



June  
2025

# The Candle

## pastor's Message

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ. Have you ever felt that your life was too routine? Too comfortable? Maybe it is time to look for the new thing that God has in mind for your life.

Lately, I have been thinking a lot about being made new. Throughout this Easter season we've heard how God is doing a new thing – bringing new life out that which is dead, creating a new heaven and a new earth. In the midst of my thoughts, I found myself asking “How?” – How is God making (or going to make) all things new. I cannot answer this definitively but, I suspect that new life comes in ways that might surprise us – not through extraordinary miracles as one might expect need to occur—but through the common, ordinary, very human stuff that God takes so much pleasure in using.

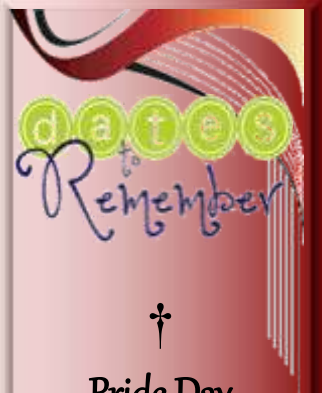
Think about it...new relationships or friendships often start with a chance meeting or a simple introduction. New skills are learned often begin with a simple question: “I wonder if I could.... (you fill in the blank)? Our world expands through learning (it could be in a class, or on a YouTube clip or from reading a book, or...the possibilities are infinite.)

So, if your life is feeling stagnate or you feel you are in a rut...Ask God to do a new thing and then look for the opportunities to allow God to work.

One such opportunity is being offered quarterly at Advent, beginning Sunday, June 8. Karen Brickner (daughter of Chuck and Sandy Kehler) will be helping us develop some artistic talents with a painting party. She is calling this program “Art in Season” and a brief devotion from God’s Word will be followed by painting a picture appropriate for the season – nature’s season or, sometimes, the liturgical season. The class will begin at 1:00pm and there is a \$35.00 fee for supplies. If the cost is an issue for anyone, please contact me directly and funds are available to assist you so that you do not need to miss this.

Let us grow together and allow God to continue the good work already being done in our lives.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Steve Bond



Pride Day  
June 14



Father's Day  
June 15



RIC Weekend  
June 21/22



*“Every good thing given  
and every perfect gift is  
from above, coming down  
from the Father of lights,  
with whom there is no  
variation or shifting  
shadow.”  
– James 1:17*

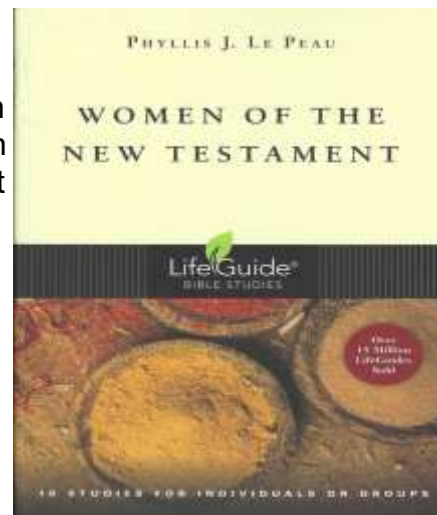
**The Candle is the newsletter of Advent Lutheran Church, ELCA**  
**Our Purpose: “Loved by God, we share Christ’s love with all”**

## SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES

Lydia shows us how to influence the people around us. Elizabeth's life challenges us to care for others. Women like Herodias and Sapphira warn us against turning away from God toward bitterness and dishonesty. As Phyllis J. Le Peau introduces twelve significant women of the New Testament, she invites you to enter their lives and learn from them what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. This revised ten-session LifeGuide Bible Study features additional questions for starting group discussions and for meeting God in personal reflection. The study guide is available through Amazon.com for \$8.99 in the paperback edition (ISBN 9780830830770). A Kindle edition is also available for \$8.44. **(NOTE: ThriftBooks has a slightly different version)**

**This 10-session study began on Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 10:15am in hybrid format. This means it will be conducted in-person and on zoom for people requiring remote access.**

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



### **Prayer Chain**

Do you wish to feel strengthened and fulfilled by offering your time to help others? 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](mailto: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**

