



October 2026

Pastor's Message

Lately, I've been thinking about the word *entrusted*.

There are so many things in our lives that have been entrusted to us. Our time. Our abilities. Our relationships. Our resources. Our experiences. Our faith. Even the people and communities of which we are a part.

We may sometimes speak of these things as things we *have* or things we *own*. But faith invites us to see them differently. Scripture continually reminds us that everything begins with God. God gives first. We receive. And then comes the question of what we will do with what we have been given.

What has God entrusted to me—and what am I doing with it?

That question is at the heart of stewardship.

Stewardship is sometimes reduced to what we put in the offering plate or give electronically each week. Our financial giving certainly matters. It makes the ministry we share possible. But stewardship is larger than that. It is about the way we live in response to what God has first given us.

Over the next several weeks, I'll be inviting us to think together about what God has entrusted to us and what we are building with it.

As part of that conversation, you will soon receive our annual stewardship letter and pledge card in the mail. I invite you to prayerfully consider your financial commitment to Advent's ministry for the coming year and return your pledge card during worship on **Stewardship Weekend, October 17–18**.

Why a pledge card? Not because any of us can know exactly what the coming year will bring. A pledge is simply a way of turning a good intention into a commitment. It also helps those entrusted with planning Advent's ministry prepare responsibly for the year ahead.

But a pledge card is only one small part of stewardship.

The larger question is one I hope we will continue asking long after October:

continued on page 5



**Quilt Raffle
October 4**



**Blessing of Pets
October 4**



**Blood Drive
October 9
10am-4pm**



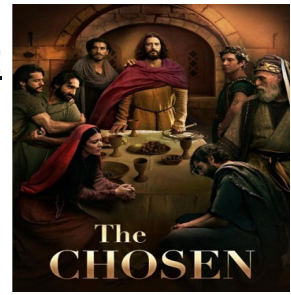
**Pledge Weekend
October 17/18**



"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."
Philippians 4: 6-7

Sunday Morning Adult Sunday School Begins a New Study

Many of you are probably aware of the popular TV series called **THE CHOSEN** starring Jonathon Roumie as Jesus. The program depicts the places and events surrounding the life of Jesus and the lives of his key followers, as outlined in the Gospels.



Each week we will view an episode, to be followed by a brief discussion. The episodes are 40 to 50 minutes in length. The discussions will be 15 to 20 minutes long. **There will be no deep theology. The discussions will be light, centering around how the episode draws you closer to Christ.**

There are no books to purchase. Each week, discussion materials will be sent out via email. The material will contain a brief synopsis of the next episode-plus discussion questions. There will be no homework. Do not attempt to answer the questions ahead of time. You may have already seen the current episodes on your own. Don't let that discourage you from joining us. Watching it with your brothers and sisters in Christ will bring a dimension to it that cannot be duplicated in the isolation of your living room.

The CHOSEN began on Sunday, September 20 at 10:15am using in-person format only. There will be no zoom option.

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 discussion material will be sent out). You can also 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: adventmentoroffice@gmail.com if you would like to become part of the prayer chain ministry, have a prayer request, would like to become a Pastor Prayer Intercessor, or if you have any questions. Prayer is Powerful!!

Pastor Prayer Intercessors

September 26-October 2
October 3-9
October 10-16
October 17-23
October 24-30
October 31-November 6

Becky Young, Emma Krueger
Jen Egner, Sandy Kehler
Sue Keeley, Elizabeth Chuba
Phyllis Tucker
Robin Ironhorse, Becky Spudich
Sue Keeley, Alice Santurri



“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 Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It is a time to promote screening and early detection. Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women except for skin cancers. 1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. 382,640 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year. Awareness is the first step toward taking meaningful action. Have you had your mammogram this year, Women of Advent?
- ❖ This month the Caregivers Support Group will meet on the second Thursday, October 8 at 1pm. It's important for the persons attending to have the opportunity to share their struggles with others who understand the challenges of caregiving. All information is kept confidential.
- ❖ Blood pressure screenings will be held on the 3rd Saturday, October 17 at 5pm by Mary Jo Jones; and the **4th Sunday, October 25** at 10am, as I will be in Bermuda on my honeymoon with my husband, Jim Rea on the 18th. Stop by to have yours checked.
- ❖ Care Team Ministry will meet on Saturday, November 14 at 10am for the annual Christmas gathering. Please join us!
- ❖ Always remember, "When in doubt, Point to the Cross!"

Your Servant in Christ,
Christine Noble, Parish Nurse

Care Team

September 27-October 10	Mary Jo Jones, Barbara Louis, Laura Jastromb
October 11-24	Donna Conklin, Lee Sundblom, Sandy Kehler, Deb Cyrus-Lutz
October 25-November 7	Denise Janosko, Bev McArthur, Nancy Marshaus

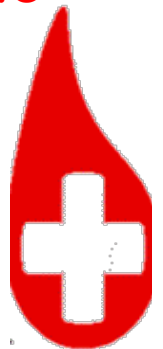


Upcoming Blood Drive

Friday, October 9
10am-4pm

call 1.800.RED.CROSS

~or~ RedCrossBlood.org
Key word: Advent



Help Save a Life!

