

# THE ADVENTURE - 2020

## February

### ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

#### OUR MISSION – FAITHFUL IN THE WORD

- + To *gather* as God’s people and nurture one another
- + To *know* the Word of God
- + To *grow* in faith, love, and service
- + To *go* into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ



Pastor Jo Wright  
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#### FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

##### FEBRUARY 2

##### Souper Bowl of Caring

- 8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 am Traditional Holy Communion  
Sunday School - ages 4 to gr. 8
- 10:30 am Fellowship time: Michelle Rayher
- 10:45 am Adult Bible Study

#### CONCERT AT ADVENT, SATURDAY,

##### FEBRUARY 8 - 7:30

“Bill Monaghan & Some Assembly Required Band”

#### FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

##### FEBRUARY 9

- 8:00 am Traditional Worship
- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 am Contemporary Holy Com.  
Sunday School - ages 4 to gr. 8
- 10:30 am Fellowship time: Open
- 10:45 am Church Council Meeting

#### SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

##### FEBRUARY 16

- 8:00 am Traditional Worship
- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 am Traditional Holy Com.  
Sunday School-ages 4 to gr. 8
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time: Alexis McNulty
- 10:45 am Adult Bible Study

#### TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

##### FEBRUARY 23

- 8:00 am Traditional Worship
- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 am Contemporary Holy Com.  
Sunday School - ages 4 to gr. 8
- 10:30 am Fellowship time: Open
- 10:45 am Annual Congregational Meeting

#### ASH WEDNESDAY - February 26 - 7:00 PM

##### Holy Communion w/Imposition of Ashes



The Pastor Ponders February 2020

**February, the month of 'love' and presidents.**

We celebrate the birthdays of two of our presidents, Washington and Lincoln and remember their contributions to our country. Both were men of faith in God and we were blessed by their dedication. Today as we enjoy a time of relaxation let us lift up a prayer of thanksgiving for their service and their character which led our people through difficult times. Enjoy the holiday and remember why we observe it.



also

Also this month, children and adults, alike, send valentines to let others know that they are loved. St. Valentine, for whom the day is made, was a Roman priest who assisted martyrs who suffered during the reign of Emperor Claudius II in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century. Because of his love for his fellow beings, he too was put to death. He gave his all for others. Perhaps the hearts that are so associated with this day serve to remind us that this person gave his love by sacrificing his life to help others

This too reminds us of how our Savior gave us His love and His life in ransom for us. Lent begins February 26 with Ash Wednesday Service at 7PM. As we begin this penitential season and receive ashes may we search our hearts and let us give thanks for a Savior who took our sins upon Himself so that we might stand spotless and white as snow before our Maker. This is love divine all love excelling! What a perfect valentine we have all received.

Your servant in Christ, our Lord,

*Pastor "Mama Jo" Wright*

Pastor Call Committee Update  
February 1, 2020

A Call Committee was formally installed in October 2019 to lead the search for a new full-time pastor of Advent Lutheran Church, Richboro, PA. The committee consists of Jeanne Gryska, Karen Matlack, Jennifer McQuiggan, Mike Sitler, and Linda Weaver. Mike is serving as committee chair.

The committee has the responsibility of conducting the search in accordance with the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Pastoral Transition: A Guide for Lay Leaders. The committee has been meeting on a regular basis, becoming familiar with the formal process as outlined in the Guide and to begin to establish a general timeline for its actions.

The call process' general procedures are as follows:

1. Advent's Church Council approves the Ministry Site Profile and Pastor Job Description, which are then loaded into the ELCA website.
2. The Bishop's office (Committee of Deans) will use this information (#1), after receiving Advent's 2019 financial audit, to identify candidates (Option B: multiple candidates) for the Call Committee to consider.
3. Advent's Church Council and Call Committee have met to discuss mission priorities and understanding of the Ministry Site Profile and job description, which will serve as the basis for reviewing and interviewing candidates.
4. The Call Committee works confidentially, interviewing all candidates and then conducting a ministry site visit, providing the Call Committee the opportunity to observe the candidate presiding at worship and hear her/his preaching during Sunday worship.
5. The Call Committee makes its recommendation to Advent's Church Council, after which Church Council interviews the candidate to make its own determination of the candidate.
6. A formal call meeting involving the church congregation is an important component of the call process.

