



# THE ADVENTURE



Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church  
April 2025 Issue

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## MISSION STATEMENT

### 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.

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### INCLUDED IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER:

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Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen, pastor

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Richboro, PA 18954

215-355-2529

[www.adventrichboro.org](http://www.adventrichboro.org)

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## COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church continues to have these precautions:

- Respect for those who choose to mask.
- Respect for those who choose social distance.
- Please stay home if you have any symptoms of illness or have been in close contact with anyone with COVID.
- Worship will continue to be available online.
- Those distributing communion will continue to mask but will no longer wear gloves. Personal communion kits are available to those who prefer to commune in the pew or at home.
- We will continue to share the peace with hand waves, peace signs and air hugs.
- Our leadership will continue to gauge the situation week by week and will keep the congregation informed of any adjustment to our precautions.

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MATT

This year we begin the month of April in the season of Easter. Easter is about the gift of God's Grace through the death and resurrection of Jesus. In our Lutheran theology we have an equation for Grace: *Law + Gospel = Grace*. The *Law* reveals the human condition that we sin and cannot obey God. The Gospel is the 'Good News' that our sins are forgiven. When our sins are pointed out and when they are forgiven, we then experience Grace or the profound love of God. This neat, tidy equation is useful in teaching theology, but all too often such theological equations can become just that, equations. 'Law + Gospel = Grace' written on a marker board rarely moves people to great joy just by looking at it. 'Law + Gospel = Grace' doesn't usually make one's throat feel thick with emotion when we simply say it. This bare bones equation needs more flesh on it to have any real meaning.

One of the most moving expressions of experiencing God's Grace is the hymn 'Amazing Grace'. This is one of those hymns that changes people's lives. It's a hymn that has spoken to people's souls for generations bringing comfort and sparking faith.

'Amazing Grace' was written by John Newton. Life for him early on was hard and filled with much suffering. He was a seaman for many years until he was able to be a captain of a slave ship. His conversion to Christianity was on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1748 when he found himself praying to God to get his ship through a storm. From that moment, God worked changes throughout Newton's life. He stayed a slave ship captain several years longer. Newton became a surveyor of tides and then eventually became a minister. 'Amazing Grace' was a hymn Newton wrote for the people of his parish. The hymn reflects how Newton experienced God's Grace through the many turns in his life where some moments were marked with the Law and other moments were marked with the Gospel. His hymn reflects this. Read through these four verses of 'Amazing Grace'. The phrases that reflect the Law are underlined and the phrases that reflect the **Gospel** are in **bold**. The whole hymn reflects Grace:

**Amazing grace! (how sweet the sound)**

**That sav'd a wretch like me!**

I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,

**And grace my fears reliev'd;**

**How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believ'd!**

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,

I have already come;

**'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,**

**And grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promis'd good to me,**

**His word my hope secures;**

**He will my shield and portion be,**

**As long as life endures.**

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,

And mortal life shall cease;

**I shall possess, within the veil,**

**A life of joy and peace.**

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,

The sun forbear to shine;

**But God, who call'd me here below,**

**Will be forever mine.**

I ONCE WAS LOST,  
BUT NOW I'm found

'TIS GRACE THAT  
BROUGHT US SAFE THUS FAR  
AND GRACE WILL LEAD US

Home

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MATT (*continued*)

As powerful as ‘Amazing Grace’ is as an expression of God’s Grace, the most powerful expression of God’s grace is the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May both ‘Law + Gospel= Grace’, ‘Amazing Grace’ and all the other trappings of the Easter season draw you closer to the love that God has for you, and may God’s Grace become truly amazing to you.

If you are reading a digital copy of this newsletter, click the link to learn more about John Newton and the hymn [“Amazing Grace”](#) or enter “<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8m8AHHduTM0>” in your web browser.

Yours in Peace,  
Pastor Matt

The words "Amazing Grace" are written in a highly decorative, cursive calligraphic style. The letters are blue and feature intricate flourishes and loops. The word "Amazing" is on the top line, and "Grace" is on the bottom line, with a small heart symbol integrated into the letter 'G' of "Grace".

## APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### APRIL 6 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open

### APRIL 13 – PASSION/PALM SUNDAY

8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6  
10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open  
11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt

### APRIL 17 – MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00 PM Service with Holy Communion

### APRIL 18 – GOOD FRIDAY

7:00 PM Service of Tenebrae

### APRIL 20 – EASTER SUNDAY

8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
No Sunday School  
10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open

### APRIL 27 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service  
with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4- grade 6  
10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open  
10:45 AM Bible Study: George Henry

### SERVING IN WORSHIP – APRIL 2025 SCHEDULE

LAY READERS	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LAY READERS	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
<b>8:00 AM</b>		<b>9:30 AM</b>	
4/6	<b>Open</b>	Gail Oines	Megan Ward
4/13	David Elkin      Janice Hoffmann	<b>Open</b>	
4/20	George Henry	John Flint	Kristi Ward
4/27	<b>Open</b>	Bruce Eklund	Joyce Heiss
<b>7:00 PM</b>			
4/17	Bruce Eklund      Joyce Heiss		
4/18	David Elkin      N/A		

**ALTAR GUILD:** Gail Oines, Joyce Heiss, Jeanne Gryszka

**OUR TECH CREW:** Pastor Matt, Mike Dettra, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman

**FLOWER DISTRIBUTION:** Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclight, Rhona Slawter

# WORSHIP-RELATED INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITIES

## ONLINE WORSHIP INFORMATION

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

### ZOOM INFORMATION

#### TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 8:00 AM SERVICE (Sundays in April)

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

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877

Passcode: 443533

#### CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP 9:30 AM SERVICE (Sundays in April)

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

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972

Passcode: 506714

#### MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 7:00 PM SERVICE

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85631142679>

Meeting ID: 856 3114 2679

#### GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 7:00 PM TENEBRAE SERVICE

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89413667887>

Meeting ID: 894 1366 7887



#### THURSDAY EVENING LENTEN SERVICE: “Baptismal Call”

Time: **Thursdays at 7:00 PM, March 13 through April 10, 2025**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86444303196>

Meeting ID: 864 4430 3196

#### THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: Gospel of Matthew

Time: **Thursdays at 7:00 PM, resuming April 24, 2025**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>

Meeting ID: 820 8911 0140

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

*Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656*

# WORSHIP-RELATED INFORMATION & OPPORTUNITIES *(continued)*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL – APRIL LESSONS

### LENT through EASTER



In April, our Bible lessons will lead us through important events on the Christian calendar: The Last Supper, Jesus' Death on the Cross and The Resurrection of Jesus.

We have just learned about Palm Sunday, when an enthusiastic crowd lauded Jesus as he rode to Jerusalem on a colt. Our students are enthusiastic and creative as they work with our *Holy Moly* curriculum. In our upcoming lessons, we will follow the events that led Jesus to the cross on Good Friday and we'll learn how he has blessed all Christians through his resurrection.

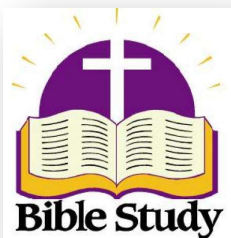
Our Easter lesson will be taught on April 13, as there will be **No Class on Easter Sunday, April 20.**

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## BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

### SUNDAY IN-PERSON BIBLE STUDY

Sunday in-person Bible Study with George Henry is held on specified Sundays at 10:45 AM in the parlor, following Fellowship. (See calendar)



### THURSDAY NIGHT ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Night Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew will resume after Easter Sunday, on Thursday, April 24. In the place of the Bible Study, Advent will be hosting Soup Suppers followed by a Lenten service on Baptismal Call.

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## THURSDAY EVENING LENTEN SERVICES

**Thursday April 3 and April 10. 7:00 PM**  
**Lenten Service: "Baptismal Call"**

During the season of Lent, a Lenten worship service, focused on Baptismal Call, will be held online on Thursdays at 7:00 PM. Soup Supper has been canceled for the remainder of Lent due to low in-person attendance.

