

pastor's Message

Although many of our young people will begin the 2024-2025 academic year in the month of August – I still think of September as being the start of a new school year. And, in our life together as a faith community, it is in this month that we kick off Sunday School, Confirmation and our Adult Education program. In the church, we believe that Christian Education is to be more than an opportunity to gain more knowledge. At its best, Christian Education is one part of our Faith development and provides a means to be disciples and servants of Jesus.

I want to invite you to a learning opportunity this month. Some time ago, the Worship and Music Committee decided that it would be a good idea to use more inclusive language in the prayers and creeds of the Church AND, to occasionally use versions of these prayers and statements of faith that are from sources outside the hymnals we traditionally use.

What we failed to do was provide a rationale for making this change nor did we take the time to hear your questions and concerns. So, please know you are invited to an open forum on "Language in Worship" following worship at one (or any) of the following dates and times. Sunday morning, September 15 following the 9:00am worship service, also on Saturday, September 21 after the 4:00pm worship AND Sunday, September 22 following the 11:30am worship service.

Please note that we resume our fall/winter/spring worship schedule on the 15th of September which means that the Contemporary Service will begin at 11:30am weekly.

I look forward to learning and growing with you! ~ Pastor Steve



The Candle is the newsletter of Advent Lutheran Church, ELCA Our Purpose: "Loved by God, we share Christ's love with all"

THE BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY –The Brown Bag Bible Study meets on the second Thursday of every month at 12 noon – unless otherwise agreed upon in order to accommodate such things as conflicts with holidays etc. We are currently meeting using a hybrid format. We will meet in classroom 2 (in the Education Wing) and on Zoom for those who want to attend remotely. Each month we will focus on a different book of the New Testament. This Bible study will be light and informal. In other words – FUN. You DO NOT have to be a Bible scholar to participate. There will be no books to purchase. Just bring your Bible. You DO NOT have to attend every session. If you must miss one or more sessions, that will be no problem. Just dive back in whenever you can. If you are interested in participating, please call, email or text Tim Krueger or Becky Spudich. Their contact information is in the current Church Directory.

Spirituality Moment

"Don't Quit"

When things go wrong as they sometimes will, When the road you're trudging seems all uphill, When the funds are low and the debts are high, And you want to smile, but you have to sigh; When care is pressing you down a bit, Rest, if you must, but don't quit. Life is funny with its twists and turns, As every one of us sometimes learns; And many a failure has turned about When they might have won had they stuck it out. Don't give up though the pace seems slow; You may succeed with another blow. Success is failure turned inside out: The silver tint of the clouds of doubt. And you can never tell how close you are; It may be near when it seems so far. So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit. It's when things seem worst that you must not guit.

Prayer Chain

Nothing could be more gratifying than lifting someone up in prayer in their time of need. Please contact Sue Keeley @ 440.862.2790 / 440.257.5565 or by e-mail at suesworkout@gmail.com if you would like to become part of the prayer chain ministry, have a prayer request, or if you have any questions. Prayer is Powerful!!

Pastor Prayer Intercessors

Aug 26-Sept 1 Becky Spudich Sept 2-8 Nancy Marshaus/Rose Schrum Sept 9-15 Lee Sundblom/Kay Smith Sept 16-22 Becky Young

Sept 23-29 Jen Egner/Sandy Kehler Sept 30-Oct 6 Cherie Moore

The Prayer & Spirituality Ministry meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 10:30am.

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5: 17



Points from your Parish Nurse

- ◆ September is almost here. Kids are going back to school; the days are a little shorter and the air is a bit cooler. Soon the leaves will be changing colors and the beauty of autumn will be all around us. I love the changing seasons and fall is my favorite. I am grateful for the awe-inspiring gift of nature that God has created. Let us open our eyes, our ears and our hearts to all the blessings in our lives, and give thanks to the God who loves us.
- ▼ The next Care Team Ministry quarterly meeting will be on Saturday, September 7 at 10am at Advent. If anyone is interested in joining us, please call/text/email me. All are welcome.
- ▼ The Caregivers Support Group will meet on the second Thursday, September 12 at 1pm at Advent. If you know anyone who is caring for a loved one, please invite them to our meeting.
- ▶ Blood pressure screenings will be held on Saturday, September 14 at 5pm and Sunday, September 15 at 10am in the Parish Nurse office.
- ◆ Our annual Flu Shot Clinic sponsored by Walgreen's will be held on Sunday, October 6 from 10am-11:30am in classrooms 3/4. Covid 19 vaccines will also be available. If you are on Medicare or have insurance that covers the vaccines, there is no additional cost. Walgreen's will bill the insurance provider. Please bring your insurance information with you.
- Always remember, "When in doubt, Point to the Cross!"

