

Tuesday digest

November 29, 2011

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New today from the *Century*:

- The editors on [domestic poverty](#): "A record number of Americans are poor. And by any measure, the poverty rate is rising."
- Bill Goettler's [lectionary column for Sunday, December 11](#): "These are days of harsh political rhetoric. Political factions insist not only on the goodness of their own ideas but also on the dramatic failure of their opponents' ideas. We might be in Advent, but this is no season for understanding or for mutual forbearance in our civil discourse." (subscription required)
- An [Advent reflection](#) by Donna Schaper: "Advent is the season of the showing. Sure of the growth within us, we know that things are about to change."
- Donald W. Shriver summarizes the gospel in seven words or less: "[Divinely persistent, God really loves us.](#)"

In the news:

- [Episcopal bishop cleared of 'abandonment' charge](#)
- [Charitable giving up slightly but still ailing](#)
- [Churches help Occupy movement survive crackdowns, winter](#)