

# THE ADVENTURE - 2021



## 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  
2<sup>nd</sup> Street Pike & Worthington Mill Rd.  
P. O. Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954  
215-355-2529  
web: [www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)  
e-mail: [office@adventrichboro.org](mailto:office@adventrichboro.org)



Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church **worship services are indoor and online!** While the transmission rate in our area is considered high, according to the CDC, it is requested that everyone wear a mask no matter their vaccination status. Other precautions such as social distancing and hand sanitizing are also encouraged.

Church Council and I will continue to watch what happens. Should there be a dramatic spike in infections we will take precautions as recommended by our civil and religious authorities. It is my hope that this will not happen.

God bless us as we walk along this road where we are and in hope walk forward.

### 19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 3

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Comm.
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Comm.
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time - George Henry
- 10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study,

### 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 10

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Comm.
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Comm.
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time - Rose Herbert
- 10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Sunday School Zoom meeting

### 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 17

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Comm.
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Comm.
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship - Open
- 10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

### 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 24

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Comm.
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Comm.
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time - Katie Dettra & Debbie Carney
- 10:45 a.m. Adult Bible
- 6:30 p.m. Sunday School Zoom meeting

## **REFORMATION SUNDAY**

**OCTOBER 31**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Comm.  
9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Comm.  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time - Open  
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

Sunday services may also be attended by **Zoom** and will be live streamed on **Facebook**. A recording of the services will be uploaded to **YouTube** and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

**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 for Traditional Worship at 8:00 a.m.

Click on this link for Contemporary Worship at 9:30 a.m.

The full zoom invitations are pasted below

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656

- While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Scheduled Zoom meetings: Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Holy Communion

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTIRGamJQVXNZbENIVDJTT0pnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,89195039877#,,,,\*443533# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,89195039877#,,,,\*443533# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Scheduled Zoom meetings: Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Holy Communion

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGERSFNlbVAvNmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

One tap mobile - see above

Dial by your location see above.

## PASTOR MATT'S THOUGHTS FOR OCTOBER

The Halloween candy and decorations have hit the aisles of pharmacies and supermarkets. I enjoy this time of year. I love Halloween decorations, trick-or-treaters, and all the trappings of Fall. I have had conversation with some Christians about enjoying Halloween and I have been questioned as to whether I was a real Christian. In some Christian denominations the celebration of Halloween is discouraged. Halloween has been associated with the occult, pagan rituals, black magic, or pure superstition. So, are they right? Should we not be celebrating Halloween?

Halloween draws its roots from Celtic traditions. At one time the Celtic people lived in most of Europe and the British Isles before the expansion of the Roman Empire. At the time of harvest and the change of seasons to winter they observed a holiday called *Samhain* which began at sundown on October 31. In Druidism, the pagan faith of the Celts, it was believed that on *Samhain* the spirits of everyone who died over the past year walked the earth. As the Roman Empire expanded, Roman paganism adopted the traditions of *Samhain* and combined them with their celebration of the goddess of fruit bearing trees, Pomona. Scholars believe this is from where the tradition of bobbing for apples comes. In the 5<sup>th</sup> century the Roman Empire adopted Christianity as the official state religion.

Christianity from its very beginnings has been a faith that has incorporated other cultural and religious traditions especially when it moves into a new area. By introducing holidays that combined older traditions in the culture the Catholic faith was able to win new converts more easily. Pope Gregory the IV instituted All Saint's Day as an alternative to *Samhain* in 835. In 998 a French Monastery introduced All Soul's Day which was closer in spirit to *Samhain* and spread quickly through Europe. Many Halloween traditions which were incompatible with Christianity became connected to Christian folk beliefs about evil spirits.

As European immigrants, especially people from the British Isles where Celtic influences had remained strong, came to America they brought their Halloween traditions with them. Over time as superstitions associated with Halloween died away, October 31<sup>st</sup> became more of a children's holiday. The tradition of trick-or-treating did not become established until the very start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

In certain ways the critics of Halloween are right. Halloween does have a pagan origin and many superstitions of the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance found expression through Halloween. Today there is renewed interest in Druidism and Wicca. Many of these groups try to bring Halloween back to its pre-Christian origins. Despite the criticisms, Halloween and All Saints Day have come to play a meaningful role in the Christian faith over the centuries. In our theology of a priesthood of all believers, remembering the saints who have gone before us provides us with the example they set in living out the Christian life. All Saints Day reminds us that the promise of salvation is not only extended to the saints before us but to us as well. Halloween provides us reminders of our mortality. It reminds us that there is darkness in the world. This darkness is not only in the world but in us as well. We tend to have a natural fascination with the morbid and the macabre. Deep down we are all both saints and sinners. There is an importance to not ignoring the dark side of the soul. Indeed, it is into the darkness of our souls that Christ tries to enter. One of my favorite quotes from Martin Luther is if you turn your back on the devil, he will bite you in the behind.

