

**May
2021**



The Candle

Pastor's Message

I will admit it, I am a sucker for "Survival" shows... "Alone," "Naked and Afraid," "Naked and Afraid XL," etc. I find it fascinating to see individuals attempting

to survive, live or thrive in difficult situations with very few tools, living in situations surrounded by only nature and none of the trappings of modern life. Taking away all the distractions of life and living alone or with others, a common theme in these shows it that being alone is the most difficult challenge of all – as people, we are meant to live together. However, another theme is that living with other people can sometimes be more challenging than finding food, water, or shelter.

We need each other. And we can find it difficult to live with one another. That is true in relationships, families and communities including congregations or the Church.

These have been stressful times and our differences are often the first thing we focus on when dealing with others. We disagree about an issue and judge one another based on each other's particular opinion or stance.

It would be easy to say, "It is what it is" and give up hope of things ever being different. However, as followers of Jesus, we are called to do just that – be different. In fact, Jesus told his disciples that others would be drawn to Him as they observed Jesus in the lives of his followers. He said – "They will know you are my disciples by your love."

I will also admit that I have been found lacking in this more so than usual as of late. The pandemic has taken a toll on us all and I, as your pastor, have not been the best at modeling the very lifestyle I preach from the pulpit. For this, I ask forgiveness and seek to do better going forth. Lately, a passage that has been both challenging and, yet, comforting to me has been one found in Paul's letter to the Ephesians,

"Watch the way you talk. Let nothing foul or dirty come out of your mouth. Say only what helps, each word a gift. Don't grieve God. Don't break his heart. His Holy Spirit, moving and breathing in you, is the most intimate part of your life, making you fit for himself. Don't take such a gift for granted. Make a clean break with all cutting, backbiting, profane talk. Be gentle with one another, sensitive. Forgive one another as quickly and thoroughly as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:29-32

May we allow the Spirit of the Risen Christ transform us into His likeness.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Steve

dates to Remember



Blood Drive
May 8
9am-3pm



Mother's Day
May 9



Last Day of Youth
Sunday School
May 16



"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
Romans 15:13

The Reconciling in Christ (RIC) program recognizes Lutheran congregations, synods, organizations, colleges, and seminaries that publicly declare their welcome to people of all sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions. Inaugurated in 1983 with just a few congregations scattered across the United States and Canada, the program has grown to include hundreds of faith communities. No matter the setting, the welcoming statement is affirmed and accepted by the whole community. The RIC roster has become known as a resource for people seeking a community prepared to welcome them.

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY –The Brown Bag Bible Study group meets on the fourth Thursday of every month from 12-1:30 p.m. – unless otherwise agreed upon in order to accommodate such things as conflicts with holidays etc. We are currently meeting on Zoom and will continue to do so indefinitely. Each month we will focus on a different book of the Bible – from Genesis to Revelation. This Bible study will be light and informal. In other words – FUN. You DO NOT have to be a Bible scholar to



participate. There will be no books to purchase. Just bring your Bible. You DO NOT have to attend every session. If you have to miss one or more sessions, that will be no problem. Just dive back in whenever you can. If you are interested in participating, please call, email or text Tim Krueger or Becky Spudich. Their contact information is in the current Church directory.



Prayer Chain

Do you wish to feel strengthened and fulfilled by offering your time to help others? Nothing could be more gratifying than lifting someone up in prayer in their time of need.

Please contact Sue Keeley @ 862.2790 or by e-mail at suesworkout@att.net if you would like to become part of the prayer chain ministry, or if you have any questions. Prayer is Powerful!!

