

THE ADVENT COURIER

Volume 15, Issue 04

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

Summer 2013



Advent Lutheran Church
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www.adventlc.us

SUNDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

Pastor
Rev. Anna Anderson

President
Debbie Lewis

President Elect
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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Reaffirming our spiritual practices as we undertake "The Journey"

To my fellow travelers:

I read a document from the 1960's that used the term "fellow travelers" to mean people who were interested in the Communist Party cause and who were willing to be used by it, but who were not committed to it. We at Advent, as a congregation, have committed to a course of action called The Journey, so when I refer to you as fellow travelers, I use it in the sense of people who care passionately about the mission of Jesus Christ living in us and in our community.

Part of being on the Journey is the commitment of the whole congregation to spiritual growth. As a community, we are invited to become more spiritually active and aware. This is ac-

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Advent's leadership for the coming year

Congratulations and welcome to the Advent Council for our newly elected deacons and officers. Elected were: Deacons - Rensford Lovell and Susan Toth; President - Gerry Fuller; Vice President - Linda Vilardo; Trustee - David Falksen; and, Nominating Committee - Susie Alvarez, Lynn Juhl, Debbie Lewis and Greg Maly. Returning deacons are Jeff Campbell and John Matzner.

And thank you to everyone who contributed food to our lunch meeting and helped set up and clean up. If you were not present and would like an annual report packet that includes the financial reports and the budget we approved, you may pick one up at the church.



Gerry Fuller
President



Linda Vilardo
Vice President



Rensford Lovell
Deacon



Susan Toth
Deacon



Jeff Campbell
Deacon



John Matzner
Deacon



David Falksen
Trustee



Susan Alvarez
Nominating
Committee



Lynn Juhl
Nominating
Committee



Debbie Lewis
Nominating
Committee



Greg Maly
Nominating
Committee

We give thanks for those leaders who have completed their terms of service in the leadership of Advent, including our president Debbie Lewis, our vice president Greg Maly, and our secretary Desiree Jessimy. We look forward to their ministry in other areas of Advent's life in the coming year.

Leadership retreat to focus on spirituality

Advent will host a leadership retreat in our beautiful new facility on August 24. Our focus will be spirituality and spiritual renewal in the congregation with guest facilitator Rev. Ron Qualley, senior pastor of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Fairfax. We will meet at 8:30 am for breakfast and orientation, and expect to conclude at noon. Leaders, deacons, ministry coordinators, and staff are expected to attend, and all others interested in the direction of ministry at Advent are invited. We are looking forward to a year of renewal.



Rev. Ron Qualley,
Pastor, Lord of Life

Jesus' Galilee ministry subject of summer texts

Summer worship continues at 10 am. The gospel texts for worship are stories from Luke of Jesus' ministry in Galilee.

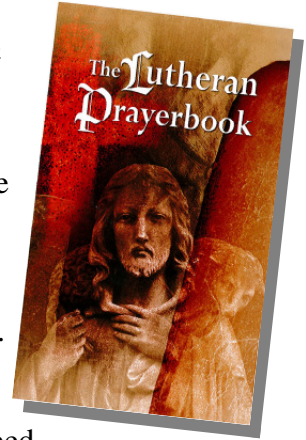
Bible Study of the Gospel of Mark meets at 9 am Sunday mornings and is exploring the teachings of Jesus in his last week of life in Jerusalem. You are welcome at either or both whenever you are in town.

In this month's edition of **Library Corner**, I share a prayer that can be found in *The Lutheran Prayerbook*. With prayers for special occasions, specific needs, mornings and evenings, the use of a prayer book is a great way to encourage daily prayer. Copies are available in the Welcome Center and library. - *Kristen Reglin*

Let Me Drink

Thank you Jesus, for this day.
Take my hand and lead the way.
Let me drink from the river that brings
love and peace and all good things.
Season my speech with salt of tact.
Fill my mind with the knowledge I lack.
Soften my heart with compassion to see
a world full of starving people to feed.
They hunger for the bread of life
and how to end all hate and strife.
Let Your words flow through my speech,

then I will sow seeds of hope the
world seeks.
Quiet my mouth to listen and
learn.
Filter with truth all I have heard.
Let my vision be wide to see
hurting people in front of me.
As I take each step, let me proceed
to walk in faith, not feelings and needs.
Positive thoughts and confession will bring
glory to You my Savior and King.



© Rousseau, Valerie Bauer. "Let me Drink." *The Lutheran Prayerbook*. Woodbury, MN: Vance E. Lichty, 2012, pg. 50.

