September 2018

Advent Lutheran Church

Advent Lutheran Church Newsletter





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PHOTOS OF ADVENT LUTHERAN CHILD CENTER

By Heidi Perry, Director

August brought us lots of hot weather and, towards the end, lots of smoke as well. We were able to get in some great outdoor time and fields trips before we had to start staying inside! Always so thankful we have gym to use for our gross motor play when the smoke hits us!

Even though we run year round, September marks the beginning of the new school year for us at the Child Center. We have been busy trying to get all the paperwork ready, supplies purchased, and enrollment set! Hopefully, the smoke starts clearing out soon and that would just make everything perfect for another great year!







PHOTOS OF ADVENT LUTHERAN CHILD CENTER







PASTOR MATT'S CORNER

By Pastor Matthew Larson For the next few months I will be using a resource from Central Lutheran Church that was put together about 8 years ago. It has to do with the different parts of our worship service, or liturgy. The first two I want to share are Confession and Forgiveness and Thanksgiving for Baptism. Both are used as preludes to the liturgy of the church:

Confession and Forgiveness

Most Lutherans in this country consider public confession and absolution an essential characteristic of Lutheran Sunday worship. Strangely enough, Luther did not agree! In Luther's Church experience, there was no public confession and absolution; private confession was not only the norm, it was mandatory. For example, those who wished to receive Holy Communion were required to make a private confession before a priest and complete their penance before communing.

Luther vigorously disagreed with this practice and held that there should be no such thing as mandatory confession, and no such thing as penance. He felt that believers should go to confession only when they felt the need for forgiveness and had specific sins to confess. Luther insisted that private confession and absolution are a gift from God, and that we should use it whenever we need it. He did not feel that private confession should be eliminated. In fact, he devoted an entire section of the Small Catechism to it.

Over the centuries, however, Lutherans increasingly neglected the practice of private confession. It finally became so rare that Lutheran churches found it necessary to provide an alternative. Thus began the practice of public, general confession and absolution just before the beginning of Sunday worship. This practice became so common that people began to view it as the norm and consider it mandatory.

Periodically, then, we need some reminders:

Public confession and forgiveness is not part of the historic liturgy-it is a preparation for that liturgy. Public confession is a useful and effective preparation for worship; it reminds us of our absolute dependence upon God's grace as we approach in worship. It is, however, an option-never a requirement.

Private confession is not only available-it is the preferred option for relief of the troubled sinner's conscience.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

It is through the Sacrament of Baptism that we become week. members of Christ's Church; it is a initiation into the com-Remember, eating more fruits and veggies can be fun munity of faith. Is it not then a fitting preparation for worand it's worth it! It can Lower Your Risk of : ship to us the *Thanksgiving for Baptism* to open our hearts -Heart Disease to receive the Word and Meal? Perhaps many of us don't - Type 2 diabetes remember when we were baptized, but God does, and the -Some types of Cancers Holy Spirit calls us through our baptism to be his children -Obesity and to worship him this all our hears. If you are not yet -High Blood Pressure baptized, does that mean that you are excluded from giving , For more information, visit fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org.

thanks for the sacrament of Baptism? The happy answer is no; everyone who has a living faith in God whether baptized yet or not, has the Holy Spirit working in their lives. It is with steadfast certainty that you can believe the Holy Spirit will bring you to the font in his time.

When we prepare for worship using Thanksgiving for *Baptism*, we are encouraged to make the sign of the cross, the sign that marked us at Baptism. We are reminded that we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness through the waters of baptism.

In the prayer, we are lead through a brief history of God's use of water and the Word. We hear of creation and God's Spirit moving over the waters and how he delivered Noah and his family form the waters of the flood. We are reminded of how God lead the people of Israel through the waters as they were delivered from slavery. We visualize Jesus in the river Jordan being baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

The prayer concludes by giving thanks for the water which sustains all life but most importantly, we are compelled to give thanks for the waters of baptism which provides forgiveness of sins and bring us new life through Jesus Christ our Savior.

After the prayer has ended we are ready to join our hearts in the words and music of the Gathering Song knowing we are one in the community of faith because of God's gift of Baptism.

PARISH NURSE

By Debbie Martin

Most people know that eating fruits and vegetables is important for good health, but most of us still aren't getting enough. This September, Advent Lutheran is proud to participate in Fruits & Veggies - More Matters Month.

