



# The Adventiser

## Advent Lutheran Church

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

Summer 2013

### *Tending the Flame (of Witnessing)*

My Dear Friends in Christ... We just celebrated Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came to the church with tongues of fire over the disciples heads, and allowed the disciples to tell "the mighty works of God" to people in their own languages (Acts 2: 11).

On the Day of Pentecost, the languages the Holy Spirit used were actual linguistic tongues that the disciples didn't understand, but the hearers did! The Holy Spirit still uses the church today to "speak" to people about the mighty works of God in ways that we may not fully understand, but the hearers do! It may be lending a helping hand to a person in need, offering a word of encouragement to someone when life has them down, or just being present with someone as they grieve. The Holy Spirit uses these times to touch people with the love of God in Christ. These times offer us an opportunity to witness to others of our faith in Christ. But do we always take advantage of those times? ... If not, why not? ... Maybe it's because we're not sure how to go about it.

This summer, our District is offering a great opportunity to learn how to witness from some of the best in our Synod. It's the August 2-4, 2013 Tending The Flame Conference in Richmond, Va. This year's Conference is one of eight Regional Outreach Conferences (ROCs) being put on by Lutheran Hour Ministries. The speakers will include Rev. Greg Seltz, the current Lutheran Hour Speaker; Rev. Mark Zehnder, pastor of King of Kings in Omaha, Nebraska; Rev. John Denninger, president of our Southeastern District, LCMS; Rev. Bill Harmon; pastor of King of Glory in Williamsburg, Va.; and many speakers from the Lutheran Hour Ministries Mission University. Mike Merker, pastor of Jordan Lutheran in Apex, will serve as the Conference Chaplain, and Kip Fox (singer/songwriter/guitarist) will serve as worship leader.

Workshops include such titles as: "Sharing the Hope of Jesus with Muslims"; "Rock Your Witness" (presenting the Gospel to those with different world-views); "Sharing the Gospel in a Digital Age"; "Serving the Mission Field on my Street"; "Just an Everyday Witness"; "Manly Tools for Faith Sharing"; and "Outreach to E-Groups".

Beth and I plan to attend this Conference and we invite as many of you as can to join us. There are programs for Teens and children (K-7) as well. You can find more details on our District's web site ([www.se.lcms.org](http://www.se.lcms.org)) or on Lutheran Hour Ministries' Website ([www.lhm.org/roc](http://www.lhm.org/roc)). The cut-off date for registering for the Conference is Tuesday July 30, 2013. In order to be guaranteed the \$93/night room rate at the Koger Center, register with the hotel by July 10, 2013.

Make plans to attend and "TEND THE FLAME" (of witnessing) so that the Holy Spirit can use you when the opportunity arises.

Have a Blessed Summer, Pastor John

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### *Thank You*

I am very sure that I will miss these years I spent times in ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH. The team work is wonderful and there are many talented people in different ways. I will never forget people's kindnesses. Thank you so much indeed!!!! I already miss you.

Kaori Maeda

## Blessings Basket

On Sunday, June 2, we will be putting together a "Blessings Basket" for **Pauline and Ron Ramsey** to let them know we miss them at church and are thinking about them. We will try to have a small "gift" for each day for several weeks. Please bring your gift wrapped. There will be a decorated basket in the narthex on Sunday, June 2. Suggestions for basket items: book, religious symbols/messages, homemade cookies for Ron, gift card to carry-out food restaurant, card/note. Thanks! If you have any questions, please see Beth Benham or Maryanne Warne.

## Women of Advent

Women of Advent will hold their final event before we break for the summer months with a **"Hell-o Summer" Potluck Dinner** on Wednesday, June 5, at 6:00 p.m. at the lovely home of Lori King. Lori has a beautiful outside pool area and has invited us to enjoy it with her. In case of inclement weather, we can be inside her home. Lori and her Mom, Lorraine, attend our women's Bible studies and are active in Abundant Joy Center activities. Lori lives off Route 64 near Route 751. You can arrange carpools if you are unfamiliar with the area. Directions will be available in the church narthex along with a sign-up sheet for the potluck item you will bring. This sounds like a lovely evening and we hope to see you there! Please direct any questions to Maryanne Warne.

## Board of Worship

### Summer Worship

Beginning Sunday, June 2, 2013, summer worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. There will not be Sunday School, Adult Bible Study, or Confirmation. We will resume our normal schedule on Sunday, September 8, 2013.

### Congratulations to College and High School

#### Graduates:

- Gavin Borg from Wake Forest University,
- Anders Borg from the Durham School of Performing Arts and
- Kathleen Simis from Panther Creek High School.

Anders will continue his education at Elon University and Kathleen will attend the University of North Carolina. Gavin has accepted employment in Wisconsin.

### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

A special thanks to Pastor John, the members of the Worship Board's Planning Committee, Fellowship Board, Properties Board, Praise Team, and those who made monetary and food donations for their support in making the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on April 20, 2013, a success.

