



The Candle

April
2023

Pastor's Message

You are a generous group of people. Advent has never had a financial need that we have failed to meet. What's more – your generosity extends beyond our own needs. The amount of money we share with our Synod and

Churchwide for the work of the larger Church touches lives and ministries around the world. Your "benevolence" (the word used to describe money shared with others) supports Colleges, Seminaries, Missionaries, New Congregation starts and relief for families affected by natural disasters – to name but a few of the causes you help to fund.

For this reason, I have not been concerned that we have been operating with a deficit budget (spending reserves that accumulated in recent years) or, that we have been planning to do some fundraising to supplement our regular offerings. I am confident that God will meet our needs.

As I write this to you, I'm reminded that the apostle Paul wrote one of his congregations something similar. In his second letter to the Corinthians Paul praises that Church for their past generosity while encouraging them to continue to be faithful. We read: "The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."

Our purpose statement emphasizes that we SHARE what we have first been given – we do so with God's love and with our time, talent, and treasure. So, for your past and your continued support of the ministries of Advent – I want to thank you as your pastor.

And I want to inform you that over the past few years, thousands of dollars given by you to the "Pastor's Discretionary Fund" have helped to feed the hungry, provide prescription assistance, help with the cost of rent and utilities, been used to fix automobiles and purchase gas –both for members of our congregation and folk in our community. For the first time in a few years, this fund is being depleted. So, if you feel so led – please consider making an additional donation directly to the Discretionary fund.

God Bless you,

Pastor Steve Bond

dates
Remember

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Easter Blessings
April 9

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Blood Pressure
Weekend
April 15/16

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Blood Drive
May 27
9am-2pm

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"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me."
Psalm 51:10

The Candle is the newsletter of Advent Lutheran Church, ELCA
Our Purpose: "Loved by God, we share Christ's love with all"

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY TO BEGIN THE NEW TESTAMENT –The Brown Bag Bible Study group has been meeting on the fourth Thursday of every month for the past 2 ½ years. We meet at 12 pm via zoom. We have recently completed our journey through the Old Testament and are now studying the New Testament.

If you haven't already been participating with us during our walk through the Old Testament, now would be the ideal time to join us as we begin exploring the Gospels of Christ, the Book of Acts and the letters of Paul.

If you are interested in participating, please call, text or email Tim Krueger at (440) 391-0369 or LTCTKRUE@aol.com.

Prayer Chain

Do you wish to feel strengthened and fulfilled by offering your time to help others? Nothing could be more gratifying than lifting someone up in prayer in their time of need. Please contact Sue Keeley @ 440.862.2790/440.257.5565 or by e-mail at suesworkout@gmail.com if you would like to become part of the prayer chain ministry, or if you have any questions. Prayer is Powerful!!

Pastor Prayer Intercessors

March 26-April 1	Phyllis Tucker, Sue Keeley
April 2-8	Robin Ironhorse, Becky Spudich
April 9-15	Sue Keeley, Alice Santurri
April 16-22	Deb Laukiavich
April 23-29	Barb Zahn, Bev McArthur
April 30-May 6	Doreen Mattson



SPIRITUALITY MOMENT

“Quiet Day”

This is another day, O Lord.
I don't know what it will bring
for I have not scheduled anything.

If I am to sit still,
help me to sit quietly.

If I am to rest,
help me rest patiently.
And if I am to do nothing,
help me do it serenely.

For it is Your will
for me to be comfortably quiet.



Points from your Parish Nurse

- ♥ Here we are in the midst of Lent anticipating Palm Sunday on April 2, followed by Holy Week and culminating with the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on April 9. Advent will offer a Sunrise service at 6:30am at Mentor Beach Park, our Traditional service at 9am and our Contemporary service at 11:30am. There will be no Saturday service this year. I hope you have been able to spend time "Seeking" for where the Lord is leading or what He is calling you to do or how you can be the best disciple of Christ? We may not know what the future holds, but we know Who holds the future! Have a blessed Easter, Advent Family.
- ♥ Care Team Ministry has 4 new members who have signed up at our Ministry of the Month display in February. We welcome Bev McArthur, Deb Cyrus-Lutz, Kathie Hayden and Nancy Marshaus. We are still in need of volunteers, so please join us to learn how you can serve on this wonderful ministry. Our next quarterly meeting will be Saturday, June 3 at 10am.
- ♥ The Caregivers Support Group will meet on the second Thursday of the month, April 13 at 1pm. Seven of us met on March 9 with another new member joining us. All information shared remains confidential. If you are a caregiver, or know someone who is, please feel welcome to join us.
- ♥ Blood Pressure screenings are held on the third weekend of each month. Saturday, April 15 at 5pm, Mary Jo Jones will be available to check your BP and Sunday, April 16 at 10am stop by the Parish Nurse office after worship to get yours checked.
- ♥ Health & Wellness Ministry will offer a CPR Class on Saturday April 29 from 9am-11am. Matt & Hilary Killeen will instruct members on CPR, how to use the AED and how to help when an adult or infant is choking. There is no test or certification for this class. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex. It is important for as many persons as possible to know what to do in an emergency. You may just save someone's life!
- ♥ As always, When in doubt, Point to the Cross!