+ ++ ++ +

Pastor Prayer Intercessors

May 1-7	Doreen Mattson, Isabel Tomer
May 8-14	Christine Noble, Mary Jo Jones
May 15-21	Jenny Dubeansky, Sara Coleman
May 22-28	Becky Spudich, Nancy Shorts
May 29-June 4	Nancy Marshaus, Rose Schrum



Prayer & Spirituality

"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go to the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1



Points from your Parish Nurse

- ♥ Believe it or not, it is May! And the pandemic is not over! But the vaccine is available to all those who want it. I hope you have received yours by now or scheduled to receive it soon. I received the Pfizer vaccine in 2 doses and feel protected. I still wear a mask in public, stay socially distant and wash my hands often. Life as we knew it may never be the same, but we are slowly returning to a new normal. Change is never easy but we must go with the flow and count our blessings along the way. God is still in control and we must place our trust in HIM! *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."* Phil 4: 6-7
- ♥ The Care Team Ministry will meet on Saturday, June 5 at 10am at Advent. We will follow the safety protocols by washing our hands, wearing a mask, and staying socially distant. If anyone is interested in joining us, please call/text/email me.
- ♥ The Caregivers Support Group will meet on the second Thursday, May 13 at 1pm at Advent. If you know anyone who is caring for a loved one, please invite them to our meeting.
- ♥ No better time than now to remember, *"When in doubt, Point to the Cross!"*

Your servant in Christ,
Christine Noble, Parish Nurse

Care Team



April 18-May 1	Roxana Williams, Carole Niebes, Lee Sundblom
May 2-15	Mary Hofer, Sandy Kehler, Joanne Armao
May 16-29	Susan Enzerra, Bonnie Reppert Denise Janosko

Upcoming Blood Drive

Saturday, May 8
9am-3pm.

call 1.800.RED.CROSS

~or~

RedCrossBlood.org
Key word: Advent



*"For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment,
You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Galatians 5:14*

Council Minutes - March

Members in Attendance: Pastor Steve, Dave Mattson, Jim Williams, Eric Williamson, Denise McClanahan, Bob Adkins, Jo Brantweiner, Thomas Knowles, Karen Wallster, Lida Mackey, Dave Cattani, Rick Hofer

Members Excused: Greg Preske, Cherie Moore

Guest in Attendance: Mark Toth

Opening Prayer and Meeting Called to Order at 7:14 p.m. : Dave Mattson

Devotion – Lida Mackey

Approval of February Meeting Minutes – Motion made and seconded, Minutes approved.

Pastor Steve's Report –

COVID-19 as it Relates to Worship –

Updated CDC Guidelines – Pastor Steve provided updates to the guidelines in his written report that outlines new gathering/mask rules for persons vaccinated vs unvaccinated and combinations of persons. This does not yet effect our decision to gather indoors. Currently we are still waiting for Orange or Yellow Zones to start the Reopening Process.

- * Pastor Steve said that for the very near future we are looking into restarting the outdoor services with possibly tarps and heaters for Pastor and the Praise Team
- * Discussion Generated from Pastor's Report Items:
 - * Denise McClanahan recommends that the group responsible for creating the Reopening Guidelines meet again to review due to the new CDC information. Thomas agrees and Dave M. advises it should happen a.s.a.p.
 - * Dave will check with Doreen, to see if she is available to be a part of this team as well, to represent Worship and Music.

Pastor Vacation – Pr. Steve let Council know that he will be taking 1-2 weeks vacation. He would like council input on who we would like to step in for services in his absence. Suggestions were made for both a Layperson, as well as an Ordained Pastor. Pastor Steve will check into it.

Approval of Pastor's Report: Motion made and seconded, Pastor's Report approved.

Visiting Guest Mark Toth –

- * Mark has come to the meeting to express his views with Council about the need to reopen the Church for indoor activities.
- * Mark communicated that he has seen guidelines stating that vaccinated people can meet with more than just household members
- * He has expressed his desire to see protocols put in place to worship indoors within the next 5 to 10 days.
- * Mark has asked why does the Red Zone negate the protocols we are willing to put in place when we reach the Orange Zone
 - * Discussion was had between Mark and Council and Dave Mattson thanked Mark for coming to express his ideas and concerns. Council will consider all points made, as well as his requests, and make determinations with the most solid scientific and medical guidance possible.

Treasurer's Report – Eric Williamson
General Fund

Income YTD \$55,928.99 (\$3,712.99 or 7.1% above plan)

Expenditures YTD: \$48,254.67 (\$11,183.33 or 18.8% below plan)

Ministry Team Expenditures \$4,722.10 below plan

Motion made and seconded, Treasurer's Report approved

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

Ministry Team Reports –

Reports Received – Dave received: Finance, Prayer & Spirituality, Worship and Music, Health & Wellness

No Worship & Music meeting will be held in April

Administrative/Housekeeping Items:

April 2021 Devotion – Dave Cattani

Old Business –

Becky Young Surgery –

Dave M. advised that he and Jo B. have done the upkeep needed at this time.