## Birthdays

Patricia Williams	June 5	Kelsey Bennett	July 6	Peter Walz	Aug. 4
Alice Neebe	June 7	Amie Sheref	July 7	Gayle Zarnt	Aug. 7
Beth Benham	June 9	Vi Messick	July 11	Colleen Walther	Aug. 8
Karen Baker	June 10	Chris Lehman	July 16	Nancy Whiteley	Aug. 12
Rick Heizler	June 21	Ruth Schwasinger	July 16	Dave Neely	Aug. 18
Denise Walz	June 22	Cameron Gunn	July 17	Ginger Massey	Aug. 19
Simon Walker	June 24	Joseph Sheref, Jr.	July 18	Kayla Walz	Aug. 19
Ellie Elizabeth Trygstad	June 27	Joe Schradie	July 19	Carolyn Jones	Aug. 25
Josh Benham	June 29	Linda Mather	July 19	Dorothy Preisel	Aug. 26
Marc Holder	June 30	Ryan Healy	July 21	Bill Ackerman	Aug. 28
Emma Richie	July 1	Laura Simis	Aug. 4	Betty Tucker	Aug. 28

## Anniversaries

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	Laurene & Bill	Aug. 19
Sam & Jon Fischer	June 19	Judy & Dave Neely	July 4	Wendy Rosenstock &	Aug. 21
Karla & John Byrnes	June 21	Christy & Brad Sopata	July 5	John Cangelosi	
Linda & Cliff Mather	June 26	Gayle & Denny Zarnt	July 8	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.

## *Stewardship/Finance*

Thank you to all who have continued to faithfully support the work of God at Advent Lutheran Church. Advent appreciates the donations of all of you as you give out of gratitude and love for what God has done for us through Jesus, our Savior. Listed below are the income and expense figures from January 1, 2013 through May 20, 2013. The income includes the weekly plate offering, Thrivent Choice donations, building rental income, and mission donations. Any donations that are designated for a specific purpose are not included.

Income received through 5/20/2013 \$ 60,849.16

Expenses through 5/20/2013 \$ 60,732.60

Income vs. Expense \$ 116.56

While these figures look okay on the surface, we need to look a little deeper into the facts. In order to meet the 2013 projected expenses that were proposed by council and approved by voters at our January 2013 voters' meeting, Advent requires an average monthly income of \$12,692.00. Through May 20, income and expenses are almost equal, but income is on target only because one family has already given its total yearly donation. Expenses, on the other hand, are lower than projected. Some of our larger expenses (like insurance) have yet to be billed. If we were to prorate both the known fixed expenses and the annual donation already received over the entire year, Advent's financials would show a deficit of over \$5000.

Historically, Advent's weekly offerings are highest during the 1st quarter of the year. During the summer months, attendance and offerings fluctuate. We have eight members who make certain their offering is consistent year-round by donating electronically through a program offered by the Lutheran Church Extension Fund. You do not have to have an account with LCEF to participate and there are no fees. Your donation is transferred from your bank account to Advent's account either once a month or weekly (your choice). If you would like more information, please speak with Judy Neely.

## *TriangleFaith.org*

Triangle Faith is a cooperative effort of eight congregations in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod that seeks to bring the message of forgiveness to the greater Raleigh Triangle community. Check out their website for information about the summer seminar series in August.

## *Men's Retreat*

We have reserved 10 rooms, which hold up to 20 men double occupancy, November 8-10, 2013 at the Trinity Center in Salter Path, NC (near Morehead City). 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.

## *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".

As we mentioned in the Spring Newsletter, 2013 will be a challenging financial year for Advent with budgeted expenses exceeding income by \$17,645. We'll give the congregation a financial update at the June 30th voters meeting. Please keep the Council and Advent in your prayers as we ask God to guide us as we examine and discuss the various alternatives.

## *Tending the Flame at the ROC*

August 2-4, 2013, Richmond VA

All of Advent is invited to attend this Conference. Be inspired, energized, and equipped to share God's love, nurture your family, and witness to the community! Here's what's in store for you at Tending the Flame:

- Practical outreach helps for everyday situations from the Speaker of The Lutheran Hour, Rev. Gregory Seltz
- Presentation by Rev. Mark Zehnder on outreach in today's world
- Breakout sessions on hard-hitting topics to reach our communities with the Gospel
- Worship music led by Kip Fox
- Idea exchanges with outreach consultants in the "Guru Room"
- Mini-workshops and one-on-one technological advice in the "Technology Center"
- More information and registration can be found at [www.LHM.ORG/ROC](http://www.LHM.ORG/ROC)



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**Contact the Pastor:**

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

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**Sundays beginning June 2, 2013**

**No Sunday School/Sunday Bible Class**

**10:00am Divine Service with Holy Communion**



## **Dates to Remember**

**Tuesdays – 7:00-8:00pm**

Men's Bible Study

**Sunday, June 2**

Summer Schedule starts

**Wednesday, June 5 – 6:00pm**

"Hell-o Summer" WoA Potluck Dinner

**Sunday, June 30, 11:30am**

Voter's Meeting

**Fri – Sun, August 2-4**

Tending the Flame Conference  
Richmond, VA

**Sunday, Sept. 8**

Resume Regular Worship Schedule

**November 8-10, 2013**

Men of Advent Retreat, Salter Path NC

*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 Fall 2013 issue: Monday, August 20, 2013***