



Advent Lutheran Church

470 Landis Road

Harleysville, PA 19438

215-256-9941

office@adventharleysville.org

adventharleysville.org

DECEMBER 2025 MINISTRY CALENDAR

- December 2** 6pm Tuesday REST devotional time
7pm All Team Night
- December 3** 7pm Confirmation Class
- December 4** 7pm Chancel Choir
- December 6** 7pm All Youth Night—Lockin
- December 7** 8:30am Worship (in person and livestreamed)
9:45am Sunday Church School, Adult Forum, Mentor Sunday
11am Worship
2pm Griefshare
- December 9** 7pm Council Meeting
- December 10** 7pm Confirmation Class
- December 11** 7pm Chancel Choir
- December 13** 10:45am Garden Brunch
- December 14** 8:30am Worship (in person and livestreamed)
9:45am Sunday Church School, Adult Forum, Fair Trade Sale
11am Worship
- December 17** 6:30pm Handbell Rehearsal (sanctuary)
- December 18** 5pm Orchestra (fellowship hall) 5:30pm Orchestra (sanctuary) 7pm Chancel Choir
- December 21** 8:30am Worship (in person and livestreamed)
9:45am Sunday Church School, Adult Forum
11am Worship
3pm Christmas Caroling
4pm Decorating the church
5pm Advent Family Night
- December 22** 6pm Orchestra (sanctuary) 7:15pm Choir (sanctuary) 8pm Choir (fellowship hall)
- December 24** Church Office closed for Christmas
3pm Christmas Eve Family Service (in person and livestreamed)
9pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (in person and livestreamed)
- December 25** 9:30am Christmas Day Service
- December 28** 9:30am Worship (in person and livestreamed)
- December 31** Church office closed for New Years

MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE OF ADVENT

Pastor

Pastor Mark Singh-Hueter
thepastor14@gmail.com

Minister of Music

Vincent M. Ryan
music@adventharleysville.org

Coordinator of Spiritual Development

Carrie Ryan
cryan@adventharleysville.org

Office Administrator

Kim Long
office@adventharleysville.org

Sexton

Susan Underkoffler

Nursery Caregiver

Morgan Carosi

Streaming Producer

Hannah Fisher

Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Amy Coll, Jo Gilbert, Erica Heck,
Betty Keck, Joan Kelley,
Diana McClure,
Carrie Ryan, Diana Shearer

Church Council

Amy Coll, President
Don Roessler, Vice President
Diana McClure, Treasurer
Eileen Solomon, Secretary
Judi Greene, Zach Boyer,
Bruce Rhoades,
Rich Lantz, Carrie Johnson,
Helen Nace
Pastor Mark Singh-Hueter

Ministry Teams

Stewardship, Social Ministry
Christian Education
Worship and Music
Fellowship, Welcome Team
Property, Finance

ADVENT'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND WELCOME STATEMENT

Advent's Guiding Principles— With Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior:

- We believe salvation is a gift from God, available to everyone
- We strengthen our faith as we develop our discipleship
- We are good stewards of all that God provides us
- We serve the needs of each other, our community and our world
- We follow God's will, not our own



Our Welcome Statement:

Advent Lutheran Church of Goschenhoppen, a welcoming community of God, believes ALL people are made in God's image and boundless love and ALL are valued equally within our congregation. We are empowered by God through faith to nurture and celebrate the vast diversity among individuals – single, married, partnered, divorced – and embrace their uniqueness in all aspects of life including race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic backgrounds and age. We, at Advent, affirm and welcome you to share life with us and participate in God's ministry.



***Saved by God's Grace, Renewed through Word and Sacrament,
We are Sent as Disciples to Share the Gospel of Jesus.
Thanks be to God!***



WHAT DO YOU FEAR?

Insisting on Hope this Advent

Dear siblings in Christ,

We are entering a new season. On November 30 we begin Advent. That's also the name of our congregation, which is no coincidence. When the Lutherans from our original congregation at Goschenhoppen (begun in 1732) chose to move to a new location and make a new start in the very early 1990's, they chose the name Advent which means "beginning."

We begin the Advent season on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, as we prepare for the "beginning," the "coming," the "Advent of our God." We prepare to observe and celebrate Christ's coming on that first Christmas, even as we keep in mind that Christ will return at the end of time.

The colors of Advent are blue – the color of Hope, and of royalty.

