



# M E S S E N G E R

The monthly  
newsletter of Advent  
Lutheran Church

## **EASTER CELEBRATION**

### **Over 500 Attended Advent on Easter Sunday!**

Advent celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord with Festive Worship on Easter Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. Over 500 were in attendance for worship which included special music from our Traditional Choir, the 9:30 Worship Team, Joyful Juniors Children's Choir, Handbells and a Brass Ensemble. Alleluias rang throughout the beautifully decorated sanctuary following their absence during the 40 days of our Lenten journey to the cross. Special thanks to everyone who assisted with our Lenten, Holy Week and Easter worship services and events.

### **FIRST COMMUNION FOR ELEVEN ADVENT YOUTH Maundy Thursday**

Following classes with Pastor Jerry, the following children and youth from Advent received their First Communion during worship on Maundy Thursday: *Camden Flint, Jade Flint, Ella Howard, Emilie Howard, Grace Palm, Joshua Palm, Gavin Patrick, Michael Patrick, Destany Pitts, Jamie Pitts, and Annalyse White*. We celebrate with them on this most special day in their lives.



## **Advent Lutheran Church**

**Orange Park, Florida    ✝    April 2016**

## President's Corner

### THE SIGN OF THE FISH



### ICHTHYS

I am sure that most of you have seen the sign of the fish on the trunk of many cars and sometimes with the name JESUS within the body of the fish. The term "ichthys" is the Greek word for fish. It is also used as the prefix for ichthyology meaning the branch of zoology for the study of fish. However, it had special meaning for the early church. There is a church legend that early Christians used the sign of the fish to conceal their faith from enemies but also to share with fellow believers the fact that they were followers of Christ. So, what meaning does the sign of the fish convey. I = Jesus (I in Greek stands for Jesus. Ch = Christ (Chi in Greek for Christ). Th = God (Theo in Greek for God). Y = Yser (Y in Greek for Son) S = Soter (S in Greek for Savior). The result is Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior (**ICHTHYS**). For me and for you seeing the sign of the fish is a visual reminder of the importance of Jesus in our daily lives.

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### In this issue:

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- ✠ Pre School News
- ✠ Musical Notes
- ✠ Wednesday Activities
- ✠ Birthdays and Anniversaries

#### Editor's Note:

Advent news due no later than April 11<sup>th</sup> to be included in the next issue.  
E-mail to [ncschroyer@aol.com](mailto:ncschroyer@aol.com)  
(preferred) or leave in church office.

## W E L C A

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

*Naomi Circle* meets April

28th at 7:00 p.m. in the

Parlor. ✠

**President's Corner** (Continued from Page 2) I call your attention to the first stained glass window to the right of the pulpit. The window shows three crosses. The central cross depicts the cross used to crucify Jesus and the crosses to the right and left depict those used to crucify the criminals with Jesus. The central cross has the title INRI which are the initials of a Latin phrase which reads "*Iesvs Nazaretm, Rex Ivdaeorum.*" In the Latin language there is no "J" or "u" in their alphabet. The letter "I" is used for "J" and the Letter "v" for "u." Replacing the "I" with "J" and the "v" with "u" we have "*Jesus Nazaretum, Rex Judaeorum.*" Translated into English we have the phrase "*Jesus of Nazareth, The King of the Jews.*" This was the title ordered by Pontius Pilate as we find in John 19:19-22. As we celebrated Holy Week and continue the Easter season let us be reminded that Jesus suffered and died for us. Peace and blessings,  
Ken Johansen



**2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL EPIC GOLF CLASSIC**  
**Country Club of Orange Park**  
**Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start**

The Youth of Advent will host their Second Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Country Club of Orange Park with a 1:00 p.m. shotgun start. This charity event will help fund youth scholarships and assist our youth participating in mission events and attending the National Youth Gathering Mission Event in Houston in 2018. Teams of 4 players will compete in a "Captain's Choice" format where golfers of all skill levels can have fun. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by a putting contest, warm up time on the range, a Pro Clinic, 18 holes of golf with cart, and an awards dinner back at the Advent Fellowship Hall. Please share golf tournament brochures with any and all golfers. Individuals and businesses can also sign up for various levels of sponsorship. Contact Pastor Jerry, Jim Renninger or Jim Smith with any questions.



**Advent faithful gather outside the sanctuary prior to the procession at the beginning of Palm Sunday services.**

### *Welcome to the Advent Family*

Palm Sunday was a special day as new disciples joined Advent's family of faith. Our newest members are Paul Hetz, Clara Schreiber, Greg Shealy, Frances Smith, Maria Wilson and Ralph Wilson.

If you have not met these new members please introduce yourself as we welcome them into our church family.