May 31-June 6  
June 7-13  
June 14-20  
June 21-27  
June 28-July 4

Nancy Marshaus, Rose Schrum  
Lee Sundblom, Kay Smith  
Becky Young, Sue Keeley  
Jen Egner, Sandy Kehler  
Sue Keeley



*“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

- ♥ Here it is June and kids are out of school and Father's Day is in 2 weeks. How is this possible? Wasn't it just Christmas? The world is in a frenzy and chaos. Wait! Hold on and let me take a deep breath. And maybe 1 more. OK, Lord, I want to thank you for this beautiful day and ask that you slow me down. I want to appreciate all the blessings you have given me. You are the Creator of all things. All praise and glory I give to You, Lord! No matter how busy I get, let me remember to stop to thank You, Lord, for this gift of life. Amen. I feel better...how 'bout you?
- ♥ The next quarterly Care Team meeting is Saturday, June 7 at 10am. All are welcome to attend.
- ♥ Caregivers Support Group will meet on Thursday, June 12 at 1pm. If you are a caregiver or know someone who is, please invite them to join us. The meetings are informal and all information shared is kept confidential.
- ♥ Blood Pressure screenings will held on Saturday, June 21 after the 4pm service by Mary Jo Jones and Sunday, June 22 at 10am in the Parish Nurse office. Hope to see you there.
- ♥ Since June has 5 weekends, the Healing Touch Ministry will offer prayers during communion at each of the 3 services on June 28/29. Please remember we are merely vessels that Jesus uses praying the words inspired by His Holy Spirit. Come to the altar and give your request to Him.
- ♥ Advent has been providing meals for Project Hope's Families Moving Forward on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. There are typically 8-12 persons including children in need. The calendar for June thru August is up on the bulletin board waiting for volunteers. Meals are to be dropped off at 5pm at Door #4 in the back of the building. Address is 25 Freedom Rd., Painesville, OH 44077. Call or email me with any questions.
- ♥ Always remember, "When in doubt, Point to the Cross!"

Your Servant in Christ,

*Christine Noble, Parish Nurse*

### Care Team

**May 25-June 7**

Mary Jo Jones, Barbara Louis,  
Rose Schrum

**June 8-21**

Donna Conklin, Lee Sundblom,  
Sandy Kehler, Deb Cyrus-Lutz

**June 22-July 5**

Denise Janosko, Bev McArthur,  
Nancy Marshaus



### Upcoming Blood Drive

**Saturday, July 12**  
**8am - 1pm**

**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 - April

**In Attendance:** Bob McClanahan, Bob Adkins, Rob Hilston, Dave Mattson, Joan Hamm, Andy DiLiello, Christine Noble, Leesa Mecozzi, Carla Colo

**Excused** Pastor Steve & Sue Keeley

**Call to Order:** 7:00pm

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

## **Treasurers Report:**

- Income 23,445 and Expenses 27,458
  - YTD 1<sup>st</sup> QTR: Income 86,570 -1.6% while Expenses are 80,812 and 1.3%.
  - There will be no 1st Qtr. statements mailed out this year due to high cost of postage. Members can request copies of their statements from Becky Spudich or Sue Keeley.
- \*\*Motion was made and seconded, and the March Treasurer's report was approved.

## **Ministry Reports Received:** H&W, Witness & Fellowship (on File)

- **Youth & Family:** Leesa reported that since we are not having Vacation Bible School this summer, they are looking into having a few weekend family activities.
  - **Property:** Andy said he is looking into having soaker hoses with timers controlling the front flowers and memory garden this summer.
  - **Security:** Chris Noble and Bob Adkins will try and assist Andy in evaluating and recommending a company that can improve the locks on our doors with cameras and audio to safely monitor and communicate with anyone requesting entry and to have cameras recording sensitive areas. By forming a committee, we hope to be able to keep this important program moving forward.
  - **Witness:** June 7th has been selected for a New Member reception.
- \*\*Motion was made, second, and the Ministry reports were accepted.

