the Divine in our lives.

### The Advent Wreath's Meaning:

The Advent wreath is made up of two basic parts: the wreath itself and the candles. The wreath is made of evergreen, either real or artificial. Its circular shape represents eternity, for it has no beginning and no end. The evergreen was chosen as it symbolizes growth and everlasting life. There are four candles, three purple and one pink. They represent the four weeks of preparation. As another candle is lit each week, we are reminded of the growing light of Christ's presence.

Jesus' birth on earth is the real cause for Christmas. Advent is more a time of preparation and expectation of the coming of the Lord

### The Lighting of the Candles:

#### 1st CANDLE- (purple) "CANDLE OF HOPE"

We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises he made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

#### 2nd CANDLE- (purple) "CANDLE OF PEACE"

Christ's coming calls us to Peace (Luke 1:68-79)

#### 3rd CANDLE- (pink) "CANDLE OF JOY"

The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

#### 4th CANDLE- (purple) "CANDLE OF LOVE"

God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

#### 5th CANDLE - (white) "CHRIST CANDLE"

The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins!

His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29 and John 3:1-8)

*. The meaning of the candles is as follows:*

**First Purple** candle: represents hope.

**Third, pink** candle: represents joy.

**Second Purple** Candle: stands for love.

**Fourth purple** candle: is a symbol of peace.

### Advent Wreath

The Advent Wreath is made of evergreens and may be any size. There are four candles, one for each week of Advent. The color of the candle is not an essential factor because the symbolism is primarily in the flame. It is traditional that three of the candles be violet or purple, the traditional color of Advent and one is rose. The rose candle is lit the third Sunday of Advent, for this color anticipates and symbolizes the Christmas joy announced in the first word of the Entrance Antiphon: "Rejoice" (Latin, Gaudete). For this reason the Third Sunday is also called Gaudete Sunday, and rose color vestments are permitted. The Advent Wreath represents the long time when people lived in spiritual darkness, waiting for the coming of the Messiah, the Light of the world. Each year in Advent people wait once again in darkness for the coming of the Lord, His historical coming in the mystery of Bethlehem, His final coming at the end of time, and His special coming in every moment of grace. During Advent, family and friends can gather around the Advent Wreath lighting the appropriate candle(s), read from the daily Advent meditation and sing songs. The Church's official *Book of Blessings* also provides a blessing ceremony for the advent wreath which can be used in the absence of a priest. It is a very special time, as Christians wait and prepare for the coming of the Lord, Jesus whose birth we celebrate on Christmas. Jesus' birth on earth is the real cause for Christmas. Advent is more a time of preparation and expectation of the coming of the Lord.

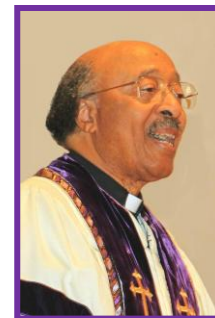


# Quioccasin Baptist Church

## Sesquicentennial Anniversary 1866 - 2016

9011 Quioccasin Road - Henrico, Virginia 23229  
Church Office: (804) 741-2313 - Fax: (804) 741-1501

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Sunday, December 4, 2016*



Reverend Dr. Earl Leslie Bledsoe  
Interim Pastor

The Celebration of Morning Worship.....8:00 A.M.  
*The Prelude* .....Ms. Angela M. Mosley  
**“Jesus Is the Answer”**  
**Communion**  
**No. 70**

**Lighting of the Advent wreath.**

**READER 1**

1 Corinthians 9:20

*To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law.*

**REFLECT (LEADER)**

God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to become one of us so we can be in communion with Him and with others. To be in communion with God is to share in His life through Jesus. It is to abide in Him as He abides in each one of us. Through baptism and partaking of the bread and wine, we are united in with Christ Jesus. Remembering the One who sacrificed His life for Jews and Gentiles, we are reminded to commune and fellowship in a spirit of peace with others who do not look like us or act like us.

**READER 2**

Romans 15:5-6

*May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**READER 3**

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

*For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

**LIGHT CANDLE 2**

**LEADER**

As we re-light the candle of **HOPE** and light the **PEACE** candle, let us remember the spirit of peace that comes through the birth of the Jesus. When we share in communion with God we place our complete trust Him and dwell in unity with others.

