

THE ADVENTURE - 2022



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
45 Worthington Mill Road
P. O. Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954
215-355-2529
web: www.adventrichboro.org
e-mail: office@adventrichboro.org



Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church continues to worship indoors and online. Thank God that the COVID infections rates are dramatically down. None the less, as of the writing of this newsletter, the Center for Disease Control, local governmental and church authorities still recommend taking COVID precautions such as mask wear. I look forward to hopefully easing up our precautions as soon as such recommendations are made. We will see how things go.

Advent continues to have these precautions:

- Strongly encourage mask wearing regardless of vaccination status
- Social distancing
- Sanitizing hands and objects handled
- Staying home if you have any symptoms of illness or have been in close contact with anyone with COVID.
- The availability of online worship and the use of zoom for meetings.

Our leadership will continue to gauge the situation week by week and will keep the congregation informed of any adjustment to our precautions.

MARCH WORSHIP SERVICES



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

We will be having Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, **March 2 at Noon and 7:00 p.m.** in person and on line. See pages 5&6 for more information.

MARCH 6

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

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

MARCH 13

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open
- 10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Sunday School Zoom Class

MARCH 20
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

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

MARCH 27
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion
9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Sunday School Zoom Class

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 **12:00 p.m.** 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=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENlVDJTT0pnUT09>

8:00 A.M. Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877 Passcode: 443533

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/85405629972?pwd=aGErSFNlbVAvNmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

9:30 A.M. Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972 Passcode: 506714

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

PASTOR MATT'S THOUGHTS FOR MARCH 2022

I talk to my mother, who lives in Ohio, on the phone at least once a week. If something happens or something makes me think of sharing something with her then there might be more phone calls or a couple text messages. There are times she makes me a little crazy. I know I do the same to her. None the less, she is supportive. I will grudgingly admit that she can be wise. I love my mother. I enjoy having her as part of my life.

But it wasn't always this way. It pains me to confess that there were a number of years where I hardly ever called my mother. More often that not the only time I talked with her was when she called me after not hearing from me for a while. The conversations would be good. I certainly loved her and knew she loved me. It's just that once the phone was hung up, I would move on to the next thing and then the next thing and then the next, and my mother would be out of my mind amid the busyness of life. I know all this may sound horrible. The truth is that there were some reasons why my heart was distant which I had to work through and heal. The result is that for a number of years my mother didn't feel like a part of my life, not like she does now. It was heart breaking for her and, though I didn't realize it at the time, I suffered too.

Why should I be confessing all this to you in a newsletter article? This March we enter the season of Lent. Lent is a time of confession. It is a time of admitting our sins and turning back toward God. It is a time of admitting our hurt and our need for God. It is a time where if our hearts have grown distant from God that we seek out God's love. Does God feel distant to you? This is not a question about whether you believe in God or believe God loves you. **God does love you.** Like our relationships with the people in our lives, when our hearts grow distant our communication can grow distant too. Does God feel distant to you? How often do you talk with God?

I have chosen the theme of "Prayer" for Lent this year. I will focus on how to pray and the power of prayer to encounter God's love in our lives. I encourage you to join me on Sunday morning in worship and the mid-week Lenten worship service to deepen the power of prayer in your life.

God's Peace be with you,

Pastor Matt



Bible Lesson for Kids The Last Supper



Jesus' disciples followed him all around as he taught crowds of people about God, healed many sick people and performed other awesome miracles. His faithful listeners realized that he truly was the son of God.

There were others who did not want Jesus to become more popular. Some were leaders who wanted to keep the power they held. Jesus knew that they were going to come after him. First, he wanted to tell his disciples what they should do to be ready for this.

As the day was coming for the yearly Passover celebration, the 12 disciples asked Jesus where he would like to celebrate the feast. They wanted to go there to prepare everything for him. He told them of a house where they would be welcome, but not be noticed by others.

“While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.” Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood . . . which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.” Matthew 26:26-28

Jesus told his disciples that he would soon be taken away from them to fulfill God's promises.

