



Advent Lutheran Church

470 Landis Road

Harleysville, PA 19438

215-256-9941

office@adventharleysville.org

adventharleysville.org

APRIL 2026 MINISTRY CALENDAR

- April 1** 7pm Handbell rehearsal
- April 2** 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship (in person and livestreamed) and First Communion
- April 3** Office closed for Good Friday
7:30pm Good Friday Worship (in person and livestreamed)
- April 4** 11am Egg Hunt
- April 5** 6:30am Sunrise Easter Worship
8:30am Easter Sunday Worship (in person and livestreamed)
11am Easter Sunday Worship
- April 6** Office closed for Easter Monday
- April 7** 6pm REST (devotional time) in sanctuary
7pm All Team Night
- April 8** 10am Bible Study
- April 9** 7pm Chancel Choir
- April 11-12** Box City Youth Event at Christ Lutheran Church
- April 12** 8:30am Worship (in person and livestreamed)
9:45am Sunday Church School, Adult Forum, New Member Class
11am Worship
- April 14** 7pm Council meeting
- April 15** 10am Bible Study and Birthday Card Ministry
7pm Confirmation Class
- April 16** 7pm Chancel Choir
- April 19** 8:30am Worship (in person and livestreamed)
9:45am Sunday Church School, Adult Forum, New Member Class
11am Worship
12pm Book Club
- April 22** 10am Bible Study
7pm Pub Theology at Neshaminy Creek Brewing
- April 23** 7pm Chancel Choir
- April 26** 8:30am Worship (in person and livestreamed)
9:45am Sunday Church School, Adult Forum, Fair Trade Sale, New Member Class
11am Worship
- April 28** 6:30pm Adult Forum Planning Meeting
- April 29** 10am Bible Study
7pm Confirmation Class
- April 30** 7pm Chancel Choir

MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE OF ADVENT

Pastor

Pastor Mark Singh-Hueter
thepastor14@gmail.com

Minister of Music

Vincent M. Ryan
music@adventharleystown.org

Coordinator of Spiritual Development

Carrie Ryan
cryan@adventharleystown.org

Office Administrator

Kim Long
office@adventharleystown.org

Sexton

Susan Underkoffler

Nursery Caregiver

Morgan Carosi

Streaming Producer

Hannah Fisher

Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Jo Gilbert, Erica Heck,
Betty Keck, Joan Kelley,
Carrie Ryan, Bill Kesack

Church Council

Amy Coll, President
Zach Boyer, Vice President
Diana McClure, Treasurer
Rich Lantz, Secretary
Helen Nace, Judi Greene,
Bruce Rhoades, Lora Drenth,
Teresa Feeser
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 – embrace their uniqueness in all aspects of life including race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expressions, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic backgrounds and age. We care for the environment and strive for racial equity and social and economic justice. 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!

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARK



EASTER MEANS...

What difference does it make?

Dear siblings in Christ,

What does Easter mean?

In our society, it brings to mind families gathering, easter egg hunts at home, decorations with bunnies and eggs, and store decorations that are up waaayyy too early. In worship, it brings to mind beautiful flowers, glorious hymns, maybe some brass accompaniment, and lots of Alleluias. And as with anything, it can include a few meme's.



But what difference does Easter make? What does it truly mean?

Let me answer that with three responses.

First, Easter means we are forgiven.

Each year, when I lead a Bible Study through the passion narrative, I am struck by the failure of the disciples. (And I'm aware that you and I wouldn't do any better.) They fail to stay awake with Jesus in his agonizing prayer in the garden; "Father, if it be your will, let this cup be taken from me... but not my will but yours be done." When Jesus is arrested, they abandon him. Peter tries to tag along, then denies Jesus three times. Judas sells him out.

It's easy, on Easter morning, to forget about all that and just celebrate. Jesus Christ is risen today! And yet, when I think about any movie I've seen...where someone comes back from the dead... it is NOT good news for those who let him down. What would I expect? Revenge. Payback. Teaching a lesson. ... And instead, Jesus shows up saying, "Peace," and showing his hands and feet. He returns from the grave and again gathers his disciples – gathers us – around him. Not what we deserve. Not fair. But forgiven. Easter means we are forgiven.

Second, Easter means the way of Jesus is vindicated.

We have alternate proposals in Lent. The devil tempts Jesus to grab a hold of power...and influence... and spectacle. Jesus, show them who's boss. Jesus, dazzle them. Jesus, give them what they want. Later on, the religious leaders (and then the political leaders) go after Jesus for threatening their influence and power. Jesus, you're spending too much time with the wrong people. Jesus, you're making them think they count. Jesus, you're giving them hope, and in tense political times, hope can be dangerous.

