

The Adventure



NOVEMBER 2025 ISSUE

MISSION STATEMENT

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.

INCLUDED IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

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Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen
Pastor

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

www.adventrichboro.org
adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/adventrichboropa/>



COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church continues to have these precautions:

- Respect for those who choose to mask and/or 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.

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 at 215-859-3778 or email him at pastormattolikainen@gmail.com.
If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

Pastor on Vacation:

Pastor Matt will be away **Friday, November 27 through Monday, December 1.**

In case of a pastoral emergency while Pastor is away,
please contact Pastor Bo Bannister at 765-426-0500.

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MATT

After a Summer hiatus, the Strategic Mission Team met on Tuesday, October 7. We discussed where we are in the **Strategic Mission Plan** and what the steps are for the rest of 2025 and for 2026.

As a refresher, here are the **Steps of the Strategic Mission Plan** (SMP):

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?

After two years we are at the end of Step 2 of the SMP. The remaining steps will not take as long. We should be able to complete Steps 3 and 4 in 2026. Step 5 is where we will start to see the SMP bear fruit. The fruit will be the formation of new or revitalized key ministries and greater spiritual vitality in the congregation.

As part of Step 2, *What are our Gifts?*, we have completed the Spiritual Giftabilities inventory in the spring. To complete this step, we need to measure the gifts God has given to us that are assets. On Saturday, January 17, 2026 we will have a Spaghetti Dinner. That evening the Strategic Mission Team will lead us in a Congregational Activity of Asset Mapping of the congregation and the community.

In the meantime, Step 3, *What are the Needs of the Community?* has already begun. During the past 5 years of my ministry at Advent, I have networked and built relationships in the community. I have established connections with our township supervisors, the police department, the school district, EMS services, the veteran's community, retirement and care communities and many community volunteers. I will be interviewing these community leaders in the coming weeks and months. We will also look closely at the demographic information from the U.S. Census Bureau of our area. The last set of data on the needs of the community will come from you. We will survey the top five needs of the community as identified by the congregation.



To complete Step 4, *Where do the Gifts and Needs Intersect?* the Strategic Mission Team will put together a Ministry Brainstorm Packet. We will pull together the results of the Giftabilities Inventory, the Asset Mapping, the community interviews, the demographic data, and the congregational survey, so that all the data can be seen side-by-side. The Ministry Brainstorm Packet will then have space to list church gifts and needs that seem to align and for ministry ideas to be written down. The SMT will have the packet ready for next Congregational Activity on Saturday, April 18. We will have another Spaghetti Dinner, at which time we will introduce and complete the Ministry Brainstorm Packet. One month later on Sunday, May 17, we will share the top five ministry idea results. At that time, we will decide which of the ideas presented might be started by the fall of 2026.

Peace,
Pastor Matt

Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, January 17, 2026:

Spaghetti Dinner and Asset Mapping with the Congregation

Saturday, April 18, 2026:

Spaghetti Dinner, introduction and completion of the Ministry Brainstorm Packet

Sunday, May 17, 2026:

Single worship service, followed by the introduction of the top 5 results of Ministry Brainstorm Packet to the congregation. Decide which of the five ministry ideas presented might be started by the fall of 2026.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 2

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
with Holy Communion
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service
with Holy Communion
Sunday School *students age 4 to grade 6*
10:30 AM Fellowship: Open
10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry

NOVEMBER 16

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
with Holy Communion
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service
with Holy Communion
Sunday School *students age 4 to grade 6*
10:30 AM Fellowship: Open
10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry

NOVEMBER 30

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 AM Service of the Word – no Communion
9:30 AM Service of the Word – no Communion
Sunday School *students age 4 to grade 6*
10:30 AM Fellowship: Open
10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry

NOVEMBER 9

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
with Holy Communion
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service
with Holy Communion
Sunday School *students age 4 to grade 6*
10:30 AM Fellowship: Open
10:45 AM Bible Study with George Henry