Make a commitment to do your "homework"

Continued from page 1

completed by learning and practicing spiritual disciplines. To support that spiritual practice for this summer, we individual Christians in the organism that is Advent are challenged to commit to the following:

1st

Pick a Bible verse, one that is meaningful or helpful to you, or one you just like, or one that's always been a talisman or a verse from Sunday's Psalm or... Mine is going to be "Pray without ceasing." Put it where it will speak to you each day. Maybe on your TV remote or your mirror.

2nd

Pray a one-sentence prayer each morning first thing to bring God into your life for that day in an intentional way. Put the reminder on whatever you look at when you wake up - your glasses or toothbrush or coffee pot or ...

As a congregation we have homework for the Journey that your leaders are working on. I have homework as your pastor that I am working on, and now we each have homework.

There will be a test! God go with you.

Love, Pastor Anna

Highlights from the May meetings



Submitted by
Council Secretary
Desiree Jessimy

- * Treasurer Ellie Holsopple reported that General Fund expenditures exceeded receipts by \$666 for the month (\$1,479 less for year-to-date), leaving a General Fund balance of \$17,225. Overall, General Fund expenditures continue to be below budget for this year.
- * The balance of the Paul Hetzer Memorial Fund at the end of March was \$3,035.
- * Landscaping Minister Ingrid Berdahl reported on two successful workdays last month and that an arborist has looked at the large oak tree at the entrance to the labyrinth. The tree will be fertilized and trimmed to remove a dead limb. Efforts to save the tree are continuing but it has been declining since the building of the labyrinth and may have to be taken down in the next few years. The labyrinth needs to be power washed, and the polymeric sand mortar needs to be replaced; the cost is uncertain.
- * Average attendance for April was 40; and, 39 for May.
- * President Lewis has not received any strong opinions for or against continuing the current council format. She, however, thinks the current format keeps the meeting shorter but does not allow for participation in both teams. It was agreed that the resolution continue as is, but take out the sentence which states that council members be assigned to one team or the other.
- * A motion to replace the exterior protective coating on the sanctuary stained glass windows using the tempered glass bronze aluminum at an estimated cost of \$940 with funds from the Thrivent Choice Dollars was approved and carried.
- * A motion to present the proposed budget to the Congregational Council Meeting was approved and carried.
- * A motion to increase the budget line item for the Director of Music to \$16,600 (\$200 per community service) and decrease the line item for missioning/outreach to \$8,360 was approved and carried.

Stained glass shining bright

The windows in the sanctuary are being cleaned and re-covered with protective glass. Enjoy the renewed brilliance of the colors!

Multi-church service project set

23rd Street churches work together for STOP HUNGER NOW

Advent will join forces with the 23rd Street Churches on Saturday morning July 13 at Calvary United Methodist Church to assemble meals for distribution to disaster victims as emergency food.

STOP HUNGER NOW is a ministry dedicated to providing non-perishable meal packets (just add water and cook) for relief to victims of disasters around the world. It works by bringing a truck of food to a gathering of volunteer labor for packaging into individual meals. There will be two shifts to package the meals — 9 am-10:30 am and 10:30 am-12:15 pm — in the parking lot of Calvary (23rd Street & S. Grant St.; right down the hill from Advent). Advent's Congregational Council has appropriated the money (about \$650), now we need to be sure Advent provides its share of labor. There is a sign up sheet in the



Welcome Center so that you can choose the shift that works best for you. Please sign up as soon as possible (or email the office) as Calvary needs an estimate of how many people are working each shift by June 17. Learn more about this relief agency by visiting www.stophungernow.org.

What's going on . . . at Advent and in the community

Full Moon Labyrinth Walk

Arlington labyrinth lovers are sponsoring a moonlight labyrinth walk on Advent's labyrinth on June 22 from 8:30 pm – 10 pm. Cold drinks will be provided; come and go as you choose. The walk is open to all so bring your friends.

Musical commemoration

On July 28, the Church commemorates the lives and ministry gifts of Johann Sebastian Bach and George Frideric



Handel who wrote wonderful music for the church - music that we still use to worship God and express our faith today. On that day, we will sing hymns by these two musicians. They lived in the 1700's (around the time of our Revo-

lution) and wrote in a style called Baroque. Come and be surprised by how many tunes you recognize!

Summer Hot Dog Festival!

On Sunday August 25, we will celebrate summer with hot dogs and games. Hot dogs will be provided, and you are invited to bring sides to share. We will kick-off the new year of ministry and promote the direction that emerges from the retreat. Come ready to eat and enjoy the company!

