



October
2025

The Candle

pastor's Message

I've struggled the past few days trying to decide what to talk about in this monthly message. Three days ago, a person I (honestly) had never heard of, was brutally murdered and the reaction on all sides has been sad and scary. More than ever, I am convinced that the good news of Jesus is that God is reconciling the world although "my eyes do not see" it, so my faith is necessary now, more than ever. Anyway, in the midst of my struggle, I was glad to see that our Bishop had a word for the Church:

A message from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton:

As presiding bishop of this church, I want to address yesterday's shooting in Utah. Charlie Kirk, known by millions for his views and videos supporting right-wing ideas, died by another senseless act of political violence. He was exercising his First Amendment right of free speech when he was shot and killed. This continues a long streak of political violence that shows no sign of subsiding. We've witnessed an attack on the husband of former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, two attempts to assassinate President Donald Trump during last year's campaign, the murder of two Minnesota state lawmakers, an arson attack on the home of Pennsylvania's governor, a plot to kidnap Michigan's governor, and too many more.

As I wrote last year, after the attempt on President Trump's life in Butler, Pa., "God calls this church to say a definitive 'no' to political violence now and in the future. Political violence has a long history but no place in democracy. This church belongs to God, and our unity in Christ is a grace-filled and healing gift in a fractured society."

This church teaches that disagreement is healthy and can lead to greater understanding and cooperation. But we have lost that sense of respectful debate and have degenerated into a society that treats differing opinions as personal attacks, erasing the humanity of some and abandoning the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pastor's message continued on page 5



Fall Fellowship
Event
October 12 ~10am



Pledge Weekend
October 18/19
10am-4pm



Underground
Railroad
Presentation
October 25
2-3pm

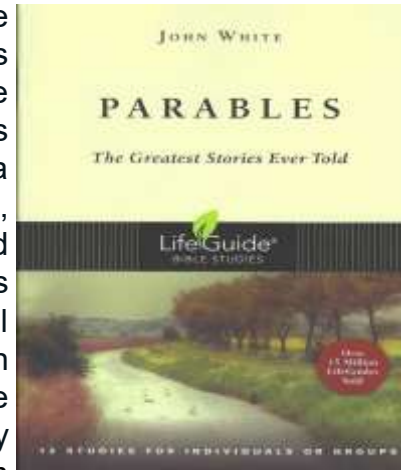


Blood Drive
November 14
10am-4pm

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 BEGINS A NEW STUDY

The Parables were the greatest stories ever told. The parables of Jesus make up a crucial part of the Bible. Jesus had the wisdom to simplify the profound spiritual truths he needed to share with humanity in the form of relatable stories that are easy to understand. A parable is a tale about a simple, common subject to illustrate a more profound, valuable moral lesson. The source definition of the word "parable" means a placement side by side for comparison. As you explore with John White the Parables of Jesus, you will come to understand the far-reaching impact they have had on the world we live in. *Parables* by John White features twelve easy to understand chapters with accompanying study questions. The study guide is available through Amazon.com for \$8.49 in the paperback edition (ISBN 9780830830374) and \$8.07 in the Kindle edition. This study guide is also available from Thriftbooks.com in a slightly different format.



This 12-session study began on Sunday, September 14, 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 can email Tim at: 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/adventmentoroffice@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

September 27-October 3
October 4-10
October 11-17
October 18-24
October 25-31

Jen Egner, Sandy Kehler
Sue Keeley, Fernanda Alves-Sharpe
Phyllis Tucker
Robin Ironhorse, Becky Spudich
Alice Santurri, 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

- ♥ October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It's important for women over 40 to have an annual mammogram. Early diagnosis is still key in providing the best treatment to obtain the best survival rate. Have you had your mammogram this year?
- ♥ The next quarterly Care Team meeting will be our annual Christmas breakfast on Saturday, December 6th at 10am. The September meeting was canceled. All are welcome to attend.
- ♥ Caregivers Support Group will meet on Thursday, October 9 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 be held on Saturday, October 18 after the 4pm service by Mary Jo Jones and Sunday, October 19 at 10am in the Parish Nurse office. Hope to see you there.
- ♥ 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 September thru December 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.
- ♥ The month of October is also the month we celebrate and show our appreciation to our Pastors. The 2nd Sunday in October is Pastor Appreciation Day, so this year it's October 12. This is a time we can recognize the hard work and dedication of our own Pastor Steve. We are blessed by his spiritual leadership, emotional support and service to the community. Thank you, Pastor Steve! Thank you also to Pastor Rod Funk, Pastor Larry Mackey and Pastor Barb Holzhauser for your years of dedicated service. God bless you all.
- ♥ Always remember, "When in doubt, Point to the Cross!"

