



February Lenten Services and Events Scheduled



SHROVE TUESDAY

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKES

February 9th 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday originated during the Middle Ages. Food items like meats, fats, eggs, milk, and fish were regarded as restricted during Lent. To keep such food from being wasted, many families would have big feasts on Shrove Tuesday in order to consume those items that would inevitably become spoiled during the next forty days. The English tradition of eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday came about as a way to use as much milk, fats, and eggs as possible before Ash Wednesday began. In France, the consumption of all fats and fatty foods on this day coined the name "Fat Tuesday" or *Mardi Gras*. This is the "traditional" day for this event and many in our community will be looking for a place to find pancakes.
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ASH WEDNESDAY AT ADVENT

February 10th Worship 12:00 & 7:00 p.m.

We begin our Lenten pilgrimage to the events of Holy Week and Easter on Wednesday, February 10th with Ash Wednesday Worship at 12:00 and 7:00 p.m. These services will include the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. The noon service is especially for those who do not drive at night and those who can join us during their lunch hour. No meal will be served on Ash Wednesday this year. Make Wednesday worship an important part of your Lenten pilgrimage this year!

Lenten Story on Page 5 Details Wednesday Worship & Dinners

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The monthly
newsletter of Advent
Lutheran Church

Advent Lutheran Church

Orange Park, Florida ☩ February 2016

President's Corner

On February 7th we will celebrate the Transfiguration of Jesus as found in the Gospel lesson for that day in Luke 9:28-36. Our Gospel reading says, "As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem." Of all the miracles attributable to Jesus, this is the only one that happens to Jesus himself. The Transfiguration is one of the five major milestones in the gospel narrative. Those milestones are Baptism, Transfiguration, Crucifixion, Resurrection, & Ascension. Martin Luther believed that the appearance of Moses and Elijah represented "The Law and The Prophets" with Jesus representing the Gospel who fulfills the Law and the Prophets as we find in Matthew 5:17-19.

"Jesus took Peter, John, and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray." The name of the mountain is not mentioned, but early church leaders and biblical scholars believe it was Mount Tabor.

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- ✝ **Musical Notes**
- ✝ **Lenten Events Schedule**
- ✝ **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Editor's Note:

Advent news due no later than February 8th to be included in the next issue.

E-mail to ncschroyer@aol.com (preferred) or leave in church office.

W E L C A WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Naomi Circle meets
February 25th at 7:00 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall. ✝

*Don't forget your Valentine
On February 14th!!!!!!!!!!!!*



"Some people care too much, I think it is called love."-- Winnie the Pooh

Preschool News

After a long Christmas break our preschoolers were excited to come back to school. We began the New Year by learning all about healthy habits. We made and ate homemade vegetable soup. Our new curriculum has given us some great ideas on instilling healthy habits in all our kids. We have also been learning all about weather. There is so much exciting stuff to learn about all of the seasons! We began with winter so our halls are filled with snowflakes and snowmen and winter scenes. We are freezing water to make icebergs and have made snow in science class. Despite the chilly, drizzly air, the children happily bundle up to go outside and play. We have also been learning about celebrating diversity. Young children have an amazing ability to accept all, which is the way we wish our whole world could be!

Love is in the air! In February we will continue to learn about weather. We will also focus on shadows, Valentines, forests and animals. We will sing, dance, read, learn, play and create on a daily basis. We will exchange Valentines and have a party. We will celebrate good friends! Pastor Jerry will teach us to do the good and right thing. The children love their time with our Pastor.

Fall enrollment will begin this month! Space is limited and we are already filling up fast. If interested please contact Jenn Dews at 272-6370 or email to adventpreschool@bellsouth.net.



President’s Corner (Continued from Page 2)

Mount Tabor is about 11 miles west of the Jordan River and less than six miles from Jesus’ home town of Nazareth. This places the site in the general area of Jesus’ early ministry.

What can we discern from Peter’s strange behavior? He said, “*Master it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.*” Peter was probably thinking of the Feast of Tabernacles (Booths) which was celebrated 5 days after Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. The Feast commemorated the Exodus from slavery in Egypt. He was probably hoping that Moses and Elijah could stay for a while, but according to Luke, “*he did not know what he was saying.*”

Finally, we are challenged to follow the words that were spoken at the transfiguration by God the Father, “*This is my Son, whom I have chosen, listen to him.*” That is our assignment; listen to him, follow his teachings, and share his gospel message with others. ☩ Peace and blessings, Ken Johansen

Shrove Tuesday (Continued from Page 1)

This pancake dinner will be a community event free for everyone. A freewill offering basket will be available and all offerings received will be donated to "Disabled American Veterans Organization." Ministry Boards and Advent disciples are asked to help with this event (similar to the Trunk or Treat in Oct.) A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board next to Pastor Jerry’s office for people willing to bring their griddles and flip pancakes. Let's make this a wonderful community event!