Thrivent offers number of member benefits

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a not-for-profit, Fortune 500 financial services membership organization that helps approximately 2.5 million members achieve financial security and give back to their communities. The organization creates and supports outreach programs and activities that help congregations, schools, charitable organizations and individuals in need. Thrivent also conducts free workshops such as the one held in February on Identity Theft. Another workshop on Planning for Retirement is planned for August. Watch the bulletin and newsletters for details.

Every Thrivent member belongs to a chapter - members from Advent belong to the Arlington Chapter - which receives money from Thrivent through its Care Abounds in Community program. These funds, which are administered by a chapter board elected by chapter members, can be used to match money raised for a charitable purpose or to purchase materials for a service project. For example, Thrivent Care Abounds in Community funds are used by Advent to purchase supplies for the ASPAN program, were used to match Gifts of Hope, and will be used to match funds raised by the Advent team at Relay for Life in June.

Funding received by the chapters is based in part on the number of members in the chapter. It's easy to become a member even if you don't purchase one of Thrivent's financial products. For \$19.95 per year you can become an associate member. As such, you receive will a quarterly magazine with interesting articles on financial and spiritual matters. Additionally, members can join the Thrivent Federal Credit Union and have access to a discount prescription drug program, identity theft protect program and discounted legal services. For more information, go to the Thrivent website www.thrivent.com.

- Marilyn Falksen, Advent Congregational Advocate and Thrivent Chapter Board Member

Evenings in the Garden

Mark your calendars! We will again be enjoying monthly evenings in the garden this summer. Come out to make our gardens even more beautiful than they already are! We will be trimming the roses, pulling out the dandelions... You get the idea.

We will gather at 6 pm on the following Thursday evenings: June 20, July 18, August 15, and September 12.

If you are interested in helping in other ways, contact Ingrid Berdahl. Many hands make light work!

Who Needs You Now?

Youth in our community!

Are you looking for a way to help youth in our community? Do you have time and energy to invest in a child? Can you provide care, stability and love to a child or teen in need?

Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) Therapeutic Foster Care Program is in need of individuals or couples who are interested in becoming foster parents. There are new children who enter foster care nearly every day, so there is a continual need for new foster families.

NVFS has two upcoming 3-session training courses: Saturdays July 13, 20 & 27, and September 14, 21 & 28. For information on becoming a foster parent or to register for the training, contact Ginny Snaider at 571-478-2557, gsnaider@nvfs.org or visit www.nvfs.org/fostercare.

THANK YOU

Your generosity helps save lives

Dear Advent Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your recent gift of \$450.00 to the ELCA Malaria Campaign. Your faithful generosity makes a life-changing, life-saving difference. Your gift is great appreciated. Thank you.

. . . Your gift brings us another step closer to making malaria history. Not long ago, a child in Africa died of malaria every 30 seconds. Now that figure is one child ever 60 seconds. That's a big difference – but we're not done yet.

As the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we do more together than we ever could do alone. We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together. Thank you for your support.

In Christ's service,

*- Jessica Nipp Hacker,
Coordinator,
ELCA Malaria Campaign*

The power of attitudes

Attitude is the mind's paintbrush. It can color a situation gloomy and gray, or cheerful and gay. In fact, attitudes are more important than facts.

—*Mary C. Crowley*



Congrats, graduate!

This summer we will say "God Speed" to Sam Matzner as he heads off to attend college at Princeton University. Sam has served Advent as an acolyte and lector, and has contributed to the music program. Keep him in your prayers!



June

- 3rd Wendell Anderson
Lucy Matzner*
- 7th Ralph Lund
- 10th Oliver Thomas
- 11th David Pellinen
Mark Duncan*
- 24th Amy Lang
- 28th Linda Vilardo

July

- 1st Joy Duncan
- 2nd Larry Tindal
- 16th George S. Toth
- 25th Archie Hall
- 26th Noah Herrera
- 31st Geoffrey Falksen

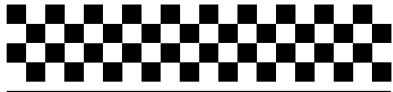
August

- 4th Corey Alvarez
Samantha Carey
- 9th Marianne Hetzer
- 11th Ingrid Berdahl
- 13th Susan Maly
- 16th Nesta Alleyne
- 18th Susan Alvarez
- 20th Evie Lynn
- 21st Susan Toth
- 30th Nancy Cox Jairrels
- 31st Merlin Neff*

**newsletter
deadline**

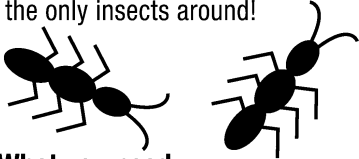
August 08

Please have articles to the office by 5 pm vial email. Thanks!



