

The Adventure



OCTOBER 2026 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

- Message from Pastor Matt, [pages 2-3](#)
- October Worship Schedule, [page 4](#)
- Worship-Related Information & Opportunities, [pages 5-7](#)
- Prayers for Those in Need / Prayers for our Military, [page 8](#)
- Advent Community News and Upcoming Events, [pages 9-10](#)
- Community Outreach and News, [pages 11-12](#)
- Advent September Events, [pages 13-14](#)
- SEPA Synod News, [page 15](#)
- Financial Report, [page 16](#)
- From the Office / October Birthdays, [page 17](#)
- October Calendar, [page 18](#)

CHURCH OFFICE

The church office at Advent is typically open Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Any changes to the office hours are posted in the weekly bulletins.

Phone: 215-355-2529

Email: adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

Website: www.adventrichboro.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/adventrichboropa

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@adventlutheranchurchofrichboro

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 Matt will be on vacation Sunday, October 18 to Monday, October 26. If you have a pastoral emergency while Pastor is away, please contact Rev. Sandra Brown, at 215-680-3972 or brownsj@msn.com.

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/>



HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS

To help maintain the health of the congregation, Advent follows 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 who is ill.
- Worship is available online.
- Those distributing communion will mask. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- Advent shares the peace with hand waves, peace signs and air hugs.

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MATT

Here are the top results of the congregation voting tally of the 42 Ministry Brainstorm Ideas that Advent Lutheran Church submitted over the Summer:

MINISTRY IDEA	CATEGORY	VOTES
Monthly Bingo for 65+	FUN/RECREATION	16
Monthly Bingo For All Ages	FUN/RECREATION	14
Partnership with Holland Village: volunteer to transport residents to Advent worship services	COMMUNITY SERVICE	9
Expand our annual clothing drive to include the community	COMMUNITY SERVICE	8
Bell Choir	PRAYER/WORSHIP	8
Weekly Drive-In Prayer for the Community in the Parking Lot	PRAYER/WORSHIP	8
Weekly Evening Worship Service	PRAYER/WORSHIP	8
Holland Village Visits to combat senior isolation	COMMUNITY SERVICE	7
Partnership with nearby school to supply backpacks, notebooks, and classroom essentials for students in need	COMMUNITY SERVICE	7
Create a Game Room - pinball, air hockey, skee-ball	FUN/RECREATION	7
Everyone has a Place - adaptive ping pong/sports/STAR center	FUN/RECREATION	7

The congregation has spoken! These are the top ministry ideas the congregation feels called to pursue. So, what do we do now? The goal is to narrow down our ministry ideas to 1 or 2 “Big Idea” ministries to pursue and 3 to 5 “Low Hanging Fruit” ministries to pursue. A “Big Idea” ministry is one that will require a substantial amount of time and effort to make happen. It should be a ministry that would involve the congregation as a whole to participate, especially if brings us together in fellowship in some fashion. It should be focused on the broader community, especially if it involves going out beyond the four walls of the church. A “Low Hanging Fruit” ministry is one that would be easier to achieve or to set up. It requires less involvement of the whole congregation.

As far as the “Big Idea”, “Bingo” obviously resonates. I am so excited to see the overwhelming response to this ministry idea. I and the Strategic Mission Team (SMT) will help form a ministry team for “Bingo”, which, with the help of the Holy Spirit, further the ministry idea and help the congregation put the ministry into action.

And what about the 3 to 5 “Low Hanging Fruit” ideas? Many of the ideas ranked after “Bingo” may have been voted for as either a potential “Big Idea” or “Low Hanging Fruit”. Some of these ideas reach out beyond the walls of Advent more than others. “Bingo” has incredible potential to connect with the broader community by connecting to both charitable beneficiaries and with prize sponsors, but by state law, Bingo would have to happen at Advent. That means we should probably balance “Bingo” with a ministry or two that would happen off premise, like a ministry idea that happens at Holland Village. The Strategic Mission Team and I will meet and then recommend which “Low Hanging Fruit” ministries the

congregation should pursue. We will have our recommendation ready for the congregation meeting on November 1.