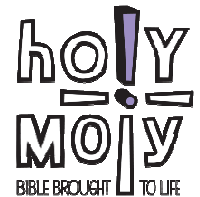
He was willing to suffer and be put to death to save all sinners who believed in him and would need God's forgiveness of their sins. God would forgive them and they would go to heaven.

Today, we understand why Jesus compared the bread to his body, as he knew his body would be sacrificed for us, his faithful believers. The wine was a symbol for his blood, which he was willing to shed for us. We now celebrate communion using those same words during worship services, to place ourselves as participants in The Last Supper. Jesus died for our sins, so that we may be forgiven and find our place in heaven.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ZOOM IN MARCH

Sunday School will meet on **zoom** on the **2nd and 4th Sundays** in March.

New students are welcome! Pastor Matt and the Sunday School teachers guide us through the Bible lessons. Let us know if you'd like to join us and we'll order student books and crafts for you! Lent is our topic for March.



Our fun curriculum is called ***Holy Moly***. The lessons are written in rhyme. The illustrations are graphic novel style. The short videos bring the Bible stories to life!

Please contact the church office to register or with any questions: office@adventrichboro.org or 215-355-2529. We'll see you soon on zoom! - Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

	SUNDAY	SCHOOL
March	13	6:30 p.m.
	27	“

Picture to color on page 10.



EVANGELISM

Do You Want to Fast This Lent? Try this:
Fast from hurting words and say kind words instead.
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries and have trust in God.
Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
Fast from words; be silent and listen.

(Taken from the words of Pope Francis)

Karen Matlack
kmatl22349@verizon.net



SOCIAL MINISTRY

We have received a letter from Lutheran World Relief thanking us for our generous gift of \$1,110.00. The letter relayed the story of a Syrian refugee who started a honey business after receiving a beehive and training. She is now able to provide for her family and has trained other women to succeed as well. “Thank you for saving and transforming lives by your generous donations.”

Warminster Food Bank also thanks Advent for the generous donations of 170 pounds of food received in January. Please continue donating whatever you can each month either on days that the church office is open or you can deposit your bags in the bench outside the main entrance anytime. For suggestions on which items are requested each week, go to www.warminsterfoodbank.org.

Thank-you for your continued support of these important missions.

Nancy Slight, Social Ministry



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

We will be having Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, **March 2 at Noon and 7:00 p.m.** in person and on line. We will also be having mid week Lenten Services throughout five weeks of Lenten.

Noon Ash Wednesday Service

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87844300892?pwd=Q3N0RENjL093ZGFFVmhneUtkYS9Ydz09>

7:00p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88386369457?pwd=cm1yb2dhZTNUOFZkaGtycUpzeVk1dz09>

Ash Wednesday 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 **1:00 p.m.** on Ash Wednesday for Noon service and 8 p.m. for the 7:00 p.m. service: <https://www.adventrichboro.org/>

Facebook: Go to the church Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/adventrichboropa/>

Zoom:

Smart device/Computer instructions- Click on the links listed above for the Noon Service and 7:00 p.m. Service.

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656

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



MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Prayer is the theme for worship this season of Lent. Prayer is about talking with God. It is also about listening to God and opening ourselves up to God. This year's mid-week Lenten worship services are a worship series called "Open My Life, Lord". Service be held in person and online this year **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.**, March 9th through April 6th.

<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82926096221?pwd%3DbDd2NkdmVUxZOFQ2VUZXR3p1OWQvdz09&sa=D&source=calendar&usd=2&usg=AOvVaw10FPzI7WY0xAuc5ppS16-N>



MID WEEK LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Gather at church during the season of Lent for soup and fellowship before the mid week Lenten worship service. The Soup Suppers will begin at **6:00 p.m.** in the social hall on **Wednesdays**, March 9th through April 6th. Please sign up at church to bring soup, bread or drinks. Please contact Gail Oines with any questions or concerns 215-534-8218.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SUNDAY, MARCH 13

One of the many ministries at Advent Lutheran Church that we do that makes me proud to be a pastor of this congregation is how we generously gift to Lutheran World Relief. On Sunday, March 13, **Emma Wagner**, a representative of Lutheran world Relief, will be visiting Advent for the morning. She will preach and she will share with us about the important ministry we do through Lutheran World Relief.