NOVEMBER 23

CHRIST THE KING

HARVEST HOME BLESSING

9:00 AM Single Worship Service
with Holy Communion
Sunday School *students age 4 to grade 6*
10:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting

ALTAR GUILD: Kristi Ward, Joyce Heiss, Jeanne Gryszka

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

FLOWER DISTRIBUTION: Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Slight, Rhona Slawter

SERVING IN WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 2025 SCHEDULE

	8:00 AM		9:30 AM	
	LAY READER	COMMUNION ASST	LAY READER	COMMUNION ASST
11/2	David Elkin	Janice Hoffmann	Bruce Eklund	Joyce Heiss
11/9	David Elkin	Janice Hoffmann	John Flint	Kristi Ward
11/16	David Elkin	Janice Hoffmann	Bruce Eklund	Megan Ward
11/23 – 9:00 AM	David Elkin	Joyce Heiss	N/A	N/A
11/30	David Elkin	N/A	John Flint	N/A

ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION

Worship services may be attended by [Zoom](#) and they will also be live streamed on [Facebook](#).
A recording of services will be available on [YouTube](#) and our [website](#) after the services conclude.

ZOOM INFORMATION

PLEASE MUTE YOURSELF WHEN NOT SPEAKING

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE on **SUNDAYS at 8:00 AM**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88978688226> Passcode: 309955

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE on **SUNDAYS at 9:30 AM**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85489433054> Passcode: 940367

SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE, **NOVEMBER 23 at 9:00 AM**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83963096008> Passcode: 318222

WORSHIP-RELATED INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER



Our Sunday School students are learning key Bible lessons found in The Old Testament, starting with God's creation, followed by His continued guidance as he chose exceptional leaders for the faithful. These lessons form an important foundation for our curriculum.

In November, we will lead into the season of Advent, to introduce the events leading up to the birth of Jesus. Along with these New Testament lessons, students will prepare for our upcoming Christmas Pageant on December 7, which will take place as part of the 9:30 a.m. worship service. New students are welcome, from age 4 thru Grade 6. We are grateful for our volunteers who are assisting in the classroom to help us fit our various layers of learning into our limited amount of time!

~Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSISTANTS NEEDED



Our Sunday school program is presently in need of an assistant for each weekly class. Our policy requires us to have two responsible persons lead a class. At this time, we have one experienced teacher who teaches every week.

In order to provide an assistant, a sign-up sheet has been placed in the narthex for volunteers to offer their help, one Sunday at a time. Thank you to all who have already signed up! If you can help by serving as an assistant to our teacher in Sunday School at 9:30 AM on one or more Sundays during the school year, please sign an empty space. Volunteers require a background check. Feel free to contact me for more information. Thank you to all who have signed up!

-Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY IN-PERSON ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sunday in-person Bible Study with George Henry is held most Sundays after the 9:30 AM service. Check the weekly bulletins for the most up-to-date information. Meet in the Parlor.



THURSDAY NIGHT ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Night Zoom Bible Study with Pastor Matt will be held on most Thursdays at 7:00 PM, but NOT on the first Thursday of each month.

Thursday Night Bible Study offers you an opportunity to "Stump the Pastor!" Submit scripture-related questions via email to adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com with "Stump the Pastor" in the subject line OR handwrite your questions on the Stump the Pastor slips located on the round table in the narthex. George Henry will tabulate the questions and select those to be answered each week during the Zoom Bible Study.

A weekly commitment is not needed! Come virtually with your Bible or just listen and follow along as your schedule allows.

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

GOD SIGHTINGS – INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Please take the time to reflect on how God is seen in your life through actions and/or spiritual gifts that you or someone in your life has done. On the paper chain link (available in the narthex), please identify the person (if applicable) and the action/spiritual gift through which God is being seen. For example, "Grandmom taught me how to bake a pie." The person who is displaying God should be underlined and the action or spiritual gift should be underlined twice.