**RESPOND (Congregation)**

This week, intentionally recall your last Communion. Think about what it means to be in communion with God and with others. Send a note of appreciation to someone who has served or is still serving in the military.

*The Responsive Reading*.....Minister/Congregation  
**“CHRISTIAN UNITY”**  
**No. 592**

*The Hymn of Praise and Adoration* ..... **No. 82**  
**“O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL”**

**THE MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

*The Welcome/Announcements/Recognitions*.....Deacon Edith Lomax, Church Clerk

**THE MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

**OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN LIST**  
**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN MEMBERS**

- Mrs. Dorothy Clark ..... 1261 Marywood Lane, Apt 311
- Mr. Moses Fenner ..... 2903 Lawson Street, 23224
- Deaconess Florine Fleming ..... 6201 Whistler Road
- Mrs. Helen Foster ..... Beth Sholom Lifecare – 1600 John Rolfe Prkwy - Room 208/Unit 2
- Miss Helena Fountain..... 607 Fountain Lane
- Mrs. Denise Hardy ..... 10640 Anna Marie Drive
- Mr. Herbert Jackson ..... 709 Parham Road
- Ms. Joyce Johnson..... 8300 Ridge Road
- Ms. Everlena King..... 4403 Forest Hill Avenue
- Ms. Marjorie McIntyre ..... 1261 Marywood Lane, Apt 209
- Mrs. Josephine Norrell ..... 2514 Shadyside Avenue, Suitland, MD 20746
- Mrs. Emma J. Truman.....Morningside of the West End, 3000 Skipwith Road, Unit 241
- Mrs. Florence Tyler ..... 4551 Sadler Road
- Reverend P. Frances Watson..... 121 Taylor Avenue West, Hampton, Virginia 23663
- Mr. James Woodson..... 3221 French Street

**HOW MAY WE SERVE YOU?**

- Sickness in the Home
- Desires Offering Envelopes
- Moved to the Address Below
- A Newcomer in the Community
- Seeking Church Membership
- Desires A Pastoral Call
- Children for Church School
- In Need of Prayer

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

Information supplied by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check desired one(s), tear off, and place in the offering plate or give to the Minister.

**DEACONS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER**

Deacon Jack Stuart (804) 270-3816 and Deacon William Hudgins  
 (804) 270-1386. Please inform them of any persons that are sick.

**Website: [www.quioccasin.org](http://www.quioccasin.org) - Email: [qbc@quioccasin.org](mailto:qbc@quioccasin.org)**

# Announcements

**December 5 at 7:00 P.M.** Church meeting  
 December 6 at 12 noon – 2 P.M. Delvers Woman’s Club – New Fellowship Hall  
**December 7 at 11:00 A.M.** Aging with Grace Senior Citizens meeting  
 December 7 at 6:45 P.M. Bible Study – Reverend Dr. Earl Bledsoe  
**December 7 at 7:30 P.M.** Prayer and Praise  
 December 9 at 6:15 P.M. Christmas Play rehearsal in church sanctuary  
**December 10 at 11:00 A.M.** Choral Ensemble rehearsal  
 December 10 at 12 noon – 4 P.M. Begonia Garden Club – New Fellowship Club  
**December 11 at 8:00 A.M.** Reverend Betty O. Atchinson, Pastor of The Life Changing Healing Church will deliver the message.  
 December 12 at 6:00 P.M. Trustee meeting  
**December 14 at 11:00 A.M.** Aging with Grace Senior Citizens meeting  
 December 14 at 6:45 P.M. Bible Study – Reverend Dr. Earl Bledsoe  
**December 14 at 7:30 P.M.** Prayer and Praise  
 December 15 at 7:00 P.M. Sanctuary Choir rehearsal  
**December 16 at 6:15 P.M.** Christmas Play rehearsal in church sanctuary  
 December 17 at 8:30 A.M. Deacon’s meeting – New Fellowship Hall  
**December 17 at 10:00 A.M.** Deaconess meeting  
 December 17 at 11:00 A.M. Media committee meeting  
**December 21 at 7:00 P.M.** Christmas Play “A Christmas to Believe In” – New Fellowship Hall  
 December 24 at 11:00 A.M. Holiday - No Choral Ensemble rehearsal  
**December 25 at 10:00 A.M.** Christmas Worship Service – no Sunday School  
 December 28 at 6:45 P.M. Bible Study – Reverend Dr. Earl Bledsoe  
**December 28 at 7:30 P.M.** Prayer and Praise  
 December 31 at 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Aging with Grace “New Year’s Eve Brunch” featuring “Debo.” Donation \$25 – see any Aging with Grace member for a ticket.  
**December 31** Joint Watch Night Worship Service hosted by Saint James Baptist Church, 401 Blair Road, Richmond, VA 23238  
 6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. – Dinner  
 7:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. – Prayer and Praise  
 8:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M. – Watch Night Worship Service