PING PONG - TUESDAYS AT 6:30 P.M.

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m. Contact Ray Heiss or Pastor Matt for additional information.



MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP SATURDAY, MARCH 12

We have received several new recipes. After we have several meetings of the board of directors in order to evaluate and then practice them in our test kitchens, we may be in a position to try them on our membership.

In the meantime, we plan to have our same old cuisine on Saturday, March 12 serving at 8:30 a.m. **Dave**



STITCH CLUB SATURDAYS 10:00 A.M.

Stitch club will start to meet again, starting Saturday, February 5, at **10:00 a.m.** (**weather permitting**). Stitch club is open to all who would like to join. If you like to knit, crochet, or do needlepoint, this is for you!

STITCH CLUB ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Stitch club items are **available throughout the year**. If you need any of the items made by the Stitch Club, i.e., blankets, hats, baby items, please contact Hanna McCollum 215-962-9032 or Jeff Jobes 215-355-4149.

THE LEIDY MICROSCOPIAL SOCIETY WILL BE AT ADVENT ON FRIDAY MARCH 11 AND SATURDAY MARCH 12

Advent members interested in rocks and minerals may want to check this out:

The Leidy Microscopical Society hosts its 45th Annual Micromount Symposium in the Narthex of Advent Lutheran Church on **Friday March 11**, Noon - 6:00 pm & **Saturday March 12**, 9:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Visitor's Fee (No Table): \$5.00 Friday & \$10.00 Saturday (includes lunch).

Reservations/Admission/Questions: Email donmcalarnen@outlook.com Phone: **610 - 584-1364**

Make checks payable to Don McAlarnen, 916 Senator Road, Norristown, PA 19403.



WE'RE KEEPING TABS

Recycling can tabs for charity is a great idea! The tab collection program began at the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House in 1997. <https://www.rmhcphilly.org/recycle/>

If you **bring them in**, we'll drop them off . . . Look for marked containers in the narthex, located on the shelf above the coat rack. No cans, please – just tabs! Thank you.



FILL A TRAY AT MEALTIME

Look for aluminum trays on the tables in our narthex . . . Take some home to await any meal that has one serving left – or perhaps you've made extra food on purpose! Fill the 3 sections, add the foil cover, plus the label and bag that come with the tray. Voila! A meal for a shut-in or a person in need!

Advent has a dedicated freezer for meals and we drop them off at Caring for Friends when our freezer fills up. We continue this effort throughout the year. The impact of your food or monetary donation can be viewed on caringforfriends.org.



ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

There are numerous dates available for 2022 to dedicate flowers to beautify the altar each Sunday. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the narthex with your name and dedication. Two bouquets are available each week. The cost is \$25 per bouquet. In addition to making the altar more beautiful, you take the flowers home after the late service to enjoy during the week. If you have any questions call Cindy Frey 267-205-0713.

MISSION SUPPORT FOR 2022

The sign-up sheets Mission Support dedications for 2022 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 for 2022.



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:

Lt. Col. Andrew M Frey, Jr is serving as Senior Weather Officer, NORAD/NORTHCOM stationed at Peterson AFB, Colorado Springs,

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

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

SERVING IN WORSHIP - MARCH'S SCHEDULE

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – 8:00 AM

- 3/6 Nancy Hill
- 3/13 Dave Shearer
- 3/20 Nancy Hill
- 3/27 Rose Herbert

ALTAR GUILD

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – 9:30 A.M.

- 3/6 Karen Matlack
- 3/13 Gail Oines
- 3/20 Jennifer McQuiggan
- 3/27 Jeanne Gryzka

OUR TECH CREW

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

FLOWER DISTRIBUTION

- Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Slight, Rhona Slawter

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANT

- 3/2 Noon Gail Oines 7:00 p.m. open



ADVENT'S BIRTHDAY CORNER
MARCH BIRTHDAYS



- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 5 Justin Segal | 11 Deborah Creighton | 20 Andrew Slight |
| 7 Jake Benjamin | English | 22 Sally Frost |
| Welwood | 13 Donna Duffy | 22 Arielle Segal |
| 9 Lauren Ciurley | Gideon Ulysses Stiles | 23 Shane Hansen |
| Brooke Creighton | 18 John Masciotro | 28 Tom Herbert |
| 10 David Breig | Andy Stirzel | 30 Rachael McQuiggan |

