



The Candle

November 2024

Pastor's Message

A few days ago, I participated in an over-night retreat at the Loyola Retreat House in Clinton OH. This retreat was part of my duty as a member of our Synod Council. You may, or may not, even be aware that I have been serving on the Synod Council of the Northeastern Ohio Synod (NEOS) Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA.) In my work as your pastor, I often become so involved in issues within the congregation, I don't spend enough time lifting up the good work of our Bishop and her staff. The ELCA is divided into 65 geographical Synods which are comprised of congregations, authorized ministries such as camps, colleges and universities as well as social service organizations. The Synod staff are in charge of the oversight of all these entities and for providing pastoral care to both clergy and congregations. Too often, many in our congregations only encounter our Synod staff during a pastoral vacancy or when there is a problem. Yet, they offer many resources to all of us, and I am going to try and do better in keeping you informed about these resources that may help you in your discipleship.

A great place to start is pointing you our Synod website:
<https://www.neos-elca.org>

On this website you will find a heading called "For Congregations" -- check it out! Pay special attention to the "One Church Experiment" and "Growing in Faith" -- the first is a new initiative encouraging creativity in ways we are Church to the world. The second is an opportunity for study online that fosters individual growth and leadership potential for us in our congregations.

Also, please click the "connect" button to sign up to receive the weekly newsletter of the Synod (Walking Together) if you are not already on the mailing list. And, as you check out other offerings on this site, remember that if you have any questions about the work of the NEOS – just ask!

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor Steve

✠

Election Day
November 5

✠

Blood Drive
November 15
11am-5pm

✠

Thanksgiving Eve
Worship
November 27
7pm

✠

Happy
Thanksgiving



Those who bring
thanksgiving as their
sacrifice honor me.
Leviticus 22:29

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

Spirituality Moment

“Strengthen Me”

Lord, I am an empty vessel that needs to be filled.

My Lord, fill it.

I am weak in faith; strengthen me.

I am cold in love; warm me and make me enthusiastic—

That my love may go out to my neighbor.

I do not have a strong and firm faith.

At times I doubt and am unable to trust you.

O Lord, help me.

Strengthen my faith and trust in You.

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

October 28-November 3

November 4-10

November 11-17

November 18-24

November 25-December 1

Deb Laukiavich

Barb Zahn, Bev McArthur

Doreen Mattson

Chris Noble, Mary Jo Jones

Jenny Dubeansky, Sara Coleman

*We are always looking for more pray-ers to become Pastor Prayer Intercessors. If you would like to be a part of this prayer team, please contact Sue Keeley at the church office (440.257.5565), During your assigned week, we ask you to pray for Pastor Steve's ministry, personal life, health, etc.

“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

November is National Diabetes Month to raise awareness about diabetes and to promote healthy habits. Diabetes is a serious medical condition that affects millions of Americans. There are many risk factors for diabetes and some of them cannot be influenced by the individual. There is misinformation regarding the causes, treatment, and lifestyle changes associated with the disease. ADA experts can clear up common Diabetes myths.

- ♥ The next Care Team Ministry quarterly meeting will be on Saturday, December 7 at 10am at Advent. This will be our annual Christmas breakfast. This year we will provide gifts for 10 members who are in facilities or homebound.
- ♥ The Caregivers Support Group will meet on the second Thursday, November 14 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, November 16 at 5pm and Sunday, November 17 at 10am in the Parish Nurse office.
- ♥ Have a blessed Thanksgiving!
- ♥ Always remember, "When in doubt, Point to the Cross!"

Your servant in Christ,
Christine Noble
Parish Nurse



Care Team



Oct 27-Nov 9	Mary Jo Jones, Barbara Louis, Rose Schrum
Nov 10-23	Donna Conklin, Lee Sundblom, Sandy Kehler, Deb Cyrus-Lutz
Nov 24-Dec 7	Denise Janosko, Bev McArthur, Nancy Marshaus

Upcoming Blood Drive

Friday, November 15
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

Council Minutes - September

In Attendance (via Zoom & in-person): Pastor Steve, Jo Brantweiner, Bob Adkins, Rob Hilston, Dave Mattson, Joan Hamm, Carla Colo, Andy DiLiello, Ben DeAlexandro, Christine Noble
Call to Order: 6:58pm

Approval of August Council Minutes: Motion was made, seconded, and approved.

