



The Adventiser

Advent Lutheran Church

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

Fall 2017

Advent Church Council

*"Lord, help us walk Your servant way Wherever love may lead,
And bending low, forgetting self, Each serve the other's need." LSB #857, vs. 1*

As we transition from summer to fall, all of us experience an increase in our personal activity level. Advent Lutheran Church is no exception. Beginning now through the celebration of Christmas, our congregation has much to do. In addition to the normal events such as Bible studies, PORCH, Operation Christmas Child, Thanksgiving basket preparation, fall cleanup and the Men's Retreat, we will be hosting the Coalition of Lutherans in Black Ministry, celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, and helping with the annual Touched By Grace outreach event. We are also, God willing, looking forward with great anticipation to the installation of our next pastor.

Do you see why we need many helping hands? Not only do we need everyone to help with one or more of the upcoming activities, we also need leadership in two critical areas - Christian Education and Outreach. Those areas, in my opinion, are the two most important missions of the church, and the council positions have been empty far too long. Please consider stepping forward to take on one of these; co-chairs are also a possibility. The Lord gives us 8,760 hours to use each year. Taking on one of these positions would require less than 1% of that time.

The Advent congregation appreciates and thanks Karla Byrnes, Sam Fischer, and Jon Fischer for their years of dedicated service on council. Thankfully, Karen Baker and Clay Wriedt have agreed to step into their positions. We welcome them. Both have already experienced their first council meeting and Clay has already negotiated for a new cleaning service. We are also grateful for the other council members who agreed to continue in their present positions.

Dave Neely

Christian Education

Sunday School, Adult Bible Class, and Confirmation Class (lead by Pastor McDaniels), will resume on Sunday, September 10 at 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Women's Bible Study: Hello all! Please consider joining us on a Wednesday evening at Advent to study the Bible. We meet from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Currently we are studying "Bad Girls of the Bible" written by Liz Curtis Higgs. No need for homework. Come when you can. Each evening session stands alone. We would love to see you! Blessings to each of you! Question? Contact Karen Baker (krobortel@gmail.com.)

Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study will resume on September 12 at 7:00 p.m. We will be looking at the 3rd film in the Martin Luther series.

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study: Information on the next Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study start date and topic will be placed in the Sunday bulletin announcements. All women are encouraged to join us to study God's Word and enjoy the fellowship.

Hurricane Harvey – from Synod President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison

“Be merciful as your father in heaven is merciful” (Luke 6:36).



It's time to come to the aid of our LCMS friends in Texas. Hurricane Harvey is eerily similar to Katrina. The LCMS responds to disasters constantly. Since Katrina hit New Orleans in 2005, we've trained 15,000 LCMS people as early responders. Every single district has a disaster coordinator. Together we have amazing capacity to help. When we respond, we come alongside our LCMS districts, congregations and church workers as they lead the effort in reaching out to their suffering communities. We have LCMS congregations in 161 communities hit by this storm!

We've done this before. We need your help to do it again. We are launching a major response to Harvey, and here's how you can help. Continue to **pray**. **Give** as generously as you can, as the Lord allows. **Volunteer**. **Learn more, follow the story, ask questions**. Follow our Synod's response and donate online at lcms.org/harvey.

[Click here to see the full letter from President Harrison.](#)

Call Committee

On Sunday, August 27, we held a Call Service and the congregation voted unanimously to extend a Call to Rev. David Schroeder from Our Savior Lutheran Church in Excelsior, MN. Please keep him, his current congregation, and Advent in your prayers that the Lord might lead him to a clear decision as to where He wants him to serve. We will update the congregation via email, bulletin announcements, and our website as soon as we hear anything. Thank you to everyone on the call committee for their time, effort, and dedication!

Board of Worship

Worship Leaders for September: Pastor James McDaniels – September 3 and 10, Pastor Greg Williamson – September 17 and 24.

Liturgy: Beginning September 10, our Worship Service will follow Divine Service Two which begins on page 167 of our hymnal. We will be using the Gloria in Excelsis as the Hymn of Praise and the Nicene Creed. For the offertory, we will sing LSB 781, vs 1-2 "We Give Thee But Thine Own."

Choir rehearsal will resume on Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in sharing a musical talent or are interested in joining the choir, please contact Xavier Richert. Everyone is welcome.

Altar Flowers: If you are interested in providing altar flowers to celebrate a special occasion, birthday, etc. please contact Laurene Ackerman.

Reminders:

- Daylight Savings Time ends November 5. Set your clocks back one hour the night before.
- Advent Season begins December 3.

Policy for canceling worship due to inclement weather or other emergency: The Pastor will confer with the President, the Chair of the Board of Worship, and an Elder to reach a decision about cancellation of a Worship service or other event. If the event is cancelled, the congregation will be informed by email no later than two hours before the event is scheduled to begin. The office manager will set up a telephone tree to call all members who do not use email as soon as the decision is made and will notify television stations. The announcement will also be posted on the Advent website and Facebook as soon as possible. If a service is not cancelled and someone feels unsafe driving, they are encouraged to stay home.

