

THE ADVENTURE - 2024

# November



## 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  
45 Worthington Mill Road  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909  
215-355-2529

[www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)

e-mail:

Adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

### COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

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 longer wear gloves. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- 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- NOVEMBER SCHEDULE**

### **NOVEMBER 3 (Daylight Savings)**

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 10**

#### **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 24**

#### **CHRIST THE KING**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

## **ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION**

Worship services may also be attended by Zoom and it will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION**

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Worship 8:00 am service.

Time: 8:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENlVDJTT0pnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Worship 9:30 am service.

Time: 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErSFNlbnVAVmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656



## **PASTOR MATT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024**

### **Strategic Mission Plan (SMP) Next Steps**

Throughout the season of Pentecost, we have been doing the God Sighting Chain congregational activity. Each of the links of the chain strewn through the sanctuary represents a moment when God's activity was witnessed in somebody's life.

The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

In the season of Epiphany that starts with Magi bring gifts to the Christ Child, we will shift our focus as a congregation to step 2 of the SMP, "What are our Gifts?" We will do this by using the "Spiritual Giftabilities" inventory as a congregation. We will look at the results as individuals and as a congregation. Exploring the results is one of my favorite activities to do with a congregation and I am excited to see what Advent's spiritual gifts are.

God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt



### **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 at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 3**

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who have died in the last year.

### **SPECIAL GUEST AT SERVICES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

On Sunday, November 10, the director of the Warminster Food Bank, Mike Cerino, will be speaking to the congregation at both services to give thanks for our continued support with food and monetary donations.

### **SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9:00 AM**

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only **one worship service** on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter**, **Lay Reader**, or **Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

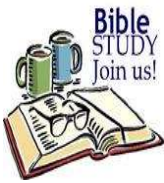
Our Bible lessons this fall have been sourced from the Old Testament. In late November, we will begin our Advent lessons to lead us toward Christmas. We enjoy the ***Holy Moly*** videos and Bible books for students from **age 4** through **grade 6**. The stylized lessons are real conversation-starters. We also enjoy songs, prayers, games, creative pages and crafts.

Our Sunday School students meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are always welcome! Registration forms may be found in the church foyer or narthex or on our website.

**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

### **PRAISE BAND and VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details. **There will be no practice on Wednesday, November 27.**



## **THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is held **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** led by Pastor Matt. Utilizing the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament,” we will delve deep into Jesus’ times to better understand the Gospel of Matthew written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>

Meeting ID: **820 8911 0140**

**No Bible Study will be held on Thanksgiving, November 28.**



## **PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

**Prayer Chain:** The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email direct to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at [alcdeacon@yahoo.com](mailto:alcdeacon@yahoo.com). Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



## **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are dates still available for 2024 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.



## **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through December is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products.



## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
8:00 AM			9:30 AM		
11/3	Dave Elkin	Janice Hoffman	Jennifer McQuiggan		
11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

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### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.





## **GRATITUDE FOR FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Warminster Food Bank is grateful to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church for the generous donations of food, monetary donations and gift cards. Please continue donating whatever you can each month. Blue tote bags are available in the narthex. Food may be brought on Sunday and whenever the church office is open, or you can deposit your bags in the outdoor bench 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.

## **GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

During the month of November, we will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors that depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The envelopes will be available beginning the first Sunday in November and **should be returned to the church by December 1**. The gift cards will be given to families during the month of December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Thank you for your continued support of families in need.



## **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. A list of the **Food Bank's most needed items** is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

## **ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – NOVEMBER 9**

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would like to squelch the rumor that the menu will be Turkey and Eggs. We do not have that recipe but are working on it.

## **ADVENT LADIES LUNCH GROUP**

On Monday, September 30, Advent's Ladies Lunch Group enjoyed a wonderful day of fun, friendship, and shopping at Peddler's Village.

On Sunday, November 3, 10 ladies of the group plan to attend "White Christmas," a play at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, New Jersey.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- The next lunch meeting will be **Tuesday, November 12**, at noon in Advent's multipurpose room. *Bring your own lunch.*
- A special Christmas lunch is planned at the Pinewood Tavern in Wrightstown, on **Tuesday, December 3** at 1 pm, in their special garden room. The menu and cost will be determined and posted in the Sunday bulletins before 11/12

Please call or text Fran Zanis if you would like to attend either the November 12 Lunch meeting or the December 3 Christmas Lunch: 267-847-5098.





## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST - DECEMBER**

The Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, December 14**. Coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. A disappointment this year is that Santa refuses to attend. His weak excuse is that he is not up to those heavy guys sitting on his lap anymore.

## **CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM**

The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



## **PING PONG- TUESDAYS AT 6:30**

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up). **Ping pong is cancelled on Tuesday November 5 due to election activities.**

## **DID YOU SEE MITCH?**



If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



## **NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.





### **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.



**Happy belated birthday to Lynn Roccograndi whose birthday was October 5!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

1	Linda Brownlee	7	Victoria Gardener	26	Matt Sitler
	Bonnie Morrison Sykes	17	Rhona Slawter	27	Mark Rilling
6	Michael Savchuck	18	Audrey Savchuck		
	Jeanne Wagner	22	Nicole Wills		

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



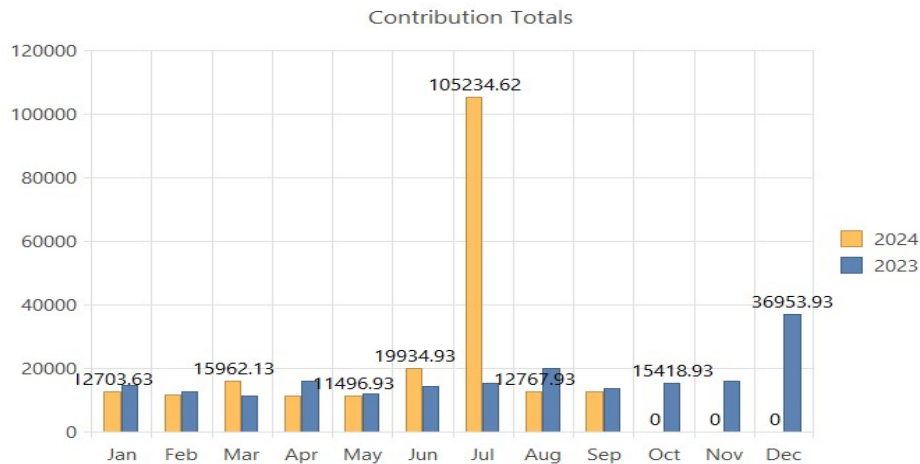
#### **THE ARMED FORCES**

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

- ❖ Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr., son of Cindy Frey, 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
- ❖ Specialist Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, NY

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

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**



### **Financial Report for September 2024**

	Rec'd for Sept 2024	Budget for Sept 2024
General Fund	\$10,537.43	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,826	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$370	
Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,763.43	\$19,455.00

	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/24	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/24
General Fund	\$99,816.86	\$157,338.00
Mortgage	\$15,576.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$410.00	\$675.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,870.00	
Insurance Settlement *	\$87,496.69	
Web Upgrade	\$5,780.00	
Total	\$213,949.55	\$175,095.00

\*Funds received from the insurance company due to storm damage to the roof.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There 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, 45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954"

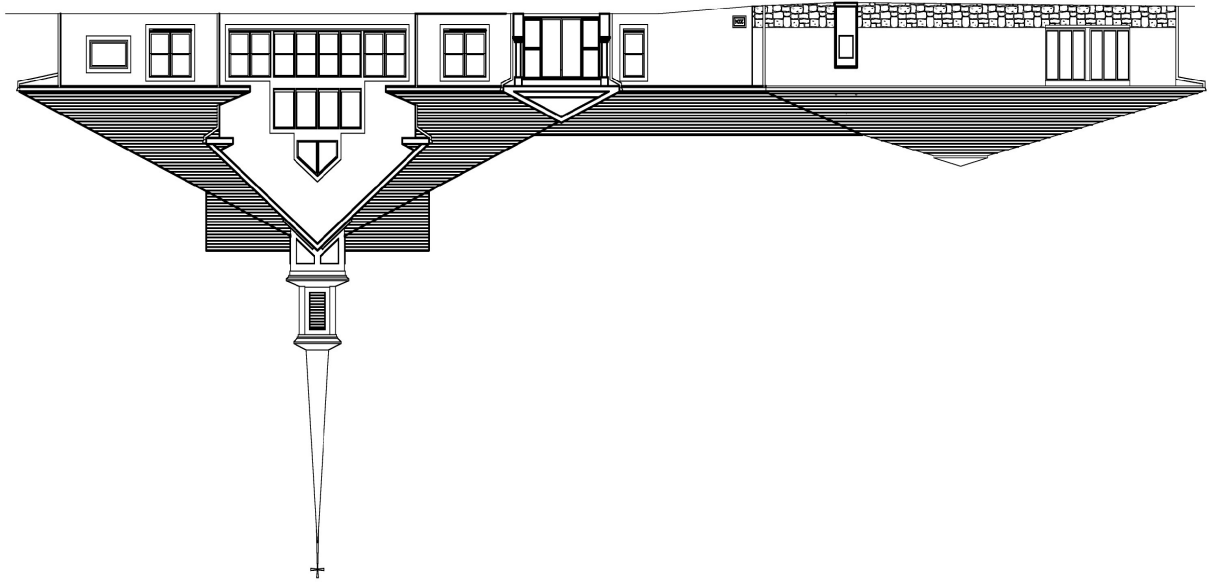
- Contribute online at [www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org). At the top of the page, click the "Give Now" link to see frequently asked questions. At the bottom of the page click the "Give Now" link for our Giving platform. You may also choose to set up recurring donations or a one-time donation.

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

# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b><u>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>5</b> <b><u>ELECTION DAY</u></b>  No Ping Pong tonight	<b>6</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>10</b> <b><u>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>12</b> 12:00 PM Advent Ladies Lunch Group <i>bring your own lunch</i>  6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>13</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b><u>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>18</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>20</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b><u>CHRIST THE KING</u></b> 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>27</b>  No Praise Band Practice or Vocal choir Practice tonight	<b>28</b> <b><u>THANKSGIVING</u></b>  No Bible Study tonight	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>30</b>



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Passcode: 443533

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Worship 9:30 am service.

Time: 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErSFNlbVAvNmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656



## **PASTOR MATT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024**

### **Strategic Mission Plan (SMP) Next Steps**

Throughout the season of Pentecost, we have been doing the God Sighting Chain congregational activity. Each of the links of the chain strewn through the sanctuary represents a moment when God's activity was witnessed in somebody's life.

The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

In the season of Epiphany that starts with Magi bring gifts to the Christ Child, we will shift our focus as a congregation to step 2 of the SMP, "What are our Gifts?" We will do this by using the "Spiritual Giftabilities" inventory as a congregation. We will look at the results as individuals and as a congregation. Exploring the results is one of my favorite activities to do with a congregation and I am excited to see what Advent's spiritual gifts are.

God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt



### **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 at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 3**

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who have died in the last year.

### **SPECIAL GUEST AT SERVICES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

On Sunday, November 10, the director of the Warminster Food Bank, Mike Cerino, will be speaking to the congregation at both services to give thanks for our continued support with food and monetary donations.

### **SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9:00 AM**

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only **one worship service** on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter**, **Lay Reader**, or **Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

Our Bible lessons this fall have been sourced from the Old Testament. In late November, we will begin our Advent lessons to lead us toward Christmas. We enjoy the ***Holy Moly*** videos and Bible books for students from **age 4** through **grade 6**. The stylized lessons are real conversation-starters. We also enjoy songs, prayers, games, creative pages and crafts.

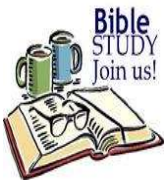
Our Sunday School students meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are always welcome! Registration forms may be found in the church foyer or narthex or on our website.

**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

### **PRAISE BAND and VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details. **There will be no practice on Wednesday, November 27.**





## THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** led by Pastor Matt. Utilizing the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament,” we will delve deep into Jesus’ times to better understand the Gospel of Matthew written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>

Meeting ID: **820 8911 0140**

**No Bible Study will be held on Thanksgiving, November 28.**



## PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

**Prayer Chain:** The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email direct to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at [alcdeacon@yahoo.com](mailto:alcdeacon@yahoo.com). Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

There are dates still available for 2024 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.



## FELLOWSHIP TIME

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through December is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
8:00 AM			9:30 AM		
11/3	Dave Elkin	Janice Hoffman	Jennifer McQuiggan		
11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.







## **GRATITUDE FOR FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Warminster Food Bank is grateful to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church for the generous donations of food, monetary donations and gift cards. Please continue donating whatever you can each month. Blue tote bags are available in the narthex. Food may be brought on Sunday and whenever the church office is open, or you can deposit your bags in the outdoor bench 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.

## **GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

During the month of November, we will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors that depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The envelopes will be available beginning the first Sunday in November and **should be returned to the church by December 1**. The gift cards will be given to families during the month of December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Thank you for your continued support of families in need.



## **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. A list of the **Food Bank's most needed items** is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

## **ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – NOVEMBER 9**

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would like to squelch the rumor that the menu will be Turkey and Eggs. We do not have that recipe but are working on it.

## **ADVENT LADIES LUNCH GROUP**

On Monday, September 30, Advent's Ladies Lunch Group enjoyed a wonderful day of fun, friendship, and shopping at Peddler's Village.

On Sunday, November 3, 10 ladies of the group plan to attend "White Christmas," a play at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, New Jersey.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- The next lunch meeting will be **Tuesday, November 12**, at noon in Advent's multipurpose room. *Bring your own lunch.*
- A special Christmas lunch is planned at the Pinewood Tavern in Wrightstown, on **Tuesday, December 3** at 1 pm, in their special garden room. The menu and cost will be determined and posted in the Sunday bulletins before 11/12

Please call or text Fran Zanis if you would like to attend either the November 12 Lunch meeting or the December 3 Christmas Lunch: 267-847-5098.



## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST - DECEMBER**

The Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, December 14**. Coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. A disappointment this year is that Santa refuses to attend. His weak excuse is that he is not up to those heavy guys sitting on his lap anymore.