Your servant in Christ, Christine Noble Parish Nurse





Sept 15-28



Sept 1-14 Donna Conklin, Lee Sundblom,

Sandy Kehler, Deb Cyrus-Lutz Denise Janosko, Bev McArthur,

Nancy Marshaus

Sept 29-Oct 12 Lida Mackey, Becky Young,

Laura Jastromb

Upcoming Blood Drive

Friday, September 13 11am-5pm

call 1.800.RED.CROSS

~or~ RedCrossBlood.org Key word: Advent

Help Save a Life!

For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Galatians 5:14



Parsonage Update

After two years of research and over three months on the market we officially closed on the sale of the former parsonage Thursday August 8th. The offer approved by council was for \$325,000 with a \$6,500 credit toward the buyer's closing plus our traditional standard closing costs.

I am grateful to the new owners for showing an interest in preserving this fine old house and that they shared in the cost of the corrective action items from the inspectors list. To express their interest in the home the new owners wrote a heartwarming message to the church, this house truly seems to be a blessing for him.

This was only possible because of the hard work and dedication of many of our members. For over two years the Parsonage task force lead by Yvonne Kulma and her dedicated team analyzed all angles before making their recommendation to council. For this I say Thank You!

Prior and current council members spent many hours pondering what move they felt was in the best interest of Advent Lutheran Church. Much of this was done during the time Denise McClanahan held the role of Council President. For this I say Thank You!

During the actual selling process Pastor Steve, Sue Keeley, Dave Mattson and Bob Adkins did everything from coordinating the retailer and title company, prepping the house, reviewing documents and everything else that was needed to make the sale possible. For this I say Thank You!

Finally, to all the members of Advent including the 66 people who attended the special congregational meeting that approved listing the house for sale. I say Thank you! God has guided us in this process and will be there with us as we move forward.

Rob Hilston - Council President

Note from our New Neighbor

Dear Board Members,

Thank you for taking the time to look at my offer and to read this note. I'm hopeful that all will work out and we will be neighbors. The house has an abundance of character and is exactly what I was hoping to find upon relocating to the area. I am also aware of the clause stipulating that if I ever decide to sell the property that the Church would have the option of buying it at the market value. I completely accept that clause – it makes sense to me.

To tell you a bit about me – I am a retired Army officer who now works for a great company that allows me to work from home. My children and grandchildren all live in the area (the oldest daughter and grandchildren are 1 minute from the property!), and I have many ties to the Mentor area. Having spent 20 years in the military and then traveling for my current job over the past two years I am extremely happy to have the opportunity to come back and be around my family and friends. I'm really blessed in this aspect.

On a not-so-great note, a secondary reason for relocating back to the area is the proximity to the Cleveland Clinic. Besides the typical military-service connected injuries and rated disabilities one receives from jumping out of airplanes and deploying to Afghanistan over the past two decades, I also developed an ailment that affects my joints. The Cleveland Clinic is one of the leading institutions in the world on its treatment, so my family being here as well as the Clinic is another blessing.

My lifestyle is quite low-key. I am 53 years old and have two dogs who are my constant companions. My oldest daughter is married and lives in Mentor-on-the-Lake, my second eldest lives in Mentor, and my son is studying Wildlife Management at Hocking College in southern Ohio. He is home for the summer and working with Lake Metro Parks, and during our tour of the house and property he was constantly pointing out the different flora and fauna on the property, and we both love that it has woods. Other than cleaning up the downed limbs and brambles, you can rest assured that the wooded area would remain. It is certainly a point that I love about the property.