WORSHIP-RELATED INFORMATION & OPPORTUNITIES (CONTINUED)

RESPONDING TO YOUR BAPTISMAL CALL AT WORSHIP SERVICES

You have many opportunities to respond to your Baptismal Call at worship services. Claim God's grace and share your gifts as part of the Praise Band or Vocal Choir, as a Lay Reader, Communion Assistant, Acolyte, or Greeter, or by assisting with set up for services. *Please contact the church office for more information at 215-355-2529.*



Call for Praise Band & Vocal Choir Members

Practices for both Praise Band and Vocal Choir occur on most Wednesdays.

♪ **Praise Band:** Wednesdays, **5:30 PM to 6:15 PM**

♪ **Vocal Choir:** Wednesdays, **6:15 PM to 7:30 PM**

If you are interested in learning more about either Praise Band or Vocal Choir, please contact Mike Dettra, Music Director, or the church office at 215-355-2529.

Call for Worship Assistants

Training is provided for those interested in serving as Lay Reader, Communion Assistant, Acolyte or Greeter. Volunteers can also assist behind the scenes with set up prior to services.

DEDICATIONS FOR WORSHIP SERVICES

Payments for dedications may be made using the marked envelopes by the sign-up charts or by mailing payment to the church at 45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954.

*Please make checks payable to **Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church** and write **Altar Flowers** or **Mission Support** in the memo.*

MISSION DEDICATIONS

The 2025 Mission Dedication sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. The Mission Dedication donations benefit our sister church, **Iglesia Luterana Nueva Creacion**, which does vital work in North Philadelphia. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex on the table by the sanctuary doors. Please include your name and dedication. Dedications cost \$25. You can also call the church office to submit your mission dedication at 215-355-2529.

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The 2025 sign-up sheet for Altar Dedications is available in the narthex. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the narthex with your name and dedication.

Two bouquets are available for dedication each week. The cost is \$25 per bouquet. Bouquets are available to take home after the 9:30 AM service to enjoy during the week. If you have any questions, please call Cindy Frey at 267-205-0713. Thank you for helping to beautify the altar.



We need groups or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments for **Fellowship time**. Fellowship is held after the 9:30 AM service or the 9:00 AM service (on Sundays with a single worship service). The sign-up sheet through the end of the year is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e., coffee & tea) and all paper products. If you would like to support Fellowship Time but do not have the time or ability to bake or shop for snacks, please consider donating a few dollars.

Thank you on behalf of all the hungry snackers!

WORSHIP-RELATED INFORMATION & OPPORTUNITIES (CONTINUED)

SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE & ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – Sunday, November 23



The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2026 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 23, at 10:15 AM. The meeting will be available via Zoom for those not able to attend in person.

This meeting will follow a single worship service at 9:00 AM. 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!

POINSETTIA DEDICATION LIST FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Sign up deadline is Sunday, December 14



A sign-up sheet for dedicating poinsettias for the Christmas Eve worship service will be on the round table in the narthex. Please sign up by Sunday, December 14. You may also call or email the church office with your dedication. Poinsettias may be picked up anytime after the 7:30 PM service on Christmas Eve. Cost per plant is \$15. Please contact Cindy Frey with any questions.

WELCOME TO ADVENT, JOAN RUSSEL!

Sunday, October 26, 2025

On Sunday, October 26, Advent welcomed Joan Russel as an official member of the congregation. An Affirmation of Baptism was included in worship during the 9:30 AM service which was followed by a special coffee hour in the narthex.



Almighty God,

We thank you for the journey that has brought Joan to our congregation. May Advent be a source of support in times of trouble and a place of great joy in times of celebration. We pray that Joan will feel your presence, find a true sense of belonging, and grow in her understanding of your love. May we, as a congregation, be welcoming and encourage her as she takes her place among us.