Becky is cleared for light duty for roughly a month

SPC and Survey Update – Pr. Steve

The second round of Listening Posts were completed, these being with half of the youths of the Congregation

Electronic Sign – Dave Mattson

The sign process is progressing. We need a break in the weather to install.

PPP Loan/Grant – Rick Hofer

Rick is reviewing the requirements and will possibly apply for Grant. He has asked Dave Mattson to act as his counterpart with this as well.

Vouchers, Expense Approval, and Payment – Rick Hofer

With the current state of affairs, Rick advised that all he needs is the receipt and where to bill it to. This can be sent to him in any way it is convenient for you.

He said he can send the PDF of the actual Voucher form, so you will have it if you choose to use it now, or will have it for the future.

Staff, Council Members and Ministry Team Leads are all able to approve expenditures.

In Person Worship – Already covered in Pastor's Report and Guest Visitor

New Council Member Orientation and Code of Ethics – Tabled by Pr. Steve due to time constraints. More to come in the future.

Social Media Policy – Bob Adkins

Bob created a draft of a policy to be used as a guideline for Social Media

Denise M. would prefer to change verbiage or remove the words "disciplinary action"

Bob will forward the document for Dave Lenz to review for legal appropriateness.

New Business –

Bob Adkins has volunteered to look into reformatting our Drop Box files

He will meet with Sue K. to review.

How to increase a feeling of connectedness:

Three meetings this Thursday, 03/11/2021

Meeting times: 12:00, 2:00, 7:00

Motion to Adjourn: Motion made and seconded, Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Next Council Meeting 4/19/21 (3rd Monday) at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,
Cyndi Kehler, Council Secretary



Council Minutes

Luther in History

Martin Luther was born to Hans Luder (or Ludher, later Luther) and his wife Margarethe (née Lindemann) on 10 November 1483 in Eisleben, County of Mansfeld in the Holy Roman Empire. Luther was baptized the next morning on the feast day of St. Martin of Tours. His family moved to Mansfeld in 1484, where his father was a leaseholder of copper mines and smelters and served as one of four citizen representatives on the local council; in 1492 he was elected as a town councilor.

The religious scholar Martin Marty describes Luther's mother as a hard-working woman of "trading-class stock and "middling means" and notes that Luther's enemies later wrongly described her as a whore and bath attendant. He had several brothers and sisters and is known to have been close to one of them, Jacob. Hans Luther was ambitious for himself and his family, and he was determined to see Martin, his eldest son, become a lawyer. He sent Martin to Latin schools in Mansfeld, then Magdeburg in 1497, where he attended a school operated by a lay group called the Brethren of the Common Life, and Eisenach in 1498. The three schools focused on the so-called "trivium": grammar, rhetoric, and logic. Luther later compared his education there to purgatory and hell. In 1501, at age



17, he entered the University of Erfurt, which he later described as a beerhouse and whorehouse. He was made to wake at four every morning for what has been described as "a day of rote learning and often wearying spiritual exercises." [18] He received his master's degree in 1505.

Graduation Information

It's that time of year where we would like to acknowledge those who are graduating...high school, college, grad school. Please contact the church office with info (257.5565 or you may email: adventmentor1@sbcglobal.net)

We need their: name, where they are graduating from, college attending or future plans.

Please be sure to get your information to the church office by Friday, May 14.

May God Bless all of our graduates!



Last Day of Youth Sunday School

May 16



Have a great summer !!