## **CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM**

The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



## **PING PONG- TUESDAYS AT 6:30**

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up). **Ping pong is cancelled on Tuesday November 5 due to election activities.**

## **DID YOU SEE MITCH?**



If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



## **NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.





### **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.



**Happy belated birthday to Lynn Roccograndi whose birthday was October 5!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

1	Linda Brownlee	7	Victoria Gardener	26	Matt Sitler
	Bonnie Morrison Sykes	17	Rhona Slawter	27	Mark Rilling
6	Michael Savchuck	18	Audrey Savchuck		
	Jeanne Wagner	22	Nicole Wills		

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



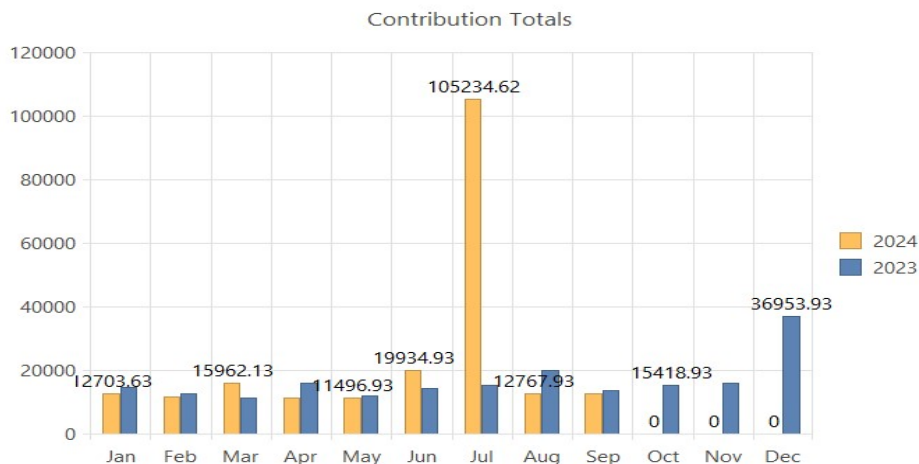
### **THE ARMED FORCES**

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

- ❖ Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr., son of Cindy Frey, 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
- ❖ Specialist Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, NY

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

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**



### **Financial Report for September 2024**

	Rec'd for Sept 2024	Budget for Sept 2024
General Fund	\$10,537.43	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,826	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$370	
Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,763.43	\$19,455.00

	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/24	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/24
General Fund	\$99,816.86	\$157,338.00
Mortgage	\$15,576.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$410.00	\$675.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,870.00	
Insurance Settlement *	\$87,496.69	
Web Upgrade	\$5,780.00	
Total	\$213,949.55	\$175,095.00

\*Funds received from the insurance company due to storm damage to the roof.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There 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, 45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954"

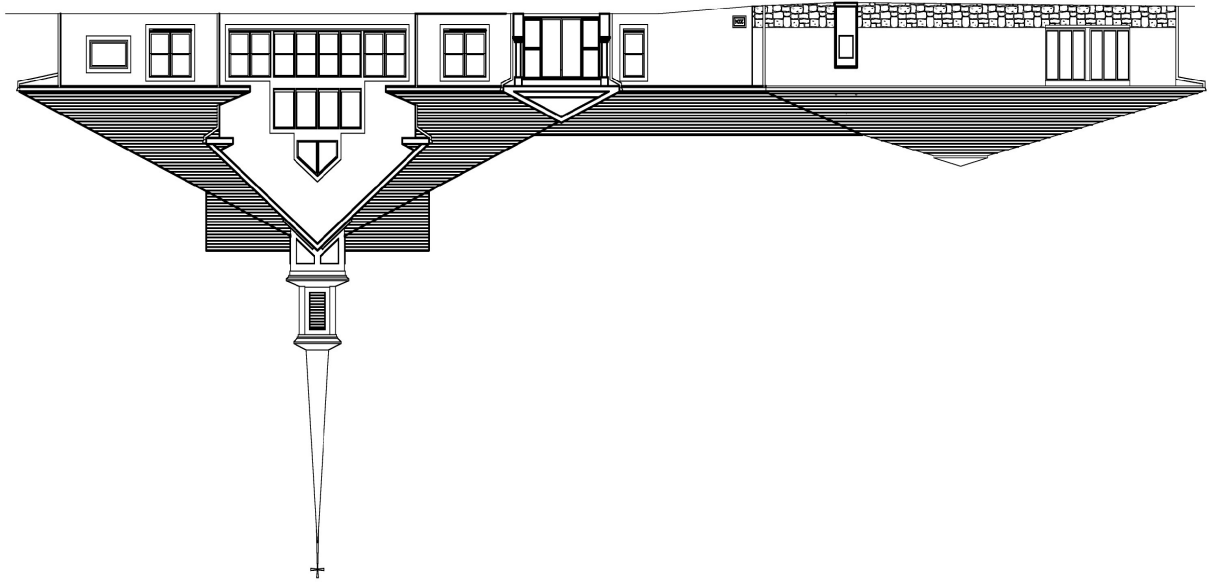
- Contribute online at [www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org). At the top of the page, click the "Give Now" link to see frequently asked questions. At the bottom of the page click the "Give Now" link for our Giving platform. You may also choose to set up recurring donations or a one-time donation.

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

# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b><u>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>5</b> <b><u>ELECTION DAY</u></b>  No Ping Pong tonight	<b>6</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>10</b> <b><u>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>12</b> 12:00 PM Advent Ladies Lunch Group <i>bring your own lunch</i>  6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>13</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b><u>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>18</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>20</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b><u>CHRIST THE KING</u></b> 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>27</b>  No Praise Band Practice or Vocal choir Practice tonight	<b>28</b> <b><u>THANKSGIVING</u></b>  No Bible Study tonight	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>30</b>



*Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
45 Worthington Mill Rd.  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909



THE ADVENTURE - 2024

# November



## 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  
45 Worthington Mill Road  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909  
215-355-2529

[www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)

e-mail:

Adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

### COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

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 longer wear gloves. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- 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- NOVEMBER SCHEDULE**

### **NOVEMBER 3 (Daylight Savings)**

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 10**

#### **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 24**

#### **CHRIST THE KING**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

## **ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION**

Worship services may also be attended by Zoom and it will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION**

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Worship 8:00 am service.

Time: 8:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENlVDJTT0pnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

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Time: 9:30 AM

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Throughout the season of Pentecost, we have been doing the God Sighting Chain congregational activity. Each of the links of the chain strewn through the sanctuary represents a moment when God's activity was witnessed in somebody's life.

The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

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God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt



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The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who have died in the last year.

### **SPECIAL GUEST AT SERVICES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

On Sunday, November 10, the director of the Warminster Food Bank, Mike Cerino, will be speaking to the congregation at both services to give thanks for our continued support with food and monetary donations.

### **SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9:00 AM**

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only **one worship service** on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter**, **Lay Reader**, or **Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

Our Bible lessons this fall have been sourced from the Old Testament. In late November, we will begin our Advent lessons to lead us toward Christmas. We enjoy the ***Holy Moly*** videos and Bible books for students from **age 4** through **grade 6**. The stylized lessons are real conversation-starters. We also enjoy songs, prayers, games, creative pages and crafts.

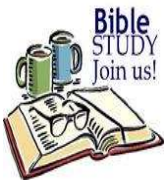
Our Sunday School students meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are always welcome! Registration forms may be found in the church foyer or narthex or on our website.

**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

### **PRAISE BAND and VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details. **There will be no practice on Wednesday, November 27.**





### **THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is held **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** led by Pastor Matt. Utilizing the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament,” we will delve deep into Jesus’ times to better understand the Gospel of Matthew written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>  
Meeting ID: **820 8911 0140**

**No Bible Study will be held on Thanksgiving, November 28.**



### **PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

**Prayer Chain:** The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email direct to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at [alcdeacon@yahoo.com](mailto:alcdeacon@yahoo.com). Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



### **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are dates still available for 2024 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.



### **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through December is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
8:00 AM			9:30 AM		
11/3	Dave Elkin	Janice Hoffman	Jennifer McQuiggan		
11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.







## **GRATITUDE FOR FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Warminster Food Bank is grateful to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church for the generous donations of food, monetary donations and gift cards. Please continue donating whatever you can each month. Blue tote bags are available in the narthex. Food may be brought on Sunday and whenever the church office is open, or you can deposit your bags in the outdoor bench 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.

## **GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

During the month of November, we will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors that depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The envelopes will be available beginning the first Sunday in November and **should be returned to the church by December 1**. The gift cards will be given to families during the month of December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Thank you for your continued support of families in need.



## **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. A list of the **Food Bank's most needed items** is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

## **ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – NOVEMBER 9**

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would like to squelch the rumor that the menu will be Turkey and Eggs. We do not have that recipe but are working on it.

## **ADVENT LADIES LUNCH GROUP**

On Monday, September 30, Advent's Ladies Lunch Group enjoyed a wonderful day of fun, friendship, and shopping at Peddler's Village.

On Sunday, November 3, 10 ladies of the group plan to attend "White Christmas," a play at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, New Jersey.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- The next lunch meeting will be **Tuesday, November 12**, at noon in Advent's multipurpose room. *Bring your own lunch.*
- A special Christmas lunch is planned at the Pinewood Tavern in Wrightstown, on **Tuesday, December 3** at 1 pm, in their special garden room. The menu and cost will be determined and posted in the Sunday bulletins before 11/12

Please call or text Fran Zanis if you would like to attend either the November 12 Lunch meeting or the December 3 Christmas Lunch: 267-847-5098.



## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST - DECEMBER**

The Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, December 14**. Coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. A disappointment this year is that Santa refuses to attend. His weak excuse is that he is not up to those heavy guys sitting on his lap anymore.

## **CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM**

The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



## **PING PONG- TUESDAYS AT 6:30**

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up). **Ping pong is cancelled on Tuesday November 5 due to election activities.**

## **DID YOU SEE MITCH?**



If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



## **NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.





### **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.



**Happy belated birthday to Lynn Roccograndi whose birthday was October 5!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

1	Linda Brownlee	7	Victoria Gardener	26	Matt Sitler
	Bonnie Morrison Sykes	17	Rhona Slawter	27	Mark Rilling
6	Michael Savchuck	18	Audrey Savchuck		
	Jeanne Wagner	22	Nicole Wills		

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



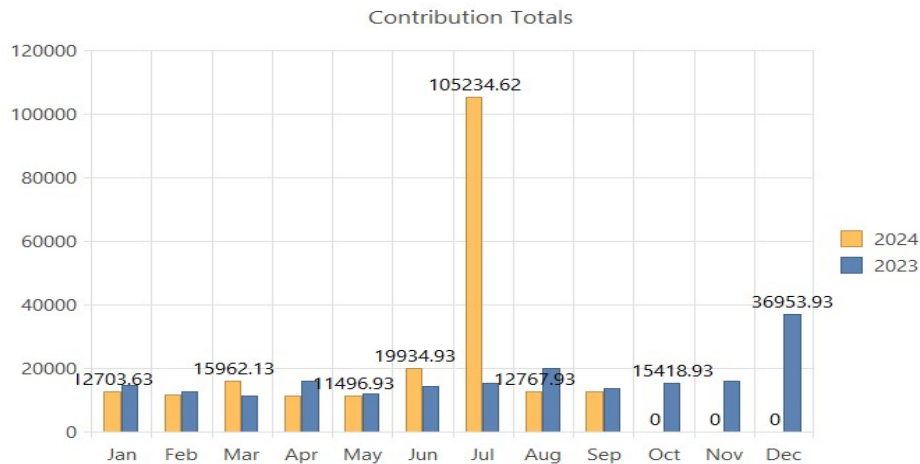
### **THE ARMED FORCES**

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

- ❖ Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr., son of Cindy Frey, 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
- ❖ Specialist Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, NY

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

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**



### **Financial Report for September 2024**

	Rec'd for Sept 2024	Budget for Sept 2024
General Fund	\$10,537.43	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,826	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$370	
Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,763.43	\$19,455.00

	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/24	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/24
General Fund	\$99,816.86	\$157,338.00
Mortgage	\$15,576.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$410.00	\$675.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,870.00	
Insurance Settlement *	\$87,496.69	
Web Upgrade	\$5,780.00	
Total	\$213,949.55	\$175,095.00

\*Funds received from the insurance company due to storm damage to the roof.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There 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, 45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954"

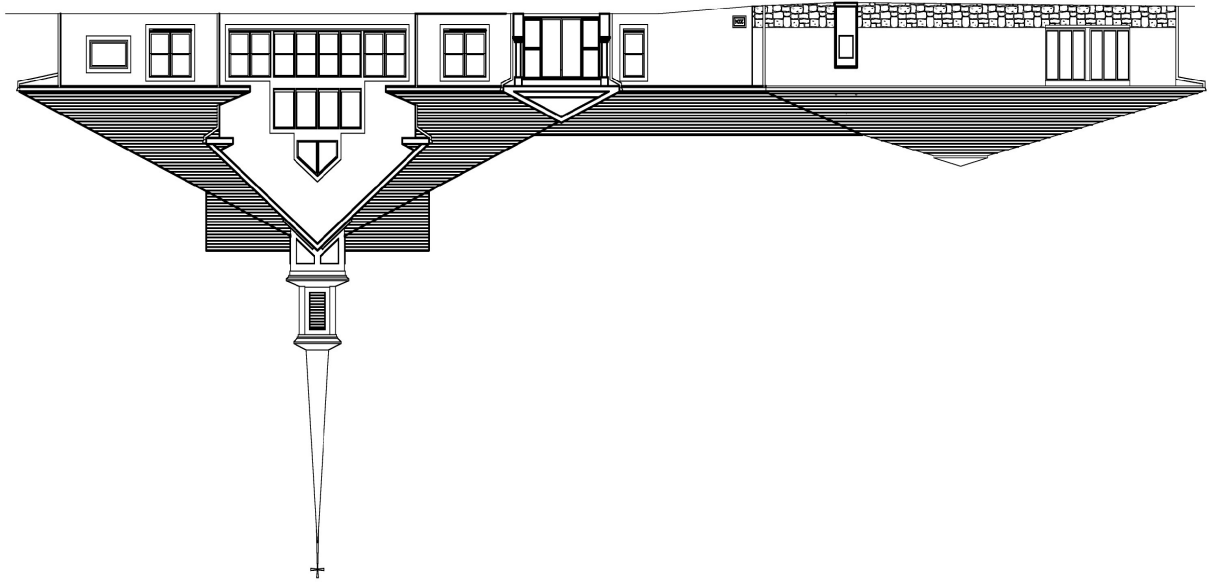
- Contribute online at [www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org). At the top of the page, click the "Give Now" link to see frequently asked questions. At the bottom of the page click the "Give Now" link for our Giving platform. You may also choose to set up recurring donations or a one-time donation.

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

# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b><u>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>5</b> <b><u>ELECTION DAY</u></b>  No Ping Pong tonight	<b>6</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>10</b> <b><u>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>12</b> 12:00 PM Advent Ladies Lunch Group <i>bring your own lunch</i>  6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>13</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b><u>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>18</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>20</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b><u>CHRIST THE KING</u></b> 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>27</b>  No Praise Band Practice or Vocal choir Practice tonight	<b>28</b> <b><u>THANKSGIVING</u></b>  No Bible Study tonight	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>30</b>



*Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
45 Worthington Mill Rd.  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909



THE ADVENTURE - 2024

# November



## 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  
45 Worthington Mill Road  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909  
215-355-2529

[www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)

e-mail:

Adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

### COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

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 longer wear gloves. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- 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- NOVEMBER SCHEDULE**

### **NOVEMBER 3 (Daylight Savings)**

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 10**

#### **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 24**

#### **CHRIST THE KING**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

## **ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION**

Worship services may also be attended by Zoom and it will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION**

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Worship 8:00 am service.