Grounds Clean-up

We will be meeting on Saturday, November 11 from 8:00 a.m. to Noon to clean up the church grounds. Lunch will be provided. Please join us as your schedule allows. If you have any questions, including what equipment may be needed, talk with Paul Simis.

Coalition of Lutherans in Black Ministry

Advent has agreed to host the Coalition of Lutherans in Black Ministry (COLIBM) meeting on October 6 and 7, 2017. There are many ways you can help support this event. Look for an information sheet on the bulletin board. In addition to supporting the event, we all are invited and encouraged to attend the sessions on Friday night and Saturday. The theme for this meeting will be "Churches Without Pastors." More information will be coming out in mid-September. To volunteer or if you have any questions, please see Gary Gunn.

Board of Finance and Stewardship

Finance Update: Through July 2017, Advent's income to the general fund has exceeded the expenses. It is important to remember that the reason for our surplus is only because Advent has not had a full time pastor's salary expense. God has given us a good opportunity to prepare for our next pastor.

Income	\$90,193.51
Expense	<u>\$61,959.52</u>
Income vs Expense	\$28,233.99

LCMS Stewardship, Newsletter Article – August 2017

Winston Churchill reportedly said that “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill then, our lives are defined less by what we have gotten, and more by what we give away. Our Lord’s life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God’s Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserve because of sin. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death, and hell. And so, it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got for Himself us, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it is also for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. For giving softens our hearts and frees us from the grip which the worries of this world and making a living has on us. For when we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get. That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives—our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers, and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking the question—How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor, and servant to others—to asking the question—what have they done for me lately. We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But when we give, we do not have less, we have more because when we give we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus we are reflecting the divine nature. As Jesus said “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

Men’s Retreat

The Men of Advent look forward to another great weekend of fellowship, studying God’s Word and growing together in Christ in 2017! We have currently reserved 10 rooms, which hold up to 20 men double occupancy, at the Trinity Center in Salter Path, NC from October 27-29, 2017. Also, for planning purposes we plan to have another retreat from October 5-7, 2018. Let Dave Neely, Bill Ackerman or John Stow know if you can attend.

Women of Advent

The Women of Advent look forward to resuming their activities this fall. Watch the Sunday bulletin for announcements and the church narthex for information posters. Do mark your calendars now for the always enjoyable Annual Christmas Breakfast Buffet at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 9.

Birthdays

Peggy Earnhardt	Sept. 5	Christy Key	Sept. 29	Joyce Eckert	Oct. 20
Aidan Connor	Sept. 7	Lorraine Bleeke	Oct. 2	Don Eckert	Oct. 22
Ron Hinkle	Sept. 8	Craig Walker	Oct. 2	Richard Sims	Oct. 24
Nathan Peterson	Sept. 13	Maryanne Warne	Oct. 4	Caitlyn Wriedt	Oct. 30
Melanie Mather	Sept. 16	Dori Grace Walker	Oct. 4	Leonard Ernst	Nov. 4
Carolyn Walker	Sept. 17	Jonathan Simis	Oct. 5	Phyllis	Nov. 7
Mark Hendricks	Sept. 18	Jarrad Borg	Oct. 7	Cliff Mather	Nov. 18
Pamela Ro	Sept. 19	Carolyn Hinkle	Oct. 8	John Stow	Nov. 22
Cathy Stow	Sept. 28	Joseph Sheref	Oct. 10	Anona Serpas	Nov. 27
Dawn Glavin	Sept. 28	Tommy Sheref	Oct. 10	Heidi Watren	Nov. 28
Paul Mather	Sept. 28	Asa Struckmeyer	Oct. 14	Jon Fischer	Nov. 30

Anniversaries

Peggy & Dan Earnhardt	Sept. 4	Christine & Tom Struckmeyer	Oct. 10
Connie & Larry Neubauer	Sept. 5	Maryanne & Dwain Warne	Oct. 21
Kay & Ed Wriedt	Sept. 7	Marilyn & Leonard Ernst	Oct. 22
April Welborn & Nathan Peterson	Sept. 11	Pat & Luis Dominguez	Oct. 28
Janice & Clay Wriedt	Sept. 30	Amie & Joseph Sheref	Nov. 15
Karen Baker & Tom Ortel	Oct. 2	Cathy & John Stow	Nov. 22
Jennifer & Paul Simis	Oct. 5		

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.

75th Anniversary Celebration

Our Savior Lutheran Church in Raleigh will be celebrating its 75th anniversary on Sunday, September 10, 2017 with a Worship Service at 4:00 p.m. The guest preacher will be Rev. Christopher Esget, Sixth Vice President of the LC-MS. A reception will follow the service. Visit their website for directions: <http://www.oslcraleigh.org/>.

