

Advent Lutheran Church Newsletter



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PASTOR MATT'S CORNER

By Pastor Matt Larson

I wanted to share with you a takeaway I had this last Sunday. One of our wonderful elder members who has been coming on and off to worship these past few months (for good reasons and watched it online when they could not) said to me, “I don’t recognize a lot of these faces.” What a great observation! We are seeing new faces coming to Advent, and that should not give rise to anxiety or trepidation. These are opportunities to reach out and say, “Welcome!”. If you don’t recognize a face, say “Hi!” Let us be a community that welcomes anyone who comes through those doors. And when you get a chance, invite people to one of our activities or groups that may then lead to participation in worship. As I read through the Book of Acts I am always conscious of the hospitality that is shared in that book. Sharing food, songs, meals, prayer, and yes, worship. My hope is to continue to welcome the new faces that come to Advent and then begin to know more than the face, we get to know the person and their faith story and how we can grow in faith together.

Here is a poem based on the Book of Acts that expresses some of what I am trying to put across:

They broke their bread from house to house,
With hearts so glad, and hands unbound—
Acts 2:46, the sacred vow:
In simple meals, deep love is found.

No gate too high, no door too closed,
When Lydia opened hers with grace—
Her purple cloth could not disguise
The open soul behind her face.

When strangers came with dusty feet,
The faithful said, “Come stay with me.”
As Paul found rest in homes unknown,
Acts 16:15—“If you judge me
To be in Christ, then dwell you here.”
A welcome born of love, not fear.

The jailer, trembling with new sight,
Washed wounds and begged the Word be taught.
His table spread before the dawn,
A feast of joy the Spirit brought.

They had all things in common then—
A shared loaf, a listening ear.
No heart too proud, no need too small,
In every guest, God’s image clear.

(This is a joint work of Pastor Matt and Microsoft Co-Pilot AI)
Blessings, Pastor Matt

HAPPY HELPERS

By Bill Thurston

June 5th the Happy Helpers took care of the following tasks:

- Tried to repair the umbrella to the table in the courtyard and it could not be repaired: **Conrad Moss and Daryl Ziemer.**
- Increase water in the flower barrels eastside of the church: **Daryl Ziemer** will hand-water until **Dave Cook and Butch Yarnell** can increase the water.
- Hung the red streamers in the sanctuary for Pentecost Sunday: **George Harrison, Daryl Ziemer, Jack Ishitani, and Conrad Moss.**

June 12th tasks:

- Screw handle into the playground faucet: **Butch Yarnell.**
- Clean window on the east entrance; **George Harrison.**
- Air conditioner for the Happy Piecemaker's room: **Butch Yarnell.**
- Took care of the flowers around the church and planted new flowers on the westside entrance to the Child Center: **Daryl Ziemer.**
- Dripline east and west sides of the church: **Daryl Ziemer and Butch Yarnell.**
- Took down the red streamers in the sanctuary: **George Harrison.**

June 19 tasks:

- Cleaned the parking lot curbs: **Dave Cook, Conrad Moss, and Butch Yarnell.**
- Purchased and installed a new air conditioner for the Happy Piecemaker's room: **Butch Yarnell.**

The **Happy Helpers** meet **each Thursday** morning, **9:00 A.M.**, at the church. Coffee, tea, and "goodies" are provided. During the month of June, **Conrad Moss** provided the goodies. Thanks **Conrad!** Visitors and new members are always welcome. If you can't come to Happy Helpers by 9:00 A.M., come anytime. Usually, we finish talking by 9:30 A.M. and finish working by 11:00 A.M.