Through the grace of Christ's death and resurrection we need not fear the darkness, death, or Halloween. This is a powerful message. It is a powerful message especially during a pandemic where 1 in 500 Americans have died from COVID. We should all do what we can to stop the spread of COVID and prevent further deaths. With that said, when death does come, though we may mourn and lament the loss of loved ones, as Christians we need not fear death or the pandemic. Celebrating Halloween gives us that permission to not be afraid.

God's Peace be with you,  
Pastor Matt

Works Consulted:

Lanford, Brett. Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 2002. © 1993-2001 Microsoft Corporation.

## BIBLE STUDY FOR KIDS

It's fun to build a house with blocks or toy logs. The best floor for building is a smooth floor - not a bumpy rug. As the house gets taller, it needs the flat floor to keep it sturdy and strong.

If you go to the beach, it's fun to build with sand. You can use wet sand to make shapes and build a castle. Of course, you won't be surprised when the sand moves around as the water splashes on it. It's OK if your castle doesn't last because you don't live in it!

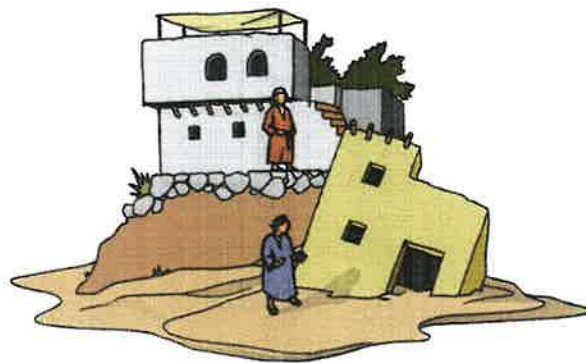
Jesus teaches us to build our house on solid **rock**! The **rock** is a strong foundation for the house, to keep it upright, even in a storm: Matthew 7:24-27. We have seen the power of storms in our area and we have seen broken trees and homes.

Is Jesus telling us about a house or about ourselves? He is actually asking each of us to believe in him before we make choices in our lives! We learn about God's plan for us in the Bible and God gives us strength! You'll see - the first decision we should make is to follow Jesus, who leads us through faith.

What does this lesson tell us about life? **Jesus is our rock**. He is the foundation of all we do. Our faith in Jesus gives us the ability to stand up to problems or storms that may come our way. He will be with us always and will guide us as we go.

Let's pray for people who have been in a storm or have other problems in their lives, as we know that God hears our prayers!

**Jesus is our rock.**



### On YouTube

See the story on video and hear the song:  
**Veggie Tales** sing the song:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JzTJqmK8Exk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eX85E9J6M0I>

Look for the coloring page on page 12.

# Evangelism

## EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

As we begin autumn, and hopefully a welcome change in temperatures, we naturally start to change our habits. One habit that should not be changed is church attendance! (Unless you haven't been able to attend.) The other habit is reaching out and praying for people in the neighborhood and community at large. Many people regularly pray for members of the church, the pastor, those who work to help bring the service to fruition. Others pray for their neighbors and neighborhood, as well as the town, the county, the state, and most importantly - the government.

Looking back at history, it was a regular activity to pray for others. That is evangelism at the heart of the matter. Take some time this autumn and pray for those around you. Hopefully you will be able to return to church, or continue to attend, and we can pray for you there.

God never sleeps! Even at 2:00 am He is listening if you pray!

Karen Matlack

[kmatl22349@verizon.net](mailto:kmatl22349@verizon.net)



## SOCIAL MINISTRY

As of September 15, we have donated 180 lbs of food to the Warminster Food Bank!! Thanks to all who continue to contribute each month. As the price of food continues to rise each month, families are having a harder time to provide for their families. We are an important part of that equation!! Don't forget that the bench in front of our main entrance is available anytime for drop offs! Thanks again for your care and support for this essential ministry.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Nancy Sclight, Social Ministry



## SUNDAY SCHOOL – on ZOOM!

**Holy Moly!** Sunday School classes have begun on **zoom**, with our fun new curriculum called *Holy Moly*. The lessons are written in rhyme, the illustrations are in the graphic novel style and the videos tell the Bible stories creatively!

We invite new students to join our class, which is geared to elementary ages. Older students are welcome, too, as we follow our Bible lessons with Pastor Matt and the Sunday School teachers. Let us know if you'd like to join us and we'll order student books and crafts for you!

Our class will meet on the **2nd and 4th Sundays** every month. Please contact the church office to register or with any questions: [office@adventrichboro.org](mailto:office@adventrichboro.org) or 215-355-2529. See you soon on zoom!

- Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

	SUNDAY	SCHOOL
October	10	6:30 p.m.
	24	“



### 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 7:00 pm by Zoom.**

Zoom invitation:

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

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



### STITCH CLUB SATURDAYS, 10:00 A.M.

Stitch club continues to meet on **Saturdays at 10:00 A.M.** Stitch club is open to all who would like to join. If you like to knit, crochet or do needlepoint, this is for you!



### MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men's Breakfast will commence **Saturday Oct. 9** promptly at **8:30 AM.** If you are looking for new exciting menus. Forget it. Look forward to seeing you.