It's easy for us to just reduce Jesus to a spiritual appeal. Come to church and worship! And yet the resurrection has a practical, real-life impact. With criticisms in his day, and the gloating of

Continued on next page

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARK CONTINUED

some when he was finally hung on the cross, his death seemed to brand his way as failure. But God raised him. God vindicated him. In the resurrection, God declared that Jesus' love of all, even (especially) the outsider, the foreigner, and the trampled on, was God's way. Jesus' way of servant love was God's way. That's a critique against many of the values of Jesus' day, and ours, where people find reasons to support power, and influence, and 'might makes right,' and where putting down, dividing, and discarding groups of people can be so easy. Jesus' way was one of love, real love. In the face of power, Jesus chose love. Easter means the way of Jesus was vindicated.

Third, Easter means we have a mission.

Easter is never the end of the story. It is not some "and they lived happily ever after" story. It starts with the first preachers of the resurrection gospel (good news), the women who are told to tell the others that he's going ahead of you to Galilee. Preach it. And the disciples who have Jesus opening their hearts and minds to what was written in the law and the prophets and the writings (our Old Testament, or the Bible of Jesus and his first followers). And it wraps up with the command to go, baptize, and teach "all that I have commanded you." (Those commands had to do with loving God, and loving neighbor, and putting that in action).

I can sympathize with the disciples who tried to get back to normal. John 21. Let's go fishing. Like we used to...before this crazy Jesus stuff. And, lol, Jesus shows up. He gives them a great catch of fish, invites them to breakfast, and commissions Peter – feed my sheep. (And he even talks about Peter dying for his faith.) There is no "going back to how it used to be" with Jesus. Jesus is arisen. God is on the loose. And we have a job to do. Share the good news. Point to Jesus. And take up the mission. Easter means we have a mission.

So...Happy Easter. Now let's get to work.

As forgiven people.

As followers of the vindicated one.

As people with a mission.

Pr. Mark



TUESDAY REST, Tuesday April 7, 6:00pm

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

For many, this is a time of fear, worry, dread, helplessness and hopelessness. And so we gather, in a way that centers us, and opens us to God's presence. We need that.

Contact Pastor Mark for more information. Or just show up.



Pub Theology – Wednesday April 22, 7pm

You are welcome to join a group of Advent members, and guests and friends, for our next gathering at Neshaminy Creek Brewing, in Harleysville, 483 MAIN STREET HARLEYSVILLE, PA, 19438.

What is Pub Theology?

It is an open gathering (you don't have to be a church member, or even regular worshiper, so bring that friend or neighbor)
where we pour a pint (you can pour your own at the tapouse)
and discuss a faith-related question (NOT a Bible study or teaching, but a conversation).

New Church Sign Ministry Team

Tons and tons of thanks to Sharon Strayer who updated the church sign on Rt 113 for years. That sign is seen by many, and makes us visible as well as allows us to have a positive impact on those around us.



It took six households to replace Sharon. Or rather, we now have a Sign Ministry team with six households making sure the sign gets updated weekly. They are:

- Lora Drenth – Sign Guru
- Mary Lynn and Josh Morasco and family
- Eileen Solomon and Nancy Grunewald
- Nikki and Mike Mendel and family
- Bruce and Jenise Rhoades

As Sign Guru, Lora Drenth will be the point of contact. If you have ideas for some sign messages, let her know. If you have a request for publicity or a message at a particular time, get that to her. She is trying to schedule the messages a month in advance, so the sooner you let her know the better. Thanks to this new sign crew, for keeping us active in our community.

New Member Series starts Sunday, April 12



If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a member at Advent, or just finding out more about Advent, being Lutheran, and this community of faith, contact the church office. Our spring 2026 series starts on Sunday April 12, during the SCS hour between services (9:45-10:45am). The series will include three Sunday morning classes and one Tuesday evening dinner on our All Team night, May 3.

Please contact Pastor Mark for more information.



FIVE AUDIO DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is that week before Easter; the heart of our Christian faith. And this year, Holy Week is March 30 - Apr 3.

Take some time daily during Holy Week to hear part of the account of Jesus' suffering and death, hear some reflections and background, respond, pray, and then hear the Bible reading again with deeper understanding.

For audio version, click [HERE](#). If you have an iPhone or iPad, when we get to the end of March, open your podcast app and search for "Holy Week Devotions 2026 Advent Lutheran." The devotions should also be available on Spotify, Amazon Music, and YouTube Music.

If you need help accessing this podcast, please call and talk with Pastor Mark.

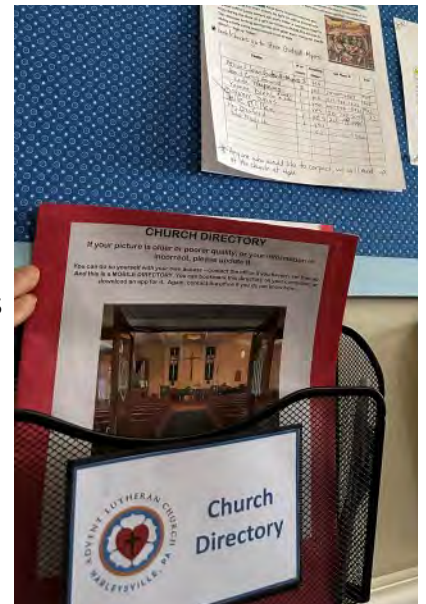
Take a 15-20 min break each day (a little more on the first day) to listen while you do chores or pause with a cup of coffee or tea. Come grow with us.

