

# Advent Lutheran Church Newsletter



## LETTER FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

By Denise Walker

Happy New Year Advent!

This year brings a fresh start for new opportunities and goals for the church. The key to making 2025 the best year is by starting with a positive mindset. As we reflect on the past accomplishments and remember that some projects still need to be completed, we can contemplate the possibilities for new projects and seek guidance when needed. Proverbs 16:3 reminds us "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans".

At the recent December Council meeting, following are some ideas discussed:

- a. approved the November 12th Council meeting minutes
- b. discussed the Church debit cards
- c. discussed the transfer of the current church bus
- d. reviewed the following: Congregational meeting and the passed 2025 budgets, current fundraising events, new upcoming Country Night/ Friday Night Dinner on January 17th, Santa Lucia and the Chili Cook-off/Hayride
- e. Discussed the Thrivent Endowment Fund annual withdrawal
- f. Prepare a Church safety plan
- g. Approved staff bonuses
- h. Reviewed the progress of the new Advent website by Brad Benson

In closing, I am truly excited for the upcoming year. I look forward to continuing to work with the Council to reach our goals, both old and new. Our wonderful congregation has always been welcoming to the community, you are creative, thoughtful and encouraging when presented with new ideas and everyone has such positive attitudes when volunteering for a multitude of events. I want to share a quote by Winston Churchill that sums up my thoughts, "Success is not final; failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts".

Blessings for a wonderful new year!  
Denise

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## HAPPY HELPERS

By Forrest Diehl

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!** I sure have been enjoying **Pastor Matt's** bible study on the Book of Revelation, as I know many of you have. In addition to the weekly bible study class each Thursday, **Pastor Matt** has been sharing his Book insights with those of us who attend the Men's Friday Morning Prayer Breakfast. Until learning about the Roman censorship while John was exiled on the island of Patmos, I couldn't understand why John would write such a clear and direct gospel about Jesus Christ in his Book of John – and then in Revelation, use such extreme imagery and seem weird – that I could not understand it. It certainly would be interesting to visit the seven cities in Turkey – but with today's global strife in the Middle East, I would recommend not doing so. **Pastor Matt** has sparked both intrigue and curiosity in the Book of Revelation for me, and I join those in the Bible Study and Men's Prayer Breakfast in thanking him. **Thanks Pastor Matt!**

Oh, speaking of the Men's Prayer Breakfast – in the past, we have been meeting regularly at the Denny's restaurant located on the corner of Sprague and Pines. About a month ago, it closed its doors and since then we have been meeting at the Denny's located on Argonne, next to the Motel 6, just north of I-90, Argonne off-ramp. We were delighted that our regular waitress, Karen, moved to that location also, and continues to serve us each Friday. However, the seating arrangement and the ceiling music speaker location at this Denny's are not ideal for all to participate and hear (usually there are 7 – 10 of us who attend). So, we are currently in the throws of seeking a possible new location that fits everyone's preference of cost, location, selection of food, seating arrangement, etc. – not an easy task for a group of Lutheran men. Watch for updates while the group tries other places and decide whether they/we are moving or staying.

Thanks to the Church Council and Staff (**Denise Walker, Tom Sernka, Belle Campbell, Pastor Matt, Linda Tomkins, Terry Powell, Linda Young, Kallie Haveman, Carol Johnson, Linda Tompkins, Cindy Falk, Heidi Perry, Vicar Brendan Wiechert, and Cheryl Tobin**) for the informative and well-orchestrated Congregational Meeting we had on Sunday, 8 December.

## HAPPY HELPERS-Continued

Our congregational president, **Denise Walker** did an outstanding job in preparing and smoothly guiding us through the meeting's agenda. And thanks to all who helped prepare and publish the informative financial booklet explaining the church and Child Center 2025 budget. Having the booklet available to the congregation weeks in advance, before the meeting, sure helps the congregation review and understand the budgets before voting on them. Thank-You!

More funnies:

Once you hit a certain age, life just becomes a delicate balance between trying to stay awake and trying to fall asleep, while slowly getting worse at each.

People are prisoners of their phones. That is why they are called cell phones.

Fitted sheets: Making a bed shouldn't be like putting a swimming cap over a fridge.

Be careful when following the masses – sometimes the "m" is silent.

It amazes me how much "exercise" and "extra fries" sound the same.

I can't afford an Ancestry DNA Kit, so instead, I posted online that I won the lottery.