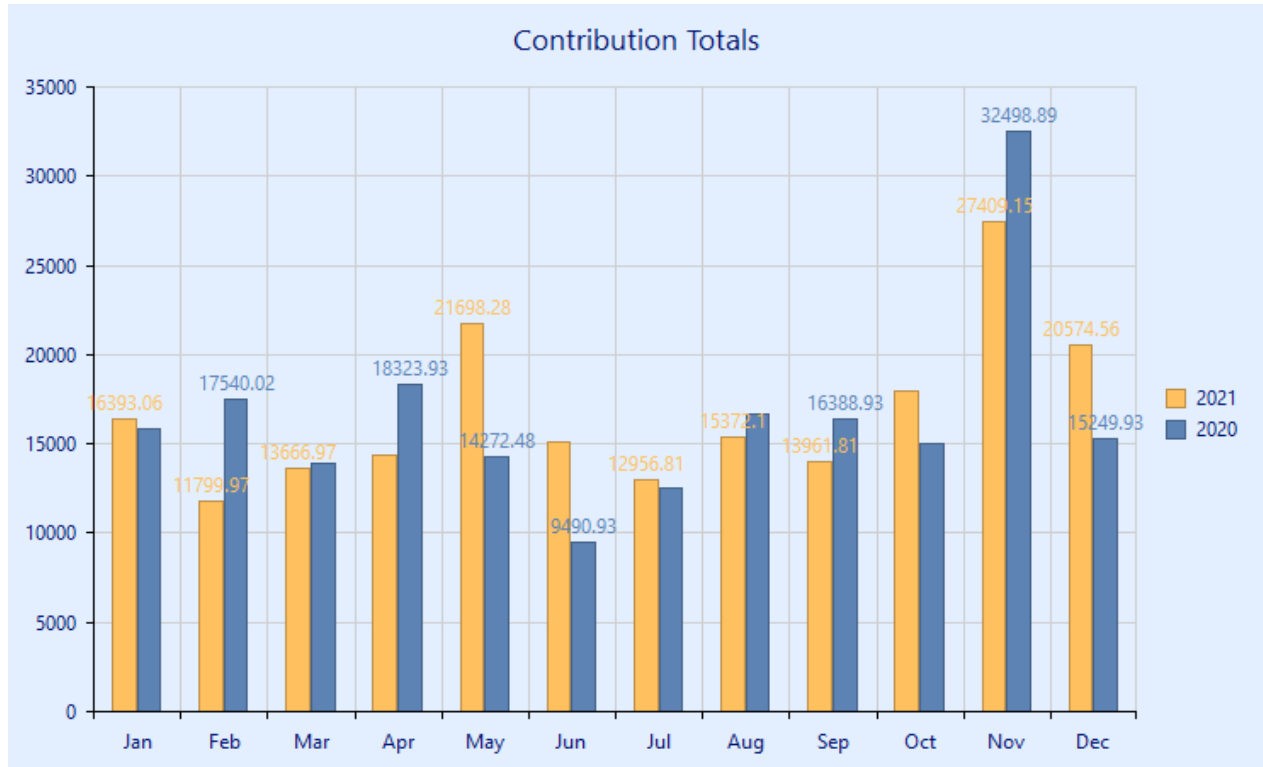
Please contact the church office if you or someone you know has been omitted from the list. Thank you.

FINANCE/TIME AND TALENT REPORT

Thank you for your continued generosity! Your financial gifts enable Advent to continue all our ministries throughout the year. Offerings may be brought to worship services, dropped off in person at the church office (normally Tues-Thurs between 9:00-1:00, please call first), or mailed to P.O. Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954-0840. All offerings are confidential.