Time: 8:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENIVDJTT0pnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Worship 9:30 am service.

Time: 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErSFNlbVAvNmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656



## **PASTOR MATT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024**

### **Strategic Mission Plan (SMP) Next Steps**

Throughout the season of Pentecost, we have been doing the God Sighting Chain congregational activity. Each of the links of the chain strewn through the sanctuary represents a moment when God's activity was witnessed in somebody's life.

The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

In the season of Epiphany that starts with Magi bring gifts to the Christ Child, we will shift our focus as a congregation to step 2 of the SMP, "What are our Gifts?" We will do this by using the "Spiritual Giftabilities" inventory as a congregation. We will look at the results as individuals and as a congregation. Exploring the results is one of my favorite activities to do with a congregation and I am excited to see what Advent's spiritual gifts are.

God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt



### **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 at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 3**

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who have died in the last year.

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### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter**, **Lay Reader**, or **Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

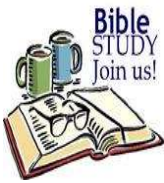
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**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

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## **PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

**Prayer Chain:** The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email direct to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at [alcdeacon@yahoo.com](mailto:alcdeacon@yahoo.com). Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



## **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are dates still available for 2024 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.



## **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through December is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products.



## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
8:00 AM			9:30 AM		
11/3	Dave Elkin	Janice Hoffman	Jennifer McQuiggan		
11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.





## **GRATITUDE FOR FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Warminster Food Bank is grateful to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church for the generous donations of food, monetary donations and gift cards. Please continue donating whatever you can each month. Blue tote bags are available in the narthex. Food may be brought on Sunday and whenever the church office is open, or you can deposit your bags in the outdoor bench 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.

## **GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

During the month of November, we will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors that depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The envelopes will be available beginning the first Sunday in November and **should be returned to the church by December 1**. The gift cards will be given to families during the month of December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Thank you for your continued support of families in need.



## **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. A list of the **Food Bank's most needed items** is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

## **ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – NOVEMBER 9**

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would like to squelch the rumor that the menu will be Turkey and Eggs. We do not have that recipe but are working on it.

## **ADVENT LADIES LUNCH GROUP**

On Monday, September 30, Advent's Ladies Lunch Group enjoyed a wonderful day of fun, friendship, and shopping at Peddler's Village.

On Sunday, November 3, 10 ladies of the group plan to attend "White Christmas," a play at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, New Jersey.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- The next lunch meeting will be **Tuesday, November 12**, at noon in Advent's multipurpose room. *Bring your own lunch.*
- A special Christmas lunch is planned at the Pinewood Tavern in Wrightstown, on **Tuesday, December 3** at 1 pm, in their special garden room. The menu and cost will be determined and posted in the Sunday bulletins before 11/12

Please call or text Fran Zanis if you would like to attend either the November 12 Lunch meeting or the December 3 Christmas Lunch: 267-847-5098.





## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST - DECEMBER**

The Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, December 14**. Coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. A disappointment this year is that Santa refuses to attend. His weak excuse is that he is not up to those heavy guys sitting on his lap anymore.

## **CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM**

The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



## **PING PONG- TUESDAYS AT 6:30**

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up). **Ping pong is cancelled on Tuesday November 5 due to election activities.**

## **DID YOU SEE MITCH?**



If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



## **NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.



### **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.



**Happy belated birthday to Lynn Roccograndi whose birthday was October 5!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

1	Linda Brownlee	7	Victoria Gardener	26	Matt Sitler
	Bonnie Morrison Sykes	17	Rhona Slawter	27	Mark Rilling
6	Michael Savchuck	18	Audrey Savchuck		
	Jeanne Wagner	22	Nicole Wills		

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



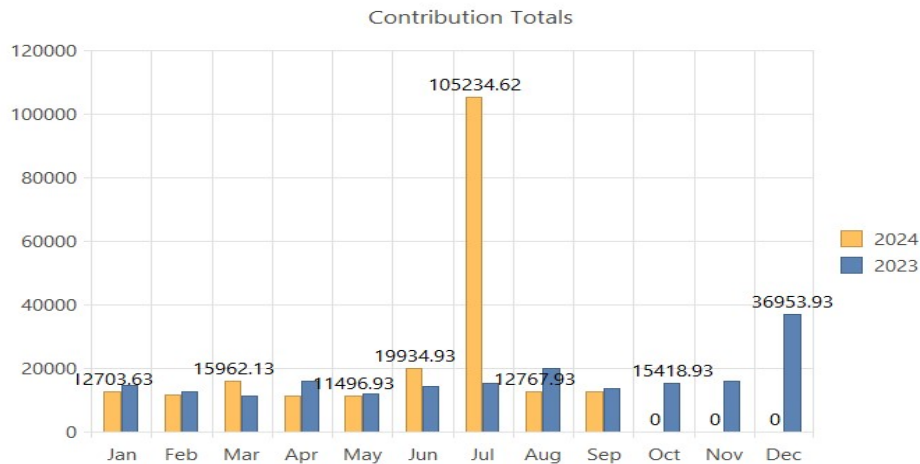
### **THE ARMED FORCES**

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

- ❖ Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr., son of Cindy Frey, 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
- ❖ Specialist Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, NY

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

## FINANCIAL REPORT



### Financial Report for September 2024

	Rec'd for Sept 2024	Budget for Sept 2024
General Fund	\$10,537.43	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,826	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$370	
Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,763.43	\$19,455.00

	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/24	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/24
General Fund	\$99,816.86	\$157,338.00
Mortgage	\$15,576.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$410.00	\$675.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,870.00	
Insurance Settlement *	\$87,496.69	
Web Upgrade	\$5,780.00	
Total	\$213,949.55	\$175,095.00

\*Funds received from the insurance company due to storm damage to the roof.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There 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, 45 Worthington Mill Road, 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.

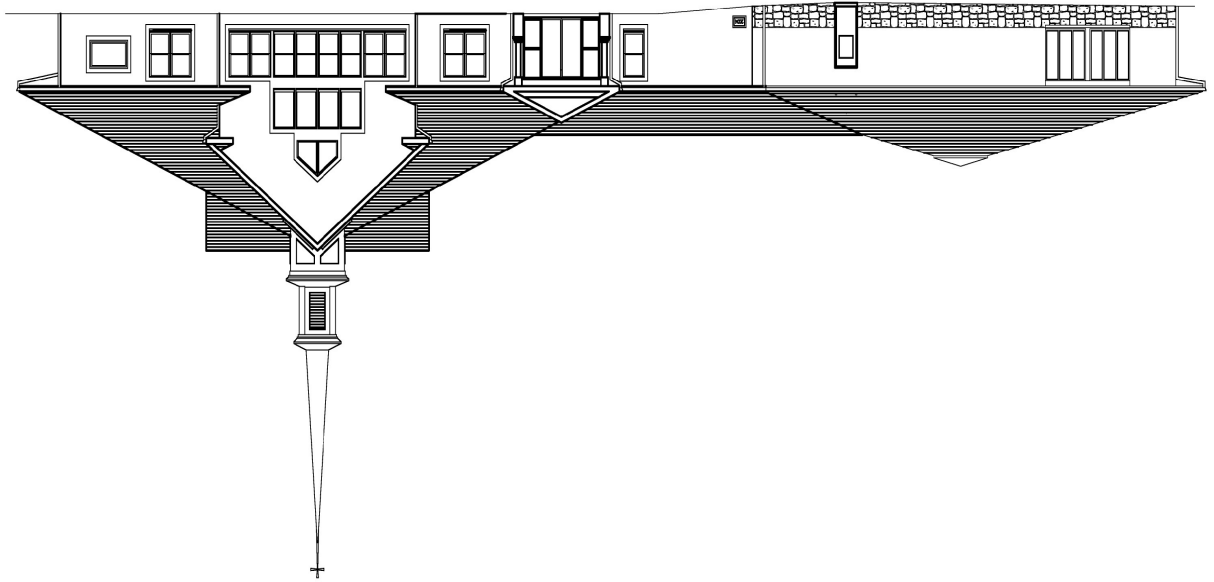
Again, thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions concerning your offering please call Cindy Frey, Financial Secretary 267-205-0713



# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b><u>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>5</b> <b><u>ELECTION DAY</u></b>  No Ping Pong tonight	<b>6</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>10</b> <b><u>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>12</b> 12:00 PM Advent Ladies Lunch Group <i>bring your own lunch</i>  6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>13</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b><u>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>18</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>20</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b><u>CHRIST THE KING</u></b> 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>27</b>  No Praise Band Practice or Vocal choir Practice tonight	<b>28</b> <b><u>THANKSGIVING</u></b>  No Bible Study tonight	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>30</b>



*Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
45 Worthington Mill Rd.  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909

THE ADVENTURE - 2024

# November



## 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  
45 Worthington Mill Road  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909  
215-355-2529

[www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)

e-mail:

Adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

### COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

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 longer wear gloves. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- 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- NOVEMBER SCHEDULE**

### **NOVEMBER 3 (Daylight Savings)**

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 10**

#### **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 24**

#### **CHRIST THE KING**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

## **ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION**

Worship services may also be attended by Zoom and it will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION**

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Worship 8:00 am service.

Time: 8:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENlVDJTT0pnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Worship 9:30 am service.

Time: 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErSFNlbnVAVmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656



## **PASTOR MATT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024**

### **Strategic Mission Plan (SMP) Next Steps**

Throughout the season of Pentecost, we have been doing the God Sighting Chain congregational activity. Each of the links of the chain strewn through the sanctuary represents a moment when God's activity was witnessed in somebody's life.

The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

In the season of Epiphany that starts with Magi bring gifts to the Christ Child, we will shift our focus as a congregation to step 2 of the SMP, "What are our Gifts?" We will do this by using the "Spiritual Giftabilities" inventory as a congregation. We will look at the results as individuals and as a congregation. Exploring the results is one of my favorite activities to do with a congregation and I am excited to see what Advent's spiritual gifts are.

God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt





### **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 at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 3**

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who have died in the last year.

### **SPECIAL GUEST AT SERVICES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

On Sunday, November 10, the director of the Warminster Food Bank, Mike Cerino, will be speaking to the congregation at both services to give thanks for our continued support with food and monetary donations.

### **SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9:00 AM**

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only **one worship service** on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter**, **Lay Reader**, or **Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

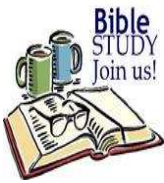
Our Bible lessons this fall have been sourced from the Old Testament. In late November, we will begin our Advent lessons to lead us toward Christmas. We enjoy the ***Holy Moly*** videos and Bible books for students from **age 4** through **grade 6**. The stylized lessons are real conversation-starters. We also enjoy songs, prayers, games, creative pages and crafts.

Our Sunday School students meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are always welcome! Registration forms may be found in the church foyer or narthex or on our website.

**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

### **PRAISE BAND and VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details. **There will be no practice on Wednesday, November 27.**



## **THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is held **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** led by Pastor Matt. Utilizing the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament,” we will delve deep into Jesus’ times to better understand the Gospel of Matthew written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>  
Meeting ID: **820 8911 0140**

**No Bible Study will be held on Thanksgiving, November 28.**



## **PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

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PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



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There are dates still available for 2024 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.



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## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

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11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.







## **GRATITUDE FOR FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Warminster Food Bank is grateful to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church for the generous donations of food, monetary donations and gift cards. Please continue donating whatever you can each month. Blue tote bags are available in the narthex. Food may be brought on Sunday and whenever the church office is open, or you can deposit your bags in the outdoor bench 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.

## **GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

During the month of November, we will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors that depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The envelopes will be available beginning the first Sunday in November and **should be returned to the church by December 1**. The gift cards will be given to families during the month of December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Thank you for your continued support of families in need.



## **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. A list of the **Food Bank's most needed items** is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

## **ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – NOVEMBER 9**

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would like to squelch the rumor that the menu will be Turkey and Eggs. We do not have that recipe but are working on it.

## **ADVENT LADIES LUNCH GROUP**

On Monday, September 30, Advent's Ladies Lunch Group enjoyed a wonderful day of fun, friendship, and shopping at Peddler's Village.

On Sunday, November 3, 10 ladies of the group plan to attend "White Christmas," a play at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, New Jersey.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- The next lunch meeting will be **Tuesday, November 12**, at noon in Advent's multipurpose room. *Bring your own lunch.*
- A special Christmas lunch is planned at the Pinewood Tavern in Wrightstown, on **Tuesday, December 3** at 1 pm, in their special garden room. The menu and cost will be determined and posted in the Sunday bulletins before 11/12

Please call or text Fran Zanis if you would like to attend either the November 12 Lunch meeting or the December 3 Christmas Lunch: 267-847-5098.



## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST - DECEMBER**

The Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, December 14**. Coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. A disappointment this year is that Santa refuses to attend. His weak excuse is that he is not up to those heavy guys sitting on his lap anymore.