Your Servant in Christ,

Christine Noble, Parish Nurse

Care Team



Sept 28-Oct 11	Kathy Kling, Kathy Jennings, Barb Caspell
Oct 12-25	Mary Jo Jones, Barbara Louis, Rose Schrum
Oct 26-Nov 8	Donna Conklin, Lee Sundblom, Sandy Kehler, Deb Cyrus-Lutz

Upcoming Blood Drive

Friday, November 14
10am-4pm

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 - August

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

Excused: Bob Adkins

Call to Order: 6:55pm

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

Pastor's Report: verbal

Thank you to the congregation for the support of our July sabbatical month.

Fall is approaching, Sunday school begins, and meetings and events will be in full swing.

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

Treasurer's Report:

Income below -5.6% (\$10,265.55) and Expenses under budget 0.1% (\$199.52 – on target).

Ministry teams doing well – some over, some under budget for the year to date.

General Memorial Fund: this fund has over \$18,000.00 in it. This will be discussed under old business for an upcoming usage of this money.

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

** Motion was made to approve the June treasurer's report, seconded, and the June report was approved.

Ministry Team Reports Received: H&W, Fellowship, Finance, W&M (on file)

Property; backflow device is in place. Our plumber said that this will require a yearly inspection from the water company.

LBG: book study begins tomorrow, August 12 at 7pm.

DOS: September 7. Some projects are in place but still looking for any other ideas for projects. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex. "Fill the Pantry" was suggested.

Witness: a new member date will be set, as we have visitors wanting to join.

Fellowship: this Sunday will be an Ice Cream Social between services.

H&W: August 30/31, being a fifth Sunday weekend, Healing Touch will be offered at all worship services.

W&M: Carla Colo read a letter from our praise team director, about an idea/proposal for next year. It was discussed briefly, but will be readdressed at the beginning of next year, when the 2026 council is in place.

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

Administration/Housekeeping Items:

+ Council is encouraged to write Ministry team reports and not just distribute minutes from meetings. Highlighted items for council knowledge.

Please be sure to notify the office of any meeting day changes or of an upcoming meeting, so that the calendar can be up to date.

+ Devotion for September – Bob McClanahan

+ Council sharing of blessings and/or concerns



Old Business:

Parsonage Fund Steering Committee Update: 73 responses to the survey were collected. The team has been busy working on analyzing the ideas presented. Next up is an educational piece to the congregation. Team is meeting this coming Thursday.

Cameras/Security System: a letter/proposal was read from Bob Adkins. 8 proposals for cameras/security have been received. Horner Network is being recommended for this new project totaling \$33,693.00. Key fob system, cameras/apps to open doors. Endowment has agreed to fund 70% of this project, leaving 30% for the church to fund. Thank you to the Endowment Committee. It was suggested that the 30% - approx. \$10,100, be taken from the General Memorial Fund. We will also have a dedicated "emergency" phone. This will be placed in the Narthex (red phone marked EMERGENCY). This will automatically dial 911 should the need arise.

** Motion was made that 30% of the cost of the security system be taken from Advent's General Memorial Fund, approximately \$10,100, motion was seconded, and approved by all.

Time Capsule/Day of Service: Pastor Steve will oversee the opening of the time capsule, which will occur immediately following worship, before the potluck on the Day of Service. Pastor will work with the Sunday school youth/church, about creating a new Time Capsule.

Finance Audit: Bob Adkins has been working on this and will present to council in September. Best practices, detailed work instructions, with Synod recommendations.

GPOD: schedule was passed around.

New Business:

Council 2026: brief discussion about those who are eligible to serve another term. Please be in prayer about continuing to serve and also be in prayer about leadership roles within council for next year. Bob Adkins and Joan Hamm are finishing terms.

Personnel Committee: Pastor would like to have a personnel committee reformed, as we've had in the past.

Stewardship Campaign: October 18/19 is Stewardship Weekend. Temple talks and a sermon series will be done leading up to Stewardship Weekend. The pledge mailing will be completed and mailed in September.

