



M E S S E N G E R

The monthly
newsletter of Advent
Lutheran Church

EASTER CELEBRATION

Sunday, April 16th 8:00, 9:30 & 10:45 a.m.

We will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord with Festive Worship on Easter Sunday, April 16th 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, April 9th 8:00, 9:30 & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday Worship on April 9th 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 this most Holy Week.

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP

Thursday, April 13th 12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m.

Following our celebration of Palm Sunday, Holy Week will continue with Maundy Thursday services on April 13th 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. Our Lenten Series “Christ on Trial” will conclude with Peter on the witness stand followed by the closing argument. 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.

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE WORSHIP

Friday, April 14th 12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m.

We celebrate Good Friday Tenebrae Worship on April 14th 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.

Advent Lutheran Church

Orange Park, Florida ✝ April 2017

EASTER FESTIVAL & EGG HUNT
Saturday, April 15th 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This year is going to be exciting and bigger than before! We are mixing the loved old events with new adventures! Welcome to *The Great Surprise!* Families will be thrilled as they discover in surprising ways (and maybe for the first time) that *Jesus is Alive!* Every station points directly to Jesus.... focusing on this ultimate Easter truth. Parents will be actively engaged with their children rather than sitting on the sidelines. Please invite family and friends of all ages to come share this event with us!

We still need help! There is a few tables we are in need of volunteers for. There will also be a list of things that we will need to borrow. Such as bowling balls and buckets to hold water in. Please see Jessie or Dirk Molendyk in the fellowship hall, they will be able to answer any questions. If you're so excited and can't wait, give Jessie a call at [904-553-7158](tel:904-553-7158). We are looking forward to and ready for 150 children! This is going to be a big event! The Easter Festival team will be meeting on April the 8th at 10 am to make sure everything is together and ready to roll. If you would like to join us you are most welcome!

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, April 17th in celebration of the Easter holiday.

In this issue:

- ✝ Youth Events
- ✝ Pre School News
- ✝ Musical Notes
- ✝ Easter Services/Events
- ✝ Birthdays and Anniversaries

Editor's Note:

Advent news due no later than April 17th 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 April

27th at 7:00 p.m. in the

Fellowship Hall. ✝

GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday, April 14th 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.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

Saturday, April 8th 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Jerry will finish teaching First Communion classes on Saturday, April 8th. 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 the classes with their child(ren). Children and youth will receive their First Communion during worship on Maundy Thursday, April 13th.

NEW DISCIPLES INFORMATION CLASSES

Dates To Be Announced Soon

Pastor Jerry will be teaching another set of New Disciples Information Classes soon. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in learning more about our ministry here at Advent, these classes are for you. Watch for the exact dates and times in the upcoming Eagles Wings announcements and/or on our website and Facebook pages.

ADVENT OWLS (Older Wiser Lutheran Sojourners)

The OWLS are off to great adventures in April, May and June. Plans include a KINGSLEY PLANTATION TOUR on April 25th, a BEACH CREEK TOUR on MAY 11th and a DOLPHINS & SEA TURTLES trip on JUNE 8th. See www.ameliarivercruises.com and www.destinationsunlimitedtours.com for more info. A short meeting is planned for Sunday April 9th following the 10:45am service. Please plan to attend so that plans can be completed. Contact Cynthia Buhlert with questions at 904-298-3385

YOUTH MINISTRY

Over 30 people (youth and adults) attended our Family Fellowship Night on April 1st. Following a delicious meal, our KICK and CIA Youth (Elementary and Middle School) participated in fun and games, including the coloring of Easter Eggs. The EPIC (High School) Youth and their parents gathered for an excellent discussion and discernment process focusing on taking our Youth Ministry to the next level. Special thanks to everyone who attended. Watch for important announcements soon about future plans including the EPIC Wednesday Evening gathering on May 3rd.



Heartship for God (Stewardship from the Heart #2)

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights” James 1:17

Before Heartship for God (Stewardship from the Heart) can truly take place, we must look at life through our status as children of God. God would have us view everything in our lives (house, property, money, our skills, our time, even our loved ones and the very planet we live on) as belonging to Him. He has gifted all these things to us and we are called to be faithful stewards of these gifts. Our money, time and talents become some of the ways we give back what already belongs to God. The gifts we keep also belong to God and we are called to manage them, wisely and not waste them on frivolous things. Begin by thanking God daily for His gifts and then take it one step further



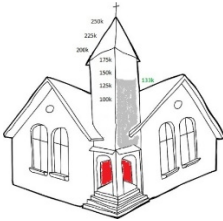
Preschool News

It's spring! We are so excited to be back from Spring Break and are ready to have fun learning and exploring. The children will continue to investigate how plants grow by helping to tend our garden. They will help feed caterpillars, witness how they transform into butterflies and participate in their release into the wild. Transportation and Pets will be our themes this month providing lots of opportunities for hands on learning.