What about all the other ministry ideas that you submitted? Your ideas and the Ministry Brainstorm Packet (MBP) are not going away. The MBP is a tool that will be useful up until new US Census data comes out after 2030, or if the demographics of Advent or the surround community changes drastically before then. What this means is that Advent will continue to use the MBP. And we will keep our ministry ideas. Some of the ideas that were not at the top of our list of 41 ideas this year, might be exactly what God will be calling us to do one or two years from now. Our ministry formation and obeying God's call will take on a cyclical pattern of:

- 1) Discern God's call and activity around us (God sightings)
- 2) Discern how to respond to God's call with the MBP
- 3) Respond to God's call by forming ministries from the MBP results, including past results
- 4) See which ministries grow and need encouragement, which ministries are holding steady and which ministries have reached the end of their life cycle.
- 5) Repeat cycle

Depending on the ministries we are called to, how they form, their life span and the overall capacity and empowerment of the congregation to do ministry, a cycle would take about two years.

And what about the ministry you feel called to? Maybe you submitted an idea or you read an idea that sparks great interest or passion for you? Do you have to wait until the next cycle to try to start that ministry? Absolutely not. As Martin Luther says, "Faith comes through hearing." Talk about your passion to others. Maybe the Holy Spirit is working through you to spark a sense of call at Advent to start the ministry you are interested in. The MBP is a great human-designed tool that seeks the guidance of the Holy Spirit, but the Holy Spirit is not bound by any human tool. Any ministry can start at any time by any person as guided by our baptismal call experienced through God's Spirit.

Peace,
Pastor Matt

OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 4 – HONORING VOLUNTEERS NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
with Holy Communion
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service
with Holy Communion
10:00 AM Fellowship: Open

OCTOBER 11 – AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
with Holy Communion
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service
with Holy Communion
10:00 AM Fellowship: Open

OCTOBER 18 TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00 AM Service of the Word - no Communion
9:30 AM Service of the Word - no Communion
Sunday School
10:00 AM Fellowship: Open

OCTOBER 25 REFORMATION SUNDAY

8:00 AM Service of the Word - no Communion
9:30 AM Service of the Word - no Communion
Sunday School
10:00 AM Fellowship: Open

SERVING IN WORSHIP – OCTOBER 2026 SCHEDULE

DATE/TIME	LAY READER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT
10/4 – 8:00 AM	George Henry	Kristi Ward
10/4 – 9:30 AM	John Flint	Megan Ward
10/11 – 8:00 AM	David Elkin	Kristi Ward
10/11 – 9:30 AM	Bruce Eklund	Megan Ward
10/18 – 8:00 AM	George Henry	N/A
10/18 – 9:30 AM	John Flint	N/A
10/25 – 8:00 AM	David Elkin	N/A
10/25 – 9:30 AM	Bruce Eklund	N/A

SUNDAY SCHEDULE FOR WORSHIP SERVICES

Services will continue to be available **in-person**, weather-permitting, and **online** live via Zoom and Facebook. Past services and sermons are available on Advent's YouTube page with new videos uploaded every Sunday after services have concluded.

ALTAR GUILD: Kristi Ward, Joyce Heiss, Jeanne Gryszka

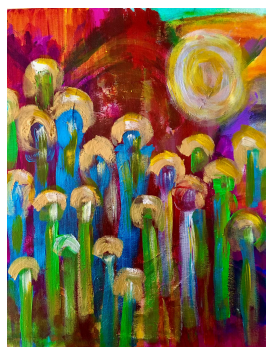
TECH CREW: Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

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

ALL SAINTS DAY – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Submit Names of Remembrance by Sunday, October 25

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate a service of Holy Communion and will especially remember family and friends who have died in the last year. If you have someone you wish included in our prayers, please complete a form, which is available on the table in the narthex, and return to the church office or you may place it in the offering plate no later than **Sunday, October 25**. You may also call or email the office with the information.



