



ADVENT EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SECOND STREET PIKE & WORTHINGTON MILL ROAD
P. O. BOX 840, RICHBORO, PA 18954-0840
E-Mail Address: office@adventrichboro.org
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2020 ANNUAL REPORT

THE STAFF

Interim Pastor
Pastor
Organist/Choir Director
Church Office Secretary

JANUARY, 2021

Rev. Josephine Wright
Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen
Mr. Michael Dettra
Ms. Fran Kelly Zanis

OFFICERS OF CHURCH COUNCIL

President
Vice President & Evangelism
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Secretary

Mr. George Henry
Mr. Bob Matlack
Mrs. Nancy Hill
Mrs. Cindy Frey
Mrs. Jennifer McQuiggan

CHURCH COUNCIL

Mrs. Jennifer McQuiggan, Mr. George Henry,
Mrs. Gail Oines, Mr. Lynn Roccograndi
Mr. Bob Matlack, Mrs. Cindy Frey
Mr. Tony Gryszka, Mrs. Nancy Hill,
Mrs. Nancy Slight, Mrs. Rhona Slawter

TERM EXPIRES

December 31, 2021

December 31, 2022

December 31, 2023

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEES (Chairmen)

Christian Education
Sunday School Superintendent
Vacation Bible School
Congregational Life
Evangelism
Financial Management/Stewardship
Property
Social Ministry
Worship & Music
Youth

Vacant
Mrs. Jeanne Gryszka
Mrs. Jeanne Gryszka, Mrs. Nancy Slight
Mrs. Rhona Slawter
Mr. Bob Matlack
Mr. Tony Gryszka
Mr. Lynn Roccograndi
Mrs. Nancy Slight
Mrs. Gail Oines
Vacant

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Endowment Committee
Mutual Ministry Committee

Mr. Tony Gryszka, Mrs. Janice Hoffmann, Mr. Mike Sitler
Mr. Tony Gryszka, Mrs. Janice Hoffmann, Mr. Mike Sitler

**ADVENT EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
April 18, 2021 10:00 A.M.**

A G E N D A

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Annual Pastoral Report to the Congregation - Pastor Josephine Wright Advent Lutheran Church January 2021

In looking over last year's report, my oh my, how things can change. We began the year organizing a confirmation class. Four young boys began and met on a regular basis. The plan was to study and prepare for an affirmation of baptism, previously known as confirmation, which we planned for Reformation Sunday. The old saying that 'we plan and God laughs' could not have been more true. After only twelve weeks COVID had changed our plans and who had any idea how long that would be.

In addition to confirmation class we had planned for the group to participate in the Ash Wednesday service and the following Lenten soup-and-worship Wednesdays. They did participate in Ash Wednesday Service with much success and were willing to continue. We had one soup-and-worship Wednesday. It was well attended and everyone appreciated the participation of the class and the supper together. We were looking forward to continuing these during Lent, but once again that was not to be.

Church was closed, which had never happened in my lifetime, even during world wars. It was a time we so needed our church, but it was denied us on the basis of community health. We then opted for recorded services and we made allowances as well as we could. A group consistently helped with service; recording, assisting, singing, setting up and they were greatly appreciated. We managed to offer communion virtually...a first! Those in attendance assisting had communion together safely. We continued this until mid September when we were permitted to open. One Sunday....that's all we had. Then the church was closed again.

The pastor planned an Easter Sunrise Service in the parking lot; outside and with safe distancing, two souls attended. We continued the best we could. The Lord was good to Advent and in the fall the transition committee was able to interview and visit potential pastors and just as this pastor was ready to complete service they found a fit. By December Advent had a full-time pastor and was on the way even though it remained closed. Our prayer for Advent is that together with the pastor they will continue to grow in grace as they follow the path our Lord has appointed for them.

Your servant in Christ,

Rev. Josephine M. Wright

Pastoral Report to the Congregation - Pastor Mathew Ollikainen

“Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ”. (Rom 1:7)

As of the writing of this report, I have been the pastor of Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church for less than a month. The welcome everyone has extended me has been so open and warm. It is a blessing and honor to be brought in to the loving fellowship of this community. Thank you.

Given that I have been your pastor for only the last 16 day of 2020, I have a limited amount to report for last year. My biggest goal was that we have as meaningful and as accessible of worship experience on Christmas Eve as possible. We went from offering worship recorded on our website as a mixed audio video format to having worship live on zoom, Facebook live stream, drive-in communion and recorded our website. I am so impressed and pleased with how the leadership in this congregation responded with their support.