Easter is almost here and our teachers will be explaining to our littlest learners about the special meaning of this amazing event. We will also have an Easter egg hunt in the courtyard for a little fun.

We will hold our annual Trike-a-thon to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital on Friday, April 21. Each year we participate in helping this worthy cause and have raised over \$9,000 to date. After a morning spent riding bikes, trikes and riding toys, the children will enjoy a treat on the playground.

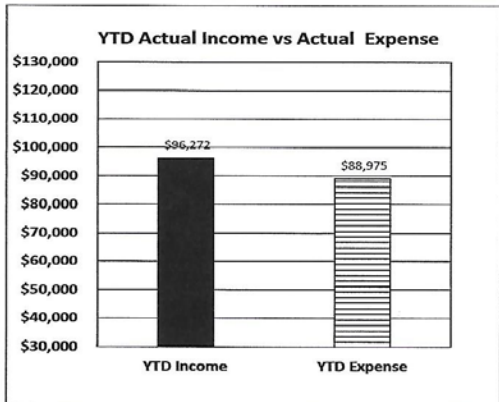
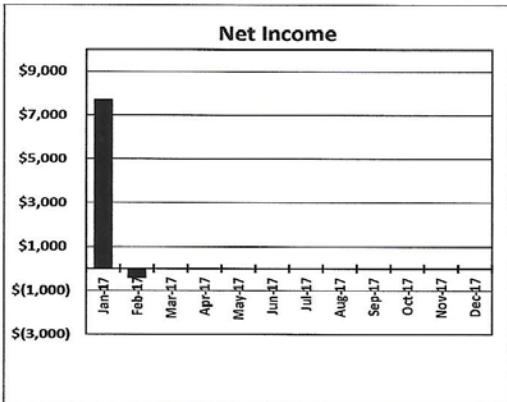
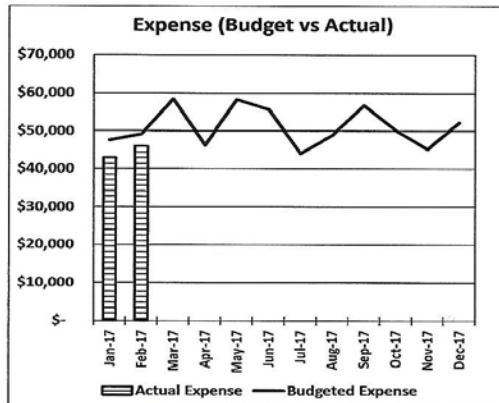
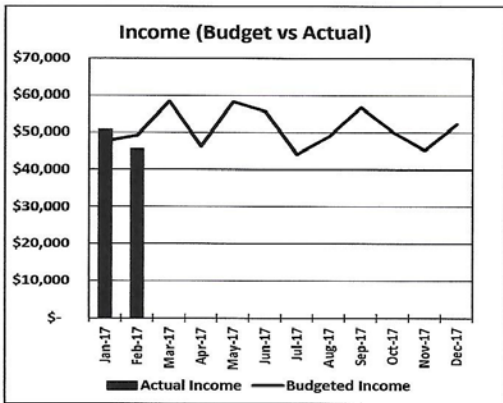
Advent's Preschool is now enrolling for the 2017-2018 school year. We offer classes for children ages 15 months-5 years old, including the state funded VPK program. If interested please contact Kristina Ranieri at 272-6370 or adventpreschool@bellsouth.net



Special Appeal Update

We are indeed a generous congregation! Already Advent's Disciples have given over \$145,000 toward our goal of \$250,000. We are currently 58% of the way! Thank you to all who have given and those who have continued in daily prayer for this important appeal. Progress is being made on the roof/window/cross leak project and some initial work has begun on lighting improvements. We are also working on a job description for a new staff person focusing on children, youth, young adult and family ministries. All of these items are of great importance to our future ministry. Please prayerfully discern how God is calling you to participate and help us reach our goal.