I get most of my exercise these days from shaking my head in disbelief.

"Greetings from planet IKEA! We come in pieces."

The word "politics" is derived from "poly" – which means many and "ticks" – which means parasites.

My friend said "meet me at the vinyl shop in 45." I made it there in 33, which was a record time.

I'm still trying to get my head around the fact that "Take Out" applies to food, dating, or murder.

To me, music is like candy – you throw away the rapper!

The correct term for gluten-free sugarless vegan brownies is "compost".

### HAPPY HELPERS-Continued

Here are some tasks that were done during the month of December involving the Happy Helpers: set-up Christmas Tree in the Sanctuary and prepared it for decorating (**Wade Wippering, Dave Cook, Bob Hubert, Butch Yarnell**); hung wall Christmas decorations in sanctuary, narthex, gym (**Francie & Darrell Shoquist, and all – Thank-You!**); decorated the Sharing Christmas Tree (**Marlene Diehl, Cheryl Tobin**); removed, cleaned, and reinstalled doorway plastic threshold strip between conference room and narthex (**Wade Wippering, Bob Hubert**); spot cleaned food and grime from gym carpet (**Wade Wippering, Dave Cook, George Harrison**); took down flag from outside patio area and stored it (**Wade Wippering, Bill Thurston**); resecured loose ceiling light fixture latches to access panel in Child classroom (**Bill Thurston**); ordered replacement children toilet tank lid for broken one (**Happy Helpers**); constructed and emplaced temporary toilet tank lid to replace broken one in Child Center classroom (**Wade Wippering**); tightened child crib railing in Child Center Classroom (**Dave Cook, George Harrison, Bill Thurston**); purchased new hot water heater for sacristy (**Dave Cook**); installed new hot water heater in the sacristy (**Wade Wippering, Dave Cook, Bill Thurston**); installed new clamps that fasten the sacristy sink to the counter top (**Dave Cook, Wade Wippering**); finished decorating the sanctuary Christmas tree (**Bill Thurston, Jack Ishitani**); stored left-over vinyl laminate for Child Center (**Wade Wippering, Dave Cook**); removed old vinyl laminate and installed and sealed new countertop laminate in Child Center classroom (**Thomas DeWitt – Thank-You!**); set up tables and chairs for Sunday Fellowship Coffee Hours (**George Harrison, Butch Yarnell, Daryl Ziemer, Bob Hubert, Dennis Johnson, Dave Cook, Bill Thurston, Ian Moore**); removed electrical cords from easy children's easy reach in Child Center classroom (**Bill Thurston, Wade Wippering**); etc.

The **Happy Helpers** are looking forward to 2025! We meet each **Thursday morning, 9:00 A.M.**, at the church. If you can't make it by 9:00 A.M., come anytime – that's okay! Usually, we finish talking by 9:30 A.M. and finish working/puttering by 10:30/11:00 A.M. Visitors are always welcome! In addition to sharing coffee, tea, and "goodies", we share comradery and some talk of

### HAPPY HELPERS-Continued

football and basketball. **Wade Wippering** provided the refreshments for the month of December. **Thanks Wade!**

P.S. I have to thank **Dave Cook, Wade Wippering, Bill Thurston**, and **Daryl Ziemer**. It was a cold December Thursday morning. The fallen leaves from the trees on the west side of the church laid about 2 - 3 inches deep for the entire planting strip, including sidewalk – and there was frost on the leaves. None of us, really, wanted to do what needed to be done, but we raked and successfully got them all raked up and disposed of in Butch Yarnell's trailer, that he graciously parked close by. In my thinking it was only through our collective spirit that we were motivated to complete the task. **Thank-You!**

And finally, thanks to the **Hospitality Group** and **Santa Lucia** for the gluten-free cookies during the Coffee Fellowship hour on 15 December. That was very thoughtful of you and much appreciated!

### OUTREACH COMMITTEE

By Missy Bliesner

#### BLESSING BAGS

Have you ever wished you could give something to a person you see in need? Join the **Outreach Committee** on **Sunday, January 26th** as we make **Blessing Bags**. We plan to make bags with food & supplies and bags with dog food. Your help is needed to fill the bags with dog food OR individually packaged food, snacks, tissues, chap stick, band aids, Tylenol, wipes, hand warmers, water, and a note of encouragement. If you have any of these items you wish to donate, please bring them to the church and leave them in the donation basket (you will see it on the table in the Narthex). Once the **Blessing Bags** are assembled, take some to keep in your car to hand out to people in need. If you are unable to help assemble the bags, stop by the church and pick some up! If you have any questions, contact **Missy Bliesner at 509-954-6406**.