Pastor's Report: verbal

- ◆ Thank you for all the hard-work on the Day of Service – all went well, and worship was well attended.
- ◆ Pastor will be out of town from September 16-20, he will be back for worship the following weekend.
- ◆ Pastor will undergo outpatient surgery on October 7. He will be working from home/resting that week.

**Motion was made and seconded, and Pastor's report was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

- We are doing well through August.
- Income 3.7% above plan and expenses -1.0% below
- Some ministry teams are under budget, a few are over due to some larger expenses
- The Parsonage proceeds total is listed on the Funds page, under the Misc category.
- 2025 budgets will be due by the end of September. Please relay info to your ministry teams. If you are increasing your budget, please make note of what the increase is for, as this helps for planning purposes.

**Motion was made and seconded, and the August Treasurer's report was approved.

Ministry Team Reports Received: H&W, Fellowship, LBG and Prayer (on file)

- ◆ **LBG:** Trip to the Indian Museum coming up. Plans in the works for an Indigenous worship service. Inclusive Language forums planned – September 15 and September 21/22
- ◆ **Fellowship;** many fellowship opportunities. Saturday potluck on September 14. Election Day – soup and bakery sales. Help is needed in all areas (food donations, greeters, parking attendants. We need some men to help on this day).
- ◆ **Property:** sprinklers are turned off. We have had 3 leaks so far this year. Do we continue with this system or leave the system off and use volunteers/sprinklers to water the beds?
- ◆ **Technology:** Sanctuary computer has been replaced. It's been quite a challenge. Live streaming should be possible for this coming weekend. Thank you to Andy and his sons, who have been helping to get the new computer purchased, and up and running.
- ◆ **Outreach:** Thank you to all the team leaders for the Day of Service. Everything went smoothly thanks to your leadership! Food Pantry – Dave shared some info from St. Andrew, in that their finances are down. We will continue to do our part and fund some of the pantry expenses. We need to think of some ways to help with additional financial support. Can we get a grant from the Lutheran Church to help support? Thrivent was mentioned. Community needs are increasing. The pantry served approx. 30 families in 2020/2021; we are currently serving approx. 50/60 families per month.
- ◆ **Finance:** we have 3 new counters that have volunteered, still looking for 1 more. We will have enough people now so that every weekend is covered in a counting team.
- ◆ **H&W:** Flu shot and Covid shot clinic at Advent on October 6. Sign up in the Narthex.

**Motion was made and seconded, and the Ministry reports were approved.

Administration/Housekeeping Items:

Devotion for October – Chris Noble

Old Business:

- ⇒ **Parsonage Proceeds:** Joan Hamm, coordinator. Joan has training in consensus building and will use some of that training within this parsonage task-force team. She is working on a document for the team and will present it to Exec hopefully next month, then will gather the task force team together. Document entails what the team job is, what the process will be to follow, how it works, what is expected and what is expected of the team members. This committee is not the decision makers, but the team to bring the process to the congregation, idea gathering – to keep the process in forward movement. The task force should be made up of approx. 6-8 people. Joan has had a few people already volunteer to be a part of the team.
- ⇒ **GPOD: 9.15 – Bob Adkins; 9.22- Andy DiLiello; 9.29 – Rob Hilston; 10.6 – Rob Hilston; 10.13 – Andy DiLiello; 10.20 – Chris Noble; 10.27 – Ben DeAlexandro**
- ⇒ **Stewardship Pledge Mailing:** Stewardship Weekend is October 19/20; pledge card mailing/envelope stuffing will take place on September 29. Pastor will do a multi-week Sermon Series, and the Stewardship team will do temple talks. Carla volunteered to help stuff envelopes.

