

# THE ADVENTURE – 2023



## ADVENT EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

### OUR MISSION – FAITHFUL IN THE WORD

- + To *gather* as God's people and nurture one another.
- + To *know* the Word of God.
- + To *grow* in faith, love, and service.
- + To *go* into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ.



Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen, Pastor  
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### UPDATE ON COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Federal COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) changed the recommended precautions the government makes to citizens, business, institutions, and agencies. You may have notice an elimination or considerable easing of precautions in most places. You may also have noticed that in some places a few precautions continue to be observed, such as food servers' wearing masks in some establishments. It is important to note that, although the level of illness from COVID-19 in our society has diminished to justify the lifting of the PHE, there are still people who are getting infected and some people who are more vulnerable than others.

At the May Council meeting our leadership updated our precautions in light of the PHE being lifted. Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church continues to have these precautions:

- Respect for those who choose to mask.
- Respect for those who choose social distance.
- Please stay home if you have any symptoms of illness or have been in close contact with anyone with COVID.
- Worship will continue to be available online.
- Those distributing communion will continue to mask but will no long wear gloves.
- We will continue to share the peace with hand waves, peace signs and air hugs.

Our leadership will continue to gauge the situation week by week and will keep the congregation informed of any adjustment to our precautions.



**SUNDAYS OF WORSHIP FOR JUNE 2023**

**SUMMER SCHEDULE**

**JUNE 4**

**THE HOLY TRINITY**

9:00 a.m. Summer Worship Service with  
Holy Communion  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study

**JUNE 11**

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

9:00 a.m. Summer Worship Service with  
Holy Communion  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Nancy Hill  
10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study

**JUNE 18**

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

9:00 a.m. Summer Worship Service with  
Holy Communion  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: The Dettra Family  
10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study

**JUNE 25**

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Worship Leader: Gail Oines  
9:00 a.m. Service of the Word  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study

**SUMMER SCHEDULE ZOOM INFORMATION**

9:00 am Worship Service

Meeting ID: 815 4518 6885

Passcode: 500201

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81545186885?pwd=SFA1Q2lISnB4dE9MSzJlSjNRNzI4dz09>

## **PASTOR MATT'S SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023**

At the Congregational Annual Meeting in February, I presented the Strategic Mission Plan approved by Council. The purpose of the Plan is to revitalize Advent Lutheran Church through a spiritual process of ministry development. We are currently pulling together a Strategic Mission Team who will lead the congregation through the Plan starting this fall. The plan is a three-year process that has four focuses.

1) Discern the congregation's gifts and assets for spreading God's love. We will do a spiritual gift inventory as a congregation. We will map the church's hard and soft assets for doing ministry.

2) Discern how the community is in need of God's love. Through demographic studies and interviews with community leaders, we will assess the material, institutional and spiritual needs of the community.

3) Discern what ministries will match congregation's gifts to spread God's love with the communities need of God's love. All through the process we will be emphasizing listening to and responding to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. In this third focus we will listen to the Holy Spirit in seeing how our gifts and assets can be used to bring God's love to the needs of the community in specific way.

4) Discern and obey God's call to both renew old and to form new ministries. Empowered and guided by the Holy Spirit we will implement the ministries identified in the third focus.

The Strategic Mission Plan is comprehensive and is about more than forming new ministries. Every aspect of church life from our spiritual renewal, fellowship, stewardship, evangelism, social ministry, learning of God, to our worship will be touched. We will be touched. The process of forming new ministries will deepen our relationship with God. We will have a greater sense of God love and guidance in our daily lives beyond church.

If you have an interest in serving on the Strategic Mission Team or would like to know about the process, please come and talk to me.

Peace,  
Pastor Matt

P.S. Lunch is on me for the first person who calls the church office after reading this article.

### **CONTACTING PASTOR MATT**

If you need to speak with Pastor Matt when he is not in the office, particularly in the case of a pastoral emergency, please feel free to call his cell phone 215-859-3778 or by email, [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

### **PASTOR ON VACATION**

Pastor Matt will be on vacation starting Sunday, June 25, returning Wednesday, July 5. More information on emergency contact will be listed in the Sunday bulletin.



### **MEN'S BREAKFAST SATURDAY, JUNE 10 8:30 A.M.**

Men's Breakfast will take place on Saturday, June 10 at 8:30 (AM). The menu will be determined by what is on sale. Coffee is ready by 7:30 (AM)

DAVE

**The Top Chefs of Men's Breakfast.**



### **THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY UNTIL JUNE 22**

Bible Study is at 7:00 pm on Thursdays via Zoom. Topic: "The Sermon on the Mount." Thursday, June 22, will be the last meeting for the summer.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89632518358?pwd=Smg5dm1Ba0VZamZjNG1YMk02MlVvdz09>



### **CONGRATULATIONS TO RECENT/UPCOMING GRADUATES**

Andrew M. Frey III graduated from Pine Creek High School, Colorado Springs, CO. He will be attending Colorado School of Mines pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Nicholas Masciotro graduated from Central Bucks West. He will attend Bucks County Community College in the fall.