In Christ's name, we pray. Amen

additional pictures on page 11

UPCOMING DATES FOR THE ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON

**denotes tentative date/time*

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Sunday, November 30: | First Sunday of Advent, 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM worship services |
| Sunday December 7: | Second Sunday of Advent, 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM worship services
Sunday School Christmas Pageant, during the 9:30 AM worship service
*Advent's Annual Christmas Brunch, following the 9:30 AM worship service
*Decorating of Advent's Christmas Tree, following the Christmas Brunch |
| Sunday, December 14: | Third Sunday of Advent, 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM worship services |
| Saturday, December 20: | *Christmas Jazz Concert, 7:00 PM |
| Sunday, December 21: | Fourth Sunday of Advent, 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM worship services |
| Wednesday, December 24: | Christmas Eve worship service, 7:00 PM |

PRAYERS 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 DURING SERVICES

To add names of those in need of prayer:

- ❖ *If you are attending worship in-person*, please provide the person's first name to Pastor when he takes names at the beginning of the service.
- ❖ *If you are worshiping online*, please message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list.

Because services are available world-wide through the internet, we use only baptismal or first names and omit surnames. The list of names gathered 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 maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier.

To add names to the Prayer Chain:

- ❖ Complete a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary. Please place completed cards in the offering plate, or
- ❖ Submit names by email to Linda Weaver at lindaweaver3@comcast.net.

More information may be provided to allow the Prayer Chain volunteers to pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY



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

- ❖ **Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr.**, son of Cindy Frey, serving as Commander of the 2^d Weather Group at Offutt Airforce Base, Nebraska
- ❖ **Private 1st Class Aidan Hahn**, nephew of Marie McCool, serving in Kaiserslautern, Germany
- ❖ **Airman Andrew Slawter**, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico
- ❖ **Sergeant Joseph Vanderstine**, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, stationed at Fort Drum, New York

Please contact the church office at 215-355-2529 with any omissions or additions to our military prayer list.

A PRAYER FOR OUR SOLDIERS

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR OUR VETERANS

Dear Lord, we pray for all veterans who have bravely served our country. Please continue to shield them from harm and guide them through their journeys of healing and peace. Surround them with a supportive community and remind them of your unchanging love. We ask that you provide them with the strength to overcome any challenges they face, physically or mentally. Thank you, Lord, for the service of these heroes and your unending protection over their lives. Amen.

PROPERTY UPDATE

ROUND THREE OF TREE WORK PROJECT COMPLETED



Yes, we just had more tree work completed on our property in September . . . so, why was another round (number three) needed in October? The answer is that during the assessment phase for the September work all three companies that we accepted bids from recommended that the tree (colloquially called a swamp maple) in our playground area be removed ASAP. As it turned out, this tree's internal central core was decaying in both of its two main trunks (see picture for large hole in one of the trunks). To make matters worse, one of the damaged trunks was positioned overtop of our sanctuary while the other had branches hanging over the top of our shed. Accordingly, it was recommended to remove the entire tree, which was done the week of October 20.



After getting three bids for the tree and stump removal, Norman's Tree Service (\$2,200) was contracted to do the work. The company was a pleasure to work with throughout the project and provided excellent service, both in the tree/stump work and in taking great care to ensure minimal disruption to the lawn during the work.

Funding for the project was taken from the reserves from the land sale. Our mortgage company Mission Invest Fund has restricted the use of this money for capital projects, such as the



cost for this tree work project. We have several people to thank for guiding this project through to its completion.



First, are Property Committee Chair Keith Wills and Mike Sitler for assessing the scope of the work that needed to be addressed. Second, is Church Council for their work in reviewing the quotes and approving the project. And lastly, thanks to Mike Sitler for his work on contract talks and on-site monitoring of the work being done.

We can be thankful that our property is now a little safer for both people and property.

ADVENT COMMUNITY – NOVEMBER EVENTS



ELECTION DAY – Tuesday, November 4, 2025

On Tuesday, November 4, elections throughout the United States will be held. Advent serves as a polling location for Northampton Voting District 1.

