



Easter, Holy Week Service Schedules Announced

M
E
S
S
E
N
G
E
R

EASTER CELEBRATION

Sunday, March 27th 8:00, 9:30 & 10:45 a.m.

We will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord with Festive Worship on Easter Sunday, March 27th at 8:00, 9:30 (contemporary) and 10:45 a.m. Our worship will include special music from our Advent Choirs and Musicians. “Alleluias” will ring throughout the sanctuary following their absence during the 40 days of our Lenten journey to the cross. We will recall the events of the first Easter morning and celebrate Holy Communion. Invite family, neighbors and friends and join us for worship on this most holy festival day.

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday, March 20th 8:00, 9:30 & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday Worship on March 20th featuring a procession of palms and the reading of the *Passion of our Lord* at all 3 services (8:00, 9:30 & 10:45 a.m.) Following a fun and spirited entrance into the sanctuary recalling the triumphal entrance into Jerusalem by our Lord, our worship will shift dramatically to the story of his Passion as we prepare for the events of Holy Week. We will also receive New Disciples into the Advent Family on this day.

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP

Thursday, March 24th 12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m.

Following our celebration of Palm Sunday, Holy Week will continue with Maundy Thursday services on March 24th, at 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm. On this day we remember our Lord’s Last Supper with his disciples and his commandment to love one another as he has loved us. Worship concludes with the meaningful “stripping of the worship space” in preparation for the events of Good Friday. Some of our Advent children will receive their First Communion on this day.

President's Corner

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 Nazaretvm, Rex Ivdæorvm."* 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 Judæorum."* 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 approach Holy Week and Easter let us be reminded that Jesus suffered and died for us. Peace and blessings,
Ken Johansen

In this issue:

- † Youth Events
- † Pre School News
- † Musical Notes
- † Lenten & Easter Events Schedule
- † Birthdays and Anniversaries

Editor's Note:

Advent news due no later than March 14th 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 March 31st at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. †

The Church Office will be closed the day after Easter, Monday March 28th.

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE WORSHIP

Friday, March 25th 12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m.

We celebrate Good Friday Tenebrae Worship on March 25th at 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm. These powerful services will focus on the Crucifixion and 7 Last Words of our Lord from the Cross. As the worship room grows darker the service ends dramatically. We leave in silence contemplating what Jesus has done for us. This is one of the most meaningful worship services we celebrate each year.

GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday, March 25th 3:00 p.m.

In addition to our Tenebrae services, we will celebrate Good Friday with a special “Stations of the Cross” worship experience. This unique service weaves its way from our Fellowship Hall through the Courtyard and into the Sanctuary. We will pause at “stations” along the way to read scripture and contemplate the events of our Lord’s Passion.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN WORSHIP CONTINUES

March 2nd, 9th, & 16th Meal at 5:45-6:45 p.m. Worship at 7:00 p.m.

Advent Disciples and friends are invited to join us each Wednesday evening for our mid-week Lenten Soup & Bread Suppers & Worship using portions of Marty Haugen’s “*Holden Evening Prayer*” service with weekly messages focusing on our “mission” here at Advent. Following the February topics of *Passionate/Inspiring Worship & Radical Hospitality*, our March services will focus on: *Risk-Taking Mission & Service*, *Extravagant Generosity*, and *Intentional Spiritual Growth*. Special thanks to all who are assisting with these services and to all of our outstanding cooks providing soup and bread meals.

EASTER FESTIVAL & EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 26th 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Bring your children, grandchildren, and invite the neighborhood children to Advent’s annual community Easter celebration. There will be Egg Hunts, Stations of the Cross, Face Painting, Cake Walk, and plenty of games and activities for all to enjoy at this delightful event.



You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.

-Dr. Seuss

Spring is in the air! Flowers are starting to bloom, temperatures are warming, and the children have lots and lots of energy. This month we will focus on dinosaurs, spring and Easter. We will spend more time outside exploring our ever changing environment, we will create colorful spring art, sing new songs and have lots of fun! We will re-plant our preschool garden to see what new veggies we can get to grow.

Our school will be closed for Spring Break March 14-March 18. Enrollment has begun for the 2016-2017 school year. We accept children ages 15 months-VPK. If interested please contact Jenn Dews at 272-6370 or adventpreschool@bellsouth.net.