**Zoom** (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86444303196>)

**Facebook** (<https://www.facebook.com/adventrichboropa>)

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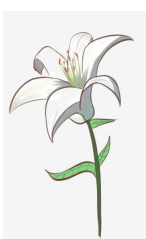
## FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

*Communion is a gift from God, allowing us to receive His grace, nourish our faith, and more fully participate in the life of the Church.*

Advent will offer First Holy Communion instruction every other Sunday for 4 weeks, beginning Sunday, June 1, 2025. Parents of baptized children, grade 5 and older are encouraged to register their child by completing an online registration form at <https://forms.gle/2uNSDtbybWxXktVs7>. Hard copy registration forms are also available in the narthex. Please call the church office at 215-355-2529 with any questions.

*If your child is younger than grade 5, and you would like to discuss enrolling them, please call the church office to speak with Pastor Matt. Decisions on younger children will be made on a case-by-case basis.*

## WORSHIP-RELATED INFORMATION & OPPORTUNITIES *(continued)*



### EASTER LILIES – SIGN UP BY APRIL 13

The sign-up sheet to place Easter Lilies on the altar for Easter Sunday is on the table in the narthex until April 13. Cost is \$15 per plant. You can also contact the office via phone or email with your request at 215-355-2529 or [adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com](mailto:adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com).

*Make checks payable to Advent Lutheran and write “Easter Lilies” in the memo line of the check.*

*Please mail payment to Advent at 45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954. You can also use a Flowers envelope available in the narthex by the sign-up sheet and drop it into the collection plate.*

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### DEDICATIONS FOR SERVICES

*Payments for dedications may be made using the marked envelopes by the sign-up charts or by mailing payment to the church at 45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954.*

*Please make checks payable to Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church and write Altar Flowers or Mission Support in the memo.*

#### MISSION DEDICATIONS

The 2025 Mission Dedication sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. The Mission Dedication donations benefit our sister church, Iglesia Luterana Nueva Creacion, which does vital work in North Philadelphia. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex on the table by the sanctuary doors. Please include your name and dedication. Dedications cost \$25. You can also call the church office to submit your mission dedication at 215-355-2529.

#### ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The 2025 sign-up sheet for Altar Dedications is available in the narthex. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the narthex with your name and dedication.

Two bouquets are available for dedication each week. The cost is \$25 per bouquet. Bouquets are available to take home after the 9:30 AM service to enjoy during the week. If you have any questions, please call Cindy Frey at 267-205-0713. Thank you for helping to beautify the altar!

CENTRO NUEVA CREACIÓN  
HOME OF THE GOODLANDS®

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### RESPONDING TO YOUR BAPTISMAL CALL AT WORSHIP SERVICES

You have many opportunities to respond to your Baptismal Call at worship services. Claim God’s grace and share your gifts as part of the Praise Band or Vocal Choir, as a Lay Reader, Communion Assistant, Acolyte, or Greeter, or by assisting with set up for services.

#### CALL FOR PRAISE BAND & VOCAL CHOIR MEMBERS

Weekly Wednesday Practices

Praise Band - 5:30 to 6:15 PM

Vocal Choir - 6:15 to 7:00 PM

*Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details.*



#### CALL FOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Training is provided for those interested in serving as Lay Reader, Communion Assistant, Acolyte or Greeter. Volunteers can also assist behind the scenes with set up prior to services.

*Please contact the church office for more information.*

# WORSHIP-RELATED INFORMATION & OPPORTUNITIES *(continued)*

## FELLOWSHIP TIME



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

If you would like to support Fellowship Time but do not have the time or ability to bake or shop for snacks, please consider donating a few dollars. All the hungry snackers will appreciate it!

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## ADVENT'S NEW CONSTITUTION APPROVED

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Advent Congregation has approved a new Constitution. This was accomplished during a Special Congregational Meeting on March 23, 2025 after a single worship service at which time a required 2<sup>nd</sup> vote (per ELCA requirements) to approve a new Constitution was completed.

The process leading up to the 2nd vote included two Q and A sessions about the proposed Constitution, which were held on January 19 and 26, 2025. During these meetings, members of the Congregation asked questions and sought clarification about the changes from the current to the proposed Constitution. Time was also dedicated at the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 23, 2025 to answer questions, etc. about the proposed Constitution. The Annual Meeting also included the first of two required Congregational votes to approve the proposed Constitution.

