

THE ADVENT COURIER

Volume 16, Issue 05

Sharing Christ's Love, We Are A Welcoming, Caring, Serving Community. Come and See.

October 2014



Advent Lutheran Church
2222 S. Arlington Ridge Rd
Arlington, VA 22202
703-521-7010
adventlc@hotmail.com
www.adventlc.us

SUNDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Bible Study 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am

Pastor
Rev. Anna Anderson

President
Gerry Fuller

Office Administrator
Nancy Cox Jairrels

Director of Music Ministry
Michael Lewallen

Nursery Attendant
Roxie Jairrels

Newsletter Copy Editor
Marianne Hetzer



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at www.facebook.com/adventarlington

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a NEW view

Windows reflect the journey into fellowship

Dear Friends in Christ,
We are blessed to begin this fall with the addition of new stained glass windows above the front doors. They represent the concept of our Christian journey - very appropriate for Advent at this time as we are engaged in a three year Journey initiative as a congregation in becoming a mission for the 21st century. On a more timeless note, they re-

mind us of the theological reflection on our Christian journey as being drawn into Christ. It reminds us that we do not choose God; God chooses us and brings us into the fellowship of the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, which I can see in the upper window.



Photo by Nancy Jairrels

Artist's thoughts and vision: Designer Patricia Cassidy talks about her process of interpreting the Christian journey, page 3.

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Opportunities for Worship & Ministry

Exploring Faith

The schedule for the month includes:

- * *October 5 & October 19: "Singing Our Prayer."* Music Director Michael Lewallen will lead a two-part presentation that explores ways to incorporate chant into our personal spiritual practice. Each person's voice is unique and precious, so why not bring our voice into our prayers? Participants will try several kinds of chants, and there will be suggestions for ways to use them.
- * *October 12: "How Will the World End?"* led by Gerry Fuller.
- * *October 26: Field trip.* Tentative trip to Arlington County Historical Society Museum. Look for more information in the coming weeks.

Pet Blessing

On Sunday, October 5, at 11:30, we will honor St. Francis of Assisi by blessing animals. Bring your pets and other critters to the labyrinth for a special service of blessing. Non-pet owners are invited to come and get their "petting" fix.

A-SPAN

Drop by the kitchen at 4 pm on the first Wednesday of each month to help with this ongoing ministry. Volunteers prepare bagged lunches that are delivered to the homeless in our area. The ministry supports the efforts of the Arlington Street People's Assistance Network (www.a-span.org).

All Saints Sunday

We pause to remember in our prayers and give thanks for those who have died on November 02. If there is someone you would like



Fall Workday

Fall is just around the corner! Mark your calendars and come out Saturday morning, October 18, at 9 am to help weed, trim and spread mulch on our flowerbeds. Arlington County will deliver a truckload of mulch on the 17th that needs to be spread by the next day. Come and lend a helping hand as we work to beautify our grounds before the dedication of our new stained glass windows on November 2nd. Rain date: October 25.

— *Ingrid Berdahl*

to have named, please email the name and the relationship to you to the church office.

Window Dedication

Bishop Graham will be with us on Sunday, November 2, to preach and dedicate the new stained glass windows in the Welcome Center. You are invited to contribute finger food for the reception following service.

Community Service

The community Thanksgiving worship is being planned by the 23rd Street churches for Sunday, November 23, at 7 pm.

Bold colors & shapes depict journey

(Continued from page 1)

Patricia Cassidy, our window artist, wrote the following about the windows:

“Like many artists, I hesitate to explain my work as always the hope is that the viewer will discover their own meaningful connection with the piece ... and the work should allow for that personal interpretation. I will however, explain my process in building this design.



The window being on the front of the Church and over the doorway is very important and as such it should suggest something about the direction a stranger might find within that church.

The fluid lines of the work are intended to suggest movement as in the Christian journey being not static but one of change and growth ... in motion ... towards a deeper broader connection to the Light of God.

I wanted the artwork to be uplifting and to suggest this Christian journey as one of lifting up our hearts. I have attempted to do so through this choice of lines and colors.

The Journey begins over the doorway, the journey of the fish moving upwards from their spiraling, circling confusion in the lower transom window (rectangular drawing).