Financial Report Ending December 2015

	Actual	Budget	Over/ (Short)	
Monthly Income	\$51,743.02	49,740.99	\$ 2,002.03	4% over budget
Monthly Expenses	<u>\$41,737.46</u>	<u>49,740.99</u>	<u>\$(8,003.53)</u>	16.10% under budget
	\$10,005.56			

	2015	2014	Increase / (Decrease)	
YTD Offering Income	\$ 534,761.30	\$484,222.82	\$50,538.48	10.44% increase
YTD Operating	<u>\$ 555,058.94</u>	<u>\$519,963.87</u>	<u>\$35,095.07</u>	6.75% increase
	\$(20,297.64)	\$(35,742.05)		



WEDNESDAY LENTEN WORSHIP & DINNERS

February 17 & 24, March 2, 9, 16

Following Ash Wednesday, we will continue to gather for the next 5 Wednesdays (Feb 17th & 24th, March 2nd, 9th, & 16th) at 7:00 p.m. for mid-week Lenten Worship using portions of Marty Haugen's "*Holden Evening Prayer*" service. The weekly messages will focus on the following themes: "*Passionate Worship*" "*Radical Hospitality*" "*Risk-Taking Mission & Service*" "*Extravagant Generosity*" and "*Intentional Spiritual Growth.*" You do not want to miss these meaningful worship opportunities. Soup & bread meals will be served prior to each service at 6:00 p.m. Sign-up sheets for those willing to prepare soup are located on the bulletin board near Pastor Jerry's office.



JACOBS BROTHERS IN CONCERT AT ADVENT

Saturday, February 27th 6:00 p.m.

The Jacobs Brothers, veterans of gospel music since 1962, will be in concert at Advent on Saturday, February 27th at 6:00 p.m. They have traveled millions of miles over the years sharing the Gospel through music and have produced over 50 albums. The group is comprised of two brothers, Bob and Mike Jacobs, who are original members of the group that began in the small town of East Berlin, PA. The third member, Mike Lawver, from McClure, PA, joined the group in 1972. Although they specialize in traditional and sacred music, their approach to the Gospel is varied by using the diversified talents of the singers throughout the concert making for an appealing program for all ages. A freewill offering will be received. Come and enjoy a wonderful evening of Christian music and fellowship.



AGAPE & RACHEL KURTZ **Trinity Lutheran Church**

Please join us as we head out to see Rachel Kurtz and Agape* in concert on Saturday, February 13th at Trinity Lutheran (1415 S. McDuff Ave). Cost is \$10 at the door, cash only. All proceeds will be going to

the “Walk for Water Campaign” that provides drinking water in Africa to those who don't have access.

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS - Sunday, February 21st 12:00 noon

Our goal at Advent is to provide the best Youth, Christian Education & Music Ministry possible for children and youth of all ages, birth through college and beyond! We are asking for your help. On **Sunday, February 21st at 12:00 noon**, we ask ALL parents to join our Youth Ministry, Christian Education Ministry, Music Ministry, Confirmation Teachers, and Pastor Jerry as we explore new ways to provide a more effective and comprehensive program for our youth here at Advent and in our community. **Lunch will be provided.** We cannot stress enough the importance of your participation.

CHURCH COUNCIL ANNUAL RETREAT - Saturday, February 27th

Advent's Church Council will gather for their Annual Retreat on Saturday, February 27th at Camp Chowenwaw. This important goal-setting/strategic planning event will also include worship, fellowship, some relaxation, and will conclude with the February Council Meeting. Please continue to lift up our leaders in prayer as we discern God's mission for Advent.

CALLING ALL GOLFERS!

Second Annual Advent Golf Tournament Sponsored by EPIC Youth **SATURDAY, April 16th 1:00 pm Shotgun Start**

The Youth of Advent will host their Second Golf Tournament on Saturday, April 16th at the Country Club of Orange Park with a 1:00 p.m. shotgun start. Much more information will be available soon, but for now – save the date and start recruiting others to join you for this fun “Captain's Choice” event. Our goal is to have as many teams playing as we can recruit. This charity event will help fund youth scholarships and assist our youth attending future National Youth Gatherings and other Mission Events. Following the golf we will gather in the Advent Fellowship Hall for a dinner and awards ceremony.

YOUTH MINISTRY

EPIC YOUTH PLAY WITH FIRE - REMEMBER PB&J NIGHTS?

Remember the games, Manhunt, Biffer? Mr. Dirk and Ms. Jessie are hosting an EPIC bonfire on Saturday, Feb. 20, from 6 to 10 pm. Bring a snack, a flashlight and your love of God - because it's going to be EPIC. See Jason or Todd for further details.

SKI TRIP TO NORTH CAROLINA Feb. 12th – 15th

Some of our EPIC Youth will travel with Todd & Dana Luther, Jason & Deb Merritt, and Pastor Jerry to Camp Lutherock in the North Carolina mountains for a weekend of fun on the slopes of Beech Mountain Ski Resort as well as games, worship, devotions and fellowship with the staff of Lutherock Ministries.

AGAPE & RACHEL KURTZ CONCERT Feb. 13th at Trinity Lutheran in Jacksonville

Youth who are not going skiing will be attending this awesome concert event to support the efforts of the ELCA in bringing the gift of water to those who desperately need it.

