



The Adventiser

Advent Lutheran Church

Our mission: To grow in the Lord and to make Him known.

Summer 2012

Don't Take A Summer Break from God's Word!

My Dear Friends in Christ... As I am writing this to you, I'm in the process of preparing a sermon based on John 17: 11-20 for the 7th Sunday in Easter (May 20, 2012) titled: "BE IN THE WORLD... NOT OF IT!" If you were at church on that Sunday, you have already heard it. If not, check it out on our Website.

This portion of John's Gospel is known as "Jesus' High Priestly Prayer" which He prayed for His disciples on that first Maundy Thursday, just before they went out to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus was betrayed by Judas, arrested, beaten, tried in an unfair and illegal court, and the next day crucified to accomplish God's plan for the salvation of the world.

In this prayer, Jesus asked God not to take the disciples out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one, and all the evil that is in the world. This doesn't mean that bad things won't happen to them, on the contrary, Jesus says that the world will hate them... but that God will keep their souls safe in the midst of all the evil in the world.

And the way that Jesus asked God to do that is found in verse 17 of John chapter 17, "¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth, Your Word is truth." Jesus is saying that the way God will keep them safe from the evil one is through His Word. We know that Jesus also prayed that prayer for us and for all who will believe in Him based on our testimony (that's what He says in verse 20).

As we approach summertime, our schedules generally open up a little. We take more time for leisure and look forward to a summer break from school and other activities, even our church schedule changes. We take a break from Sunday morning Bible studies, confirmation instruction, and Sunday school. But, let me encourage you not to take a summer break from studying God's word, whether it's your own personal study or as part of a small group that you're involved in. Remember: the truth of God's Word is how He keeps you safe from the evil one and evil in the world. And the evil one doesn't take the summer off.

Have a Great Summer! Make it a restful time, taking a break from many things, but not from God's Word. May this summer be a time of spiritual growth for you and for your family.

God's Blessings, Pastor John.

Women Of Advent

Our May retreat to the Trinity Center at Salter Path, NC was a wonderful weekend of Bible study, fellowship, and relaxing at the ocean. Mark your calendars now for May 3-5, 2013, and plan to join us for next year's retreat.

Women of Advent's last event before our break for the summer months will be a potluck lunch at 12 noon on Saturday, June 2, at the new home of Karen Baker Ortel, 5050 Taliskar Trail in Mebane, NC. A sign-up sheet will be in the church narthex. We hope many of you will be able to join us for this fun gathering.

Enjoy your summer!

Board of Worship

Thank you to all who purchased the Easter Lilies that decorated the sanctuary on Easter. A special thanks to the choir, bell choir, and praise singers who led our music on Easter Sunday!

Beginning June 3, 2012, worship services will begin at 10:00 a.m. The 10:30 worship service will resume when Sunday School begins on September 9, 2012.

If any member or friend of Advent Lutheran Church wishes to share a musical talent as a prelude, offertory, or communion interlude during a summer worship service, please contact Pastor John or Peggy Earnhardt, Worship Chair at: pearnhardt@mebtel.net.

All are welcome to Advent's Praise and Pizza event to be held June 16, 2012 from 5:15 – 7:00 pm. Along with music and singing, a short video will be shown followed by pizza and soda. If you have an interest in participating with the music or singing, please contact Pastor John, or Peggy Earnhardt. The Praise Band and Singers will continue to lead the music at our worship services on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Choir practice will resume in the fall. A special thanks to all who participated during the past year.

LCD Projector Fund

A special fund to purchase a LCD Projector has been established. The LCD projector would be similar to the one we use now for PowerPoint/videos but with a stronger projection capability (4500 lumens) that will allow us to view what's on the screen without having to turn off the lights in the sanctuary. It would be permanently mounted to the ceiling to avoid having to move the cart around, etc.