### SPOKANE VALLEY PARTNERS FOOD BANK

Thank you for your generosity in bringing your food donations for the Spokane Valley Partners Food Bank as we continue to **"FILL THE SHELF"!!** We continue to collect food each week, however, our big food drive is the last **Sunday** of each month. **You may place your food donations in the barrel in the Narthex.**

### PASTOR MATT'S CORNER

By Pastor Matt Larson

Happy New Year! As we enter this new year, I thought I would reflect on some of the great things that have happened at Advent in the last year.

We raised and flew past our **\$60,000** goal for a new bus (with matching funds).

We began a journey with **Vicar Brendan** in July as he will be with us for 1 ½ more years for his internship. Thank you everyone for welcoming him and giving him the support and feedback that is so crucial for interns.

Our average in person attendance went from **91** in 2023 to **103** in 2024! That is an almost 15% increase. Keep inviting! Keep welcoming! Our **St. Arbucks group** (high school) had nine youth and three adults attend the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

Our **Child Center** has been almost at capacity with both kids and staff for more months than we have had in a long time!

Our **Endowment Fund** will be distributing up to **30** grants of **\$500 each** to our partners in ministry and in our community, in the coming weeks.

We hosted one of the **Synod Regional Events** in April, with what I think was the biggest crowd! There were so many compliments on our hospitality!

We continue to serve around **50 dinners** (or more?) at our **'Come to Friday Dinners'** twice a month.

Wow! So much going on and now we have another year to share Jesus with each other and our community! Can't wait to see where we will end up next year!! Thank you to our staff, leaders, helpers, volunteers, and everyone who gives their time, talent, and treasure towards the ministries and programs here at Advent Lutheran Church.

**PS** – We are currently doing a re-branding of our website, social media, and communications. You will begin to see some of these changes in the weeks ahead!!  
See you in Worship!  
Pastor Matt

### THANK YOU!

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU** to **ALL** our wonderful and amazing volunteers who came in last month to 'fluff the bows and the greenery' for Advent! Without all your assistance, Advent would not have been so beautiful! It takes a lot of work and you were all so wonderful to help! You are **ALL** so very appreciated! We thank the following: **Bill Johnson, Linda Semmen, George Harrison, Terry & Carol Johnson, Karen Nelson, Bill & Rita Thurston, Denise Walker, Sue Wipperling, Carol Scheurer, and Darrell & Francie Shoquist.**

### TREE OF SHARING THANK YOU

**Thank you so much** to our generous congregation! Because of your generosity, many families from the Child Center, Grace Court, and families from our community had gifts under their Christmas trees. **Thank you** for making this outreach activity a huge success and for creating smiles on the faces of members of our own Spokane Valley community. A special thank you goes out to **Marlene Diehl** as she organized our **Tree of Sharing!**

### THANK YOU!

**Sue Wipperling and the Hospitality Committee** are deeply grateful for all the dedication and contributions by our generous congregation for assisting throughout the year with potlucks, memorial receptions, social events, and whatever is needed. You all contribute so generously of your time and talents and are very appreciated. These events would not be as successful without your participation. **Thank you so much!**

### TREE SKIRT

Advent would like to thank **Marlene Diehl** for the tremendous job she did sewing and assembling a new tree skirt for our Christmas tree. If you have a moment, please stop by to take a look at it, it is gorgeous! The tree skirt is made from silk noile fabric, it is approximately 60" across, and took her over **70 hours** of labor. It is made with 13 different metallic gold threads, some of which are no longer available. **THANK YOU** Marlene!



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Online Worship:**

[www.youtube.com/c/adventlutheranspokane](http://www.youtube.com/c/adventlutheranspokane)

**'COME TO FRIDAY DINNER'**

Our next **'Come to Friday Dinner'** will be on **January 3rd** from **4:30 pm-5:30 pm**. **Menu:** Spaghetti, salad, and French bread. If you are interested, please call the church office at **509-928-7733** or place your name and the number of meals you wish on the **signup sheet on the table in the Narthex. EVERYONE welcome!**

**MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY**

Mid-Week **Bible study** meets each **Thursday morning at 10:00 am**. We resume again on **January 9, 2025**.