ANTS ON A HILL

Make this fun snack for a summer picnic — and hope these ants are the only insects around!



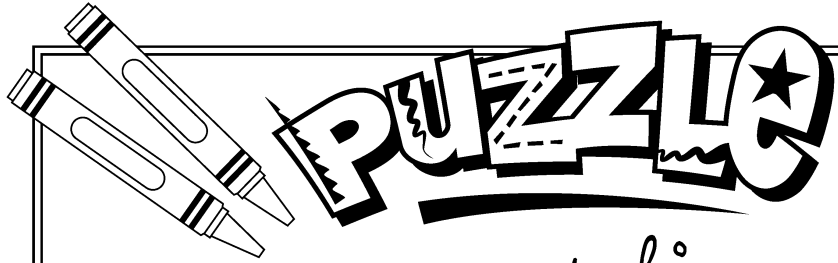
What you need:

- one box instant chocolate pudding mix
- milk
- graham crackers
- zippered baggies
- rolling pin
- clear plastic cup
- chocolate chips, raisins or dried cranberries



What you do:

1. Make the pudding according to directions on the box.
2. Put one whole graham cracker (four rectangles) into a zippered baggie. Seal and crush the crackers with a rolling pin.
3. Fill half the plastic cup with spoonfuls of chocolate pudding (dirt).
4. Add the crushed graham crackers (sand hill).
5. On the hill, place chocolate chips, raisins or dried cranberries (climbing ants). Enjoy!

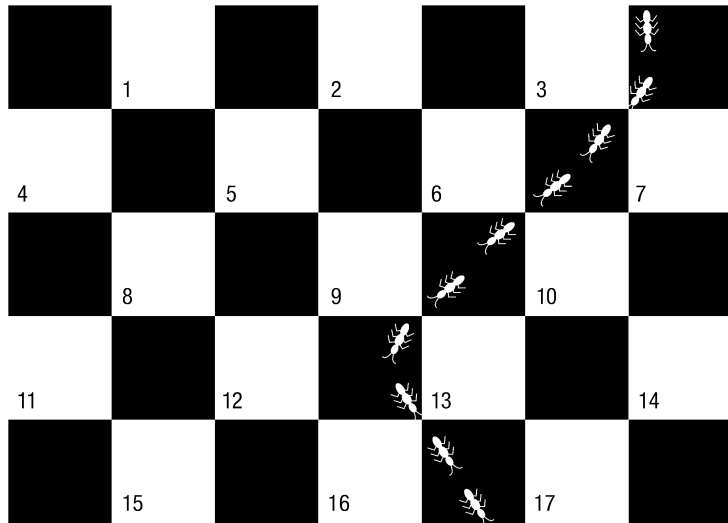


The ants go marching...

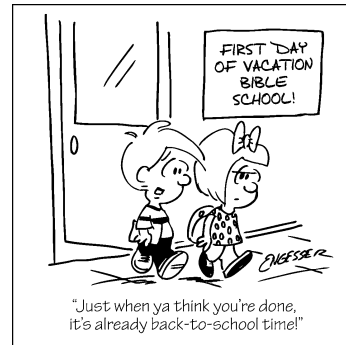
God created amazing insects and says we can learn lessons from their hard work.

Directions: Use the word bank below to fill in the tablecloth grid for ant-based wisdom from Proverbs 30:25, NIV.

- | | | | | | |
|---------|--------------|------------|----------|-----------|---------|
| 4. of | 6. strength | 15. summer | 12. food | 9. store | 2. are |
| 8. they | 3. creatures | 5. little | 7. yet | 10. up | 14. the |
| 1. Ants | 16. Proverbs | 17. 30:25 | 13. in | 11. their | |



Answer: "Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in the summer." Proverbs 30:25, NIV



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT SNACKS

Bring joy to a friend by sharing a "peace" of this yummy dessert!