YOUR CHURCH DIRECTORY

A copy of the church directory is in the Fellowship Hall, as pictured here. Check it out to find names for that person you see regularly but can't remember their name. AND...Check out your own information.

If your picture is older or poorer quality, or your information is incorrect, please update it. You can do so yourself with your own access – contact the office if you haven't set that up. (This is a MOBILE DIRECTORY. You can bookmark this directory on your computer, or download an app for it. Again, contact the office if you do not know how.)

It is for you to use. But please never share a copy with people outside the congregation, and never, never share your password. If someone needs access, have them contact the church office.





How to help us PREVENT SCAMS. Here's what YOU can do.

1 – NEVER give out the password to our directory (or ANY passwords) via email or text or online messages. If you have questions, call the office.

2 – If someone reaches out to you for help with accessing our information, refer them to the office.

3 – If you get an email or text requesting money or gift cards, text/call Pastor Mark or call the church office. Or email us using an email that you KNOW is real, NOT one provided by the request. Report something like that to us.

4 – NEVER give money or cards unless you are bringing them to this physical church building or using our official online giving. Online giving link will be in a bulletin or our official weekly email or within our online service. If in any doubt, CALL Pastor Mark or our church office, and talk with someone you know.

Online scams happen all the time. We have had several occasions where scammers created fake emails that looked like a congregation member or staff, to ask for gift cards or for password help. This happens to many, many churches and other organizations. We do well with security, but we need YOU to be careful about opening or responding to emails or texts. Reread #3 above.

God has blessed us, with resources, and technology. We are doing good things with them. Let's keep that good stuff going.

Easter Bible Study - Seeing Jesus after Good Friday

Beginning on the Wednesday after Easter, April 8 at 10:00 am, Pastor Steve will lead a Bible Study. *"Seeing Jesus after Good Friday"*.

He will use the Easter texts, some post-Easter texts and the artwork of local artist, Rob Lawlor, to explore how Jesus' followers 'experienced' him after his death on the Cross.

There will be at least four sessions – April 8, 15, 22 and 29.

Depending on how our discussions go – there may be a bonus session on May 6.

The Bible Study will be in person with a possibility to join via Zoom.

Please sign-up – especially if you would like to Zoom.



THE ARCHIVIST

The Busy Hands Ministry, an article by Judi Greene

The Busy Hands Ministry was founded around 1998 by a group of Advent's ladies: Arlene Landis, Betty Johnson, Norma Lugar, Betty Keck and June Walker. What a remarkable group of talented ladies!

The ministry came about when the Johnson's moved to the Green Lane area and joined the Advent congregation in 1997. Betty, a designer of church banners, and her husband Marvin, a retired Lutheran pastor, made a visit to the church. Betty remarked "Advent has the ugliest banners!" Well, something had to be done about that!



Well, something had to be done about that!

First, a bit about Betty Johnson, who lives at Peter Becker. Betty was a graduate of St. Olaf's College in Minnesota, where she pursued her passion for design. In 1965, Betty attended the World Fair in New York City, where there was a huge church exhibit. Inside the church exhibit hung beautiful banners on the walls. She explained it as if there were a lot of banners everywhere. This exhibit had such an impact on Betty that she decided to make a career out of designing and creating church banners. Betty took her display case to many churches to get their orders. We are sure she had a lot of very happy customers.

So, back to the Busy Hands Ministry, Betty and Arlene got together and purchased good quality fabric. Betty planned out beautiful designs, and the rest of the ladies started hand sewing. At that time, they were only working on a single banner, which is now in the choir corner. Next, Betty and Arlene decided that the space on either side of the cross needed a banner. So, they set about completing a set of these beautiful banners. The Property Team lent their talents and constructed the mounting and the mechanism for raising and lowering the banners so they could be changed out with the seasons.

Over the next few years, The Busy Hands Ministry made drapes for the Sunday school rooms and sold their hand made craft items to purchase furniture for the parlor. Awhile ago, I was fortunate enough to have lunch with these ladies. They shared their story about how they were together on 9/11. The only person not present at the luncheon was Arlene Landis, as unfortunately, she had passed away by that time. But Arlene Landis was a driving force too behind a lot of the workings at Advent. Stay tuned, we will be presenting her story soon!

STEWARDSHIP

Advent's Pastoral Sabbatical – Frequently Asked Questions

Pastor Mark will begin his pastoral sabbatical in May. We have compiled a list of frequently asked questions that we hope will answer most of your questions and address any concerns. Many of these questions came from members over the past 2 years during which time Advent approved a sabbatical policy and council approved Pastor Mark's plan for his sabbatical time.

Why is this a good thing for a Pastor Mark?

A sabbatical will provide an opportunity for Pastor Mark to rest, rejuvenate, and grow both personally and professionally. This time away will lead to improved mental and physical health for Pastor, fostering creativity and preventing burnout. The congregation recognizes that a refreshed Pastor Mark can better serve the congregation upon his return - bringing new insights, energy, and passion to his ministry. The sabbatical will also allow a reset of our congregation's roles and responsibilities during Pastor's absence and give us an opportunity to stretch our lay leadership capabilities.