Tony Gryska, Finance Committee Chairperson

FINANCIAL UPDATE



Income for January 2022

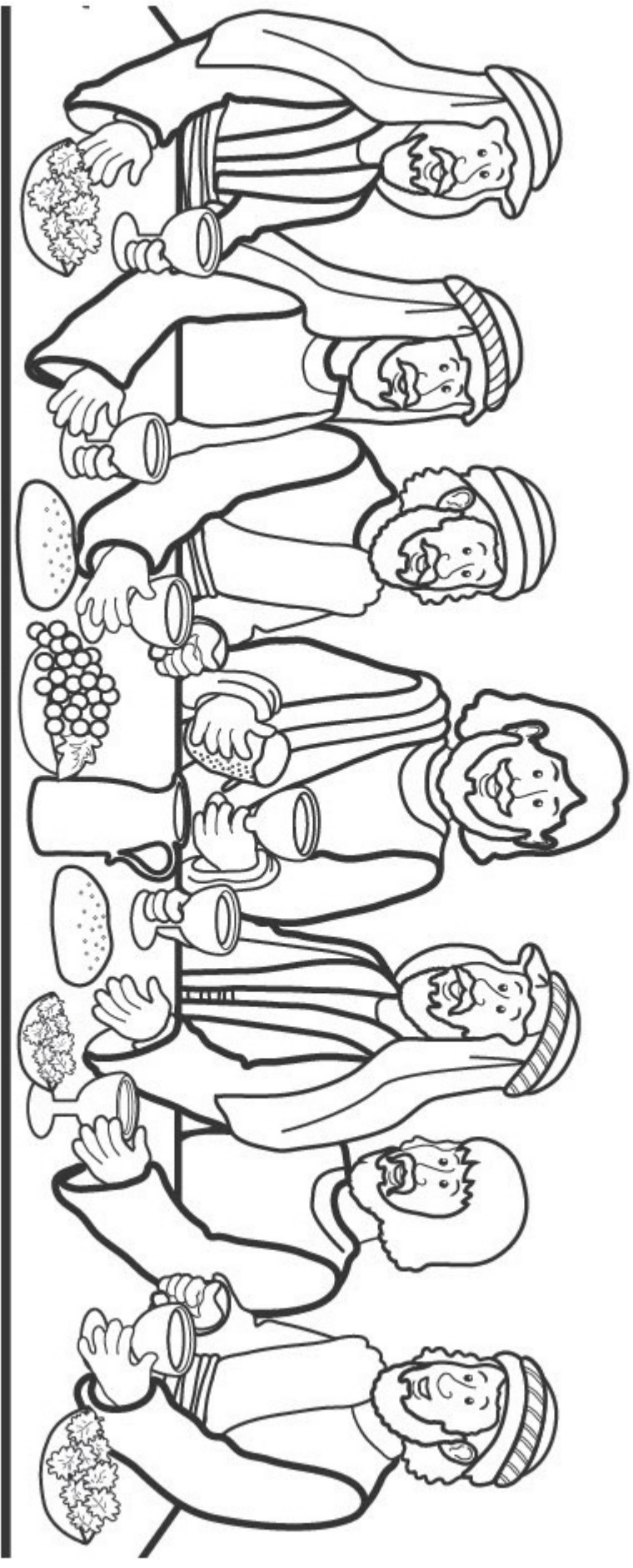
Benevolence (LWR, Mission Support, etc.)	\$ 450.00
General Fund	\$ 9,846.43
Mortgage Fund	\$ 2,443.50

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There are numerous ways to continue your offerings.

- Drop off your offering at the church office. The office is usually open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 10 AM and 1 PM. Call to confirm hours.
- Mail a check to the church. The mailing address is "Advent Lutheran Church, PO Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954"
- Contribute online at www.adventrichboro.org. At the top of the page, click the "Give Now" link to see frequently asked questions. At the bottom of the page click the "Give Now" link for our Giving platform. You may also choose to set up recurring donations or a one-time donation.