What you need:

- adult help
- two 8" cake pans
- cooking spray
- 9 cups mini marshmallows
- 6 tablespoons butter
- food coloring (green and red)
- 9 cups crisp rice cereal
- mini chocolate chips



What you do:

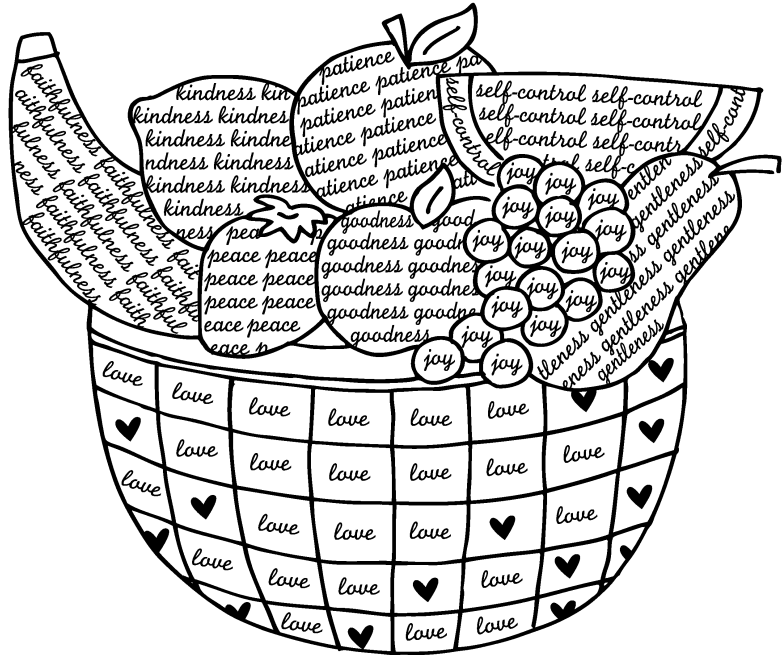
1. Spray cake pans.
2. Melt 4 cups marshmallows and 2 T. butter in microwave or on stove top. Add green food coloring. Stir.
3. Pour 4 cups cereal into bowl. Add green mixture. Stir with buttered spatula.
4. Put half into each pan and press along the sides with buttered hands.
5. Repeat using 5 cups marshmallows, 4 T. butter, 5 cups cereal and red food coloring.
6. Press half into the center of each pan, leaving a narrow outside border of green. Smooth the top.
7. Press mini chocolate chips into the red mixture.
8. Let cool. Then cut into wedges. Enjoy!



Seasonal Fruit

Although some fruit is seasonal, God encourages us to share the fruit of the Spirit with other people all year long. Galatians 5:22-23 lists the fruits we should give away.

Directions: Count each fruit (full words only) and write the numbers below.



Love= ___ Joy= ___ Peace= ___ Patience= ___ Kindness= ___

Goodness= ___ Faithfulness= ___ Gentleness= ___ Self-control= ___

Answers: Love=24, Joy=18, Peace=7, Patience=7, Kindness=7, Goodness=6, Faithfulness=6, Gentleness=6, Self-control=5

Kids are free

A little boy in church for the first time watched as the ushers passed the offering plates.

When they neared the pew where he sat, the youngster piped up so everyone could hear: "Don't pay for me, Daddy. I'm under five."

Church services of the future?

"Praise the Lord!"

CONGREGATION: "Hallelujah!"

PASTOR: "Can we please turn on our tablet, iPad, cell phone, and Kindle Bibles to 1 Cor. 13:13. And please switch on your Bluetooth to download the sermon."

The holy atmosphere of the Church becomes truly electrified as ALL the cellphones, iPads, tablets and laptops beep, flicker and play tunes as they are powered up!

P-a-u-s-e.....

PASTOR: "Now, Let us pray, committing this week into God's hands. Open your Apps, BBM, Twitter and Facebook and chat with God..."

S-i-l-e-n-c-e...

PASTOR: "As we take our Sunday tithes and offering... Please have your credit and debit cards ready. You can log on to the church Wi-fi using the password Lord909887."

Ushers circulate mobile card swipe machines among the wor-

shippers. Those who prefer to make electronic funds transfers are directed to computers and laptops at the rear of the church.

PASTOR: "Those who prefer to use iPads flip them open. Those who prefer telephone banking, take out your cellphones to transfer your contributions to the church account."

Final Blessing and Closing Announcements...

- * "This week's ministry cell meetings will be held on the various Facebook group pages where the usual group chatting takes place. Please log in and don't miss out."
- * "Thursday's Bible study will be held live on Skype at 1900 hours GMT. Please don't miss out."
- * "You can follow the Pastor on Twitter this week for counseling and prayers."

The Benediction

Pause..... cell phones, iPads, tablets and laptops beep, flicker and play tunes as they are powered down!

Advent Lutheran Church

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