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

Church Family and Friends: Tom Anderson & family, Barbara, Barney Barnhart & family, Michael Baumann, Manda Benton, Linda Bradford, Barbie Byford, Belle Campbell, Cherie, George & Sandy Coombs, Georgia Coulston, Genevieve Davenport, Bob Dunlap, Janet Esser, Nancy Filardo & family, Dorothy Grier, Leigh & Steve Hopkins, Mary & Clancy Howard, family of Audrey Jackson, Judy & Manny, Savannah Kelley, Midge Kiourkas, Larson family, Leatha family, Jan Madden & family, Duncan McMillan, McCune family & Donny, Megan, Ian & SaraLu Moore, Moseman family, Craig Nurvic, Gerry O'Rourke, Tim O'Rourke, Amaryllis & Ken Otteman, Jared & Cindy Pauletto, Myrna Rehn, Janice Seegar, Tom Sernka, Eva Sturges, Tinch family, Isabel Toth, family of Margot Wilson, Steve Woodard, Chris Worth & family, and Jenniper Zapay.

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 McGoon, 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, Major 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.



PARISH NURSE

By Debbie Martin, RN, Parish Nurse

POLST Forms: What is it, why have one?
POLST or Physician Order Life Sustaining Treatment, is a form that is filled out by your physician based on what your wishes are in regard to withdraw or withhold life saving measures and/or specific treatments. This is a health care directive.

This form should be kept on your refrigerator at home in case an emergency crew is called to your home. They know to look there to see the legal document of your wishes. A copy should also be on file at your doctor's office(the doctor signed it but should have a copy), at the hospital of choice, with your **Power of Attorney for Health Care**, and your wishes should be known to your family. This form is generally bright green.

It is also important to have a **Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare** in the case where you are unable to make that decision. This is also a legal document to state who you picked to make your medical decisions in the case you are unable to. Some items that may be on the list for preparing for a Health Care Agent are:

1. What matters most to you ?
2. What are some of your beliefs, preferences, practices?
3. I would want the following person (s) to be contacted to support my belief, preferences, and/or practices.
4. CPR: What are my wishes? If I am hospitalized and my heart stops and breathing stop?
5. Life Support: what are my wishes?
6. Artificial nutrition, Dialysis

Additional Directions: If I am dying and my medical care, support system, and resources allow, my preference would be to die: at home, in hospital, etc.

Please talk to your physician to document your wishes per a **POLST form** and to appoint a **Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care Agent**. If you do not have either done, then your spouse will decide or your oldest child in the event of no spouse. I do have the forms for the Durable Power of Health Care.

Remember to update/change if your decisions have also changed.

Thank you, Debbie Martin, Parish Nurse

YOUTH MINISTRY

By Kara Wilson

Summer is at hand and St. Arbucks continues throughout, though with travel and outdoor activities we miss some weeks.

June 29th the youth group planned to go miniature golfing; fingers crossed weather permits.
August 2nd is the Yard Sale – I'm just going to keep reminding everyone. We will start taking donations **at noon on Friday the 1st**. Youth will stay the night sorting and Saturday will be the big day **8am – 2pm**. At 2pm we'd love help taking the few remaining items to a donation center.

That's all to report today. More to come. Blessings to you all.

And... I drink so much coffee at work I consider it part of my daily GRIND.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

By Cindy Falk

Safe the date! Advent is hosting a fundraiser to support **Lutherhaven camperships** through an engaging **golf tournament** on **August 17th, 2025**, with a **1:30 PM tee time**. The event will take place at the **Liberty Lake Trail Head Golf Course**, located at 22302 E. Country Vista Dr, Liberty Lake, WA 99019. We warmly invite you and to participate in this exciting community event!

Watch for the signup and pledge sheets that will allow supporters to contribute and cheer on their favorite golfers. All pledged funds will directly support Lutherhaven's camperships, making every swing count towards a meaningful cause.

BUNCO

Everyone is welcome to come to Advent for **Bunco!** Each month we plan to have a Bunco game here at Advent. We need 12 –16 players, see the **sign-up sheet** on the table in the Narthex. **Thursday, July 17, at 2:30 pm** will be our first game. We need a host to sign up for each month and bring snacks. **Cindy Falk** will host the month of July. Questions? Call **Cindy Falk at 719-659-0439** or the church office at **509-928-7733**.