Again, I thank you for your time and consideration. I maintain a security clearance and have since I was 20 years old. I am certainly a respectful person and wish to assure you that I would be a good neighbor to your organization. I keep my properties tidy and maintained, look after my neighbors, and appreciate a quiet lifestyle.

Sincerely, George Sole

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord..."
Psalm 33:12

Stewardship is about so much more than money – stewardship is about love.

To be Stewards of God's Love challenges all Christians to reimagine the ways in which they steward God's resources — time, talents and treasures — in response to God's commandment to love God and our neighbors. One of the ways this is done here at Advent is through our ministries. This month we will highlight the **work of the Prayer/Spirituality Ministry Team**.

The Prayer/Spirituality Ministry Team purpose is to deepen our spiritual lives in order to follow Christ faithfully in our daily lives. Here are some of the highlights of their important work:

- Brown Bag Bible Study
- Sunday Morning Adult Forum
- Articles published monthly in The Candle.
- Healing touch provided by members of the Prayer Team on the 5th Sunday of the month.
- Blessing of the Pets
- Prayer Chain
- Pastor Prayer Intercessors
- Prayer room
- Midweek Services during the seasons of Lent and Advent

Thank you to the Prayer/Spirituality Ministry Team for their hard work and dedication!

If you are interested in learning more or joining this ministry team, please contact Kathleen Hilston at 207-400-6700 or kennybradd@att.net

Thank you, Advent Lutheran Family, for your work as God's Stewards. As a congregation we can do together what we cannot do alone.

God Bless ~ Your Stewardship Team

Group Studies

Men's Studies

• Retired Men's Group meets the first Tuesday of every month at 9:30am. If you are a retired man and would like to share your thoughts and discuss a wide variety of subjects, please join us. We would welcome your participation

Women's Studies

- Sophia Project: Meets on the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 10am-11am in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us.
- Hope Circle: Meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30am.
 All are welcome!

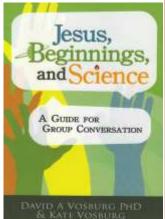
"...but Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." Matthew 19:14

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES

What does the Bible say about creation, human origins, and science? The Sunday morning adult Sunday school class will begin exploring the topic of science and the Bible.

The first session will be held on Sunday, September 15th at 10:15am Classes are both in-person (classroom 1) and on zoom (hybrid format). This will involve a 12-session guided study entitled "Jesus. Beginnings, and Science" (ISBN 9780996991513), by David and Kate Vosburg. The study guide is available from various online book sellers at reasonable prices, including www.thriftbooks.com for \$12.07.

If you are interested in joining us, please call/text Tim Krueger at (440) 391-0369 so that you can be placed on our emailing list-which is how information about this study is sent out. You may also email him at LTCTKRUE@aol.com.



Sunday School

First day of Sunday school is September 15 at 10:15am More info to follow



Have a great year ~ students, teachers & bus drivers!

Advent Endowment Committee Scholarship Program

The Endowment Committee is pleased to announce the recipient of a 2024 Endowment Committee Scholarship. One scholarship, valued at \$1,000, was awarded to Kenna Hamilton. Kenna will be attending The Ohio State University, majoring in primary education.

This scholarship is supported through Advent's General Endowment Fund and the Judi Kulma / Gene Allen Educational Fund.

The purpose of Endowment is to strengthen Advent's financial position for enhancing its ministry. It is a long-term partnership with the congregation to realize opportunities that cannot ordinarily be accomplished through our regular church budget.

Upcoming Events



Please join us on October 13th in the narthex for a celebration of FALL. Everything pumpkin and apple will be served between services.

It's always a celebration when we all get together.

Cherie Moore, Fellowship committee



We need your help! Advent is famous for their Election Day food. People are always asking if we will be providing soup and bakery for sale. With that being said, Election day is November 5 and we need volunteers to make crockpots of soup and individually wrapped bakery items to sell. We also need volunteers to work the sale. Sign up sheets will be posted in the narthex. Proceeds will go to the food pantries. Bakery items can be dropped off at the church on Saturday through Tuesday morning. Soup can be dropped of by 10 am Tuesday morning. Thank you in advance for your help.