Again, thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions concerning your offering please call Cindy Frey, Financial Secretary 267-205-0713

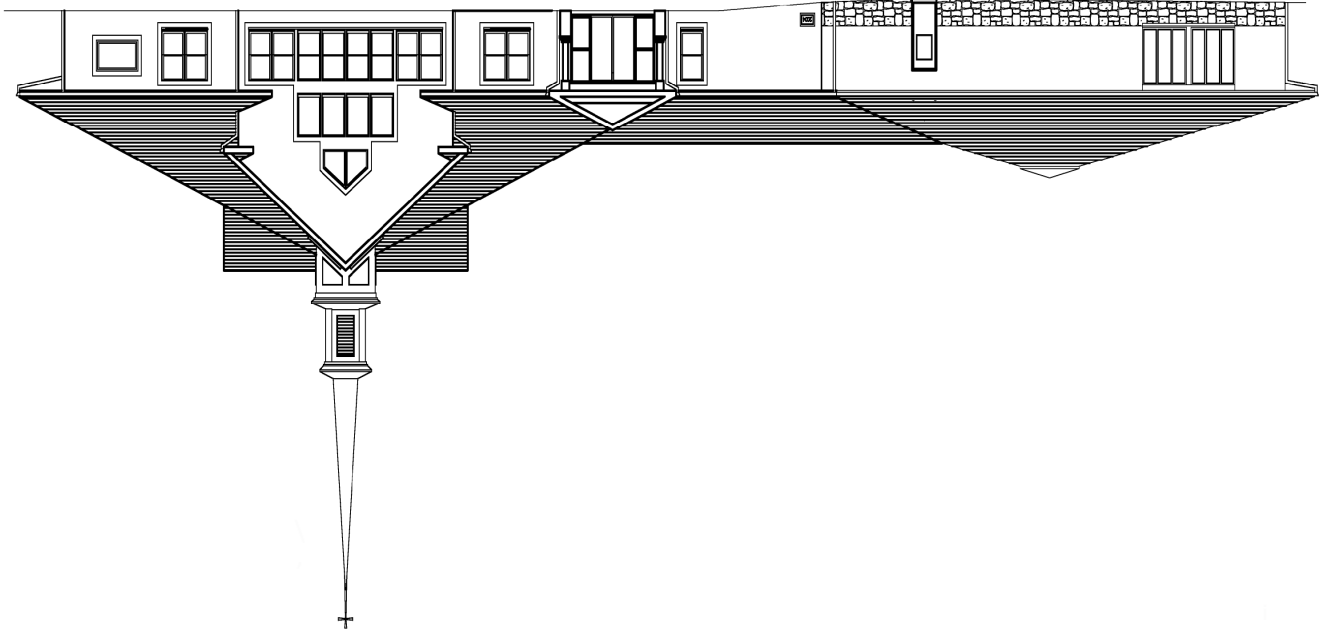
Name _____



**Jesus said to his disciples.
“Do this in remembrance of me.”**

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:30 PM Ping Pong	2 Ash Wednesday Services 12:00 PM & 7:00 PM In person and online	3	4 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	5 10:00 AM Stitch Club
6 <u>1st Sunday in Lent</u> 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	7 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	8 6:30 PM Ping Pong	9 6:00 PM Mid Week Soup Supper 7:00 PM Mid Week Lenten Service in person and on Zoom	10	11 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	12 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM Stitch Club
13 <u>2nd Sunday in Lent</u> 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Traditional Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting 6:30 PM Sunday School Class via Zoom	14 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	15 6:30 PM Ping Pong	16 6:00 PM Mid Week Soup Supper 7:00 PM Mid Week Lenten Service in person and on Zoom	17 	18 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	19 10:00 AM Stitch Club
20 <u>3rd Sunday in Lent</u> 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	21 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	22 6:30 PM Ping Pong	23 6:00 PM Mid Week Soup Supper 7:00 PM Mid Week Lenten Service in person and on Zoom	24	25 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	26 10:00 AM Stitch Club
27 <u>4th SUNDAY IN LENT</u> 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 6:30 PM Sunday School Class via Zoom	28 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	29 6:30 PM Ping Pong	30 6:00 PM Mid Week Soup Supper 7:00 PM Mid Week Lenten Service in person and on Zoom	31		



Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church

45 Worthington Mill Rd.

P.O. Box 840

Richboro, PA18954-0840

Address Service Requested