WORSHIP-RELATED INFORMATION & OPPORTUNITIES

ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION

Worship services may be attended by **Zoom** or through the live stream 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/83391027179> Passcode: WORSHIP8AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE on **SUNDAYS, at 9:30 AM**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84982959860> Passcode: WORSHIP930

SUNDAY SCHOOL – LESSONS ON PRAYER



We're learning about Prayer in Sunday School. Prayer can be simple: The most important part of prayer is to take time to communicate with God. He is always with us and always listens. Together we will find examples of prayer in the Bible. We are happy to share our ideas with our friends at Sunday School. Each week, following the opening songs, we start our class with a short Bible lesson video

to spark conversation. We follow with creative games or crafts and end with a . . . **prayer!**

Children from age 4 through grade 6 are invited to attend Sunday School at 9:30 AM. Students begin their class time in the worship service. They join Pastor Matt for the Children's Sermon, then proceed with their teachers to gather for their class. Learning together is fun!

-Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

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 **setup for services**.



Call for Worship Assistants

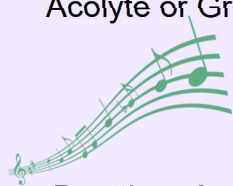
Training is provided for those interested in serving as Lay Reader, Communion Assistant, Acolyte or Greeter. Volunteers can also assist behind the scenes with setup prior to services.

If you are interested in learning more about assisting at worship, please contact Kristi Ward or the church office at 215-355-2529

Call for Praise Band & Vocal Choir Members

Practices for Praise Band (5:30 PM) and Vocal Choir (6:15 PM) resumed on **September 30**.

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.



WORSHIP-RELATED INFORMATION & OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

An Affirmation of Baptism will take place at both services on Sunday, October 11.



What does it mean to affirm your Baptism? Think of Baptism as the pulsing note of God's love, playing in the ongoing music of your life. God's love is the base note that continuously provides a firm foundation for the other notes in our lives. As the other notes of our lives weave back and forth, that base note reminds us that it is God who creates us and the music. When the music in our lives becomes sad or tragic, it is God who composes hope and new life into our lives. It is God who sustains the music, guiding how we are to share God's love in our lives. As we get wrapped up in the melodies and harmonies of life, we can stop noticing the base note of God's love holding it together. To affirm our Baptism is to take time to notice God's love as the firm foundation of our lives. The Affirmation of Baptism service is appropriate to use when we want to recognize how the base note of God's love has been especially meaningful, like at the completion of Confirmation or new members' class. It can also be used as a periodic reaffirmation or refocus on that base note of God's love in the present and into the future.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Check the weekly bulletins for any changes.



Sunday In-Person Adult Bible Study

Sunday in-person Adult Bible Study with George Henry will be held most Sundays, after the 9:30 AM worship service. Exceptions will be noted on the calendar

Affirmation of Baptism Classes: Thursday, October 1 and 8, 7:00 PM via Zoom

Leading up to the Affirmation of Baptism, classes will be held on **Thursday, October 1 and 8, via Zoom at 7:00 PM**, open to all baptized persons who would like to revisit and explore more deeply the call of their baptism.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83128638191>

Passcode: **AFFIRM2026**

Worship Matters! Deepening Your Faith through Understanding of Lutheran Worship Via Zoom Thursdays in the fall at 7:00 PM, resuming on October 15

Pastor Matt will continue leading an educational program and discussion on the importance of worship and the purpose and patterns in Lutheran worship. The intention of this program is to develop a richer understanding of the foundations and practices of Lutheran worship and to connect that understanding to God in our daily lives: at home, in our communities, and in the world.

The program continues via Zoom on **Thursdays, at 7:00 PM, resuming on October 15**. All are welcome to participate! There will be no class on Thursday, October 22 while Pastor Matt is on vacation.

Zoom link for Worship Matters: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88501398586>

Passcode (if prompted): **IT-MATTERS**

WORSHIP-RELATED INFORMATION & OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

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.*

You can also call the church office at 215-355-2529 to submit your dedications.

Altar Flower Dedications – Each bouquet is \$25



The 2026 Flower Chart for weekly altar flowers is on the table in the narthex. A lovely way to beautify the altar with a special dedication. Flowers may be taken home after the late service each week to enjoy in your home. Or you can give them to a family member, friend or neighbor – a great way to brighten someone's day. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Frey 267-205-0713.

Mission Dedications – Dedications cost \$25



The 2026 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.