If you are unsure of your district and/or specific polling location, you can go to: <https://www.pa.gov/services/vote/find-your-local-polling-place> for more information.

"Voting is the expression of our commitment to ourselves, one another, this country and this world."

- Sharon Salzberg



PING PONG – Most Tuesday evenings, at 6:30 PM

All are welcome to come and enjoy an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM. If you are interested in giving it a try, please contact the church at 215-355-2529 or adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com.

Ping pong will not be held on Tuesday, November 4 because Advent is a polling place for Election Day.



MEN'S BREAKFAST – Saturday, November 8, 8:00 AM

The Men's breakfast will meet on Saturday, November 8. Our theme will be Thanksgiving, however the menu of turkey and eggs didn't go over well before. We serve at 8:30, coffee ready at 7:30



ADVENT WOMEN'S CIRCLE – Next Meeting November 11, 12:00 PM

The Advent Women's Circle's mission is to support Advent through the implementation of projects that fill a need. We bring a simple lunch and discuss ideas and plans, all the while enjoying our time spent together with joy and humor. We celebrate birthdays for that month and write greeting cards to members in need of well-wishes.

Our social outings are an added feature that encourage us to explore local destinations. We thank Fran Zanis for serving as our leader and coordinator. If you would like to attend an upcoming meeting as a new attendee, please contact the church office to confirm the date as it draws closer.

Upcoming Outings/Meetings:

November Lunch Meeting – BYO Lunch – Tuesday, November 11, 12:00 PM

Peddlers Village Visit/Gingerbread House Displays – Tuesday, December 2

No Meeting in December

January Lunch Meeting – BYO Lunch – Tuesday, January 13, 12:00 PM

SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH THE ADVENT COMMUNITY!

Have information or an event you would like to advertise to the Advent community?

Please reach out to the church office with any pertinent information.

215-355-2529

adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



**Warminster
Food Bank**

A Vision. A Mission.

SPECIAL FOOD COLLECTION FOR HARVEST HOME – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23



Please consider bringing a food or supply donation as part of the Harvest Home blessing. Donations will be directed to the Warminster Food Bank.

Most needed items currently needed include:

Food Items: ketchup, mustard, broth, salsa, baked beans, jelly, rice, canned fruits, stuffing mix, bread crumbs, instant oatmeal packets, pancake mix, syrup, taco shells, Knorr rice sides, saltines

Non-Food Items: store gift cards, laundry detergent (pods or liquid), household cleaning supplies, toothbrushes, toothpaste, other oral care items, toilet paper, paper towels, gently used grocery-size paper bags

GIFT CARD COLLECTION FOR HOLIDAYS



We will once again be collecting gift cards for our neighbors who depend on the Warminster Food Bank for food each month. The collection envelopes will be available beginning Sunday, November 23 and will be given to our neighbors beginning in December. Please consider helping our neighbors in need as we have done in the last few years. Your donations are greatly appreciated! Please contact Nancy Slight if you have any questions.

DRIVE IN AND DROP OFF FOOD COLLECTION - ONGOING



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.

Check the food bank's website for the most up-to-date needs:

<https://warminsterfoodbank.org/>

COAT DRIVE: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2 THROUGH SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16



We are collecting new and gently worn coats (all sizes) for Prevention Point Philadelphia. This is a non-profit organization that supports the unhoused and addicted in the Kensington area of Philadelphia. We are collecting coats starting Sunday, October 26 through Sunday, November 16. Please place donations in the designated bin in the narthex.



**Ronald McDonald
House Charities®**
Philadelphia Region

RECYCLING CAN TABS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

We are collecting can tabs to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities which help alleviate some financial burdens for families along their child's healthcare journey. Last year alone, they helped families save \$736 million in lodging and meal expenses.

Tab's can be placed in the marked containers in the narthex, on the shelf above the coat rack.

No cans, please – just tabs!