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHILD CENTER NEWS

By Heidi Perry, Director

Summer means mud pies and mud baths around the child center! We are firm believers in letting the kids get messy and explore and they LOVE it!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Online Worship:

www.youtube.com/c/adventlutheranspokane

INDEPENDENCE DAY

The **Church Office and Child Center** will be closed on **Friday, July 4th** and the **Child Center will be closed on Monday, July 7th**, in observance of the **Independence Day** holiday.

'COME TO FRIDAY DINNER'

'Come to Friday Dinner' will take place on **Friday, July 11 & 25, from 5:00 pm-6:00 pm**. **July 11 menu:** Roasted hotdogs and hamburgers, potato & macaroni salad, watermelon, and Jello. **July 25 menu:** Taco bar and Spanish rice. 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!**

SUMMER BOOK STUDY

Pastor Matt is leading a summer **book study** each **Wednesday at 6:30 pm**. If you are interested in **attending and/or hosting** the book study, please see the **sign-up sheet** on the table in the Narthex. The book we are reading is "**Chasing Francis**" by Ian Morgan Cron.

MONTHLY LADIES LUNCHEON

Our next luncheon will be **Saturday, July 12th at 11:30 a.m.** at **The Max at Mirabeau**. The **sign-up sheet** is on the table in the Narthex. **Questions?** Please contact **Gerry O'Rourke at 509-893-0787**.

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

The **Men's Prayer group** continues to meet each **Friday morning at 7:00 am** at **Revel Community, 16807 E. Mission Avenue, Spokane Valley**.

AUTOMATIC DEFIBRILLATOR CLASS

Our **Parish Nurse, Debbie Martin**, will be conducting an **automatic defibrillator class** after worship on a Sunday to be determined. If you are interested, please see the **sign-up sheet** on the table in the Narthex and Debbie will be contacting you.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

If you wish to submit an article or announcement for the **August** newsletter, please submit it to the Church office no later than **Friday, July 25th**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS-Continued

ARBOR CREST OUTING

The **GoldenAgers** will meet here at the church and will be taking the bus to **Arbor Crest Winery on Thursday, July 10, at 4:15 pm**. to listen to Blues music (musician is Ron Green), and eat dinner. The cost is **\$14** at the gate or you may go online to **arborcrest.com** to purchase your **advance ticket for \$10**. Arbor Crest has a food truck where you may purchase food, or you may bring your own sack dinner, but no outside beverages are allowed, including bottles of water. A reserved 8' table will be available for some to sit around with the white plastic chairs they provide, or you may prefer to bring your own foldup umbrella chair. Please **RSVP to Linda Semmen at 509-389-4191 by Monday, July 7th**. A **sign-up sheet** is also available on the table in the Narthex. You may also drive yourself and meet the Advent group there. Bus will be leaving Arbor Crest at **7:30 pm** to return to Advent.

BIKES, BREW, AND BIBLE STUDY

Bikes, Brew, and Bible Study continues to meet each **Thursday at 5:30 pm**. Watch for **Vicar Brendan's** email each week on the location. We will meet at **5:30pm**, share a quick prayer/scripture/reflection, ride for a total of 30-40 minutes, and then reflect in community over a beverage of your choice. It is ride at your own conversational pace! The purpose of the group is to discover a context where someone who finds themselves outside the church but might be comfortable exploring "church" and engaging in Biblical reflection. While not necessary, you are encouraged to invite someone to join the activity. You are welcome to contact **Vicar Brendan at (509) 863-5100** with any questions.