For the year 2021 I have two goals. My first goal is to build a strong relationship with this congregation as your pastor. To help do this I would like to visit every household in the congregation. My second goal is to equip this congregation institutionally and spiritually for doing ministry. Institutionally some of the tasks we need to accomplish are update our church constitution, clean our membership roles and form a safe place policy. I hope to start having annual leadership retreats. These retreats focus on training our church leaders, visioning and goal setting for our ministries. We will see whether we will be able to have a retreat this year based how the pandemic goes. I will be focusing on the spiritual nourishment of our congregation. I will be teaching how to discern the Holy Spirit active in our lives and how to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The institutional and spiritual equipping we do this year, as well as building our relationship as pastor and congregation, will ready us to follow God’s call to proclaim the Gospel through new and existing ministries to the world around us.

I am looking forward to doing ministry with you this year and in the coming years. God’s love is active at Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church. We have such a gift to nurture and to share with the world.

God bless us as we gather, know, grow and go together.

The Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen

PASTORAL ACTS - 2020

FUNERALS

<u>Name and Date Of Death</u>	<u>Date And Place of Funeral/ Memorial Service</u>	<u>Internment</u>
Richard Hofer d. December 19, 2019	January 23, 2020 Campbell & Thomas FH Richboro, PA	Washington Crossing Cemetery, Newtown, PA
Elizabeth A. Stevenson d. March 10, 2020	March 18, 2020 Lambs Funeral Home Somerton, PA	Private
Robert Smevog d. July 28, 2020	Washington Crossing Cemetery, Newtown, PA	Washington Crossing Cemetery, Newtown, PA

STATISTICS OF THE CONGREGATION

	<u>Baptized</u>	<u>Confirmed</u>
Membership, Jan. 1, 2020	346	278
Members Received During 2020		
By Baptism- Children	0	0
- Adult	0	0
By Transfer from ELCA Congregations	0	0
By Transfer from Other Lutheran Congregations	0	0
By Transfer from Non-Lutheran Congregations	0	0
By Affirmation of Faith	0	0
By Confirmation	0	0
<u>Total Members Received in 2020</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Members Removed During 2020		
By Death	3	3
By Transfer to ELCA Congregations	0	0
By Transfer to other Lutheran Congregations	0	0
By Transfer to non-Lutheran Congregations	0	0
Removed from roll by request/council action	0	0
<u>Total Members Removed in 2020</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
Membership, January 1, 2021	343	275

SUMMARY

	<u>January 1, 2020</u>	<u>January 1, 2019</u>
Baptized Members	343	346
Confirmed Members	275	278
Average Weekly Worship Attendance	60	60

Council President's Report

Despite the closing of Advent Church for most of the year, we still have much to be thankful for. Pastor Josephine Wright became our interim pastor in December of 2019. She took on all the duties that a called pastor would have taken care of. We are thankful for her service and inspiration during this most difficult year.

The Call Committee was finally able to proceed with the process of selecting a pastor from the candidates supplied by the synod. This was delayed because an audit of the 2019 finances had to be completed and because of the restraints on interviews made necessary by the COVID-19 situation. We are all thankful that one of the candidates was a great match for Advent Church and the candidate felt the same.

Pastor Matthew (Matt) Ollikainen was able to start on December 15th, just in time to organize a Christmas Eve service. This was presented to the congregation, either online or in their cars in the church parking lot.

The enthusiasm that Pastor Matt is bringing to Advent is matched only by that of our members. We are looking forward to working with Pastor Matt in all aspects of our church life.

Council President,
George Henry

Annual Congregational Meeting February 23, 2020

President, George Henry, called the meeting to order at 10:40 AM. He asked if everyone had signed the attendance sheets. There were 28 Congregational members present. He asked if everyone had a copy of the annual report packet and thanked everyone for attending. He opened the meeting with a prayer.

George called for a motion to approve the minutes from the two congregational meetings in 2019 found on page B2 and B5. There were no questions or corrections. Lynn Roccograndi made a motion to approve the minutes, Karen Matlack seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Executive reports were presented.

- Pastor Wright's report and pastoral Acts are on pages A0 – A3. Pastor McKillip did not submit a report. There were no questions.
- Council President's report is on page B1. There were no questions.
- Financial Secretary's report is on B8. This is Kathryn Urbaniak's last report. George thanked Kathryn for the excellent job she has done during her two terms as Financial Secretary. Karen Becker has been appointed as our new Financial Secretary. There were no questions.
- The Treasurer's report is on pages B9-B11. George thanked Tom Herbert for his 12 years of service and excellent job as Treasurer. Nancy Hill has taken over as Treasurer and is working with the auditors to supply information as required by the synod. There were no questions.

