



Women of Advent!

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NEWSLETTER OF
 ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
 October 2017

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500th Anniversary of the Reformation

September Photo Supplement
 Church Picnic
 Wednesdays at Advent

More Stuff . . .

- Sunday Worship**
9:30 am
Pastor Cindy Sermon Series
- Confirmation October 1**
- Guest Pastor October 8**
- October 22**
Congregational Conversation
- Reformation Hymn Festival**
October 22 3:00 pm
At Advent
- Book Sorting Party**
October 13, 2017
Bring books through Oct. 13
- Book Sale**
October 14, 2017

Our Mission Statement

"With joy and thanksgiving we commit Advent Lutheran Church to be the Welcome Place, where through God's Grace, we Gather, Forgive, Grow, and Care."

Pastor Cindy Beck

Celebrating the Re-Formation!

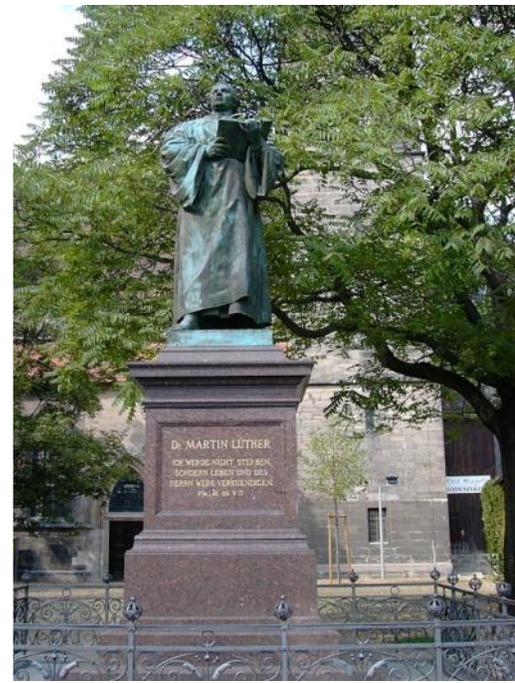
Our countdown to the 500th anniversary of the Reformation is almost over! Our class on the Three Treatises has begun! I hope that you recognize the magnitude of how Luther's view of God changed the religious, political, social, and economic structures of Western Civilization. Our sermon series on the Augsburg Confession will begin October 1 and continue the 15th, 22nd, and 29th of October. (I will be out of town on October 8 and Rev. Dawn Hass will lead worship and preach that day.)

As I was looking through various Reformation 500 commemorative items I saw a T-Shirt that read, "God doesn't change. Lutherans probably won't either." While it captures the humorous caricature of our "that's not the way we've always done it" practice, it also captures the sad truth that Lutherans (and most main line congregations) resist change of almost any kind.

The world has changed tremendously in the last 500 years and we can see changes within our worship environment, some intentional, some not, some make us happy, some still frustrate us. Worship services are less austere (nobody gets their ears pinched when they wiggle, there is more chatter during the prelude, and the passing of the peace is longer than the sermon); sanctuary styles have changed from long and narrow to auditorium style; screens are pervasive; variety in worship styles/music; more clergy do not wear albs and stoles; and so forth.

What hasn't changed for mainline churches is hearing God's word in scripture and examined in the sermon; singing together; praying for one another; sharing the sacraments together; fellowship; and weekly/seasonal rhythms of life. These are some aspects of being church together for which we can thank Martin Luther by allowing the laity to hear the word in their own language and participate more fully in sacraments and worship leadership.

Change is likely to happen at Advent within the next year. You will have a new pastor and that pastor may want to make some changes. He / She may want to change worship time to 10 AM instead of 9:30 AM; change education time to before/after church; have the praise band lead twice a month instead of once; ask non-Christian groups to use our facility for meetings; etc.



Jesus raises the question “Now that I’ve showed you this way of life, how will you respond?” I raise that question to you if changes are brought about at Advent. Of course, Jesus’ stakes were much more high and significant than any changes we may experience in the life of a congregation. So if we are simply being asked to reform certain methods of what we do in order to introduce the good news to those who have as yet not connected with it, can we live in our personal “holy discomfort” for their sake? Because while we have preferred ways to worship, those changes are not as significant as what Jesus asked of his followers or of what Luther asked of Rome. It is even possible that the holy discomfort you have toward some aspect of worship may be reformed into a source of newfound joy. Never forget the power of the Holy Spirit!