**"Tell me, I'll forget. Show me, I'll remember. Involve me, I'll understand"** –Chinese proverb

The excitement of spring is with us. The flowers have bloomed, the birds are singing and the children are feeling the energy of it all. The children and staff enjoyed spring break and are now all walking around with a new "spring" in our step, ready to get back to school and work. During the month of April we will learn about Spring, transportation, and pets. The children have planted the garden and watch it daily to see what happens next. We are spending more time outside enjoying the beautiful signs of springtime. Pastor Jerry teaches the children during Bible time every Wednesday, Ms. Irene is cooking up craziness with them, and Ms. Joanna provides singing fun and engaging songs each week. Our annual Trike-a-thon to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital will be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The children will spend the morning riding their bikes and trikes outside in our parking lot followed by a treat on the playground. If you would like to make a donation please see Jenn Dews.

We are now enrolling for the 2016-2017 school year. Space is limited. If interested contact Jenn Dews at 272-6370 or at [adventpreschool@bellsouth.net](mailto:adventpreschool@bellsouth.net).



**DO YOU KNOW** about **the Simply Giving Program**? There are a good number of Advent disciples who are already using this **Electronic Giving** service.

If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your **weekly offerings** to continue on an uninterrupted basis. Your account will be deducted every Monday from your Savings or Checking account if you prefer to set up weekly offerings. If you would like, you can request **monthly deductions** from your Savings or Checking account on the 1<sup>st</sup> or the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

This service is **FREE** of charge to you. An authorization form is available from the church office and the church office staff will help you fill it out.

### ***Ladies Invited to Join with Wednesday Quilting/Knitting Groups***

Advent's quilters meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month to work on quilts that are shipped to less fortunate people around the world. Quilts are also given to those in the hospital, undergoing cancer treatment, and to newborns.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month women of Advent meet to share in fellowship while doing individual knitting and crocheting projects.

Both groups meet in the Fellowship Hall starting at 9:30 a.m. and finish up around noon. If interested in either of these groups please feel free to join in these most worthwhile projects on the days indicated.

### **LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

In 2009 this new ministry was introduced to Advent as an extension of our Sunday morning worship. Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEM) visit Advent disciples who are homebound and unable to attend worship services. LEM volunteers spend about an hour visiting and bringing the sacrament of Holy Communion plus a copy of the Eagle's Wings. They also bring God's Word, compassion, caring and sharing. New LEM volunteers have been trained and commissioned for this important ministry. If you would like a LEM to visit or if you have questions about this ministry, please contact Lynn Balma, Ken or Ruth Johansen, or Pastor Jerry.

### **Congregation's Financial Report for February 2016**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Over/ (Short)</b>	
Monthly Income	\$52,592.47	\$42,877.70	\$9,714.77	22.7% over budget
Monthly Expenses	<u>52,475.09</u> 117.38	<u>42,877.70</u>	9,597.39	22.4% over budget
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease)</b>	
<b>YTD Income</b>	\$89,599.53	\$80,221.79	\$9,377.74	11.7% more this year
<b>YTD Expenses</b>	92,973.10 \$(3,373.57)	81,869.52 \$(1,647.73)	\$11,103.58	13.6% more this year

## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

### **KAYAKING WITH CHRIST – PART 2**

KAYAKING WITH CHRIST is coming April 2nd to Silver Springs State Park. NO experience required! Come see Florida's unspoiled natural beauty and enjoy gazing into the deep blue waters of Silver Springs where one can expect to see fish, turtles, gators and if we are lucky, maybe a few wild monkeys. We plan to leave promptly at 7:30 a.m. from the Dews' house (2820 Blackberry Ave., Middleburg) and expect to be back by 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided, so all you need to bring is plenty of water, sunscreen, sandals or flip flops and an adventurous spirit. Cost will be \$10.00 / person, which will include lunch, kayak rental, and State Park Entrance fee. Please RSVP to Rob Dews ASAP (Use Facebook or call 904-509-6059).

### **6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE LOCK-IN Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

ALL 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited to an overnight lock-in at the church on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> (time will be announced soon). Pastor Jerry will assist Christina White, J.R. & Andrea Redlitz with this fun event which will also include some important reviewing of Confirmation materials as we prepare for Pentecost Sunday and the Affirmation of Baptism on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **CHURCH COUNCIL**

The next meeting of Advent's Church Council will be Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

*April Anniversary Celebrations*

George & Doris Briese	April 26, 1947
Ben & Carolyn Bryant	April 29, 1983
William & Cynthia Buhlert	April 11, 2009
Jerry & Judy Campbell	April 6, 1974
Richard & Marion Christiansen	April 24, 1951
Robert & Jennifer Dews	April 17, 1993
Dale & Sue Eichhorn	April 10, 1976
John & Gwendolyn Folsom	April 2, 2005
Bob & Sandy Gay	April 23, 1993
Matthew & Laura Howard	April 10, 1999
Keith & Margaret Lentz	April 20, 1957
Pastor Jerry & Carol Nordsiek	April 13, 1996
Sam & Ann Pedersen	April 19, 1969
John & Andrea Redlitz	April 16, 1988
Scott & Layla Smith	April 2, 2005
Larry & Susan Ulsh	April 18, 1997

*Life's Transitions*

**Baptisms**

March 12: Grace Elizabeth Palm and Joshua Nathaniel Palm, children of Jennifer Smith Browning.