We need groups or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments for **Fellowship time**. Fellowship is held after the 9:00 AM service during the summer. The sign-up sheet 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!

RESCHEDULED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 10:00 AM

The original schedule of events in the month of September was intended to lift up and support the notion of Stewardship. This schedule included Affirmation of Baptism classes, honoring of Volunteers, Affirmation of Baptism as part of worship, culminating in a special congregational meeting originally scheduled for Sunday, September 27. Due to unforeseen circumstances, including the weather forecast for this weekend, and Pastor needing to be with his family through the decline and passing of his mother-in-law, the decision was made to postpone the congregational meeting. The meeting will now take place on Sunday, November 1, at 10:00 AM after a single worship service at 9:00 AM. This decision was not made lightly. Ultimately, by postponing, the Advent community will have the opportunity to properly experience and engage in the events that were originally envisioned for September.

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 worshipping 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 Chief, Weather Operations Division, at Langley Airforce Base, Virginia
- ❖ **Specialist 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

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

A PRAYER FOR OUR SOLDIERS AND THEIR SAFETY

Almighty God, those who take refuge in you will be glad and will forever shout for joy! Protect our soldiers as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. Be their constant companion and their strength in battle, their refuge in every adversity. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, that, with all who love them, they may ever praise you for your loving care. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR OUR VETERANS

Almighty God, we ask that you bestow peace upon our veterans, worthy people who gave their best when they were called upon to serve and protect their country. We pray that you will bless them for their unselfish service in the continual struggle to preserve our freedoms, our safety, and our country's heritage, for all of us. Bless them abundantly for the hardships they faced, for the sacrifices they made. We pray that you will watch over these special people and bless them with peace and happiness. Amen.

ADVENT COMMUNITY – NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



CHURCH CLEAN OUT/ORGANIZATION MEETING – Tuesday, October 6, 7:00 PM

Advent will host an in-person meeting on **Tuesday, October 6, at 7:00 PM** to continue discussing the ongoing process of cleaning out and organizing the various rooms within the church. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men's Breakfast will resume on **Saturday, October 10.**

Breakfast will be served around 8:30 AM.

Coffee will be ready about 7:30 AM.

TABLE TENNIS IS BACK!



Table Tennis at Advent has weekly sessions on Tuesdays. This fall we are offering afternoon sessions in addition to the evening sessions.

- Afternoon sessions are 2:00 to 4:00 PM
- Evening sessions are 6:30 to 8:30 PM

All are invited, no matter the skill level. Paddles and balls are provided.

ADVENT WOMEN'S CIRCLE



The mission of Advent Women's Circle is to support the Advent community through the implementation of projects that fill a need. For meetings, we bring a simple lunch and discuss ideas and plans, all the while enjoying our time spent together with joy and humor. Our social outings are an added feature that encourage us to explore local destinations.

Next Meeting: We will hold our next lunch meeting on **Tuesday, October 13, at noon.** Please bring your own lunch. If you would like to attend an upcoming meeting or event as a new attendee, please contact the church office to confirm the details as it draws closer.



2026 TAX UPDATE: NEW BENEFITS FOR YOUR GIVING

*Changes to tax laws in 2026 mean more people
can get a tax break for supporting our church!*

What You Need to Know

For Non-Itemizers: If you take the standard deduction, you can now deduct up to **\$1,000 for single filers** or **\$2,000 for married couples filing jointly** for cash donations to churches and qualified nonprofits. The deduction applies to cash, check, or electronic payment contributions.

Why This Matters: Your generosity enables us to continue our mission, and this new law allows you to support Advent while potentially reducing your federal tax liability. This "above-the-line" deduction reduces your taxable income, even if you don't itemize.

If you have any questions, contact Tony Gryszka, Advent's Finance Chairperson. Thank you!

ADVENT COMMUNITY –NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS (continued)

THE 28TH ANNUAL MICHAEL S. MONAGHAN SCHOLARSHIP CONCERT

What's Luck Got To Do With It?

Irish Songs, Stories, Blessings, Toasts & Jokes

Saturday October 3, 2026, 2:00 PM

Featuring **CELTIC PRIDE** in Concert!