Lynn Roccograndi made a motion to approve all Executive reports. Jennifer McQuiggan seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The meeting continued with the Committee Reports beginning on page C1.

- Christian Education – Jeanne Gryszka reported that 36 children and many volunteers participated in Bible School in 2019
- Congregational Life – Rhona Slawter was unable to attend but her report is included.
- Finance Committee - Tony Gryszka thanked everyone for their continued generosity. We finished 2019 approximately \$36,000 in the black. This was mostly due to special contributions and matching gifts in the last two months of the year. We also did not have to pay the total benefits for the pastors. Lynn Roccograndi reported that most large expenses are completed and we shouldn't have any major capital outlay for the next few years. Tony also thanked Lynn for all his help with the installation of the new electronic sign.
- Property Committee – report on file. Lynn Roccograndi thanked everyone for help whenever needed. He also stated that the tractor has been sent out for service. He is looking for volunteers to do the grass cutting this summer. He does have a paid person available to cut the grass in any weeks without a volunteer.
- Social Ministry – report on file by Nancy Sclight.
- Blood Drive – report on file by Audrey Savchuck.
- Worship and Music – report on file by Gail Oines

- Flower Committee – report on file by Cindy Frey. There are numerous dates available on the flower chart for dedication.
- Stitch Club – report on file by Hanna McCollum.
- Call Committee – report on file by Mike Sitler. Mike thanked the members of the committee for their hard work and professionalism. He explained the remaining steps in the process. He listed some of the qualities that were important for our congregation in a full time pastor. These include 1) a leader/partner, 2) a builder, 3) looks to God for direction, and 4) emotional strength. The committee is working to compile a list of questions that will be asked of each candidate at the initial interview. Tony Gryska reported that the audit should be completed within the next few weeks.
- Evangelism - no report from Bob Matlack, but Karen Matlack reported about the successful grandchildren prayer list and the new prayer chain.
- Endowment Committee – no report
- Youth Committee – no report
- Music Director – Mike Dettra reported that he would like to continue to have more concerts. They have been successful in the past year.

There were no questions on any of the committee reports. Lynn Roccograndi made a motion to approve the Committee Reports. Audrey Savchuck seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Old Business – None

New Business

Mike Dettra reported that a local arts company is looking for space to store costumes. He thought that the church may have some space that could be rented to them. George said he would take the matter to the council for discussion.

Lynn Roccograndi made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Herbert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Frey
Secretary

Congregational Budget & Election Meeting – Nov. 29, 2020

George Henry called the meeting to order at 10AM and opened the meeting with a prayer. This meeting is for Budget and Election purposes only. No other matters will be discussed. George turned the meeting over to Tony Gryszka, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, to present the 2021 Budget.

Tony thanked the members of the Finance Committee: Nancy Hill, Karen Becker (1st half of 2020), Cindy Frey (2nd half of 2020), and Janice Hoffmann. He reported that there are many checks and balances regarding the finances of the church to prevent problems that other churches incur. He explained each part of the budget, stating that due to COVID problems many of the items are the same as the previous year. The overall budget is an approximate increase of 7% over last year. This is mostly due to the new requirements for the pastor's salary and benefits. He thanked Dave Shearer and Lynn Roccograndi for all the work they do on the maintenance of the church. A copy of the Budget is attached to these minutes. Lynn Roccograndi made a motion to accept the Budget as written, Linda Weaver seconded the motion. All approved and the motion carried.

Elections:

George reported that Karen Becker, Financial Secretary and Katie Dettra, Youth Coordinator both resigned this year due to personal reasons.

Cindy Frey, Recording Secretary, resigned yesterday effective December 31, 2020 so that she could be nominated for Financial Secretary at this meeting. She has been filling in as Financial Secretary since Karen Becker's resignation.

There are 4 council positions up for election due to term expirations. All terms are three years.

The first is for the Chairperson of the Finance Committee. This committee manages investments, expenditures and the budget. Tony Gryszka is our current Chairperson and is eligible for re-election. He expressed his willingness to be nominated. Geoff Duffy made a motion to nominate Tony. Janice Hoffman seconded the motion. George asked for any other nominations. Since there were no other nominations, the nominations were closed.