Dave Shearer



### ADVENT'S STITCH CLUB BAZAAR SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 10, 17 & 24

The Advent Stitch Club is having their Bazaar on **Sundays, October 10, 17, and 24,** before and after Sunday services. There will be wonderful hand made items on display for sale in the narthex.

Proceeds from the sale will help support the weekly flower arrangements that grace our altar each week. Thank you for supporting this cause!



### FREE INFORMATIONAL MEDICARE SEMINAR

Advent will be hosting a free informational Medicare seminar on **Tuesday, October 12 at 11:00 a.m.** Local PA licensed Medicare specialist, Christopher Vedral of Magnolia Senior Benefits will be the presenter. Topics include potential savings on Medicare supplemental plans, including Part D drug prescriptions and catering a plan to one's specific needs. There is no charge for services rendered to you. This is for those turning age 65 and for those who wish to modify their current coverage. The Medicare annual enrollment period runs from October 15 - December 7. Advent will host a second seminar on **November 9.**



### THE INSTALLATION OF PASTOR MATT

Come celebrate the installation of Pastor Matt at Advent Lutheran Church on **Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.**



The Dean of the Lower Bucks Conference, Pastor Norbert Hahn will officiate the service. Normally, the installation of a pastor takes place within a couple of months of the pastor starting a new call, due to the pandemic, we have postponed it until now. The installation service is an occasion of celebration for the congregation and for the broader church as well. More information will be in the November Newsletter.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING FAVORITES



**ADVENT'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 AFTER THE SECOND SERVICE**  
(More information in the November Newsletter.)



**MIKE DETTRA'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT**  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17 AT 7:30 P.M.**  
(More information in the November Newsletter.)



### WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The volunteer positions include **Altar Guild** (setting up the altar), **AV technicians** (operating and working the sound system and cameras [training included]) **Candle Lighters/Snuffers** for before and after the service. **Communion Assistant** (help with the distribution of communion during the service), **Flower distribution** (wrapping flowers and distributing them after the service), **Lay Reader** (read the 1 & 2<sup>nd</sup> lessons and Psalm plus some of the prayers during the service), and **Usher** (help people find seats, direct them to communion, collect offering during the service).

If you are interested in helping, please contact Gail Oines at [deaconago@yahoo.com](mailto:deaconago@yahoo.com).

### FLOWER CHART & MISSION SUPPORT FOR 2021

The sign-up sheets for Altar Flower and Mission Support dedications for 2021 are in the narthex. The cost to dedicate one bouquet is \$25.00. One week of Mission support is \$25.00. There are many openings available on the Mission Support chart.



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**SERVING IN WORSHIP IN OCTOBER**

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – 8:00 A.M.**

10/03 Dave Shearer  
10/10 Nancy Hill  
10/17 Dave Shearer  
10/24 Nancy Hill  
10/31 Rose Herbert

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – 9:30 A.M.**

10/03 Karen Matlack  
10/10 Gail Oines  
10/17 Jennifer McQuiggan  
10/24 Jeanne Gryszka  
10/31 John Flint

**ALTAR GUILD**

8:00 A.M. Hanna McCollum  
9:30 A.M. Karen Matlack, Gail Oines,  
Nancy Slight, Rhona Slawter

**OUR TECH CREW**

Joel Denis, Mike Dettra, Karen Matlack, Tony  
Gryzka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION**

Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Slight, Kathy Sitler,  
Rhona Slawter, Kathryn Urbaniak



**ADVENT'S BIRTHDAY CORNER**  
**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**



3 Caitlin (Matlack) Eagles  
4 Alexander Oines  
14 Michelle Rayher  
15 Mario Vincent Evangelist V

17 Rev. Josephine Wright  
21 Matthew Jafar  
26 Hanna McCollum

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

**CENTRO NUEVA CREACIÓN**  
**HOME OF THE GOODLANDS**



**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.

# OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	2 10:00 AM Stitch Club
3 <b>19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time George Henry 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study	4 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	5	6 7:00 PM Bible Study by Zoom (see pg. 6)	7	8 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg	9 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM Stitch Club
10 <b>20<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time Rose Herbert 10:45 Church Council Meeting 6:30 PM. Sunday School Zoom Meeting	11 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	12 11:00 AM <b>Free Informational Medicare Seminar</b>	13 7:00 PM Bible Study by Zoom (see pg. 6)	14	15 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg	16 10:00 AM Stitch Club
17 <b>21<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time Open 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study	18 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	19	20 7:00 PM Bible Study by Zoom (see pg. 6)	21	22 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg	23 10:00 AM Stitch Club
24 <b>23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Traditional Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time Katie Detra & Debbie Carney 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study 6:30 PM Sunday School Zoom Meeting	25 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	26	27 7:00 PM Bible Study by Zoom (see pg. 6)	28	28 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg	28 10:00 AM Stitch Club
31 <b>REFORMATION SUNDAY</b> 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time Karen & Bob Matlock 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study						