**Due to a change in our Food Pantry operation, we are requesting members to donate a can good or package dry good each week for the month of December.**

*All scripture for Advent is taken from the New International Version (NIV)  
 Credit for Advent reflections:*

*A special thanks to The Reverend Dr. Patricia E. Coker-Bell for contributing the 2010 Advent reflections. Dr. Coker-Bell served as a member of the BGC Christian Education Leadership Team for several years. She was awarded both the M.Div. and D. Min. degrees from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University. Currently she is a member of the BGC Writing Team. Dr. Coker-Bell serves as the Assistant Director of Christian Education for Training and Development at the Grove Baptist Church in Portsmouth where The Reverend Dr. Melvin O. Marriner is the Senior Pastor.*

*The Scripture*..... Minister  
 "John 16:1-13"  
*Special Music*..... The Volunteer Choir  
 "There’s Something About That Name" No. 22  
 Minister  
*The Prayer*  
*The Prayer Response* ..... Volunteer Choir/Congregation  
 "Sweet Hour of Prayer" No. 332

THE MUSICAL INTERLUDE  
*The Stewardship Challenge/Prayer*..... Deacon Kenneth Mayo, Sr.  
 "1 Corinthians 16:1-2"

THE MUSICAL OFFERING/TITHES/OFFERINGS  
*(Benevolence)*.....In Unison  
 "Psalm 24" <sup>KJV</sup>  
*(MORTGAGE)*..... Ushers/Deacons/Congregation  
 "Praise Him!"  
*(Tithes/General)*..... Ushers/Deacons/Congregation  
 "We’ve Come This Far by Faith" No. 529  
*The Offertory Prayer* ..... Deacon Marc Edwards  
*The Offertory Response*.....No. 559  
 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"  
*The Hymn of Preparation*..... The Volunteer Choir  
 "Jesus, the Light of the World" No. 81

**The Sermon** ..... Reverend Dr. Earl Leslie Bledsoe  
 Interim Pastor  
 "TABLE LESSONS: JESUS’ RADICAL WORDS FOR INSTRUCTIONS  
 TO HELP TURN THE TABLE"

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP  
*The Invitational Hymn* .....No. 225  
 "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"  
*The Benediction/Grace* ..... Reverend Dr. Bledsoe  
*The Choral Response* ..... Volunteer Choir/Congregation  
 "The Threefold Amen" No. 553  
*The Postlude*..... "Let the Church Say AMEN"

**<<<The Church School ..... 9:30 A.M.>>>**  
 Deacon Arthur W. Byrd, Jr. – Superintendent

The Period of Prayer and Praise ..... 10:40 A.M.  
The Celebration of Morning Worship..... 10:55 A.M.

*The Prelude* ..... Mr. Paul Locke  
*The Introit* .....

**"I Feel Jesus"**  
**Communion**

**Lighting of the Advent wreath.**

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*The Scripture*..... Minister  
**"John 16:1-13"**

*Special Music*..... The Children/Youth Mass Choir

*The Prayer* ..... Minister

*The Prayer Response* ..... Choir/Congregation  
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*The Offertory Prayer* ..... Deacon Kenneth Mayo, Sr.

*The Offertory Response* .....**No. 559**  
**"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

*The Preparatory Selection* ..... The Sanctuary Choir

**The Sermon** ..... **Reverend Dr. Earl Leslie Bledsoe**  
Interim Pastor

**"TABLE LESSONS: JESUS' RADICAL WORDS FOR INSTRUCTIONS  
TO HELP TURN THE TABLE"**

**THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

*The Invitational Hymn* .....**No. 225**  
**"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"**

*The Silent Moment*

*The Benediction*..... Reverend Dr. Bledsoe

*The Choral Response* ..... Choir/Congregation  
**"The Threefold Amen" No. 553**

*The Postlude*..... **"Let the Church Say AMEN"**