Eating a healthy diet with plenty of vegetables and fruits can help you:

- Lower your risk for heart disease and some types of ٠ cancer
- Maintain or reach a healthy weight
- ٠ Keep your body strong and active

Here are some ideas to help you and your family fit more fruits and vegetables into your day:

- Keep a bowl of fruit handy where the whole family can see it.
- Cut up fruits and veggies ahead of time so they're ready for quick, healthy snacks.
- Challenge your family to try a new veggie or fruit every

HAPPY HELPERS

By Forrest Diehl I sure enjoyed Pastor Matt's article in the August 2018 (last month's) issue of our Newsletter. It reminded me of a poem by John Hay:

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Another Summer

Every summer is a growing season When we experience something special As a kind of unexpected gift That affirms our self-hood In our relationships with God, Ourselves, and others. It could have happened with Our parents, our children, our relatives, Our friends, or a stranger, Maybe words from a book, Or an encounter with nature: We might call it a revelation, A seedling in our consciousness Rooting itself in our inner world; Something amid the seasons of life To which we shall return Again, and again, And find - we too keep growing.

Marlene and I had a great flight to Alaska, eight-day visit, and return flight to Spokane with friends from Spokane, but the flights and visit wasn't without "hic-ups" We visited and stayed with friends in Soldotna, located on the Kenai Peninsula. On one of the flights to Kenai, we missed the boarding call, but were successful in securing seats on the following flight. On the return flight to Spokane we were not as fortunate; the flight from Anchorage was delayed which resulted in us missing our flight from SeaTac to Spokane. We spent the night at the airport - slumped in chairs and stretched-out on the floor. We caught the 5:00 A.M. Horizon Airline flight to Spokane the following morning. While staying in Soldotna, we fished for Sockeye in the Kenai River (this year's returning Kenai sockeye salmon count was one of the lowest in history), went on a sightseeing charter boat out of Seward, viewing the Kenai Fjords' wildlife, glaciers, and fauna (great weather), and chartered a boat and went halibut fishing in the Gulf of Alaska - 3 hour boat ride to fishing area (terrible weather and seas / Marlene and her friend were sick most of the time). All in all, though, we had a great time and we returned with two 50 lb. boxes of mostly salmon fillets, with a few halibut fillets.

Because of summer activities and travelling, my attendance

cleaned sink drain in Child Center classroom; installed wall electrical cord wall fasteners in Child Center classroom: installed replacement fluorescent bulbs in Child Center classroom light fixtures; cleaned air vent/fan in ladies restroom (south hallway); sprayed weeds at naomi; replaced stool in sound station area in sanctuary; replaced filters in air handlers located on the roof; checked all furnace and air conditioner filters; filled water reservoir to the water feature located in the outside patio area; changed wording on Broadway reader board sign; organized and cleaned pew area in sanctuary; cleaned debris and litter from parking lot; swept sidewalks; etc. The aforementioned is what I know was accomplished - but much more was done. Since I don't know who did what - here is a list of names of the Happy Helpers: Harry Benton, Linda Camp, Mel Carlson, Steve Emig, Jim Gunby, George Harrison, Don Hodge, Clancy Howard, Bill Johnson, Don Newland, Ed Orr, Ken Otteman, Roger Scheurer, Kent Tibbetts, Bill Thurston, Wes Todd, Arne Weinman, Wade Wipperling, Leroy York. It doesn't really matter who accomplished a particular task - it was all done to the **Glory of God!**

The Happy Helpers meet each Thursday morning, 8:00 A.M., at the church. Coffee, tea, and "goodies are provided.

This month **Ken Otteman** provided the goodies. Thanks **Ken**! Visitors and new members are always welcome. If you can't make it by 8:00 A.M., come anytime. Usually, we finish talking by 9:00 A.M. and working by 11:00 A.M.



to Happy Helper meetings has been "spotty". Here is what I know has been accomplished: rehung pictures in conference room; installed new doorstop on Quilter's room door; adjusted door closure speed on Child Center laundry room door; repaired window lock in Child Center classroom; 4