Next position up for re-election is the Treasurer. Nancy Hill is the current Treasurer and is eligible for re-election. She has expressed her willingness to be nominated. Janice Hoffmann made a motion to nominate Nancy Hill as Treasurer. Gail Oines seconded the motion. George asked for other nominations. Since there were no other nominations the nominations were closed.

The next position up for election is the Chairperson for the Congregational Life Committee. The committee plans the congregational events. Rhona Slawter is the current chairperson and is eligible for re-election. She has expressed her willingness to be nominated. Jennifer McQuiggan made a motion to nominate Rhona. Geoff Duffy Seconded the motion. George asked for other nominations. Since there were no other nominations the nominations were closed.

The next position up for election is the chairperson of the Social Ministry Committee. This committee plans and oversees ministerial projects for the community. Nancy Sclight is our current chairperson and is eligible for re-election. She has expressed her willingness to be nominated. Rose Herbert made a motion to nominate Nancy and Jennifer McQuiggan seconded the motion. George asked for other nominations. Since there were no other nominations the nominations were closed.

The next three positions up for elections are due to resignations. The first is Financial Secretary. This person maintains the records of contributions. Cindy Frey expressed her willingness to be nominated. Lynn Roccograndi made a motion to nominate Cindy and Jennifer McQuiggan seconded the notion. George asked for other nominations. Since there were no other nominations the nominations were closed.

The next position up for election is Secretary of the Council. Jennifer McQuiggan has expressed interest to be nominated. Audrey Savchuk made a notion to nominate Jennifer. Geoff Duffy seconded the motion. George asked for other nominations. Sincere there were no other nominations, the nominations were closed.

The next position up for election is Chairperson of the committee for youth activities. No one was willing to volunteer to be nominated for this position. Therefore, this position will remain vacant.

The final position for election is Christian Education. This person oversees Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and other educational events. This position has been vacant. There were no volunteers for this position. Therefore, this position will remain vacant.

Since all persons nominated are running unopposed, George suspended the rules for election and declared each person nominated to be elected.

George thanked Karen Becker and Katie Dettra for their work on Council. He also thanked everyone for the work they have done during a very difficult year because of the Covid 19 situation and being in interim without a called pastor.

Geoff Duffy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lynn Roccograndi seconded the motion. All were in favor and George adjourned the meeting at 10:30 AM and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Frey
Recording Secretary
11/29/20

Report of the Financial Secretary for 2020

	REVENUE
GENERAL	
Envelopes	\$129,115.50
Special Offerings	\$4,506.00
Altar Flowers	\$1,065.00
Sunday Church School	\$16.50
Vacation Bible School	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$5,452.17
Plate	\$744.51
AA Contribution /Bldg Use	\$1,350.00
Church Nursery/Pre-School Funds	<u>\$1,804.00</u>
TOTAL GENERAL	\$144,053.68
BENEVOLENCE	
Warminster Food Bank	\$225.00
Lutheran World Relief	\$3,602.00
Mission Support	\$475.00
One Time Appeals	\$237.00
Other Benevolence Appeals	\$460.00
Synod/ELCA	<u>\$616.00</u>
TOTAL BENEVOLENCE	\$5,615.00
CHURCH PROPERTY	
Mortgage Fund	\$47,868.50
MEMORIAL FUND	\$0.00
REFUND/REBATE	\$0.00
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$197,537.18
TRANSFERS (IN-OUT FUNDS)	\$75.41
TOTAL INCOME	\$197,612.59

On behalf of the Church Council and the Finance Committee, I would like to thank everyone for his/her support during 2020. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Frey

Statement of Revenue, Expenses & Change in Net Assets
YTD December 31, 2020

Revenue		
General	\$	139,453.68
	\$	47,907.64
Mortgage		
Total Revenue		\$187,361.32
Expenses	Actual	
Administrative	\$	4,164.27
Benevolence		514.00
Christian Education		768.19
Congregational Life		739.13
Evangelism/Advertising		-
Insurance		6,520.00
Maintenance/Supplies		9,866.62
Misc. - Audit		4,000.00
Misc. - Gift Cards		600.00
Pastor Expenses		-
Pastor Salary		58,729.50
Other Salaries		31,140.00
Misc. Payroll Expense		190.88
Social Security		2,275.02
Stewardship		108.62
Taxes		1,788.88
Utilities		13,489.53
VANCO Fees		395.85
Worship/Music		3,002.73
Youth Ministry		-
Mortgage Interest Only		25,807.66
Total Expenses		\$164,100.88
Change in Net Assets		23,260.44
Investments		40,583.46
Total change in Net Assets		63,843.90

Due to COVID-19 no budget information is relevant this year.