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

Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Keeley, Council Secretary

Pastor's message continued from page 1

We must recommit ourselves to reflecting what Christ taught us through acts of forgiveness, healing and new life. I continue to hold that "God's resolve for peace in human communities is unshakable."

In this moment, I urge all of us in this church to embrace God's call, to hear and embody the good news of Jesus Christ and to fulfill our roles as peacemakers through active civic engagement.

Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop

OK Gang

The OK Gang will be going to Smokey Bones Restaurant located at 7725 Reynolds Rd. on Monday, October 20th at 12:45pm.

At Smokey Bones, they say that they specialize in three things: good food, good drinks, and good times. Masters of authentic fire-grilled and house-smoked meats they respect the power of the open flame. They like simple, yet flavorful recipes and believe marinating should not be taken lightly; that pork should be slow smoked (slow as in 11 hours over hickory logs every night and often as in every day in every restaurant). They are dedicated to serving their patrons with a passion and expertise that will create intense feelings of blissful satisfaction.

Their menu is full of options, giving the diner many choices from appetizers to sandwiches, salads, soups, BBQ platters, wings to desserts within their price range. One of my favorite desserts are their "Hot bag O' Donuts (5 small fluffy, round donuts with chocolate and raspberry dipping sauces) YUMMY!

Come join us on October 20th and enjoy a good meal with friends. If it will be your first time, you will find us a fun-loving group who enjoy good food and spending time with friends.

Mark your calendars for a four-week Advent Retreat

Join us on: November 29, December 6, 13, and 20

Time: 9:30am - 12:00pm

Cost: \$24.00 total to cover materials, continental breakfast & snacks

Sign up available on bulletin board: October 5 - November 16

We will join the people of Israel waiting for the coming Messiah, entering into the confusion, longing, frustration, and sense of dreams deferred that the people of Israel felt year after year, generation after generation.

We will prepare for the joy of Christmas by waiting on the dark streets of Bethlehem, our eyes straining to glimpse the dawning of that everlasting light.

Questions: please contact Emma Krueger

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.



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

"FREEDOM'S JOURNEY"

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD IN LAKE COUNTY

Mark your calendar for a presentation by the Lake County Historical Society



During the American Civil War (1861-1865), literally thousands of slaves escaped the horrors of slavery in the south via what is widely referred to as the "underground railroad." Did you know that Lake County played an integral role in support of the underground railroad?

The **Loved by God Team** of Advent Lutheran Church, in conjunction with the Lake County Historical Society, is sponsoring a presentation called "Freedom's Journey" which will be conducted at Advent Lutheran Church on **Saturday, October 25th from 2 to 3pm**.

Light refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the program.

This event is free; however, a \$5 or \$10 donation to the Loved by God Team would be much appreciated.

If you have any questions, call/text Tim Krueger at (440) 391-0369 or email him at LTCTKRUE@aol.com

There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Fellowship Committee

Please join us on October 12th 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.



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 4 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 Sunday (during church hours) or Tuesday morning. Soup can be dropped off by 10am Tuesday morning. Thank you in advance for your help.



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

Quilt Raffle

The Advent Lutheran Church Piecemaker Quilt group is returning with the yearly Quilt Raffle event. Our 13 fabric magicians continue working their craft to create colorful quilts in many patterns. We love finding a new pattern or design to use in our sewing and enjoy sharing them with the congregation. We donate the quilts we make to Lutheran World Relief and Appalachian Relief. We also sew comfort quilts for sick members, baptism quilts and lap quilts.



The quilts will be displayed on the pews October 5-12, with the drawing on Sunday October 12th at the 9:00am worship service. The winner will be able to select their quilt the following week. Tickets will be sold before and after each service in September through October 11. Tickets are 1 ticket for \$5.00 or 3 tickets for \$10. We appreciate your support of our mission to warm the needy.

Hello Fall



Community Outreach

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

October :
deodorant & paper towels

**Volunteers
Needed**



Advent's Little Free Pantry

Our current needs are:
pasta sauce, tuna, 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

Saturday Evening Potlucks are back

Saturday, November 8

The next potluck date after the Saturday 4pm worship service is November 8.

Place settings will be provided. Bring something to share.

Any questions, please see or call Cathy Doering at:
(home phone) 440.379.7338

Come and join us for fellowship and fun!