## **Old Business:**

- **Offering Plate System:** New procedures are in place and finalized that allows collections to be brought up to the altar during the service and better secured after.
- **Parsonage Fund Steering Committee:** On May 1st a survey will be emailed out to all congregational members. Those without emails on file will receive a printed copy via the post office. A few additional copies will also be available for those who did not receive one. Member will be encouraged to submit as many ideas as they want as to how we can best utilize this fund to spread God's Love to our members and the community. On June 1st the surveys will be collected and tabulated. There will be an article in the Newsletter along with announcements and a temple talk to help better explain what the committee hopes to achieve with this survey. They have a tentative goal set for the annual meeting to complete their task and report back to the congregation.
- **Time Capsule Plans:** Council approved Fellowships' suggestion to review the contents of the time capsule during the potluck dinner for our Day of Service. A tentative date has been set for September 7th.

- **Synod Assembly:** Chris Noble and Rob Hilston have agreed to represent Advent along with Pastor Steve.

#### **New Business:**

- **Sabbatical** July was suggested as a time for all ministry teams to take some time off, reflect on and rejuvenate. This is not mandatory. There will not be a council meeting or an executive meeting in July.  
\*\*Motion was made and seconded and then approved.
- **Finance Committee Update:** Bob reported that the committee hopes to have a formal report to the council by late summer. This will include Synod documents for audit procedures and Best Practice guidelines. Finance committee work instructions, Advent's Finance Best Practices, along with audit findings and recommendations.
- Bob Adkins will not be present for May's Exec and Council meeting and Joan will miss the June meetings.
- Dave and Bob volunteered for GPOD on May 18th and 25th respectively.

Carla Cola thanked everyone for their support and prayers.

Carla led the closing.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion was made, seconded and approved.  
Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm



Our next council meeting will be on May 12th at 7pm. In-Person and Zoom available by request.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Bob Adkins*



# Have a Safe Summer



## Graduation Information

It's that time of year where we would like to acknowledge those who are graduating...high school, college, grad school. Please contact the church office with info (440.257.5565 or you may email: [adventmentoroffice@gmail.com](mailto:adventmentoroffice@gmail.com)).

We need their: name, where they are graduating from, college attending or future plans.

**Please be sure to get your information to the church office by Friday, June 13.**

***May God Bless all of our graduates!***



## Advent Endowment Committee Scholarship Program Applications due July 13, 2025

The Endowment Committee will be awarding up to 2 scholarships of \$1,000 this July.

Recipients will continue to be chosen randomly via lottery. Please email Bob McClanahan, Endowment Committee Chair, for an application. Applications must be received by July 13 for the drawing. Eligibility criteria are listed on the application.

Please be sure to submit an application if you are eligible and to share this information as appropriate. Contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Bob McClanahan  
Endowment Committee Chair  
([mcclanclan@aol.com](mailto:mcclanclan@aol.com)) / 440-867-3663)

## Group Studies

### Men's Studies

- ♦ **Retired Men's Group** meets the first Thursday 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.



**\*\*Note: Meetings will now take place on Thursdays**

### 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

## Lake County Pride



Ministry

*“Loved by God, we share Christ’s love with all”*

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we love without conditions. In the spirit of this, Advent Lutheran will be a sponsor at this year’s Lake County Pride, facilitated by the LGBTQ+ Allies of Lake County. The event will take place on Saturday, June 14th from 11am to 5pm at the Lake County History Center, located at 415 Riverside Dr, Painesville, OH 44077. Last year’s event was an incredible opportunity to meet and celebrate the LGBTQ+ community and their allies.

The Loved by God group is looking for volunteers to help staff our table at Pride. The time slots will be in 1-hour increments from 11am to 5pm. A volunteer’s main responsibility is to show a welcoming presence to those who come up to the table. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, and we kindly ask that you write your first and last name and phone number in the time slot you would like to volunteer. If you are unable to sign-up in person, please contact Alexis Sharpe at: [asharpe3@kent.edu](mailto:asharpe3@kent.edu).

Thank you!  
*The Loved by God Group*



## Stewardship

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

As children of God and disciples of Jesus, we are called “to be” – to be generous in spirit and generous with our time, talent and resources. In Jesus’ time, a steward was the manager of the household. The steward was not the owner but rather an administrator responsible for the owner’s property and assets. We are God’s stewards – administrators of ALL things inherited and entrusted to us by God. We are stewards of the earth, our wealth, our time, our possessions and our physical bodies. God has blessed us through the abundant generosity of others. Recall beloved family, friends, community members, and others who have shared their gifts from God and helped shape your life. How will you use your gifts from God to help others in our own life and in the community?