This Advent, we are using a special series by "A Sanctified Art" that focuses on that Hope, even as it gets real with our Fears. Here's how that worship series is described:

Luke's Gospel begins the story of Jesus with this opening line: "In the time of Herod..." This detail may seem minor to modern readers; however, it reveals layers of information about the fearful world Jesus entered, one filled with rampant oppression, economic disparity, uncertainty, and instability. A world not so unlike our own. And yet, throughout the stories of Christ's birth, we hear the whispers of angels delivering a surprising message: "Do not fear." When Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the magi are each called into God's redemptive story, they do not deny their fears—they move through them. They ask questions, hold fast to courage, trust in good news, and say, "Here I am, Lord." When we find ourselves in fearful times, can we acknowledge our fears while also insisting on hope?

Continued on next page

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARK CONTINUED

This Advent series takes seriously the angels' message and trusts that Christ's birth truly is good news of great joy for all people. The resources look closely at the fear and terror looming in the background during the time of King Herod and invite us to consider the fears we hold now. Fear can divide and paralyze us and even be used as a tool for oppression. But what if we formed a different relationship with fear? Can we acknowledge fear without letting it rule us? Might we catalyze our fears into love and action? What if naming our fears helps us see more clearly how God is breaking in and where God is at work?

As you journey through this season, may your hope become gritty and resilient. May you remember: hope that trembles is still hope. This season, let us insist on hope and trust that good news is greater than fear.

We used a series by "A Sanctified Art" once in the past, with favorable comments. We do so again, taking advantage of their worship themes and directions, texts and image, special Bible Study materials, Children's resources, Devotional booklets and Advent calendars, and a bunch of creative and artistic ideas and opportunities. Here's how you can take advantage of that.

1. Plan on joining us for the four Sundays of Advent – Dec 30, Jan 7, 14, 21. Immerse yourself in the theme and the opportunities to be comforted, challenged, and nurtured in faith.
2. Try out the Bible Study. We will be offering it twice, at the Wednesday morning Bible Study (10am, in-person or zoom), and also at Adult Forum on Sunday mornings between the services.
3. Take advantage of the devotional books and Advent Calendar. Let this theme dwell in you during the week.
4. If you are a parent or teacher, find ways to help our children and youth find a place in this theme and God's story.
5. If you have any interest in art and crafts, let me know ASAP. There are wonderful resources you can use to create some helpful and inspiring art with this series, including a couple ideas for BIG works of art that could grace our sanctuary or fellowship hall or other parts of the building.

I'd love to hear from you as we go through this series. What was helpful? What didn't work for you? How did God speak to you (and how did you respond) in this season?

May God bless us in this Advent journey together.

Your Partner in Christ's Ministry,

Pastor Mark





SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

When you are grieving a loved one's death, the holiday season can be especially painful. Our **Surviving the Holidays** seminar helps participants prepare for the holidays and even discover hope for the future.



Sunday Dec 7, 2:00pm
To register, email
thepastor14@gmail.com

GRIEF SHARE – “SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS”

Sunday December 7, 2:00-4:00pm

Dealing with grief? Are the holidays sometimes a difficult time? Advent will be hosting the Griefshare “Surviving the Holidays” seminar again this year, providing a workbook to all participants.

To sign up, please use this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4FADA92CAAF58-60620598-griefshare>.. Open to all.

For more information, watch this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LaknGHu5UDU>



TUESDAY REST, December 2, 6:00pm

On the first Tuesday of the month, an hour before All Team, we will offer a short (20-30 mins) devotional and centering worship service. It is called Tuesday R.E.S.T. (Restore Each-other's Spirit & Time).

The service is based on ELW's "Perfect Love Casts Out Fear: Evening Prayer." In a time of stress, anxiety, and concern, you are invited to gather in a way that centers your spirit and nurtures your faith.

Contact Pastor Mark for more information.



We thought you might like to meet the wonderful guests that visit the church on a regular basis from Peaceful Living.

As a congregation, we have supported Peaceful Living through donations and our Chrysanthemum sale in the fall. Your generosity has allowed many great things to happen for this community.

Thank you all for your support.



WHERE DOES MY OFFERING GO? [See next page] →

Just as many members give a portion of their income in offerings, for God's work through our mission and ministries, so Advent gives a portion of those offering receipts to God's work through the larger church. Our congregation tithes (gives 10%) of pledged giving to Southeaster Pennsylvania (SEPA) Synod of the ELCA. Half of that goes to ELCA Churchwide, to help us do God's work on a national and global level. The other half is used in our area of the state, to help us do together what we could not do alone.