Advent Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2020

First National Bk - Operating Account		157,786.04
MFS - Preschool		4,841.04
Mission Investment Fund		1,050.58
Thrivent (AAL) Money Mkt Fund		163,550.80
Waddell & Reed Fund Acct		
Wm Penn Building Fund		27,088.83
	Total Cash & Investments	363,842.40
Land & Building		1,700,600.00
AAL Capital Growth Fund		195,938.28
	Total Assets	2,260,380.68
Benevolence Payable	40.00	
Loan or Grant	21,500.00	
Accrued A/P	4,395.50	
		25,935.50
Wm Penn Mortgage		607,028.86
	Total Liabilities	632,964.36
Equity (Net Assets)		
Opening Equity	1,153,031.40	
Unrestricted	284,163.73	
Board Designed Funds	120,261.76	
Restricted	6,115.53	
Change in net assets	63,843.90	
	Total Net Assets	1,627,416.32
	Total Liabilities & Net Assets	2,260,380.68
Restricted Funds		
Advent Aid	1,274.49	
Preschool	4,627.69	
	5,902.18	

Treasurer's Report For Year 2020

Operating Revenue YTD	\$139,453.68
Operating Expenses YTD	\$123,468.88
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 15,984.80

Mortgage Revenue YTD	\$ 47,907.64
Mortgage Expense YTD	\$ 40,632.00
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 7,275.64

Total Revenue YTD	\$187,361.32
Total Expenses YTD	\$164,100.88
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 23,260.44

Increase (Decrease) in Investments YTD	\$ 40,583.46
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Total benevolence collected	\$ 5,615.00
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Thank you everyone for your continued support!

Respectfully Submitted - Nancy Hill
Treasurer

Sunday School 2020

As Easter approached, a lesson with crafts was mailed to our students and in November, Advent calendars with daily Bible verses were distributed at the beginning of Advent season; each to teach the highlights of those two important holidays.

We have missed each other, especially our social interaction and the fun of planning and performing in our annual Sunday School Christmas pageant, usually held in early December. This event always reveals creative talent in our children!

We thank our Sunday School staff members for their work in the early months of 2020:

Karen Becker	Age 4 – Grade 1
Rose Herbert	Grades 2 - 5
Jeanne Gryska	Grades 6 through 8 and Opening Music program
Nancy Hill	Administrator & Substitute Teacher

We thank the following individuals for assisting our program through March 2020:

Nancy Slight - decorated our bulletin boards and coordinated student crafts
(Nancy continues to update our bulletin boards by season.)
Dave Shearer - coordinated donation envelopes for students
Liz Stephenson - cared for our little ones in the church nursery

We look forward to gathering for Sunday school and learning together once we are able!

Yours In Christ,

Jeanne Gryska
Sunday School Director



Vacation Bible School



Each summer, we look forward to welcoming our energetic students to Advent's Vacation Bible School. We are always pleased to extend this program to our community and are happy to welcome many families back every year. This year, we had to cancel our one-week session in August due to continued limits on social interaction.

Our program coordinators had selected our theme and our Bible lessons, which we will be happy to teach next time, hopefully in 2021. We especially look forward to seeing our Bible school friends! We know that for them, Vacation Bible School is exactly the outlet that most children (and their parents) will welcome after so many months of curtailed activities!

In Christ,

Jeanne Gryska
Nancy Hill
Nancy Slight
Rhona Slawter

Adult Bible Study

The Sunday morning Bible study classes have been discontinued with the closing of the church. Hopefully, we will be back to the “old normal” soon. When that happens, you are all welcome to join us in the parlor.

If you have any questions concerning the Bible or faith, we are happy to take the time to discuss them and answer your questions. We make the difficult passages understandable.

It does not matter if you are well-versed in the Bible or new to the Bible, it is a learning experience for everyone. There are no assignments and you won't be called on. You can participate when you are comfortable to do so.

Knowledge of the Bible is a part of the path to a greater faith.

Teaching the Word,
George Henry

Koinonia

Advent's Koinonia fellowship group has not been meeting due to the current constraints on gathering. When we are able to meet again, we will be meeting on Saturday evenings, once a month, at the home of one of our members.

Our evening consists of Bible study, a prayer session and of course refreshments. Everyone is welcome to join us. It's a great opportunity to get together with friends from church and grow together in faith, share our Christian life experiences and have a laugh or two.

Contact Gail Oines, Rose or Tom Herbert, Linda Weaver or myself if you would like to be notified of our next meeting.