### **SPRING CONCERT FRIDAY, JUNE 16 7:30 P.M.**

Please join our music director Mike Dettra and his group "The Dettra Mental Trio" (and friends), for a "World Music Concert" on Friday, June 16, at 7:30 pm here at Advent. Light refreshments will be provided. The event is free; however, there will be a free will offering.



### **A TALE OF TWO TURKEYS**

### **EXTRA HANDS NEEDED SUNDAY JUNE 25**

We are fortunate to have 2 frozen turkeys in our church freezer. These were donated for Advent's **Caring For Friends** project. We'll need volunteers (perhaps including you :) to place slices of turkey and side dishes into each single-serving tray, which will be frozen, then delivered to Caring for Friends. Each dinner will be delivered to a person who truly needs that dinner and will be grateful that someone took the time to prepare it. Please sign the sign-up sheet in the narthex. "Extra hands" will gather on June 25 at **10:00 a.m.**, following worship - for up to an hour. Thank you! We are likely to assemble at least 50 meals. Check [caringforfriends.org](http://caringforfriends.org) for the many ways they are helping our greater community.



### **HE'S BACK!**

Mark your calendars for Thursday, July 27, for an unforgettable experience. Mitch McVicker will return to Advent for a concert. More information to follow.



### PEANUT BUTTER and JELLY

Vacation Bible School is set for July 24-28. We will continue our popular **Peanut Butter vs. Jelly** competition. Families will be asked to bring one or more of these to Vacation Bible School. We'll tally the number of jars of **Peanut Butter** and containers of **Jelly** each day to find out which one is "ahead" in the competition. You can participate right now by bringing either or both of these favorites, as we'll begin filling our collection baskets through July 28. All will be donated to the Warminster Food Bank, just in time for the start of the upcoming school year. And...they are often discounted in the summer months. Thank you!



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 24 – 28

Children aged 4 through completion of grade 6 are invited to attend Vacation Bible School at Advent the week of July 24 – 28 on Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m.– noon. Our theme is **OPERATION RESTORATION**. Students will learn about God's world and its people. Our Bible stories will inspire us to care for those who need food, healing, prayer and forgiveness. We'll enjoy crafts, activities, music and snacks with our friends at VBS!

A suggested donation of \$15 for the first child in the family and \$10 for each additional child in the family is requested - but not required.

A registration form is attached to this June Newsletter email. Forms are also located on the tract rack in the foyer or by contacting the church office.



### OCTOBER 8, 2023 – SAVE THE DATE!

We are making plans to celebrate the **60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY** of Advent Lutheran Church on **October 8, 2023**. More info to come!

### TEACHABLE MOMENTS WITH PASTOR MATT

Special moments with Pastor Matt as he explains to the Sunday School class that God's love for us at Baptism is always with us. At another worship service he helps the children visualize the Ascension of Jesus.





## **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

We were pleased to welcome Colleen Brink, Outreach Director of Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County to our worship services on May 21. Her visit was in response to Timothy Ward expressing his interest in helping the homeless. Projects are underway to build and rehab homes for neighbors who need them. Colleen invited us to volunteer our time or support this effort financially or through our prayers. See <https://www.habitatbucks.org/> for more information.

## **SOCIAL MINISTRY**



Warminster Food Bank thanks Advent for the generous donations. During May 100 lbs of food was collected from Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Please continue donating whatever you can each month either on days that the church office is open or by depositing your bags in the bench outside the main entrance anytime. For suggestions on which items are requested each week, go to [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org).

Thank you for your continued support of this important mission.

Nancy Slight, Social Ministry



## **CARING FOR FRIENDS DINNERS IN MAY**

During the month of May, 25 dinner trays were prepared for donation to *Caring for Friends*. A ham was donated, side dishes were prepared . . .and voilà! 24 dinners assembled at church + 1 dinner brought from home. Thank you! <https://caringforfriends.org/>



## **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are numerous dates available for 2023 to dedicate flowers to beautify the altar each Sunday. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the narthex with your name and dedication. Two bouquets are available each week. The cost is \$25 per bouquet. In addition to making the altar more beautiful, you take the flowers home after the late service to enjoy during the week. If you have any questions, call Cindy Frey 267-205-0713.



## **DRIVE in AND DROP off FOOD COLLECTION**

If you have food for the Warminster Food Bank that you or your friends would like to donate, and the church is not open, just drive in and drop off the food under the seat of the bench outside the front door. You may still bring food into the church narthex during church and office hours. For suggestions on which items are requested each week, go to: [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org).