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*

*“...But with God, all things are possible.” Matthew 19:26*

## OK GANG

On June 16, 2025 the OK Gang will be going to **Redhawk Bar and Grille** located at 7481 Auburn Road , Concord Township, Ohio at 12:45pm.

**Redhawk Bar and Grille** offers the area's Largest Outdoor Patio, two wood burning fireplaces. They also have evening live entertainment, outdoor games and two full service bars! Indoor dining is comfortable, and classy with INCREDIBLE food, and prompt, courteous service. Weather permitting we will be eating outside on their covered deck.

We will be having a buffet as we are a large group so everyone should have no problem going home hungry.

If you have not joined us before please come and give us a try....we are a fun group! It is a great way to meet other members of the Advent family that go to different weekly services. Please sign up on the signup sheet located on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Hoping to see you June 16th at the OK Gang lunch. If you have any questions you can talk to Cherie Moore, Kathie Hayden or Jenny Helland, or any member of the witness committee.

The Advent Peacemakers want to profusely thank the members of Advent Lutheran Church for their generous funding for our quilting projects. Your support will allow us to continue our mission and fellowship for this year. We look forward to the quilt show raffle in the Fall. Your contributions will be used over many quilts. A sincere thank you from each quilter that makes



## Community Outreach

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

**June: deodorant & toilet paper**

**Volunteers  
Needed**



## Advent's Little Free Pantry

**Our current needs are:  
canned fruit**

**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!

"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



# Happy Father's Day!

Please join us on Sunday, June 15, as we celebrate all Dads this Fathers day. We will be gathering in the narthex for DESSERTS WITH DAD between services.

*"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."*  
Psalm 118:24

## Sympathy

Our thoughts, prayers, and sympathies are extended to Liz Sumiejski and family, upon the loss of Jim.  
May God comfort all who grieve.



### Council Person of the Day

<b>June 1</b>	<b>Rob Hilston</b>
<b>June 8</b>	<b>Andy DiLiello</b>
<b>June 15</b>	<b>Jo Brantweiner</b>
<b>June 22</b>	<b>Bob McClanahan</b>
<b>June 29</b>	<b>Leesa Mecozzi</b>

### Altar Flowers

#### June

<b>31/1</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>7/8</b>	<b>McClanahan</b>
<b>14/15</b>	<b>Mentch</b>
<b>21/22</b>	<b>Horvath</b>
<b>28/29</b>	<b>Open</b>



#### July

<b>5/6</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>12/13</b>	<b>Bolton</b>
<b>19/20</b>	<b>Noble</b>
<b>26/27</b>	<b>Conklin</b>

**Note: you will be billed directly from the florist**

### Worship Assistants

We need your help!

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

**We need ushers, lectors, and communion assistants**

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

### Upcoming Communion Bread Bakers

<b>May 31/June 1</b>	<b>Cathy Doering</b>
<b>June 7-8</b>	<b>Cathy Doering</b>
<b>June 14-15</b>	<b>Gayle Shroy</b>
<b>June 21-22</b>	<b>Gayle Shroy</b>
<b>June 28-29</b>	<b>Cathy Doering</b>



# Finance Update • April 30, 2025

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
Balance 1/1/25	\$ 26,472.96	26,472.96	
Income	108,500.22	113,442.00	\$(4,941.78)
Expenditures	106,457.15	108,250.00	1,792.85
<b>Ending Balance April 30, 2025</b>	<b>\$28,516.03</b>	<b>\$31,664.96</b>	<b>\$(3,148.96)</b>

Year-to-Date...