INCOME/EXPENSE INFORMATION

Advent General <u>Fund Income/Expense</u>

	<u>July</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>			
Income	33,039.37	207,506.58			
Expense	<u>25,429.06</u>	201,380.39			
Net	7,610.31	6,126.19			
	Child Center Income/Expense				
	Child Center I	ncome/Expense			
	<u>Child Center II</u> July	ncome/Expense Year to Date			
Income					
Income Expense	<u>July</u>	Year to Date			

Notes for Advent Lutheran Church

- In July, income exceeded expenses by \$7,610.
- Sunday offering giving was higher than average due in part to having five Sundays in the month of July instead of the usual four.
- Expenses included the budgeted disbursement (10%) of benevolence dollars for the ELCA, Spokane Valley Partners, Maasai Health Systems, Lutheran Community Services and the Wenatchee Valley Lutheran Latino Ministry.
- Average monthly expenses came in \$2,638 lower than average budgeted monthly expenses.
- Average monthly income came in \$1,772 lower than average budgeted monthly income.
- Sunday offering giving for January–July 2018 was \$1,116 lower than in January–July 2017.

Notes for Advent Lutheran Child Center

- In July, income exceeded expenses by \$5,386.
- Total income for the Center increased by \$27,578 when compared to January-July of last year.
- Total expenses increased by \$16,508 when compared to Jan-July of last year.
- Payroll expenses have been lower than expected due to the Center currently being understaffed.
- The Center has reached its goal of achieving one month's expenses in reserve.

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

By Bonnie CalhounFor our Church Family and Friends: Family of Hazel
Cascaden, George Coombs, Tomas and Amy Corsini &
family, Georgia Coulston, Vi Cournyer, Genevieve
Davenport, Chuck Esser, Darlene Evans and her family,
Tillie Funk, Alisa Gergawy, Margaret Gilcrease, Donna506.58Greger & her family, Dolores Hanson, Leigh & Steve
Hopkins, Peyton Hundeby, Elinor Johnson, Alison
LaFrance, Douglas Lee, Jan Madden, Sue May, family of
Don Melchert, Eloise Monson, SaraLu Moore, Donny Moro,
Gloria Nicol, Maury Olson, Velda Oster, Herb Postlewait,
Anna Rector, Linda Reddekopp, Myrna Rehn, Shirley
Roraback, Sharon Ruth, Marvin & Darlene Schwartzen-
berger, Keith & Kimberley Shipbaugh, Gayle Shirey, Tim &
Barbara Vawter, Robin West, Leroy and Waltraud York.

For Family Members & Friends Serving in the Military:

2 Lt. Ashley Allingor-Army; 2 Lt. Zane Allingor-USAF, CPL Damien Anderson, TSG Ryan Armstrong, Major Ryan Baker, Majors Megan & Robert Barnwell, SGT Alex Baron, USAF, Capt. Jordon Bolster, Steve & Christine Coulston, CPT Christopher Finch, Robert Guyton, TSG Christine Johnson, CW2 Aaron Lang, Sr. Airman Richard Luna III, MSgt. Duncan McFarlane, Bryan McGoon, SSG Aaron Moeller, Sam Nelson, SSgt. Alex Pohle, Kurt Strigel, Sgt. Cody Strunks, Colin Wells, U.S. Air Force, Ryan Wells, TSgt Sarah Meddock, TSG Jason Wood, 1Lt. Michael West, SPC Steven West, Staff SGT Jacob McKenzie, 1 Lt. Stephen King, Airman Chase Strunk, U.S. Air Force, PVT. 1st Class Jared Martin, Recruit Rafe Rector.

For Family Members & Friends Serving in Mission Fields around the world.

If you have a **prayer request**, please send an email to the church office at **alcspokane@comcast.net** or call the church office at **(509) 928-7733**





ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

The Church Office and Child Center will be closed on Monday, September 3, in observance of Labor Day.

CONFIRMATION BEGINS!

All those entering 7th and 8th grade (and even 9th) Pastor Matt will be having an informational meeting for parents and youth on **Sunday, September 9th** after the worship service in the smaller classroom. We will be discussing the curriculum for the year and also our times together. This year is the year of the catechism so we will be going through the Small Catechism and some Church history.

There will be a **Visitation Team Meeting** on **September 10th, 11 am-1pm**, includes lunch. Please contact **Marilyn Keith at 808-3346** for questions or additional information.