Check out the "Where does my offering go?" page for a better sense of how those offerings are used. *Please note – that page is two years old, and some ministry foci and budgets have changed as a result of a couple big grants, allowing our synod to do more ministry with congregations. **So we are doing even more together. And God is doing more through us, through you and me. THANKS!***



WHERE DOES MY OFFERING GO?

When you give through your congregation, a percentage of that money (determined by your congregation) is shared as Mission Support with the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod and the ELCA churchwide organization. SEPA Synod sends 50 cents of each dollar received to the churchwide organization for ministry nationally and globally.



Your offerings support:

Partnerships – 34%

Our synod is interdependent with churchwide ministries (which are national and global in scope) as well as with partners including United Lutheran Seminary, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in PA, Bear Creek Camp, local Lutheran social ministry agencies, and ecumenical and interfaith partners.

Mission and Vitality – 22%

Our synod provides oversight, equipping and financial assistance to new start and redevelopment congregations, and provides equipping assistance to congregations in the areas of youth and young adult ministry and mission. This portion of the budget also includes our global vision relationship with our companion synod in Tanzania.

Office of the Bishop – 29%

The bishop is the pastor to the synod and provides leadership and oversight for word and sacrament ministry, witness and mission of the synod. This includes the work of the committee of deans (who provide leadership, and pastoral and call process support, to each of our eight conferences), the finance and development office, communications and information technology.

Leadership – 5%

Our synod raises up, supports, equips, connects, and nurtures rostered and lay leaders for “the work of ministry for building up the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4). This includes the work of the candidacy process, financial support for seminarians, and lay leadership events.

Administration – 11%

Your offerings also make possible the operation of the synod office, including rent and utilities, insurance, depreciation, and general office expenses.

For more information about the synod’s mission and mission support, contact:

The Rev. Karen Sease, Assistant to the Bishop

ksease@sepa.org | 267.323.3744

ANNUAL REPORT AND ANNUAL MEETING

Advent Lutheran Church's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25, 2026 after a single worship service at 9:30am. Sunday Church School will be available for children during the annual meeting. A luncheon for all will follow the meeting.



Ministry Team reports are due to the office no later than Sunday, January 4 so that they can be compiled for distribution to the congregation by January 11, 2026.

STEWARDSHIP



Hugging You to Life

Embraced by God. Embracing Others.

"Do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share"
1 Timothy 6:18

As of 11/17 we have received 74 Estimate of Giving pledges. If you have not yet provided your response, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. This financial information allows the finance team and church council to responsibly plan for 2026. We thank you for your continued generosity in support of our ministries, staff, and building.

"*Hugging You to Life*" reflects a heartfelt approach to stewardship - one that embraces people, purpose, and resources with love, accountability, and joy. Just as a hug offers comfort, strength, and connection, our stewardship embraces the mission, the community, and the future with intentional care.

Systematic Giving Options

Simply Giving: For most people, we can grow significantly in our giving just by making our gift on a regular basis. Please consider signing up for this electronic giving program. In 2025, 63 Advent families are using the automatic giving program.

IRA Minimum Required Distributions: Give in a tax efficient way. If you are age 70.5 or older, you can give directly from a traditional IRA/401k to the church and have that distribution qualify as your Required Distribution. In 2025, 9 families or individuals are utilizing IRA giving.

Reminder for 2025 Giving Please ensure all intended giving for 2025 is provided to Advent no later than Sunday, December 28th. Any funds received after that date will be deposited in 2026.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Join us for Christmas worship!
Each service is unique.



3:00pm Christmas Eve: Children and family-friendly. Children participate in worship by reading lessons, playing instruments and acting in the pageant. Any child is welcome to participate in the pageant. No rehearsal necessary. Children will dress up as angels, shepherds and animals. There are no speaking parts. When you come to church, just see one of the helpers in the fellowship hall. Arrive early - special prelude music begins at 2:40pm.

9:00pm Christmas Eve: Older youth and adults participate in the Christmas Orchestra. Candlelit singing of Silent Night.

Arrive early - special prelude music begins at 8:30pm.



9:30am Christmas Morning: Laid-back, come as you are (PJs OK) and experience a quieter celebration of the Incarnation.

9:30am, Sunday December 28: Joyous Lessons and Carols.
No Sunday Church School or Adult Forum.

We return to our regular schedule on Sunday, January 4th.

Calling all Artists!

We would like to feature your drawing of the Nativity on our 3:00pm Christmas Eve bulletin.

Show us how you think it may have looked!

Please submit your drawing to Mr. Ryan by Friday December 13.