Their upward direction leads to the larger round window. Here the fish shapes alter themselves, helping in forming the shape of a cross...

Yet, this cross is not static, it is itself in motion ... extending to carry wings which both shelter and lift ... the shapes become more abstract as they move ... leading the eye to the very lightest glass located on the upper right hand side... the Light.”

I hope you will find welcome, comfort, joy, and inspiration in contemplating them.

Love, Pastor Anna

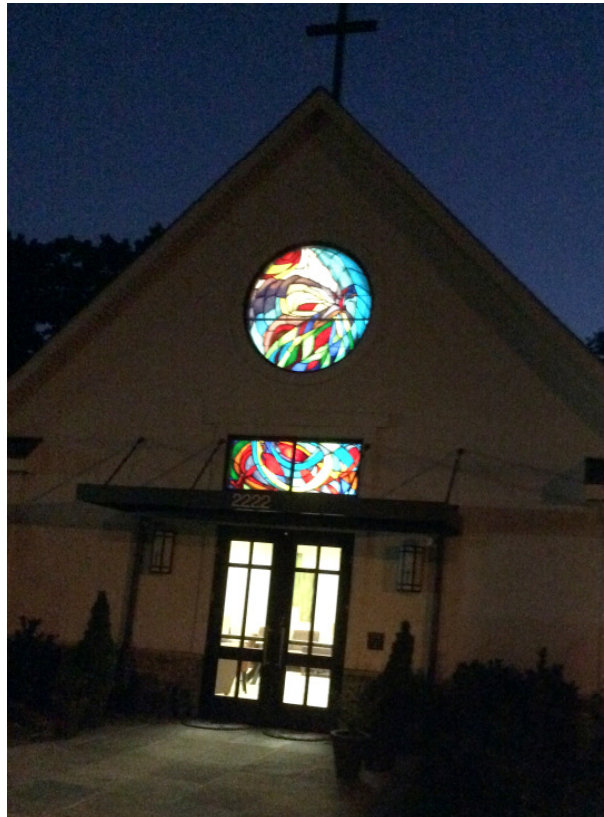


Photo by Ellie Holsopple

After the sun goes down: The colors appear muted from the outside during the day but glow beautifully in the dark.



Photo by Nancy Jairrels

Getting down to business: Council meets each month and Pastor Anna maintains the tradition of chocolate at each session, this time a bowl of Peanut M&Ms. In attendance at the September meeting were Ingrid Berdahl (Landscape Minister); Rensford Lovell (deacon and Finance Minister); Gerry Fuller (council president); Pastor Anna; and Brian Thiel (deacon). Also present were Joy Duncan (vice president) and Colleen Zellmer (deacon).

Goals re-analyzed at leadership retreat

At the leadership retreat in August, prayer and Bible study led into an evaluation of the four ministry initiatives from last year: Bible Reading Challenge, Staying Connected, Home Building/Repair Projects, and Spiritual Growth with the Labyrinth & Prayer in the Garden. The group agreed that all four goals are still valid and likely just need some tweaking in order to keep moving forward. The Journey Challenge initiated by the Synod two years ago is now focused on strengthening spiritual growth through small groups.

An exodus to confirmation camp

David Dai and Pastor Anna attended Confirmation Camp in July at Mar-Lu-Ridge, our Synod's camp in Maryland. The Exodus story was the basis for a study of our bondage to sin and the bondage of others trapped in difficult situations. Campers studied God's saving acts and talked about how we can work to bring that saving grace to others. On Thursday, campers performed a service project packing Fair Trade items from developing countries at a nearby distribution center.

Summer study: David Dai, right, joined other youth at confirmation camp in the mountains of Maryland.



Protect your temple with yoga



*“Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.”
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20*

Son Salutations Yoga, formerly Sunday Yoga with Susan!, merges the fitness of yoga with Christian worship. As a form of physical exercise, it gets us moving. As a form of spiritual exercise, it connects us with our bodies and calms our minds. Please join Susan Maly on Sunday afternoons at 3 pm in the Fellowship Hall for yoga. Classes are free and open to all. Newcomers welcome! Park in the rear lot and bring or borrow a mat! The fall schedule is:

- * September 28, 2014
- * October 5, 2014
- * November 16, 2014
- * December 7, 2014

For more information, speak with Susan Maly or visit the website at son-salutationsyoga.weebly.com.