**MEN'S PRAYER GROUP**

The **Men's Prayer group** continues to meet each **Friday morning at 6:30 am** at **Denny's Restaurant on North Argonne**. All men are welcome!

**MONTHLY LADIES LUNCHEON**

Our next luncheon will be **Saturday, January 11th at 11:30 a.m.** at **The Max at Mirabeau**. Please contact **Gerry O'Rourke at 509-893-0787** so she can make a reservation. The **sign-up sheet** is on the table in the Narthex or you may call the **Church office at 509-928-7733**. **Thank you. Please also include your phone number so if the weather is bad, and the lunch needs to be cancelled, Gerry can notify you.**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

If you wish to submit an article or announcement for the **February 2025** newsletter, please submit it to the Church office no later than **Friday, January 24th**.

**2025 EASTERN WA LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE**

Join us in person and on Zoom. **Saturday, January 25, 8:30 am-3pm**. Spokane Valley United Methodist Church, 115 N. Raymond. Keynote Plenary Panel and Youth Advocacy Panel. Briefing on issues and workshops. For information, contact **The Fig Tree at 509-535-1813** or **Catholic Charities at 509-358-4273**. **RSVP by January 21**.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS-Continued**

**"FUND THE BUS!" FUNDRAISER**

**SAVE THE DATE! COWBOYS AND COW-GIRLS!** Don your boots and hats and plan to attend the **January 17th** evening roundup (in conjunction with our **'Come to Friday Dinner'**) to raise funds for the bus. Dinner begins at **4:00 pm**, with the program to follow at **5:30 pm**. Menu will be chili, cornbread, and other 'cowboy foods'. Food, fun and music around the campsite (gym) is planned. Entertainment will feature **Nicole Ann Lewis**, daughter-in-law of **Alice Johnson**. Nicole Ann moved to Nashville several years ago to attend college and there in the heart of all things music, honed her performance and song-writing skills. See y'all there!



**FREEZER MEALS NEEDED**

As **Sandy Coombs** recently had a fall and is suffering a fracture and has at least 6-8 weeks of recovery at home, we would like to bless her and **George** with some meals. You may deliver a meal to the Coombs or bring a meal to the church on any Sunday and it will be delivered to them. **Bill and Rita Thurston** have volunteered to deliver the meals to George and Sandy. If you have any questions, you may call the **church office at 509-928-7733** or the **Thurstons at 509-892-6472**. Thank you.

**IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE**

December 1	107
December 8	100
December 15	107

**ONLINE VIEWS**

December 1	32
December 8	43
December 15	28

### **PARISH NURSE**

By Debbie Martin, RN, Parish Nurse  
It's well known that higher levels of Vitamin D enhance immunity to fight colds and flu, but new research shows a tremendous benefit not only in preventing cancer but also enhancing the effectiveness of chemotherapy treatments.

#### **The Role in Cancer**

World renowned oncologist and researcher Dr. Angus Dalgleish conducted a variety of studies investigating how cancer vaccines, Ivermectin and Vitamin D improve survival in melanoma, pancreatic, and other cancers. Amazingly, he found that chemotherapy medications were more effective when people had higher levels of Vitamin D (>35ng/ml).

Dr. Dalgleish chastises healthcare providers in cancer centers around the world to check Vitamin D levels and raise them to healthier levels to improve outcomes!

It's important to work with a healthcare provider regarding Vitamin D3 supplementation. Begin with a blood test. Some people must use caution if kidney damage is present or have certain genetic vulnerabilities to ensure that Vitamin D levels are not too high. However, most people have very low levels and tolerate vitamin D3 supplementation extremely well.

#### **The Role in COVID and other Viral and Bacterial Infections**

Researchers examined over 20 studies that examined the role Vitamin D played in COVID-19 infections between 2020 to 2024 that included thousands of patients from around the world. They found that people with Vitamin D levels <30ng/ml were more likely to get a COVID-19 infection and suffer greater complications than those with higher levels. The defined levels were:  
--<12ng/ml as a severe deficiency  
--12ng/ml to 20ng/ml as deficient  
--<30ng/ml still requires supplementation  
--30ng/ml to 60ng/ml is Optimal

#### **The Role of Vitamin D in the Fight Against Cancer**

##### **The Importance of Vitamin D**

When the body is attacked by viruses, bacteria, abnormal cancerous cells or any irritated inflamed process, Vitamin D is needed to activate the immune cells.