ADVENT COMMUNITY EVENTS – OCTOBER 2025



MITCH MCVICKER CONCERT

Wednesday, October 1

If you missed Mitch McVicker's concert on October 1, then you missed a great time. The music and the message were truly inspiring.

He played and used all the instruments and objects pictured to create interesting and wonderful songs and rhythms.



WELCOME TO ADVENT, JOAN! – Sunday, October 26



ADVENT COMMUNITY EVENTS – OCTOBER 2025 (CONTINUED)



CARING FOR FRIENDS MEAL PREP EVENT – Thank you!

Our congregation came together in the spirit of giving for our **Caring for Friends Thanksgiving Meal Prep Event** on October 19th! Thanks to the teamwork and generosity of our volunteers, we prepared and packaged **73 complete Thanksgiving meals** for individuals and families in need. Each meal was made with care to bring warmth, comfort, and a sense of togetherness to our neighbors this holiday season. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated their time, ingredients, and energy to make a difference. Your kindness truly embodies the meaning of Thanksgiving! 🍽️ ❤️



ADVENT COMMUNITY EVENTS – OCTOBER 2025 (CONTINUED)

ADVENT WOMEN'S CIRCLE BRISTOL RIVERSIDE THEATER AND KING GEORGE'S INN Sunday, October 26



Advent Women's Circle had a very enjoyable Sunday visit to the waterfront in Bristol.

The afternoon started with a delicious lunch at the King George II Inn. We had riverfront seats.

Then off to the Bristol Riverside Theater for a special show -*The Vegas Rat Pack*, featuring Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis, Jr., and Dean Martin impersonators. The weather was perfect for a stroll along the streets of Bristol. It was a good day for being with friends.



THE HONEYMOON CONTINUES...

On May 18, Advent had a celebration for the marriage of Pastor Matt and Debbie. It was an absolutely wonderful occasion filled with joy and love. Pastor Matt and Debbie were greatly moved by the generous gift of several gift certificates to restaurants, shows, sites and experiences. This past month their adventures brought them to...



Brandywine Prime 10/10/2025



The information and events below are excerpts from the MinistryLink Newsletter from SEPA



FAITH ALIVE WORSHIP LEARNING LAB

Saturday, November 22, 2025, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Lutheran Church of God's Love, Newtown

REGISTRATION IS OPEN: <https://community.ministrylink.org/faithaliveworshiplearninglab>

Faith Alive is a Lilly Endowment funded process in SEPA Synod for creating a wider welcome for children (ages 0-12) to be fully themselves in worship. You are invited to come along on this journey of faith and transformation.

UPCOMING KINDLING FAITH EVENTS



Kindling Faith
Center for Sabbath
Rest and Formation

www.unitedlutheranseminary.edu/calendar

Online Pastoral Care Series with Rev. Dr. Beth Toler returns this fall! Registration will go live soon. Here are the remaining topics for the current academic year:

- November 10/13 - Grace in the Final Chapter: Spiritual Care and the Death with Dignity Movement
- January 12/15 - This is What Spiritual Care Looks Like: Community Activism and Engagement
- February 9/12 - Walking the Road to Recovery: Spiritual Care for those Facing Addiction
- March 9/12 - Standing in the Storm: Spiritual Care as Crisis Response
- April 13/16 - Caring for Souls in a Wounded World: Spiritual Care in the Context of Climate Change