Invitation to 5th Annual Touched by Grace Event in Durham

Touched by Grace is an outreach of Grace Lutheran Church in Durham. The members of Grace have asked for our help with their one-day Health Clinic for the area surrounding that church. On September 30 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., people are needed to serve as advocates or guides for the guests helping them navigate from station to station. Advent has consistently sent volunteers to event over the last few years. I know that many of you are busy with planning the separate clinic at Dorton Arena this year, but we'd still be honored to have you this year if you're willing and able. If you're interested, please spread the word amongst your friends and fellow Christians. This year we have an online signup that should make attendance and training easier than ever: <https://goo.gl/forms/LjKyuet3K3laO9D42>

500th Reformation Anniversary



We are gearing up for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation as we celebrate the focus Martin Luther gave to the power of God's Word. On October 31, 1517 Luther posted his 95 Theses and it was a day that changed the world. The churches in the greater Triangle area will celebrate this occasion hosting **Change the World: One Life at a Time**

On Sunday, November 5, 2017 Dorton Arena on the NC State Fairgrounds will be filled with songs of praise to our Lord. Following a moving time of worship with thousands of voices we will move to serve our neighbors. A health and dental clinic is planned for the afternoon and early evening as well as an art show and music festival.

The main speaker will be renowned international speaker Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz who hosts the longest running Christian Radio program in the world, The Lutheran Hour. Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) is a Christian outreach ministry supporting churches worldwide. LHM produces Christian radio and TV programming for broadcast, as well as Internet and print communications, dramas, music, and outreach materials, to reach the unchurched in more than 30 countries.

All youth and adult singers and ringers are invited to be a part of the Festival Chorus or Handbell Choir. The vocal choir will rehearse 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, with the handbell choir joining in at 11:30 a.m. Together they will help lead the Worship Service at 12:30 pm. Check out this [flyer](#) for contact information – and feel free to share.

Visit trianglefaith.org for other details and to:

- [Volunteer](#)
- [Reserve a Hotel](#)
- [Watch a short video](#) that shares how one of our sponsoring congregations in Durham used the Touched Twice clinic model in 2016 at Grace Lutheran Church.



You won't want to miss this celebration service and gathering as we bring together churches across the region to praise God in one voice saying "It's Still All About Jesus!"

From the Anniversary Prayer Team:

Thank you for your prayers. They are like heavenly oil that makes all the working gears of the planning for the event go smoothly. God uses these prayers to bring blessings to you, to the planning, and to all the people coming to Dorton Arena on November 5. If you want to be part of the prayer, sign up at the [Volunteer](#) link.

Here are our current prayer needs (see the bulletin board or Advent's website for details)

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|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Media Coordinators | • Art Show Participants |
| • Music Participants | • Food Distribution |
| • Dental Hygienists and Assistants | • Hair Cuts |
| • Advocates and Interpreters | • Finances |
| • Hosts | • More Answers to Prayer |
| • Kids Zone | |

Remember: Without God, we can't; without us, God won't. Your prayers make the difference.

Advent Lutheran Church
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Contact the Church:

Phone: (919) 968-7690

e-mail: Advent_Lutheran@bellsouth.net

web: www.AdventLutheranCH.org

Pastor: Rev. James McDaniels, Vacancy Pastor

Sundays

9:15am Sunday School/Confirmation/Bible Class

10:30am Divine Service with Holy Communion



Dates to Remember

Tuesdays – 10:00am, Women's Bible Study
watch for dates/topics

Tuesdays – 7:00pm, Men's Bible Study
Beginning September 12

Wednesdays – 7:00-8:00pm, Choir Rehearsal
Beginning September 13

Wednesdays – 7:00pm, Women's Bible Study

Sunday, September 10 – Rally Day
Resume Sunday School and
Adult Bible Classes

Sunday, September 10 – 4:00pm
Our Savior, Raleigh anniversary

Saturday, September 30 – 9:00am-3:00pm
Touched By Grace event

October 6-7 – COLIMB Conference

October 27-29

Men of Advent Retreat, Salter Path NC

Sunday, November 5, 2017

Daylight Savings Time ends

Sunday, November 5, 2017 Dorton Arena
500th Reformation Anniversary Event

Saturday, November 11, 8am-Noon
Grounds Clean-up

Sunday, December 3
Advent Season Begins

Saturday, December 9 – 9:30am
Women of Advent Christmas Brunch

The Adventiser, the newsletter for Advent Lutheran Church, is published quarterly.

Contact Karla Byrnes (kmkbyrnes@gmail.com)

if you have something you would like included or have comments or suggestions.

Newsletter Deadline for the Winter 2017-18 issue: Tuesday, November 21, 2017