Upcoming Via de Christo Activities Scheduled

A wonderful experience awaits you April 7-10, as a coed Via de Christo weekend will be held at Luther Springs. This uplifting weekend is more than a retreat, it is a method to review Christian doctrine and show you how to incorporate Christianity into your life and into the life of your family. Many in our congregation and community have attended this special weekend. Couples and singles are welcome. Don't miss out on this experience to strengthen your walk with our brother, Jesus. Penny Klein is our point of contact. Call her at 264-6785 to find out the details. God bless you! Penny

Attention all VDC participants:

March 19: Ultreya at Middleburg United

Methodist. 5:00 potluck, 6:00 worship

April 7-10: Coed weekend at Luther Springs

April 23: Team-Pilgrim Reunion 3:00,

Welcome Potluck at 5:00, Worship-

Ultreya follows at 6:00 at Peace Lutheran

May 21: Ultreya at Trinity Lutheran, 5:00

Potluck, 6:00 worship.

No Ultreya in June or July

Looking forward to seeing you at the Ultreyas. God's blessings! Penny

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

Saturday, March 5th and 12th 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Pastor Jerry will teach First Communion classes on Saturday, March 5th and 12th. These classes are for children and youth kindergarten age and above (after parents and Pastor Jerry agree their child(ren) is/are ready for this instruction.) Parents/Guardians **MUST** attend **BOTH** classes with their child(ren). Children and youth will receive their First Communion during worship on Maundy Thursday, March 24th.

NEW DISCIPLES INFORMATION CLASSES

Sunday, March 6th 12:00 p.m.

Pastor Jerry will continue teaching a New Disciples Information Class on Sunday, March 6th. The Evangelism Ministry Board will serve a meal for all attendees following the 10:45 a.m. worship service and will assist Pastor Jerry with the class which will end by 2:00 p.m. New Disciples will be received into the Advent family of faith on Palm Sunday, March 20th.

2ND ANNUAL ADVENT EPIC GOLF CLASSIC

Saturday, April 16th 1:00 p.m.

The Youth of Advent will host their 2nd Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, April 16th at the Country Club of Orange Park with a 1:00 p.m. shotgun start. 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 mission trips and the triennial National Youth Gathering Mission Event (Houston, TX in 2018).

January Financial Report

	Actual	Budget	Over/(Short)	
Income for Month	\$37,007.06	\$47,538.87	\$(10,531.81)	22.15% under budget
Monthly Expenses	<u>38,864.64</u>	47,538.87	(8,674.23)	18.25% under budget
	\$ (1,857.58)			
		2016	2015	Increase/Decrease
YTD Offering Income	\$37,007.06	\$40,737.22	\$(3,370.16)	9.16 % drop
YTD Operating Expenses	<u>\$38,697.98</u>	<u>\$41,726.14</u>	\$(3,028.16)	7.26% drop
	(\$1,690.92)		(\$988.92)	

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FOR JANUARY 2016

	8:00	9:30	10:45	Total
Jan 3	60	62	89	211
Jan 10	60	81	99	240
Jan 17	45	85	82	212
Jan 24	52	84	82	218
Jan 31	52	101	106	259
Jan Avg	54	83	92	229

EPIC SERVES GOD BY SERVING HIS CHILDREN

On Saturday, March 19 at 9 am, our EPIC Youth group returns to The Lord's Pantry to help organize and serve food to some of his needy adult children. Also, we might be helping out with the new community garden they are trying to establish. More details to come, but mark your calendars now.

IT'S TIME FOR LUTHEROCK!!!

June 19th - 25th. Rates go up after March 15 & continue to go up through May, so register early. You must register online & pay through Lutherock at the link below. Advent will contribute \$300 per child, so subtract this amount when paying & don't over pay. Pay close attention to the fee schedule as the amount increases the closer we get to June. The two programs this year will be "Appalachian Adventures" (grades 9-12) & "Blue Ridge Adventures" (grades 6-8). Both programs are nearly identical & both include whitewater rafting, caving, rock climbing, hiking, camping off-site, the alpine tower &/or ropes course. Make certain you select the applicable program for your child when registering & fill out & download all waivers & health forms. Registration & all the information you need can be found on Novus Ways' web site found here: <http://www.novusway.com/our-programs/summer-camp/lutherock/>. Also, there are limited financial scholarships available here (<http://www.novusway.com/our-programs/summer-camp/lutherock/>) If you have any questions, please contact Rob Dews (904-509-6059).



Advent Quilters Share Colorful Efforts with Congregation

Those attending services the last Sunday in January were treated to a sea of colorful quilts made over the past year by Advent's talented and dedicated quilters.