September*

17th Charles Russ
Diana Nichols
20th Ellie Holsopple
23rd Carlie Lynn
27th Danielle Thomas

October

6th Murray Lynn
18th Karin Norton
26th Katariina Alanko

**Wish them a Happy Belated Birthday!*

Get your Social Security questions answered

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 4, when representatives from Thrivent Financial will lead "Savvy Social Security Planning" workshop at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 825 S. Taylor Street, Arlington. A continental breakfast will be served at 9:30 a.m., with presentation at 10 a.m., followed by a Q&A.

The workshop will cover the basics of Social Security, reveal strategies for maximizing your benefits (including five factors to consider when deciding when to apply for benefits), how to minimize taxes on Social Security benefits, and how to coordinate Social Security with your other sources of retirement income. This workshop will be useful to anyone of pre-retirement age, individuals entering into retirement who have not yet registered to receive their benefits (whether they were earned from working or earned as a spousal benefit), and to individuals who just want social security information to coordinate along with their retirement income plans.

To reserve a space or get more information, call or email Financial Associate Sheri Swackhamer at 571-970-0454 or sheri.swackhamer@thrivent.com. Everyone is encouraged to attend; you do not need to be a Thrivent member. Please register by October 3 to ensure a space. If you are not able to attend October 4, the workshop will also be held at other locations and dates are listed on the Thrivent website - www.thrivent.com/findanevent. – *Marilyn Falksen*

Relay team steps past \$2,000 in raised funds

The Next Step team, sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and made up of members and friends of Advent and Our Savior Lutheran Church, participated in the annual Relay for Life held in Arlington on Saturday, June 21. Relay for Life, the American Cancer Society's major fundraiser, is an organized, overnight fundraising walk during which participants take turns walking around a track. Relays are held throughout the country. The Next Step team raised \$2,570, the second largest amount of any Arlington team, which included a \$500 match from Thrivent. Thanks to all who participated by walking and/or donating to this worthy cause.

– Marilyn Falksen



Ladies do brunch

Young ladies from Advent gathered for brunch at the Del Ray Café in early September. They enjoyed the opportunity to get to know one another better, fellowship, and to share in a delicious meal. Many thanks to Stephanie Peterson for organizing the outing! - Susan Maly

Putting a stop to malaria



The Connections Team is sponsoring a concert featuring steel pan renditions of spiritual and Latin jazz and a number of talented Advent musicians performing Saturday, October 25, at 4 pm. A freewill offering to benefit the ELCA's fight against malaria will be collected. See the flyer for more information and a list of performers.

Second annual concert to aid Gifts of Hope

Come and enjoy the music of George and Ira Gershwin, Cole Porter, Duke Ellington and more. Gifts of Hope will have its second annual Benefit Concert on Sunday, October 12, at 3 pm at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer (1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean), and will feature the music from the "Great American Songbook" performed by Lizabeth Flood, a professional singer, composer, and pianist. In lieu of admission there will be a free-will offering. The Fairfax Chapter of Thrivent Financial will match donations (\$1 for each \$3 donated; maximum \$1000). All proceeds will support Gifts of Hope agencies. More information is available online at giftsofhopemetrodc.org/

Stopping Hunger project

Members from Advent, Calvary United Methodist and the Latter Day Saints churches gathered September 13, donned white hair nets and prepared 16,000 fortified rice and soy meals for distribution to orphans in Nicaragua. Advent members wore yellow “God’s Work. Our Hands” stickers as part of the ELCA day of service.



Photos by Nancy Jairrels, Advent; and Tyler Cole, LDS.



The process: Volunteers measured, weighed and sealed 16,000 bags that were packed and put on a truck for shipment to Nicaragua.

