

# THE ADVENTURE - 2021

# June

## 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



Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen, Pastor  
2nd Street Pike & Worthington Mill Rd.  
P. O. Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954  
215-355-2529  
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Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church is worshiping indoors! This decision is based on the change in CDC recommendations for mask wearing indoors and the continued dramatic decrease in infection rates. Mask wearing is optional. Those not fully vaccinated are encouraged to still wear a mask. Other precautions such as taking temperatures upon arrival and social distancing will still be followed.

As it has been stated previously, the situation with the pandemic is shifting. It is with thanksgiving that we ease up the mask wearing policy and go back to indoor worship. How wonderful it is that we can start going back to “normal”. With all that said, please be aware that we are still not completely out of the woods yet. Church Council and I will continue to watch what happens. Please be prepared that should there be a dramatic spike in infections we may need to resume precautions as may be recommended by our civil and religious authorities. It is my hope that this will not happen. It is my hope that infection rates continue to go down and that we get ever closer to moving beyond the pandemic.

God bless us as we have walked a long road to where we are and in hope walk forward.

### JUNE WORSHIP SERVICES

Codes: F-Facebook, I- Indoor, W-website, Z-Zoom

#### SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**JUNE 6, 9:00 A.M. (IZFW)**

#### THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**JUNE 13, 9:00 A.M. (IZFW)**

#### BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAYS 7:00 P.M. (Z)

#### FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**JUNE 20, 9:00 A.M. (IZFW)**

**Father's Day**

#### FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**SUNDAY, JUNE 27, 9:00 A.M. (IZFW)**

**Recognition of Graduates**

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL - SUNDAYS JUNE 13 & 27 at 6:30 P.M. (Z)

**Here are your options for gathering to worship:** **YouTube:** Click on the church website link after 12:00PM Sunday morning: <https://www.adventrichboro.org/> **Facebook:** Go to the church Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/adventrichboropa/> **Zoom:** Smart device/Computer instructions- Click on this [link](#) or refer to invitation below. Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656

- While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83682161896?pwd=eS9DTVFzSmVRTFNNQnlwOTViOWdyQT09>  
Meeting ID: 836 8216 1896 Passcode: 565217

**USE THE ABOVE INFORMATION FOR NON INDOOR SUNDAY WORSHIP.**

*“Live in such a way that those who don’t know God, but know you, will come to know God, because they know you.”*

## **PASTOR MATT - JUNE NEWSLETTER 2021**

When it comes to living life and getting the most out of our Christian faith that God has to offer, all the seasons of the Church year are essential. Each season guides us to live life to the fullest. Yes, Jesus needed to be born into this world to be our messiah, but there is more than that. Yes, Jesus had to die on the cross and rise from the dead for our salvation, but there is more to that. If we let the start and end of Jesus’ earthly life be the only focus of our Christian faith, forgetting what Jesus taught us in between, we encounter only part of what Christian faith has to offer. Jesus commands us to love one another in His name and to spread His love to all people. The season of Pentecost is about being empowered by the Holy Spirit to do these things.

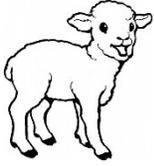
It can be scary to try to really love one another and share God’s love with all people. It is impossible for us to do these things on the magnitude that Jesus wants of us. It can be even scarier to turn our lives over to the Holy Spirit and let God do with our lives whatever God wants. Usually, when the Holy Spirit gets involved crazy things start to happen. We start talking about God at times we never would have in the past. Our outlook on life and our priorities change. We begin to see God all around us. Likewise, we start to recognize how our world is in need of God’s love and we find it hard to turn a cold shoulder. Our grip on the things we cherish loosens and we start to give in ways we could not imagined. And unfortunately, the world around us is not always accepting of these changes within us.