"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul." 3 John 2

Attending In-Person Worship: What You Need to Know

Worship Information:

- We will be returning to in-person worship on **Sunday, May 2nd**. There will be ONE worship service at 9:00am. This service will be simultaneously in-person and livestreamed.
- We will continue to alternate services in-person - 1st and 3rd weeks will be a traditional service, 2nd and 4th weeks will be contemporary. For the month of May, this translates to the following:
 May 2nd - 9:00am Traditional Service ▪ May 9th - 9:00am Contemporary Service
 May 16th - 9:00am Traditional Service ▪ May 23rd - 9:00am Contemporary Service
 May 30th - TBA
- In-person worship will be limited to 50 people each week (including staff and worship assistants). **Reservations will need to be made in advance by calling the office at 440-257-5565. Please call during office hours Mon-Thurs to register for the upcoming Sunday. Registration will be first come first serve and can only be made for the upcoming Sunday. If calling outside of office hours please leave a voicemail.**

Before worship:

- Self-screen prior to entering the building for any signs or symptoms of illness (ex: fever, cough, nausea, etc). If you are exhibiting any signs or symptoms of illness please return home until you are symptom free for a minimum of 24 hours or have been cleared to return to church by a medical provider.

When you arrive for worship/during worship/after worship:

- Please park in the **REAR church parking lot**. There will be a check-in table at the main rear doors of the building leading into the narthex. **PLEASE DO NOT** come in the front doors, as we will need to check in each person for capacity purposes.
- Face coverings are **mandatory** at all times when in the church building and must cover both the nose and mouth.
- Perform hand hygiene upon entering and exiting the building, as well as when needed while in the building. Hand sanitizer stations are located at all entrances plus bathrooms are available for soap and water method.
- Seating will be marked within the sanctuary accordingly to accommodate the 6 feet recommendation.
- Ushers will direct persons as they enter the sanctuary to an appropriate seat. Seating will begin from front to back. Ushers will direct individuals following the service row by row to leave immediately following worship. **Please wait for an usher** before being seated/before exiting after service.
- Maintain social distance from people outside of your immediate household. While within the building **maintain 6 feet distance** from the next person.
- Abstain from eating or drinking while in the building (exception is communion).
- There will be no physical contact within or after worship (ex: "sign of peace," distribution of communion")
- Music worship leaders will be singing with masks on and behind plexiglass dividers. The congregation is asked **not** to participate in singing during the service.
- Windows will be open in the sanctuary during worship to improve ventilation.
- An offertory plate will be at the entrance of the sanctuary for donations. Electronic giving is also available.
- Following worship, the sanctuary will be cleaned and sanitized using a germ fogger including the pews and surfaces. Please exit the building as soon as possible following service so that this cleaning can take place.

"Through love, serve one another" Galatians 5:13

Service Outreach Update

Care Kits

Wow! What an amazing response for the collection of Person Care Kits! You donated several hundred kits that will be distributed through Lutheran World Relief. Extra thanks to Joan Hamm and Yvonne Kulma who organized kit collections through their students.

Hannah's Home Fundraiser

This year Hannah's Home, a maternity home for single pregnant women, will again be running their "Baby Bottle Boomerang" fundraiser. We will distribute bottles at the parking-lot service on Mother's Day and collect them until Father's Day. You can also find more information or make an online donation at:

<https://www.hannahshome.org/donate/>

"We-Care" Update (from Mentor Public Schools)

We have received several updates and notes of thanks from the We Care program at Mentor Schools. We are helping several families struggling to pay due to COVID unemployment and a few single parent families. In their most recent update they also note that: *"We are now assisting 13 children/8 families with your donation! We just added 3 children who are considered homeless, a child (along with older siblings) who is being raised by her great-grandmother, and yet another who was missing a lot of school because she wasn't getting to school in time because of family issues. All of these children are now in a safe place before and after school where we know they are being cared for by our staff, are receiving breakfast/snacks, and are spending much needed time with peers. Thank you AGAIN to all of your parishioners who so generously gave to help our We Care families in need."*

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry at St. Andrews continues to provide curbside service to our Neighbors who are food insecure.

The church is certainly NOT closed - we are still working together to serve our neighbors and show God's love. Thank you to everyone who has been a part of our efforts during these unusual times.



To communicate who you are

The RIC roster is published on our website in the form of our RICX Map; many LGBTQIA+ people and their friends and families use this tool in their search for a faith community that fits. RIC is a great way for people to know that hospitality for all people is a value of your community.