### **PARISH NURSE-Continued**

White blood cells and killer agents go to the area to destroy the pathogen and heal the area. Each immune cell must have Vitamin D to activate the white blood cell fighters. After the attack, levels of Vitamin D plummet and need replaced. Some adults and children keep getting sick primarily because there just isn't enough Vitamin D left over to be ready for the next invader.

#### **How Is It Made?**

When the sun hits the skin, a reaction occurs that sends a chemical to the liver where Vitamin D is made. Vitamin D is also absorbed in the gastric track when certain foods are eaten (oily fish...). Supplements such as D2 and D3 (best) also become absorbed in the gastric system and taken up by the liver.

It takes about **3 weeks from the time the supplement is swallowed for the liver to convert it into a form that the body can use!** If you get a serious cold or flu the day you begin taking Vitamin D3 it won't be available yet to help you fight the infection. It's important to start taking it in the early fall and stay on it through the winter.

#### **A Quicker Form of Vitamin D**

Calcifediol is a prescription that is ready to work within 1 to 2 hours while D3 supplementation takes around 3 weeks to work. It is increasingly being used in very ill patients.

Disappointingly, studies were done during Covid looking at whether Vitamin D improved outcomes in very sick, hospitalized patients. The results showed no benefit, but they gave the slower form of D3 which wouldn't be ready to help for another 3 weeks. However, Japanese researchers gave the fast-acting form Calcifediol with very positive results.

Scientists are beginning to learn a great deal about the benefits of this amazing vitamin but there is still much to learn. For now, protect yourself and your loved ones. Most people tolerate it very well and the benefits far outweigh the risks. Do your homework and get a level checked. Speak with your healthcare provider and increase your D3 dose as directed. Stay on it all throughout the fall and winter. If you become really ill, ask about the fast-acting form of Vitamin D, Calcifediol.

### UPDATE FROM VICAR BRENDAN

By Brendan Wiechert

Happy 2025!

If that is right, I am six months into this internship. Wow!

It has been a busy six months for me but, for the most part, I feel like it all just started yesterday. And I am still trying to hit my stride in this new role. I am still immensely appreciative for the welcome and patience with which everyone at Advent has treated me.

- I have experienced a lot of firsts in the last six months. I have appreciated the opportunity to preach once a month and even more the feedback that many of you have offered.
- I have been able to participate in several pastor care visits. I am thankful for the effort to set those up and include me. Pastoral visits are one of the things I like to do most, so please let me know if you would ever like me to stop by for a visit.
- I regularly attend a text study with other pastors and ministers on Wednesday mornings. That invitation has been rewarding to me both in the reflection and feedback on scripture, but particularly in the camaraderie and community of the group.
- I have been active in a book study and the study of Revelation led by Pastor Matt. Pastor Matt has given me the opportunity to lead a session with both groups (both groups were only mildly more confused afterwards).
- I have joined our youth both in Confirmation classes and one trip for coffee with the St. Arbucks crew. The Confirmation group included one weekend at Shoshone Mountain Retreat.
- And I have been invited in to learn more about our worship planning process, although my participation there has been more trying to soak it all in.
- Pastor Matt and I attended a 3-day retreat for interns in Region 1 in North Bend, Washington. And I have met three times with the Advent Internship Committee.

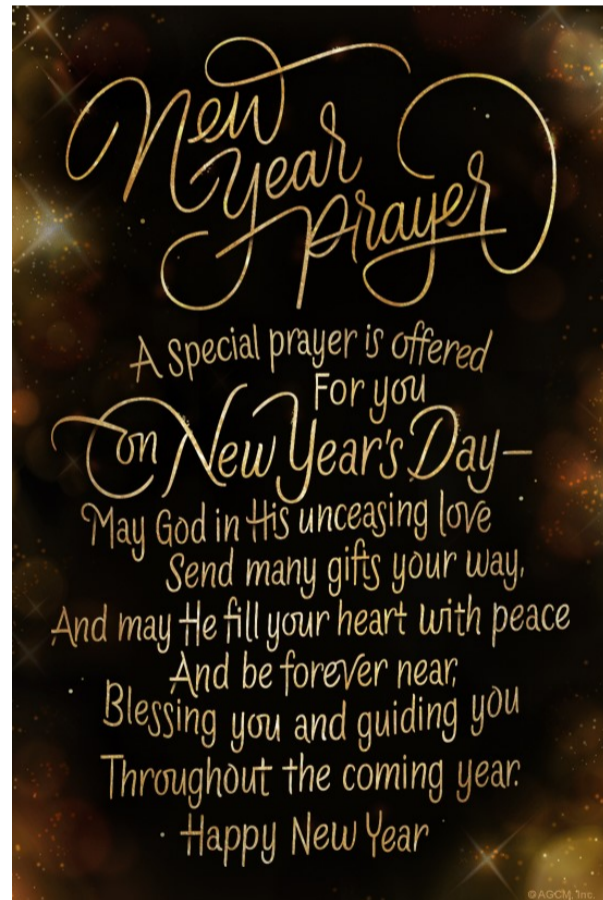
I am sure I am forgetting more, but my most recent accomplishment was taking song requests at the Santa Lucia party. And my apologies for singing too loud.