Why is this a good thing for our Advent church community?

A sabbatical for the pastor does not have to be met with anxiety or church paralysis. A sabbatical can provide an opportunity for discovering new strengths for ministry within the congregation and watching authentic growth in individuals as they discover how their own particular gifts can benefit the church, even after the pastor's return.

Why is this a good thing now?

Pastor Mark is completing 34 years of full-time pastoral ministry and has been serving our faith community for the past 8 years. Pastor Mark has never taken a sabbatical. As a congregation we approved a sabbatical policy in 2024 and believe that a sabbatical will allow Pastor Mark to continue to serve our congregation with renewed energy and ideas.

We are blessed to have a highly competent staff, leadership team and ministry leaders who can lead in his absence. Summer is a good time for a pastor's sabbatical since church programs and events are more casual and less frequent. This timing also allows Pastor Mark to be back in time for full participation in our fall ministry season.

How long and when will the sabbatical be?

Three months. Pastor Mark will be farewelled after the worship service on May 10th (and will be in the office through that Wednesday) and return to Advent in August for the August 16th worship service.

Continued on the next page

How can I make sure I say goodbye to Pastor Mark before he leaves for his sabbatical?

You are in luck! We will be having a sending gathering at worship on May 10th and we will celebrate with Pastor Mark and his family in the Fellowship Hall following the service.

Who will be covering Pastor's duties while he's gone?

We are blessed to have multiple retired pastors within our congregation who are providing support during the sabbatical, for worship services and pastoral care. They know our congregation well and we look forward to them preaching and caring for our members during this time. Our Church council led by Council President Amy Coll will continue to function as normal in overseeing the operation of our church.

- A. Worship Services** – Pastor Stephen Godsall-Myers and Pastor David Lucher will be covering all our worship services. The sabbatical occurs during the time when Advent has one worship service at 9:30 am.

- B. Pastoral Care** – Pastor Jo Wilhelmson will handle pastoral care activities assisted by Pastor Sue MacFadden and some lay volunteers. Funerals will be covered by Pastors Steve, David, or Jo. If you require pastoral care during the sabbatical time, please call the church office at 215-256-9941. If you call after hours, that number will transfer to someone who can assist you.

- C. Administration/Operational Decisions** - Council and the Sabbatical Team have already reviewed what Pastor Mark does and have assigned most of the necessary responsibilities within the congregation. They are continuing to identify individuals who can assist in coverage of some specific activities. Please consider helping out if you are asked or offer your services to a member of the Sabbatical Team or Church Council.

Will the Church Staff be doing more?

No, our dedicated staff will continue to perform their roles and no additional work activities will be required of them. There may be some process adjustments within the Office Administrator Role as it relates to preparation for worship services but otherwise this is an opportunity for lay people within the congregation to assume new responsibilities and to not expect more to be done by our staff during the sabbatical.

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What if I truly have an emergency?

Please call the church office at 215-256-9941 and you will be directed to the appropriate person to handle the emergency. If you call after hours, that number will transfer to someone who can assist you.

Can I still call or text Pastor Mark while he is on sabbatical?

Sadly, no. For the Sabbatical to be of the greatest value and reflection, Pastor Mark will not be reachable from the congregation. We have asked him to disengage from email, phone, and social media. All responsibilities and concerns that Pastor Mark handles will be delegated to appropriate sabbatical coverage pastors, Advent council, staff, and members during this period.

Can I contact Pastor Mark's family?

You may see Merlyn or Cassandra in worship or in the community, so please feel free to say hello as a friend and spiritual companion in Christ. Ask them about their family or any other sort of topic that you would talk to a friend about. Remember, they are still a part of our family! You can respect the sabbatical by not talking church business.

What will Pastor Mark do during this time away?

Pastor Mark's sabbatical will be centered in Upper Michigan. He plans to spend his sabbatical time learning, growing, resting, connecting, reading, and creatively planning for future sermons.

Is this a sign that Pastor Mark is leaving our church?

Advent's sabbatical policy requires that any pastor taking a sabbatical will commit to return to Advent for a minimum of two years. Pastor Mark has made that commitment in writing to Council. Pastor Mark is not updating his resume, searching for other jobs or moving across the country. He is not ill. This sabbatical is a joyful blessing for him, his family and for Advent. Let us anticipate and trust the work God will do in us and in him and we look forward to his future years at Advent.

How can we best support Pastor Mark during this time away?

In a word, PRAYER!

1. Pray that Pastor Mark's time with God will be filled with refreshment, goodness, love and truth. Pray that God will give Pastor Mark insight and perspective, to receive His love more fully and love Him more deeply, in a way that overflows to his life, leadership and our ministry.
2. Pray for Pastor Mark's family (Merlyn and Cassandra) during this time. Pray that his family would benefit from this time as well.

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4. Pray for our Advent staff, church council, sabbatical coverage pastors, and other lay leaders as they continue to serve our Advent faith community.