Council Minutes - August

In Attendance: Dave Mattson, Leesa Mecozzi, Bob McClanahan, Andy DiLiello, Joan Hamm, Terry Mach, Pastor Steve

Excused: Christine Noble, Rob Hilston

Call to Order: 6:58pm. August 17, 2026

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

Pastor's Report: (doc on file)

- Pastor handed out a doc with 4 discussion/to be thinking about, items listed. **Parsonage Proceeds:** next step – to get info out to the congregation about next step processes. A council workday is being planned to discuss all the results from the Parsonage Workshop and “where we go from here.” Calendar will be checked for October 3. **Time Capsule:** do we bury another capsule? Honest question to be asked...do you think we “the church” be around in another 25 years? Who would take responsibility for organizing a time capsule event? **Christian Education:** Pastor has been made aware that our Sunday school Superintendent, Beth Hamilton, will be stepping down after this next school year. Becky has also stated that this will be her last year teaching. We need to begin planning now – how does Advent provide faith formation for children/youth after this next year. **New Opportunities for Shared/Outreach Ministry:** Synod is working on 2 initiatives: “One Church Experiment” and “Partnership with other RIC congregations in missionary/outreach ministry.” Meetings with congregations are being planned and organized for discussions. Are we willing to enter these conversations? Question beneath all four discussion topics: What is God calling Advent to become next, and what faithful next step can we take now?
 - Discussion took place about council positions needing to be filled for next year.
- **Motion was made and seconded, and pastor's report was approved.*

Treasurer's Report:

- Income above plan 8.8% and expenses under budget 3.2%.
 - Memorial money will be used to cover cost of the 2 new AED units that were purchased. That money has not been moved yet from the funds.
 - Bob Adkins has been working/doing research for a new insurance provider for the church. A new provider will be presented at the next finance meeting for discussion, then brought before council for approval.
- ** Motion was made to approve the July Treasurer report, seconded, and the report was approved.*

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

- **W&M:** Outdoor worship/picnic – August 23 at Veteran's Park.
 - **Witness:** New members will be received on September 12. Currently, 3 people will be joining. Council was asked to please let Leesa know if you are available to attend the welcome dinner.
 - **Outreach:** Day of Service – September 13. One worship service at 10am, followed by potluck lunch and then service projects. Currently, 5 projects are planned
- **Motion was made and seconded, and the ministry reports were approved.*

Administration/Housekeeping Items:

None noted



Business:

- **Stewardship:** a formal campaign has not been planned. Pastor plans to do a 2-3 week sermon series. Pledge cards will be used. Pledge weekend has not yet been confirmed.
- **Parsonage Info:** Information about the next steps in the process need to be communicated to the congregation. Newsletter article, E-Blast, Weekly News will be used. Pastor stated that he will draft a letter/article, for council to approve, then it will be communicated with the congregation.
- **Council Retreat/Workday:** October 3 is a possible date. The church calendar will be checked for conflicts. Off-site retreat. Joan Hamm has location to be used and will check for any conflicts. Agenda for workday: discussion/decisions pertaining to the results of the parsonage workshop/findings; council members for 2027.
- **Garden Committee:** Dave noted that the gardeners have requested a change to the front landscape, as it is more difficult each season to keep up with the beds/weeds. Discussion took place. Dave will reach out to our landscapers for quotes about shrub removal.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion was made, seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Keeley, Council Secretary



Pastor's Message continued from page 1

What has God entrusted to me—and what am I doing with it?

Loved by God, we have been entrusted with much. May we continue to share Christ's love with all.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Steve



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

OK Gang

On October 19, the OK Gang will be going to **Ridgewood Kitchen and Spirits** located at 9853 Johnnycake Ridge Rd, Mentor, at 12:45pm.

American cuisine served alongside craft beer and wine, all inside a cozy eatery.

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 October 19th 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.

Quilt Raffle

It's time again for the Advent Quilt group to display our quilts for the lucky raffle winner to pick one. The quilts will be on display September 26 thru October 4.

The tickets are \$5 per ticket (5 tickets for \$10). Tickets will be sold beginning the weekend of September 5 and 6. Drawing will take place on Sunday, October 4. Please pick up the quilt before October 8. We will use the funds for buying our supplies and donate to the church funds.

Thank you!



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

Blessing of the Pets Event

Calling all dogs, cats, hamsters, goldfish and parrots — and any other animal who is part of your family!

On Sunday October 4th from 1pm-3pm, Pastor Steve will be blessing our pets. Join us for an afternoon which would include:

- Pet Blessing
- Staged Photo Opportunity
- Raffle baskets

**Group pet blessing will take place at 1:30pm.

Individual pet blessings will be available after the group blessing also.



Ministry



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 3 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.

The Fellowship Committee



Ministry



Please join us on October 11th 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.

The Fellowship Committee

Please note: fall treats will also be enjoyed on **Saturday night, October 3**, following the 4pm worship service.



