



# The Adventiser

## Advent Lutheran Church

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

Spring 2013

### *Fellowship with the Father: The Lord in Prayer*

My Dear Friends in Christ... What did our Lord do at crucial times of His ministry to gain strength, wisdom, direction and stability for His life? He prayed!

During our Mid-Week Lenten services, we are gaining insights from Luke about our Lord's prayer life, so that we can apply it to our own prayer life.

The sermon titles and scripture references are as follows:

- Feb 20, 2013: "Courage to Submit" – Luke 22: 39-46
- Feb 27, 2013: "Alone in a Crowd" – Luke 5: 12-16
- Mar 6, 2013: "Awake at Night" – Luke 6: 12-16
- Mar 13, 2013: "The Journey Ahead" – Luke 9: 18-24
- Mar 20, 2013: "The Right Way to Pray" – Luke 11: 1-4

On Wednesday Feb 20, Luke took us to our Lord in the Garden of Gethsemane, on the night in which He was betrayed, when He prayed that "if it be possible, remove this cup (the cup of God's wrath) from Me." But then He quickly added, "Nevertheless, not My will, but Yours, be done". Jesus drank that cup for us in His suffering and sacrificial death on the cross. That took courage. In prayer, we ask for the same kind of courage to submit to the will of the Father, rather than demanding our own will be done.

On Wednesday Feb 27, Luke takes us to a time when Jesus must have felt alone in a crowd... a crowd that only wanted more of His healing powers than the Salvation He had come to give them. We see Jesus slip away to pray to the Father and receive strength for His journey. May we also go to the Father in prayer when we feel alone in a crowd.

On Wednesday March 6, Luke takes us to Jesus praying all night before He chooses His 12 disciples. May we also spend extended time in prayer before making crucial decisions.

On Wednesday March 13, Luke takes us to a time when Jesus was praying alone, likely about the journey that lay ahead of Him, and Peter confessed Jesus as the Christ. The lesson for us is to stay focused on our Lord, and Who He is, as we journey through life.

And finally, on Wednesday March 20, Luke tells us of Jesus' response to His disciples request to "teach us to pray". Because of what Jesus did for us on the cross and in the empty tomb, we are able to pray to God as our Father. He always hears and will answer every prayer, in His way and in His time, for our good and to His glory.

During this Lenten Season, join your Advent Family each Wednesday for a light meal at 6:15 and worship at 7:00 to bring you closer to our Lord, as we learn together more about His prayer life, to help us in our prayer life, so that we'll be better prepared for the joy of Easter morning.

God's Blessings during this Lenten Season, Pastor John



## *Two Annual Egg Events at Advent*

Please join us to dye eggs after church on Sunday, March 17. This is a great day to bring friends or grandchildren! Bring your hard-boiled eggs and we'll have the dye ready!

On Easter Sunday, March 31, we will have an egg hunt after service. Bring a dozen filled plastic eggs per child who will hunt for eggs. The older kids will hide and the younger ones will seek.

## *Women of Advent*

The Women of Advent enjoyed a "Girls Night Out" on January 10 at the Nantucket Grill and thank Anona Serpas for making the arrangements for the evening. Our "Valentine's Girls Night Out" on February 12 was a fun evening as we exchanged "A Few of Our Favorite Things" and enjoyed delicious desserts. What fun to go home with a goodie bag full of new and interesting items.

On March 16 the Carolinas District **LWML Joy Event** will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Winston-Salem (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.). The theme is "Life Is Fragile – Handle With Prayer." Several Pastors from Circuit 14 will be presenters. The cost, including lunch, is \$15 if you register by February 27, and \$20 after that date. The Ingathering will be food or cash for the Second Harvest Food Bank. If anyone is interested in attending this Joy Event, please let Lois Durr know. A carpool can be arranged. Registration forms and information are on the WOA church bulletin board.

Since Advent will be holding its 25th anniversary celebration on April 20, we are not planning a WOA activity for April. The LWML Eastern Zone Spring Rally unfortunately is scheduled for April 20 also.

The Women of Advent **Women's Retreat** at the Trinity Center in Salter Path, NC will be held May 3-5. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend this always-great retreat. Again this year, Lynn Trogdon will be the retreat leader. In March, look for the information poster with the retreat theme and other details and sign-up sheet. You don't want to miss this always fun weekend!

The **Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study** completed its Beth Moore study of Deuteronomy on February 12 and will be in recess until after the Advent 25th anniversary celebration. Watch the church bulletins for announcements as to when the next study will begin. The **Wednesday Evening Women's Bible Study** continues their current study. Please contact Karen Baker if you have any questions or would like to join this Bible study group.

## *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".

The 2013 Budget was presented and approved by Advent's Congregation on January 27. As we discussed at the meeting, 2013 will be a challenging financial year for Advent with budgeted expenses exceeding income by \$17,645. We also discussed forming a committee to focus on short-term and long-term alternatives to managing this situation. The initial meeting will be held in March but we are still looking for volunteers to serve on this committee. Please keep the Council, Advent and the committee in your prayers as we ask God to guide us as we examine and discuss the various alternatives.

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.