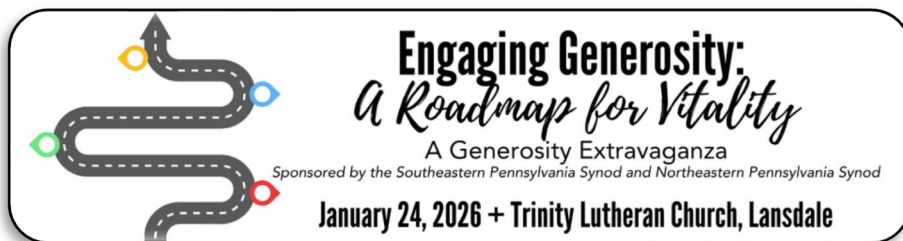
Thomas Keesecker in Concert

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Telford

Sunday, November 16, 2025 3:00 PM

Reception after the concert - Freewill offering

Thomas Keesecker will share music from his bestselling piano collections in a 75-minute concert of Advent and Christmas music. Keesecker, a composer as well as performer, is known around the country for his sensitive, delightful, and meditative piano arrangements of hymns. Tom retired in 2019 after serving as a church musician for over 40 years in Lutheran and Roman Catholic parishes in Virginia, Montana, and Maryland. His sacred music is published by several leading church music publishers. He studied at the Berklee College of Music in Boston and the Catholic University School of Music in Washington, D.C. He mixes classical technique, jazz improvisation, Celtic and folk music influences in his arrangements. His music may be listened to on Amazon Music and YouTube. CDs of his music will be available for purchase after the concert.



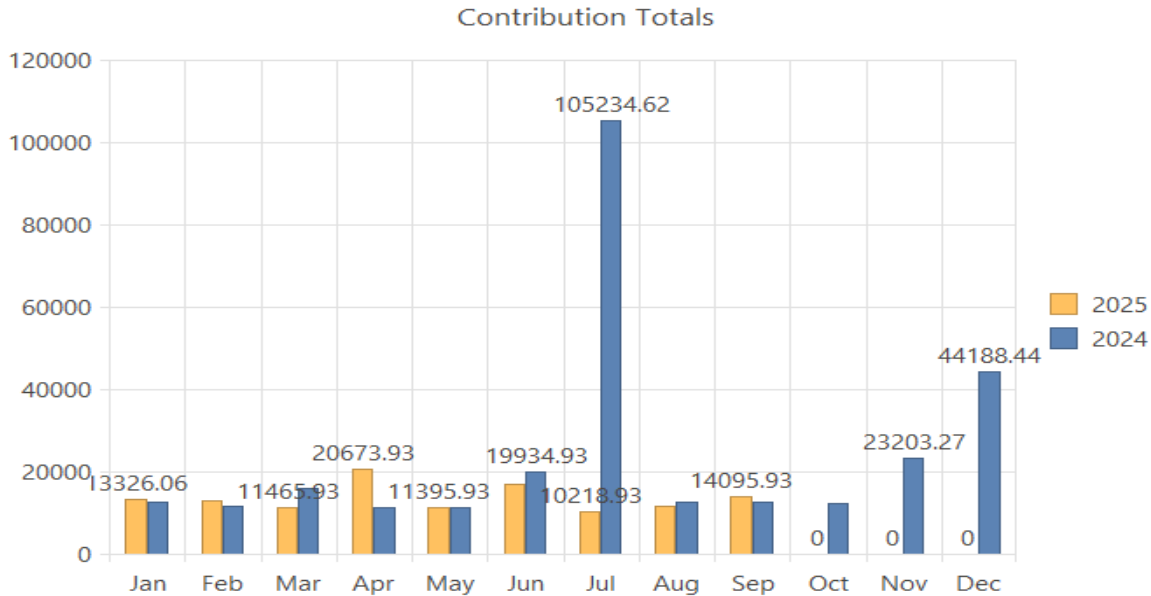
KEEP UP WITH SYNOD NEWS AND RESOURCES

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FINANCIAL REPORT



July 2024 large amount reflects the receipt of insurance funds for the roof replacement.

Financial Report For September 2025

	Rec'd for Sept 2025	Budget for Sept 2025
General Fund	\$10,440.93	\$18,609.00
Mortgage	\$1,210	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$60	\$133
Other Benevolence	\$310	
Memorial	\$2,075	
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$14,095.93	\$20,640.00

	Rec'd YTD 1/1-9/30/25	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/25
General Fund	\$102,042.21	\$167,481.00
Mortgage	\$13,051.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$692.00	\$1,197.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,471.00	
Memorial	\$2,075.00	
Web Upgrade	\$450.00	
Total	\$122,781.21	\$185,760.00

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. At the top right of the page, click the "Donate" link to see the Giving Platform. You may 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.