AN AFTERNOON OF
JUST MUSIC

A concert in support of the ELCA Malaria Campaign



Advent Lutheran Church
presents
Roger Greenidge & Greg Smith
performing Steel Pan
renditions of
spiritual and Latin jazz

ALSO PERFORMING
Michael Lewallen, keyboard
Greg Maly & James Broughel, guitar
Susan Maly & Nancy Jairrels, vocals
David Dai, violin
The Arlingtones Barbershop Chorus

Saturday, October 25, 2014
4 pm - 7 pm
2222 S. Arlington Ridge Road, Arlington, VA 22202

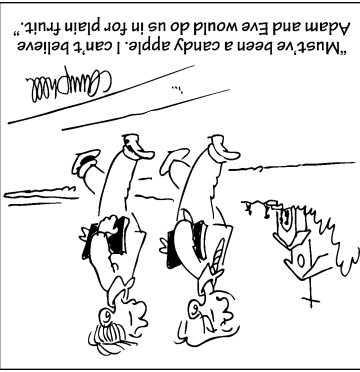
FREE WILL DONATION WILL BE COLLECTED TO MAKE MALARIA "HISTORY"

More information at www.elca.org/malaria
Advent is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

We could learn a lot from crayons: Some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors ... but they all exist very nicely together in the same box.

- Robert Fulghum

PUZZLE ANSWERS: "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." Genesis 8:22, NIV



Puzzle

A promise to the earth

After the flood in Genesis, God promised to "never again ... destroy all living creatures" (Genesis 8:21, NIV).

Directions: Using the picture clues below, write each small word in the blanks to complete God's promise in Genesis 8:22, NIV.

"As long as the _____ th _____

ures, _____ and har _____

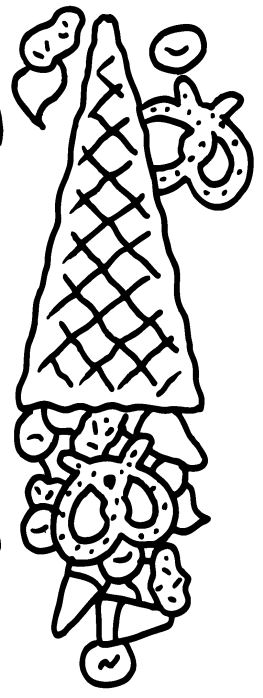
and h _____ and _____

ter, day and night _____

cease." _____

GENESIS 8:22, NIV

Edible Cornucopias



If you're planning a harvest party, set up a snack station so people can fill their own edible cornucopias.

What you need:

- Waffle cones
- Bowls
- Spoons
- Toppings (chocolate chips, nuts, pretzels, fish-shaped crackers, candy corn, dried cranberries, yogurt-covered raisins, etc.)

What you do:

1. Set up the table, placing each topping in a bowl.
2. Place a spoon in each bowl. Invite friends to create their own cornucopia by spooning chosen goodies into their waffle cones.
3. Enjoy!

What's going on . . . around the Synod

Reformation Sunday worship

Sunday, October 26, at Washington National Cathedral at 4 p.m. It is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our heritage and worship together in an inspiring setting.

Together in Mission

If you want tickets to Together in Mission (TIM), order them before September 30 to save. TIM is a synod-wide event, featuring insightful, diverse and BRIEF speakers on best practices for faith life today. TIM 2015 is January 31; tickets \$40 in advance; \$49 after September 30. Get details and tickets at <http://timmetrodc.org/>.

Young Adults: Sharpen Your Axe

Ever feel like there's always more you should be doing? Well sometimes the more we work, the less productive we become. Stephen Covey describes this as a woodcutter who works for days without taking the time to sharpen the saw. The more he does, the less

productive he becomes. Don't you think it's time to sharpen your axe? If so, please join other DC Metro Synod young adults as we collectively sharpen our axes: through prayer, conversation, reading, and enjoying nature in the beautiful and secluded Benedictine Sisters of Erie Monastery. Where: At the Benedictine Sisters of Erie Monastery in Erie, PA. Check out www.eriebenedictines.org. When: Nov 6-9, 2014 (Thursday-Sunday)

"Exploration of the Means of Grace"

A learning opportunity led by Dr. Gordon W. Lathrop, retired professor of liturgy from LTSP and a drafter of the ELCA "The Use of the Means of Grace: A Statement on the Practice of Word and Sacrament" (1997). Baptism, the preaching of the Gospel, and Holy Communion are at the center of our life as Lutherans, but what are they actually, how do we practice them, and why? Wednesday, October 1, 8 & 15, at 7:30 pm at Resurrection Lutheran Church (Arlington). Contact the church at 703-532-5991.

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