It is asked that the congregation hold Church Council, the Call Committee, and the congregation in prayer throughout the call process.

Report Submitted by Call Committee Chair, Mike Sitler

### **CONTACTING PASTOR JO**

If you need to speak with Pastor Jo when she is not in the office, particularly in the case of a pastoral emergency, please feel free to call her home phone 215-364-2298 or by email at mamajo\_rev@verizon.net. If she is not available to take your call, leave a message and she will contact you.

### **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

**Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>** Advent will take a special collection for Souper Bowl of Caring. All donations will go directly to the food pantry in Warminster. Checks should be made out to Advent Lutheran Church and designated "Souper Bowl of Caring".

### **SOCIAL MINISTRY**

During February Social Ministry will be collecting non-perishable food to benefit the Warminster Food Cupboard. All foods are greatly appreciated but ready to serve soups and spaghetti sauce hit the spot in winter!! Again, many thanks for your continued support of this local community outreach.

### **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Advent's men's group will hold its monthly breakfast and fellowship on Saturday, **February 8 at 8:30 am.** All men of the congregation are invited to attend. For more information please speak with Men's Group Coordinator, Dave Shearer.

### **PACKAGING OF TRAYS FOR CARING FOR FRIENDS - FEBRUARY 10**

The packaging of the food trays for February will take place on Monday, February 10 at 10 a.m. (weather permitting). All help will be appreciated.

### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

The annual meeting for review of reports will be held on Sunday, February 23 following the 9:30 service.



### **CONCERT AT ADVENT**

**FEBRUARY 8 - 7:30 p.m.**

The Bill Monaghan & Some Assembly Required Band will perform a concert at Advent on Saturday February 8<sup>th</sup>. Bill Monaghan is an award winning singer, songwriter, composer, teacher, and musician from Bucks County. We have enjoyed his music each time he has served as guest pianist at Advent. Bill and the band will be playing his own original music "Christian Rock and Beyond." A free will offering will be collected.



### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

We will observe the beginning of Lent with a service of Holy Communion on Ash Wednesday, **February 26 at 7:00 p.m.** We invite you to come and begin the season of penitence and preparation.

### **CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE for 2020**

Advent has two newly-elected Church Council members. Karen Becker succeeds Kathy Urbaniak as our Financial Secretary and Cindy Frey succeeds Kathy Sitler as Council Secretary. We thank all of them, as well as the other church council members, for their service. Please keep them in your prayers.

Current Officers of Church Council  
President George Henry  
Vice-President Bob Matlack  
Treasurer Nancy Hill  
Financial Secretary Karen Becker  
Congregational Committee Chairpersons  
Congregational Life Rhona Slawter  
Evangelism Bob Matlack  
Financial Management / Stewardship Tony Gryszka  
Property Lynn Roccograndi  
Social Ministry Nancy Slight  
Worship & Music Gail Oines  
Youth Kathryn Dettra  
Christian Education - vacant



**THANK YOU, SUE!**

A great time was had by all who attended the Women's Brunch on Saturday, January 11. Sue Amerman, our guest speaker, gave us wonderful insights on how God uses us even in (and sometimes especially because of) our brokenness. The experience was worth repeating and we hope to have Sue back with us in the future.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL SNOWFLAKES**

Our Sunday School students are each unique, like snowflakes, and are special to God. We celebrated this by making creative paper snowflakes and pizzelle cookies, which look like snowflakes when dusted with confectioner's sugar! We thank Mrs. Duffy for helping us make these cookies. Like our paper snowflakes, each pizzelle has been specially made, just like us!

**FELLOWSHIP TIME**

Congregational Life will be providing refreshments between services beginning at 9:00 am. This is a time for fellowship with members and guests. If possible please sign up and bring refreshments, homemade or otherwise. The sign-up sheet thru March is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e. coffee & tea) and all paper products.

Out of respect, please do not bring food or drink into the service.



