

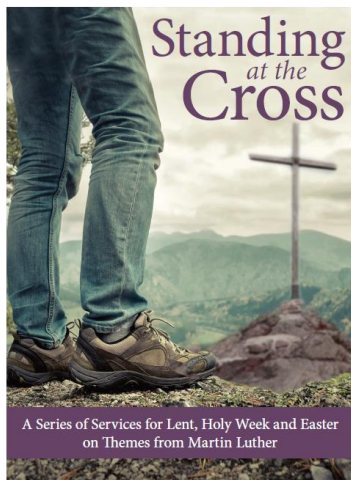
The Adventiser

Advent Lutheran Church

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

Spring 2017

'Standing at the Cross' – Lenten Season Worship Series



As a Lenten lead-in to the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the “Standing at the Cross” series will focus on portions of sermons Martin Luther preached during Lent, Holy Week and Easter in the parishes where he served. As we stand with Luther at the foot of the cross each week, we contemplate the ways in which we stand firm in the faith as followers of Christ during this holy season.

March 1, Ash Wednesday – Standing in the Word: When Jesus was tempted by the devil, the Savior responded: “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” Jesus, the Word made flesh, is the Bread of life, and by faith we are nourished in his Word and in his holy Supper. Jesus satisfies us as no earthly food can!

March 8, Mid-week 1 – Standing in Prayer: When a Canaanite woman asked Jesus to heal her daughter, Jesus did not immediately do so. But hidden beneath his “No” was the Savior’s “Yes,” and the woman’s daughter was healed. Jesus Christ is the “Yes!” to all the promises of God. When the time came for him to go to the cross, out of obedience to the Father and for the sake of our salvation, Jesus answered, “Yes!”

March 15, Mid-week 2 – Standing Unafraid: We fear many things, and we often fear death. Jesus Christ, true God and true man, faced death and through his death and resurrection defeated it for us. In him we can face both life and death unafraid.

March 22, Mid-week 3 – Standing in Suffering: Jesus suffered the penalty that we deserved for our sins. The Lamb of God suffered the penalty of death for us so that through faith in his name we have the gifts of forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus paid the price of our salvation and by his wounds we are healed.

March 29, Mid-week 4 – Standing Through Persecution: Jesus was rejected, betrayed, deserted by his friends and arrested. He was unjustly tried and condemned to death, yet he willingly endured it all to save us. We have the freedom during this Lenten season and always to gather for worship. Many of our brothers and sisters around the world do not enjoy such freedom. We remember the suffering of the saints who endure persecution for the sake of the Savior who suffered for them, and for us.

April 5, Mid-week 5 – Standing in Truth: In our world we are surrounded by many philosophies and religions, all claiming to have the truth. The Roman governor Pilate questioned Jesus about his kingdom. Jesus answered that his kingdom is not of this world and that he came to bear witness to the truth. Pilate asked, “What is truth?” He did not know that the Truth stood before him in the flesh. We gather to worship Jesus our Savior, whose kingdom is a kingdom of truth and who is himself the Way and the Truth and Life.

April 9, Palm Sunday – Standing in Humility: The crowds on Palm Sunday welcomed Jesus, waving palm branches and shouting, “Hosanna!” That word means “Save us now!” and soon Jesus would do just that. We welcome our

Savior and celebrate the salvation he won for us through his death and resurrection. From our humble King we learn to live in humility towards one another.

April 13, Maundy Thursday – Standing in Faith: On the night he was betrayed, Jesus gave to his disciples and to us the holy meal that is his body and blood. As we receive this gift we stand together in faith, trusting in the words of our Lord. Through his holy Supper our Savior nourishes our faith and strengthens our fellowship. We are one body in Christ, and as we partake of his holy meal we remember and proclaim his redeeming death until he comes again. Come, Lord Jesus!

April 14, Good Friday – Standing in Forgiveness: As we near the end of this Holy Week, we gather to remember our Savior's suffering and death. In obedience to his Father's will and out of his love for us, Jesus took his final steps to the cross. There he took our sins onto himself and suffered and died so that we would be forgiven. Watching him die, Jesus' enemies mocked him and said, "Save yourself!" Jesus did not save himself. He died to save his enemies, and he died to save us. He suffered and died for the sins of the world. This sad day is a day that is for us very good.

April 16, Easter Sunday – Standing in Victory: All through Lent and into Holy Week, we followed Jesus on his path to the cross. On Good Friday we stood at the foot of that cross to see before us the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. On Easter morning we celebrate a victory! Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God slain for our sins, has risen from the dead. Through faith in his name we have forgiveness and eternal life. Because he has risen, we too will rise. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Please join your Advent family, and consider bringing a guest to these services.