### UPDATE FROM VICAR BRENDAN

In the coming months, I am hoping to begin an adult Sunday school that takes a chapter a week from two "Great Courses" classes: "Understanding the Old Testament" and "The New Testament." One chapter a week would take us a full year, so I need to figure out how to break that up.

On the seminary front, I have finished the "Scripture and its Witness" course I have been taking this fall and now have three courses left to graduate. I plan to take one a semester until I graduate in May of 2026. My work at Lutherhaven is going well and the family continues to make me proud.

Thanks again to all of you for making me feel so welcome at Advent!  
Brendan



**ADVENT LUTHERAN CHILD CENTER NEWS**

By Heidi Perry, Director

Looking back on 2024, there are several things that stand out compared to other years. Most importantly, we have been able to maintain full staffing for most of the year alongside high enrollment. We also made a couple big changes, including starting a new curriculum and starting a new rating process.

Childcare is a high turnover job due to high stress and low pay. We've been working hard over the past few years to increase wages and make the work environment a more positive place, and all of our changes seem to be working. We currently have 21 full time staff (which means every position is filled), and out of those staff, eight have worked for us three years or longer. Two of our staff members chose to move up into higher level positions and several will be starting their college education in 2025.

2020 saw a huge change to our enrollment, and even before that, some rooms were harder to fill than others. This year has seen higher numbers consistently in all of rooms, even ones that normally are never full and ones that only see full numbers a few months out of the year. While summer attendance was low, this wasn't because our enrollment was low, and attendance bounced back in the fall. Right now, the only way for parents to get their children into our center is through reserving an Infant spot well in advance, or through enrollment in our One's Room. All other rooms are full well into the next school year (2025/2026) just from move ups from current enrollment.

We have participated in Early Achievers, a Washington program that works to improve quality in child care centers. Previously, this involved a challenging rating process that involved in person observations and tons of paper documentation. This year is the first time we will be participating in their new format called "Quality Improvement," where everything is done online, including uploading our own video documentation. It is proving to be a much simpler process, and we are hoping to finally see a level 4 rating in 2025.

Lastly, we were able to purchase new curriculum and assessment programs thanks to a grant. These are top of the line for Washington, and even country wide. It's been a bumpy start, but

overall the staff seem to be enjoying it. Once everyone gets the hang of things, it will make for a much easier process for the staff.

I hope that others in our church and child care community also saw positivity and growth in their past year, and that 2025 continues on the same path. Happy New Year!





## YOUTH MINISTRY AND SANTA LUCIA

Holiday Blessings from St. Arbucks!

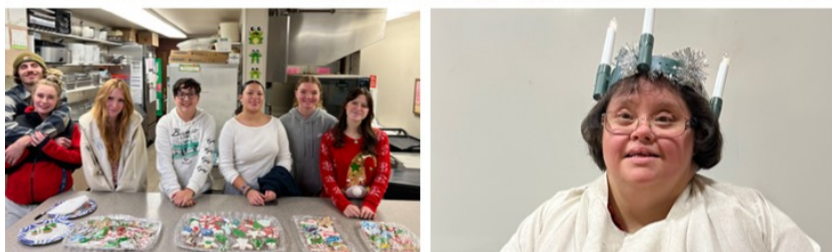
December has been busy for the crew, as they wrap up school and sports for the end of 2024. In that time, we've managed to fit in:

- Volunteering at Toys for Tots (sorry forgot to get a picture but imagine Santa hats and St. Arbucks t-shirts)
- Parade of Lights and cookie decorating
- St. Lucia court – we were honored to have **Barbie Byford** join the court on her birthday!

Our famous ALL-NIGHTER (at the writing of this hasn't quite happened yet so we'll keep you posted) We have a great group that bring new enthusiastic ideas to the table. Can't wait to see what 2025 holds for us all.