FROM THE OFFICE



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Linda Brownlee
1 Bonnie Morrison Sykes
6 Michael Savchuck
6 Jeanne Wagner
7 Victoria Gardener

17 Rhona Slawter
18 Audrey Savchuck
22 Nicole Wills
26 Matt Sitler

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

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Church office hours are typically Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

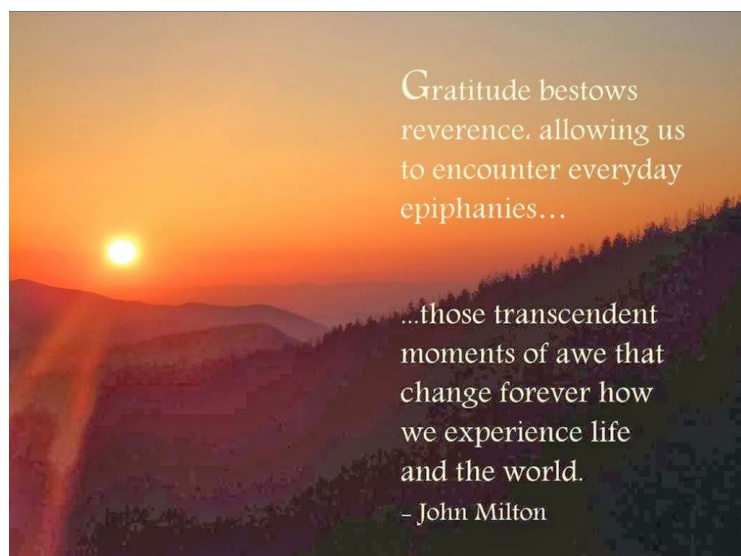
Marie McCool
Office and Communications Administrator
Phone: 215-355-2529
Email: adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

Updating Your Contact Information

Please consider updating your contact information with the church office as the end of the year approaches. Important communications will be sent from the church office both via mail and electronically.

If you have any new contact information (phone, email, address, etc.), please alert the church office at 215-355-2529 or adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com. You may also update your information using an update form in the narthex. Completed forms may be placed in the offering plate in the sanctuary. If you are unsure if your contact information needs updating, please contact the office.

Happy Thanksgiving!



Gratitude bestows
reverence, allowing us
to encounter everyday
epiphanies...

...those transcendent
moments of awe that
change forever how
we experience life
and the world.
- John Milton

November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
All Saints Sunday 2 8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service with Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service with Communion Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Bible Study	3 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	Election Day 4  Ping Pong cancelled	5 5:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15 PM Vocal Choir Practice	6 7:00 PM Preaching Class	7 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	8 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast
22nd Sunday after Pentecost 9 8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service with Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service with Communion Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Bible Study	10 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	11  6:30 PM Ping Pong	12 5:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15 PM Vocal Choir Practice	13 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	14 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	15
23rd Sunday after Pentecost 16 8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service with Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service with Communion Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Bible Study	17 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting via Zoom 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	18 12:00 PM Advent Women's Circle Meeting 6:30 PM Ping Pong	19 5:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15 PM Vocal Choir Practice	20 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	21 11:00 AM Holland Village Communion Service 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	22
Christ the King 23 9:00 AM Single Worship Service with Communion Sunday School 10:00 AM Congregational Meeting	24 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	25 6:30 PM Ping Pong	26 5:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15 PM Vocal Choir Practice	27 <i>Happy Thanksgiving!</i> 	28 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	29
First Sunday of Advent 30 8:00 AM Service of the Word - no Communion 9:30 AM Service of the Word – no Communion Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship 10:30 AM Bible Study	December 1	2 6:30 PM Ping Pong	3 5:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15 PM Vocal Choir Practice	4 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	5 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	6