March 13: Jade Victoria Flint and Camden Kal-El Flint, children of Daniel Tobias Flint and Kimberly Dawn Burns.

March 24: Destany Dawn Pitts and James Edward Pitts.



Join us for our Prayer Time: Each Wednesday at 12:00 noon we will gather in the Sanctuary to lift up in prayer all who are in need of God's love and healing.

(Editor's Note: Please forgive any typos or omissions of members. Notify church office of corrections. Thank you.)





*April Birthday Celebrations*

- 1 Linda Day-Cordes, Ruth Johansen, Jeanette Phillips
- 3 Brandi Hodges, Heather Schiffer, Patricia Turcotte
- 6 John Veres
- 7 Marcia Steffen
- 8 Chrystle Babcock, Edna Greenwalt, Dana Luther, Matthew Mizeur,  
Nancy Schroyer
- 9 Stephanie Palmer, Judy Weaver
- 10 Gail Boylan
- 12 Samantha Luther, Danielle Shuppert
- 13 Barbara Albright, Isabelle Bernauer
- 14 William Fertig, Mack Gooding, Vishal Seeram
- 15 Frank Geberth-Maliscewski, Rachael Mae Lovejoy, Meyer Moore
- 16 Dana West
- 17 Connie Vallow
- 18 Priscilla Bellefeuile
- 19 Rachel Scott
- 20 Savannah Hollis
- 21 Michael Mendat, Conrad Redlitz
- 23 Steve Benko, Caleb Dechman, Victoria Miller, Lucia Vaughn
- 25 Andrea Parke, Gunnar Thomas
- 26 Jules Nagy, Janet Shuster
- 27 Robert Dews, Katelyn Felegy, Adrienne Hopkins, Denise Pingel,  
Phyllis Renninger
- 29 Charlotte Tennant
- 30 Jon Braasch, Brenda Courson, John Etter, Matthew Lovejoy,  
Virginia Morrison

## LESSONS FOR APRIL

	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
April 3	Acts 5:	Psalm 118:14-29	Revelation 1:4-8	John 20:19-31
April 10	Acts 9:1-6	Psalm 30	Revelation 5:11-14	John 21:1-19
April 17	Acts 9:36-43	Psalm 23	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
April 24	Acts 11:1-18	Psalm 148	Revelation 21-1-6	John 13:31-35

### STAFF AT ADVENT

Rev. Gerald A. Nordsiek, Jr. Pastor  
 Cell Phone (727) 741-0959  
 Rev. David Winter, Pastor Emeritus  
 Jennifer Dews, Pre-School Director  
 Joanna Corbett, Music Master/Organist  
 Rebecca Johnson, Secretary  
 Sandra Auer, Bookkeeper  
 Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Mon.-  
 Fri.  
 Office Phone: (904) 272-6370  
 E-mail: [adventop@bellsouth.net](mailto:adventop@bellsouth.net)  
 On the Web: [www.adventop.org](http://www.adventop.org)

### 2015 CONG. COUNCIL

Ken Johansen, President  
 Todd Luther, Vice President  
 Sadako Long, Treasurer  
 Brenda Rau, Secretary  
 Tiffany Csalovski, Education  
 Mary Ann Ball, Evangelism  
 Becky Solberg, Fellowship  
 DeWayne Brown, Property  
 Katherine Morrison, Social Ministry  
 Sandy Emery, Stewardship  
 J. R. Redlitz, Worship  
 Robert Dews, Youth

## NOTES FROM THE MUSIC MASTER / ORGANIST

And the beat goes on...Lent, Holy Week and Easter Sunday are over but there is always reason to be making music to our God! Grace is a tremendous gift; let us continue to use our time and talents for the glory of Christ our Risen Lord. In His Love, Joanna

### MAKIN' TIME FOR MUSIC



Advent Ringers: Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.  
The Advent Choir: Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.  
Joyful Juniors (K - 5): Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.  
Advent Lutheran Band: Thursdays at 6:15 p.m.  
New Worship Musicians: Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.



### **MUSIC CAMP 2016**

Save the Dates!!

**Entering Grades K-6** is  
scheduled for **July 18-22**

**NEW THIS YEAR:**

**Entering  
Grades 7-12** is  
scheduled for  
**July 25-29**

*Messenger* from:

Advent Lutheran Church  
2156 Loch Rane Blvd.  
Orange Park, FL 32073

A Non Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit 34  
Orange Park, FL 32073

Church Office: (904) 272-6370

Fax 272-2896

Office Hours: 8:30-2:30, Mon.-Fri.

E-mail: [adventop@bellsouth.net](mailto:adventop@bellsouth.net)

Web Site: [www.adventop.org](http://www.adventop.org)

Preschool: (904) 272-6370,

Hours: 9:00 a.m.-12 Noon, Mon.-Fri.



Advent's mission is to proclaim God's reconciling grace in Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament while educating, equipping and empowering each other so that we will serve and care for all people.