We will hang all the entries on the hallway bulletin board, and select one to appear in the bulletin.



2025 Poinsettia Sale



Once again, Advent will offer Poinsettia Plants for sale for the Christmas Season.

\$8.00 for a 6 inch plant.

You will also have an opportunity to
dedicate your plant.

Orders for plants will close on
Monday, December 15.

To order your plants, please fill out an order form or contact the office via email at office@adventharleysville.org. Or, feel free to stop in the office at anytime Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm.

If you are able, please submit payment along with your order form.

If you would like to order Poinsettias and pay later, please place your payment in the Office Mailbox in the copy room. **Important: Please make sure to place your payment in an envelope labeled with BOTH your name and 'Poinsettia Order'.**

Pete Smyser Trio Fills the House!

Pete and his band (Ted Lis, tenor sax and Madison Rast, bass) entertained a full house on Sunday, November 16.

Almost 80 people packed the fellowship hall for this great music and equally epic snacks.

Many thanks to Jen Forwood, Betsy Smith and the entire fellowship team for your unparalleled expertise.

Thanks also to the Worship/Music and Property teams for all your assistance.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Advent's Prayer Shawl Ministry offers handmade shawls/wraps to members or friends who may be experiencing a difficult time or suffering from an illness. The blessed shawl represents the love and comforting embrace of God and the prayers of the congregation. If you are in need or know someone in need of comfort, due to stress, bereavement, illness or any of life's difficulties, please let Eileen Solomon or the church office know. We will provide you with the shawl and a prayer card.

If you are a knitter or crocheter, please consider sharing your talents to create a prayer shawl for our ministry. For more information, please contact Eileen Solomon at galaxy795x@gmail.com. Thank you for helping Advent provide a tangible reminder of God's love and comfort!



STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT

Dear Members and Friends,

We would like to acknowledge our staff's committed service to our faith community with a special monetary gift. Our staff includes Pastor Mark, Vince Ryan, Carrie Ryan, Kim Long (Office Administrator), Susan Underkoffler (Sexton), Hannah Fisher (A/V Producer), and Morgan Carosi (Nursery Attendant).

If you are able and would like to contribute, please provide your donation by Sunday, December 14th. Donations can be mailed to the church office or dropped in the offertory during worship. **Checks should be payable to Advent Lutheran Church and placed in an envelope clearly identified for STAFF GIFT and to the attention of Amy Coll.** If you do send a donation for this gift in with your regular giving, please provide a separate check and identify it as STAFF GIFT on the memo line. This helps us keep everything straight – thank you.

God's Blessings to Everyone!

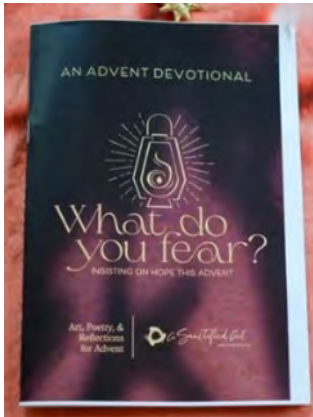
Advent Church Council



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Advent Devotionals and Advent Calendars

For the first Sunday of Advent (November 30, 2025) through Epiphany (January 6, 2026)



What do you fear?

Art, poetry and reflections for Advent

Read, look, and sing your way through the pages of this devotional at your own pace throughout the Advent season. Each week offers art, reflections, poetry, and hymns.



Humble and Holy

The devotional writers bring their unique voices and pastoral wisdom to the texts and offer the voices of other witnesses in the quotations they have chosen in the "To ponder" sections.



Advent Calendars for Families and Children

The children's Advent calendar is a colorable lantern craft. Color it progressively throughout the season of Advent, following the prompts. On Christmas Eve, follow the instructions to fold, cut, and tape it into a paper lantern. There is a parent's guide to talk with your children about fear and hope as you color.