Cherie Moore, Fellowship committee





Quilt Raffle

Back by popular demand, The PeaceMaker's (Advents Quilt Group) will have a drawing again for a Quilt/fundraiser. Proceeds will go to our ministries. You can get your tickets to sell and to buy in the narthex between services. Everyone wants a chance to pick a quilt of their choice, so feel free to ask your friends, neighbors, coworkers and relatives to buy a ticket.

The tickets are \$5 a piece or 3 for \$10. The quilts will be displayed on the pews the first two weekends in October. The drawing will be held on October 13.

The winner will be contacted and arrangements will be made for the winner to pick out the quilt of their choice before October 15.

Thank you!!

Cherie Moore, The PeaceMaker's

Mark Your Calendars

Blessing of Pets Saturday, October 12

Details forthcoming.. watch the Weekly News for updates



God's Work ~ Our Hands Day of Service Sunday, September 8th



Advent is once again participating in the ELCA Day of Service on Sunday September 8th. It is the eleventh year that the ELCA Day of Service has been held in communities around the country. On September 8th there will be one worship service at 10am. It will be followed by lunch. After lunch we will go to our various projects. It is a great opportunity for fellowship and giving a little back to our community.

Current projects being planned are:

- Make Pillows for Hospice Bev McArthur
- Sing in a Traveling Choir going to Salida Woods
 – Doreen Mattson
- Make fleece tied Blankets for Various Charities

 Lida Mackey
- Yard Work and Small Projects for people needing help
- Package Sleepwear/Book for Birthright Denise Janosko & Cheryl Manos

Sign-up sheets are available in the narthex.

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR YELLOW T-SHIRT! If you don't have one, there are various sizes, you can buy one in the narthex (\$10 each).

Mark your calendars.

The Community Outreach Ministry Team

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This year, we will be collecting new sleepwear sizes 3T-5T and new children's books for **Birthright.** Our display and collection bins are set up in the Narthex. If you would like to make a monetary donation to this cause, you can write a check to Advent Lutheran Church with a memo note "Birthright" and place it in the offering. All donations will be used to purchase additional sleepwear and books. On the Day of Service, our group will bag sleepwear with a book and place a label on the bag with the appropriate size.

Thank you for your generosity!

Meals for Project Hope

Meals for months ahead

Advent provides meals for Families Moving Forward on the First and Third Wednesdays of each month. There are currently open dates in September and throughout the remainder of the year. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Project Hope for the Homeless is in need of meals for their newest guests, "Families Moving Forward." Advent provides a meal to feed approximately 10-12 persons including children. Meals are to be dropped off at Project Hope, 25 Freedom Road, Painesville—by 5pm at Door #4 in the back. There are no restrictions on the meals. Any questions, please call Christine Noble at 440.346.3120.

Thank You!



Community Outreach

Food Pantry (St. Andrew's)
Donations:

September:

Toothpaste & Toilet Paper

Volunteers Needed



Advent's Little Free Pantry

Our current needs are: pasta

There is a collection box outside the church office. Thank You!

Please see the Weekly News sheets each weekend for our most current pantry needs. Thank you for your support and for making a difference in the lives of those we are helping!

Creating a Safe Space All are Invited

The Loved by God Committee is sponsoring a presentation entitled "Safe Space Training" which will occur on Saturday, October 5th from 1 to 3pm in the Fellowship Hall (gathering time will begin at 12:30pm). This program will be presented by Betty Jacobs who is the Founder and Executive Director of LGBTQ+ Allies Lake County. Betty has training and a background in social work. She has a passion for advocating and empowering the most marginalized groups, particularly the LGBTQ community.



This event is in conjunction with our ongoing effort to ensure that all people, regardless of their political persuasion, racial and ethnic background, or sexual orientation, are fully included in Christ's mission and ministry here at Advent.