Archbishop Wood High School Auditorium

655 York Road, Warminster PA 18974

\$20 Donation; General seating

Email Willie.Monaghan@gmail.com for ticket reservations and more information.



Northampton Day Festival 2026

Sunday, October 4, 2026

10 AM - 4 PM, Rain or Shine.

98 Upper Holland Road, Richboro PA

www.northamptonday.fun

FREE admission, FREE parking, FREE entertainment, fun for the whole family!



CRAFTS IN THE MEADOW

Saturday, October 17, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Sunday, October 18, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Tyler Park Center for the Arts

The Crafts in the Meadow Fall Invitational Craft Show is a fine art and craft event showcasing excellence in craftsmanship, alongside a festive weekend of live music, performing arts, and refreshments. Over 130 fine artisans will be featured, with demonstrations, live music, great food, and plenty of fun for kids too! Tickets are \$10 at the event (cash only), children under 12 are free.



ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

Make a plan to vote!

Register to vote, **check** your voter registration status, or **request** a mail-in or absentee ballot online at: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/vote/voter-registration>.

The last day to **register to vote** in Pennsylvania is **Monday, October 19, 2026**.
The last day to request a **mail-in or absentee ballot** is **Tuesday, October 27, 2026**.

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 AND NEWS



WARMINSTER FOOD BANK DRIVE UP 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.

Most needed items currently needed include:

Food Items: Coffee (pods or ground), instant oatmeal variety pack, juice, cereal, syrup, grated cheese, crackers, jelly, cooking oil, mayonnaise, ketchup, breadcrumbs, beef stew, chili

Non-Food Items: store gift cards, laundry detergent (pods or liquid), household cleaning supplies, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, gently used grocery-size paper bags

To order supplies for direct delivery to WFB, go to their Amazon Wish List: <https://a.co/3JoRQBB>

Check the food bank's website for the most up-to-date needs: <https://warminsterfoodbank.org/>

CARING for FRIENDS



Thank you to everyone who helped prepare and deliver meals throughout the year - your hard work and generosity are truly appreciated! We'll be doing some more meal prep dates this fall, so keep an eye out for those dates!

In the meantime, meal trays are still available in the narthex for anyone who would like to take some home, fill them, and help provide meals to those in need.

Thank you for continuing to support this ministry!

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES



Thanks to the efforts of many, we have been able to donate a large collection of aluminum can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Your contribution benefits the families staying in this wonderful facility while their loved one undergoes medical care nearby. United Scrap Metal recyclers weigh the donations to determine their value. They then send Ronald McDonald House Charities/Philly a check for the total amount, which directly benefits the families! Keep bringing those tabs!

<https://rmhcphilly.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Recycle-for-RMHCphilly.pdf>

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE – donation drive at Advent is Tuesday, October 27



The next blood drive at Advent is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 27, 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM**. Along with traditional donations, the Red Cross is in need of "Power Red" donors. These blood donations can be used immediately for trauma patients, newborns and emergency transfusions during birth, people with sickle cell anemia, and anyone suffering blood loss. If your blood type is O+, O-, A-, or B-, please consider a Power Red blood donation.

If you are eligible and want to donate before Advent's next drive, please go to www.redcrossblood.org for a schedule of upcoming donation events.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND NEWS (continued)



Letter from Mike Cerino, Executive Director of the Warminster Food Bank

Thank you for continuing to support the Warminster Food Bank through your generous monetary and food donations.

After three local veterans' agencies were forced to close the food-assistance portions of their programs, the Warminster Food Bank was asked to fill the gap—and we said yes.

Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) provides programs, services, and events for wounded veterans who served in military operations after September 11, 2001. With its food supply significantly reduced, WWP asked the Warminster Food Bank to provide critically needed food for the more than 1,800 veterans it serves locally.

Salute 2 Service supports veterans as they transition to civilian life, connecting them with resources that help them build fulfilling and productive post-military careers. After the organization was asked to leave its Newtown location because of visitor volume, it had to close its food-support program. The Warminster Food Bank is now helping to replenish the food supplies its clients need.