Come celebrate with Christ Kitchen! We are so excited about all that God has done at Christ Kitchen and can hardly fathom the fact that we are celebrating our **20th anniversary** this year. We are thrilled to be able to share this milestone with the community on **September 10** at **First Presbyterian Church**, 318 S. Cedar Street, Spokane. We are having a luncheon (11:45 am-1pm) and a dessert (6:45 pm-8pm) and **Jill Briscoe** has graciously accepted our invitation to come and be our key note speaker for both events. Questions or to purchase tickets, contact **Christ Kitchen at (509) 325-4343.**

THE RETURN OF THE BIBLE STUDY

Yes, Pastor Matt's Bible Study will be resuming starting at different times. The **Wednesday morning group** will begin **September 12th at 9:30am**. Because of all the events in September the **Sunday morning group** will not begin until **October 7th**. Both of the studies are going to engage with the book of Exodus. It would not hurt Pastor Matt's feelings if you were to read a bit of it before the study begins!

LADIES MONTHLY BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON: On the third Saturday of each month we are joining together to celebrate those women who have birthdays in that month. We meet at 11:30 a.m. at The Max at the Mirabeau Hotel for a no-host luncheon. If you are interested in joining us please contact Marian Moseman at 927-3821 or Gerry O'Rourke at 893-0787, no later than the Wednesday before so that we can make a reservation. Come and join the fun! We plan to meet on September 15.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Pastor Matt will be leading a first communion for all those interested. This is for kids and parents (or grandparents). We will be using Dan Erlander's "A Place for You". We will meet after worship in the small classroom on **September 16th**. Please call the office to let us know if your child will be attending, we need an accurate count for the number of books we need to order.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS-Continued

FALL GOLDEN AGERS' DAY OUT AT SHOSHONE MOUNTAIN RETREAT: Tuesday, September 18: Spend a beautiful fall day up the river at Shoshone! Golden Agers' Day Out is a one day retreat especially for retirees, senior adults and older adult groups; a great day during a beautiful time of year at camp! Join us for a terrific day at Shoshone Mountain Retreat, breakfast goodies, a fabulous lunch, great friends, and plenty of laughs, as always! (Meet at the church and ready to leave by 8:15 am). Contact Linda Semmen (389-4191) for more information.

NEW FACES SUNDAY

For those of you that have been a part of our community now for the last 6-8 months but have not been formally welcomed Pastor Matt will be having a **New Faces Gathering** after the worship service on **Sunday**, **September 23rd**. We will then welcome our New Faces during the worship service on **September 30th**. Wondering why we call it New Faces? In the last decade or two the idea of "membership" has become a stumbling block for some, but not for others. We have some amazingly active people in our congregation who have not "officially" joined as members, for their own reasons. However, we still want to acknowledge their presence and activity with us soooo, New Faces. We love to have "members" of the church and we also love to see all the new faces!!

Holden Village

We have been given confirmation of our group at Holden for **October 12-15.** Pastor Matt is currently pursuing Holden with even more names. We may have a group as large as 29 people. We have 21 reserved but hope to have more. Registration and Deposit information will be coming soon.

2018 IDAHO DISCIPLESHIP CONFERENCE: You are invited to attend the 2018 Idaho Discipleship Conference. Tickets are available at www.idahodiscipleship.org. October 19-20 in Boise. Early bird pricing: \$75/adults; \$25/ages 18-30; \$10/child; \$180 family cap.

The **Happy Piecemakers** are again collecting school supplies. The **collection basket** will be on the table in the Narthex each Sunday by the sign-up sheets. **The items needed are as follows:**

70 Sheet, three ring notebooks
Blunt tip scissors
#2 pencils with eraser
Pencil sharpeners
1 ½" long eraser
16 or 24 per box Crayons

The **Advent Lutheran Endowment** has been given a gift of a decades long **stamp collection**. We have had it appraised, but we would like to see if there is any interest by you in looking at this collection and giving the Endowment a bid on the collection. If you are interested, contact **Pastor Matt.**

SUPER YOUTH TEAM

By April Marshall The school year is just about to start, and that means Sunday School for our elementary-aged kids will also be starting back up! The first day of Sunday School will be **September 9th.** We like to have a "soft" start time of **9:15 am**. If you are unfamiliar, we keep the kids with us through the beginning part of worship and then join worship in the sanctuary during the sharing of the peace. Our classes try to follow the same scripture you are hearing during the worship— we just bring it down to a level kids can understand while making it an enjoyable, often hands-on experience.