Letting the Holy Spirit to take the helm of our lives can be more than scary. It can be the adventure of a lifetime. It can bring a depth of meaning to life that moves us to the core. It is to acquire experiences that are seared into the memory and for which we would trade them for nothing. It is to witness events bigger than us, miracles beyond belief and a Divine love that defies all obstacles to make people new. A song called “Standing outside the Fire” by Garth Brooks is meaningful to me. The chorus goes:

“Standing outside the fire  
Standing outside the fire  
Life is not tried, it is merely survived  
If you're standing outside the fire”

When we stand outside the fire of the Holy Spirit, the same Spirit that descends on Jesus’ disciples at Pentecost, “life is not tried, it is merely survived”. This is not only truly for us as individual Christians; it is also true for us as the Church.

Peace,  
Pastor Matt



## **Kids' Bible Lesson** **Jesus, the Lamb of God**

God sent Jesus as a baby, born in a humble stable. As Jesus grew up, he learned many things from those around him, including wood-working skills from family members and religious history from leaders and priests, all of whom took an interest in him as he grew into an adult. His enthusiasm was like that of any young person who was happy to learn new things.

If we had lived during that time, would we have realized that Jesus was the Son of God?  
How would we have reacted if someone had told us that this man Jesus was actually God's son?

God also sent a man named John the Baptist, who recognized Jesus as the son of God.  
John knew that God would send a savior and realized that Jesus was the one:

### The Testimony of John the Baptist

One day, John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him. He said to the people with him, "Look! There is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one I told you about. I didn't realize he was the Messiah, but when I baptized him, I saw the Holy Spirit coming down from the heavens like a dove, resting right on his shoulder. I saw it myself and I will tell you, this is the Son of God."

John 1: 32-34

When the people heard that John had seen the Holy Spirit rest upon Jesus, it helped them to understand and believe that Jesus was truly the Son of God. John continued to tell others that if they were to believe in Jesus, they would know God's love and faithfulness through Jesus Christ.

In recent times, people have not met Jesus, but have come to know he is God's son whenever someone else tells them about Jesus. It may be their parents, a Sunday school teacher, a pastor, or a good friend. God wants us to tell others that Jesus is God's son, sent to live among us to teach God's love and sent to sacrifice his life for us, as the lamb of God. Through Jesus' resurrection, our sins are forgiven and heaven is our destination.

**Share the Good News with Others!**

(Kid's coloring fun - page 7)



**PASTOR MATT OUT OF OFFICE MAY 27 TO JUNE 2**

Pastor Matt will be out of the office from Wednesday, May 27 to Wednesday, June 2. Pastoral emergencies will be covered by Pastor Kristina Ahlman. Her contact email is [pastorkva@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkva@gmail.com). Telephone number is 516-768-3311. She is unavailable on the 29th and Pastor Norbert Hahn will fill in, he can be contacted at 267-755-8929.

The office will be open the usual hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9 am to 1 pm. Telephone number 215-355-2529.

**VISITATIONS BY PASTOR MATT**

Members of Advent Lutheran Church,

I want to get to know you! To help me do this, it is my goal to visit every household in the congregation. Up until now I have tried to do these visits by Zoom. Now that I am vaccinated and I know many of you are vaccinated too, I am ready to visit anyone who is vaccinated in person. I will still do household Zoom visits for anyone who would prefer to meet in that fashion.

To schedule a visit please call the church office at 215-355-2529 between 9AM and 1PM Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Speak with Fran and she will schedule a meeting time with you. If making a midday phone call is an inconvenience you may text or call Pastor Matt at 215-859-3778. The available visitation time slots are: Tuesdays at 6PM, 7PM & 8PM, Wednesdays 1PM, 2PM & 3PM, and Thursdays at 6PM & 8PM. If none of these time slots are possible for you, please text me to schedule another time during the week.

Peace,  
Pastor Matt

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

All are welcome to the adult Bible study on the Letter of Paul to the Romans taking place Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm by Zoom.