It is nice to bring this journey to a close, which began in 2021 when an Advent work group was formed to begin the discerning and writing processes for creating a new Constitution. This was followed with Church Council reviewing, editing and submitting the document to the Synod Constitution Committee for their review, which required two iterative submissions. This Synod Committee gave us approval to then proceed to the Congregation's voting on its adoption.



There are many people to thank for working on this important part of church governance and guiding us through the journey of its completion. First is the initial work group of Ray Heiss, Cindy Frey, Mike Sitler, and Pastor Matt. Second is Church Council, especially past Council President George Henry and Cindy Frey, for their dedicated and sustained work on the proposed Constitution. Last, but not least, is Pastor Matt for his personal and spiritual guidance and facilitation of the process with the Synod Constitution Committee. All of these individuals spent countless hours on the deliberation and writing of the new Constitution, ensuring that we were following the ELCA guidelines and requirements, while upholding and incorporating our values as a Congregation. We also need to acknowledge the Congregation for its steadfast commitment to and engagement in this historical undertaking for our Congregation. Our collective involvement will continue to be important in maintaining a living and vibrant Constitution that connects us with all ELCA Christians around the world and will be used to guide our policies, procedures, and organizational structure for years to come. Thanks to all for a job well done.



## ADVENT COMMUNITY EVENTS



### PING PONG – TUESDAY EVENINGS AT 6:30 PM

All are welcome to come and enjoy an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30 PM Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try.

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### ADVENT WOMEN’S CIRCLE

#### NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 12:00 PM

The Advent Women’s Circle recently gathered to enjoy High Tea at The Talking Teacup, a tea house in Chalfont. We shared conversation in a relaxing atmosphere as we tasted various flavors of delicious tea, accompanied by several courses of distinctive food tastings.

Advent Women’s Circle meets most months on the 2nd Tuesday at noon. We bring our ideas together to plan various projects that support our church family, as well as outings to refresh and educate our members.



If you are interested in attending or for more information, please contact Fran Zanis at 267-847-5098, or the church office at 215-355-2529.

The next meeting is **Tuesday, April 8, at 12:00 PM – BYO Lunch.**

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### MEN’S BREAKFAST - SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 8:30 AM

Unfortunately, Men's breakfast this month falls too far from April Fool’s Day, so we will not be able to use any of our favorite trick menus for the occasion. That might be a good thing.

We will meet on **Saturday, April 12 at 8:30 AM.**

Coffee always ready by 7:30 PM.

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### EASTER EGG HUNT ON SUNDAY, APRIL 13, AT 11:00 AM

Advent is hosting a Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 13 at 11:00 AM. Bring your little ones for an exciting day of hunting for colorful eggs, meeting friends, and celebrating the joy of Easter!

To ensure we have enough eggs and goodies, please *\*register in advance\** by filling out the online registration form at:

<https://tinyurl.com/adventegg hunt25> (or scan the QR code)

or contacting the church office at 215-355-2529 or

[adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com](mailto:adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com).



We can’t wait to see you there as we celebrate Easter with fun, fellowship, and joy!

Questions? Contact Christine Welsh at 267-566-6299.

## PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN NEED

At Advent, we actively pray for those in need by name through the *Prayers of Intercession* during worship and through the *Prayer Chain* during the week.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION DURING SERVICES

To add names of those in need of prayer:

- ❖ *If you are attending worship in-person*, please provide the person's first name to Pastor when he takes names at the beginning of the service.
- ❖ *If you are worshipping online*, please message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list.

Because services are available world-wide through the internet, we use only baptismal or first names and omit surnames. The list of names gathered for the *Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.



### PRAYER CHAIN

The Prayer Chain is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the Prayer Chain. Names are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier.

*To add names to the Prayer Chain:*

- ❖ Complete a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary. Please place completed cards in the offering plate, or
- ❖ Submit names by email directly to Linda Weaver at [lindaweaver3@comcast.net](mailto:lindaweaver3@comcast.net). More information may be provided to allow the Prayer Chain volunteers to pray more specifically for the person added to the list.



## PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY



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

- ❖ **Colonel Andrew M Frey, Jr.**, son of Cindy Frey, serving as Commander of the 2<sup>d</sup> Weather Group at Offutt Airforce Base, Nebraska
- ❖ **Private 1<sup>st</sup> Class Aidan Hahn**, nephew of Marie McCool, serving in Kaiserslautern, Germany
- ❖ **Sargeant Joseph Vanderstine**, grandson of Rhona & Alan Slawter, deployed to Syria

*Please contact the church office at 215-355-2529 with any omissions or additions to our military prayer list.*

Almighty and eternal God,  
those who take refuge in you will be glad  
and forever will shout for joy.  
Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties.  
Protect them with the shield of your strength,  
and keep them safe from all evil and harm.  
May the power of your love enable them to return home  
in safety, that with all who love them,  
they may ever praise you for your loving care.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



## DRIVE IN AND DROP OFF FOOD COLLECTION

If you have food for the Warminster Food Bank 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. Most needed items currently include:

### Food Items

Cereal (critically low!),  
Saltines, Spaghetti,  
Ketchup, Pasta Sauce,  
Baked Beans, Taco Shells, Jelly, Pancake Mix,  
Ramen Noodles, Can Pasta



### Non-Food Items

Store Gift Cards, Laundry Detergent Pods / or  
Liquid, Household Cleaning Supplies,  
Toothpaste/Toothbrushes/ Oral Care, Toilet  
Paper, Paper Towels, and Gently Used  
Grocery Size Paper Bags



## CARING FOR FRIENDS

The Advent community was able to provide 74 frozen meals to Caring for Friends in March. Thank you to all involved for helping provide assistance to community members in need.

## RECYCLING CAN TABS FOR RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

We are collecting can tabs to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities which help alleviate some financial burdens for families along their child’s healthcare journey. Last year alone, they helped families save \$736 million in lodging and meal expenses.

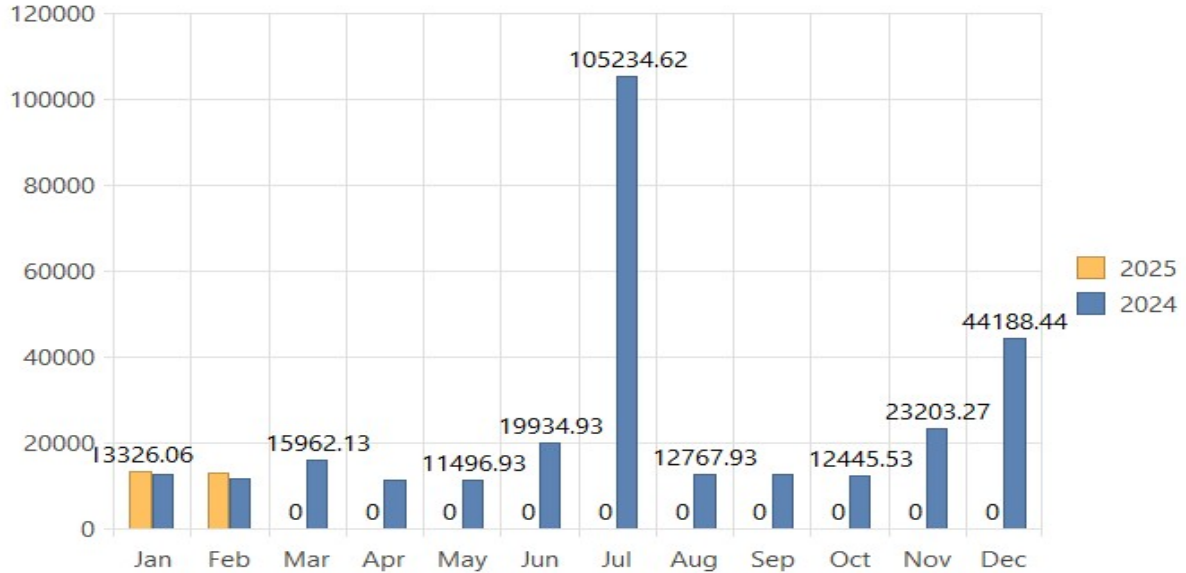
Tabs can be placed in the marked containers in the narthex, on the shelf above the coat rack.

No cans, please – just tabs!