Merry Christmas everyone.

Why do Dasher and Dancer love **coffee**? Because they're **Santa's star bucks**!



**YOUTH MINISTRY AND SANTA LUCIA**



**INCOME/EXPENSE INFORMATION**

**Advent General Fund Income/Expense**

	<u>November</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	34,169.86	300,197.86
Expenses	<u>26,825.62</u>	<u>308,389.68</u>
<b>Net</b>	<b>7,344.24</b>	<b>-8,191.82</b>

**Notes for Advent Lutheran Church**

- Expenses include the budgeted disbursement (10%) of benevolence dollars for the ELCA, Spokane Valley Partners, Advent Lutheran Child Center, Maasai Health Systems, and Lutheran Community Services.
- Budgeted monthly expenses for 2024 are \$28,662. Total Reserve Amount is \$19,233. This equates to .94 month's of operating expenses.

**Child Center Income/Expense**

	<u>November</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	106,443.18	979,034.80
Expense	<u>86,882.05</u>	<u>1,037,131.85</u>
<b>Net</b>	<b>19,561.13</b>	<b>-58,097.05</b>

**Notes for Advent Lutheran Child Center**

Notes for Advent Lutheran Child Center

- Budgeted monthly expenses for 2024 are \$98,383.61. Total Reserve amount is -\$11,964.05.
- November saw a large increase in tuition payments due to upped enrollment and proper payment of scholarships for those utilizing the program..
- November's profit is helping set us up with a good "cash in bank" amount so that we will be able to cover all three payrolls in January.
  - ◊ Our "reserve" amount reflects debt owed to the church when they helped us cover payroll; our "cash in bank" amount is higher.
  - ◊ Once we make it through January, we will be able to plan repayments for borrowed funds.

**PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS**

**Church Family and Friends:** Barney Barnhart & family, Manda Benton, Linda Bradford, Belle Campbell, Mallory Chapin & family, George & Sandy Coombs, Pastor Lori Cornell, Georgia Coulston, Michele & Eric Emme & family, Faye Grant, Dorothy Grier, Inez Hodge, Leigh & Steve Hopkins, Mary & Clancy Howard, Jenae & Alia, Savannah Kelley, Jeff & Abby Lanctot, Joanne Limbaugh & family, Jan Madden, Mike & Sandra McCune & family and friends, Ian & SaraLu Moore, Moseman family, Jeanne Mummert, Lennyn Renee Neuffer, Amaryllis & Ken Otteman, Jared & Cindy Pauletto, Myrna Rehn, Rhonda, Warren Seaholm, Neal Sullivan, Isabel Toth, Costa & Fotini Tsakarestos, Steve Woodard, and Chris Worth & family.

**MILITARY PRAYER LIST**

***Advent would like to update our military prayer list. Please take a look at this list and notify the church office of any changes. Thank you.***

**For Family Members & Friends Serving in the Military:**

CPT Ashley Allinger, Chaplain US Army, CPT Zane Allinger, USAF, CPL Damien Anderson, Major Ryan Baker, Majors Megan & Robert Barnwell, SGT Alex Baron, USAF, Capt. Jordon Bolster, CPT Christopher Finch, Robert Guyton, CW2 Aaron Lang, Sr. Airman Richard Luna III, MSgt. Duncan McFarlane, Bryan McGoan, SSG Aaron Moeller, Sam Nelson, Mst. Sgt. Alex Pohle, AF Staff Sgt. Garytt Shirey, Kurt Strigel, Colin Wells, U.S. Air Force, Ryan Wells, Master Sgt. AF Nat'l Guard Sarah Meddock, TSG Jason Wood, CPT Michael West, Staff SGT Jacob McKenzie, Capt. Stephen King, Airman Chase Strunk, U.S. Air Force, LCPL Jared Martin, Rafe Rector in Marines, Staff Sgt. Dan Zabriskie in the National Guard, and Airman Justin Wise, US Air Force.

