

December 2025 - Volume 7, Issue 2

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GRANT CHAPEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Impacting the World With the Word

Rise Up & Sing!

“Happy New Year!”

In the *Glossary* section of the *AMEC Book of Worship*, the following definition for *Advent* is found: “Derived from the Latin root, **adventus**, which means ‘coming’ or ‘arrival;’ the ‘gateway’ to the Christian year and the season of preparation for the festival of the birth of Christ; begins on the Sunday nearest November 30, and includes the first four Sundays before Christmas.”

I know people will look at you strange if you say, “Happy New Year” to them this far from New Year’s Day 2026, but try it out. Perhaps it will give you the opportunity to testify to them about the beginning of the Christian Year where we celebrate the first coming of our Savior and the anticipated second coming of the same.

Hope, peace, joy, and love are the four central themes of the Advent season. Each Sunday of Advent focuses on one of these themes, often symbolized by lighting a candle on an Advent wreath.

- **Hope:** The first week focuses on **hope**, specifically the anticipation of Christ's arrival as prophesied in the Old Testament. For Christians, hope is not just a wish but a confident assurance rooted in God's promises and faithfulness. This theme encourages

reflection on the promises of a Savior and trusting in God's plan.

- **Peace:** The second week is dedicated to **peace**. The biblical concept of peace (*Shalom*) is the presence of Christ, not merely the absence of conflict. It

invites believers to let go of anxieties, seek reconciliation, and rely on God for an unwavering inner calm.

- **Joy:** The third week emphasizes **joy**. This joy is a deep, resilient gladness rooted in the assurance of God's presence, rather than fleeting happiness based on circumstances. It reflects the excitement of the shepherds and wise men at the GOOD NEWS of the Savior's birth.

- **Love:** The final week before

Christmas Day centers on **love**, the ultimate expression of God's sacrificial and unconditional love for humanity in sending his Son. This theme calls people to respond to God's love by loving their neighbors through acts of kindness, compassion, and service.

It is a blessing to be spending my *seventh* Advent Season with you all as your pastor! I look forward to the hope, peace, joy and love that this special time of year brings.

- **Pastor Glenn**



Continuing “until the need no longer exists,” our local WMS is collecting canned goods & non-perishables to assist the KS Food Bank feed those in hunger.

Pat Grimmert, President.



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December 2025

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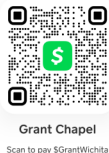
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	Bible Study: 3 6:20 pm Zoom/FB	4	Adult Choir 5 Rehearsal 5:30p	6
 7	8	9	Bible Study: 10 12 Noon (in person) 6:20 pm (Zoom/FB)	Youth Choir ¹¹ Rehearsal 5:30p	Adult Choir ¹² Rehearsal 5:30p	13
WMS 14 Gift Card Distribution 	15	16	Bible Study: 17 12 Noon (in person) 6:20 pm	Youth Choir ¹⁸ Rehearsal 5:30p	Adult Choir ¹⁸ Rehearsal 5:30p	20
Christmas 21 Program during 10:30 worship 	22 Pastoral Family Vacation December 22-26		 24	 25	26	27
YOUTH 28 SUNDAY	29	30				

www.worksheetdigital.com



Rise Up and Sing!

Acts 16:25-26



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CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS WINTER QUARTER

There is a class for everyone. Sunday Church School begins at 9 a.m. and ends in time for morning worship. Carol Smart is our Church School Superintendent. *Join us!*

In **December**, we'll begin our Winter 2025/26 Quarter, "Enduring Beliefs of the Church" with Unit 1: "Our God and the Holy Scriptures," where we'll be invited to meditate on the fundamental beliefs of the Christian faith. This study will show us that God has revealed His grace and mercy. As a result, God's people are called to live by His standard—a standard that is often countercultural.

The quarter begins studying the Trinitarian God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—whom we know through Scripture's revelation. Scripture recounts how God's people can know Him and live faithfully through faith in Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 3:14–15; *see lesson 1*). Through various word images, Scripture conveys characteristics of God and reveals aspects of our relationship with Him—He is our caring Heavenly Father (Matt. 6:24–34; *see lesson 2*), the Shepherd who seeks lost sheep (Luke 15:3–7; *see lesson 3*), and our Advocate or comforter (Rom. 8:26–27; *see lesson 4*). *(- Standard Lesson Commentary)*

- **Dec 7** - The Holy Scriptures (Psalm 19:7-11; 2 Timothy 3:14-15)
- **Dec 14** - Our Heavenly Father (Matthew 6:24-34)
- **Dec 21** - Christ the Savior (Luke 15:3-7; Romans 5:6-10)
- **Dec 28** - The Holy Spirit (Romans 8:12-17, 26-27)