## **CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM**

The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



## **PING PONG- TUESDAYS AT 6:30**

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up). **Ping pong is cancelled on Tuesday November 5 due to election activities.**

## **DID YOU SEE MITCH?**



If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



## **NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.





### **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.



**Happy belated birthday to Lynn Roccograndi whose birthday was October 5!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

1	Linda Brownlee	7	Victoria Gardener	26	Matt Sitler
	Bonnie Morrison Sykes	17	Rhona Slawter	27	Mark Rilling
6	Michael Savchuck	18	Audrey Savchuck		
	Jeanne Wagner	22	Nicole Wills		

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



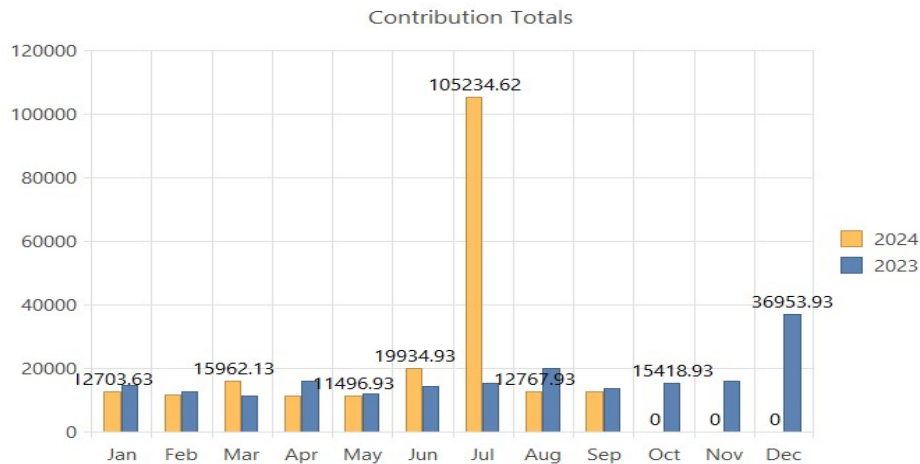
### **THE ARMED FORCES**

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

- ❖ Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr., son of Cindy Frey, 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
- ❖ Specialist Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, NY

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

## FINANCIAL REPORT



### Financial Report for September 2024

	Rec'd for Sept 2024	Budget for Sept 2024
General Fund	\$10,537.43	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,826	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$370	
Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,763.43	\$19,455.00

	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/24	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/24
General Fund	\$99,816.86	\$157,338.00
Mortgage	\$15,576.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$410.00	\$675.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,870.00	
Insurance Settlement *	\$87,496.69	
Web Upgrade	\$5,780.00	
Total	\$213,949.55	\$175,095.00

\*Funds received from the insurance company due to storm damage to the roof.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There 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, 45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954"

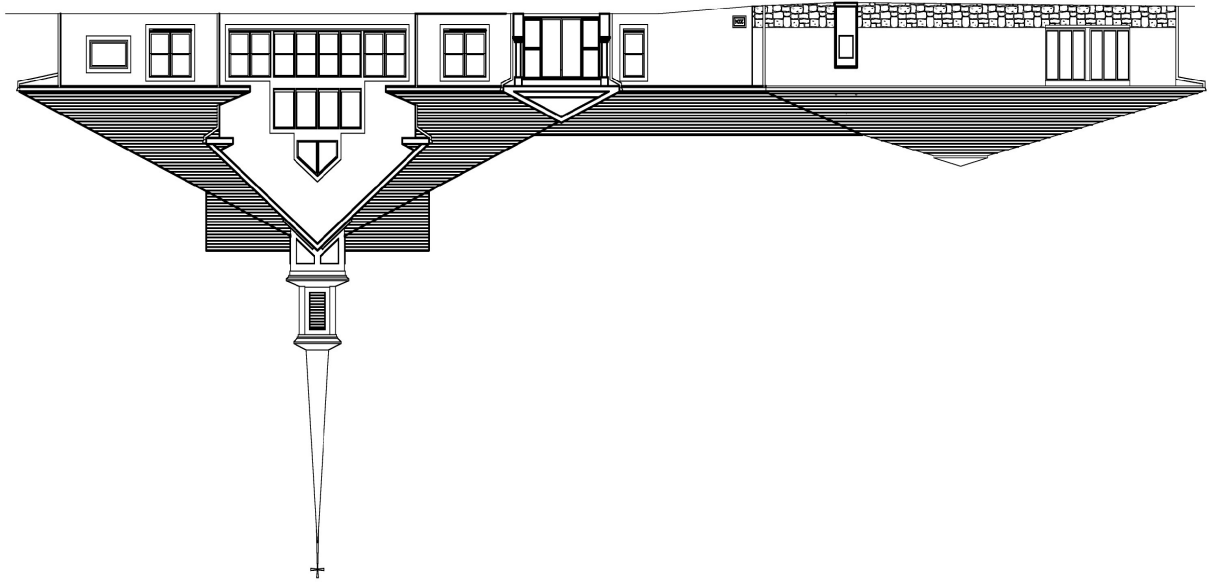
- Contribute online at [www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org). At the top of the page, click the "Give Now" link to see frequently asked questions. At the bottom of the page click the "Give Now" link for our Giving platform. You may also choose to set up recurring donations or a one-time donation.

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

# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b><u>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>5</b> <b><u>ELECTION DAY</u></b>  No Ping Pong tonight	<b>6</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>10</b> <b><u>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>12</b> 12:00 PM Advent Ladies Lunch Group <i>bring your own lunch</i>  6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>13</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b><u>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>18</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>20</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b><u>CHRIST THE KING</u></b> 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>27</b>  No Praise Band Practice or Vocal choir Practice tonight	<b>28</b> <b><u>THANKSGIVING</u></b>  No Bible Study tonight	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>30</b>



*Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
45 Worthington Mill Rd.  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909

THE ADVENTURE - 2024

# November



## 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  
45 Worthington Mill Road  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909  
215-355-2529

[www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)

e-mail:

Adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

### COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

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 longer wear gloves. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- 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- NOVEMBER SCHEDULE**

### **NOVEMBER 3 (Daylight Savings)**

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 10**

#### **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 24**

#### **CHRIST THE KING**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

## **ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION**

Worship services may also be attended by Zoom and it will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION**

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Worship 8:00 am service.

Time: 8:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENlVDJTT0pnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Worship 9:30 am service.

Time: 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErrSFNlbnVAVmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656



## **PASTOR MATT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024**

### **Strategic Mission Plan (SMP) Next Steps**

Throughout the season of Pentecost, we have been doing the God Sighting Chain congregational activity. Each of the links of the chain strewn through the sanctuary represents a moment when God's activity was witnessed in somebody's life.

The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

In the season of Epiphany that starts with Magi bring gifts to the Christ Child, we will shift our focus as a congregation to step 2 of the SMP, "What are our Gifts?" We will do this by using the "Spiritual Giftabilities" inventory as a congregation. We will look at the results as individuals and as a congregation. Exploring the results is one of my favorite activities to do with a congregation and I am excited to see what Advent's spiritual gifts are.

God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt



### **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 at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 3**

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who have died in the last year.

### **SPECIAL GUEST AT SERVICES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

On Sunday, November 10, the director of the Warminster Food Bank, Mike Cerino, will be speaking to the congregation at both services to give thanks for our continued support with food and monetary donations.

### **SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9:00 AM**

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only **one worship service** on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter**, **Lay Reader**, or **Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

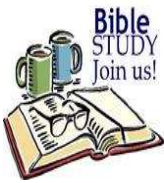
Our Bible lessons this fall have been sourced from the Old Testament. In late November, we will begin our Advent lessons to lead us toward Christmas. We enjoy the ***Holy Moly*** videos and Bible books for students from **age 4** through **grade 6**. The stylized lessons are real conversation-starters. We also enjoy songs, prayers, games, creative pages and crafts.

Our Sunday School students meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are always welcome! Registration forms may be found in the church foyer or narthex or on our website.

**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

### **PRAISE BAND and VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details. **There will be no practice on Wednesday, November 27.**



## **THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is held **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** led by Pastor Matt. Utilizing the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament,” we will delve deep into Jesus’ times to better understand the Gospel of Matthew written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>  
Meeting ID: **820 8911 0140**

**No Bible Study will be held on Thanksgiving, November 28.**



## **PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

**Prayer Chain:** The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email direct to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at [alcdeacon@yahoo.com](mailto:alcdeacon@yahoo.com). Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



## **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are dates still available for 2024 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.



## **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through December is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products.



## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
8:00 AM			9:30 AM		
11/3	Dave Elkin	Janice Hoffman	Jennifer McQuiggan		
11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.







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The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

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## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST - DECEMBER**

The Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, December 14**. Coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. A disappointment this year is that Santa refuses to attend. His weak excuse is that he is not up to those heavy guys sitting on his lap anymore.

## **CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM**

The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



## **PING PONG- TUESDAYS AT 6:30**

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up). **Ping pong is cancelled on Tuesday November 5 due to election activities.**

## **DID YOU SEE MITCH?**



If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



## **NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.



### **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.



**Happy belated birthday to Lynn Roccograndi whose birthday was October 5!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

1	Linda Brownlee	7	Victoria Gardener	26	Matt Sitler
	Bonnie Morrison Sykes	17	Rhona Slawter	27	Mark Rilling
6	Michael Savchuck	18	Audrey Savchuck		
	Jeanne Wagner	22	Nicole Wills		

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



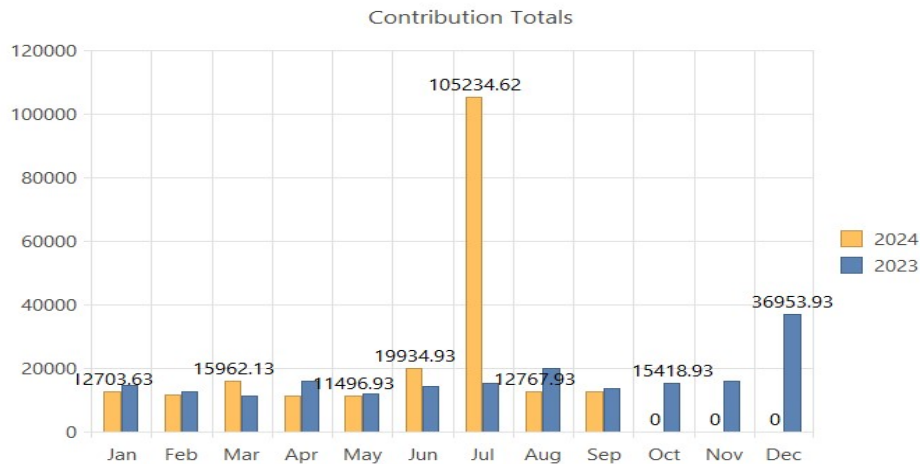
### **THE ARMED FORCES**

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

- ❖ Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr., son of Cindy Frey, 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
- ❖ Specialist Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, NY

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

## FINANCIAL REPORT



### Financial Report for September 2024

	Rec'd for Sept 2024	Budget for Sept 2024
General Fund	\$10,537.43	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,826	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$370	
Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,763.43	\$19,455.00

	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/24	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/24
General Fund	\$99,816.86	\$157,338.00
Mortgage	\$15,576.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$410.00	\$675.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,870.00	
Insurance Settlement *	\$87,496.69	
Web Upgrade	\$5,780.00	
Total	\$213,949.55	\$175,095.00

\*Funds received from the insurance company due to storm damage to the roof.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There 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, 45 Worthington Mill Road, 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.

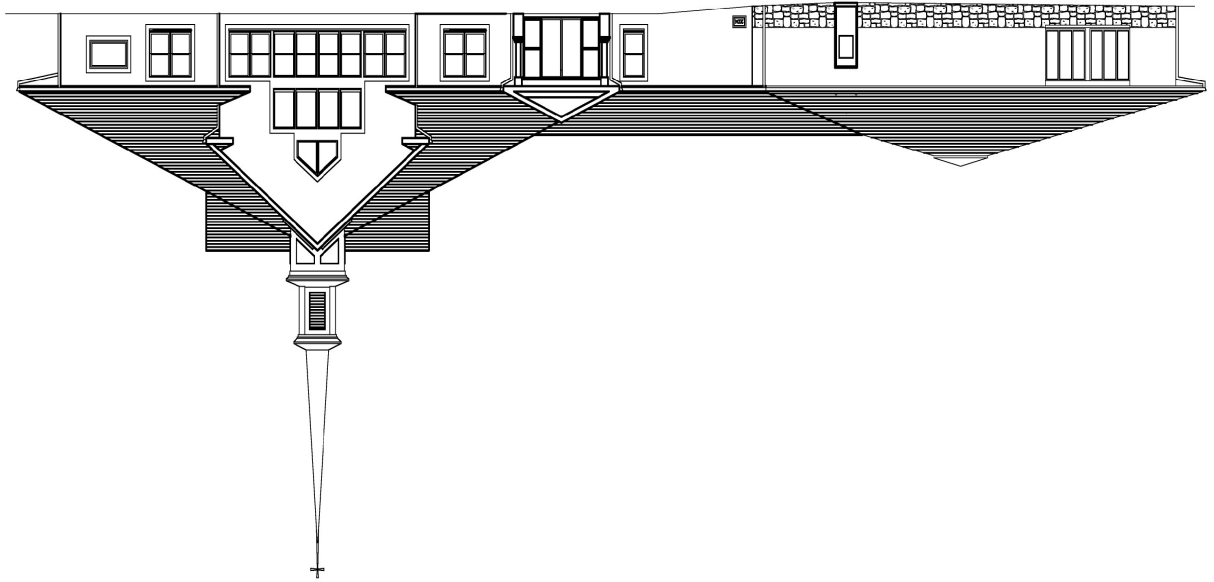
Again, thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions concerning your offering please call Cindy Frey, Financial Secretary 267-205-0713

# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b><u>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>5</b> <b><u>ELECTION DAY</u></b>  No Ping Pong tonight	<b>6</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>10</b> <b><u>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>12</b> 12:00 PM Advent Ladies Lunch Group <i>bring your own lunch</i>  6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>13</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b><u>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>18</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>20</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b><u>CHRIST THE KING</u></b> 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>27</b>  No Praise Band Practice or Vocal choir Practice tonight	<b>28</b> <b><u>THANKSGIVING</u></b>  No Bible Study tonight	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>30</b>





*Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
45 Worthington Mill Rd.  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909

THE ADVENTURE - 2024

# November



## 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  
45 Worthington Mill Road  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909  
215-355-2529

[www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)

e-mail:

Adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

### COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

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 longer wear gloves. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- 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- NOVEMBER SCHEDULE**

### **NOVEMBER 3 (Daylight Savings)**

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 10**

#### **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 24**

#### **CHRIST THE KING**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

## **ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION**

Worship services may also be attended by Zoom and it will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION**

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Worship 8:00 am service.

Time: 8:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENIVDJTT0pnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Worship 9:30 am service.

Time: 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErSFNlbVAvNmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656



## **PASTOR MATT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024**

### **Strategic Mission Plan (SMP) Next Steps**

Throughout the season of Pentecost, we have been doing the God Sighting Chain congregational activity. Each of the links of the chain strewn through the sanctuary represents a moment when God's activity was witnessed in somebody's life.

The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

In the season of Epiphany that starts with Magi bring gifts to the Christ Child, we will shift our focus as a congregation to step 2 of the SMP, "What are our Gifts?" We will do this by using the "Spiritual Giftabilities" inventory as a congregation. We will look at the results as individuals and as a congregation. Exploring the results is one of my favorite activities to do with a congregation and I am excited to see what Advent's spiritual gifts are.

God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt



### **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 at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 3**

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who have died in the last year.

### **SPECIAL GUEST AT SERVICES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

On Sunday, November 10, the director of the Warminster Food Bank, Mike Cerino, will be speaking to the congregation at both services to give thanks for our continued support with food and monetary donations.

### **SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9:00 AM**

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only **one worship service** on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter**, **Lay Reader**, or **Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

Our Bible lessons this fall have been sourced from the Old Testament. In late November, we will begin our Advent lessons to lead us toward Christmas. We enjoy the ***Holy Moly*** videos and Bible books for students from **age 4** through **grade 6**. The stylized lessons are real conversation-starters. We also enjoy songs, prayers, games, creative pages and crafts.

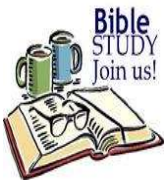
Our Sunday School students meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are always welcome! Registration forms may be found in the church foyer or narthex or on our website.