New business:

- ⇒ **2025 Council:** Jo, Bob, Dave and Rob all have terms ending. Please let Rob know your plans for next year – if you would like to serve another term. Rob thanked all of the council and stated that it was a great council to work with!
- ⇒ **Safe Space Training:** October 5. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Betty Jacobs presenting. Council members are encouraged to attend.
Jo thanked all of council for their support the past 5 years

Motion to Adjourn: Motion was made, seconded, and meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Keeley, Council Secretary



Fall Back

**Don't forget to turn
your clocks back on
Sunday, November 3.**



*“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord...”
Psalm 33:12*

To be Stewards of God's Love challenges all Christians to steward God's resources — time, talents and treasures — in response to God's commandment to love God and our neighbors. One of the ways his is done here at Advent is by participating in the Pledge Commitment. This month we will like to **extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to our Advent Family.**

Thank you to those who have contributed their gifts of time, talent and treasure. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. It is through being Good Stewards of God's Love that Advent Ministries are able to continue their integral work for our congregation and our neighbors.

For those who are still wondering how they are able to contribute, please remember that no gift is too small. Any contribution of your time, talent and/or treasure truly helps our Advent Ministries.

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.



Please make note: November's meeting will be held on the 19th instead of the 5th

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!

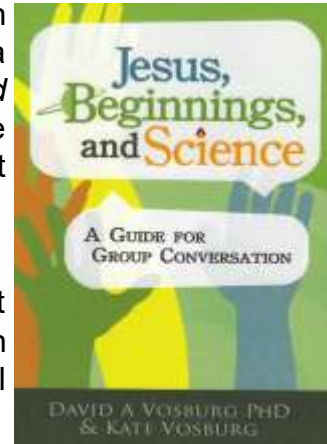


“...but Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.’ Matthew 19:14

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

What does the Bible say about creation, human origins, and science? The Sunday morning adult Sunday school class is exploring the topic of science and the Bible. Sessions are held on Sunday's 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.



Some Important News for Seniors

The Council on Aging along with Lake County's Fire Departments have partnered to conduct the Vial of Life Program. The primary purpose of the vial of life program is to provide important medical information at the time of a medical crisis.

The vial of life is a simple form containing medical and emergency information that is placed in a highly visible red magnetic pouch. The pouch is then placed on the refrigerator door. Emergency medical personnel are trained to look for the pouch when entering an older person's home. If the vial of life is available, it can assist the EMS in treating the person in his or her home. They also will take the vial of life if the person is being transported and give it to the emergency personnel for their use.

When someone requests the vial of life, a Council on Aging staff person will assist the individual in completing the document.

The vial of life is available through the Council on Aging at no cost to any Lake County resident over the age of 60 +. All that is required is a simple phone call to the Council on Aging at 440-205-8111 to request the vial.

Another important benefit of being a senior resident of Lake County is that your local Fire Department will provide a lock box for your house key, so it will not be necessary for them to break down your front door in case of an emergency. Simply contact your local fire department and ask about the free lock box for seniors to get all the details.

"...But with God, all things are possible." Matthew 19:26



Election Day

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. Parking attendants and Greeters are also needed. All 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 off by 10am Tuesday morning. Thank you in advance for your help.



Cherie Moore, Fellowship committee



Poinsettias for Christmas

If you would like to place an order for a Poinsettia

to adorn our worship space this Christmas, please **fill out an order form (available in the Narthex or online on our website,) and enclose it with your check.** Please make your checks payable to **Advent Lutheran Church** and mark your check memo with: **"Poinsettias"**

Orders and payments must be received by Sunday, December 8

Red:	6.5" pot (1 plant)	_____	\$6.50ea.
Red:	7.5" pot (2 plants)	_____	\$12.50ea.



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 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!



Project Hope
for the Homeless
Restoring Hope. Renewing Lives.

O(older) K(ids) Gang

OK Gang Luncheon

November 18, 2024 is the date for the November OK Gang Luncheon. It will be held this month at the Perkin's Restaurant and Bakery - located at 700 Mentor Avenue in Painesville.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex at church.

Please plan on attending! It is always fun for all!!

God Bless!

Cherie Moore , Witness Committee



HOLIDAY OUTREACH PROJECT

This year we are asking for donations to the Advent/St. Andrews Food Pantry. We will be providing Thanksgiving bags filled with a turkey and all of the fixings, including a pie for dessert, on November 20th.

We are also going to provide a Christmas bag on December 18th filled with a ham, all the sides and a dessert to go with it.