Zoom invitation:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89632518358?pwd=Smg5dm1Ba0VZamZjNG1YMk02MlVvdz09>

Or by phone: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL ZOOMS INTO SUMMER**

Our Sunday School friends are learning songs and Bible lessons with some humor added-in, following the lead of Pastor Matt and Rose Herbert. Our upcoming lessons will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of June and July . . . Join us on those Sunday evenings, and invite your friends : ) Contact the church office if you have any questions : [office@adventrichboro.org](mailto:office@adventrichboro.org) or 215-355-2529. See you on zoom!

|      | <b>Sunday</b> | <b>School</b> |
|------|---------------|---------------|
| June | 13            | 6:30 p.m      |
|      | 27            | "             |
| July | 11            | "             |
|      | 25            | "             |

- Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

**FINANCE NOTES**

We are thankful for being able to return to in-person, in-sanctuary worship services and thank everyone for their financial support. For year-to-date through April, our expenses have exceeded our regular revenue by \$20,094. Fortunately, Advent was also the recipient of a Small Business Association (SBA) grant of \$21,500, which basically offsets this deficit. The grant doesn't have to be repaid and was obtained through the pandemic-related Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). Offerings may be donated during worship services, via our website, as well as being dropped off in-person at the church office (normally Tues-Thurs between 9:00-1:00, please call first) or by mail to P.O. Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954-0840. Thank you for your support.

## **EVANGELISM COMMITTEE**

We are so thankful to be back in church and seeing our friends in the congregation!

Now is the time to ask us in person for prayers. There is a high top table in the Narthex with some Evangelism materials on it. We will be there after each service to meet and greet and help with prayer needs. Be certain that prayers are confidential, they can be put on the prayer chain for others in the church, but that's up to you. It is important to let us know if we can help. God is always there waiting for us to give him a "call". Sometimes you need another person for support, and we are there.

If you can't attend the services, you can email me or send me a text.

Prayer is Powerful!

Karen Matlack  
kmatl22349@verizon.net  
215-932-1283 text or call



## **RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES**

We are pleased today to recognize those related to our congregation who have notified us of their graduation from high school, college, or professional schools:

**Courtney Korn** - Graduating from Council Rock High School South. Courtney plans on attending the University of South Carolina. She is majoring in Biology and minor in Music.

**Stephanie Morley** - Graduated from West Chester University with a degree in Psychology. Stephanie graduated *summa cum laude*. Stephanie's plans for the future are to be determined.

**Kylie Rayher** - Graduated from Moravian College with a Bachelor of Science degree. Kylie plans to start Grad school at Moravian University on June 1, 2021 for her Masters in Athletic Training.

**Madison Walsh** - Graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Biology /a minor in Economics degree. Madison will pursue further education in Pennsylvania or medical school.

**Nicole Wills** - Graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree. Nicole has accepted a position of employment at the Cleveland Clinic in the Cardio Vascular Intensive Care Unit.

## **FLOWER CHART AND MISSION CHART**

The Flower Chart and Mission Chart for 2021 are on the table in the narthex. The cost of one bouquet is \$25.00. All other questions please call Cindy Frey at 267-205-0713.



## **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 an impoverished area of Philadelphia.



**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 a student at Air War College, stationed at Maxwell AFB, Alabama.
- 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.
- US Army Ranger Liam McKendry, grandson of Pastor Jo stationed in Fort Benning, GA
- US Army SSG Sarah Kelly serving in Djibouti, niece of Fran Zanis

