

THE ADVENTURE - 2023



ADVENT EVANGELICAL 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



The Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen, Pastor
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Richboro, PA 18954
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Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church continues to worship indoors and online. Mask wearing at Advent is optional for the fully vaccinated and recommended for the unvaccinated and immunocompromised.

Based on Center for Disease Control, local governmental and church authorities' recommendations, Advent continues to have these precautions:

- Respect for those who choose to mask or not mask
- 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.



APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE



SUNDAY OF THE PASSION/PALM SUNDAY- APRIL 2

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Congregational Life Committee
- 10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES



MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 6 7:00 P.M.

Holy Communion Service

(see page 4 for Zoom details)



GOOD FRIDAY-APRIL 7

7:00 P.M. Service of Tenebrae

(see page 4 for Zoom details)

Community Good Friday –

Stations of the Cross -see pg. 4



THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD – APRIL 9

- 8:00 a.m. Festive Service of Holy Communion
- 9:30 a.m. Festive Service of Holy Communion
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Church Council

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 16

- 8:00 a.m. Service of the Word
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Service of the Word
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open
- 10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 23

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open
- 10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 30

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open
- 10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

SUNDAY ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION

Sunday service may also be attended by Zoom and it will be live streamed on Facebook.

A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

Regular Scheduled Zoom Services:

8:00 a.m. Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Holy Communion

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877 Pass code: 443533

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

9:30 a.m. Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Holy Communion

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972 Pass code: 506714

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErSFNlbVAvNmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

PASTOR MATT'S THOUGHTS FOR APRIL

Our Christian faith is about change and movement. It is dynamic and transforming. Our faith is about hope and love, not just as concepts or vague emotions, but as things that happen. This action, which is the very essence of our faith, is captured in the progression of Lent into Holy Week and then into Easter. This action or progression occurs through Christ's death and resurrection and is promised to occur in us through our baptism, that we too have the promise of our death and resurrection. This gives us both hope and love.

This "death and resurrection" thing does not happen just once a year at Easter or once for Jesus two thousand years ago. Death and resurrection happen all the time. Every day millions of the cells in your body die and millions of new ones are born. It happens when winter turns into spring and when night turns to day. It happens when lovers make up and estranged brothers come together. It happens whenever your sin is impossible to ignore and yet the one who you have hurt still forgives you. Death and resurrection are to hunger and then be full, thirsty and then be satisfied, in danger and then be safe, cold then warm, alone and then to know love, from seeing nothing to seeing all the beauty of creation, from a troubled heart to knowing peace, from lost to found, from illness to wellness, and from death to eternal life. Martin Luther described the life of faith as experiencing death and resurrection on a daily basis. The life of faith is about seeing and recognizing how God raises us to new life every day in ways both great and seemingly small. It is with such recognition of God's constant activity, movement, and action within our day to day living that reassures our faith, fills us with deep love and gives us limitless hope that no matter what kind of death, figurative or literal, that may befall us, God delivers us. When God delivers us, when He resurrects us, we are transformed by the experience and made new. The life of faith is about starting every day old and ending it new, starting each day in death and ending it resurrected.

I pray that as we celebrate Easter this month, you encounter the promise of Christ's death and resurrection as it occurs in your life.

Love and Peace,
Pastor Matt

PASTOR MATT ON VACATION APRIL 10 TO APRIL 18

Pastor Matt will be out of the office for vacation from Monday, April 10 to Tuesday, April 18. Pastor Nathan Krause from Redeemer Lutheran Church, Jamison will be providing emergency pastoral coverage for Pastor Matt. His contact number is 267-884-1195.

CHANGES TO APRIL OFFICE HOURS

The normal office schedule of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will change starting April 10 as follows: Monday, April 10, Tuesday and Wednesday 9 to 2. Fran will be out of the office until Monday April 24, Tuesday April 25 and Friday April 28. May's adjusted schedule will be posted in May Newsletter.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATES EASTER

We are preparing for Easter with important lessons about God's plan for Jesus, as he led his faithful followers and shared God's love with them. The joy of recognizing Jesus was God's son was new to many, though their joy would become everlasting, once Jesus was resurrected from the dead--on Easter. Our *Holy Moly* lesson videos and books will guide us through these meaningful events. We'll celebrate with special Easter treats after Easter, on April 16. Please note: There will be no Sunday School class on Easter Sunday, so children will have the opportunity to attend Easter worship with their families. Happy Easter to all!



CHOIR AND PRAISE BAND PRACTICES

Practices of the Choir and Praise Band are on **Wednesday evenings**. There will be practice on **April 5, 12 and 19**. Praise Band practice is at 6:30 and Vocal Choir practice is at 7:15. All are welcome and encouraged to join; no prior experience is necessary. Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director, or Pastor Matt for more details.