During the holidays we usually serve over 60 families. In order to make all of the bags alike and to be able to buy in bulk, we are asking for financial help. Our neighbors that shop at our food pantry really depend on us to make their holiday meal special. If you would like to contribute, please write a check with “*holiday food pantry*” written in the memo section of your check. Thank you for your generosity!!

Deuteronomy 15:11 – “Since there will never cease to be some in need on earth, I therefore command you, ‘Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land’.”

Any questions, please see Dave Mattson, Denise Janosko or Bev McArthur



Christmas Outreach

This December the Outreach Ministry Team will have two Christmas trees in the narthex.

We will collect hats, gloves, and mittens for Forbes House of Lake County. Please bring homemade or purchased items in sizes Infants through Adult and place them under the tree. We will collect these items until Christmas.



Our second tree will be a Fund Raiser for our Food Pantry Ministry. We are raising money to buy food to continue the great work of feeding families in the Lake and Geauga area. Please take a tag from the tree and put the money in the offering plate, or mail it to the church, or pay thru GivePlus/Vanco AND on the Memo line please indicate **Food Pantry**.

Thank you for your continued support of our ministry team.

*David Mattson
Council Liaison for Outreach Ministry Team*

Community Outreach

**Food Pantry (St. Andrew's)
Donations:**

**November:
Soap & Detergent**

**Volunteers
Needed**



Advent's Little Free Pantry

Our current needs are:
canned fruit, tuna, baby food

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!

Worship and Music Happenings

Your Worship and Music Committee continues to provide meaningful worship services at Advent.

All Saints Sunday will be on November 2 and 3. We will recognize five of our members who have died during the last year during All Saints Sunday services. There will be an opportunity for us to light a candle for our own loved ones during the service.

We will have a Thanksgiving Eve service on Wednesday November 27 at 7pm.

Christmas Eve services will be at 3, 7, and 9 p.m. You will again have the opportunity to purchase poinsettias for Christmas. Order forms will be available during November. The deadline for ordering poinsettias is December 8.

We welcome new ideas for worship and new members for the committee.

All Saints' Sunday ■ November 2/3

Robert Guy	12.11.2023
Richard Allay	2.15.2024
Richard Hunder	4.21.2024
Robert Elegante	5.13.2024
Walter Strickland	9.15.2024



We remember the saints who have entered rest this past year.

Sympathy

Our thoughts, prayers, and sympathies are extended to Barbara Strickland, upon the death of Walter Strickland. Walter went home to the Lord on September 15.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of our members who have lost loved ones.



May God comfort and heal all who grieve loss.

Saturday Evening Potlucks are back

Saturday, November 9

This is the next potluck date 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: cookmaker761@aol.com

Come and join us for fellowship and fun!



Baptisms

Congratulations and
God's Blessings

Ivy Marie Siegel
baptized October 6
daughter of Halle Siegel



Madilyn Elinor Szanyi
baptized October 27
great-granddaughter of Bob & Donna Conklin

Council Person of the Day

- November 3 · Bob Adkins**
- November 10 · Rob Hilston**
- November 17 · Christine Noble**
- November 24 · Rob Hilston**

Altar Flowers



November

2/3	Mackey
9/10	Ironhorse
16/17	Lenz
23/24	Noble

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.

The flower chart for 2025 is now available in the Narthex. Stop by and sign up for your special dates for next year

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 November : Leesa Mecozzi**
- Month of December: Cathy Doering**

*If you are interested in baking communion bread, please contact Cathy Doering.

Thank you for serving!



Finance Update • September 30, 2024

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
Balance 1/1/24	\$ 29,652.25	29,652.25	
Income	219,951.30	216,287.00	3,664.30
Expenditures	236,555.46	235,143.00	(1,412.46)
Ending Balance September 30, 2024	<u>\$13,048.09</u>	<u>\$10,796.25</u>	<u>\$2,251.84</u>

Year-to-Date...