**We've received  
\$2,043.07  
more than we've  
spent**

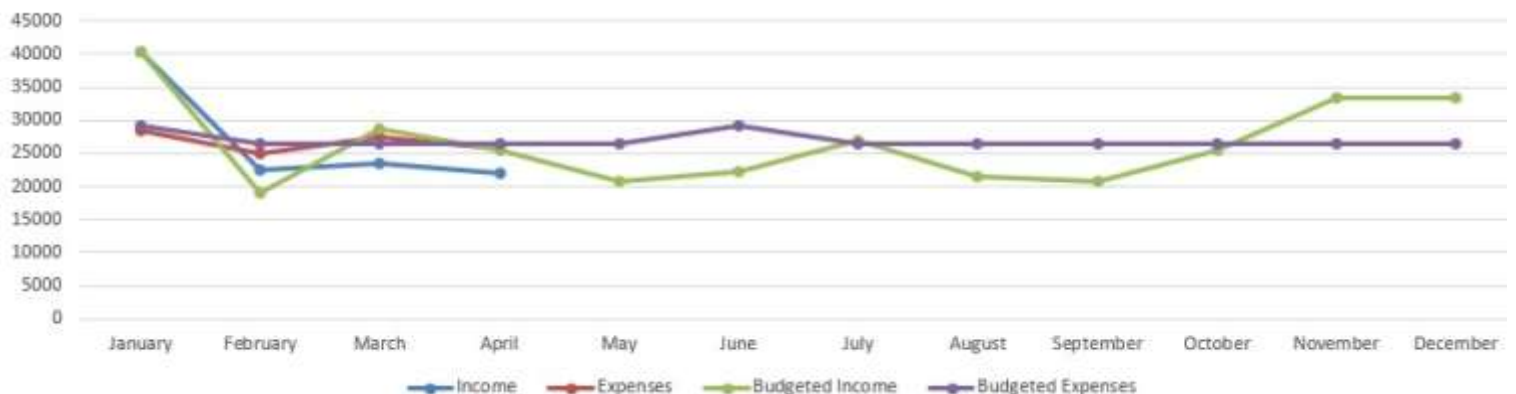
## DESIGNATED/ RESTRICTED FUNDS

Balance 1/1/25	\$424,128.65
Income	6,853.68
Expenditures	24,937.75
<b>Ending Balance April 30, 2025</b>	<b>\$406,312.47</b>

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

## Advent 2025 Financial Performance

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Income	40,302	22,554	23,445	21,930									
Expenses	28,482	24,862	27,458	25,644									
Project Income	40,302	19,080	28,620	25,440	20,670	22,260	27,030	21,624	20,670	25,440	33,390	33,474	318,000
Projected Expenses	29,125	26,464	26,464	26,464	26,464	29,125	26,464	26,460	26,464	26,464	26,464	26,464	322,886



**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 216.389.7611  
 Praise Team Director: Tracy Ammon 749.0690

### VOLUNTEER CONTACTS

**Lay Assistants**  
 Doreen Mattson ..... 216.389.7611  
**Worship Assistants**  
 Church office ..... 257.5565  
**Worship Tech**  
 Greg Preske ..... 216.317.8148  
**Altar Guild Chairperson**  
 Becky Young ..... 440.221.4531  
**Sunday School**  
 Beth Hamilton ..... 669.1902  
**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  
 Rob Hilston, President ..... 207.632.5949  
 Joan Hamm, Vice President ..... 440.476.1494  
 Carla Colo ..... 216.970.0219  
 Leesa Mecozzi ..... 440.231.1930  
 Andy DiLiello ..... 440.290.7506  
 Bob Adkins ..... 832.971.6414  
 Bob McClanhan ..... 440.867.3663  
 Christine Noble ..... 440.346.3120  
 Dave Mattson ..... 440.897.5466

### 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  
 Cathy Doering ..... 379.7338  
 Jenny Helland ..... 974.1776

### Deadline Reminder:

### Newsletter information:

due by the 15th of the month

Happy Father's Day

Sunday, June 15

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 - May 21, 2025

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
- ♦ Youth Sunday School ▪ Sunday's ▪ 10:15am
- ♦ Adult Sunday School: ▪ Sunday's ▪ 10:15am

**ON THE WEB:** [adventmentor.org](http://adventmentor.org)

**E-mail:** [adventmentoroffice@gmail.com](mailto:adventmentoroffice@gmail.com)

**Pr. Steve Bond:** [pastorstevebond@aol.com](mailto:pastorstevebond@aol.com)

**Christine Noble:** [adventparishnurse@gmail.com](mailto: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.

Welcome Friends



Rev. Steven C. Bond, Pastor  
7985 Munson Road, Mentor OH 44060-3703  
• 440.257.5565



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