5. Pray for all our members during this time that they might be empowered to step up and serve in new ways. As a congregation, pray for our renewal and look for new opportunities of service as individuals and as a congregation. Help us to be unified in our mission and vision, that we might have a strong sense of where God is leading us before, during and after this sabbatical time.

How can I make this sabbatical successful for Advent?

In addition to praying (see above), a successful sabbatical is dependent upon **participation by the congregation**. The pastor's absence during a pastoral sabbatical provides a new opportunity for the congregation to realize that "we are the church!" Allow this to be a time when you are able to embrace this concept.

Volunteer to support our worship service and participate in church events. Invite a friend to Advent worship or any event and be supportive of our Church Council and staff. Perhaps this is a time you could volunteer for a few hours a week to provide additional assistance in the office.

I have more questions! Who can I talk to?

Anyone on Council or the Sabbatical Team will be happy to discuss the sabbatical with you and answer your questions – feel free to reach out to us!

Council: Amy Coll, Zach Boyer, Rich Lantz, Diana McClure, Bruce Rhoades, Judi Greene, Lora Drenth, Helen Nace, Teresa Feeser

Sabbatical Team – Steve Nevin, Carl Dahlgren, Amy Hammond, Judi Greene

COUNCIL NOTES

Council has voted to add Teresa Feeser to council. We are thankful for Teresa expressing interest in this, and we are excited for her to join. We welcome her into this role and believe she will be a great voice to be added.

Council was presented information regarding the sabbatical coverage, and we continued to discuss to ensure everything is in place for this summer. This conversation will continue as we approach the start of Sabbatical. We thank the Sabbatical team for their work on this item also.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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.

The Adult Forum is facilitated by members each week. Occasionally a guest speaker will lead a special topic. Grab a cup of coffee, or tea, and join us at 9:45am in the Fellowship Hall!



April 5 – Easter Sunday – No Adult Forum



April 12 – Organ Donation and Transplant

Advent member, Kim Sekiya will share about her experience as an organ donor. Kim was a compatible kidney match for her husband, Hiro. She will share about the organ donor process and some of the everyday life of someone waiting for a kidney transplant.



April 19 – The Advent/Salford Garden and an update about Advent’s Meadow

Salford-Advent Garden manager, Steve Blank will join us to share information about the garden. Our partnership with Salford Mennonite provides much needed food to groups who service those facing food insecurity. The garden is located at 480 Groffs Mill Rd in Harleysville and volunteers are there most Saturday mornings between 8am – 11:30am.



April 26 – Family Promise

We welcome guest Chari Richardson from Family Promise Montco. This summer Advent will be partnering with Salford Mennonite Church through the Family Promise’s Interfaith Hospitality Network. This program provides emergency shelter for Montgomery County families with children who are experiencing homelessness. The Networks provide families a safe place to stay, along with supportive services, for approximately 90 days.



3 Ways You Can Help with Advent's Egg Hunt

Egg Hunt Coordinators are Jessica Padlaszek and Amy Garges.

Please contact them with any questions you may have about donating candy, the pizza party or volunteering at the egg hunt.

jessicabrown325@hotmail.com amyshollenberger@gmail.com

Donate Candy

We need **individually wrapped candy** to fill plastic eggs. Donations can be placed in the labeled bin in the vestibule by the office entrance. Donations are due by Sunday, March 29th.

Fill Plastic Eggs

Sunday, March 29 @ 5pm

All youth and parents are invited to our **Pizza and Egg Filling Party**. We have hundreds of plastic eggs to fill for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Please sign up so we have enough pizza for all!

[Egg Hunt Volunteer Sign Up](#)

Volunteer at the Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4 @ 11am

Adult and youth volunteers are needed to help hide eggs, park cars and welcome our guests.

Arrive by 10am – hunt starts at 11. [Egg Hunt Volunteer Sign Up](#)





**First Communion
Classes**

**Confirmation Service
Project**



Tuscarora Youth Retreat





Time to Register for Bear Creek Camp!

Spring is finally here and registration for summer camp is open! Youth summer camp at Bear Creek is an AMAZING God-centered, fun-filled, outdoor time for personal growth and play on a 3,000-acre property just 80 minutes away in the Pocono Mountains. Advent supports all our campers through subsidies and full camp scholarships (see

below). [Bear Creek Camp Summer Camp Registration](#)

Advent supports all our campers through our Bear Creek Camp Funds.

The money in these funds comes from generous donations and fundraising efforts.

- 1) Every Advent youth attending summer camp can receive **\$150** towards camp registration. Once your child is registered for camp, please email Carrie Ryan a copy of your registration. Advent will issue you a \$150 reimbursement check **per child**.
- 2) Every Advent youth who is a **FIRST-TIME** camper will receive an **additional \$150** towards camp registration.
- 3) Advent families attending Family Camp can receive **\$300** towards camp registration.
- 4) Advent has **full camperships** for either a full week or Try Camp. Please contact Pastor Mark for more information.
- 5) Advent sends each of our campers a **care package** while they are at camp. Please let Carrie Ryan know what session your child is attending.