Teaching the Word,
George Henry

Congregational Life Report

2020 like no other year!

Safety, being our top priority, kept us from enjoying many of our annual events. We started the year with a Woman's Brunch on January 11th. Sue Amerman was the speaker and she shared how we can cope in difficult times and look to God to find purpose in our pain and hope from His Word. The food, message and fellowship was enjoyed by all who attended. Thank you to Gail Oines for scheduling and organizing the Women's Brunch.

February 8, Bill Monahan brought his "Christian Rock and Beyond Band" to play his original music. Bill is an award winning songwriter, singer, composer and even sometimes a guest pianist at Advent. His music is uplifting and enjoyable. We hope to have him back for another concert. Thank you to Mike Dettra for organizing this concert.

During the spring months Nancy and I did some de-cluttering, rearranging and sanitizing of the youth room, nursery and several Sunday School rooms. Since the church was closed it was a good opportunity to clear out all these spaces.

November 15th was Pastor Jo's last Sunday. Since we were back to in person services at that time, we had a socially distant Retirement Celebration. Balloons, gifts, cupcakes and a special service to thank Pastor Jo for guiding us during this year of transition.

Well, that wraps up the year. We see a light that continues to grow brighter as the vaccine rollout continues to expand. May we once again join together and enjoy each other at our many gatherings.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhona Slawter

Financial Management / Stewardship Report – 2020

Thank you to those who were able to financially support Advent last year. Your generosity was much appreciated! Amidst the challenges and restrictions that COVID-19 brought upon us in 2020, including no in-person worship services for much of the year, our members and friends reminded me how special our church is. Your regular offerings, in addition to special offerings and miscellaneous revenue, enabled our total revenue to exceed our total expenses this past year by \$23,260. There were two components to this surplus. Daily operating revenue exceeded daily operating expenses by \$16,485, and mortgage revenue exceeded mortgage payments by \$6,775. Advent's mortgage balance as of 12/31/2020 was \$607,029.

During the pandemic, many were able to support Advent by mailing in their offerings, while others contributed online through our website, and others continued their offerings via monthly electronic giving. Thank you! This enabled Advent to continue with as many of our ministries as physically possible during the pandemic.

Benevolence offerings in 2020 totaled \$5,615. Recipients of these offerings included Lutheran World Relief, Baby Manna, Souper Bowl of Giving, ELCA/Synod support, and Nueva Creacion Lutheran Congregation in Philadelphia (our sister congregation). This was in addition to non-perishable food donations given to the Warminster Food Bank. Thank you for your generosity! To date, 18 financial commitments have been received for 2021, and it's not too late to respond.

In 2020 many churches, including Advent, qualified to apply for funds through the "Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)," which Congress passed as part of the Coronavirus Aid Relief. Advent met the requirements for a "loan" and received \$21,500, which could be converted to a "grant" (no repayment needed), provided we met certain criteria, including continuing to pay our employees during the pandemic. Advent met all the requirements, and in January 2021 we were informed by our bank, The First National Bank & Trust Co. of Newtown, that our "loan" was converted to a "grant" and need not be repaid.

As part of acquiring a full-time pastor, Advent was responsible for having an outside firm conduct an audit of our financial records. In March 2020, the CPA firm of Hutchinson, Gillahan & Freeh, P.C., based in Quakertown, PA, presented us with a qualified (favorable) opinion in that our "financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and net assets as of December 2019, and its support, revenue and expenses for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting."

In 2021 we'll have the additional expense of contributing to our new pastor's, Pastor Matt, full-time compensation package, including pension, healthcare benefits, and other expenses. These were expenses that we did not incur the past two years and may total upwards of \$35,000. I thank you for your continued financial support in 2021.

Stewardship also includes the donation of our time and talent. In that regard, thanks to everyone who volunteered in numerous ways last year! This includes the Call Committee for all their hard work and coordination in researching and interviewing candidates for Advent's pastoral vacancy, and eventually identifying Pastor Matt as the recommended person for the position.

Thanks, also to Advent's Worship Team, including audio/visual support, which continued with the weekly worship services during the pandemic via online recordings and live streaming.

We are thankful for all the work done on premises by our "in-house contractors," Dave Shearer and Ron Brown, and for our property chairperson, Lynn Roccograndi, for maintaining the exterior of the building, and for those who participated in maintaining the property grounds..

Thank you to those who made dinners for the needy through cooking and assembling meals which were donated to *Caring for Friends*, and to Nancy Slight and Rhona Slawter for their weekly volunteer work at the Warminster Food Bank.