Welcome New Members

We extend a warm welcome to our new members who joined Advent on September 12:
Richard Blum & Donna Cilensek
and Victoria Krug.
Welcome to the Advent Family.
May God Bless You!



Outreach

Community Outreach

Food Pantry (St. Andrew's)
Donations:

October:
deodorant & paper towels

**Volunteers
Needed**



Advent's Little Free Pantry

Our current needs are: **oatmeal,**
anything you'd like to donate

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." 3John 2

Communion Bread Bakers Needed

I am looking for people to bake communion bread for Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings. It is a really simple recipe:

Communion Bread

3/4 cup water
 1/4 cup honey
 2 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
 1/4 cup sugar
 1 teaspoon baking powder
 Oil to lightly put on top of the bread once baked and cooled.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix the flour, sugar and baking powder in a bowl. In separate bowl, mix water and honey. Add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients. Dough will be sticky. Divide dough into three equal parts. Roll out dough to 1/4 inch thick. Cut a cross going all the way through the bread. Bake for 12-15 minutes. Do not overbake. Dab with oil once bread is cooled. Can be frozen.

Blessings, Cathy Doering
cookmaker761@aol.com / 440.379.7338

Wedding Congratulations

Pastor Jim Miller
 &
 Laura DeHelian

married on Saturday, September 19
 God's Blessings to you both!!



GOPD (Go To Person of the Day)

October 3-4	Rob Hilston
October 10-11	Dave Mattson
October 17-18	Terry Mach
October 24-25	Andy DiLiello
October 31-November 1	

Upcoming Communion Bread Bakers

October 3-4	Gayle Shroy
October 10-11	Gayle Shroy
October 17-18	Cathy Doering
October 24-25	Cathy Doering
October 31-November 1	Cathy Doering

Thank you for your ministry!

Altar Flowers

October



3/4	Jastromb
10/11	Noble/Rea
17/18	open
24/25	Mach

Worship Assistants

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.

Finance Update • August 31, 2026

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
Balance 1/1/26	\$ 13, 289.48	\$ 13,289.48	
Income	\$ 223,308.07	\$195,804.00	\$ 27,504.07
<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>\$ 202,676.57</u>	<u>\$213,327.00</u>	<u>\$ 10,650.43</u>
Ending Balance August 31, 2026	\$ 33,920.98	\$ (4,233.52)	\$ 38,154.50

DESIGNATED/ RESTRICTED FUNDS

Balance 1/1/26	\$419,547.02
Income	6,837.23
<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>36,133.63</u>
Ending Balance August 31, 2026	\$390,250.62

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



In the Military



Thank you to those who have reached out with military information. If you haven't, each weekend in worship, we pray for those in the military. Those names we read are: **Brent, Justin, Thomas, Tommy, Brian, Daniel, Brad, Gordan, Brandon, Peter, Otis, Martin, and Ross.**

We are trying to update our list and keep it current. If one of these names are a family member, friend, acquaintance, etc., please call or email the church office so we know that they are still serving/no long serving. (440.257.5565 / adventmentoroffice@gmail.com)

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
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Worship Assistants

Church office	440.257.5565
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Worship Tech

Greg Preske	216.317.8148
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Altar Guild Chairperson

Becky Young	440.221.4531
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Sunday School/Youth & Family Ministry

Beth Hamilton	440.669.1902
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Service Outreach

Food Pantry

Dave Mattson	440.897.5466
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Prayer Ministry

Prayer Vigil & Prayer Chain

Sue Keeley	440.862.2790
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Healing Touch

Christine Noble	440.346.3120
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Meals for Members

Barb Caspell	440.840.5393
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Barb Louis	352.7055
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Memorial Gifts

Barb Zahn	440.223.2852
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Funeral Luncheons

Christine Noble	440.346.3120
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Paula DiLiello	440.290.7506
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Blood Drives

Church office	440.257.5565
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Webmaster

Church Office	440.257.5565
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Liturgical Arts

Fawn Patrick	440.357.7898
--------------	--------------

Quilting

Betty Steimle	440.534.1174
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CHURCH COUNCIL

Pr. Steve Bond	440.710.4757
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Leesa Mecozzi, President	440.231.1930
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Christine Noble, Vice President	440.346.3120
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Rob Hilston	207.632.5949
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Joan Hamm	440.476.1494
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Andy DiLiello	440.339.1069
---------------	--------------

Terry Mach	440.840.5744
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Bob McClanhan	440.867.3663
---------------	--------------

Dave Mattson	440.897.5466
--------------	--------------

Council Secretary

Sue Keeley	440.862.2790
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Treasurer

Bob McClanahan	440.867.3663
----------------	--------------

Financial Secretary

Becky Spudich	440.487.7897
---------------	--------------

Asst. Treasurer

Dave Mattson	440.897.5466
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MUTUAL MINISTRY

Deb Laukiavich	440.725.4929
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Cathy Doering	440.379.7338
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Jenny Helland	440.974.1776
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From the Office

Deadline Reminder:

Newsletter information:

due by the 15th of the month

Thank you!

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 21, 2026

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"*