Bear Creek Camp also provides its own discounts which you can receive.

Sibling Discount: (First camper is full price, each additional camper from same household will receive a \$50 discount)

Bring-a-Friend Discount: For each new friend that signs up, you will get a \$100 credit on your summer camp registration.

NOW is the time to register for summer camp! Contact Pastor Mark or Karen Evans chemkaren@verizon.net- Advent's Bear Creek Ambassador with questions.





VBS 2026

Monday, August 3 - Friday, August 7
from 9AM-12PM

Extended care is available until 3PM
Monday - Thursday

ages 3 (must be potty trained) through entering 5th
grade

[VBS Registration](#)

Youth (entering 6th grade and older) and adult volunteers needed!

[VBS Volunteer Form](#)

Extended care is available Monday through Thursday until 3:00 PM. Extended care is a fundraiser for Advent's Youth Fund. Monetary donations will be accepted for extended care. Thank you for your generosity.

Please contact [Becky Fisher \(VBS Director\)](#) or [Carrie Ryan \(Coordinator of Spiritual Development\)](#) with any questions.

As we look around the world, what becomes clearer each day is our deep need for compassion – now more than ever. Each of the five sessions has a central scripture passage about the day's theme. Compassion Camp's goal is to cultivate compassion for each other, ourselves, and the world.

Monday
At the Table
Luke 1



Tuesday
To the Neighbor
Mark 2:1-12



Wednesday
For Myself
Mark 12:28-31



Thursday
Along the Way
Ruth 1:1-22



Friday
With the World
Leviticus 25



Advent's Libraries

Did you know that Advent has two libraries?
Feel free to check out a book, devotional, video or puzzle!



This bookshelf is in the hallway by the office entrance. It has books for adults, youth and children.



This bookshelf is in the parlor, across from the bathrooms. It has books specific to Lutheran history and Martin Luther. The shelf also contains Advent photo albums.

THANK YOU

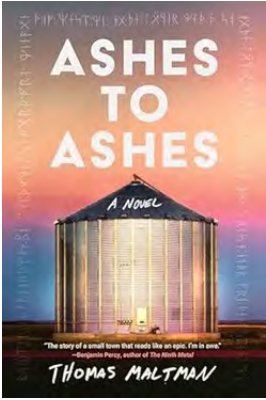
Dear Friends at Advent,

We are deeply grateful for your love and support as we grieve the death of Lauren. Thank you for all your compassion and help these past weeks, especially during our Remembrance Gathering for Lauren. We have all been blessed by Lauren and we mourn her loss together. Thank you for being part of our faith community.

God's Peace,
Vince, Carrie, Vince Jr, Garrett and Luke



FELLOWSHIP



Advent's Book Club

This month we are reading **Ashes to Ashes by Thomas Maltman**. The book was highlighted in the Living Lutheran Magazine's spring edition and in the adult forum last month. We have three copies to borrow/share or you can purchase your own book. Please contact Carrie Ryan if you wish to borrow a copy.

Read more about the book and author [HERE](#)

We will meet on Sunday, April 19 at noon for a meal and discussion.

Singles Dining Out—April 15 at 6pm

We will meet at The Vault in Harleysville
Everyone is invited to join us!

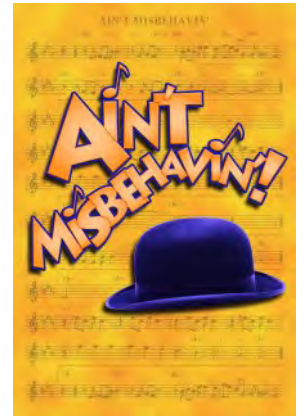


Ain't Misbehaving (Dinner & Show) Thursday, May 14

We kick things off with dinner at **PUDDLERS Kitchen & Tap** (3 DeKalb St., Bridgeport, PA) at **5:00 PM**, then stroll **just over the bridge** to **Theatre Horizon** (401 DeKalb St., Norristown) for a **7:30pm performance** of *Ain't Misbehavin'*—*The Fats Waller Musical Show*, created and originally directed by **Richard Maltby, Jr. & Murray Horowitz**. Tickets for the show are **\$32**, and if you can't make it to dinner beforehand—no problem at all—feel free to **meet us directly at the theater**.

If you have questions, please reach out to **Jen Forwood** or **Steve Gottshall-Myers**.

As an extra incentive, everyone who signs up **and pays for their tickets by April 1st** will be entered into a special raffle! Lucky winners will score either a **concession treat to enjoy during the show** or a **gift certificate to PUDDLERS Kitchen & Tap**.



WORSHIP & MUSIC

Worship Assistant Training

Are you interested in becoming a Worship Assistant but not sure how to start? If so, we have some current Worship Assistants available to help make sure you know how its done!

Rich Lantz will provide training and let you tag along at the 8:30am worship service on the third Sunday of the month.

If you like the 11am service, great, we have Helen Nace available for you to do a tag along.

If you are interested but want more information, please feel free to reach out to either Rich or Helen, they will be glad to help you.