Friends of the FRG (111th Air Wing, Horsham)

Military service affects entire families, yet that burden is often overlooked—even within the military community. When a service member is away, families may face everything from everyday challenges to major crises without one spouse present to share the load.

Friends of the FRG steps in when military families have nowhere else to turn. The organization offers practical help, hosts events for veterans, and organizes holiday activities for children in military families—reminding them that they are not forgotten. After its local pantry was disbanded, the Warminster Food Bank began serving these families directly at our location.

Your generosity makes this support for veterans possible while also helping us assist 596 local families this month. You are making a meaningful difference for veterans and for our broader community.

Thank you for everything you do.

ADVENT SEPTEMBER EVENTS

ADVENT FLEA MARKET – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26



The Flea Market was held on Saturday, September 26, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon, and was a success, despite the Nor'easter storm threat! Twenty vendors registered to participate, with 15 able to attend that day. The turn-out for the event from both church and community members was consistent throughout the morning, most likely due to the fact that other outdoor flea markets/yard sales were cancelled or rescheduled while we held our flea market inside of our building

in the narthex, multipurpose room, and an adjacent meeting room. Our location and building space were once again big assets. Many people knew of our church due to it being a voter polling place, but others were inside for the first time with many commenting on the size of the interior space of our church. This was the first time that we held the Flea Market indoors in the last 7 times that we have sponsored a flea market at Advent. Typically, it is held outside in our parking lot.

Church Council, in June, approved the holding of the Flea Market, and event coordinators Kathy Sitler and Cime Eklund began its planning. We had the blessing of Thrivent Investment Funds (a \$250 Visa Gift Card) this year to help offset some of the operating costs (e.g., advertising, signage).



We have several people to thank for seeing this event through to its completion:

- First, Kathy Sitler and Cime Eklund for all their hard work, time, and efforts in coordination of the Flea Market, bringing it to fruition.
- Second, Church Council for reviewing the plans and approving the event.
- Third, Marie McCool for all her work as the go-between with registration collections, internal congregational advertising, and help leading up to the event.
- Fourth, Rhona Slawter and Nancy Sclight for identifying items from our Building Reorganization Project to sell at the Flea Market and monitoring sales at the church table during the Flea Market; and Cime Eklund for pricing the items for the church table and providing ice cream for the vendors, who appreciated this special touch.
- Fifth, Mike Sitler for his assistance in setting up and tearing down the required internal spaces and placing advertising signs for the Flea Market on the property and Tony Gryzka for all his help the day of the Flea Market as well.
- Lastly, Pastor Matt for his encouragement and interaction with community attendees at the event.

All in all, we can be thankful that we are blessed with so many members of our congregation who continue to work together to grow our ministries, making a positive difference in our community. May God continue to bless us all as we journey forward in spreading God's love.



ADVENT SEPTEMBER EVENTS (continued)

WOMEN'S CIRCLE – SEPTEMBER 25th OUTING TO THE ANDALUSIA ESTATE



Advent Women's Circle members were inspired by a late-summer tour of a local estate that offered Lessons in American history within its beautiful setting. Andalusia is a National Historic Landmark facing the Delaware River built by several generations of the Biddle family, revealing classical styles and formal traditions.

The story of Andalusia's growth reflects the development of our nation, as it was Inhabited from the 1790s until the 1970s. The mansion is one of the finest, most distinctive examples of Greek Revival architecture in the United States. Its furnishings, portraits, marble statues, lacquerware and silver were enjoyed and used by generations of Andalusia residents and their guests.

The formal gardens were designed by several passionate family members during their time in residence and continue to evolve, offering an awe-inspiring array of trees, shrubs and flowers. We enjoyed the guided tour, where we came to appreciate the importance of the Biddle family in the history of Philadelphia and their legacy that reached far beyond this "summer residence."

<https://andalusiapa.org/garden/>





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

Called by Faith: Caring for Creation October 5 7:00 pm, via Zoom

Register online at: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/rzgtpoAtRQYjYAWit940rA#/registration>

In Genesis 2:15, God calls on us to care for God's creation. How do we do that? In this presentation, we will explore the interconnections between our faithful missions of feeding the hungry, caring for the poor, racial justice, and creation care. The goals of the presentation are to:

- Provide information about our changing environment & climate
- Help you make the connection between faith & climate
- Empower you with solutions



Doing Community Ministry in the Small Church

Learn how small churches can make a big impact in the world through partnerships, creative use of resources, and a focus on relational ministry.