Advent's Finance at A Glance





TEA TIME BREAK- Some 30 of Advent's loyal quilters took time for a social event and gathered to enjoy a brunch recently at Orange Park's Over the Second Cup of Tea on Kingsley Ave. Ever mindful of their quilting ministry, they held the event on a non- scheduled quilting day. Photo courtesy of Rebecca Johnson.



Work continues atop Advent as contractor begins to copper plate our cross

April Anniversary Celebrations

David & Junice Altass	April 21, 1969
George & Doris Briese	April 26, 1947
Ben & Carolyn Bryant	April 29, 1983
William & Cynthia Buhlert	April 11, 2009
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
Ronald & Janice Olson	April 23, 1960
John & Andrea Redlitz	April 16, 1988
Scott & Layla Smith	April 2, 2005
Larry & Susan Ulsh	April 18, 1997

Life's Transitions

To the Church Triumphant

Elvie Tietze, March 4, 2017

Gerald "Bud" Parham, 3/24/17

Rev. Dave Winter (Pastor Emeritus) 3/26/17



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, Stella Carter, Edna Greenewalt, Dana Luther,
Matthew Mizeur, Nancy Schroyer
- 9 Stephanie Palmer
- 10 Gail Boylan
- 12 Samantha Luther, Danielle Vallow
- 13 Barbara Albright, Isabelle Bernauer
- 14 William Fertig, Mack Gooding, Vishal Seeram
- 15 Rachael Mae Lovejoy, Frank Maliscewski, Meyer Moore
- 16 Dana West
- 17 Connie Vallow
- 18 Priscilla Bellefeuille
- 20 Savannah Hollis, Nancy Phillips
- 21 Michael Mendat, Conrad Redlitz
- 23 Steve Benko, Caleb Dechman, Vitoria 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

April Lessons

April 2	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Psalm 130	Romans 8:6-11	John 11:1-45
April 9	Isiah 50:4-9	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Matthew 26:14--27:66
April 16	Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Colossians 3:1-4	Matthew 28:1-10
April 23	Acts 2:14, 22-32	Psalm 16	1 Peter 1:3-9	John 20:19-31
April 30	Acts 2:14, 36-41	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	1 Peter 1:17-23	Luke 14:13-35

STAFF AT ADVENT

Rev. Gerald A. Nordsiek, Jr. Pastor
 Cell Phone (727) 741-0959
 Kristina Ranieri, Pre-School Director
 Joanna Corbett, Music Master/Organist
 Kristin Sakamoto, Worship Arts Spec.
 Rebecca Johnson, Secretary
 Vacant, 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

2017 CONG. COUNCIL

Todd Luther, President
 Dana West, Vice President
 Sadako Long, Treasurer
 Kathy Ordonez, Secretary
 Jason Merritt, Education
 Dana Luther, Evangelism
 Becky Solberg, Fellowship
 Vacant, Property
 Pat Benko, Social Ministry
 Sandy Emery, Stewardship
 Vacant, Worship
 Tiffany Csalovski, Youth



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC MASTER / ORGANIST

Lent is and has been a time of anticipation and preparation for the Celebration at Easter--a season of rejoicing in the resurrected Savior.

Our Joy should therefore be reflected in robust singing both now and all during the year!! In His Love, Joanna

PREPARE THE MUSIC

Tuesdays	7:00 p.m.	The Advent Choir
Wednesdays	12:30 p.m.	Lighthouse Handbells
Wednesdays	4:45 p.m.	Youth Bells (gr. 3-8)
Wednesdays	5:30 p.m.	Joyful Juniors (K - 5)
Wednesdays	8:00 p.m.	Advent Ringers
Thursdays	Noon	The Early Ensemble
Thursdays	7:30 p.m.	New Worship Musicians
Fridays	9:15 a.m.	Preschool Music Classes

NEW MUSICIANS ALWAYS WELCOME!!
Find Your Place in a Choir!

MUSIC CAMP 2017

July 17-21

Planning Times: April 3 & May 1
Fellowship Hall--5:30 p.m

The Camps:

- 1. Entering K-Gr. 5**
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m
- 2. Entering Gr. 6-12**
afternoon or evening schedule
to be determined (your input
desired—text Joanna at 631-3889)

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.

-OR- CURRENT RESIDENT



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.