Your servant in Christ,
Christine Noble, Parish Nurse

Care Team



March 19-April 1	Lida Mackey, Becky Young, Barb Caspell
April 2-15	Kay Smith, Kathy Jennings, Kathy Kling
April 16-29	Mary Jo Jones, Barbara Louis, Rose Schrum, Nancy Marshaus

Upcoming Blood Drive

Saturday, May 27

9am - 2pm

call 1.800.RED.CROSS

~or~ RedCrossBlood.org
Key word: Advent



"For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment,
You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Galatians 5:14

Council Minutes - February

In Attendance (via Zoom & in-person): Jo Brantweiner, Pastor Steve, Bob Adkins, Rob Hilston, Yvonne Kulma, Tim Krueger, Denise McClanahan, Dave Mattson, Cathy Doering, Dave Enzerra, Lida Mackey, Eric Hellier

Excused:

Guest: Pastor Mike Martin, Becky Spudich

Call to Order: 7:00pm

Meeting opened with moment of silence.

Approval of January Council Minutes: Motion was made, seconded, and approved.

Youth Ministry Report – Pastor Mike Martin: Pastor Mike stated that things are going well, continuing to make connections with the youth. We currently have between 7 and 9 youth attending on Sunday morning. He feels the letter to parents helped. Sunday morning worship is most important. Pastor Steve shared copies of 2 publications that are mailed out in Mentor- Mimi and Mentor Living. Council agreed to support the possibility of advertising- acknowledging the fact that this requires a team effort in order to be successful. Pastor Steve will meet with the publishers of both newspapers and get details for March's meeting.

Pastor's Report:

- * Pastor discussed the importance of the basic expectations of the Behavioral Covenant and asked if anyone had any questions. The document will be updated and Dave Enzerra will include a presentation at the Council retreat. All members signed the form.
- * Please contact Sue if you are on a ministry team and would like to have something placed on the outside sign.
- * He had a discussion with Pastor Daubert regarding the possible restructuring of our Council and Ministry Teams. Pastor Daubert shared that the average number of Council members is 8.
- * Discussion was held regarding the importance of providing accurate information in response to rumors/gossip. Each Council member is expected to have honest, open dialogue when questions are asked. If you don't know the answer- find out and follow-up with the individual. This is for current and past member interactions. Pastor is always available to meet with anyone with concerns or questions.

**Motion was made and seconded, and the Pastors' reports were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

January is always an unpredictable month. Income was \$2,087 or 5.8% below budget and expenses were \$1,678 or 5.1% below budget. Dave made several changes to the format of the report. Bob shared the graph that he developed that will provide a monthly picture of our finances. It will be included in The Candle once a quarter.

**Motion was made and seconded, and the January Treasurer's report was approved.

Ministry Team Reports Received: W&M, Fellowship, H&W, Stewardship, Finance (on file)

- **LBG:** 18 people have already paid for their tickets for the "Anne Frank" play at Willoughby Fine Arts on April 30th at 2p. Please contact Tim if you are interested in attending. Deadline is March 1st.

- **Prayer Ministry:** The movie "Freedom Writers" will be shown at 1P on March 25.
 - **Fellowship:** Rob reviewed the schedule for the midweek Lenten Soup suppers. There is a sign-up sheet for each week.
- **Motion was made and seconded, and the Ministry reports were approved.

Administration/Housekeeping Items:

Devotion for March: Jo Brantweiner

Old/Ongoing Business:

- **Fundraising:** Several ideas were discussed. Denise will type up a list and distribute to all members. Further discussion and plan to make decisions and confirm dates by April. Reminder- all ideas should be considered.
- **Date of the Retreat:** Dave Enzerra announced that 16 people confirmed that they could attend on Saturday, April 22nd. The retreat will be held at church from 8am-2pm. More details to follow.
- **Council Covenant/Code of Ethics:** discussed with Pastor Steve's report

New business:

- **Ministry of the Month:** March: Prayer and Spirituality
- **Electric sign usage:** discussed with Pastor Steve's report
- **Ash Wednesday:** February 22nd. 12n and 7pm service. Yvonne will live-stream the 7P service.



Motion to Adjourn: Motion was made, seconded, and meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Spudich/ substitute secretary

Welcoming New Members

We will be receiving new members on Saturday, April 29. Pastor Steve will hold a class for those wishing to become members of Advent Lutheran Church. The class will begin at 1:00pm until 3:30pm. You will be received into membership at the 4:00pm worship service.

At 5:00pm, you are invited to a dinner, held in your honor, in our churches Fellowship Hall. The dinner will also be attended by church council members, who will speak about the many opportunities available here at Advent.

Personal Information Forms for joining (info for our church records), are available in the office and need to be returned by April 1, 2023. If you have questions, please talk with Pastor Steve.

We are looking forward to seeing you and having you join our Advent Family.

Advents Witness Ministry Team

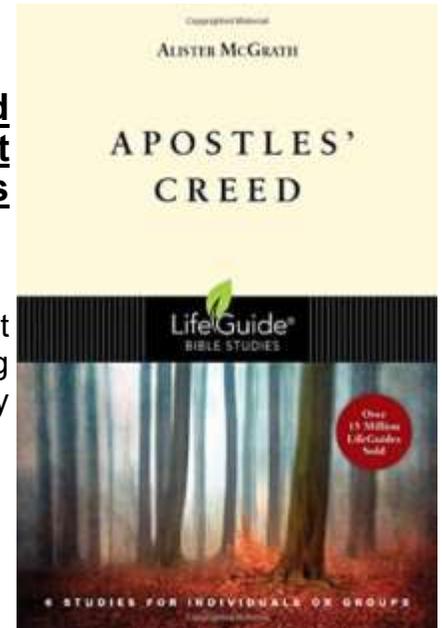


SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS A NEW STUDY

We say the Apostles' Creed most Sundays. The Sunday morning adult Sunday school class will begin exploring the Apostle's Creed on Sunday, April 16th at 10:30am. This will involve a 6 session study entitled "*Apostles' Creed*," by Alister McGrath. The study guide is available through Amazon.com in prices ranging from \$5.00 to \$11.52 in the paperback edition (ISBN 9780830810956).

This study will be conducted using a hybrid format - meaning, it will be conducted in-person at the church in addition to using zoom for persons who require remote accessibility.

If you are interested in joining us, please call/text Tim Krueger at (440) 391-0369 so that you can be placed on our emailing list - which is how the zoom information is sent out. You may also email him at LTCTKRUE@aol.com.



Group Studies

Men's Studies



- ♦ **Retired Men's Group** meets the first Tuesday of every month at 9:30am. If you are a retired man and would like to share your thoughts and discuss a wide variety of subjects, please join us. We would welcome your participation.

Women's Studies

- ♦ **Sophia Project:** Meets on the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 10am-11am in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us.
- ♦ **Hope Circle:** Meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30am. All are welcome!



"...but Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.'" Matthew 19:14

Youth Ministry

I am excited to celebrate this Easter season here at Advent Lutheran Church. I have enjoyed the fellowship and soup dinners on Wednesday evenings, as well as the reflective sermons and activities led by Pastor Steve during this Lenten season.

I have enjoyed Sunday mornings with our teen. It's a wonderful journey as we learn, fellowship, grow and laugh together. If you have not involved your teenager I encourage you to make every Sunday morning at 10:15am a priority.

April 2 -May 21, we are starting a new series of lessons from the life of Peter entitled, "A lot Like Me." As we look at Peters life we see three things - #1 He was very human and had his ups and downs and (so do we); #2 His life had failures and successes (so does ours); #3 God still used him (He uses us) – that's why I think Peter is a lot like all of us, yet God's influence changed his course!

On April 2 (Palm Sunday) I am inviting everyone to join our church to watch a movie called "The Jesus Revolution." It is about a church in the early '70's that decided to open it's doors and intentionally minister to the culture of the Hippie Movement. It is a true story of how a church reached this generation. We will meet at Atlas Theater Mentor Mall at 1:50pm. Tickets \$9.00 for adults, \$8.00 for children and seniors. Sign up in Narthex.

Please note our Vacation Bible School outreach is right around the corner. Please look over our VBS timeline and think about how you can help. Start praying for Becky and myself as we plan and work towards this event:

- * Sunday – 4.2.23 and 4.9.23: information table, registration table available for recruiting volunteers and early registration for kids
- * Sunday – 4.23.23: VBS volunteer meeting and overview 12:30pm
- * Monday – 4.24.23: VBS volunteer meeting and overview 7:00pm
- * May – TBA follow up meeting for workers
- * Monday – 4.22.23: outside sign up and 5 posters at various businesses placed
- * Saturday – June 3, 10, and 17: neighborhood door knockers and visits to homes (11am-1:30pm)
- * Sunday – 6.25.23: VBS prep day, 12noon lunch included.
- * VBS – June 26-29 (Monday-Thursday) 6pm-8:30pm

Pastor Mike

+++++

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me"

Psalm 51:10

"...But with God, all things are possible." Matthew 19:26

Quilters Needed

Do you like to quilt or want to learn how to quilt? Please come and join us on Thursday, at 9:30 in the class rooms. We have a wonderful group of ladies who put love in all their quilts and they make a big difference to many people both overseas and in our country. We help people in distress, Jesus said, *“As each one has received a special gift; employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”*



1 Peter 4:10

OK Gang Luncheon

Come join us on April 17th at the Stadium Grill in Mentor, on Tyler Blvd.

We look forward to seeing everyone there. It is always at great time!

Help us celebrate the opening of the baseball season! Play ball!

Respectfully submitted,
Cherie Moore, Witness Ministry

Meals for Project Hope Meals for months ahead

Advent provides meals for Families Moving Forward on the First and Third Wednesdays of each month. There are currently open dates in April and May. There is a sign up sheet in the hallway outside the church office.

Project Hope for the Homeless is in need of meals for their newest guests, “Families Moving Forward.” Advent provides a meal to feed approximately 10 persons including children. Meals are to be dropped off at Project Hope, 25 Freedom Road, Painesville—by 5pm at Door #4 in the back. There are no restrictions on the meals. Any questions, please call Christine Noble at 440.346.3120. THANK YOU!

Outreach

**Food Pantry (St. Andrew’s)
Donations for the month of
April:**

**Shampoo &
Paper Towels**

**Volunteers
Needed**



Advent's Little Free Pantry

Our current needs are: toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, pasta, pasta sauce, instant potatoes, rice, ramen. There is a collection box outside the church office.

Please see the Weekly News sheets each weekend for our most current pantry needs. Thank you for your support and for making a difference in the lives of those we are helping!

“Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul.” 3 John 2

Holy Week Worship

Palm Saturday/Sunday · April 1 & 2
 Maundy Thursday · April 6 · Noon & 7pm
 Good Friday · April 7 · Noon & 7pm



Easter Sunrise · April 9 · 6:30am · Mentor Beach Park
 Easter · April 9 · 9am & 11:30am
 Easter Brunch · 8am-11:30am

EASTER BRUNCH AND SOCK HOP

Christ Has Risen and Advent will celebrate this Easter miracle with a brunch served in Fellowship Hall from 8am until 11:30am, please plan on joining us.

What a wonderful way to start the day with fellowship and our brothers and sisters in Christ, remembering Jesus' last commandment to love one another.

We will also be collecting socks for the homeless as we did last year. We know it is the most requested item. We were very successful last year and hope to do the same this year. Thank you in advance for supporting our second annual Sock Hop with your contribution!!



God's Blessings,
 Cherie Moore, fellowship



Congratulations

Everleigh Rose Siegel
 baptized March 12

daughter of Halle Siegel
 granddaughter of Scott & Julie Siegel

May God Bless You Always!



Altar Flowers

April
 2 Kulma
 9 Easter
 16 Hamilton
 23 Open
 30 Open



April Altar Guild

Upcoming Communion Bread Bakers

Month of April

Cathy Doering



Finance Update • February 28, 2023

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
Balance 1/1/23	\$ 46,107.40	46,107.40	
Income	52,147.10	57,717.33	\$(5,570.23)
Expenditures	58,740.28	59,375.67	635.39
Ending Balance February 28, 2023	\$39,514.22	\$44,449.06	\$ (4,934.84)

DESIGNATED/ RESTRICTED FUNDS

Balance 1/1/23	\$120,374.04
Income	2,529.00
Expenditures	24,165.70
Ending Balance February 28, 2023	\$98,737.34

Treasurer's Report with Fund Balances are posted at the end of each month on the council bulletin board outside the church office.

Stewardship

Stewards of God's Love

This month we are highlighting the 'DOWN' direction to help us be good Stewards of God's Love.

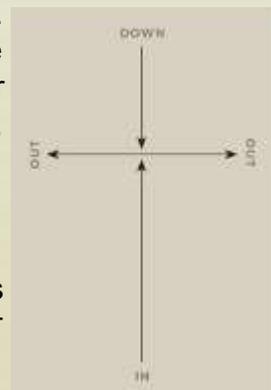
Stewardship begins at creation, where God first comes down to us. In the first chapter of Genesis, God forms humankind in God's own image and commands them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth" (Genesis 1:28).