We are anticipating that this will be a very interesting and informative afternoon and hope that you make time to attend. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Peace to all,

The Loved by God Committee

CELEBRATING THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF NORTHEAST OHIO

Have you noticed that more states are recognizing the indigenous peoples of the United States on Columbus Day? In fact, some states are no longer calling the mid-October holiday (on October 14th in 2024) by the traditional name of Columbus Day, but rather, are now celebrating it as Indigenous Peoples Day. Our own ELCA has recognized the colonizing impacts of the past and present by launching the Truth and Healing Movement as part of the churchwide Indigenous Ministries and Tribal Relations faction of our larger church body.

In conjunction with this, our own Loved By God Ministry is sponsoring an outing! We are touring the Indian Museum of Lake County, Ohio on Saturday, October 19th at 1pm. We will be receiving our own private tour hosted by the director who will talk to us about the native peoples in and around northeast Ohio. People have lived here as long ago as 10,000 years and many of their artifacts are from that time. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex and directions are easy since it is right here in Lake County. We will not car pool officially. However, those going are free to make arrangements. The museum is at 7519 Mentor Ave., Suite A112. This is in the BACK of the strip mall on Mentor Ave. just west of the mall. There is a big 7519 on the entry door and Suite A112 is marked after you enter. Their web page is www.indianmuseumoflakecounty.org/ The cost for this is \$3.00, cash only. Please give to either Denise McClanahan or Tim Krueger after signing up. If you have any questions, Denise McClanahan is your contact person for information (216-513-0962). A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex starting in September. Please join us!!

"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul." 3 John 2

Saturday Evening Potlucks are back

Saturday, September 14 and Saturday, November 9

These are the next potluck dates after the Saturday 4pm worship service.

Bring whatever you would like to share.

Plates, Silverware, Cups, and Napkins will be provided.

Any Questions, please contact Cathy Doering at: 440-379-7338 or you can e-mail her at: cookimaker761@aol.com

Come and join us for fellowship and fun!





Begins on September 15th.

Saturday · 4pm
Sunday · 9am
Sunday · 11:30am
(Sunday school for ages
begins at 10:15am)

Council Person of the Day

September 1 Dave Mattson
September 8 Carla Colo
September 15 Bob Adkins
September 22 Andy DiLiello
September 29 Rob Hilston

Worship Assistants

What a joy and blessing it is to serve the Lord!

Ushers, Lectors, and Communion Assistants

Please see the sign up board in the Narthex or you may call the church office to sign up.

THANK YOU

Upcoming Communion Bread Bakers

Month of September:

September 7/8 and 14/15 Cathy Doering September 21/22 and 28/29 Judy Ryan

Thank you for serving!

Altar Flowers



September

31/1 Open 7/8 Open 14/15 Jennings 21/22 Kulma 28/29 Hayden

Please see the sign up board in the Narthex to reserve your dates for altar flowers.

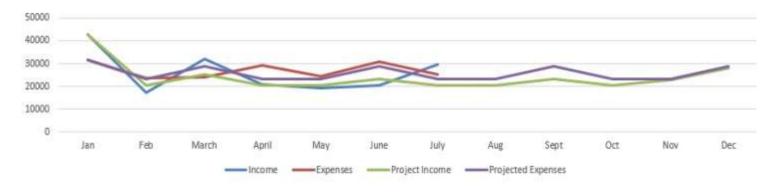
Note: you will be billed directly from the florist.

Finance Update July 31, 2024

GENERAL FUND	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE		
Balance 1/1/24	\$ 29,652.25	29,652.25			
Income	182,228.68	172,641.00	9,587.68		
Expenditures	188,656.48	185,733.00	(2,923.48)		
Ending Balance July 31, 2024	\$23,224.45	\$16,560.25	\$6,664.20		
DESIGNATED/ RESTRICTED FUNDS	_				
Balance 1/1/24	\$110,809.32			nces are posted at the loutside the church of	
Income	52,712.36				
Expenditures	21,204.20				
Ending Balance July 31, 2024	\$142,317.48				

	Advent 2024 Financial Performance												
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Income	36,770	17,141	32,076	20,813	19,080	20,568	29,417						
Expenses	31,707	23,624	23,825	29,004	24,511	30,863	25,121						
Project Income	42,691	20,283	25,311	20,427	20,283	23,363	20,283	20,283	23,363	20,283	22,672	28,057	287,299
Projected Expenses		23,124	28,907	23,126	23,126	28,907	23,126	23,126	28,907	23,126	23,126	28,907	309,215

Advent 2024 Financial Performance



Online Giving: If you would like to support Advent's ministry electronically, scan this QR code to visit our online giving page. Thank You!