Potluck Dinner



Handel's Messiah

75th Anniversary Presentation

Sunday, December 7 · 4pm
St. Gabriel Church · Concord Township

Calling All Singers!

For more information:

Kevin Donahue, Conductor
kdonahue@st-gabriel.org

**see flyer on our bulletin board
outside the church office,
for times/location of rehearsals**

Council Person of the Day

October 5	Bob McClanahan
October 12	Christine Noble
October 19	Dave Mattson
October 26	Joan Hamm

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.**

Altar Flowers

October

4/5	Hayden
11/12	Open
18/19	Mach/Preske
25/26	Conklin



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

Upcoming Communion Bread Bakers

October 4/5	Gayle Shroy
October 11/12	Cathy Doering
October 18/19	Judy Ryan
October 25/26	Judy Ryan

Thank you for your ministry!



Finance Update • August 31, 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	193,279.59	205,026.00	\$(11,746.41)
Expenditures	213,646.30	216,815.00	3,168.70
Ending Balance August 31, 2025	\$6,106.25	\$14,683.96	\$(8,577.71)

Year-to-Date...

**We've spent
\$20,366.71
more than we've
received**

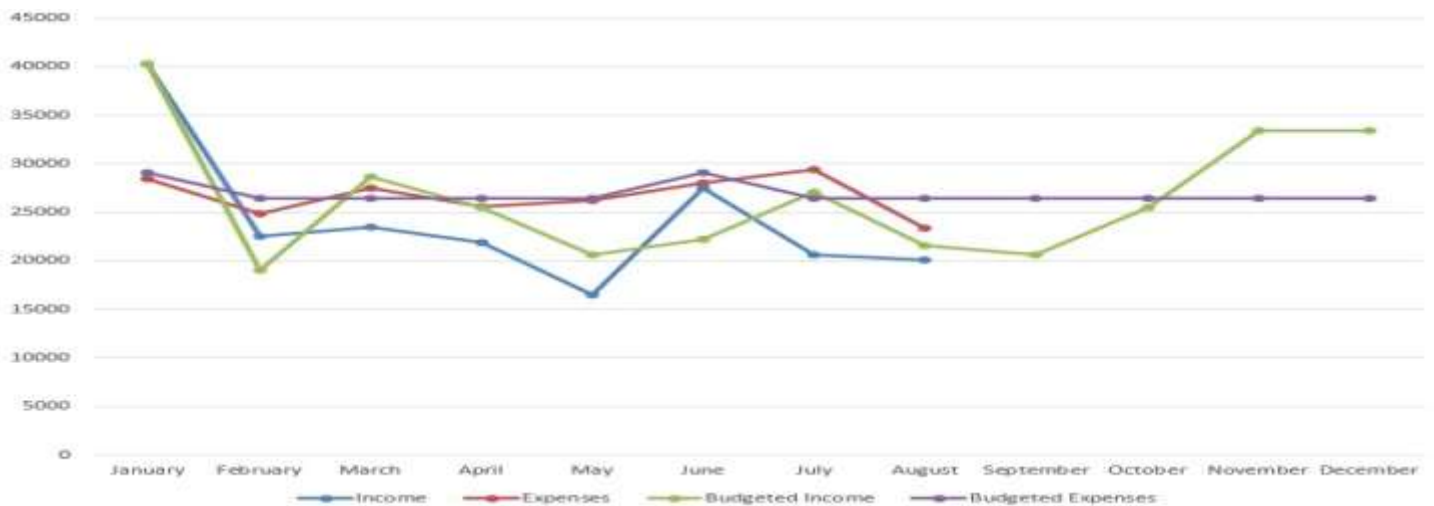
DESIGNATED/ RESTRICTED FUNDS

Balance 1/1/25	\$400,879.19
Income	10,227.54
Expenditures	51,828.96
Ending Balance August 31, 2025	\$359,277.77

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	16,522	27,541	20,612	20,143					
Expenses	28,482	24,862	27,458	25,644	26,177	27,995	29,443	23,406					
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 440.710.4757
 Office Administrator: Sue Keeley 440.862.2790
 Organist: Elizabeth Sumiejski 440.255.5489
 Chancel Choir Director: Doreen Mattson 216.389.7611
 Praise Team Director: Tracy Ammon 440.749.0690

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
Halloween!



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 - September 22, 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 @11:30am
- ♦ 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"*