**PRAYER CHAIN AT ADVENT**

Advent has a prayer chain for anyone who would be in need of prayer. If you would like to either join as a prayer partner, or if you have a name to be prayed for please see the four ways to access the prayer chain:

**FOUR WAYS TO ACCESS THE PRAYER CHAIN**

1. Give your prayer request in person to either Bob or Karen Matlack.
2. Email your prayer request. (kmatl22349@verizon.net)
3. Text only your prayer request (Karen 215-932-1283; Bob 267-357-9368).
4. Call Fran Zanis at the office 215-355-2529.

**FILL FOOD TRAYS FOR CARING FOR FRIENDS**

Aluminum trays are available in the narthex. Sections include entree, vegetables & fruit. Once assembled please label and freeze at home then bring to church freezer. For further information, please check <https://caringforfriends.org/wp-content/uploads/Caring-for-Friends-Cooking-Tips.pdf> or Hannah McCollum, our Caring for Friends Advent coordinator, Thank you for helping.

**STITCH CLUB ITEMS AVAILABLE**

If you would need anything throughout the year from the Stitch Club for babies or the elderly i.e. blankets, etc., please contact Hanna McCollum at 215-962-9032 or Jeff Jobses at 215-355-4149. They can have them available on Saturdays or Sundays.

The Stitch Club meets on Saturdays at 10 am. All are welcome to join.

**DRIVE in AND DROP off FOOD COLLECTION**

Advent has begun an ongoing community food collection drive. To that end, we have purchased an outdoor bench with storage under the seat. If you have food for the Warminster Food Pantry that you or your friends would like to donate and the church is not open, just drive in and drop off the food under the seat of the bench. You may still bring food into the church narthex during church and office hours. A list of the pantry's most needed items is attached to the bench or in the narthex. Thank you.

**CARING FOR FRIENDS MEALS**

Advent thanks Hanna McCollum, Pat Brown, Jeanne Gryszka, Elizabeth Gracey, Joyce Heiss and Linda Weaver for their help on January 13, in preparing 84 meals taken by Tony Gryszka to Caring for Friends

**NURSERY ROOM AVAILABLE**

Children are always welcome to participate in worship. However, should your child need a break, there is a nursery available next to the sanctuary. There, you can hear the service while your child has some quiet time apart. There is a child care coordinator.

**HAVE YOU REMEMBERED ADVENT IN YOUR WILL?**

Those who have faithfully supported Advent through their regular offerings can also support the church by including it in your will. Gifts can be designated for the endowment fund, mortgage reduction or to support the regular expenses of the church. Remembering your church in your will can help Advent through the difficult economic times. Please speak with a member of the finance or endowment committee for more information they are Janice Hoffmann, Mike Sitler or Tony Gryszka