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

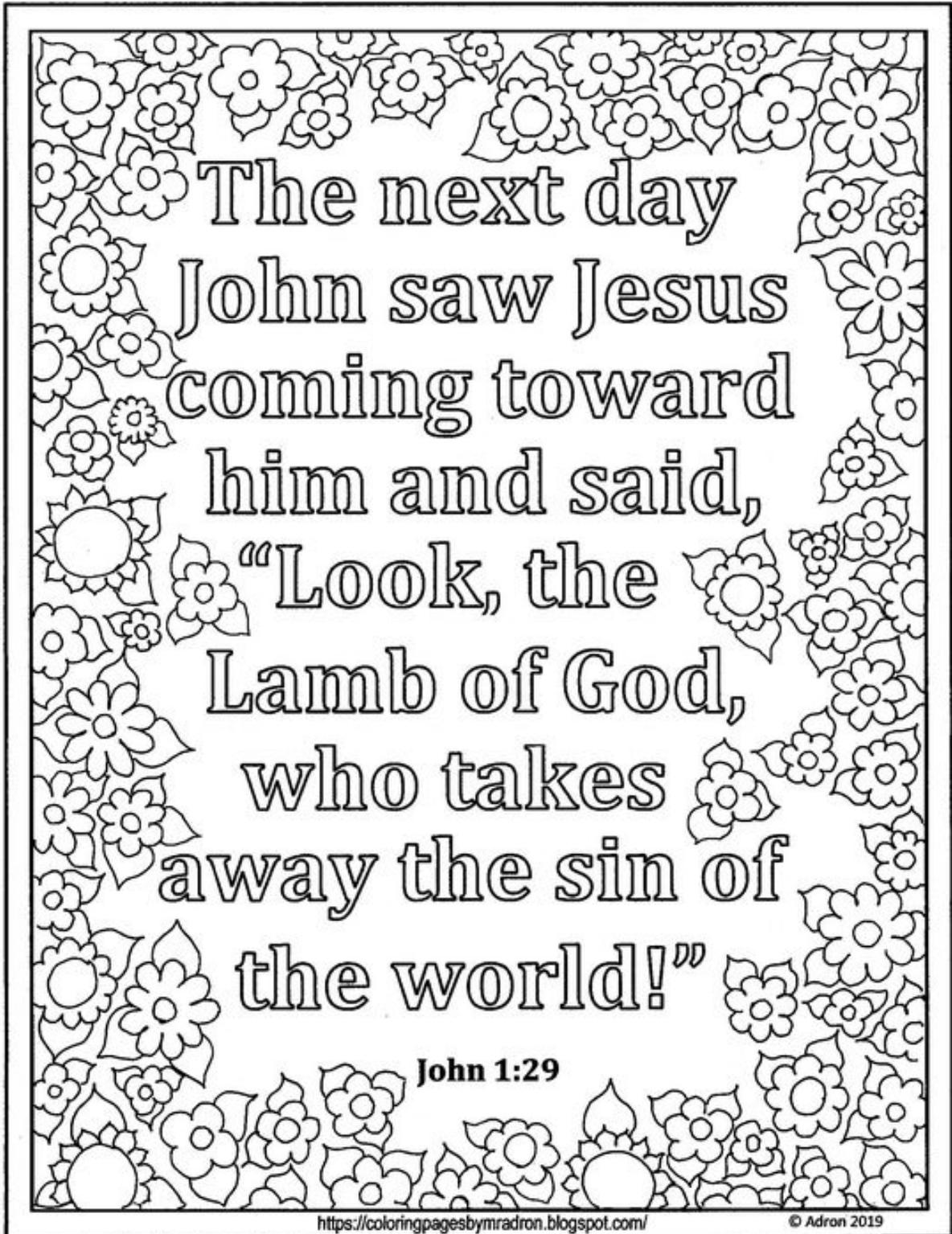


**ADVENT'S BIRTHDAY CORNER**  
**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**



- |    |                     |    |                   |    |                        |
|----|---------------------|----|-------------------|----|------------------------|
| 1  | Tamara Ritchie Wong | 17 | Kimberly Starke   | 27 | George Henry           |
| 3  | Kim Masciotro       | 19 | Ray Heiss         | 28 | Danny Gordon           |
| 5  | Luke Duffy          | 20 | Monika Kovacs     | 29 | Emily Frey             |
| 7  | Erich Rayher        | 21 | Lisa Frey         | 30 | Drew Becker            |
| 9  | Angela Wagner Bauer |    | Sarah Lattal      |    | Eric Buttil            |
|    | Lauren Duffy        |    | Janet Manco       |    | Amy Rilling            |
| 12 | Charlene Henry      | 22 | Geoff Duffy       |    | George Preston Slawter |
|    | Kara Henry          | 23 | Christel Hoffmann |    |                        |

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



The next day  
John saw Jesus  
coming toward  
him and said,  
“Look, the  
Lamb of God,  
who takes  
away the sin of  
the world!”

**John 1:29**