“NOT SUNDAY SCHOOL”

“Not Sunday School” is a Bible Study for all confirmed youth. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at Karl and Brenda Rau's home: 1724 Country Walk Drive, Fleming Island. Join us for dessert, games, study and discussions.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER 2015

	8:00	9:30	10:30	Total
Dec 6	60	76	102	238
Dec 13	46	73	117	236
Dec 20	70	53	90	213
Dec 27	64	68	75	207
Dec Avg	60	68	96	224
Christmas Eve	3:00 – 110	6:00 – 178	8:30 – 194	11:00 – 94
Total Christmas Eve – 576 (483 last year)				
Longest Night Service – 60				

THE ACTS

February Anniversary Celebrations

Evan & Lois Andersen	February 9, 1952
George & Shanna Bailes	February 20, 1999
Steve & Patricia Benko	February 8, 1975
Paul & Margaret Currie	February 21, 1959
Richard & Teresa Doerr	February 6, 1971
Mack & Janice Gooding	February 14, 1970
Larry & Martha Johnson	February 22, 1991
Robert & Fay Lambert	February 22, 1977
Stephen & Carole Lowe	February 16, 1974
Robb & Dawn Marnell	February 12, 1997
Scott & Kristen Moreland	February 6, 1999
Gordon & Grace Schaeffer	February 8, 1957
Lowell & Barbara Snyder	February 29, 1964
George & Lucia Vaughn	February 13, 1982
Bob & Pat Wirt	February 22, 1992

Life's Transitions

Baptisms on January 10th

Kaden Charles Thomas, son of
Kenneth and Kelly Thomas

Michael Allen Thomas Patrick,
Gavin Alexander Patrick, and
Adalynn Marie Patrick,
children of Michael & Courtney Patrick

Baptism on January 31st

DeVon William Walton son of
Joseph & Stacy Doyle



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.)



February Birthday Celebrations

- 1 Rae Behning, Nora Karpowicz
- 2 Joi Beson, George Briese, David Nelson
- 3 Brigitte Grinchis, Lauren MacGillivary
- 4 James Long, Jenn Rowlinson
- 5 Larry Johnson
- 6 Linda Keller
- 7 Allen Dorsey, John Kresol
- 8 Irene Little, Shawn Shugrue
- 9 Michael Jones
- 10 Rose Mendat, Les Schaffner
- 11 Jan Bussie
- 12 William MacGillivary
- 13 Mary Ann Ball, Susan Fertig, Abigail Flemming-Hunn
- 14 Eleanor Kluytman, Richard Rees
- 15 Lillian Barrett, Donna Rudin
- 16 Chris Redlitz
- 17 Matthew Howard, Todd Patrick
- 20 Megan Blake, Patricia Falconer, Susan Kerns, Barbara Snyder
- 21 Nancy Currie, Lina Myers, Nichols Myers, Kirstie Thomas,
Christina White
- 22 Billy MacGillivary, Kathy Pingel
- 23 Christian Brown, Kim Johnson
- 24 Sandra Emery, Jenny Wilkes
- 26 Geri Mendat
- 28 Suzanne Kuehn

LESSONS FOR FEBRUARY

	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
Feb 7	Exodus 34:29-35	Psalm 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9: 28-36
Feb 14	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16	Romans 10:8-13	Luke 4:1-13
Feb 21	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Psalm 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35
Feb 28	Isaiah 55:1-9	Psalm 63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9

*The church office will be closed February 15th
In observance of Presidents Day*

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
 On the Web: 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
 Jacquelyn Mizeur, Fellowship
 DeWayne Brown, Property
 Katherine Morrison, Social
 Ministry
 Sandy Emery, Stewardship
 J. R. Redlitz, Worship
 Robert Dews, Youth

In Advent's Future

SOME OTHER IMPORTANT UP-COMING DATES

First Communion Classes – March 5th & 12th 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Palm Sunday Worship – March 20th 8:00, 9:30 & 10:45 am
Maundy Thursday Worship – March 24th 12:00 & 7:00 pm
Good Friday Tenebrae Worship – March 25th 12:00 & 7:00 pm
Good Friday Stations of the Cross Worship – March 25th 3:00 pm
Easter Festival & Egg Hunt – March 26th

NOTES FROM THE MUSIC MASTER / ORGANIST



What do you LOVE? Who do you LOVE?
February is a month that brings with it thoughts of LOVE. With the approach of the season of LENT, there will be many opportunities for thinking and deciding what and who it is that we treasure most. Music offers an avenue to the challenge of this introspection. May we grow and find LOVE beyond measure as God's gift of GRACE is repeatedly revealed to us. . In His Love, Joanna



MAKIN' TIME FOR MUSIC

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

Come join The Advent Choir as we prepare a musical for Palm/Passion Sunday—Holy Week Services—Easter Sunday. The choral selections from Forsaken by Mark Hayes and John Parker will help worshippers remember the events of Christ's last week on earth and help us all worship anew the risen Savior. NEW MUSICIANS WELCOME!!

Messenger from:

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

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

E-mail: adventop@bellsouth.net

Web Site: 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.