The goal is to purchase the LCD Projector and have it installed this fall. The total cost will be just over \$2200, which includes some funds for installation. As of April 30, the LCD Projector fund has had \$592.26 donated. Some fundraising events are being planned. If you would like to make any suggestions for fundraising, please contact the Board of Worship.

Family and Friends of Advent are asked to prayerfully consider contributing toward the LCD projector project. This would be in addition to your normal pledges. Checks can be made out to Advent Lutheran Church with "LCD Projector Fund" on the memo line. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor John or Peggy Earnhardt, Chair, Worship Board at pearnhardt@mebtel.net.

LCD PROJECTOR FUND RAISER

**PLAN TO ENJOY YUMMY REFRESHMENTS
DURING FELLOWSHIP HOUR AFTER CHURCH ON **SUNDAY, JUNE 17**
AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE PURCHASE OF THE LCD PROJECTOR.**

**HOT DOG BAR W/FIXINGS
ICE CREAM BAR W/TOPPINGS
BEVERAGES**

**FREE WILL OFFERING - (FOOD ITEMS WILL BE DONATED SO ALL PROCEEDS
BENEFIT THE PURCHASE OF THE LCD PROJECTOR FOR THE CHURCH SANCTUARY.)**

**AMOUNT NEEDED: \$2,200.00
COLLECTED TO DATE: \$ 592.26**

ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT WORSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR PEGGY EARNHARDT.

Board of Outreach

Members of Advent have voted on which outreach programs we will participate in this year. Two programs were chosen – 1) collecting and sorting food for PORCH (People Offering Relief for Chapel Hill and Carrboro Homes) and preparing and 2) serving meals for SECU Family House at UNC Hospitals. Check the back table in the narthex for details about what the programs involve, to sign up to help, or to find out who to contact if you have questions. Here is some information about the two organizations:



People Offering Relief for Chapel Hill and Carrboro Homes, (**PORCH**) is an all-volunteer, grass-roots, non-profit organization whose mission is to collect more food for the hungry in the community. Through the generosity of neighbors, PORCH supports several local food pantries, its Food for Families programs (a program that gets nonperishables and produce directly into the hands of families in need), and a new program designed to provide each of the schools in our district with supplemental snacks for students.

This community-wide hunger relief effort has over 2000 residents living in 140 neighborhoods scattered throughout Chapel Hill and Carrboro participating in PORCH's monthly food drives. Local churches, foundations, synagogues, schools, non-profits, and businesses are also joining this growing coalition to fight hunger. One way Advent is helping is by volunteering for a **food sort** – sorting and packaging donations so that PORCH can meet the specific requests of the pantries from month to month. Find out more at:

<http://www.porchnc.org/home>



SECU Family House at UNC Hospitals provides an affordable, safe, nurturing home away from home for seriously ill patients, their family members, and caregivers from throughout North Carolina and beyond. They work in close coordination with the medical staff at UNC Hospitals to ensure that critical care patients and families have easy access to peaceful, home-like surroundings in which to rest, heal, recuperate, and gather strength for an arduous treatment regimen.

The families served represent the full spectrum of North Carolina's people. A real mix of income and ethnicity, they hail from small rural towns down east and in the mountains, big cities in the Piedmont; and towns up and down the coast. The common thread is that they are in the midst of a medical crisis far from home.

The **House Meal program** is perhaps the most mutually beneficial activity offered. For patients and families, it offers a break from hospital or vending machine meals, as well as the opportunity to sit down and relax, participating in a routine from their pre-hospital life. For volunteers (aka the "chefs"!), it is a rewarding experience of connecting with others who are in need of comfort and care.

Virtual facility tour: <http://secufamilyhouse.org/about/facility-tour/>

Stewardship

From LCMS Stewardship Resources

“Hooray, hallelujah, school is out and vacation time is here!” That may very well express the feeling that a lot of students and teachers have when June comes around. Life is filled with all kinds of “stops” and “starts.”

