

ADVENT WREATH MAKING STEPS

1. Collect clear bowls, one block of oasis per bowl, florist tape for securing thoroughly soaked oasis in bowls, 4 candle holders per bowl, three purple and one pink candle per wreath to be inserted in holders at home, prayer leaflet. (Purchase what is needed based on current inventory and sign-ups.)
2. Order greens, one bundle of Fraser fir for basic wreath making, part of a box of incense cedar for decorating finished wreath. NOTE: Evergreens are delivered to the church along with the greens that will be used throughout the church during the Advent and Christmas seasons, so please use only the Fraser fir and part of the incense cedar.
3. Anytime during the week before the Sunday of wreath making, two or more people should gather to prepare the bowls. The first step is to soak the oasis until it sinks to the bottom of the sink, large bucket or whatever holder you use for soaking. Second step is to cut the oasis block to fit the bowl – see picture. Third step is to secure the oasis with tape around the bowls, making sure tape is off center so you can insert candle holders equally apart as shown in picture. Fourth step is to position candle holders. NOTE: If you prepare the bowls several days in advance, be sure the oasis is kept moist so the greens will have water when they are inserted Sunday morning. Plan on preparing 20 bowls unless you get a larger number of sign-up.
4. On either the Friday or Saturday before wreath making, whenever the greens have been delivered, cut the Fraser fir into workable sizes for inserting in the wreath forms.
5. No later than Saturday, set up the room for wreath making. Use at least five of the portable long tables and set each up with four stations of the ingredients for wreath making – a bowl prepared with wet oasis and candle holders, a good size bunch of fir branches with a few pieces of the cedar (You can also keep the cedar set aside so people know it is for decoration and not for the full wreath.), one or two sturdy clippers at each table for those who haven't brought their own. Ideally the floor of the whole room should be covered with heavy plastic (painters sheets work well) for easy clean up. You could also put plastic on the table if you want. In addition to the 5 work tables, you will need a table to hold extra greens and the cedar. On a different table, maybe at the check in table, you can place the candles in bunches of three purple and one pink wrapped with the prayer leaflet and held secure with rubber bands.
6. Check with refreshment providers about where they will want to set up coffee hour refreshments nearby.
7. On Sunday morning, check to be sure all is in place before the 10:00 service. Assign someone to check people in after the service, receive their \$20 and keep candles at the ready. Assist people as needed with wreath making.
8. After wreath making is finished, collect all greens that are usable in a large plastic bag so they can be kept for late wreath makers and church use. Clear everything else away. Any unused materials should be saved for next year and returned to the upstairs storage room. For at least one week, keep any unused prepared bowls for people who couldn't be present for the wreath making day. They can also access the remaining greens.



Basic supplies should be ready the day before.



Pre-soaked oasis is secured with florist tape.



Tables setup with supplies for wreath making.



Wreath making underway.



Advent wreath making is fun for all generations.



Finished Advent wreath ready to share!