Their efforts resulted in some 112 quilts being shipped to Lutheran World Relief to be given to warm the bodies and lift the spirits of people in need around the world. In addition to the quilts shipped, Advent's warm hearted quilters completed over 50 more that were given locally to people in the hospital, those undergoing chemotherapy, new babies and those homebound.

We are blessed as a congregation to have all the following ladies who participated in using their hands and talents in serving the Lord through this wonderful ministry: Gina Ballinger, Lynn Balma, Pat Benko, Kathy Brown, Helga Carlson, Marion Christiansen, Mary Ann Devery, Teresa Doerr, Toni Hale, Adrienne Hopkins, Karin Hulse, Susan Kerns, Shirley Krause, Elaine Ludwig, Ruby Matson, Betty Meyer, Cecilia Moore, Nancy Patrick, Erika Paulk, Nancy Poff, Audrey Ramsey, June Rose, Grace Schaeffer, Vivian Schiffer, Nancy Schroyer, Martha Shaw, Karen Schockley, Marty Smith, Becky Solberg, Elvie Tietze, Ruth Torrence and Janet Wilson.

THE ACTS

March Anniversary Celebrations

Wayne & Mary Bolla	March 2, 1985
Duane & Stella Brown	March 26, 1966
Dale & Janet Dechman	March 11, 1989
Steven & Sandy Emery	March 14, 1981
William & June Lumpkin	March 12, 2008
Alan & Cyndi Page	March 29, 1969
Gerald & Shirley Parham	March 17, 1951
Charles & Betty Roberts	March 28, 1959
Charles & Linda Taylor	March 29, 1970
Ron & Marty Wagner	March 25, 1979
Dennis & Roni Williams	March 25, 1994

Life's Transitions

To the Church Triumphant
Nora Karpowicz – January 28th



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.)

Happy Birthday!

March Birthday Celebrations

- 1 John Palmer, Kaiala Wilkerson
- 3 Betty Roberts
- 4 Anthony Lawson
- 6 Callie Dodds, Amanda Shockley
- 7 Kaitlyn Allison, Tanner Michael, Katelyn Nikic
- 8 James Woodman
- 9 Shawn Weisner
- 11 Royce Mattson, Elizabeth Nikic, Joseph White, Veronica Williams
- 12 Lauren Conditt
- 13 Deanna Ordonez
- 14 Sharon Hopkins, Martha Johnson, Jim Solberg
- 15 David Dorsey, Adriana Garrett, Haley Steffen
- 16 Caleb Howard
- 17 Jim Renninger
- 18 Jack Klees
- 19 Desiree Kantrim, Amber Nelson
- 20 Jasmine Seeram
- 21 Irene Winter
- 22 Sandi Ricketts, Mikaela Sandrik, Brett Turcotte
- 23 Stephen Lowe
- 25 Robert Marnell, Brandon Steele
- 26 Margie Schmitt
- 27 Stephanie Holley
- 28 Garrett Payne, Sydney Reinhardt
- 30 Shirley Fletcher, Sally Garrett, Abigail Whiting
- 31 Savannah Michael, Linda Sturman

	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
March 6	Joshua 5:9-12	Psalm 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
March 13	Isaiah 43:16-20	Psalm 126	Philippians 3:4-14	John 12:1-8
March 20	Isaiah 50:4-9	Psalm 31-9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 22:14-23
March 27	Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	1 Corinthians 15:19-26	Luke 24:1-12

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

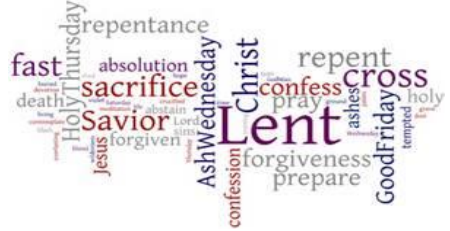
2015 CONG. COUNCIL

Ken Johansen, President
 Todd Luther, Vice President
 Sadako Long, Treasurer
 Brenda Rau, Secretary
 Tiffany Csalovski, Education
 Mary Ann Ball, Evangelism
 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

Words shape us; words we sing help to shape our Christian identity. We are nourished by their message and fed with the sounds of the music. Renew your hearts with the treasure of song!

In His Love, Joanna



MAKIN' TIME FOR MUSIC

- The Advent Choir: Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.
- Joyful Juniors (K - 5): Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.
- Advent Ringers: Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.
- Advent Lutheran Band: Thursdays at 6:15 p.m.
- New Worship Musicians: Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

WATCH FOR DETAILS !

Plans are being made for MUSIC CAMP 2016

Kids and Helpers will NOT want to Miss Out on all the Great Times!!



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

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.