<https://www.churchleadership.com/t-o-the-point/point-community->



Faith Alive Worship Learning Lab Saturday, October 17 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

United Lutheran Seminary Philadelphia
Gather and learn more about how our congregations can welcome and support our youngest friends, focusing on children's sermons and child development.

<https://www.sepa.org/faith-alive>



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE Relief today. Resilience tomorrow. Share God's hope, healing and renewal

Your gifts through Lutheran Disaster Response make it possible for the church to provide fast and effective support to communities in need, whenever and wherever a disaster may strike. Lutheran Disaster Response shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

If you designate your gift to a specific disaster, your gift will be used 100 percent for that disaster, unless more funds are received that are needed to fully fund a specific disaster response. If this happens, your gift will be used to address a similar effort.

Current Disaster Responses include:
US Areas - Severe Storms and Wildfires
Nepal Flooding
Venezuela and Colombia Earthquakes
Middle East Crisis

Donate to Lutheran Disaster Response at:
<https://www.elca.org/giving/lutheran-disaster-response>

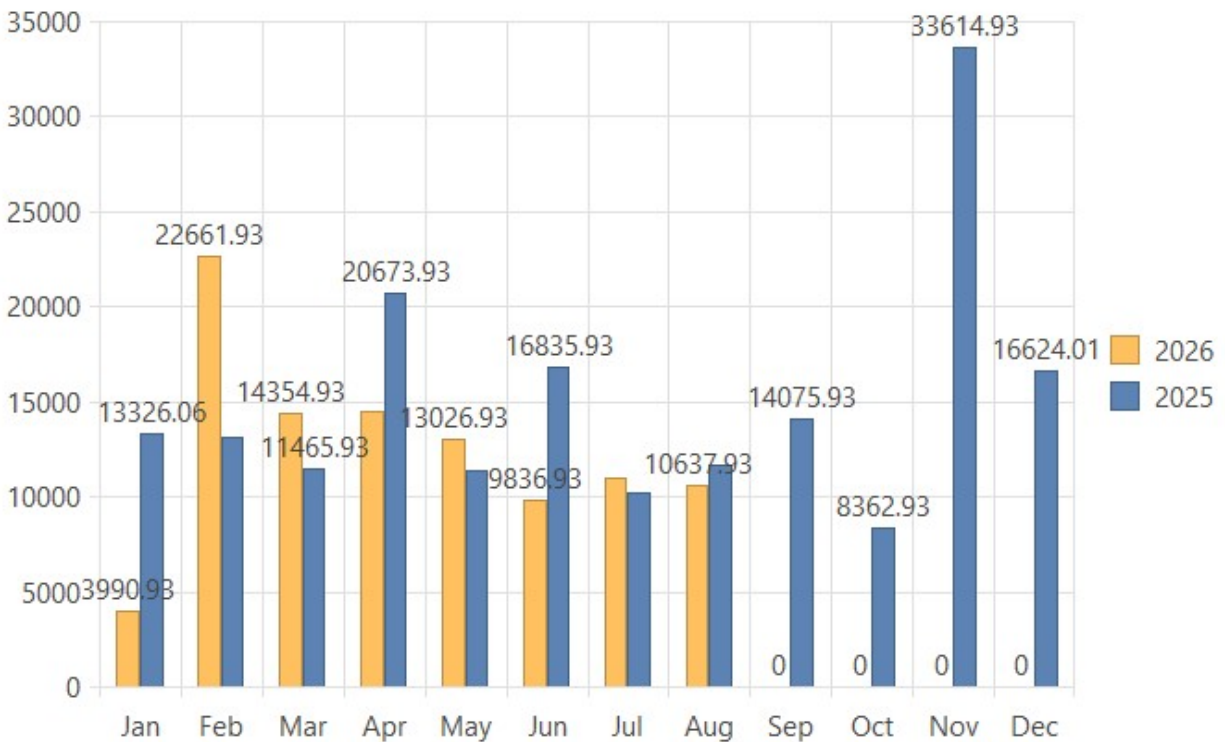
KEEP UP WITH SYNOD NEWS AND RESOURCES

Subscribe to the MinistryLink newsletter to keep up with the latest news, events and resources offered through SEPA. Sign up using the QR code or visit:
<https://ministrylink.org/mission-interpretation/subscribe/>.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Contribution Totals