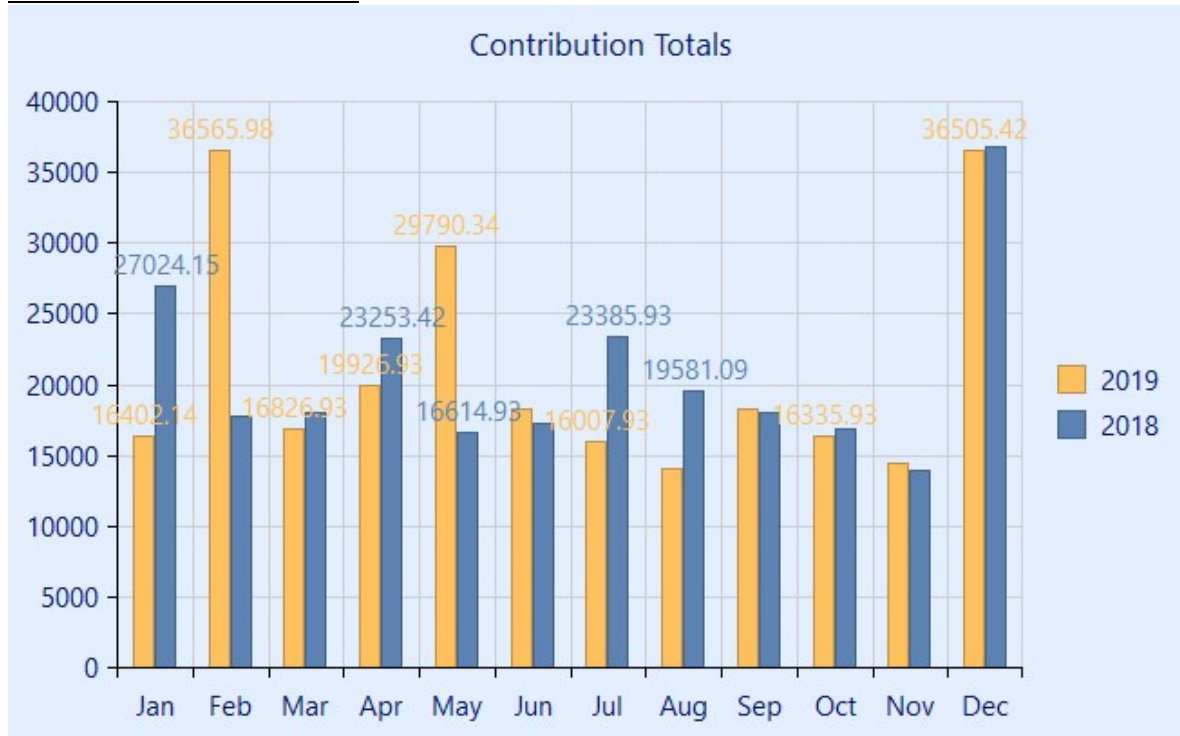
**THREE SPECIAL WAYS TO GIVE**

Did you know that there are three ways to give an offering to Advent Lutheran Church?

1. Offering envelope. (If you are going away on vacation you can mail your offering to the church office.
2. Simply Giving. This is an automatic deposit from a checking account into Advent Lutheran Church account that occurs every month. If you are interested in setting this up or for more information please contact me at 215-968-2675
3. Online giving. This option is with a credit card. Log on to our website [www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org). click "Give Now" button.

Respectfully, Karen Becker, Fin. Sec.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**



2018		2019	
January	\$27,024.15	January	\$16,402.14
February	\$17,790.84	February	\$36,565.98*
March	\$17,964.93	March	\$16,826.93
April	\$23,253.42	April	\$19,926.93
May	\$16,614.93	May	\$29,790.34*
June	\$17,244.04	June	\$18,227.93
July	\$23,385.93	July	\$16,007.93
August	\$19,581.09	August	\$14,065.48
September	\$17,959.43	September	\$18,297.18
October	\$16,853.43	October	\$16,335.93
November	\$13,969.93	November	\$14,501.92
December	\$36,851.93	December	\$35,991.67*

\*February 2019 total includes \$10,000 in matching funds

\*May 2019 total includes \$15,000 special gift

\*December 2019 total includes \$10,000 special gift

**INCOME FOR December 2019**

Benevolence (LWR, Mission Support, etc.)	\$ 1,102.00
General Fund	\$18,475.00*
Mortgage Fund	\$ 9,345.00*

\*General Fund includes \$5,000 special gift

\*Mortgage Fund includes \$5,000 special gift



## **ADVENT'S BIRTHDAY CORNER** **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- |   |                  |    |                |    |                  |
|---|------------------|----|----------------|----|------------------|
| 5 | Mike Sitler      | 13 | Nicole Shearer | 19 | Kali Frey        |
| 6 | Stephanie Morley | 15 | Jacob Duffy    | 24 | Stephen Anderson |
| 9 | David Frost      |    | Sarah Rilling  |    |                  |
|   | Marion Smith     |    |                |    |                  |

Please contact the church office if you or someone you know has been omitted from the list. Thank you.



### **THE ARMED FORCES**

Please keep in your prayers all our service men and women and especially those related to our congregation:

US Air Force Lt. Col. Andrew Frey is the Senior Executive Officer to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans and Programs, stationed at the Pentagon.

US Air Force Major Fred Gouse is a pilot and instructor stationed at Holloman AFB, New Mexico.