<p>December 1st</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Longing</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> God listens <small>EXHALE:</small> to my deepest longings.</p>	<p>December 2nd</p> <p>WORDS OF THE DAY Break in</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> May your light break in. <small>EXHALE:</small> May your love bring healing.</p>	<p>December 3rd</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Fear</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> My fears are valid, <small>EXHALE:</small> and God is near.</p>	<p>December 4th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Possibility</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> God, help me see <small>EXHALE:</small> all that is possible.</p>	<p>December 5th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Presence</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> When I'm afraid, <small>EXHALE:</small> God responds with presence.</p>
<p>December 6th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Marvel</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> May I marvel <small>EXHALE:</small> at each tiny miracle.</p>	<p>December 7th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Hope</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> Hope that trembles <small>EXHALE:</small> is still hope.</p>	<p>December 8th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Perceive</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> God is making all things new. <small>EXHALE:</small> May I perceive it.</p>	<p>December 9th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Trust</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> Today I will trust <small>EXHALE:</small> that my efforts matter.</p>	<p>December 10th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Useful</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> When I do not feel hopeful, <small>EXHALE:</small> help me become useful.</p>
<p>December 11th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Conviction</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> When I feel uncertain, <small>EXHALE:</small> steady my convictions.</p>	<p>December 12th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Transformation</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> Help me witness <small>EXHALE:</small> every quiet transformation.</p>	<p>December 13th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Reorient</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> Reorient my path <small>EXHALE:</small> to walk humbly with God.</p>	<p>December 14th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Be</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> Let it be. <small>EXHALE:</small> Let it be with me.</p>	<p>December 15th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Yes</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> A hesitant yes <small>EXHALE:</small> can still be holy.</p>
<p>December 16th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Courage</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> Help me step forward, <small>EXHALE:</small> even when I tremble.</p>	<p>December 17th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Magnify</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> May I magnify the good <small>EXHALE:</small> that surrounds me.</p>	<p>December 18th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Awaken</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> Awaken me <small>EXHALE:</small> to my fullest, radiant self.</p>	<p>December 19th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Vulnerability</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> Deep vulnerability <small>EXHALE:</small> can create deep possibility.</p>	<p>December 20th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Love</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> May I seek and share <small>EXHALE:</small> the love that flows from God.</p>
<p>December 21st</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Dream</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> God's dreams unfold <small>EXHALE:</small> through the work of our hands.</p>	<p>December 22nd</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Companionship</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> May I find companionship <small>EXHALE:</small> when I need a hand to hold.</p>	<p>December 23rd</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Promise</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> In this fragile, imperfect world, <small>EXHALE:</small> may your promises take root.</p>	<p>December 24th</p> <p>WORD OF THE DAY Joy</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> Today I will make space <small>EXHALE:</small> for joy that grows and grows.</p>	<p>December 25th</p> <p>WORDS OF THE DAY Good news</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER <small>INHALE:</small> Good news is greater than fear. <small>EXHALE:</small> God will not be silenced.</p>

Advent Calendar
Daily breath prayers



Adult Forum - Sundays, at 9:45am

The **Adult Forum** is a Sunday morning gathering between worship services for adults to discuss topics related to faith, our community, the church, and the world.



It is a gathering to encourage lively dialogue in our faith and life and a place where all are welcome. It is a WONDERFUL opportunity to meet other members of Advent! It is a safe place to learn, ask questions or just listen.

November 30, December 7, 14 and 21 – What do you fear?

We will read, look and sing our way through the What do you fear? Advent devotional. Each week offers art, reflections, poetry, and hymns.

December 28 – No Adult Forum –Merry Christmas!

*The **Adult Forum Planning Team** meets throughout the year to plan themes, topics and schedule guest speakers for the forum. If you are interested in being a part of this team, please contact [Carrie Ryan](#).*



**Sunday
Church
School**



**Children's
Church**

All-Youth Night (5th-12th grade)

Lockin' (6th-12th grade only)

Saturday, December 6 @ 7pm

During All Youth Night for 5th-12th graders, we will be making soup and banana bread for Advent's homebound members and others in need. We will also play Chair Basketball.

- Please bring a snack to share.
- 5th graders will depart at 9pm.
- 6th-12th graders can stay overnight for a lockin

Parent help is a MUST for this event or we will have to cancel

[December All Youth Night/Lockin Sign Up](#)



All Youth Night November 2



Winter Youth Retreat at Camp Men-O-Lan

Friday, January 9 @ 5pm to Saturday, January 10 at 4pm

We are joining Christ Lutheran Church on their Winter Youth Retreat at Camp Men-O-Lan in Quakertown. Woo Hoo! This is a one-night, two-day retreat for 6th-12th graders, full of fun, food and friendships. It's a time to unplug from life and play and laugh together. The cost is only \$15 per youth. (Additional monies will come from Advent's Youth Fund) Friends are welcome. Please RSVP by January 4. [Winter Youth Retreat Sign Up](#)



TUSCARORA

LUTHERAN RETREAT

Tuscarora Youth Retreat

6th-12th Grades

March 20-22, 2026

Sign up by January 11

[Tuscarora Sign Up](#)

Join hundreds of youth as we gather to worship, form new friendships and praise God!