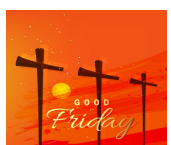
MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 7:00 P.M.

Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion will be held on April 6, at 7:00 p.m. Service can be attended in person or on Zoom. Service will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to You Tube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

Zoom attendance: Topic: Maundy Thursday Service 2023, Meeting ID: 828 8385 5709

Passcode: 058913

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82883855709?pwd=c0JLTvQvZXZBZWpqbk3Z0I5UIBHUT09>



COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Community Good Friday Service, Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday, April 7, 12:00 p.m. at North & Southampton Reformed Church, 1380 Bristol Road, Southampton. Area clergy & lay leaders including Pastor Matt and Gail Oines will be involved. Everyone in the community is welcome to attend.



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, APRIL 7, 7:00 p.m.

Service of Tenebrae will be held on Friday, April 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Service can be attended in person or on Zoom. Service will be live streamed on Facebook. A recording of the service will be uploaded to You Tube and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes: Zoom attendance: Topic: Good Friday Service 2023. Meeting ID:

880 5811 5219 Passcode: 343336

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88058115219?pwd=MVVRT01hQzRPRThKbHBXNXYYeFBsQT09>



MEN'S BREAKFAST SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 8:30 A.M.

Men's breakfast will take place Saturday, April 8 at 8:30 am. Since the restrictions of Lenten Fasting will be removed, we are able to return to our famous pre-Lenten menus. Coffee is ready at 7:30 a.m.). Dave



THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY RESUMING APRIL 29

Bible Study will resume at 7:00 pm on Thursdays beginning April 29. We will continue to study The Sermon on the Mount. We will also continue to meet by Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89632518358?pwd=Smg5dm1Ba0VZamZjNG1YMk02MlVv_dz09



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 24 – 28

The dates have been set for Vacation Bible School at Advent this summer.

The week of July 24 – 28, Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m.–noon will feature **OPERATION RESTORATION** for students age 4 through completion of grade 6. Learning with friends

makes Bible School fun! As they make connections between Bible stories and actions, they'll discover simple ways to live out faith in daily life, such as feed, heal, forgive, pray and rest. Students will employ art, music, science and storytelling in this creative program, along with outdoor play and a snack each day. Registration forms are available.



SOCIAL MINISTRY

During the month of March our church donated 100 lbs. of food to the Warminster Food Bank. As you know the price of food has skyrocketed! The need has increased as well. If we could increase our giving it would be greatly appreciated. If each family would contribute 2 or 3 items each month it would make a difference. Thanks for your continued support!

Nancy Sclight/Social Ministry



DRIVE in AND DROP off FOOD COLLECTION

If you have food for the Warminster Food Pantry that you or your friends would like to donate, and the church is not open, just drive in and drop off the food under the seat of the bench outside the front door. You may still bring food into the church narthex during church and office hours.

For suggestions on which items are requested each week, go to: www.warminsterfoodbank.org.



ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

There are numerous dates available for 2023 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.



FELLOWSHIP TIME

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet through August is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e. coffee & tea) and all paper products.



STITCH CLUB ITEMS AVAILABLE

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.



NUEVA CREACION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Please consider supporting our sister congregation, Nueva Creación Lutheran Church in Philadelphia, which does vital ministry in North Philadelphia. A sign up sheet is found on the table in the narthex near the entrance to the sanctuary. The cost to support the Mission week is \$25.00. There are openings available through the end of the year.



THE ARMED FORCES

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

Colonel Andrew M. Frey, Jr. is serving as Command Center Director, NORAD/NORTHCOM, stationed at Peterson SFB, Colorado Springs, CO

US Army Ranger Liam McKendry, grandson of Pastor Jo Wright stationed in Fort Benning, GA

PFC Joseph Vanderstine, grandson of Alan and Rhona Slawter safely home from the Middle East.