ADVENT COOKBOOK

The **Social Committee** is tossing around some ideas to get an **Advent cookbook** moving forward. Think about some special recipes you would like to share and we will start collecting your recipes in September. Other churches and friends of Advent are also invited to share a recipe. This will be a fundraiser for the Synod office and any additional funds will be used toward the purchase of our new LED sign on Broadway. Questions? Call **Cindy Falk at 719-659-0439** or the church office at **509-928-7733**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS-Continued

BATTLE OF THE PALOUSE

Don't miss the tailgate party of the year!
Vandals vs. Cougs. On Saturday, August 30th (Labor Day weekend). The event **begins at 4:00 pm** with a Tailgate Party, and the football game kickoff, at **7:00 pm**. (You can come to the tailgate party even if you don't attend the game).
Cost: Tailgate: adults: \$30, kids \$20.

Game tickets: \$40

Parking: \$20 (free for groups of 4 or more)

Register at:

<https://forms.gle/Jf4oUHoCuBEF9wtb6>. Additional information and the QR code to register is on the flyer posted on the bulletin board outside the classroom at church.

Register before August 7. Great food, Vandals vs. Cougs fun, and connections to support campus Ministry at BOTH schools.

THOUGHTS FROM VICAR BRENDAN

By Brendan Wiechert

One year! It is so crazy to me that a year has gone by already (I hope you feel the same?) I know one reason is due to how much I have enjoyed my time at Advent!

I am sure most of you know that on September 1st, I will begin full-time at Advent. I am incredibly grateful for the support of Pastor Matt and the council in allowing me to make that switch. My time here has already been so valuable and I look forward to the extra time to explore different interests in ministry and become more greatly vested in the day-to-day rhythms of the church. We wrapped up the Sunday morning overview of the Old Testament at the end of May and "launched" the Bicycling, Brew, and Bible Study. If I rank my goals of this ministry, they would be something like community, evangelism, and celebrating Advent's spirit of creativity. I believe spiritual development will come alongside as we stretch out our legs a bit. I look forward to continuing to experiment with the formation of this group during these summer months. Please check for weekly updates on our meeting time and location, and I hope I will see you on the bike path!

Thank you again for this opportunity to work and serve with Advent!

INCOME/EXPENSE INFORMATION

Advent General Fund Income/Expense

	<u>May</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	32,192.78	141,593.90
Expenses	<u>25,486.31</u>	<u>147,570.13</u>
Net	6,706.47	-5,976.23

Notes for Advent Lutheran Church

- Expenses include the budgeted disbursement (10%) of benevolence dollars for the ELCA, Spokane Valley Partners, Advent Lutheran Child Center, and Lutheran Community Services.
- Budgeted monthly expenses for 2025 are \$28,662. Total Reserve Amount is \$27,712. This equates to 0.96 month's of operating expenses.

Child Center Income/Expense

	<u>May</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	92,534.92	445,274.80
Expense	<u>86,411.99</u>	<u>461,752.74</u>
Net	6,122.93	-16,477.94

Notes for Advent Lutheran Child Center

Notes for Advent Lutheran Child Center

- Budgeted monthly expenses for 2025 are \$104,166.98. Total Reserve amount is -\$22,432.48.

IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE

June 1	119
June 8	107
June 15	98
June 22	104

ONLINE VIEWS

June 1	59
June 8	35
June 15	50
June 22	27

JULY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:00 am Happy Piecemakers 4:00 pm ALCC Board Mtg. 6:00 pm Cub Scouts	2 8:30-9:30 am Fitness Class 11:00 am Child Center Chapel 6:30 pm Book study-location TBA	3 9:00 am Happy Helpers 10:00-10:30 am ALCC Gymnas-tics 5:30 pm-6:30 pm AA Meeting 5:30 pm Bikes, Brew, & Bible	4 7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast-Revel Commu-nity -16807 E Mission Park-way Church Office & Child Center Closed	5
6 9:30 am Worship Service/Holy Com-munion Coffee Fellow-ship Council Table Talks 10:45 am High School Sunday School 4:00 pm-7:00 pm Mt. Zion Romanian Church	7 8:30-9:30 am Fitness Class 6:00 pm Executive Committee 6:00 pm Boy Scouts Child Center Closed	8 9:00 am Happy Piecemak-ers 6:00 pm Council Meeting 6:00 pm Cub Scouts	9 8:30-9:30 am Fitness Class 11:00 am Child Center Chapel 6:30 pm Book study-location TBA	10 9:00 am Happy Helpers 10:00-10:30 am ALCC Gymnas-tics 4:15 pm GoldenAgers trip to Arbor Crest 5:30 pm-6:30 pm AA Meeting 5:30 pm Bikes, Brew, & Bible	11 7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast-Revel Commu-nity -16807 E Mission Park-way 5:00 – 6:00 pm ‘Come to Friday Dinner’	12 11:30 am Ladies Lunch-The Max at Mirabeau
13 9:30 am Worship Service/Holy Com-munion After Worship Coffee Fellow-ship 10:45 am High School Sunday School 4:00 pm-7:00 pm Mt. Zion Romanian Church	14 8:30-9:30 am Fitness Class 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	15 9:00 am Happy Piecemak-ers 6:00 pm Cub Scouts	16 8:30-9:30 am Fitness Class 11:00 am Child Center Chapel 6:30 pm Book study-location TBA	17 9:00 am Happy Helpers 10:00-10:30 am ALCC Gymnas-tics 2:30 pm Bunco 5:30 pm-6:30 pm AA Meeting 5:30 pm Bikes, Brew, & Bible	18 7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast-Revel Commu-nity -16807 E Mission Park-way	19
20 9:30 am Worship Service/Communion After Worship Coffee Fellowship Advisory Oversight Committee 10:45 am High School Sunday School 4:00 pm-7:00 pm Mt. Zion Romanian Church	21 8:30-9:30 am Fitness Class 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	22 9:00 am Happy Piecemak-ers 6:00 pm Cub Scouts	23 8:30-9:30 am Fitness Class 11:00 am Child Center Chapel 6:30 pm Book study-location TBA	24 9:00 am Happy Helpers 5:30 pm-6:30 pm AA Meeting 5:30 pm Bikes, Brew, & Bible	25 7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast-Revel Commu-nity -16807 E Mission Park-way 5:00 – 6:00 pm ‘Come to Friday Dinner’ NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	26
27 ‘Fill the Shelf’ Sunday 9:30 am Worship Service/Holy Communion After Worship Coffee Fellow-ship 10:45 am High School Sunday School 4:00 pm-7:00 pm Mt. Zion Romanian Church	28 8:30-9:30 am Fitness Class 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	29 9:00 am Happy Piecemak-ers 6:00 pm Cub Scouts	30 8:30-9:30 am Fitness Class 11:00 am Child Center Chapel 6:30 pm Book study-location TBA	31 9:00 am Happy Helpers 5:30 pm-6:30 pm AA Meeting 5:30 pm Bikes, Brew, & Bible		

JULY HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE

Ministry Description	July 6	July 13	July 20	July 27
	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS (2)	1. Sandra McCune 2. Francie Shoquist	1. Francie Shoquist 2. Denise Walker	1. Annitta Hackett 2. Denise Walker	1. Francie Shoquist 2. Denise Walker
ASSISTING MINISTER: (1)	Kara Wilson			
READER: (1)	Marilyn Keith	Barb Potter		
ACOLYTE: (1)				
USHERS (3-4)	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.
GREETERS: (2)	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.
FELLOWSHIP HOSTS	1. 2. 3. 4.	1. 2. 3. 4.	1. 2. 3. 4	1. 2. 3. 4.
(Cookies, etc., 2 dozen each)				
“Share with God’s people,Practice Hospitality” Romans 12:13 (NIV)				

Advent Lutheran Church
13009 E Broadway
Spokane Valley, WA 99216

Church Phone: 509-928-7733
Child Center Phone: 509-928-0231
Fax: 509-892-5219
www.adventlutheranspokane.org

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Worship Schedule

SUNDAY

Sunday Morning Worship: 9:30 am In-Person and Online

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