Just as students and teachers look forward to a break from all the school activities, as workers look forward to some days off, as families look forward to some vacation time, and as many look forward to the crazy hazy days of summer, so also Christian stewards may look forward to a break from the weekly routine that involves worship, Bible study, and giving of time, talents and treasure. Is there such a thing as a break from being a Christian steward? What do you think? It surely depends upon how you define Christian stewardship. If you define Christian stewardship as something “you have to do,” then a break might feel pretty good. But is Christian stewardship something that you have to do?

In our church body, we have defined Christian stewardship as **“the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God’s family, the church, in managing all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes.”** According to that definition, Christian stewardship is not so much a matter of “having to do” but more a matter of “getting to do.” Christian stewards are privileged people who find joy in doing privileged things. For a good example of this kind of stewardship, consider the Macedonian example in 2 Corinthians 8:1-5. Christian churches throughout the then known world joined in a special offering for the saints in Jerusalem who were suffering from a severe famine. The Macedonians were financially poor people and most people probably thought that they should not even ask the Macedonians to take part in the offering. But here’s the surprise: **“Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints.”** They might have appeared to many as poor, unprivileged people but, in their own hearts and minds, they considered themselves privileged people who wanted to do privileged things. Why??? Because they had heard and believed the good news of Jesus as their Savior and Lord and therefore they wanted to respond to Christ’s love with their own acts of love.

Summer might mean a break from many of the routine activities of life, but for Christian stewards it simply means having another month or two to use all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes. By God’s grace, we never take a break from being Christian stewards because our stewardship is always a response to God’s love that continues in every day and season of life. Whether we are at school, at work, on vacation or at home, we are God’s stewards who freely and joyfully manage all we are and have for God’s purposes.

So, this summer, look for ways to use your time, abilities and financial resources in ways that bring glory to God and blessings to others as well as us. In Christ we are children of our Heavenly Father who long to be more like Him in loving and giving because those are two activities that our God delights in doing (John 3:16). Enjoy this summer as another time to display God-pleasing and people-blessing works of love. And do it, not because you have to, but because in Christ you get to.

Financial Update through April 30, 2012

Income (offerings) \$48,898.97

Expenses \$46,844.57

Men’s Retreat

The Men of Advent have scheduled next year’s annual retreat at the Trinity Center from November 9-11, 2012. The Trinity Center is located in Salter Path, NC near Morehead City. Please mark these dates on your 2012 calendar.

The retreat not only gives us time for great fellowship but also provides an opportunity to study God’s Word. Pastor Bill Seaman has agreed to lead the Bible Study and discussion on the Book of Revelations. We have currently reserved 10 rooms, which hold up to 20 men double occupancy; let John Stow or Dave Neely know if you can attend. We look forward to enjoying the fellowship and growing together in Christ.

Church Council Report

The Church Council continues to meet on a regular basis to ensure that the operations, programs, and activities of the congregation are being conducted in a timely manner. At each meeting, Pastor John leads the Council in prayer as we ask God to open our hearts, guide our discussions, and help us be "In Tune with God's Will for Advent".

Per our constitution and by-laws, a slate of candidates was presented to the congregation on May 20 in advance of the June 24 Voters' Assembly meeting. This year's slate includes Denny Zarnt - Vice-President, Jennifer Simis - Treasurer, John Cangelosi - Chairperson of the Elders, Lois Durr and Maryanne Warne - Co-Chairpersons of the Board of Fellowship, Peggy Earnhardt - Chairperson of the Board of Worship, Dave Neely - Chairperson of the Board of Outreach, and one of the three Elder positions, which is still open. The nominating committee consisted of Carolyn Jones, Dave Neely, John Cangelosi, and Denny Zarnt (Chairperson of nominating committee).

If you have an interest or know of an Advent member that has an interest in the open Elder position, please contact Denny Zarnt or a member of the nominating committee. Your prayerful consideration is appreciated.

The Church Council will continue to focus on overall Communications within the Church. Please continue to provide Congregational feedback and suggestions by talking directly with a council member, elder, Pastor John, or by dropping your input into the communication box located in the Narthex.