Board of Worship

Reminder: Daylight Savings time starts March 12, 2017. Turn clocks ahead one hour when going to bed on Saturday, March 11.

Upcoming Worship opportunities:

- Ash Wednesday Service – March 1, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesdays during Lent (March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5) – join us for a light supper at 6:15 p.m. followed by worship at 7 p.m.
- Palm Sunday Worship – Sunday, April 9, 2017 at 10:30 a.m.
- Maundy Thursday Worship – Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
- Good Friday Tenebrae Service – Friday, April 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
- Easter Sunday – April 16, 2017 at 10:30 a.m.

Worship Leaders Lent: Easter Sunday: Pastor Greg Williamson March 19, April 2; Pastor Larry Lineberger March 26; lay leader, March 8. Pastor James McDaniels, will lead all other services.

Liturgy during Worship: During Lent, we will be using Divine Service Setting One, which begins on page 151 of our hymnals. Pastor McDaniels and possibly our other guest pastors will be chanting parts of the service. This is a familiar setting for most but because it will be Lent, a few of the responses aren't used for much of the year. Constructive feedback is always welcome. Please talk to Peggy Earnhardt or Karla Byrnes.

Easter Lily order forms will be available at the end of March.

Choir rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings in the sanctuary from 7:00-8:00 p.m. or after the Lenten services. Being able to read music is not a requirement. If any member or friend of Advent Lutheran Church wishes to share a musical talent for the prelude, offertory, or communion musical interlude, please contact Xavier Richert.

Board of Finance and Stewardship

2016 Year-end Financial Update

God continues to be gracious to Advent. Through your consistent giving, our congregation concluded the year with offerings to the general fund totaling \$180,498.28. Total expenses were \$146,884.97. Keep in mind that we were not paying a salary to a full-time pastor for four months of the year.

The 2017 budget passed at the January voters' meeting included estimated income of \$158,660.00 and expenses of \$171,541.27 leaving a deficit of \$12,881.27. If we continue to give as we have been, I am confident that with God's help we will once again turn that negative into a positive result.

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 LWML Carolinas District Joy Event will be held on March 25, 2017, at St Paul's Lutheran Church in Norlina, NC. Registration is 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$20 which includes lunch. The theme will be the Reformation. Rev. Mike Merker from Jordan Lutheran Church in Apex will be the Bible study leader. He will be sharing some of the plans for the 500th Reformation Anniversary celebration on November 5 at Dorton Arena in Raleigh, NC. Rev. Merker is on the planning committee so will be able to share news of the event and how we can help. In the afternoon at the Joy Event, health kits for the Health Clinic will be put together.

The Gifts for the Heart collection will be for the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. Many are still homeless as a result of the devastating floods in eastern North Carolina so the need for food items is great. A list of the needed items and information on the Joy Event will be posted on the LWML bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. If you plan to attend please let Lois Durr know by March 5. Carpools can be arranged.

Watch the Sunday church bulletins for other upcoming Women of Advent activities.

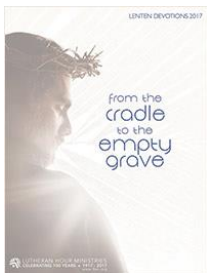
Women's Bible Studies

The Women's Evening Bible Study is on hiatus until after Easter. On Wednesday, April 9, 7 p.m., we will study "Bad Girls of the Bible," by Liz Curtis Higgs. No homework. No need to buy the book. Each evening study is independent so join us as your life allows. Come and join us! Blessings!

The Women's Morning Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Contact Marianne Warne with questions.

Lenten Devotions

This year's LHM Lenten devotion, *From the Cradle to the Empty Grave*, will help us turn our eyes to the cross. It is there where Jesus, the sinless Son of God, suffered the indignity and shame of dying for our sins. And it is there where God's wrath was satisfied by His Beloved Son's supreme sacrifice, winning salvation for all who call Him their Savior. Available to [read online](#) or as a [podcast](#) or [audio](#) beginning March 1 2017, *From the Cradle to the Empty Grave* can also be received as an [e-mail subscription](#) throughout the Lenten season.



500th anniversary of the Reformation



We are gearing up for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation as we celebrate the focus Rev. 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. You won't want to miss this celebration service and gathering as we bring together ALL of the LCMS churches in the area and praise God in one voice saying "It's Still All About Jesus!" 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 choral concert. Our 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.

From the Prayer Team

Progress! We are proceeding to develop all the arrangements and planning for Changing the World, One Life at a Time. Many leaders for the various ministries are in place, but some slots are still empty. Your prayers are being answered, but we need many, many more.

The following is the most recent list of prayer request categories – details are on our website and on the bulletin board at church. Everyone can pray. Prayer is vital for the proper planning and preparation of a successful event. Please take time to include these requests in your prayers.