*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**.*



## JANUARY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> <b>New Year's Day</b>  <b>Church Office &amp; Child Center Closed</b>	<b>2</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Happy Helpers <b>5:30 pm-6:30 pm</b> AA Meeting	<b>3</b> <b>7:00 am</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast  <b>4:30 -5:30 pm</b> 'Come to Friday Dinner'	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Worship Service/Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship <b>Council Table Talks</b> <b>10:45 am</b> High School Sunday School at Starbucks on Pines	<b>6</b> <b>8:30-9:30 am</b> Fitness Class <b>6:00 pm</b> Boy Scouts	<b>7</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Happy Piecemakers <b>4:00 pm</b> ALCC Board Mtg. <b>6:00 pm</b> Cub Scouts <b>6:00 pm</b> Heads of Committee Meeting	<b>8</b> <b>8:30-9:30 am</b> Fitness Class <b>11:00 am</b> Child Center Chapel	<b>9</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Happy Helpers <b>10:00 am</b> Mid-Week Bible Study <b>5:30 pm-6:30 pm</b> AA Meeting	<b>10</b> <b>7:00 am</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast	<b>11</b> <b>11:30 am</b> Ladies Lunch-The Max at Mirabeau
<b>12</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Worship Service/Holy Communion <b>After Worship</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>10:45 am</b> High School Sunday School at Starbucks on Pines	<b>13</b> <b>8:30-9:30 am</b> Fitness Class <b>5:00 pm</b> Executive Committee <b>6:00 pm</b> Boy Scouts	<b>14</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Happy Piecemakers <b>5:00 pm</b> Council Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> Cub Scouts	<b>15</b> <b>8:30-9:30 am</b> Fitness Class <b>11:00 am</b> Child Center Chapel <b>6:00 pm-7:30 pm</b> Girl Scouts	<b>16</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Happy Helpers <b>10:00 am</b> Mid-Week Bible Study <b>5:30 pm-6:30 pm</b> AA Meeting	<b>17</b> <b>7:00 am</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast  <b>4:00 pm</b> Cowboy Dinner/Program	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <i>'Fill the Shelf'</i> Sunday <b>9:30 am</b> Worship Service/Holy Communion <b>After Worship</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>10:45 am</b> High School Sunday School at Starbucks on Pines	<b>20</b> <b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday</b>  <b>Church Office &amp; Child Center Closed</b>	<b>21</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Happy Piecemakers <b>6:00 pm</b> Cub Scouts	<b>22</b> <b>8:30-9:30 am</b> Fitness Class <b>11:00 am</b> Child Center Chapel	<b>23</b> <b>5:30 pm-6:30 pm</b> AA Meeting	<b>24</b> <b>7:00 am</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast  <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>25</b> <b>9:00 am-1:00 pm</b> Daughters of Norway
<b>26</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Worship Service/Holy Communion <b>After Worship</b> Coffee Fellowship <b>Pack Blessings</b> <b>Bags/Oatmeal pkts.</b>	<b>27</b> <b>8:30-9:30 am</b> Fitness Class <b>6:00 pm</b> Boy Scouts	<b>28</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Happy Piecemakers <b>6:00 pm</b> Cub Scouts	<b>28</b> <b>8:30-9:30 am</b> Fitness Class <b>11:00 am</b> Child Center Chapel	<b>29</b> <b>5:30 pm-6:30 pm</b> AA Meeting	<b>30</b> <b>7:00 am</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast	<b>31</b>

**JANUARY HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE**

<b>Ministry Description</b>	<b>January 5</b>	<b>January 12</b>	<b>January 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday week- end</b>	<b>January 26</b>
	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER: (1)</b>	Butch Yarnell	Holly Gunby	Duane Yates	
<b>COMMUNION ASSISTANTS (2)</b>	1.Francie Shoquist 2.Denise Walker	1.Sandra McCune 2.Denise Walker	1.Sandra McCune 2.Francie Shoquist	1.Sandra McCune 2.Francie Shoquist
<b>READER: (1)</b>	Troy Lahman	Butch Yarnell	Barb Potter	Troy Lahman
<b>ACOLYTE: (1)</b>				
<b>USHERS (3-4)</b>	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.
<b>GREETERS: (2)</b>	1. Jodi Meddock 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.
<b>ALTAR FLOWERS</b>	Poinsettias			
<b>FELLOWSHIP HOSTS</b>	1. Forrest Diehl 2. Marlene Diehl 3. 4.			1. 2. 3. 4.
(Cookies, etc., 2 dozen each)		Holly Gunby	Carol Johnson	
<b>“Share with God’s people .....,Practice Hospitality” Romans 12:13 (NIV)</b>				

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY

**Sunday Morning Worship: 9:30 am** In-Person and Online  
**Thursday Morning Bible Study: 10:00 am** In-Person and Online

**“Called by God’s Grace to Love and Serve”**