Financial Report For August 2026

	Rec'd for Aug 2026	Budget for Aug 2026
General Fund	\$8,462.93	\$19,805.00
Mortgage	\$1,625	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$160	\$133
Other Benevolence	\$390	
Total	\$10,637.93	\$21,836.00
	Rec'd 1/1/26-8/31/26	Budget 1/1/26-8/31/26
General	\$83,822.44	\$158,440.00
Mortgage	\$11,420.00	\$15,184.00
Bene-Synod Only	\$800.00	\$1,064.00
Other Benevolence	\$3,865.00	
Total	\$99,907.44	\$174,688.00

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 9:00 AM and 2:00 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



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

6 – Lynn Roccograndi 30 – John McCool

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



Rest in Peace, my Hazel Basil

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

Marie McCool

Office and Communications Administrator

adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

www.adventrichboro.org

215-355-2529

The Wind and The Leaves

By George Cooper

"Come, little leaves," said the wind one day.

"Come o'er the meadows with me, and play'

Put on your dress of red and gold,—

Summer is gone, and the days grow cold."

Soon as the leaves heard the wind's loud call,

Down they came fluttering, one and all;

Over the brown fields they danced and flew,

Singing the soft little songs they knew.

"Cricket, good-by, we've been friends so long;

Little brook, sing us your farewell song,—

Say you are sorry to see us go;

Ah! you will miss us, right well we know."

"Dear little lambs, in your fleecy fold,

Mother will keep you from harm and cold;

Fondly we've watched you in vale and glade;

Say, will you dream of our loving shade?"

Dancing and whirling, the little leaves went;

Winter had called them, and they were content.

Soon fast asleep in their earthy beds,

The snow laid a coverlet over their heads.

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18 th Sunday after Pentecost 27	28	29	30	October 1 7:00 PM Affirmation of Baptism Class via Zoom	2 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	3
19 th Sunday after Pentecost 4 8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service with Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service with Communion Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship: Open 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study	5 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	6 12:00 PM Advent Women's Circle Meeting 2:00 PM & 6:30 PM Table Tennis 7:00 PM Building Reorg Meeting 7:00 PM Comedy & Science: The Art of Standup	7 5:30 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 6:15 PM Vocal Choir Rehearsal	8 7:00 PM Affirmation of Baptism Class via Zoom	9 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	10 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
20 th Sunday after Pentecost 11 8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service with Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service with Communion Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship: Open 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study	12 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	13 2:00 PM & 6:30 PM Table Tennis 7:00 PM Comedy & Science: The Art of Standup	14 5:30 PM Praise Band Rehearsal 6:15 PM Vocal Choir Rehearsal	15 7:00 PM Worship Matters Class via Zoom	16 11:00 AM Holland Village Communion Service 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	17
21 st Sunday after Pentecost 18 8:00 AM Service of the Word – no Communion 9:30 AM Service of the Word – no Communion Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship: Open 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study <i>Pastor Matt on vacation</i>	19 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	20 2:00 PM & 6:30 PM Table Tennis 7:00 PM Comedy & Science: The Art of Standup	21 5:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15 PM Vocal Choir Practice	22 <i>No Bible Study</i>	23 10:00 AM Advent Women's Circle Outing to Andalusia House 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	24 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Advent Flea Market
Reformation Sunday 25 8:00 AM Service of the Word – no Communion 9:30 AM Service of the Word – no Communion Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship: Open 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study <i>Pastor Matt on vacation</i>	26 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	27 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM Red Cross Blood Drive 7:00 PM Comedy & Science: The Art of Standup	28 5:30 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15 PM Vocal Choir Practice	29 7:00 PM Worship Matters Class via Zoom	30 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	31 