**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

### **PRAISE BAND and VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details. **There will be no practice on Wednesday, November 27.**





## **THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is held **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** led by Pastor Matt. Utilizing the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament,” we will delve deep into Jesus’ times to better understand the Gospel of Matthew written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>  
Meeting ID: **820 8911 0140**

**No Bible Study will be held on Thanksgiving, November 28.**



## **PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

**Prayer Chain:** The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email direct to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at [alcdeacon@yahoo.com](mailto:alcdeacon@yahoo.com). Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



## **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are dates still available for 2024 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.



## **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through December is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
8:00 AM			9:30 AM		
11/3	Dave Elkin	Janice Hoffman	Jennifer McQuiggan		
11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.







## **GRATITUDE FOR FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Warminster Food Bank is grateful to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church for the generous donations of food, monetary donations and gift cards. Please continue donating whatever you can each month. Blue tote bags are available in the narthex. Food may be brought on Sunday and whenever the church office is open, or you can deposit your bags in the outdoor bench 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.

## **GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

During the month of November, we will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors that depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The envelopes will be available beginning the first Sunday in November and **should be returned to the church by December 1**. The gift cards will be given to families during the month of December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Thank you for your continued support of families in need.



## **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. A list of the **Food Bank's most needed items** is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

## **ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – NOVEMBER 9**

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would like to squelch the rumor that the menu will be Turkey and Eggs. We do not have that recipe but are working on it.

## **ADVENT LADIES LUNCH GROUP**

On Monday, September 30, Advent's Ladies Lunch Group enjoyed a wonderful day of fun, friendship, and shopping at Peddler's Village.

On Sunday, November 3, 10 ladies of the group plan to attend "White Christmas," a play at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, New Jersey.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- The next lunch meeting will be **Tuesday, November 12**, at noon in Advent's multipurpose room. *Bring your own lunch.*
- A special Christmas lunch is planned at the Pinewood Tavern in Wrightstown, on **Tuesday, December 3** at 1 pm, in their special garden room. The menu and cost will be determined and posted in the Sunday bulletins before 11/12

Please call or text Fran Zanis if you would like to attend either the November 12 Lunch meeting or the December 3 Christmas Lunch: 267-847-5098.



## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



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The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



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If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



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In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.



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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.



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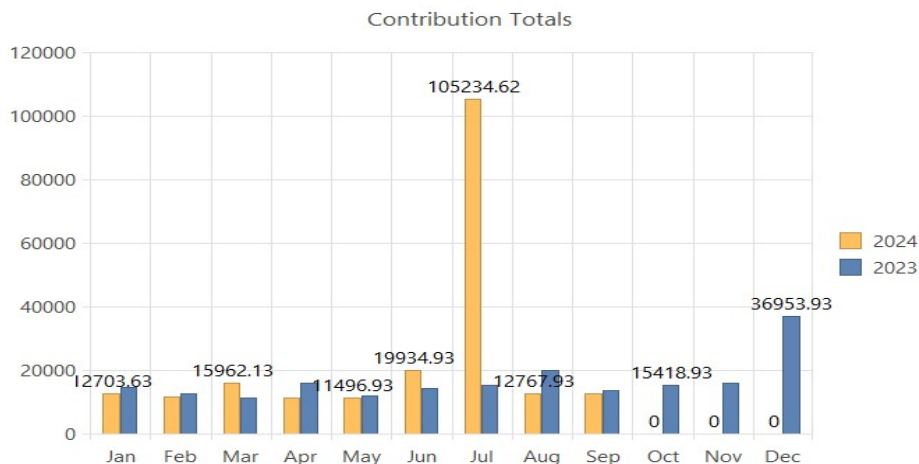
Please keep in your prayers all our service men and women and especially those related to our congregation:

- ❖ Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr., son of Cindy Frey, 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
- ❖ Specialist Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, NY

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



## **FINANCIAL REPORT**



### **Financial Report for September 2024**

	Rec'd for Sept 2024	Budget for Sept 2024
General Fund	\$10,537.43	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,826	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	\$75
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Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,763.43	\$19,455.00

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Web Upgrade	\$5,780.00	
Total	\$213,949.55	\$175,095.00

\*Funds received from the insurance company due to storm damage to the roof.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There 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, 45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954"

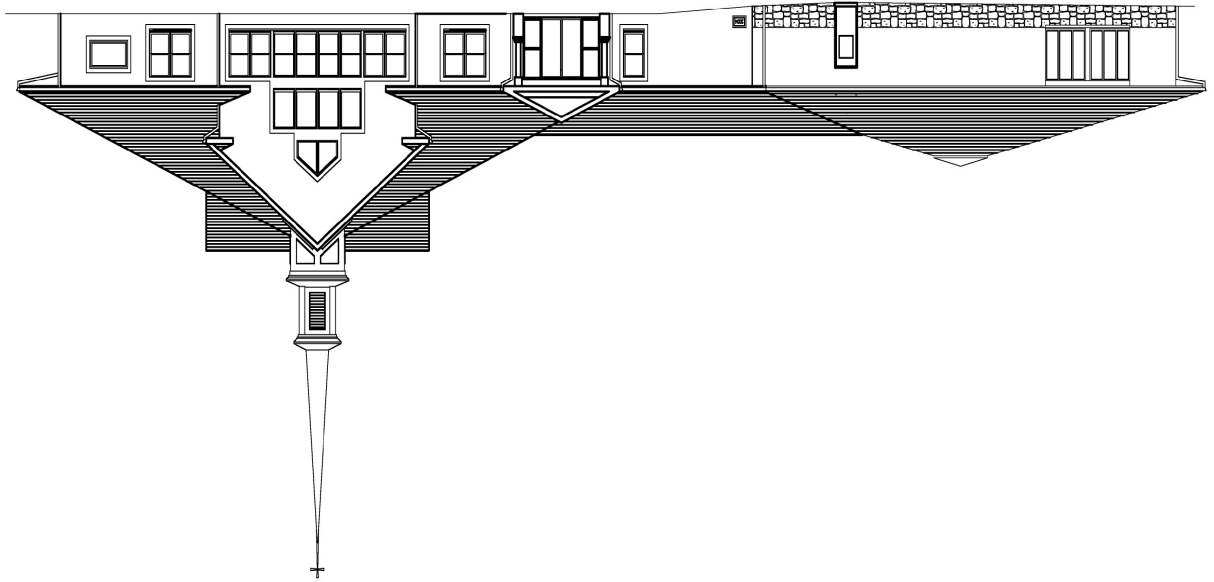
- Contribute online at [www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org). At the top of the page, click the "Give Now" link to see frequently asked questions. At the bottom of the page click the "Give Now" link for our Giving platform. You may also choose to set up recurring donations or a one-time donation.

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

# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b><u>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>5</b> <b><u>ELECTION DAY</u></b>  No Ping Pong tonight	<b>6</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>10</b> <b><u>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>12</b> 12:00 PM Advent Ladies Lunch Group <i>bring your own lunch</i>  6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>13</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b><u>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>18</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>20</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b><u>CHRIST THE KING</u></b> 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>27</b>  No Praise Band Practice or Vocal choir Practice tonight	<b>28</b> <b><u>THANKSGIVING</u></b>  No Bible Study tonight	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>30</b>



*Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
45 Worthington Mill Rd.  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909

THE ADVENTURE - 2024

# November



## 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  
45 Worthington Mill Road  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909  
215-355-2529

[www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)

e-mail:

Adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

### COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

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 longer wear gloves. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- 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- NOVEMBER SCHEDULE**

### **NOVEMBER 3 (Daylight Savings)**

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 10**

#### **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 24**

#### **CHRIST THE KING**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

## **ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION**

Worship services may also be attended by Zoom and it will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION**

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Worship 8:00 am service.

Time: 8:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENIVDJTT0pnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Worship 9:30 am service.

Time: 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErrSFNlbVAvNmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656





## **PASTOR MATT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024**

### **Strategic Mission Plan (SMP) Next Steps**

Throughout the season of Pentecost, we have been doing the God Sighting Chain congregational activity. Each of the links of the chain strewn through the sanctuary represents a moment when God's activity was witnessed in somebody's life.

The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

In the season of Epiphany that starts with Magi bring gifts to the Christ Child, we will shift our focus as a congregation to step 2 of the SMP, "What are our Gifts?" We will do this by using the "Spiritual Giftabilities" inventory as a congregation. We will look at the results as individuals and as a congregation. Exploring the results is one of my favorite activities to do with a congregation and I am excited to see what Advent's spiritual gifts are.

God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt



### **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 at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 3**

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who have died in the last year.

### **SPECIAL GUEST AT SERVICES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

On Sunday, November 10, the director of the Warminster Food Bank, Mike Cerino, will be speaking to the congregation at both services to give thanks for our continued support with food and monetary donations.

### **SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9:00 AM**

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only **one worship service** on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter**, **Lay Reader**, or **Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

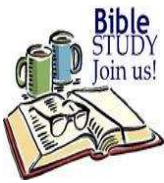
Our Bible lessons this fall have been sourced from the Old Testament. In late November, we will begin our Advent lessons to lead us toward Christmas. We enjoy the ***Holy Moly*** videos and Bible books for students from **age 4** through **grade 6**. The stylized lessons are real conversation-starters. We also enjoy songs, prayers, games, creative pages and crafts.

Our Sunday School students meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are always welcome! Registration forms may be found in the church foyer or narthex or on our website.

**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

### **PRAISE BAND and VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details. **There will be no practice on Wednesday, November 27.**



## **THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is held **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** led by Pastor Matt. Utilizing the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament,” we will delve deep into Jesus’ times to better understand the Gospel of Matthew written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>  
Meeting ID: **820 8911 0140**

**No Bible Study will be held on Thanksgiving, November 28.**



## **PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

**Prayer Chain:** The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email direct to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at [alcdeacon@yahoo.com](mailto:alcdeacon@yahoo.com). Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



## **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are dates still available for 2024 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.



## **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through December is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products.



## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
8:00 AM			9:30 AM		
11/3	Dave Elkin	Janice Hoffman	Jennifer McQuiggan		
11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.





## **GRATITUDE FOR FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Warminster Food Bank is grateful to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church for the generous donations of food, monetary donations and gift cards. Please continue donating whatever you can each month. Blue tote bags are available in the narthex. Food may be brought on Sunday and whenever the church office is open, or you can deposit your bags in the outdoor bench 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.

## **GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

During the month of November, we will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors that depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The envelopes will be available beginning the first Sunday in November and **should be returned to the church by December 1**. The gift cards will be given to families during the month of December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Thank you for your continued support of families in need.



## **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. A list of the **Food Bank's most needed items** is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

## **ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – NOVEMBER 9**

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would like to squelch the rumor that the menu will be Turkey and Eggs. We do not have that recipe but are working on it.

## **ADVENT LADIES LUNCH GROUP**

On Monday, September 30, Advent's Ladies Lunch Group enjoyed a wonderful day of fun, friendship, and shopping at Peddler's Village.

On Sunday, November 3, 10 ladies of the group plan to attend "White Christmas," a play at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, New Jersey.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- The next lunch meeting will be **Tuesday, November 12**, at noon in Advent's multipurpose room. *Bring your own lunch.*
- A special Christmas lunch is planned at the Pinewood Tavern in Wrightstown, on **Tuesday, December 3** at 1 pm, in their special garden room. The menu and cost will be determined and posted in the Sunday bulletins before 11/12

Please call or text Fran Zanis if you would like to attend either the November 12 Lunch meeting or the December 3 Christmas Lunch: 267-847-5098.





## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST - DECEMBER**

The Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, December 14**. Coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. A disappointment this year is that Santa refuses to attend. His weak excuse is that he is not up to those heavy guys sitting on his lap anymore.

## **CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM**

The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



## **PING PONG- TUESDAYS AT 6:30**

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up). **Ping pong is cancelled on Tuesday November 5 due to election activities.**

## **DID YOU SEE MITCH?**



If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



## **NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.



### **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.



**Happy belated birthday to Lynn Roccograndi whose birthday was October 5!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

1	Linda Brownlee	7	Victoria Gardener	26	Matt Sitler
	Bonnie Morrison Sykes	17	Rhona Slawter	27	Mark Rilling
6	Michael Savchuck	18	Audrey Savchuck		
	Jeanne Wagner	22	Nicole Wills		

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



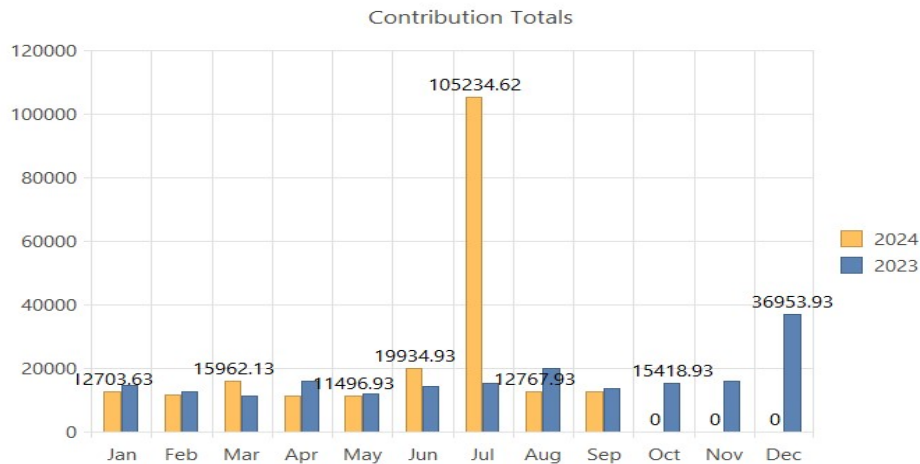
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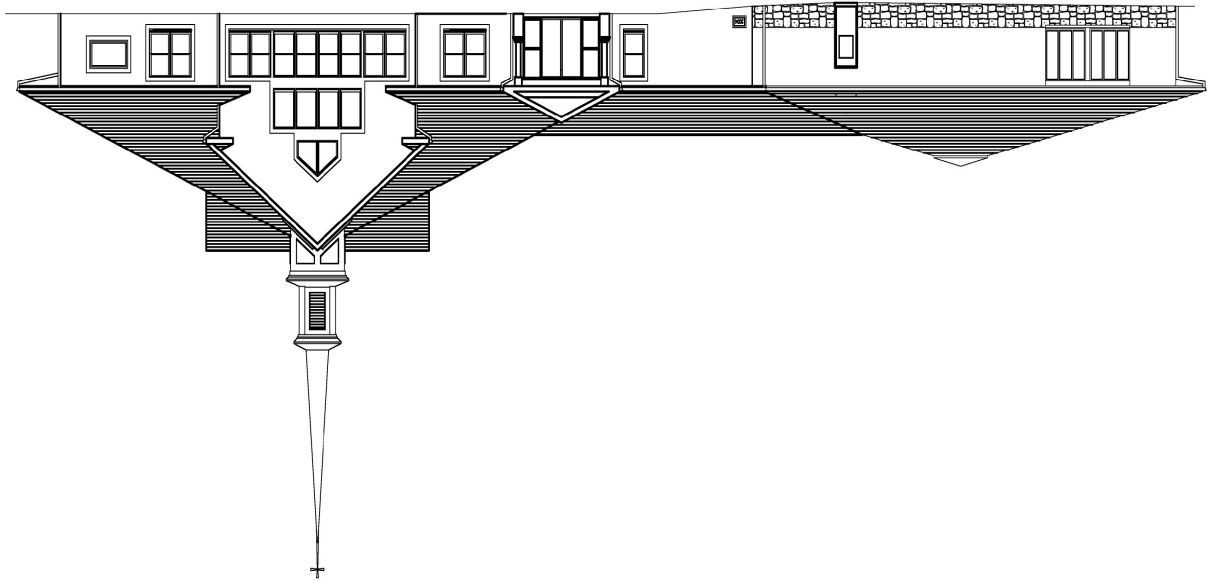
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*Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
45 Worthington Mill Rd.  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909



THE ADVENTURE - 2024

# November



## 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  
45 Worthington Mill Road  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909  
215-355-2529

[www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)

e-mail:

Adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

### COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

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 longer wear gloves. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- 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- NOVEMBER SCHEDULE**

### **NOVEMBER 3 (Daylight Savings)**

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 10**

#### **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 24**

#### **CHRIST THE KING**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

## **ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION**

Worship services may also be attended by Zoom and it will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION**

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Worship 8:00 am service.