Rich Lantz - mklrjl@gmail.com

Helen Nace - helenmnace@gmail.com



Summer Service Schedule Begins May 3

Spring is in the air! Along with the pollen. Soon our thoughts will be headed toward summer. And with that comes the switch to Advent's summer service schedule. The summer schedule will start May 3, 2026, with one service at 9:30 am. On September 13, 2026, the regular schedule will resume with services at 8:30 am and 11:00 am and the education hour starting at 9:45 am.



Beautifully Broken



Lent Worship 2026



An audience of 82 people filled the sanctuary at Advent on Saturday March 21, 2026 to celebrate Bach's birthday. Seven musicians shared their time and music in various combinations: organ solo, organ+trumpet, harpsichord+flute, clarinet trio, Orgelkids, and a combined ensemble.

During the concert, a slide show was projected on the wall with pictures of Bach as well as many places (and organs) he visited throughout his life.

Most pictures were taken by Vincent Ryan and included Melissa Freilich and Keith Christian from their travels to Germany.

Thanks especially to Eddie Fisher for presenting the slide show, the Worship and Music Team for assisting, and the congregation for hosting.



L-R: Dr. Emily Rose, Lisa McColl, Mary Jean Purdy, Keith Christian, Vincent M. Ryan, Melissa Freilich, Philip Crush.

SALFORD/ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH GARDEN



Spring has sprung!

The birds are chirping, the weeds are plotting, and yes—it's finally time to get back into the garden.

Opening Day: Saturday, April 11th at the Salford/Advent Lutheran Church garden, 480 Groffs Mill Rd. Harleysville

Once again, Advent is teaming up with Salford Mennonite to nurture relationships with one another and God, cultivate a piece of God's creation, and grow good food for those who need it most. Each year, we harvest thousands of pounds of produce using sustainable practices, which we deliver to food banks, retirement communities, senior centers, and anyone who could use some healthy food.

No green thumb required—if you can pull a weed or admire someone else pulling a weed, you're qualified.

Join us each Saturday throughout the season anytime between 8:00 a.m. and noon. Come early, come late, come for five minutes or stay all morning—it's a stress-free zone.

What to bring:

- A water bottle
- Sunscreen
- A hat
- Gloves
- A willingness to get a little dirty

Bonus perks:

- Sweat equity! Take home some fresh veggies for yourself.
- A well-deserved break around 10:00 a.m., which often involves delicious baked goods (arguably the most motivating crop of all).



All are welcome, no experience needed—just show up when you can.

The gardening group can't wait to see you there... preferably with dirt under your fingernails and a smile on your face. 🌱 🍷 🌻

SOCIAL MINISTRY



Lenten Congregational Service Project:

Bean Bag Food Program 100 Box Challenge

Thank you for donating to the Bean Bag Food Program! Advent members contributed many needed food items which will be distributed to students in our school district so they have food on weekends. A Thrivent Action Plan was also used to support this project. Thank you for generously sharing with neighborhood children.



Lenten Hunger Tree

We invite you to select items from the Hunger Tree in the narthex to donate to ELCA Good Gifts. Donations are requested by Easter, April 5th. Thank you!

Manna On Main Street Race To End Hunger

Saturday, April 25th at 8:15am

Calling all Advent Runners and Walkers!

Manna on Main Street is holding its annual Race to End Hunger, including a 10K, 5K, 5K Walk, and 1-mile Fun Run at Knapp Elementary School (698 Knapp Rd, Lansdale, PA 19446) on Saturday, April 25th at 8:15am. All ages and abilities are invited! The races are walker, stroller, and dog-on-leash friendly. Proceeds benefit Manna's core programs: community kitchen, market pantry, and training programs. This race is Manna's largest fundraiser of the year! Advent is supporting the cause with a group of participants. Please join us in this worthwhile event – feel free to run or walk! Advent will reimburse half of the entrance fee for any member wishing to attend.



To participate, please register and complete your information on Manna's Race to End Hunger site: [Click Here to Register for the Race to End Hunger](#).

Please let Advent know you are planning to join our group by signing up here:

[Click here to let Advent know you are participating](#).

Contact Barb Bamford with any questions.

Thank you for helping end hunger at home and around the world!



American Red Cross Blood Drive

The Red Cross Blood Drive held at Advent on March 24th was a success! We collected 46 units of blood!



Thank you to everyone who took time to donate and help with the national blood shortage. You made an important difference in someone's life. Please save the date for our next drive which is scheduled for August 25th, 2026.



Fair Trade

Our next Fair Trade sale is on April 26th after each worship service. We invite you to purchase coffee products from Lutheran World Relief and chocolate, nuts, cocoa, and

tea from Equal Exchange. Your purchases help empower our global neighbors and encourage environmentally sustainable production. Show your loved ones and the world that you care.



Thank you for supporting Fair Trade at Advent!



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 members in need. If you or your family are experiencing an illness, hospital stay, or other situation where meals, rides, or other services would be helpful, please let Pastor Mark or the church office know. We will organize our church family to provide whatever is needed.