ADVENT'S STAFF Pastor: Rev. Steven C. Bond 710.4757 Office Administrator: Sue Keeley 862.2790 Organist: Elizabeth Sumiejski 255.5489 Chancel Choir Director: Doreen Mattson Praise Team Director: Tracy Ammon 749.0690

VOLUNTEER CONTACTS

ı		
	Lay Assistants	
ı	Doreen Mattson	946.5043
ı	Worship Assistants	
ı	Church office	257.5565
ı	Worship Tech	
ı	Greg Preske	216.317.8148
ı	Altar Guild Chairperson	
ı	Becky Young	440.221.4531
ı	Sunday School	
ı	Beth Hamilton	669.1902
ı	Service Outreach	
ı	Food Pantry	440.007.5400
ı	Dave Mattson	440.897.5466
ı	Youth & Family Ministry	000 4000
ı	Beth Hamilton	669.1902
ı	Prayer Ministry	
ı	Prayer Vigil	000 0700
ı	Sue Keeley	862.2790
ı	Prayer Chain	000 0700
ı	Sue Keeley	862.2790
ı	Healing Touch	
ı	Christine Noble	346.3120
ı	Meals for Members	440.040.5000
ı	Barb Caspell	
	Barb Louis	352.7055
	Youth	
	Memorial Gifts	440,000,0050
	Barb Zahn	440.223.2852
I		

Finely Aged Ministry Christine Noble Funeral Luncheons Christine Noble	
Paula DiLiello Blood Drives	
Cherie Moore Webmaster	
Church Office Liturgical Arts Fawn Patrick	
Quilting Betty Steimle	
CHURCH COUN	ICIL
Pr. Steve Bond Dave Mattson Joan Hamm Carla Colo	440.897.5466 440.476.1494 216.970.0219
Ben DeAlexandro Andy DiLiello Rob Hilston Bob Adkins	. 440.290.7506 207.632.5949

Bare maneer	
Joan Hamm	440.476.1494
Carla Colo	216.970.0219
Ben DeAlexandro	330.416.4858
Andy DiLiello	440.290.7506
Rob Hilston	
Bob Adkins	832.971.6414
Jo Brantweiner	944.4465
Christine Noble	. 440.346.3120
Council Secretary	
Sue Keeley	. 862.2790
Treasurer	
Bob Adkins	. 832.971.6414
Financial Secretary	
Becky Spudich	440.487.7897
A 4 T	
Asst. Treasurer	

MUTUAL MINISTRY

Deb Laukiavich	725.4929
Gary Swanson	.257.8480
Cathy Doering	.379.7338
Gary Swanson Cathy Doering Jenny Helland	974.1776

Deadline Reminder:

Newsletter information:

due by the 15th of the month



From the Office

To submit items to *The Candle,*contact: Sue Keeley, Office Administrator at: 440.257.5565
You may also e-mail your information to:
adventmentoroffice@gmail.com

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH 7985 MUNSON ROAD MENTOR, OHIO 44060-3703

Dated Material - August 22, 2024

Smile! Know that God Loves YOU!

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Worship Schedule

- Saturday's @4:00pm
 Sunday's @9:00am
 Sunday's @11:00am
 (11:30 begins 9.15)
- Youth Sunday School Sunday's 10:15am (will resume on September 15)
- Adult Sunday School: Sunday's 10:15am

On the Web: adventmentor.org E-mail: adventmentoroffice@gmail.com Pr. Steve Bond: pastorstevebond@aol.com Christine Noble: adventparishnurse@gmail.com

Advent Welcomes You!

Welcome! With delight, we greet all who come to worship. You are sincerely welcomed and invited to be a regular worshipper here in God's house. If you are looking for a church home, you will find a ready welcome here at Advent Lutheran Church.





Rev. Steven C. Bond, Pastor 7985 Munson Road, Mentor OH 44060-3703 • 440.257. 5565