Time: 8:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENIVDJTT0pnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Worship 9:30 am service.

Time: 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErSFNlbVAvNmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656



## **PASTOR MATT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024**

### **Strategic Mission Plan (SMP) Next Steps**

Throughout the season of Pentecost, we have been doing the God Sighting Chain congregational activity. Each of the links of the chain strewn through the sanctuary represents a moment when God's activity was witnessed in somebody's life.

The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

In the season of Epiphany that starts with Magi bring gifts to the Christ Child, we will shift our focus as a congregation to step 2 of the SMP, "What are our Gifts?" We will do this by using the "Spiritual Giftabilities" inventory as a congregation. We will look at the results as individuals and as a congregation. Exploring the results is one of my favorite activities to do with a congregation and I am excited to see what Advent's spiritual gifts are.

God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt



### **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 at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 3**

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who have died in the last year.

### **SPECIAL GUEST AT SERVICES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

On Sunday, November 10, the director of the Warminster Food Bank, Mike Cerino, will be speaking to the congregation at both services to give thanks for our continued support with food and monetary donations.

### **SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9:00 AM**

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only **one worship service** on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter, Lay Reader, or Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

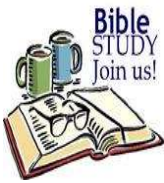
Our Bible lessons this fall have been sourced from the Old Testament. In late November, we will begin our Advent lessons to lead us toward Christmas. We enjoy the ***Holy Moly*** videos and Bible books for students from **age 4** through **grade 6**. The stylized lessons are real conversation-starters. We also enjoy songs, prayers, games, creative pages and crafts.

Our Sunday School students meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are always welcome! Registration forms may be found in the church foyer or narthex or on our website.

**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

### **PRAISE BAND and VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details. **There will be no practice on Wednesday, November 27.**



## **THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is held **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** led by Pastor Matt. Utilizing the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament,” we will delve deep into Jesus’ times to better understand the Gospel of Matthew written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>  
Meeting ID: **820 8911 0140**

**No Bible Study will be held on Thanksgiving, November 28.**



## **PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

**Prayer Chain:** The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email direct to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at [alcdeacon@yahoo.com](mailto:alcdeacon@yahoo.com). Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



## **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are dates still available for 2024 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.



## **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through December is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products.



## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
8:00 AM			9:30 AM		
11/3	Dave Elkin	Janice Hoffman	Jennifer McQuiggan		
11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.





## **GRATITUDE FOR FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Warminster Food Bank is grateful to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church for the generous donations of food, monetary donations and gift cards. Please continue donating whatever you can each month. Blue tote bags are available in the narthex. Food may be brought on Sunday and whenever the church office is open, or you can deposit your bags in the outdoor bench 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.

## **GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

During the month of November, we will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors that depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The envelopes will be available beginning the first Sunday in November and **should be returned to the church by December 1**. The gift cards will be given to families during the month of December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Thank you for your continued support of families in need.



## **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. A list of the **Food Bank's most needed items** is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

## **ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – NOVEMBER 9**

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would like to squelch the rumor that the menu will be Turkey and Eggs. We do not have that recipe but are working on it.

## **ADVENT LADIES LUNCH GROUP**

On Monday, September 30, Advent's Ladies Lunch Group enjoyed a wonderful day of fun, friendship, and shopping at Peddler's Village.

On Sunday, November 3, 10 ladies of the group plan to attend "White Christmas," a play at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, New Jersey.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- The next lunch meeting will be **Tuesday, November 12**, at noon in Advent's multipurpose room. *Bring your own lunch.*
- A special Christmas lunch is planned at the Pinewood Tavern in Wrightstown, on **Tuesday, December 3** at 1 pm, in their special garden room. The menu and cost will be determined and posted in the Sunday bulletins before 11/12

Please call or text Fran Zanis if you would like to attend either the November 12 Lunch meeting or the December 3 Christmas Lunch: 267-847-5098.





## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST - DECEMBER**

The Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, December 14**. Coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. A disappointment this year is that Santa refuses to attend. His weak excuse is that he is not up to those heavy guys sitting on his lap anymore.

## **CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM**

The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



## **PING PONG- TUESDAYS AT 6:30**

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up). **Ping pong is cancelled on Tuesday November 5 due to election activities.**

## **DID YOU SEE MITCH?**



If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



## **NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.



### **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.



**Happy belated birthday to Lynn Roccograndi whose birthday was October 5!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

1	Linda Brownlee	7	Victoria Gardener	26	Matt Sitler
	Bonnie Morrison Sykes	17	Rhona Slawter	27	Mark Rilling
6	Michael Savchuck	18	Audrey Savchuck		
	Jeanne Wagner	22	Nicole Wills		

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



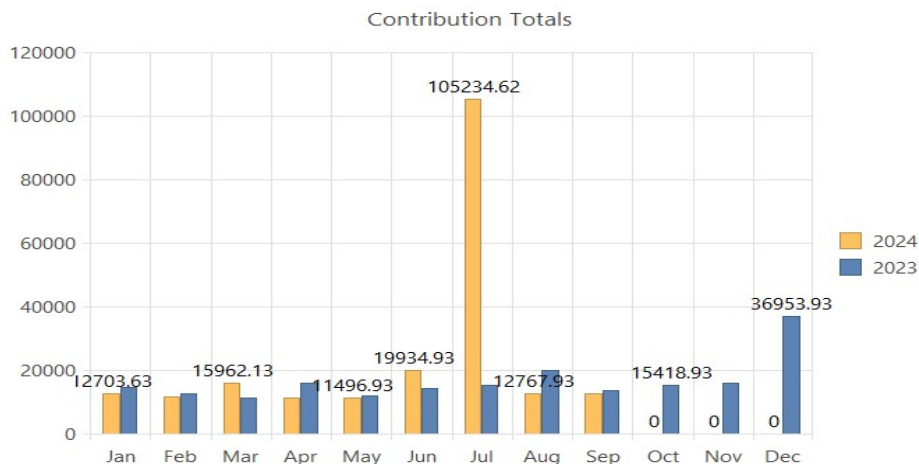
### **THE ARMED FORCES**

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

- ❖ Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr., son of Cindy Frey, 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
- ❖ Specialist Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, NY

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

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**



### **Financial Report for September 2024**

	Rec'd for Sept 2024	Budget for Sept 2024
General Fund	\$10,537.43	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,826	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$370	
Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,763.43	\$19,455.00

	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/24	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/24
General Fund	\$99,816.86	\$157,338.00
Mortgage	\$15,576.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$410.00	\$675.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,870.00	
Insurance Settlement *	\$87,496.69	
Web Upgrade	\$5,780.00	
Total	\$213,949.55	\$175,095.00

\*Funds received from the insurance company due to storm damage to the roof.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There 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, 45 Worthington Mill Road, 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.

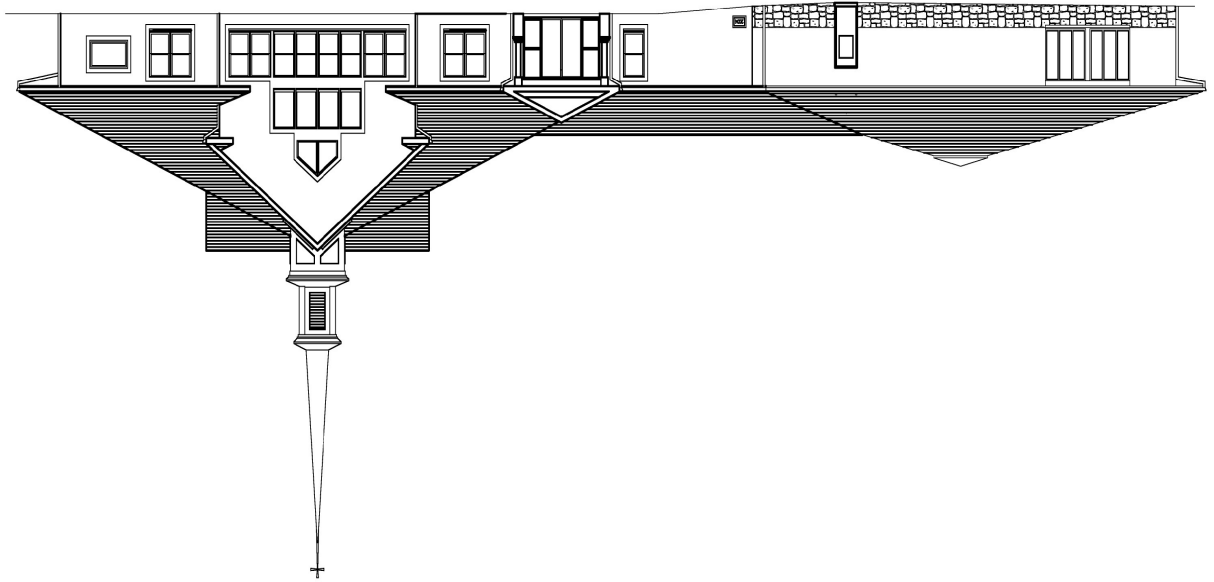
Again, thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions concerning your offering please call Cindy Frey, Financial Secretary 267-205-0713



# November



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- + To **grow** in faith, love, and service.
- + To **go** into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ.



Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen, Pastor  
45 Worthington Mill Road  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909  
215-355-2529

[www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)

e-mail:

Adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

### COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

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 longer wear gloves. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- 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- NOVEMBER SCHEDULE**

### **NOVEMBER 3 (Daylight Savings)**

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 10**

#### **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 24**

#### **CHRIST THE KING**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

## **ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION**

Worship services may also be attended by Zoom and it will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION**

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Worship 8:00 am service.

Time: 8:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENIVDJTT0pnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Worship 9:30 am service.

Time: 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErSFNlbVAvNmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656



## **PASTOR MATT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024**

### **Strategic Mission Plan (SMP) Next Steps**

Throughout the season of Pentecost, we have been doing the God Sighting Chain congregational activity. Each of the links of the chain strewn through the sanctuary represents a moment when God's activity was witnessed in somebody's life.

The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

In the season of Epiphany that starts with Magi bring gifts to the Christ Child, we will shift our focus as a congregation to step 2 of the SMP, "What are our Gifts?" We will do this by using the "Spiritual Giftabilities" inventory as a congregation. We will look at the results as individuals and as a congregation. Exploring the results is one of my favorite activities to do with a congregation and I am excited to see what Advent's spiritual gifts are.

God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt





### **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 at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 3**

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who have died in the last year.

### **SPECIAL GUEST AT SERVICES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

On Sunday, November 10, the director of the Warminster Food Bank, Mike Cerino, will be speaking to the congregation at both services to give thanks for our continued support with food and monetary donations.

### **SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9:00 AM**

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only **one worship service** on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter**, **Lay Reader**, or **Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

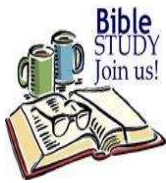
Our Bible lessons this fall have been sourced from the Old Testament. In late November, we will begin our Advent lessons to lead us toward Christmas. We enjoy the ***Holy Moly*** videos and Bible books for students from **age 4** through **grade 6**. The stylized lessons are real conversation-starters. We also enjoy songs, prayers, games, creative pages and crafts.

Our Sunday School students meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are always welcome! Registration forms may be found in the church foyer or narthex or on our website.

**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

### **PRAISE BAND and VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details. **There will be no practice on Wednesday, November 27.**



## **THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is held **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** led by Pastor Matt. Utilizing the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament,” we will delve deep into Jesus’ times to better understand the Gospel of Matthew written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>  
Meeting ID: **820 8911 0140**

**No Bible Study will be held on Thanksgiving, November 28.**



## **PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

**Prayer Chain:** The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email direct to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at [alcdeacon@yahoo.com](mailto:alcdeacon@yahoo.com). Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



## **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are dates still available for 2024 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.



## **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through December is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
8:00 AM			9:30 AM		
11/3	Dave Elkin	Janice Hoffman	Jennifer McQuiggan		
11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.







## **GRATITUDE FOR FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Warminster Food Bank is grateful to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church for the generous donations of food, monetary donations and gift cards. Please continue donating whatever you can each month. Blue tote bags are available in the narthex. Food may be brought on Sunday and whenever the church office is open, or you can deposit your bags in the outdoor bench 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.

## **GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

During the month of November, we will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors that depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The envelopes will be available beginning the first Sunday in November and **should be returned to the church by December 1**. The gift cards will be given to families during the month of December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Thank you for your continued support of families in need.



## **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. A list of the **Food Bank's most needed items** is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

## **ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – NOVEMBER 9**

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would like to squelch the rumor that the menu will be Turkey and Eggs. We do not have that recipe but are working on it.

## **ADVENT LADIES LUNCH GROUP**

On Monday, September 30, Advent's Ladies Lunch Group enjoyed a wonderful day of fun, friendship, and shopping at Peddler's Village.

On Sunday, November 3, 10 ladies of the group plan to attend "White Christmas," a play at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, New Jersey.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- The next lunch meeting will be **Tuesday, November 12**, at noon in Advent's multipurpose room. *Bring your own lunch.*
- A special Christmas lunch is planned at the Pinewood Tavern in Wrightstown, on **Tuesday, December 3** at 1 pm, in their special garden room. The menu and cost will be determined and posted in the Sunday bulletins before 11/12

Please call or text Fran Zanis if you would like to attend either the November 12 Lunch meeting or the December 3 Christmas Lunch: 267-847-5098.



## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST - DECEMBER**

The Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, December 14**. Coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. A disappointment this year is that Santa refuses to attend. His weak excuse is that he is not up to those heavy guys sitting on his lap anymore.

## **CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM**

The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



## **PING PONG- TUESDAYS AT 6:30**

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up). **Ping pong is cancelled on Tuesday November 5 due to election activities.**

## **DID YOU SEE MITCH?**



If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



## **NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.





### **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.



**Happy belated birthday to Lynn Roccograndi whose birthday was October 5!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

1	Linda Brownlee	7	Victoria Gardener	26	Matt Sitler
	Bonnie Morrison Sykes	17	Rhona Slawter	27	Mark Rilling
6	Michael Savchuck	18	Audrey Savchuck		
	Jeanne Wagner	22	Nicole Wills		

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



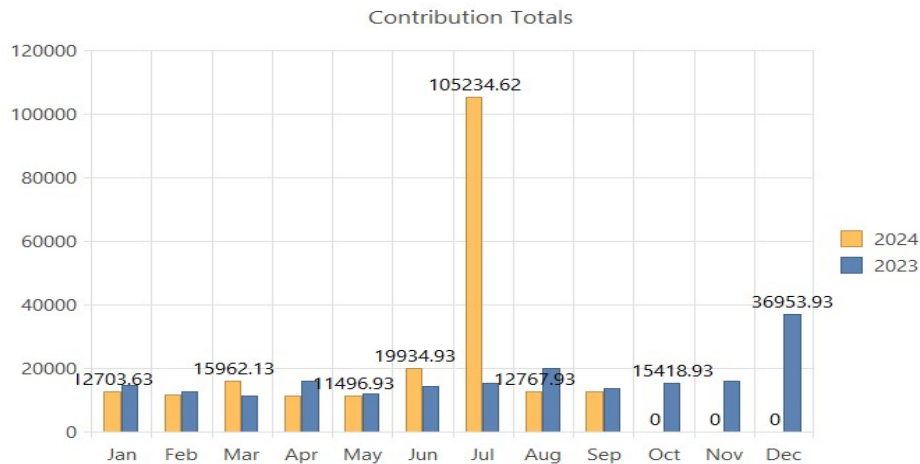
### **THE ARMED FORCES**

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

- ❖ Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr., son of Cindy Frey, 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
- ❖ Specialist Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, NY

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

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**



### **Financial Report for September 2024**

	Rec'd for Sept 2024	Budget for Sept 2024
General Fund	\$10,537.43	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,826	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$370	
Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,763.43	\$19,455.00

	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/24	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/24
General Fund	\$99,816.86	\$157,338.00
Mortgage	\$15,576.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$410.00	\$675.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,870.00	
Insurance Settlement *	\$87,496.69	
Web Upgrade	\$5,780.00	
Total	\$213,949.55	\$175,095.00

\*Funds received from the insurance company due to storm damage to the roof.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There 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, 45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954"

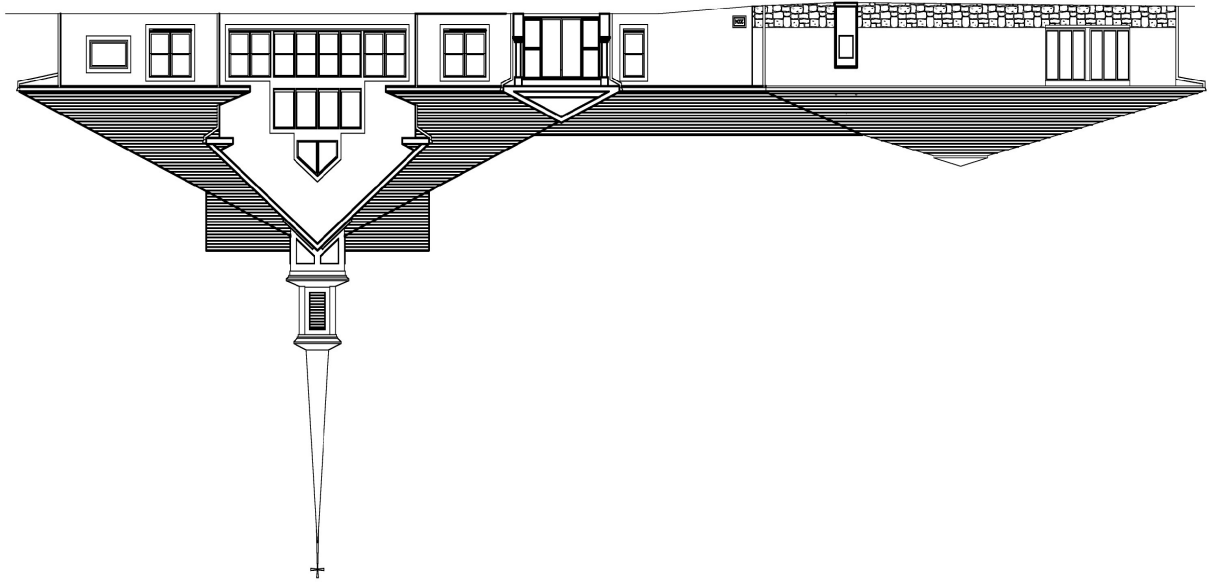
- Contribute online at [www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org). At the top of the page, click the "Give Now" link to see frequently asked questions. At the bottom of the page click the "Give Now" link for our Giving platform. You may also choose to set up recurring donations or a one-time donation.

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

# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b><u>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>5</b> <b><u>ELECTION DAY</u></b>  No Ping Pong tonight	<b>6</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>10</b> <b><u>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>12</b> 12:00 PM Advent Ladies Lunch Group <i>bring your own lunch</i>  6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>13</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b><u>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>18</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>20</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b><u>CHRIST THE KING</u></b> 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>27</b>  No Praise Band Practice or Vocal choir Practice tonight	<b>28</b> <b><u>THANKSGIVING</u></b>  No Bible Study tonight	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>30</b>



*Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
45 Worthington Mill Rd.  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909

THE ADVENTURE - 2024

# November



## 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.



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#### **CHRIST THE KING**

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Join Zoom Meeting:

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Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656



## **PASTOR MATT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024**

### **Strategic Mission Plan (SMP) Next Steps**

Throughout the season of Pentecost, we have been doing the God Sighting Chain congregational activity. Each of the links of the chain strewn through the sanctuary represents a moment when God's activity was witnessed in somebody's life.

The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

In the season of Epiphany that starts with Magi bring gifts to the Christ Child, we will shift our focus as a congregation to step 2 of the SMP, "What are our Gifts?" We will do this by using the "Spiritual Giftabilities" inventory as a congregation. We will look at the results as individuals and as a congregation. Exploring the results is one of my favorite activities to do with a congregation and I am excited to see what Advent's spiritual gifts are.

God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt



### **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 at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 3**

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who have died in the last year.

### **SPECIAL GUEST AT SERVICES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

On Sunday, November 10, the director of the Warminster Food Bank, Mike Cerino, will be speaking to the congregation at both services to give thanks for our continued support with food and monetary donations.

### **SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9:00 AM**

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only **one worship service** on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter**, **Lay Reader**, or **Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

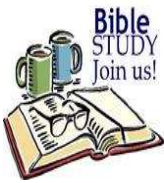
Our Bible lessons this fall have been sourced from the Old Testament. In late November, we will begin our Advent lessons to lead us toward Christmas. We enjoy the ***Holy Moly*** videos and Bible books for students from **age 4** through **grade 6**. The stylized lessons are real conversation-starters. We also enjoy songs, prayers, games, creative pages and crafts.

Our Sunday School students meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are always welcome! Registration forms may be found in the church foyer or narthex or on our website.

**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

### **PRAISE BAND and VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details. **There will be no practice on Wednesday, November 27.**



## **THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is held **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** led by Pastor Matt. Utilizing the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament,” we will delve deep into Jesus’ times to better understand the Gospel of Matthew written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>  
Meeting ID: **820 8911 0140**

**No Bible Study will be held on Thanksgiving, November 28.**



## **PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

**Prayer Chain:** The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email direct to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at [alcdeacon@yahoo.com](mailto:alcdeacon@yahoo.com). Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



## **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are dates still available for 2024 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.



## **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through December is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products.



## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
8:00 AM			9:30 AM		
11/3	Dave Elkin	Janice Hoffman	Jennifer McQuiggan		
11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.







## **GRATITUDE FOR FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Warminster Food Bank is grateful to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church for the generous donations of food, monetary donations and gift cards. Please continue donating whatever you can each month. Blue tote bags are available in the narthex. Food may be brought on Sunday and whenever the church office is open, or you can deposit your bags in the outdoor bench 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.

## **GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

During the month of November, we will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors that depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The envelopes will be available beginning the first Sunday in November and **should be returned to the church by December 1**. The gift cards will be given to families during the month of December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Thank you for your continued support of families in need.



## **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. A list of the **Food Bank's most needed items** is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

## **ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – NOVEMBER 9**

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would like to squelch the rumor that the menu will be Turkey and Eggs. We do not have that recipe but are working on it.

## **ADVENT LADIES LUNCH GROUP**

On Monday, September 30, Advent's Ladies Lunch Group enjoyed a wonderful day of fun, friendship, and shopping at Peddler's Village.

On Sunday, November 3, 10 ladies of the group plan to attend "White Christmas," a play at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, New Jersey.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- The next lunch meeting will be **Tuesday, November 12**, at noon in Advent's multipurpose room. *Bring your own lunch.*
- A special Christmas lunch is planned at the Pinewood Tavern in Wrightstown, on **Tuesday, December 3** at 1 pm, in their special garden room. The menu and cost will be determined and posted in the Sunday bulletins before 11/12

Please call or text Fran Zanis if you would like to attend either the November 12 Lunch meeting or the December 3 Christmas Lunch: 267-847-5098.



## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST - DECEMBER**

The Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, December 14**. Coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. A disappointment this year is that Santa refuses to attend. His weak excuse is that he is not up to those heavy guys sitting on his lap anymore.

## **CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM**

The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



## **PING PONG- TUESDAYS AT 6:30**

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up). **Ping pong is cancelled on Tuesday November 5 due to election activities.**

## **DID YOU SEE MITCH?**



If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



## **NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.



### **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.



**Happy belated birthday to Lynn Roccograndi whose birthday was October 5!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

1	Linda Brownlee	7	Victoria Gardener	26	Matt Sitler
	Bonnie Morrison Sykes	17	Rhona Slawter	27	Mark Rilling
6	Michael Savchuck	18	Audrey Savchuck		
	Jeanne Wagner	22	Nicole Wills		

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



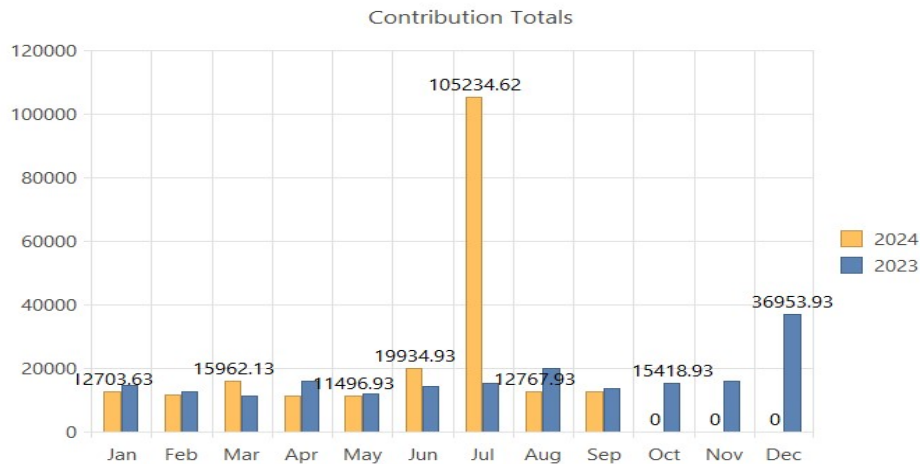
### **THE ARMED FORCES**

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

- ❖ Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr., son of Cindy Frey, 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
- ❖ Specialist Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, NY

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

## FINANCIAL REPORT



### Financial Report for September 2024

	Rec'd for Sept 2024	Budget for Sept 2024
General Fund	\$10,537.43	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,826	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$370	
Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,763.43	\$19,455.00

	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/24	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/24
General Fund	\$99,816.86	\$157,338.00
Mortgage	\$15,576.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$410.00	\$675.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,870.00	
Insurance Settlement *	\$87,496.69	
Web Upgrade	\$5,780.00	
Total	\$213,949.55	\$175,095.00

\*Funds received from the insurance company due to storm damage to the roof.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There 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, 45 Worthington Mill Road, 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.

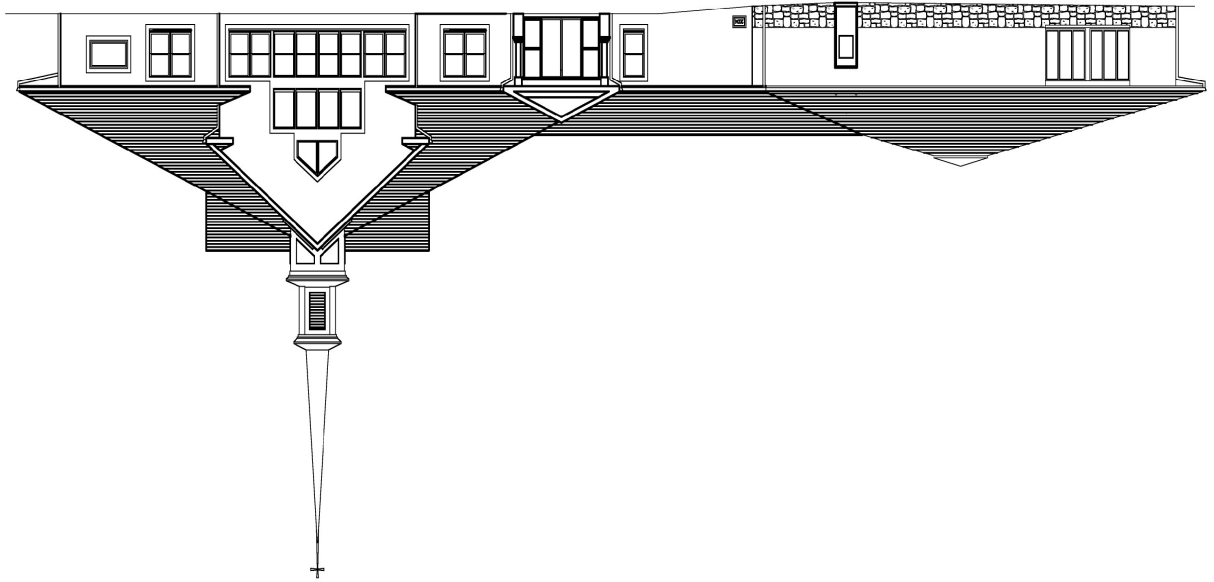
Again, thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions concerning your offering please call Cindy Frey, Financial Secretary 267-205-0713

# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b><u>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>5</b> <b><u>ELECTION DAY</u></b>  No Ping Pong tonight	<b>6</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>10</b> <b><u>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>12</b> 12:00 PM Advent Ladies Lunch Group <i>bring your own lunch</i>  6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>13</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b><u>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>18</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>20</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b><u>CHRIST THE KING</u></b> 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>27</b>  No Praise Band Practice or Vocal choir Practice tonight	<b>28</b> <b><u>THANKSGIVING</u></b>  No Bible Study tonight	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>30</b>





*Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
45 Worthington Mill Rd.  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909

THE ADVENTURE - 2024

# November



## 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  
45 Worthington Mill Road  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909  
215-355-2529

[www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)

e-mail:

Adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

### COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

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 longer wear gloves. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- 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- NOVEMBER SCHEDULE**

### **NOVEMBER 3 (Daylight Savings)**

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 10**

#### **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 a.m. Bible Study: George Henry

### **NOVEMBER 24**

#### **CHRIST THE KING**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open  
10:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

## **ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION**

Worship services may also be attended by Zoom and it will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION**

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Worship 8:00 am service.