Food Pantry Donations needed for the month of May:

Toothpaste & Detergent
Volunteers Needed



Why would a faith community want to be on the RIC list? Perhaps you feel that your congregation is already welcoming to all people; what difference could having an explicit welcome statement make? Below is one of the reasons we've heard from RIC settings why it is beneficial to the people in their community to be known as RIC.

Worship & Music: Help Needed!

Worship and Music is looking for a new coordinator for our Bread Baking mission. Chelley Bond (thank you for your years of service!) is retiring. We need a new leader to organize our bakers. We generally provide communion bread twice a month for our services. Please contact Denise McClanahan (352-8025) via phone or email if you are interested in this meaningful, but easy service to our church. If you are interested in baking, but not leading, we are also always looking for bakers. We can provide you with a recipe or you can use your own. In addition, bread can be made ahead and frozen here at the church. Thank you for your consideration!

Pierstorf Memorial Loan Fund



Provides interest-free loans to Lutheran students who are or will be enrolled full time in a four-year undergraduate program at any accredited college or university.

This year, the maximum interest-free loan is \$3,000 for the school year. For information, visit www.pierstorf.org.

Complete the 2021-2022 application by visiting the website. The deadline for all applications is Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

Questions, please contact:
pierstorf@messiahfp.org

Please see page 7 of this newsletter for **In-Person Worship Information**

May Altar Flowers

2	OPEN
9	OPEN
16	OPEN
23	OPEN
30	OPEN



June Altar Flowers

6	OPEN
13	Noble
20	OPEN
27	OPEN

May Altar Guild:
Becky Young

The **2021 Flower Chart** is ready to be filled. Please call or email the church office if you have a special date you would to reserve for altar flowers.

Finance Update • March 31, 2021

GENERAL FUND

Balance 1/1/21	\$ 49,926.52	49,926.52	
Income	77,724.67	73,386.00	4,338.67
Expenditures	67,399.88	85,166.00	16,766.12

Ending Balance March 31, 2021	\$59,251.31	\$38,146.52	\$ 21,104.79
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BUILDING FUND/ EXISTING MORTGAGE

Balance 1/1/21	\$15,457.18	\$15,457.18	
Income			
Expenditures	5,000.00		(5,000.00)

Ending Balance March 31, 2021	\$ 10,457.18	\$ 15,457.18	\$ (5,000.00) No Mortgage
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DESIGNATED/ RESTRICTED FUNDS

Balance 1/1/21	\$131,993.79
Income	9,309.50
Expenditures	15,016.65
Ending Balance March 31, 2021	\$126,286.64

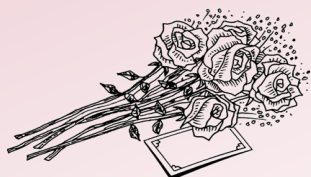
Treasurer's Report with Fund Balances are posted at the end of each month on the council bulletin board in the hallway.

From the Office

Deadline Reminder:

Newsletter information: by the 15th of the month

Happy Mother's Day • May 9



The church phone directory for 2021 is being worked on. PLEASE call or email the church office if you have a new phone number (cell) or email address that you wish to add or change.



Emails: There is a good deal of church information that is sent via email (E-Blasts/ Newsletters). If over the years you had "opted-out" of receiving E-Blasts and now wish to receive them, please contact the church office so we can "re-invite" you.

**To submit items to *The Candle*, contact:
Sue Keeley - Office Administrator at 440.257.5565
You may also e-mail your information to:
adventmentor1@sbcglobal.net.**

ADVENT'S STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Steven C. Bond	710.4757
Office Administrator: Sue Keeley	862.2790
Organist: Elizabeth Sumiejski	255.5489
Chancel Choir Director: Doreen Mattson	946.5043
Praise Team Director: Tracy Ammon	749.0690
Parish Nurse: Christine Noble	346.3120
Youth Director:	

OFFICE HOURS

Administrative Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8am-5pm (phones answered at 9am)
Friday: 8am-12pm

Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 9am - 1pm / Friday: Day off
"It is always best to call in advance for an appointment as his schedule may take him out of the office even during these times"
Cell phone: 440.710.4757 / Email: pastorstevebond@aol.com