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

Sunday Church School Offerings

Advent is collecting Sunday Church School offerings this school year for Lutheran Disaster Response which brings hope, healing, and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters. Please encourage students to participate in the SCS offering by sharing their blessings with others. Thank you for helping others who are suffering.

[CLICK HERE for Information About Lutheran Disaster Response](#)

Bread Drop Service Project

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



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



E-Meal Ministry

Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Souderton needs volunteers to help with their E-Meal Ministry which supports those struggling with hunger. Volunteers are needed each week, Monday through Saturday mornings. Please click on the link below to volunteer. For more information, contact Emmanuel Lutheran Church at 215-723-7514. Thank you for supporting our neighbors!

[SIGN UP HERE to Volunteer with the E-Meal Program](#)

Shepherd's Shelf

Shepherd's Shelf is a local emergency food cupboard located at Christ Lutheran Church, 2211 Mainland Road, Harleysville. Volunteers (ages 12+) are needed on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Tuesday mornings to distribute food items to those in need. Please click on the link below to volunteer. Thank you for supporting our neighbors!



[SIGN UP HERE to Volunteer at Shepherd's Shelf](#)

Keystone Opportunity Center Immediate Needs

The list of Immediate Needs is updated weekly to include the most current items needed by families. Donations can be delivered to Keystone Opportunity Center at 104 Main Street in Souderton Monday through Thursday from 9am-4pm; money can be donated through the website; and/or pantry items can be purchased from Amazon through the website. Please click on the link below to see the Immediate Needs website. Thank you for supporting our neighbors!



[CLICK HERE to Donate Immediate Needs](#)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Zane DaLuz 04/01	Jen Forwood 04/20	Marcus Smith 04/??	Emma Foglio 04/28
Jess Padlaszek 04/02	James Gottlieb 04/20	Kendall Moyer 04/??	Carson Bergey 04/28
Pam White 04/02	Julea Foley 04/21	Mathew Foley 04/01	Sophia Foglio 04/28
Ethan Hammond 04/04	Rosemary Forsythe 04/21	Merlyn Singh-Hueter 04/01	Michael Whitner 04/29
Kristen Heck 04/07	Kevin McClure 04/22	Skylar Taylor 04/03	Ben Solomon 04/29
Ryan Farrell 04/09	Lauren McClure 04/26	Sharon Strayer 04/05	Penelope Padlaszek 04/30
Sandi Fisher 04/10	Bill Kesack 04/27	Caroline Kelly 04/06	Paxton Padlaszek 04/30
Lucy Holloway 04/11	Nate Taylor 04/29	Eva Garges 04/09	
Chase Latchic 04/11	Ed Fisher 04/29	Zoey Bergey 04/09	
Jackie LaCava 04/13	Juliana Rohrbaugh 04/30	Samuel Stratton 04/10	
Diana McClure 04/14	Ingrid Dale-Ali 04/30	Jo Wilhelmson 04/20	
Jackson Fusco 04/17		Diana McClure 04/27	
Garrett Ryan 04/17			

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, April 15 at 10am

Advent's Prayer Shawl Ministry

Wrapping Others in Comfort, Love, and Prayer

We bring together caring hands and compassionate hearts to knit, crochet, or sew shawls and lap blankets. As we create each piece, we meditate on God's grace and hope these items bless those in need. You may gift them to anyone experiencing illness, loss, or facing a tough time in life. You may also gift them for celebration, or other significant life moments. Anyone may ask for one for themselves, a friend, or a family member. They do not need to be a member of Advent.

Our Mission: To offer warmth, hope, and spiritual support to members of our community and beyond—one stitch at a time.

Who Can Participate? All skill levels welcome (beginners to experts!)

How You Can Help—Join us to knit or crochet shawls. Donate yarn or supplies.

Contact: Eileen Solomon – galaxy795x@gmail.com

PRAYER CONCERNS

Members in our Prayers

Sandi Fisher, Aaron Ali, Sy Ali, Betty Johnson, Ruth Swingle, Ben Potter, Natalie Allen,
Sue Chomenko, Becky Hartman, Gary Strayer

Families that are Grieving

Steve and Janine Nevin and family and friends, at the death of Steve's mother's longtime companion, Mel Funk

Donna Renner, and Mary Lynn Morasco and family and friends, at the death of Donna's father, Mary Lynn's grandfather, David Krause

Joan and Joe Kelley and family and friends at the death of Joan's sister, Gladys Pouchan

Joel, Karen, Bradley and Jeremy Evans and family and friends at the death of Joel's father, Don Evans

Friends and Families in our Prayers

Ryan Singh (nephew of Merlyn and Pastor Mark Singh-Hueter)

Alice O'Connor (aunt of Eileen Solomon),

Matt and Sophie Finely (nephew of Rose Buetikofer)

Willie and Fran Krebel (friends of Sue Macfadden)

Prayers for those in the Military and Abroad

Corey Clark, Carlton Christie, Emily Kavanaugh, Jake Forwood, War in Iran

*"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings
should be made for everyone,..." [1 Timothy 2.1]*