I wish to thank the other members of the Finance Committee for their fine work this past year: Karen Becker, Cindy Frey, Nancy Hill, and Jan Hoffmann. Your dedication was much appreciated!

In Christ,
Tony Gryszka
Financial Management & Stewardship Committee Chairperson
Submitted 01/14/2021

Property Report For 2020

I would like to start my yearly report by thanking the many people who volunteered their time to mow, prune and weed the property. My position would be impossible without their help. I would also like to personally thank Dave and Ron for the constant monitoring of the church physical plant. Dealing with heating, cooling inspections and contracts on a weekly and sometimes daily basis is much appreciated.

The automatic watering system worked well this year. Yearly maintenance was completed on the church roof with a recommendation that it be replaced in the next four years. I am presently getting bids for a roof replacement. We also looked into the possibility of selling some of the back property to decrease maintenance and put emergency money into our budget. There are several trees that will need to be taken down in the spring that are too big for the church to do with volunteers.

Thank you for all your help and prayers.

Property Committee - Lynn S. Roccograndi

Annual Report from Social Ministry

This past year has been a difficult one for many people and our church. Last February when we still worshiped in person our congregation contributed \$460.00 on Souper Bowl Sunday which was donated to the Warminster Food Bank. Then in March everything changed except for the generosity of our congregation! It blossomed!! By the end of the year we had donated 1,586 lbs. of food and an additional \$230.00 to help our neighbors in need. But that wasn't all...

During the months of November-December we donated 72 gift cards in various amounts for a total of \$2,215.00 which were distributed to clients at the Warminster Food Bank. The reception was heartwarming and gratefully accepted.

Please know that the need for food is ongoing. Our food donation bench at the entrance to the church is available anytime for donations and is checked daily. Also checks made out to the Warminster Food Bank are also appreciated and the money can be used to purchase food items that are not donated. We have recently started purchasing fresh fruits and vegetables with donated funds.

Although some of our other outreach programs did not take place last year, we still made a difference!!!

Thank-you to all for your continued generosity. Nancy Sclight Social Ministry.

2020 Flower Committee Report

Two bouquets were purchased weekly from Hampton Flower Shop in Southampton at a cost of \$22.00 per bouquet. Due to Covid flowers were only purchased from the beginning of January thru the end of March. They were once again provided from Sept 13 thru the end of November.

No Mother's Day Carnations, Easter lilies or Poinsettias were provided this year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Frey

Worship and Music Annual Report - 2020

2020 was another year of ups and downs for Advent Lutheran Church. We faced many challenges in worship leadership, attendance, and finance; but I believe we have overcome them admirably.

During January and through the beginning of March we were blessed to have our bridge Pastor, Jo Wright lead us in worship and teaching confirmation, etc. However, with the COVID pandemic, we were asked to stop in person meetings of any kind.

Eventually a dedicated worship team, along with Pastor Jo, began again recording a podcast for our website, but now including the complete service, rather than only the sermon as we had done previously. We thank all those who met each Saturday and worked hard to keep connected to the congregants.

Our Music Director, Mike Dettra, began to take the podcast and add graphics so that we had a visual and sound service on our Facebook page. His hard work is greatly appreciated.

In September we began again meeting in person, with social distancing, taking temperatures, and other sanitary measures as to be as safe as possible. We also went down to one service at 9:00 am, again for sanitary purposes. There was no offering collected; instead a plate was set out for congregants to drop their envelopes. Communion was done in the pews using individually packaged cup of grape juice and a wafer. Gluten free wafers in individual bags were purchased for those needing them. We averaged 36 attendees. Sunday School remained closed.

During these weeks, we also learned that our bridge pastor, Jo Wright, was needing to retire due to medical issues. We thank Pastor Frank Sayford for stepping in while Jo was on vacation and again after she retired.

We were also again asked to suspend in-person worship.

On an extremely positive note, we were able to call Pastor Matt Ollikainen as our new full time pastor. The congregation enthusiastically endorsed him and he started at Advent on December 15. On December 20 he lead his first worship at Advent and introduced Zoom as a way to worship “in person”.

We continue, thanks to Pastor Matt and Mike Dettra, and our dedicated worship team, to offer worship live via Zoom and streaming on Facebook. The service is also available anytime on facebook and on our website, www.adventrichboro.org. Worship information and lyrics to the songs are sent out to the congregation by email (and snail mail for those who need it) so that the congregation can participate in the worship services.