## *Men's Retreat*

We have currently reserved 10 rooms, which hold up to 20 men double occupancy, at the Trinity Center in Salter Path, NC (near Morehead City) from November 8-10, 2013. Let John Stow or Dave Neely know if you can attend. We look forward to once again enjoying a great weekend of fellowship, studying God's Word, and growing together in Christ.

## *Board of Worship*

**Reminder:** Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 10. Set clocks ahead one hour.

**Lent and Easter Schedule:** Mid-Week Lenten Services continue at 7 p.m. Mid-week Services focus is "*Fellowship with the Father: The Lord's Prayer.*" There will be a light supper provided at 6:15 p.m.

Palm Sunday, March 24, at 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Service with Communion, March 28 at 7 p.m.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service, March 29 at 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday Service, March 31 at 10:30 a.m.

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Advent:** On Saturday, April 20, 2013, Advent will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. There will be a special service with the theme, "Rejoice and Remember" at 5 p.m., followed by a buffet. Please help us reach previous members to invite them to our celebration. If you have current address, phone number and/or e-mail, please provide this information to Carolyn Jones as soon as possible.

### **Praise Team and Band Schedule**

Sunday, March 17	Lead music during worship
Saturday, April 20	25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration
Sunday, April 21	Lead music during worship
Saturday, May 18	Praise and Pizza at 5:15
Sunday, May 19	Lead music during worship
Sunday, June 23	Lead music during worship

**Summer Worship Schedule:** Beginning on Sunday, June 2 Worship Services will begin at 10:00 a.m.

## *Birthdays*

Martha Gaestel	Mar. 2	Savannah Mather	Mar. 24	Alice O'Grady	Apr. 17
Denny Zamt	Mar. 3	Marge Schradie	Mar. 26	Annabelle Koban	Apr. 19
John Byrnes	Mar. 3	Gavin Borg	Mar. 27	Dan Koban	Apr. 21
Anders Borg	Mar. 5	Laurene Ackerman	Mar. 28	Dan Earnhardt	Apr. 28
Brad Sopata	Mar. 8	Gary Gunn	Mar. 29	Chelsey Masterson	May 8
Patrick Connor	Mar. 15	John Cangelosi	Apr. 7	Keith Lemon	May 16
Jennifer Simis	Mar. 15	Karla Byrnes	Apr. 7	Clay Wriedt	May 21
Tracie Foels	Mar. 16	Tom Struckmeyer	Apr. 11	Janice Wriedt	May 21
Wendy Rosenstock	Mar. 17	Sophie Struckmeyer	Apr. 13	Judy Neely	May 27
Jacob Yando	Mar. 23	Barbara Preisel	Apr. 15	Max Worley	May 30
		Matthew Wells	Apr. 16		

## *Anniversaries*

Pauline & Ron Ramsey	Mar. 1	Phyllis & Kent Underwood	Apr. 22
Rina & Doug Borg	Mar. 11	Lauren & Dan Koban	May 27

**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.

## **TIME AND TALENT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

*There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.*

*There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. I Corinthians 12: 2-4*

The following tasks are scheduled to support and enhance worship each Sunday.

### **Adults**

- **Altar Care** - Prepare bread and wine for Holy Communion; clean and store communion ware after the service; wash and return communion linens.
- **Greeters** – Welcome members and guests to worship; make sure that first-time guests sign the guest book and know about the special prayer request form.
- **Ushers** – Prepare the sanctuary before the service; hand out bulletins and assist with seating; ring the outside bell to signal the beginning of the service; assist the Crucifer and Acolyte; collect offerings; assist with Holy Communion; after worship, straighten chairs, collect items left, etc. and leave the sanctuary in order.
- **Lector/Lay Reader** – Read the designated First and Second scriptures for the worship service.
- **Communion Steward** - Assist Pastor in serving the Holy Sacrament.
- **Tray Bearer** – Assist Pastor and the Communion Steward by carrying the communion wine tray.
- **Bread for First-time Guests** – Bring two loaves of bread and attach Bible verse (ribbon and verses provided) to hand out after worship.
- **Refreshments for the Fellowship Hour after Worship** – Prepare and set up refreshments and beverages in the Fellowship by the end of the service; clean up all food, beverages and coffee pots; leave Fellowship Hall and kitchen tidy.

### **Children and Youth**

- **Call to Worship Bell Ringer** – Ring the hand bell inside to call the congregation to assemble for worship before Pastor begins announcements.
- **Acolyte** – Carry the candle lighter in the processional and light altar candles; extinguish candles at the end of the service and retire the candle lighter during the last hymn.
- **Crucifer/Cross Bearer** – Carry the cross into the sanctuary during the opening hymn; carry it out during the last hymn.

More detailed written guidelines are available for each role. Contact Carolyn F. Jones at 919-969-8982 or at [cmfpjones@yahoo.com](mailto:cmfpjones@yahoo.com)

### **Other Opportunities**

- **Flowers for the Altar** – Provide flowers for the altar area on Sunday. The flower chart is on the bulletin board across from the mailboxes to sign up for a specific Sunday. Contact: Dorothy Preisel
- **Building and Grounds Care** – To help with mowing, weeding and planting and other building and grounds care activities, contact Paul Simis (outside areas) or Jon and Sam Fischer (inside).
- **Music** - Contact Pastor John about choir, the Men's Gospel Group and Praise and Pizza music activities; contact Anders Borg about instrumental and/or vocal musical interludes during the offering and communion.