Time: 8:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENlVDJTT0pnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Worship 9:30 am service.

Time: 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErSFNlbnVAVmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

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The purpose of this activity has been to encourage us to look for God's activity in our lives on a moment-to-moment basis. This spiritual practice builds our sense of God's presence, our faith and sense of security. It will also develop our sense of God leading us over time. Even though we have celebrated the completion of our chain on Reformation Sunday, we will still be encouraging this spiritual practice and will be occasionally asking folks to share their God Sightings in worship.

Recognizing God's activity in our lives is crucial to the next steps of the SMP. Again, the steps of the plan are:

1. Spiritual Growth
2. What are our Gifts?
3. What are the Needs of the Community?
4. Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?
5. What is God calling us to do?

The God Sighting Chain is part of the first step of "Spiritual Growth." We will need our sense of faith as we ask God to help us identify "What are our Gifts?" We will need a sense of God's presence as we build relationships in Richboro and ask "What are the Needs of the Community?" We will need God's guidance as we discern "Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?" We will need all the benefits of our spiritual growth as we respond to "What is God calling us to do?"

So, what is next for the SMP as a congregation? We have almost finished our focus on "Spiritual Growth." There is one last activity as part of Spiritual Growth for us to begin and that is a Worship Renewal process. Like God Sightings, worship is a spiritual space where we encounter God's activity through Word and Sacrament. The key difference between encountering God's activity in everyday life and in worship is that we are guaranteed to encounter God's activity or love in worship no matter what. We will begin this process in Advent with a sermon series on the four parts of worship. The Worship Renewal process will then extend into steps 2 and 3 of the SMP.

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God's blessings be with you!

Pastor Matt



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### **SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9:00 AM**

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only **one worship service** on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24 AT 10:15 AM**

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m. This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

### **CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an **Usher/Greeter**, **Lay Reader**, or **Communion Assistant**. Also, if you know a youth who may be interested in being an **Acolyte**, we could use them, too.

- Gail Oines, Deaconess



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER – See note for important update**

Our Bible lessons this fall have been sourced from the Old Testament. In late November, we will begin our Advent lessons to lead us toward Christmas. We enjoy the ***Holy Moly*** videos and Bible books for students from **age 4** through **grade 6**. The stylized lessons are real conversation-starters. We also enjoy songs, prayers, games, creative pages and crafts.

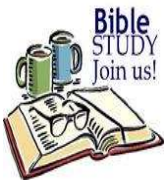
Our Sunday School students meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are always welcome! Registration forms may be found in the church foyer or narthex or on our website.

**Please note:** On **November 24**, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day. - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

### **PRAISE BAND and VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details. **There will be no practice on Wednesday, November 27.**





### **THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is held **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** led by Pastor Matt. Utilizing the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament,” we will delve deep into Jesus’ times to better understand the Gospel of Matthew written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>  
Meeting ID: **820 8911 0140**

**No Bible Study will be held on Thanksgiving, November 28.**



### **PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the ***Prayers of Intercession*** during worship and through the ***Prayer Chain*** during the week.

**Prayers of Intercession:** To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service. If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

**Prayer Chain:** The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email direct to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at [alcdeacon@yahoo.com](mailto:alcdeacon@yahoo.com). Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYER REQUEST CARD  
(Place in Offering Plate)

I request prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

The situation for which I want prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers will be offered for one month.  
Please write prayers of thanksgiving on reverse side.

*If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the Prayers of Intercession and the Prayer Chain, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.*



### **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are dates still available for 2024 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.



### **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through December is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS		COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
8:00 AM			9:30 AM		
11/3	Dave Elkin	Janice Hoffman	Jennifer McQuiggan		
11/10	Rose Herbert		John Flint	Megan Ward	
11/17	George Henry		Gail Oines	Kristi Ward	
11/24	TBD		TBD	Joyce Heiss	

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclicht, Rhona Slawter

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Thank you to all who gathered to assemble our turkey dinners for **Caring for Friends** on October 27 and to all who participated by providing and/or preparing food, assembling the trays or saying a prayer for the recipients of these meals. We froze a total of 57 meals, all ready to be dropped off by mid-November.







## **GRATITUDE FOR FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Warminster Food Bank is grateful to the congregation at Advent Lutheran Church for the generous donations of food, monetary donations and gift cards. Please continue donating whatever you can each month. Blue tote bags are available in the narthex. Food may be brought on Sunday and whenever the church office is open, or you can deposit your bags in the outdoor bench 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.

## **GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

During the month of November, we will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors that depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The envelopes will be available beginning the first Sunday in November and **should be returned to the church by December 1**. The gift cards will be given to families during the month of December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Thank you for your continued support of families in need.



## **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. A list of the **Food Bank's most needed items** is in the narthex or on the website [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org). Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

## **ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – NOVEMBER 9**

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m.

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would like to squelch the rumor that the menu will be Turkey and Eggs. We do not have that recipe but are working on it.

## **ADVENT LADIES LUNCH GROUP**

On Monday, September 30, Advent's Ladies Lunch Group enjoyed a wonderful day of fun, friendship, and shopping at Peddler's Village.

On Sunday, November 3, 10 ladies of the group plan to attend "White Christmas," a play at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, New Jersey.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- The next lunch meeting will be **Tuesday, November 12**, at noon in Advent's multipurpose room. *Bring your own lunch.*
- A special Christmas lunch is planned at the Pinewood Tavern in Wrightstown, on **Tuesday, December 3** at 1 pm, in their special garden room. The menu and cost will be determined and posted in the Sunday bulletins before 11/12

Please call or text Fran Zanis if you would like to attend either the November 12 Lunch meeting or the December 3 Christmas Lunch: 267-847-5098.



## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

## **ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - DECEMBER 8, AFTER BRUNCH**

We will be decorating the Christmas trees in the narthex and sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, after the Christmas Brunch. All are invited to participate.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST - DECEMBER**

The Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, December 14**. Coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. A disappointment this year is that Santa refuses to attend. His weak excuse is that he is not up to those heavy guys sitting on his lap anymore.

## **CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00 PM**

The annual Christmas Jazz Concert will be held at Advent on **Saturday evening December 21 at 7:00 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Mike Dettra and his band, The Dettra Mental Trio. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment! A free-will offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served. Thank you for supporting Mike and his band.



## **PING PONG- TUESDAYS AT 6:30**

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up). **Ping pong is cancelled on Tuesday November 5 due to election activities.**

## **DID YOU SEE MITCH?**



If you missed the Mitch McVicker concert on October 2, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were inspiring and the munchies weren't bad either. Out of town guests traveled to Advent to experience his music: ladies from Good News home in Flemington, a father and son from Ephrata and fans from Pottstown. We were blessed to have him at Advent once again. (And yes, he plays all those instruments and uses the other paraphernalia to create the rhythms as he goes along.)



## **NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

In October, Marie McCool was hired as the new Administrative Assistant for the church office. A native of Philadelphia, she now resides in Langhorne with her husband John, her kids Aine, James and Claire, and her pets Neville, Luca, Hazel and Izzy. She graduated from Fordham University in New York City where she studied Math and Theology. She has worked in various fields including career counseling, human resources, and most recently in veterinary medicine for almost 12 years. Marie loves to read, watch movies, root for the Phillies and Eagles, and most of all snuggle and spend time with her family – both human and furry.



Many thanks are owed to Joanne Kelly, Kathryn Urbaniak and Gary Zimmerman who served on the search team. We received 72 applications and conducted two rounds of interviews with many highly qualified candidates to find Marie. Please give Marie a warm welcome to the Advent Church family.



### **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.



**Happy belated birthday to Lynn Roccograndi whose birthday was October 5!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

1	Linda Brownlee	7	Victoria Gardener	26	Matt Sitler
	Bonnie Morrison Sykes	17	Rhona Slawter	27	Mark Rilling
6	Michael Savchuck	18	Audrey Savchuck		
	Jeanne Wagner	22	Nicole Wills		

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



### **THE ARMED FORCES**

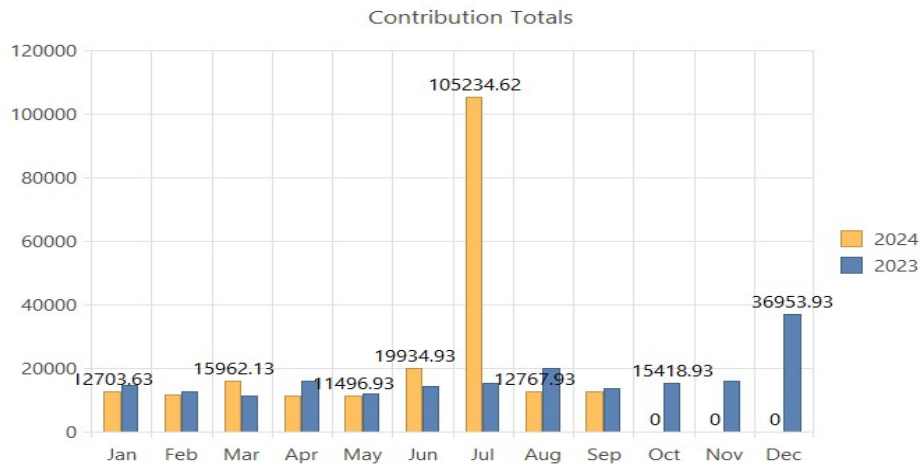
Please keep in your prayers all our service men and women and especially those related to our congregation:

- ❖ Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr., son of Cindy Frey, 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
- ❖ Specialist Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, NY

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



## FINANCIAL REPORT



### Financial Report for September 2024

	Rec'd for Sept 2024	Budget for Sept 2024
General Fund	\$10,537.43	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,826	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$370	
Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,763.43	\$19,455.00

	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/24	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/24
General Fund	\$99,816.86	\$157,338.00
Mortgage	\$15,576.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$410.00	\$675.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,870.00	
Insurance Settlement *	\$87,496.69	
Web Upgrade	\$5,780.00	
Total	\$213,949.55	\$175,095.00

\*Funds received from the insurance company due to storm damage to the roof.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There 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, 45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954"

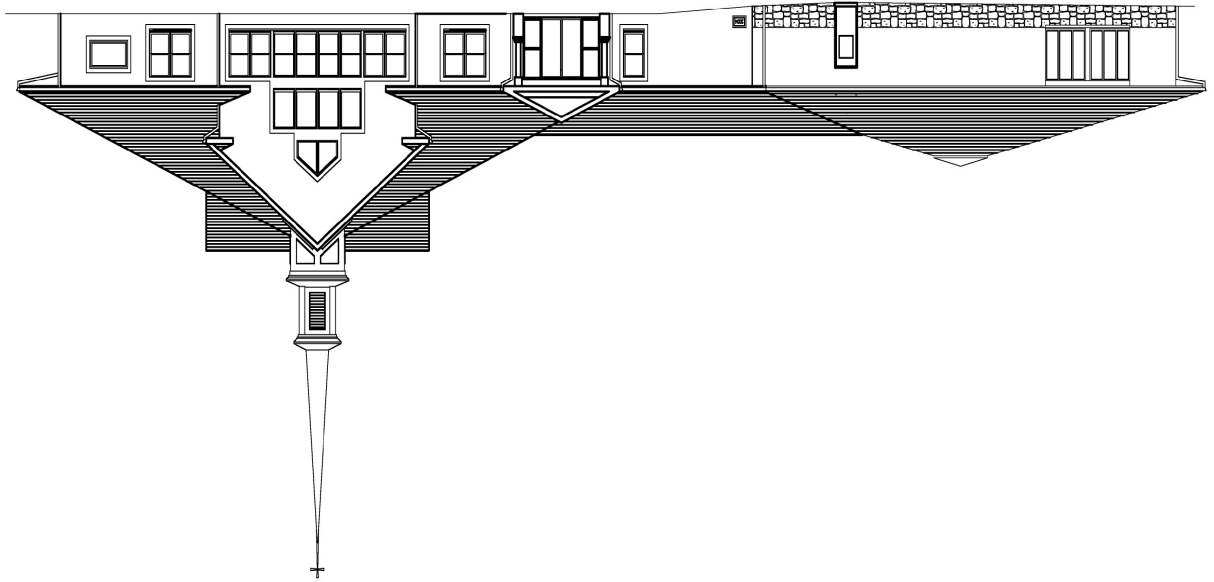
- Contribute online at [www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org). At the top of the page, click the "Give Now" link to see frequently asked questions. At the bottom of the page click the "Give Now" link for our Giving platform. You may also choose to set up recurring donations or a one-time donation.

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

# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b><u>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>5</b> <b><u>ELECTION DAY</u></b>  No Ping Pong tonight	<b>6</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>10</b> <b><u>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>12</b> 12:00 PM Advent Ladies Lunch Group <i>bring your own lunch</i>  6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>13</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b><u>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</u></b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry	<b>18</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>20</b> 6:30-7:15 PM Praise Band Practice  7:15-8:00 PM Vocal choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Bible Study via zoom	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b><u>CHRIST THE KING</u></b> 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: <b>Open</b> 10:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Ping Pong	<b>27</b>  No Praise Band Practice or Vocal choir Practice tonight	<b>28</b> <b><u>THANKSGIVING</u></b>  No Bible Study tonight	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	<b>30</b>



*Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
45 Worthington Mill Rd.  
Richboro, PA 18954-1909