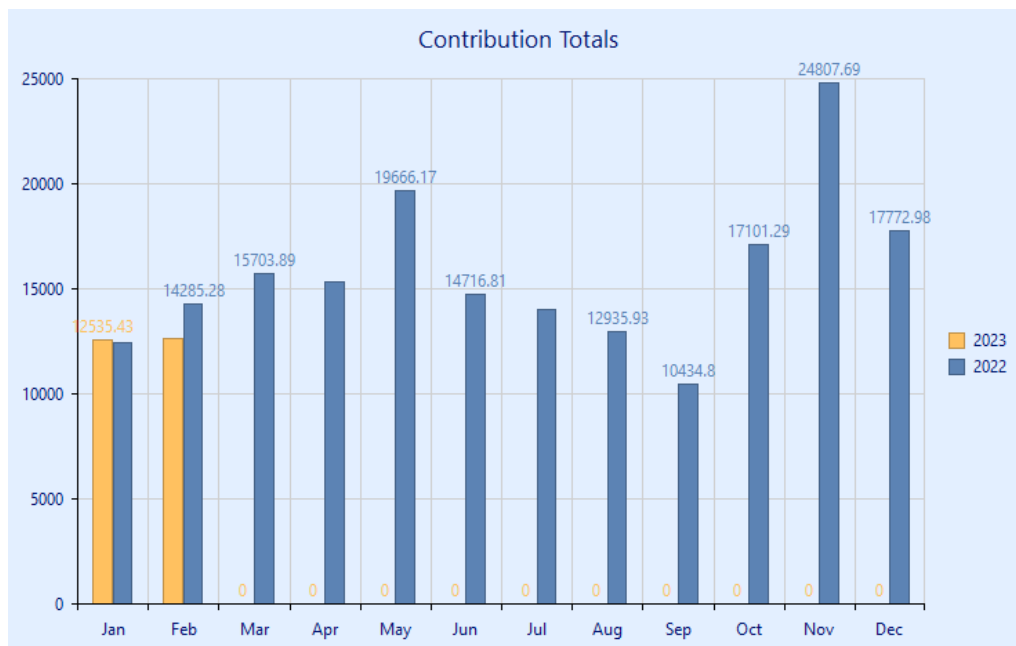
If there are any errors or omissions, please notify the church office. Thank you.



APRIL

2	Brandt Stirzel	8	Frank Lattal	17	Gail Oines
6	Mike Dettra		Bill Pearson	21	Amy Breig
7	Shannon McQuiggan	14	Carl Breig	28	Erik Urbaniak
			Gretta Lattal		

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



Financial Report for February 2023

	Rec'd for February 2023	Budget for February 2023
Current	\$9,551.53	\$17,281.00
Mortgage	\$2,191	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod		
Only	\$44	\$134
Other		
Benevolence	\$817	
Total	\$14,778.43	\$19,313.00

	Recv'd YTD 1/1- 2/28/23	Budget YTD 1/1- 2/28/23
Current	\$21,353.96	\$34,562.00
Mortgage	\$4,772.00	\$3,796.00
Bene. - Synod		
Only	\$154.00	\$268.00
Other		
Benevolence	\$1,102.00	
Total	\$27,381.96	\$38,626.00

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

SERVING IN WORSHIP – APRIL 2023 SCHEDULE

7:00 P.M. LAY READERS

4/06 Gail Oines
4/07 Jeanne Gryszka

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Gail Oines

8:00 A.M. LAY READERS

4/02 David Elkin
4/09 Rose Herbert
4/16 George Henry
4/23 Dave Elkin
4/30 Nancy Hill

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Hanna McCollum
Rose Herbert
George Henry
Janice Hoffman
Open

9:30 A.M. LAY READERS

4/02 Jennifer McQuiggan
4/09 John Flint
4/16 Gail Oines
4/23 Open
4/30 Gail Oines

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Jennifer McQuiggan
John Flint
Gail Oines
Open
Gail Oines

OUR TECH CREW

Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

ALTAR GUILD

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

FLOWER DISTRIBUTION

Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclight, Rhona Slawter



APRIL

2	Brandt Stirzel	Bill Pearson			
6	Mike Dettra	14	Carl Breig		
7	Shannon McQuiggan		21	Amy Breig	
8	Frank Lattal	17	Gretta Lattal	28	Erik Urbaniak
			17	Gail Oines	

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



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00 AM -Noon Stitch Club
2 Passion Sunday 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Congregational life Com. 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study 	3 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting		5 6:30 Praise Band 7:15 Vocal Choir	6 7:00 PM Service 	7 Noon Stations of the Cross 7:00 PM Tenebrae Service At Advent 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg 	8 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM-Noon Stitch Club
9 Resurrection of our Lord - Easter 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Church Council 	10 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting		12 6:30 Praise Band 7:15 Vocal Choir	13	14 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	15 10:00 AM-Noon Stitch Club
16 2ND Sunday in Easter 8:00 AM Service of the Word 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Service of the Word Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study	17 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	18	19 6:30 Praise Band 7:15 Vocal Choir	20	21 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	22 10:00 AM-Noon Stitch Club
23 3rd Sunday in Easter 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	24 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	25	26 No practice	27 7:30 PM Bible Study via Zoom 	28 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	29 10:00 AM-Noon Stitch Club
30 4th Sunday in Easter 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion Sunday School age 4 - gr. 6 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study						