Parish Nurse

Monday, 10am - 2pm

VOLUNTEER CONTACTS

Greeters

Isabel Tomer (9am)	974.1396
Robyn Lojek (11:30am)	974.8464

Worship Assistants (6pm)

Lisha Ciani	216.905.5306
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Lay Assistants and Bread Givers

Doreen Mattson	946.5043
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Worship Assistants (9am)

	OPEN
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Worship Assistants (11am)

Jamie Milavec	882.3013
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Nursery

	OPEN
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Ushers

Bob McClanahan	352.8025
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Worship Tech

Mark Bond	639.0711
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Altar Guild Chairperson

Becky Young	257.7578
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Children's Choir Director

Jennifer Dubeansky	255.1468
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Sunday school

Beth Hamilton	669.1902
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Service Outreach

Dave Lenz	477.5679
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Food Pantry

Dave Lenz	477.5679
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Youth & Family Ministry

Beth Hamilton	669.1902
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Prayer Ministry

• Prayer Vigil	
Sue Keeley	862.2790

• Prayer Chain	
Sue Keeley	862.2790

• Healing Touch	
Christine Noble	346.3120

Meals for Members

Barb Caspell	440.840.5393
Barb Louis	352.7055

SuperHeRose Youth Group

SuperLittles

Jen Lenz	614.580.1647
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LAMB (Youth)

Nancy Marshaus	231.9483
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Membership Support

Isabel Tomer	974.1396
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Memorial Gifts

Barb Zahn	440.223.2852
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Finely Aged Ministry

Christine Noble	346.3120
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Funeral Luncheons

Christine Noble	346.3120
Bonnie Reppert	336.2228

Historian

Kathy Sneary	221.0445
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Blood Drives

Kim Schmidt	257.1047
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Webmaster

Church Office	257.5565
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Liturgical Arts

Fawn Patrick	357.7898
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Quilting

Sandy Agard	953.1494
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Cradle Roll	OPEN
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Social Media Coordinator	OPEN
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CHURCH COUNCIL

Pr. Steve Bond	710.4757
Dave Mattson (President)	946.5043
Jim Williams (Vice-President)	622.5165
Denise McClanahan	352.8025
Karen Wallster	255.3471
Cherie Moore	623.308.9514
Bob Adkins	832.971.6414
Thomas Knowles	440.428.5835
Jo Brantweiner	944.4465
Greg Preske	216.317.8148
Eric Williamson	622.8423
Dave Cattani	440.269.0705
Lida Mackey	354-3700

Council Secretary

Cyndi Kehler	479.5639
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Treasurer

Rick Hofer	814.490.3127
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Financial Secretary

Becky Spudich	953.1830
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Asst. Treasurer

Eric Williamson	622.8423
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MUTUAL MINISTRY

Deb Laukiavich	942.0307
Gary Swanson	257.8480
Bob Conklin	209.1993
Jenny Helland	974.1776
Jim Williams	622.5165

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
7985 MUNSON ROAD
MENTOR, OHIO 44060-3703

Dated Material - April 22, 2021

Smile! Know that God Loves **You!**

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Worship Schedule

- ♦ During this time of Covid-19, please be sure to check our webpage often, as worship times are changing.
- ♦ Live-Stream every Sunday @9:00am
- ♦ In-Person Worship ▪ Sunday's 9:00am (currently on hold as our county is in the "Red Level")
- ♦ Sunday School: 10:15am ▪ all ages (via zoom)

ON THE WEB: www.adventmentor.org

E-mail: adventmentor1@sbcglobal.net

Pr. Steve Bond: pastorstevebond@aol.com

Christine Noble: adventparishnurse@gmail.com

Advent Welcomes You!

Welcome! With delight, we greet all who come to worship. You are sincerely welcomed and invited to be a regular worshipper here in God's house. If you are looking for a church home, you will find a ready welcome here at Advent Lutheran Church.

Welcome Friends



Rev. Steven C. Bond, Pastor

Church Office: 7985 Munson Road, Mentor OH 44060-3703 • 440.257.5565

Advent's Purpose Statement: *"Loved by God, we share Christ's love with all"*