# FINANCIAL REPORT

Contribution Totals



## Financial Report For February 2025

	Rec'vd for Feb 2025	Budget for Feb 2025
General Fund	\$10,494.64	\$18,609.00
Mortgage	\$1,324	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$85	\$133
Other Benevolence	\$976	
Web Upgrade	\$200	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,079.64</b>	<b>\$20,640.00</b>

	Recv'd YTD 1/1-2/28/25	Budget YTD 1/1-2/28/25
General Fund	\$21,684.70	\$37,218.00
Mortgage	\$2,775.00	\$3,796.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$115.00	\$266.00
Other Benevolence	\$1,631.00	
Web Upgrade	\$200.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,405.70</b>	<b>\$41,280.00</b>

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 9 AM and 2 PM. Call to confirm hours.
- Mail a check to the church. The mailing address is "Advent Lutheran Church, 45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954"
- Contribute online at [www.adventrichboro.org](http://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

*Happy Birthday*

## FROM THE OFFICE



### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

2 Brandt Stirzel  
6 Mike Dettra  
7 Shannon McQuiggan  
8 Frank Lattal

8 Bill Pearson  
14 Carl Breig  
14 Gretta Lattal  
17 Gail Oines



19 Marie McCool  
21 Amy Breig  
28 Erik Urbaniak

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

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Church office hours are typically Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Phone: 215-355-2529      Email: [AdventLutheranRichboro@gmail.com](mailto:AdventLutheranRichboro@gmail.com)

Please note that the [office@adventrichboro.org](mailto:office@adventrichboro.org) email address will be no longer be available after the new web site is published which will be happening in the near future.

### DID YOU KNOW? POETRY IN THE BIBLE

April is National Poetry Month in the United States. For Christians, we see poetry in so many places, including our prayers, our hymns, and in the Bible. In the Old Testament, most books contain at least some poetry, with five books – Job, Psalms, Proverbs, the Song of Solomon, and Lamentations – written almost entirely in poetic form. The Book of Psalms is particularly interesting when you look at the voice of the psalms. The rest of the Bible is written as God’s message to us. The Book of Psalms, still written under divine inspiration, is designed to help us speak to God. The psalms are hymns of praise and prayers, giving us structure and inspiration to voice our own deepest feelings and aspirations.

*(adapted from: “Old Testament Basics” by Dr. Sid Buzzell, Christian University GlobalNet)*

*Psalm 130:1-6*

*“Out of the depths I cry to You, Lord;*

*Lord, hear my voice.*

*Let Your ears be attentive  
to my cry for mercy.*

*If You, Lord, kept a record of sins,  
Lord, who could stand?*

*But with You there is forgiveness,  
so that we can, with reverence, serve You.*

*I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits,  
and in His Word I put my hope.*

*I wait for the Lord  
more than watchmen wait for the morning.”*



# April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b> March 30	31 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	April 1 6:30 PM Ping Pong	2 5:30-6:15 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15-8:00 PM Vocal Choir Practice	3 6:00 PM Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 PM Lenten Service "Baptismal Call"	4 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	5
<b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b> 8:00AM Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship Time in narthex 10:45 AM Bible Study in Parlor	7 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	8 12:00 PM Advent Womens Circle - Lunch Meeting 6:30 PM Ping Pong	9 5:30-6:15 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15-8:00 PM Vocal Choir Practice	10 6:00 PM Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 PM Lenten Service "Baptismal Call"	11 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	12 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
<b>Passion/Palm Sunday</b> 8:00AM Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship Time in narthex 10:45 AM Bible Study in Parlor 11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt	14 6:30 PM Church Council Mtg via Zoom 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	15 6:30 PM Ping Pong	16 5:30-6:15 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15-8:00 PM Vocal Choir Practice	Maundy Thursday 17	18 Good Friday 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	19
<b>Easter Sunday</b> 8:00AM Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion - NO Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship Time in narthex	21 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	22 6:30 PM Ping Pong	23 5:30-6:15 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15-8:00 PM Vocal Choir Practice	24 7:00 PM Bible Study via Zoom resumes	25 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	26
<b>Second Sunday of Easter</b> 8:00AM Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship Time in narthex 10:45 AM Bible Study in Parlor	28 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	29 6:30 PM Ping Pong	30 5:30-6:15 PM Praise Band Practice 6:15-8:00 PM Vocal Choir Practice	May 1 7:00 PM Bible Study via Zoom	2 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting	3