During the retreat, youth in 6th-12th grade will participate in large and small group activities centered on the retreat theme. The food is served family style and there is a camp store with milkshakes, French fries and more. During free time, there is an indoor gym for volleyball, basketball, ping pong and carpet ball. Outdoors there is gaga and basketball and open space for spike ball or other yard games.

WHO: Grades 6 – 12

WHEN: March 20-22

Please have your son/daughter to Advent by 4:30 PM on Friday. If they need a ride to church, please let me know. We will stop at Wawa for dinner and eat on the way. Advent will cover the cost of dinner. Youth can come later Friday or even early Saturday morning if they have a time conflict. We will arrive back to Advent on Sunday at 2:30pm.

WHERE: Tuscarora Inn and Conference Center in Mt. Bethel, PA

COST: \$50 due by February 1 to Carrie Ryan (cash or check payable to Advent)

Total retreat cost is \$175, Advent will be paying \$125) Advent's Christian Education Team is committed to providing this opportunity for all our youth. Money should never be an obstacle for your son or daughter to attend a church sponsored event. If you need financial assistance, please speak to Carrie Ryan or Pastor Mark.

Please sign up by January 11. [Tuscarora Sign Up](#)



Pancake Breakfast



Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, January 24, 8-10am

Advent's youth are ready to serve you!

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors.

All you can eat pancakes, scrambled eggs, breakfast meats and beverages.

Adults \$8, Children 4-11 \$5, 3 and under are FREE.

All proceeds benefit Advent's Youth Fund.

Children, youth and parents volunteer as cooks, servers, hosts and cashiers. Volunteer sign up coming soon!

Sunday Morning Nursery Help Needed

Morgan Carosi is our paid nursery staff each Sunday, but we need a second person (youth or adult) **to assist Morgan at each service each week**. Would you be willing to serve on a rotating schedule once every 6-8 weeks? Please contact Kim in the office office@adventharleysville.org, Pastor Mark or Carrie Ryan if you are interested.



Hoagie Coupons make GREAT Gifts!

Wawa coupons are \$6 each and proceeds benefit Advent's Youth Fund.

Contact Carrie Ryan to purchase coupons. Thank you for supporting Advent's youth!

Live Generously T-shirts Available

Thanks to our Advent members who sponsor Thrivent Action Teams, we have free t-shirts! Each year is a different Live Generously design. Shirts are available on the table in the fellowship hall.



FELLOWSHIP

All are Welcome—Please join us!

Sunday, December 21



3:00pm Christmas Caroling

Fa la la la la! We'll provide the song books and jingle bells, but we need YOU! Meet at Advent at 3pm. We will carpool to our homebound members and spread some Christmas Cheer

4:00pm Hanging of the Greens

Help decorate and get the church building all ready for Christmas



5:00pm Advent Potluck Supper and Advent Family Night

Bring a dish to share.
Join us for holiday crafts.
Sign up in the fellowship hall.

Singles Dining Out – Celebrating Carrie Johnson’s Birthday

Carrie Johnson and gang celebrated her birthday at the latest gathering of Singles Dining Out. Carrie was present with a delicious ice cream sundae to enjoy!



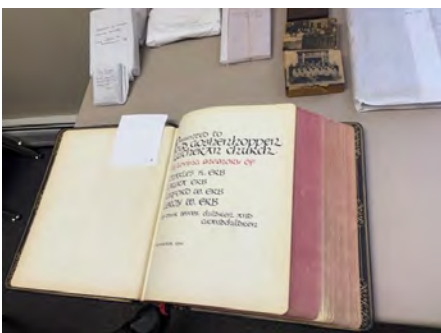
The next Singles Dining Out will be on Wednesday, December 17 at Advent Lutheran Church. Please sign up in fellowship hall and let us know what you are bringing!

THE ARCHIVIST

Trash or treasure? Or another way to interpret Gen.1: 1-23: Even God separated the land from the water, put forth vegetation on the earth, and set stars in the dome of the sky... If you have items which now connect more to Old Goschenhoppen/Advent's history than to your current situation, please consider relocating them to Advent.

We are planning to make decisions about storing historic items in the Lutheran Archives Center in Mt. Airy and we noticed some years of info are in need of additional documents. Please speak to Deane Werley or Jean Godsall-Myers for details.

And if you would like to join the Archives Team, please see Amy Coll.