**We've spent
\$16,604.16 more
than we've received**

DESIGNATED/ RESTRICTED FUNDS

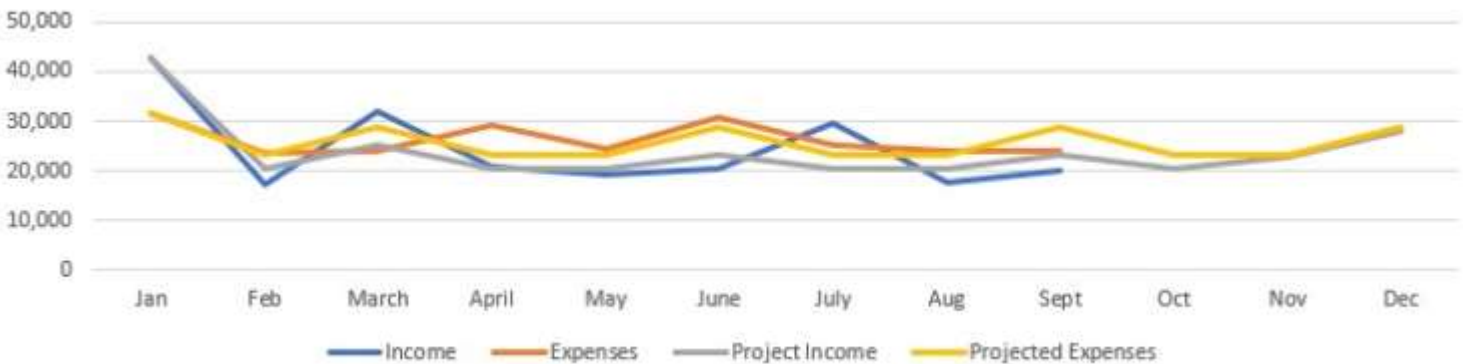
Balance 1/1/24	\$111,014.33
Income	346,197.03
Expenditures	25,997.67
Ending Balance September 30, 2024	<u>\$431,213.69</u>

Treasurer's Report with Fund Balances are posted at the end of each month on the council bulletin board outside the church office.

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	17,797	19,926				
Expenses	31,707	23,624	23,825	29,004	24,511	30,863	25,121	23,806	24,093				
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	31,707	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 946.5043
 Praise Team Director: Tracy Ammon 749.0690

VOLUNTEER CONTACTS

Lay Assistants
 Doreen Mattson946.5043
Worship Assistants
 Church office 257.5565
Worship Tech
 Greg Preske 216.317.8148
Altar Guild Chairperson
 Becky Young..... 440.221.4531
Sunday School
 Beth Hamilton669.1902
Service Outreach
Food Pantry
 Dave Mattson 440.897.5466
Youth & Family Ministry
 Beth Hamilton 669.1902
Prayer Ministry
 • **Prayer Vigil**
 Sue Keeley.....862.2790
 • **Prayer Chain**
 Sue Keeley..... 862.2790
 • **Healing Touch**
 Christine Noble 346.3120
Meals for Members
 Barb Caspell 440.840.5393
 Barb Louis..... 352.7055
Youth
Memorial Gifts
 Barb Zahn..... 440.223.2852

Finely Aged Ministry

Christine Noble 346.3120

Funeral Luncheons

Christine Noble 346.3120
 Paula DiLiello 290.7506

Blood Drives

Cherie Moore 623.308.9514

Webmaster

Church Office.....257.5565

Liturgical Arts

Fawn Patrick 357.7898

Quilting

Betty Steimle 440.534.1174

CHURCH COUNCIL

Pr. Steve Bond 710.4757
 Dave Mattson 440.897.5466
 Joan Hamm440.476.1494
 Carla Colo 216.970.0219
 Ben DeAlexandro 330.416.4858
 Andy DiLiello 440.290.7506
 Rob Hilston207.632.5949
 Bob Adkins832.971.6414
 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

Asst. Treasurer

Dave Mattson 440.897.5466

MUTUAL MINISTRY

Deb Laukiavich 725.4929
 Gary Swanson257.8480
 Cathy Doering.....379.7338
 Jenny Helland..... 974.1776

Deadline Reminder:

Newsletter information:

due by the 15th of the month

**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 - October 21, 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 @11:30am
- ◆ Youth Sunday School ▪ Sunday's ▪ 10:15am
- ◆ 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



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

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.

Welcome Friends



Advent's Purpose Statement: *"Loved by God, we share Christ's love with ALL"*