1. Publicity
2. Hospitality
3. Dorton Arrangements
4. Devotional Materials
5. Music
6. Art Show
7. Kid Zone
8. Clinic Administration
9. Medical
10. Prayer Team
11. Advocates
12. Groceries
13. Inside Publicity
14. Vendor Displays

That's a lot to pray for. But you can see how much more organized we are today than we were a month ago. We are convinced that God in His love wants this event to be a success, to bring more and more people into the tent of His love and grace. We are privileged to join with Jesus in praying for God's loving grace to shine for all to see at this event—and for God's grace and blessing on all the arrangements. Your daily prayers are an important part of the success of this project. Thank you.

For more information about how you can help contact John Cangelosi canjello@gmail.com>, Dave dave.neely@hotmail.com> or Judy Neely neelyjl@gmail.com>, Lois Durr loisdurr58@gmail.com>, or Lorraine Bleeke lorraineb1978@gmail.com>.

Call Committee

We received a list of 8 candidates from the SED who were contacted by Pastor Lineberger. Three asked to be removed from the list and one has received a call from another congregation. Because of confidentiality, the candidate's profiles will not be posted on the website or emailed, but are in the green binder on the table in the narthex. Feel free to read through the profiles at church and make notes.

The Call Committee interviewed two pastors, one on February 21 and one on February 23. We used a small subset of suggested interview questions that were provided in the Call Manual and some questions specific to each candidate based on their SET. We will be sharing information at a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 26 immediately after worship. Your questions, feedback, suggestions, and especially your prayers are welcome and encouraged!

Kantorei Lenten Evening Prayer Service

The Kantorei is a men's choir of fourteen students studying for the pastoral ministry at Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne. They will be presenting their annual Lenten Evening Prayer Service for congregations in Indiana, North Carolina and Tennessee. The service will include choral music for the season, congregational hymns, and canticles. The choir is directed by Kantor Kevin Hildebrand. The organist is Associate Kantor Matthew Machemer. North Carolina services: Wednesday, March 8, 7:00 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church, 4005 NC Hwy 16 N., Taylorsville, NC 28681 and Thursday, March 9, 7:00 p.m. at Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 310 S. Tremont Dr., Greensboro, NC 27403. See the flyer on the bulletin board in the kitchen hall or visit their [website](#) for more information.

Birthdays

Martha Gaestel	Mar. 2	Marge Schradie	Mar. 26	Matthew Wells	Apr. 16
Denny Zarnt	Mar. 3	Gavin Borg	Mar. 27	Alice O'Grady	Apr. 17
John Byrnes	Mar. 3	Marilyn Ernst	Mar. 27	Lydia Berrong	Apr. 21
Anders Borg	Mar. 5	Laurene Ackerman	Mar. 28	Dan Earnhardt	Apr. 28
Ashley Watren	Mar. 9	Gary Gunn	Mar. 29	Allison Watren	May 9
Patrick Connor	Mar. 15	John Cangelosi	Apr. 7	Clay Wriedt	May 21
Jennifer Simis	Mar. 15	Karla Byrnes	Apr. 7	Janice Wriedt	May 21
Tracie Foels	Mar. 16	Harriet Kimutai	Apr. 8	Judy Neely	May 27
Wendy Rosenstock	Mar. 17	Tom Struckmeyer	Apr. 11	Tim Hoffman	May 28
Savannah Mather	Mar. 24	Sophie Struckmeyer	Apr. 13		

Anniversaries

Pauline & Ron Ramsey	Mar. 1
Rina & Doug Borg	Mar. 11
Phyllis & Kent Underwood	Apr. 22

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. Contact Karla Byrnes (kmkbyrnes@gmail.com) if you have something you would like included or have comments or suggestions.

Newsletter Deadline for the Summer 2017 issue: Tuesday, May 22, 2017

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

Wednesdays – 7:00pm

Women's Bible Studies
will resume after Easter

Tuesdays – 7:00pm

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays – 7:00pm

Choir Rehearsal
(after worship service during Lent)

Sunday, February 26 – 11:45am

Congregation Meeting

Wednesday, March 1, 7:00 pm

Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesdays, March 8 – April 5

7:00 pm – Lenten Service

Sunday, March 12

Daylight Savings Time begins

Saturday, March 25

LWML Carolinas District Joy Event

Thursday, April 13 – 7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 14 – 7:00 pm

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 16 – Easter

9:15am Easter Potluck Brunch

10:30am Worship Service

11:45am Easter Egg Hunt

October 27-29, 2017

Men of Advent Retreat, Salter Path NC

Sunday, November 5, 2017 Dorton Arena

500th Reformation Anniversary Event