SOCIAL MINISTRY



ADVENT ANGEL TREE for Martin Luther School

Advent participates in a holiday gift program for Martin Luther School (Gemma Services), which provides residential care for students with emotional and behavioral challenges. To accommodate all our members, we have **3 ways to participate this year:**

1. Select an Angel Gift Tag from the Advent Tree in the narthex, sign your name in the binder, and return the unwrapped gift by December 8 OR
2. Sign up for a gift on the SignUpGenius link below and return the unwrapped gift to Advent by



Sunday, December 7 OR

3. Purchase an online gift directly from the Gemma Services Amazon Registry

[Click Here for Amazon Registry](#) (These gifts are shipped right to Silver Springs.)

****Please bring new, unwrapped gifts to Advent by Sunday, December 7, and place them under the tree in the narthex or in the bin in the office vestibule.**

(**If you select an Angel tag from the tree, you **don't** need to sign up on the SignUpGenius!)

For more details on how to donate a gift for the Advent Angel Tree, please click on the link below. Thank you for making the holidays brighter for many children!! A big shout out to the Advent Youth for decorating the Angel gift tags during Youth Night!

[CLICK HERE for Ways to Donate a Gift to the Advent Angel Tree](#)

The 2025 Harvest Is In!

The Salford Mennonite–Advent Lutheran Garden produced a lot of fresh, organic produce this year! Well, everything except tomatoes. Not a good tomato year.

This gardening partnership provides nutritious food all season long to organizations and neighbors facing food insecurity. THANK YOU to every volunteer whose time and effort made this achievement possible. Your hard work and dedication have made a real difference for individuals and families throughout our community.

Want to be part of next year's success? We're already planning for the 2026 season and would love your help! Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just eager to lend a hand, there's a place for you. **Keep an eye out for our fundraiser in February.**





**American
Red Cross**

The **Red Cross Blood Drive** held at Advent on November 18 was a **great success!! A HUGE "THANK YOU"** to everyone who took time to donate. You have made an **important difference** in the life of someone who needed blood!

Enjoy the specially designed socks if you received a pair!



THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU!!

Many thanks to our generous Advent members for their wonderful response to the Thanksgiving Meal drive. Because of your kindness, **62 Thanksgiving meal bags and \$1,350.00 in donations**, along with many other food items, were provided to those in need within our community. Thanks to you, many families were able to gather around a table this Thanksgiving with food and warmth in their hearts.

~ Advent Social Ministry Team

BREAD DROP SERVICE PROJECT: *Slots Added for January & February!*

MANY THANKS to those who served this ministry in 2025!

Advent participates in the **Bread Drop** food program with local churches and organizations to help those experiencing food insecurity.

We invite members to sign up for **1 or more weeks** to make **peanut butter and jelly sandwiches**.

Please click on the **link below** to volunteer. Sandwiches need to be delivered to **Emmanuel Lutheran Church** in Souderton on **Monday OR Tuesday between 9:30am and 12:30pm**. Please consider sharing your time to help others in need. Thank you!!

[VOLUNTEER HERE to Provide Sandwiches for the EMeal/Bread Drop program](#)





FAIR TRADE SALES – Just in Time for the Holidays!

Looking for meaningful gifts to empower our global neighbors AND encourage environmentally sustainable production? Our next Fair Trade Sale before Christmas will be held **Sunday, December 14** after each worship service.



We invite you to purchase products from Lutheran World Relief (coffee) and Equal Exchange (chocolate, nuts, mangoes, tea, cocoa). Thank you for your willingness to partner with farmers, workers, and families in need of our support!

~ Advent Social Ministry Team



HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING

If you are searching for **more meaningful** gift ideas this holiday season, the **2025 ELCA Good Gifts Catalog** has many ideas that **support ministries, fight hunger, and save lives!** Catalogs will be available in the narthex and in the office entrance hall.

For more information, please see

<https://goodgifts.elca.org>



2025-2026 SCS OFFERINGS:

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Due to the many disasters affecting our world and the continuing crisis in the Middle East and Ukraine, Advent is collecting **SCS offerings** during the **2025-2026** school year for **LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE**, which brings hope, healing, and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters. For more information, click on the following link:

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>

Please encourage students to participate in the SCS offering. Help them to understand the importance of **sharing**. Whether they have an allowance, get paid for a chore, or receive a gift, encourage them to share part of those blessings with the church and others!



Lutheran Disaster Response
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Opportunity for Advent Members to Serve:

SHEPHERD'S SHELF is a local emergency food cupboard located at Christ Lutheran Church, 2211 Mainland Road, in Harleysville.