US Army Colonel (Ret.) Jeff Williams is serving in Dubai, UAE as a military advisor.

Please see our Armed Forces Display in the corridor leading to the ramp down to the fellowship hall.

If there are any errors or omissions, please notify the church office.

Thank you.



### **NUEVA CREACION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Please keep Pastor Lyzette Rios Sanchez and our mission congregation Nueva Creación Lutheran Church in your prayers. Your mission support gifts help them to minister in a very impoverished area of Philadelphia.



# **SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP**

## **FEBRUARY SCHEDULES**

### **LAY READERS**

2/02	8:00 am	Karen Becker
	9:30 am	Kathy Sitler
2/09	8:00 am	Nancy Hill
	9:30 am	Benicia Meyers
2/16	8:00 am	Dave Shearer
	9:30 am	Jennifer McQuiggan
2/23	8:00 am	Open
	9:30 am	Ken Meyers

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

2/02	8:00 am	Dave Shearer
	9:30 am	Jennifer McQuiggan
2/09	9:30 am	Karen Matlack
2/16	9:30 am	Gail Oines
2/23	9:30 am	Tony Gryszka

### **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

2/02	Michelle Rayher
2/09	Open
2/16	Alexis McNulty
2/23	Open

### **ALTAR FLOWER DISTRIBUTION**

2/02	Audrey Savchuck
2/09	Nancy Slight
2/16	Katherine Urbaniak
2/23	Kathy Sitler

### **USHERS**

1 <sup>st</sup>	9:30 am	Ray Heiss, Bob Matlack
2 <sup>nd</sup>	9:30 am	Tom Herbert, Bob Holford
3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30 am	George Henry, Mike Sitler
4 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am	Tony Gryszka

### **ALTAR GUILD**

2/02	8:00 am	Hanna McCollum
	9:30 am	Kathy Sitler
2/09	9:30 am	Gail Oines
2/16	9:30 am	Bob Matlack
2/23	9:30 am	Donna Duffy

### **MONEY COUNTERS**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Tony Gryszka
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cindy Frey, Bob Holford
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ray & Joyce Heiss
4 <sup>th</sup>	Tony Gryszka



# February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 10:00 AM Stitch Club
<b>2</b> <b>4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</b> <b>SOUPER BOWL OF CARING</b> 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study Fellowship Time 9:30 AM Traditional Holy Communion Sunday school ages 4 to gr. 8 10:30 AM Fellowship: Michelle Rayher 10:45AM Adult Bible Study	<b>3</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>4</b> 7:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting	<b>5</b> Choir Practice 6:30 PM Praise Team 7:00 PM Vocal Choir 7:30 PM Bell Choir	<b>6</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Topic Group	<b>7</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	<b>8</b> 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM Stitch Club 7:30 PM Concert at Advent - Bill Monaghan
<b>9</b> <b>5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship. 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study Fellowship Time 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Comm. Sunday school ages 4 to gr. 8 10:30 AM Fellowship: Open 10:45AM Church Council Meeting	<b>10</b> 10:00 AM Caring for Friends Assembling food trays 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Choir Practice 6:30 PM Praise Team 7:00 PM Vocal Choir 7:30 PM Bell Choir	<b>13</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Topic Group	<b>14</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	<b>15</b> 10:00 AM Stitch Club
<b>16</b> <b>6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study Fellowship Time 9:30 AM Traditional Holy Com Sunday school ages 4 to gr. 8 10:30 AM Fellowship: Alexis McNulty 10:45AM Adult Bible Study	<b>17</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Choir Practice 6:30 PM Praise Team 7:00 PM Vocal Choir 7:30 PM Bell Choir	<b>20</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Topic Group	<b>21</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	<b>22</b> 10:00 AM Stitch Club
<b>23</b> <b>TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD</b> 8:00 AM Traditional Worship. 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study Fellowship Time 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Comm. Sunday school ages 4 to gr. 8 10:30 AM Fellowship: Open 10:45AM Annual Congregational Meeting	<b>24</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service of Holy Communion	<b>27</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Topic Group	<b>28</b> 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	<b>29</b> 10:00 AM Stitch Club