## Stewardship

LCMS Stewardship Newsletter Article March 2013

In March we will celebrate a “new spring into our steps.” On March 20, we will welcome the season of Spring. It is a reminder to us that the days are getting longer, the temperatures are getting warmer and the expectation is for the earth to once again be fruitful and provide food for all God’s creatures.

The 31st day of March—Easter Sunday—will put an even greater “spring into our steps.” As we join with other Christians in celebrating the resurrection of our Lord, we know that the best is yet to come. Because Jesus lives, we too shall live. Like the rest of nature in the springtime, we will also produce Christian fruits. That is what Christian stewardship is all about—responding to God’s love in Christ and bringing forth the fruits of faith.

The resurrection of Jesus does a whole lot more than “simply putting a spring into our steps.” It gives us the assurance that we can live our daily lives with Easter hope and joy. We can say much the same as what St. Paul wrote about to the Philippians: “For to me to live, is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet, what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far, but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me.” (1:21-26)

Paul knew for certain that because of his faith in the resurrection of our Lord he was a saved child of God. He was ready to leave this life with all its toil and labor and enter into everlasting peace and joy with all the communion of saints. But Paul recognized that Jesus left him here on earth to be His instrument to touch the lives of other people in a way that makes an eternal difference!

What an encouragement for us! Our lives do make a difference! We, like St. Paul, are also instruments in the hands of Jesus to touch the lives of others in a way that makes an eternal difference. Since we have the sure hope in the resurrection of the body unto life everlasting we know that while the best is yet to come, we must also remember that what we do here and now is important.

God blesses us so that we might bring glory to Him and good things for others. As we manage all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes, we demonstrate that we are fruitful stewards. When we freely and generously give of our time, money and talents, we show that our life is about more than having—it is about giving!

May the joy and victory of Easter be reflected in your stewardship!

## KFUO Radio

**SPIRITUAL REFRESHMENT FOR YOUR LUNCH/MID-DAY:** on your Lutheran Radio Station Worldwide KFUO. The program is **Moments of Assurance:** Message, Music and Prayer blended together in the Scriptural thought for each weekday, 12-1PM. You’ll hear of Hope and Complete Confidence in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord! Find it at [www.kfu.org](http://www.kfu.org) --- live streaming on your computer, laptop, tablet, iPhones, smartphones, WiFi radio, and archived. Like and follow us: [www.facebook.com/KFUORadio](https://www.facebook.com/KFUORadio)



*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](mailto:kmkbyrnes@gmail.com)).

*Newsletter Deadline for the Summer 2012 issue: Monday, May 20, 2013*

**Advent Lutheran Church**  
**230 Erwin Road**  
**Chapel Hill, NC 27514**

**Contact the Church:**

**Phone:** (919) 968-7690

**e-mail:** [Advent\\_Lutheran@bellsouth.net](mailto:Advent_Lutheran@bellsouth.net)

**web:** [www.AdventLutheranCH.org](http://www.AdventLutheranCH.org)

**Contact the Pastor:**

**Rev. John V. Benham III, Pastor**

**Phone:** (919) 943-7082

**e-mail:** [adventpastor@bellsouth.net](mailto:adventpastor@bellsouth.net)

**Sundays**

**9:05am** Sunday School/Confirmation/Bible Class

**10:30am** Divine Service with Holy Communion



## Dates to Remember

**Tuesdays – 7:00-8:00 pm**

Men's Bible Study

**Tuesdays – 10:00 am**

Women's Bible Study Resuming in May

**Alternate Wednesdays – 7:00-8:00 pm**

Women's Evening Bible Study

**Wednesdays – 7:00-8:00/9:00 pm**

Choir/Praise Band Rehearsal  
(after Wed service during Lent)

**Wednesdays, Feb. 20 through March 20**

6:15pm Supper  
7:00pm Mid-week Lenten Service

**Saturday, March 16 – 9 am-3 pm**

Carolinas District LWML Joy Event  
St. John's, Winston-Salem

**Sunday, March 10 – Daylight Savings Time**

**Sunday, March 17 – 11:30 am**

Easter Egg Dyeing

**Sunday, March 24 – Palm Sunday**

10:30am Worship Service

**Thursday, March 28 – 7:00pm**

Maundy Thursday Service

**Friday, March 29 – 7:00pm**

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

**Sunday, March 31 – Easter**

9:15am Easter Potluck Brunch  
10:30am Worship Service  
11:30am Easter Egg Hunt

**Saturday, April 20, 5 pm**

25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service and Dinner

**Saturday, May 18 – 5:15-7:00 pm**

Praise and Pizza

**May 3-5, 2013**

Women of Advent Retreat, Salter Path NC

**November 8-10, 2013**

Men of Advent Retreat, Salter Path NC