On **Monday** and **Wednesday evenings**, and **Tuesday mornings** volunteers (age 12+) are needed to distribute food items to those in need. Available positions are for general helpers, filling bags, and carrying bags to client cars. If you are able to help, please sign up on the link below. Contact Amy Coll on Advent's Social Ministry team with any questions. Thank you for your support!!

[Click Here to access the Shepherd's Shelf Volunteer List](#)



Opportunity for Advent Members to Serve:

Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Souderton needs volunteers to help with their **E-Meal Ministry** which was created to support food shortages due to the pandemic and continues to be needed. Meal bags are assembled and distributed to those struggling with hunger.

Volunteers are needed each week - Monday through Saturday mornings. There are two time slots available. If you are able to help, [Click Here to Access EMeal Volunteer Schedule](#)

For more information please contact: Emmanuel Lutheran Church at 215-723-7514.

Manna to Go :

The Social Ministry Team looks at specific needs within the **church, community, synod, and world**, and organizes help from our congregation to meet those needs. Our **Manna to Go** program provides meals, transportation, and/or personal care to our members as needed.



If you (or your family) are experiencing an illness, hospital stay, or other situation where meals, rides, or another service would be helpful, please let Pastor Mark or the church office know, and we will organize our church family to provide whatever is needed. ~ *Advent Social Ministry Team*



Keystone Opportunity Center "Immediate Needs" Weekly Email

The **Immediate Needs** is a list of the most current items needed by Keystone families to live a more self-sufficient life. Keystone posts the list every Friday on their website at <https://keystoneopportunity.org/needs/> Advent includes the link in our weekly

Wednesday email.

Donations may be delivered to **Keystone Opportunity Center, 104 Main St, Souderton** on Mondays through Thursdays from 9am to 4pm, OR can now be ordered through **Amazon Wish List and shipped directly to Keystone**. Thank you for helping neighbors in our community!



Steve Vincent 12/01	Tony Shearer 12/23
Leitha Foley 12/10	Emma Foglio 12/24
Carl Driscoll 12/12	Jen Kelly 12/25
Barbara Taylor 12/12	Erica Heck 12/27
Stetson Hassett 12/14	Luke Taylor 12/28
Ben Solomon 12/19	Wyatt Bergey 12/28
Ashley Bowman 12/20	Lindsay Coll 12/28
Ron Moritz, Sr. 12/21	Mandy Capaldi 12/31
Charles Hufnagle 12/21	

Wade Dahlgren 12/??
Samuel Stover 12/01
John Whitner 12/06
Jennifer Brown 12/09
Hannah Woodbury 12/12

Birthday Card Ministry

Each month a small group of volunteers meets to write birthday messages for Advent members. All are welcome to join in this ministry! If you would like to volunteer or donate birthday cards, please contact Judy Patti at grandmum4367@gmail.com
Our next gathering is Wednesday, November 19 at 10am

PRAYER CONCERNS

Members in our Prayers



Sandi Fisher, Paul Fisher, Aaron Ali, Sy Ali, Paula Slemmer
Betty Johnson, Lauren Ryan, Ruth Swingle, Becky Dahlgren



Families that are Grieving

Eric and Nicole Fusco and family and friends at the death of Nicole's brother-in-law,
Mike Vitale

Ron Moritz and family and friends at the death of his sister-in-law Barbara Moritz

Friends and Families in our Prayers

Betty Pratas (daughter of a friend of Judy Patti)

Paul and Eileen Garges, father and mother of Jacob Garges (mother-in-law and father-in-law of Amy
Garges {Shollenberger})

Nancy and John Wellington (sister and brother-in-law of Sue Chomenko)

Jenn Tucholski (daughter-in-law of Kathy Tucholski)

Patti Dille (friend of Trish Barth)

Prayers for those in the Military and Abroad

Corey Clark, Carlton Christie, Emily Kavanaugh, Jake Forwood

CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATES

- We had a presentation for a "Blessing Box" to set up at Advent. The Blessing Box would be located on the church site and contain items for anyone in need. There are several follow-up actions that are being completed. If you have any questions or comments, please contact any member of Council or Colleen Gular.
- We had an update on the Stewardship campaign. While we have a number of responses still outstanding, we are on a similar path to prior years. There will be more to come as we finalize the responses.
- Pastor Mark has been asked by Nikki Young (our previous Church Administrator) to be her Internship Supervisor in her path to be the Pastor at New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran church. This will be about a 1½ year commitment as Pastor Mark supports Nicki through this process to become a pastor.