With Pastor Matt and Mike’s technical knowledge, Advent is seeking to improve our online worship presence. The service will continue to be offered in a variety of ways in order to include the most participants. The hope is to purchase the best equipment and to continue to provide online worship even after we resume in person worship.

If you have any ideas on improving worship at Advent, please don’t hesitate to let me know (215-534-8218 or alcdeacon@yahoo.com).

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Oines, Worship & Music Chair

Caring for Friends/Stitch Club 2020

With the help from the Congregation we were able to make:

426 Dinners

49 Soups

The sale of handmade gifts provided by the Stitch Club raised monies to buy some of the ingredients for meals for large canned goods from wholesale clubs for meal preparation.

We are thankful for all members of the congregation who are willing to help with our outreach programs.

Respectfully submitted,

Hanna McCollum

**ADVENT EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
2021 BUDGET**

	2020	2021	
	Budget	Budget	Difference
OUR MINISTRY IN WORSHIP AND WORK			
1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS			
Office	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
Copier Maintenance	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
Financial Envelopes	\$375	\$375	\$0
Synod Convention	\$200	\$200	\$0
Lower Bucks Lutheran Parish	\$100	\$100	\$0
Website	\$500	\$500	
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	\$4,675	\$4,675	\$0
2. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION			
Sunday School	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0
Confirmation	\$200	\$200	\$0
First Communion	\$150	\$150	\$0
Vacation Bible School	\$400	\$400	\$0
TOTAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$1,950	\$1,950	\$0
3. CONGREGATIONAL LIFE			
	\$400	\$400	\$0
4. ELCA			
S.E. PA Synod Support	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$200
5. EVANGELISM/ADVERTISING			
	\$400	\$400	\$0
6. INSURANCE			
	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$0
7. MAINTENANCE & SUPPLIES			
Church	\$6,500	\$8,000	\$1,500
HVAC	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Organ/Piano Maintenance	\$300	\$300	\$0
Snow Removal	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0
Lawn Care/Mower Maintenance	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$0
TOTAL MAINTENANCE & SUPPLIES	\$17,800	\$19,300	\$1,500
8. MISCELLANEOUS			
Financial Audit	\$4,000	\$0	(\$4,000)
9. REIMBURSEMENTS & BENEFITS			
Car Allowance, cell phone, misc.- Pastor	\$1,500	\$4,840	\$3,340
Continuing Education and Books - Pastor	\$500	\$1,000	\$500
ELCA Medical/Pension/Insurance - Pastor	\$18,500	\$19,380	\$880
TOTAL REIMB. & BENEFITS	\$20,500	\$25,220	\$4,720

ADVENT EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH			
2021 BUDGET			
	2020	2021	
OUR MINISTRY IN WORSHIP AND WORK	Budget	Budget	Difference
10. STAFF SALARIES			
PASTOR:			
Pastor's Salary	\$51,500	\$48,000	(\$3,500)
Housing Allowance	\$12,500	\$24,000	\$11,500
TOTAL PASTOR'S SALARY	\$64,000	\$72,000	\$8,000
OTHER:			
Secretary	\$10,920	\$11,160	\$240
Organist/Choir Director	\$17,496	\$17,856	\$360
Supply Organists	\$600	\$600	\$0
Supply Pastors	\$450	\$700	\$250
Nursery Worker	\$1,944	\$1,020	(\$924)
TOTAL OTHER SALARY	\$31,410	\$31,336	(\$74)
SOCIAL SECURITY:			
Social Security - Pastor	\$0	\$5,508	\$5,508
Social Security - Secretary	\$835	\$854	\$19
Social Security - Organist	\$1,338	\$1,366	\$28
Social Security - Nursery Worker	\$149	\$77	(\$72)
TOTAL SOCIAL SECURITY	\$2,322	\$7,805	\$5,483
11. STEWARDSHIP	\$175	\$175	\$0
12. TAXES	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$0
13. UTILITIES	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$0
14. WORSHIP AND MUSIC			
Worship Supplies	\$1,650	\$1,650	\$0
Flowers	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Choir Music	\$350	\$350	\$0
TOTAL WORSHIP & MUSIC	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
15. YOUTH MINISTRY - YOUTH GROUP	\$500	\$500	\$0
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$178,582	\$194,411	\$15,829
CHURCH PROPERTY			
Mortgage	\$40,632	\$40,632	\$0
TOTAL MORTGAGE FUND	\$40,632	\$40,632	\$0
TOTAL BUDGET	\$219,214	\$235,043	\$15,829