Birthdays

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| John Taylor Schumacher | June 2 | Emma Richie | July 1 | Laura Simis | Aug. 4 |
| Patricia Williams | June 5 | Karen Hahn | July 5 | Peter Walz | Aug. 4 |
| Alice Neebe | June 7 | Kelsey Bennett | July 6 | Gayle Zarnt | Aug. 7 |
| Beth Benham | June 9 | Amie Sheref | July 7 | Colleen Walther | Aug. 8 |
| Karen Baker | June 10 | Vi Messick | July 11 | Amy Richards | Aug. 14 |
| Rick Heizler | June 21 | Sidney Zolenski | July 11 | Mary Helen Owens | Aug. 17 |
| Denise Walz | June 22 | Joanne Brownlee | July 16 | Dave Neely | Aug. 18 |
| Simon Walker | June 24 | Chris Lehman | July 16 | Ginger Massey | Aug. 19 |
| Sarah Owens | June 25 | Ruth Schwasinger | July 16 | Kayla Walz | Aug. 19 |
| Ellie Elizabeth Trygstad | June 27 | Cameron Gunn | July 17 | Carolyn Jones | Aug. 25 |
| Josh Benham | June 29 | Joseph Sheref, Jr. | July 18 | Dorothy Preisel | Aug. 26 |
| Marc Holder | June 30 | Joe Schradie | July 19 | Betty Tucker | Aug. 28 |
| | | Linda Mather | July 19 | | |

Anniversaries

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
| Erin & Justin Baker | June 6 | Linda & Cliff Mather | June 26 | Gayle & Denny Zarnt | July 8 |
| Colleen & Herb Walther | June 14 | Peggy & Troy Trygstad | June 30 | Carolyn & Craig Walker | Aug. 14 |
| Marge & Joe Schradie | June 18 | Denise & Peter Walz | July 2 | Wendy Rosenstock & | Aug. 21 |
| Sam & Jon Fischer | June 19 | Judy & Dave Neely | July 4 | John Cangelosi | |
| Karla & John Byrnes | June 21 | Christy & Brad Sopata | July 5 | Loni & Gary Gunn | Aug. 30 |

SPECIAL DATES – Please let the church office or Carolyn Jones know if your birthday or anniversary dates aren't listed or are incorrect. We want to celebrate with you and keep our church records up to date.



The Adventiser, the newsletter for Advent Lutheran Church, is published quarterly. If you have something you would like included or have other comments or suggestions, contact Karla Byrnes (kmkbyrnes@gmail.com.)

Newsletter Deadline for the Fall 2012 issue: Monday, August 20, 2012

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Contact the Church:

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web: www.AdventLutheranCH.org

Contact the Pastor:

Rev. John V. Benham III, Pastor

Phone: (919) 943-7082

e-mail: adventpastor@bellsouth.net

Sundays beginning June 3, 2012

No Sunday School/Sunday Bible Class

10:00am Divine Service with Holy Communion



A Congregation of
THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

Dates to Remember

Tuesdays – 7:00-8:00pm
Men's Bible Study

Tuesdays – 10:30am-12:30pm
Women's Bible Study

Alternate Wednesdays – 7:00-8:00pm
Women's Evening Bible Study
(to resume in fall)

Saturday, June 2 – Noon
WoA Potluck Lunch

Sunday, June 3
Summer Schedule starts

Saturday, June 16 – 5:15-7:00pm
Praise and Pizza

Sunday, June 17, 11:30am
LCD Projector Fundraiser

Thursday, June 21 – 7:00-9:00pm
Council Meeting

Sunday, June 24, 11:30am
Voter's Meeting

Sunday, Sept. 9
Resume Regular Worship Schedule

November 11-13, 2011
Men of Advent Retreat, Salter Path NC

May 3-5, 2013
Women of Advent Retreat, Salter Path NC