### FELLOWSHIP TIME

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through August is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e. coffee & tea) and all paper products.

### STITCH CLUB ITEMS AVAILABLE



The Stitch Club will not meet during the summer starting June 3.

Stitch club items are **available throughout the year**. If you need any of the items made by the Stitch Club, i.e., blankets, hats, baby items, please contact Hanna McCollum 215-962-9032 or Jeff Jobses 215-355-4149.



### WE'RE KEEPING TABS

Recycling can tabs for charity is a great idea! If you bring them in, we'll drop them off. Look for marked containers in the narthex, located on the shelf above the coat rack. No cans, please – just tabs! Thank you for the many tabs that have been brought in!



### NUEVA CREACION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Please consider supporting our sister congregation, Nueva Creación Lutheran Church, which does vital ministry in North Philadelphia. A sign-up sheet is found on the table in the narthex near the entrance to the sanctuary. The cost to support the Mission week is \$25.00. There are openings available through the end of the year.



### THE ARMED FORCES

Please keep in your prayers all our service men and women and especially those related to our congregation:

Colonel Andrew M. Frey, Jr. is serving as Command Center Director, NORAD/NORTHCOM, stationed at Peterson SFB, Colorado Springs, CO

US Army Ranger Liam McKendry, grandson of Pastor Jo Wright stationed in Fort Benning, GA

PFC Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Alan and Rhona Slawter, is back from Iraq and continuing his training at Fort Drum. NY.

If there are any errors or omissions, please notify the church office. Thank you.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP – JUNE 2023

### LAY READERS

6/04 David Elkin  
6/11 Jennifer McQuiggan  
6/18 Rose Herbert  
6/25 John Flint

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Hannah McCollum  
Jennifer McQuiggan  
Rose Herbert  
John Flint

### OUR TECH CREW

Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

### ALTAR GUILD

9:00 A.M. Hanna McCollum, Gail Oines, Nancy Slight, Rhona Slawter

### FLOWER DISTRIBUTION

Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Slight, Rhona Slawter



### **JUNE**

3	Kim Masciotro	21	Sarah Lattal	29	John Masciotro
19	Ray Heiss	23	Christel Hoffmann	30	Eric Buttil
20	Monika Kovacs	27	George Henry		
21	Lisa Frey	29	Emily Frey		

Please contact the church office if you or someone you know has been omitted from the list.



**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR APRIL 2023**



**Financial Report for April 2023**

	Received for April 2023	Budget for April 2023
General Fund	\$12,458.93	\$17,281.00
Mortgage	\$2,878	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$128	\$134
Other Benevolence	\$553	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,017.93</b>	<b>\$19,313.00</b>

	Received YTD 1/1- 4/30/23	Budget YTD 1/1- 4/30/23
General Fund	\$42,303.84	\$69,124.00
Mortgage	\$9,748.00	\$7,592.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$305.00	\$536.00
Other Benevolence	\$2,253.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$54,609.84</b>	<b>\$77,252.00</b>

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. They are numerous ways to continue your offerings.

- Drop off your offering at the church office. The office is usually open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 10 AM and 1 PM. Call to confirm hours.
- Mail a check to the church. The mailing address is “Advent Lutheran Church, PO Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954”
- Contribute online at [www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org). At the top of the page, click the “Give Now” link to see frequently asked questions. At the bottom of the page click the “Give Now” link for our Giving platform. You may also choose to set up recurring donations or a one-time donation.

Again, thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions concerning your offering please call Cindy Frey, Financial Secretary, at 267-205-0713.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 p.m. Bible Study via Zoom	2 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg	3
4 <u>The Holy Trinity</u> 9:00 AM Summer Worship with Holy Communion 10:15 AM Fellowship Time: Open 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study	5 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	6	7	8 7:00 p.m. Bible Study via Zoom	9 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg	10 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast 1
11 <u>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> 9:00 AM Summer Worship with Holy Communion 10:15 AM Fellowship Time: Nancy Hill 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study	12 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	13	14	15 7:00 p.m. Bible Study via Zoom	16 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	17
18 <u>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> 9:00 AM Summer Worship with Holy Communion 10:15 AM Fellowship Time: The Dettra Family 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study	19 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	20	21	22 7:00 p.m. Bible Study via Zoom  (Last Bible Study until Fall)	23 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	24
25 <u>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> 9:00 AM Service of the Word Gail Oines, Worship Leader 9:45 AM Fellowship Time: Open 10:00 AM Assembly of dinners 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study  Pastor on vacation returning Wednesday, July 5	26 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	27	28	29 No Bible Study	30 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg	