

## pastor's Message

This is a test...get your attention? Seriously, I am hoping to get feedback on this article as I am trying to determine how effective our communication is with regards to the Candle – this newsletter. Currently we have just over 200 e-mail addresses that we send a newsletter to each month. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  are "opened" -- we cannot tell if or how much of the newsletter is actually read. We mail out 65 copies every month and put about 30 copies in the gathering area outside our worship space.

Why am I concerned about finding out who is reading our newsletter? It really is all about our sense of being a community. Effective communication is vital to ensuring valuable information is shared. In addition, your comfort in being able to approach your pastor and/or leaders of the congregation to ask questions, share concerns or, express appreciation.

In an age where we have so many options with which to communicate – email, text, voice, chat rooms, video conferencing, etc.; the irony is that communication seems as difficult, if not more so, than ever.

So, again, to evaluate the use of a newsletter as a means of communication, I would very much appreciate it if you would share your experience of the newsletter with me. No judgements, I just want to know the truth.

Do you read the newsletter? How much of the newsletter do you usually read? If you read the newsletter and would like it to continue, do you have any specific topics you would like for me, as your pastor, to cover in my monthly article?

Thank you in advance for your replies. Please text me at 440.710.4757 or email me at pastorstevebond@aol.com ~or~ talk to me in person—that still works too!

Grace and Peace, Pastor Steve



## Spirituality Moment

"Breton Fisherman's Prayer"

Dear God, be good to me.

The sea is so wide, and my boat is so small."



## THE BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY -The Brown Bag Bible Study group meets on the second Thursday of every month at 12 noon – unless otherwise agreed upon in order accommodate such things as conflicts with holidays etc. We are currently meeting using a hybrid format. We meet in classrooms 1/2 (in the Education Wing) and on Zoom for those who want to attend remotely. Each month we will focus on a different book of the New Testament. This Bible study will be light and informal. In other words - FUN. You DO NOT have to be a Bible scholar to participate. There will be no books to purchase. Just bring your Bible. You DO NOT have to attend every session. If you have to miss one or more sessions, that will be no problem. Just dive back in whenever you can. If you are interested in participating, please call, email or text Tim Krueger or Becky Spudich. Their

or text Tim Krueger or Becky Spudich. Their contact information is in the current church directory.

## **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, have a prayer request, or if you have any questions. Prayer is Powerful!!

## **Pastor Prayer Intercessors**

April 29-May 5 Doreen Mattson

May 6-12 Christine Noble, Mary Jo Jones May 13-19 Jenny Dubeansky, Sara Coleman

May 20-26 Becky Spudich

May 27-June 2 Nancy Marshaus, Rose Schrum

The Prayer & Spirituality Ministry meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 10:30am. We welcome you to join us!





## **Points from your Parish Nurse**

- ▼ The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) sponsors Mental Health Awareness Month in May each year to inform people about the importance of mental health across the nation. The theme for Mental Health Awareness is "Movement: Moving more for our Mental Health." Being active is very important for our mental health. But so many of us struggle to get enough exercise. We know there are many different reasons for this. In an attempt to help people find moments for movement in their daily routine, here are a few suggestions. Going for a walk in your neighborhood, putting on your favorite music and dancing around the living room (my personal favorite), chair exercises while watching television-it all counts!
- May is also the month we celebrate Mothers. The second Sunday in May is Mother's Day in most countries. This day is observed in Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Americas, but the tradition to celebrate the holiday is native to the USA. The very first Mother's Day was celebrated in 1908 in the U.S. when Anna Jarvis held a memorial service to honor her mother. Then she started a campaign to establish Mother's Day as a national holiday and later as an international one. The U.S. Congress passed a law on May 8, 1914 that designated the second Sunday in May to be Mother's Day. The holiday was proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson on the next day as the holiday when all American citizens raised the flag in honor of the mothers, whose sons had died in war.
- Caregivers Support Group continues to meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month. May 9 at 1pm will be our next meeting. This group of 7-8 people meet to share their experiences as a caregiver and the challenges they face. All information is kept confidential and all are welcome.
- ▶ Blood pressure screenings will be held on Saturday, May 18 at 5pm with Mary Jo Jones and on Sunday, May 19 at 10am in the Parish Nurse office. Hope to see you there.
- ▼ The quarterly Care Team meeting will be on Saturday, June 1 at 10am. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, please join us. We are in need of more volunteers.
- As always, "When in doubt, Point to the Cross!"

Your Servant in Christ, Christine Noble, Parish Nurse



Apr 28-May 11



Denise Janosko, Bev McArthur,

Nancy Marshaus

May 12-25 Lida Mackey, Becky Young,

Laura Jastromb

May 26-June 8 Kathy Kling, KathyJennings,

Barb Caspell, Kay Smith

## Upcoming Blood Drive

Time to Bloom!

Friday, May 17 11am-5pm

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 - March

**In Attendance (via Zoom & in-person):** Pastor Steve, Jo Brantweiner, Bob Adkins, Rob Hilston, Dave Mattson, Joan Hamm, Ben DeAlexandro, Andy DiLiello, Carla Colo, Christine Noble

**Guests: Yvonne Kulma, Sandy Kehler (Parsonage Taskforce Committee)** 

Call to Order: 6:58pm

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

**Parsonage Committee Update:** Yvonne presented an overview of the work done and the process that the Taskforce has gone through the past 2 years, concerning the Parsonage (selling or keeping). The home was built in 1861. Documents (all on file) were presented to the council. Presentation of the Pros and Cons document was reviewed and discussed. The parsonage and property (3 acres) are zoned Mentor residential. Multiple documents were viewed and discussed. Three realtors have done walk-throughs of the parsonage and quotes have been received. One realtor has been selected, if the council/congregation decides to proceed with selling the parsonage.

Q&A took place. We need to be aware that change is difficult for some people, and we need to be sensitive to that. Thank you to the taskforce for all of their hard work these past 2 years. It was noted that entire taskforce is on-board and all in agreement in the decision to sell the parsonage/property. Pastor noted that he continues his decision that he wants what is best for the congregation overall, but time has come for him to generate some equity before he retires. He also mentioned some concerns of late. Discussion ensued.

Dave Mattson and Bob Adkins presented the Financial Analysis document. Cost comparisons for Advent and Pastor Steve with and without the parsonage (on file). Questions were addressed. It was noted that no decisions were made at this time as to what the proceeds would be for, but Advent will be good stewards with the money. The Parsonage Taskforce brings this proposal.

\*\* Motion was made to sell the property bought in April 2003, listed as 7955 Munson Rd., which includes the parsonage and adjacent land(buildings) for the estimated current market value but no less than \$260,000. This would be contingent on an approval to sell by the congregation at a special congregational meeting called by Advent's church council; the motion was seconded and approved by all.

Next steps: Congregational Meeting needs to be set, letter will be done and sent to the congregation; announcement in worship for consecutive weekends before the Special Congregational Meeting. It was suggested to hold a "Parsonage Informational Meeting" before the Special Congregational Meeting, to allow the congregation to gain full knowledge and ask whatever questions they have. The letter will be sent in the first week of April.

Parsonage Informational Meeting: Sunday, April 14 at 10am. Special Congregational Meeting: Sunday, April 28 at 10am.

### Pastor's Report: verbal

- Pastor spoke about a council retreat. He shared his feelings about having an overnight retreat
  vs. a one-day retreat. There are big benefits to an overnight retreat. Pastor asked the council
  to pray about the retreat and let him know if they would be willing to attend an overnight retreat
  (spouses welcome) or if they would prefer a one-day retreat. Dates to be determined.
  Focus for the retreat will be held around the book, "The Invitational Christian."
- \*\*Motion was made and seconded, and Pastors report was approved.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

On file. No specifics to note, nothing to highlight.

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

Ministry Team Reports Received: H&W, Fellowship, W&M, Prayer, LBG, Property (on file)

**Prayer:** the ministry team would like council members to be more involved in their events. Coming up are the Tour of Trinity Cathedral and 8-week program "Emotional Healthy Spirituality.

\*\*Motion was made and seconded, and the Ministry reports were approved.

#### Administration/Housekeeping Items:

Devotion for April: Jo Brantweiner

#### New business:

**Synod Assembly:** June 1. This is the first time a one-day assembly will take place. Pastor explained what the Synod Assembly is. We can have 2 delegates (1 male and 1 female), and 1 additional delegate if a youth, person of color, or LBGTQ+. Please let either Rob or Pastor know if you are interested in attending.

RIC Banner: photo presented. RIC banner is hanging on the front wall of the Sanctuary. A member noted that they believe that the banner should be hung permanently, as this IS who we are as a congregation. This was taken to the LBG committee for discussion. They were all in agreement but wanted to get the council's approval. Discussion ensued. A council member suggested that the banner could be signed on the back by congregation members, as an individual commitment and support of Advent's stance on being RIC.

\*\*Motion was made to leave the RIC banner in the Sanctuary, but council has the right to re-access in the future if needed; motion was seconded and approved.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion was made, seconded, and meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

#### **Lord's Prayer**

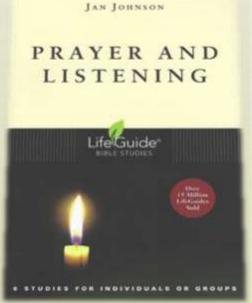
Respectfully submitted, Sue Keeley, Council Secretary



## **SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES**

How do we communicate with God? The Sunday morning adult Sunday school class is biblically exploring the topic of praying and listening to God. The first session will be held on Sunday, April 7th at 10:15am. Classes are both in-person (classroom 1) and on zoom (hybrid format). This will involve a 6 session Bible study entitled "*Prayer and Listening*," by Jan Johnson. The study guide is available at Amazon.com for \$11.99 in paperback. It is also available in Kindle format for \$7.59 (ISBN9780830831234).

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 information about this study 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

## Stewardship

Stewardship is about so much more than money – stewardship is about love.

To be Stewards of God's Love challenges all Christians to reimagine the ways in which they steward God's resources — time, talents and treasures — in response to God's commandment to love God and our neighbors. One of the ways this is done here at Advent is through our ministries. This month we will highlight the **work of the Worship & Music Ministry Team**.

The Worship & Music Ministry is responsible for everything that happens with each service that is held within our church. The team reads and studies the weekly scriptures to pick the perfect songs. During each service, their spirit and passion through their instruments and their voices invite all to sing, hum, clap, or simply listen to proclaim God's Love together. Each of the weekend services showcase the team's different talents and beautiful music which provides a meaningful way for all to Worship and celebrate God's Love.

The Worship & Ministry Team show their Stewardship by sharing their time, talent, dedication, and passion providing a quality worship experience along with the feeling of community.

If you are interested in learning more or joining this ministry team, please contact Kathleen Hilston at 207-400-6700 or kennybradd@att.net

Thank you, Advent Lutheran Family, for your work as God's Stewards. As a congregation we can do together what we cannot do alone.

God Bless ~ Your Stewardship Team

## Summer Worship Schedule

Please make note: beginning May 26 Saturday Worship · 4pm Sunday Worship · 9am and 11am





## THE LOVED BY GOD COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP

Advent will again (for the second year in a row) be providing a vendor table at the Lake County Pride Day 2024 event, which will be held at the Lake County History Center (415 Riverside Dr., Painesville) on Sunday, June 9, 2024, from 11am to 5pm.

We need people to monitor our table in one- or two- hour shifts, including set-up and tear-down. Prizes, giveaways, and simple activities will be provided in order to attract people to the table. It is an opportunity to meet with visitors and answer any questions they may have about Advent Lutheran Church.

A sign-up sheet has been placed in the narthex for your convenience.

If you have any questions, you can contact Tim Krueger at (440) 391-0369 or LTCTKRUE@aol.com.





On Mother's Day, Sunday May 12th, we would like to honor all of the mother's of Advent with muffins in the Narthex. Please come and join us between services, it is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and to enjoy fresh baked muffins.

Cherie Moore, Fellowship Ministry



## **Welcoming New Members**

New Members will be received on Saturday, May 18, 2024. Class with Pastor Steve will begin at 1:00pm with refreshments till 3:30pm. Worship at 4:00pm and a dinner after service, which gives new members a chance to meet all ministry's that Advent has to offer.

Anybody who is interested please contact Pastor Steve as soon as possible at: (440) 710.4757 or Cherie Moore of our Witness Ministry at (623) 308.9514.

God's Blessings, Cherie Moore Witness Ministry



## **SPRING WORK DAY**

Saturday, May 25th 8am-2pm Lunch will be provided by the Fellowship Committee.

Hello Advent family,

May 25th will be Spring work day at Advent. Volunteers are needed who are willing to do inside and outside chores.

If you enjoy the outdoors, bring gloves and tools to help with landscaping.

Many hands make light the work - let's make Advent shine.



## **Graduation Information**

It's that time of year where we would like to acknowledge those who are graduating...high school, college, grad school. Please contact the church office with info (440.257.5565 or you may email: adventmentoroffice@gmail.com).

We need their: name, where they are graduating from, college attending or future plans.

Please be sure to get your information to the church office by Friday, May 17.

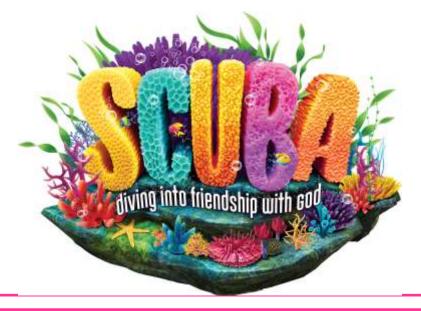
May God Bless all of our graduates!





## Vacation Bible School

Save the Date June 17-21



## OK Gang Luncheon

The O(lder) K(ids) Gang is a group of retirees from Advent who get together once a month for lunch. It's a very popular venue and we have been doing this for 11 years now. When we say retirees, you really don't need to be retired to attend. We have not decided on a place for next month, but know that the luncheon is always held the third Monday of the month at 1:00 PM. If you would like to get to know your pew partners, we would love to get to know you!

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Just add your name to it and also add your email address and phone number and someone will get in touch with you.

Looking forward to meeting you!

The Witness Ministry Team Donna Lesiacsek

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

I will strengthen you and help you;

I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" | Isaiah 41:10

# Community Outreach

Food Pantry (St. Andrew's)
Donations:

May:

**Toothpaste, Detergent** 

Volunteers Needed



## Advent's Little Free Pantry

Our current needs are: pasta sauce, oatmeal, bar soap

There is a collection box outside the church office. Thank You!

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!

## Geraniums

On Pentecost, May 19, we will celebrate and decorate the Sanctuary with beautiful red Geraniums. One 6 1/2 inch pot will be \$7.50. Please consider purchasing a flower. After the 11:30 service, all the left-over geraniums will be planted on the church grounds.

The last day to order your Geraniums is May 8.

I am always looking for helpers to plant the geraniums.

Peace, Doreen Mattson

### WORSHIP HAPPENINGS AT ADVENT

Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy spirit on the Apostles and other disciples and it marks the beginning of the Christian church's mission to the world. Members of the congregation wear red which symbols the red flames/the tongues of fire from the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is May 19, 2024. Don't forget to wear red, and to order your geraniums. The geraniums will be used to beautify the church grounds.

We will start our summer worship schedule Memorial Day Weekend: (May 25/26) Saturday 4pm, Sunday 9am and Sunday 11am. We will use the liturgy from the WOV (the Blue Book).

Additional people are needed at the 11:30/11am service to help with "PowerPoint." This entails pressing a button and the spacebar to advance the slides on the screen. Please contact Becky Young and Andy DiLiello.

Worship doesn't happen without the helping hands of many people.

Thank you to all the people who donated time, talents, food, cookies, and decorations during Lent for the Lenten services, meals, Passion reading, the Easter Vigil, and the Easter Services. You help make our services beautiful!

continued top next page

"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

As always, we welcome your input through suggestions and comments to continue to give our congregation quality services.

We also need volunteers for the different jobs (ushers, lectors, communion assistants, altar guild, powerpoint and sound board) Sign-up on the board in the Narthex.

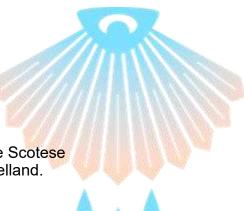
Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.

## Baptism

Elaina Mae Scotese baptized April 21

Elaina is the daughter of Paul & Adele Scotese granddaughter of John & Jenny Helland.

God's Blessings!



## **Altar Flowers**



#### May

4/5 Open 11/12 Open 18/19 Hamilton 25/26 Mach

Please see the sign up board in the Narthex to reserve your dates for altar flowers.

Note: you will be billed directly from the florist.

## **Worship Assistants**

What a joy and blessing it is to serve the Lord!

Ushers, Lectors, and Communion Assistants

Please see the sign up board in the Narthex or you may call the church office to sign up.

THANK YOU

## **Upcoming Communion Bread Bakers**

Month of May Leesa Mecozzi

Thank you for serving!

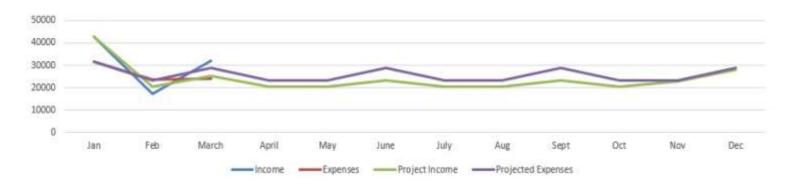


## Finance Update • March 31, 2024

GENERAL FUND	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Balance 1/1/24	\$ 29,652.25	29,652.25	
Income	91,959.88	88,285.00	3,674.88
Expenditures	79,157.11	80,527.00	1,369.89
Ending Balance March 31, 2024	\$42,455.02	\$37,410.25	\$5,044.77
DESIGNATED/ RESTRICTED FUNDS	_		
Balance 1/1/24	- \$110,809.32		oort with Fund Bala ouncil bulletin boar
Income	46,573.96		
Expenditures	9,469.20		
Ending Balance March 31, 2024	\$147,914.08		

	Advent 2024 Financial Performance												
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Income	36,770	17,141	32,076										
Expenses	31,707	23,624	23,825										
Project Income	42,691	20,283	25,311	20,427	20,283	23,363	20,283	20,283	23,363	20,283	22,672	28,057	287,299
Projected Expenses		23,124	28,907	23,126	23,126	28,907	23,126	23,126	28,907	23,126	23,126	28,907	309,215

### **Advent 2024 Financial Performance**



**Online Giving:** If you would like to support Advent's ministry electronically, scan this QR code to visit our online giving page. Thank You!



946.5043

# 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 Praise Team Director: Tracy Ammon 749.0690

**VOLUNTEER CONTACTS** 

	Lay Assistants	040 5040
	Doreen Mattson	946.5043
	Worship Assistants	057.5505
	Church office	257.5565
	Worship Tech	040 047 0440
	Greg Preske	216.317.8148
	Altar Guild Chairperson	440 004 4504
	Becky Young	. 440.221.4531
	Sunday School Beth Hamilton	660 1002
	Service Outreach	009.1902
	Food Pantry	
	Dave Mattson	946 5043
	Youth & Family Ministry	040.0040
	Beth Hamilton	669.1902
	Prayer Ministry	000.1002
	Prayer Vigil	
	Sue Keeley	862.2790
	Prayer Chain	
	Sue Keeley	862 2790
	Healing Touch	
	Christine Noble	346.3120
	Meals for Members	010.0120
	Barb Caspell	440.840.5393
	Barb Louis	
	Youth	
	Memorial Gifts	
	Barb Zahn	440.223.2852
П		

Finely Aged Ministry Christine Noble Funeral Luncheons	346.3120
Christine NoblePaula DiLiello	
Blood Drives Cherie Moore Webmaster	623.308.9514
Church Office Liturgical Arts	
Fawn PatrickQuilting	
Betty SteimleCHURCH COU	
	NCII
	10.2
Pr. Steve Bond Dave Mattson	710.4757 946.5043
Dave Mattson Joan Hamm Carla Colo	710.4757 946.5043 440.476.1494 216.970.0219
Dave Mattson Joan Hamm Carla Colo Ben DeAlexandro Andy DiLiello	710.4757 946.5043 440.476.1494 216.970.0219 330.416.4858 440.290.7506
Dave Mattson Joan Hamm Carla Colo Ben DeAlexandro Andy DiLiello Rob Hilston Bob Adkins	
Dave Mattson Joan Hamm Carla Colo Ben DeAlexandro Andy DiLiello Rob Hilston	
Dave Mattson Joan Hamm Carla Colo Ben DeAlexandro Andy DiLiello Rob Hilston Bob Adkins Jo Brantweiner Christine Noble  Council Secretary Sue Keeley	710.4757 946.5043 440.476.1494 216.970.0219 330.416.4858 440.290.7506 207.632.5949 832.971.6414 944.4465 440.346.3120
Dave Mattson Joan Hamm Carla Colo Ben DeAlexandro Andy DiLiello Rob Hilston Bob Adkins Jo Brantweiner Christine Noble  Council Secretary	710.4757 946.5043 440.476.1494 216.970.0219 330.416.4858 440.290.7506 207.632.5949 832.971.6414 944.4465 440.346.3120

#### **MUTUAL MINISTRY**

Dave Mattson .....

Becky Spudich ...... 440.487.7897

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

## **Deadline Reminder:**

**Newsletter information:** 

due by the 15th of the month



From the Office

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

**Asst. Treasurer** 

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

Dated Material - April 22, 2024

## 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
   (Summer Worship, May 26 @11am)
- Youth Sunday School
   Sunday's
   10:15am
- Adult Sunday School: Sunday's 10:15am

ON THE WEB: adventmentor.org

**E-mail:** adventmentoroffice@gmail.com **Pr. Steve Bond:** pastorstevebond@aol.com **Christine Noble:** adventparishnurse@gmail.com

## **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.





Rev. Steven C. Bond, Pastor 7985 Munson Road, Mentor OH 44060-3703 • 440.257.