We offer two classes during worship: One class is Pre-k (age 4 and up) through 2nd grade taught by myself and Missy Bliesner and the other classes is 3rd through 6th grade taught by **Wes Todd, Bob Bendel, and Anna Tsakarestos.**

Pastor Matt also teaches **a Confirmation** course for 7th and 8th graders, and Kara Wilson and Norm Leatha lead the high school Bible study at Starbucks every Sunday after church.

There is **no** 2nd Sunday Youth and Family Fun Day scheduled for September, but watch for an exciting activity in October!

We hope to have another fun-filled, educational school year for the youth at Advent!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

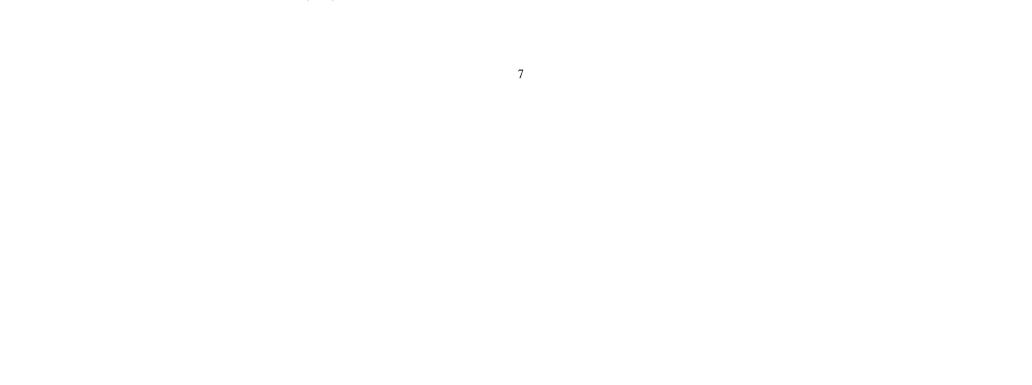
We welcome donations of the following: Oatmeal packets, granola bars, cold cereal bowls, shelf stable milk, macaroni & cheese, ravioli (canned, with meat), beef stew, chili, with meat, tuna, ramen or soup bowls, fruit or applesauce cups, cheese & crackers, pudding cups, popcorn, fruit roll-ups, small containers of laundry soap, baby diapers and wipes. Please bring your donations on Sunday to help fill the barrel!

The **Spokane Valley Partners Food Bank** is collecting donations to stock the **Inland NW Diaper Bank**. They are currently low on diaper **sizes 4, 5, & 6.** They are also accepting donations of wipes, clothing, blankets and baby hygiene products. You may bring your items here to the church and place them in the barrels.

Feed My Starving Children: The Inland Northwest MobilePack will be held for the 4th year at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 3606 S. Old Schafer Road, Spokane Valley, on Friday, September 28, 4:30 pm-6:30 pm and 7:00 pm-9:00 pm; and Saturday, September 29, 9:00 am-11:00 am and 2:30 pm-4:30 pm. 180 Volunteers are needed for each shift. This is a great opportunity (and fun!) for our youth to be involved in! Questions or to register, please contact Steve Reed at (509) 999-5540.







SEPTEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Satur- day
						1
2 9:30 am Worship Service/ Communion After Worship Coffee Fellowship 10:45 am High School Bible Study at Starbucks 7:30 pm Al-Anon; AA Meeting	3 Labor Day Church Office & Child Center Closed	4 9:00 am Happy Piecemakers 5:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Cub Scouts F/106/158	5	6 8:00 am Happy Helpers Happy Cut-Ups 10:30 am ALCC Board Mtg. 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:30 pm AA Meeting 106	7 6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Denney's Restaurant	8 5:00 -8:00 pm AA Group Potluck
 9 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service/ Communion After Worship Coffee Fellowship Confirmation Orientation 10:45 am High School Bible Study at Starbucks 7:30 pm Al-Anon; AA Meeting 	10 11:00 am-1:00 pm Visitation Team Meeting with lunch 6:00 pm Super Youth Team Mtg. 6:30 pm Worship & Music Committee 7:00 pm Boy Scouts F/158	11 9:00 am Happy Piecemakers 6:00 pm Council Meeting Cub Scouts F/106/158	12 9:30 am Mid-week Bible Study 106	13 8:00 am Happy Helpers Happy Cut-Ups 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:30 pm AA Meeting 106	14 6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast- Denny's Restaurant	15 11:30 am Ladies Birthday Lunch Group The Max at Mirabeau
16 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service/ Communion After Worship Coffee Fellowship Happy Cut-Ups Monthly Card Sale First Communion Class 10:45 am High School Bible Study at Starbucks	17 7:00 pm Boy Scouts F/158	18 8:15 am Golden Agers' Day Out-Leave for Shoshone 9:00 am Happy Piecemakers 6:00-pm Cub Scouts F/106/158	19 9:30 am Mid-week Bible Study 106 5:30 pm Head of Committee Meeting	20 8:00 am Happy Helpers Happy Cut-Ups 6:30 pm Praise Team AA Gratitude Banquet Planning Mtg. 106 7:30 pm AA Meeting 106	21 6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Denney's Restaurant 9am-11am SVP Food Sorting 9:30 am Child Center Chapel	22
7:30 pm Al-Anon; AA Meeting 23 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service/ Communion After Worship Coffee Fellowship New Faces Gathering 10:45 am High School Bible Study at Starbucks 7:30 pm Al-Anon 122; AA Meeting	24 7:00 pm Boy Scouts F/158 Newsletter Deadline	25 9:00 am Happy Piecemakers 6:00-pm Cub Scouts F/106/158	26 9:30 am Mid-week Bible Study 106	27 8:00 am Happy Helpers Happy Cut-Ups 6:30 pm Praise Team Practice 7:30 pm AA Meeting 106	28 6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Denney's Restaurant 9:30 am Child Center Chapel	29
30 'Fill the Shelf' Sunday 'New Faces' Sunday God's Work. Our Hands. 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service/ Communion After Worship Coffee Fellowship 10:45 am High School Bible Study at Starbucks						

7:30 pm Al-Anon 122;			
AA Meeting			

Ministry Description	September 2 (Labor Day Weekend) 9:30 am	September 9 9:30 am	September 16 9:30 am	September 23 9:30 am	September 30 9:30 am
Communion Assistants (4)	Sherry Leatha Marian Moseman Karen Nelson Shelle Seaholm	Kathy Bowers Babs Velategui	Missy Bliesner Francie Shoquist		Missy Bliesner Katy Brownlee Francie Shoquist
Assisting Minister (1)	Jeffrey Zaleski	Kara Wilson	Kara Wilson	Jeffrey Zaleski	Duane Yates
Reader (1)	Lily Bliesner	Barb Potter	Lily Bliesner		Lily Bliesner
Acolyte (1)	Sydnee Banna	Atiya Yeoman	Lily Bliesner	Lily Bliesner	Noah Bliesner
Media (1) Person		John Henry Wiegand	Sharon Pegau	John Henry Wiegand	
Ushers (3-4)	George Harrison Don Hodge	Steve Wiegand	Scott & Bonnie Rehn	Bob Hubert	Scott & Bonnie Rehn
Greeters (2-4)	Missy Bliesner		Bob & Cherlyn Hubert	Jeff & Margo Peck	Katy Brownlee Chris Worth
Altar Flowers	Taylor	Norm & Sherry Leatha			Marilyn Keith
Fellowship Hosts	Missy & Lily Bliesner	Rick & Babs Velategui	Missy Bliesner Francie Shoquist	Norm & Sherry Leatha	Missy & Noah Bliesner
Cookies (4 people, 4 dozen each)	Missy Bliesner Twila O'Gallagher	Babs Velategui	Missy Bliesner Linda Semmen	Bob & Cherlyn Hubert Margo Peck	Missy Bliesner Scott & Bonnie Rehn

SEPTEMBER HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE

Team #3 Leaders: SaraLu Moore 993-4564

Rick & Babs Velategui: 926-9858

"Share with God's people,Practice Hospitality" Romans 12:13 (NIV)

Advent Lutheran Church 13009 E Broadway Spokane Valley, WA 99216

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<u>SUNDAY</u>

9:30 am Worship Service with Holy Communion10:45 am High School Bible Study at Starbucks on Sprague

"Called by God's Grace to Love and Serve"