By God's grace, we are claimed as children of God through baptism. We belong to God and all that we have belongs to God. We are stewards of God's good news. We share God's story with our neighbors through our actions and words. From the beginning, humanity is not an owner, but a steward of what God has created.

Next month we will continue to highlight the 'DOWN' direction.

Thank you Advent Lutheran Family for your work as God's Stewards and we should always be looking for the next opportunities to share our gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

God Bless ~
Your Stewardship Team



**To submit items to *The Candle*,
contact: Sue Keeley - Office Administrator at 440.257.5565
You may also e-mail your information to:
adventmentoroffice@gmail.com**

ADVENT'S STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Steven C. Bond	710.4757
Office Administrator: Sue Keeley	862.2790
Organist: Elizabeth Sumiejski	255.5489
Chancel Choir Director: Doreen Mattson	946.5043
Praise Team Director: Tracy Ammon	749.0690
Parish Nurse: Christine Noble	346.3120
Youth Director: Pr. Michael Martin	330.414.4446

VOLUNTEER CONTACTS

Greeters	
Jo Brantweiner	944.4465
Lay Assistants	
Doreen Mattson	946.5043
Worship Assistants	
Becky Young	440.221.4531
Worship Tech	
Greg Preske	216.317.8148
Altar Guild Chairperson	
Becky Young	440.221.4531
Sunday School	
Beth Hamilton	669.1902
Service Outreach	
Food Pantry	
Dave Mattson	946.5043
Youth & Family Ministry	
Beth Hamilton	669.1902
Prayer Ministry	
• Prayer Vigil	
Sue Keeley	862.2790
• Prayer Chain	
Sue Keeley	862.2790
• Healing Touch	
Christine Noble	346.3120
Meals for Members	
Barb Caspell	440.840.5393
Barb Louis	352.7055
Youth Group	
Pastor Mike Martin	330.414.4446
SuperLittles	
Memorial Gifts	
Barb Zahn	440.223.2852

Finely Aged Ministry

Christine Noble	346.3120
Funeral Luncheons	
Christine Noble	346.3120
Blood Drives	
Cherie Moore	623.308.9514
Webmaster	
Church Office	257.5565
Liturgical Arts	
Fawn Patrick	357.7898
Quilting	
Betty Steimle	440.534.1174

CHURCH COUNCIL

Pr. Steve Bond	710.4757
Dave Mattson	946.5043
Denise McClanahan	216.513.0962
Rob Hilston	207.632.5949
Bob Adkins	832.971.6414
Jo Brantweiner	944.4465
Lida Mackey	440.670.3823
David Enzerra	357.1977
Yvonne Kulma	552.6963
Cathy Doering	379.7338
Tim Krueger	391.0369
Erik Hellier	440.488.5394

Council Secretary

Sue Keeley 862.2790

Treasurer

Bob Adkins 832.971.6414

Financial Secretary

Becky Spudich 440.487.7897

Asst. Treasurer

Dave Mattson 946.5043

MUTUAL MINISTRY

Deb Laukiavich	725.4929
Gary Swanson	257.8480
Cathy Doering	379.7338
Jenny Helland	974.1776

Deadline Reminder:

Newsletter information: by the 15th of the month

2023 Directories

The new directories are available in the Narthex.



Thank You

To my church family ~

Thank you so much for the lovely cards, gifts, and good wishes on my 100th birthday. Thank you for remembering me.

It's been a wonderful hundred years!

Connie Sanden

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
7985 MUNSON ROAD
MENTOR, OHIO 44060-3703

Dated Material - March 21, 2023



Smile! Know that God Loves **You!**

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Worship Schedule

- ◆ Saturday's @4:00pm
Sunday's @9:00am ▪ Sunday's @11:30am
- ◆ Youth Sunday School ▪ Sunday's ▪ 10:15am
- ◆ Adult Sunday School: ▪ Sunday's ▪ 10:30am

ON THE WEB: www.adventmentor.org
E-mail: adventmentoroffice@gmail.com
Pr. Steve Bond: pastorstevebond@aol.com
Christine Noble: adventparishnurse@gmail.com



Rev. Steven C. Bond, Pastor
7985 Munson Road, Mentor OH 44060-3703
• 440.257.5565

Advent Welcomes You!

Welcome! With delight, we greet all who come to worship. You are sincerely welcomed and invited to be a regular worshipper here in God's house. If you are looking for a church home, you will find a ready welcome here at Advent Lutheran Church.

Welcome Friends



Advent's Purpose Statement: *"Loved by God, we share Christ's love with all"*