“God Doesn’t Change.” The shirt is right that the nature of God does not change – God is a God of invitation, acceptance, and grace. But the statement doesn’t embrace that God is always changing, always bringing forth new life, always at work transforming. “You shall have to clear out the old to make way for the new” “See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare.” “I am about to do a new thing; do you not perceive it?” “I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.”

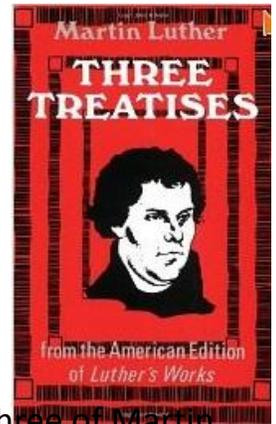
If this all sounds scary, remember that in all this, Jesus says, “And lo, I am with you always, until the end of the ages.” There is nothing that the body of Christ cannot handle when it remains centered in serving Christ.





Study of Martin Luther's Three Treatises Adult Education

Wednesdays @ 1PM and 6:15 PM



Beginning Wednesday, September 13, Pastor Cindy will facilitate discussion on three of Martin Luther's most important writings: "To the Christian Nobility," "The Babylonian Captivity of the Church," and "The Freedom of a Christian."

The Three Treatises were written by Luther over four months in 1520 and served to set the focus of the reformation. While each treatise addresses a particular topic, they all address the state of the Church and the proper response needed on behalf of the gospel. Together they describe, prescribe, and seek to alleviate the burdens coming from Rome, while seeking to reform their faith by a return to scripture.

In the first treatise, "To the Christian Nobility" of the German Nations, Luther described and sought to reform the authority structure of the pope that was used to protect the papacy from any challenge, including those from the political sphere. By demonstrating that the pope has built walls around its office and power to prevent any reform, Luther calls the German Nobility to respond.

In his second treatise, "The Babylonian Captivity of the Church," Luther addresses the hold Rome had over the sacraments. Luther critiques the sacramental system and its abuses, focusing primarily on communion and its withholding of the cup to the laity, transubstantiation, and the sacrifice of the mass. In the end, Luther keeps only the table and baptism as sacraments, reworks the role of confession, and eliminates the other four sacraments as ungrounded in scripture. Throughout his description of both the table and baptism, Luther emphasizes personal faith as a necessity. He even goes so far as to affirm faith in infants to legitimate their baptism.

Luther's final treatise is "The Freedom of a Christian." Its central thesis is that faith in God through Christ frees the believer from sin and enables them to love and serve their neighbor.

Thanks to Tripp Fuller for his article on The Three Treatises that I edited.

Participants will be encouraged to have a copy – and read it – of
[The Three Treatises](#) for the class.

[Click here to purchase all three in one book from Amazon](#)

Pastor Cindy's Sermon Series: Augsburg Confession Sunday Sermons in October at Advent

**October 1: God, Cause of Sin, Original Sin,
Son of God, Justification
Articles I, XIX, II, III, IV**

October 8: Guest Preacher in Pastor Cindy's absence

**October 15: Ministry of the Church, The Church,
What the Church Is, Order in the Church,
Church Usages, Ecclesiastical Power, The Mass
Articles: V, VII, VIII, XIV, XV, XXIV, XXVIII**



**October 22: The Sacraments Baptism, Lord's Supper,
Confession, Repentance, Use of Sacrament,
Both Kinds in the Sacrament
Articles: IX, X, XI, XII, XIII, XXII**

**October 29: Living our Faith,
New Obedience, Civil Affairs, Faith and Good
Works, Freedom of Will,
Distinction of Foods
Articles: VI, XVI, XX, XVIII, XXVI**



**More on the
Augsburg Confession
on the next page . . .**

Preface to Emperor Charles V

(King of Spain; became emperor of the Holy Roman Empire in 1519)

- 1] All Powerful Emperor, Caesar Augustus, Most Merciful Lord: Your Royal Majesty has called a **council** (A
 - 2] meeting of princes from around Germany; called a *diet*) of the empire here at Augsburg to discuss what to do against the **Turks**, (Powerful members of the Ottoman Empire were trying to invade Europe at this time.
 - 3] Having already overrun Hungary, they were now threatening Austria. They were seen as an especially
 - 4] dangerous threat since they were Muslims who worshiped Allah rather than the triune God that most fearful and longtime enemy of our Christian name and religion. You wish us to agree on a strong and lasting military action that can successfully defeat their furious attacks.
- 2] You also called this meeting to consider the disagreements about our holy religion and Christian faith. In these religious matters you wished the opinions and judgments of the different sides to be heard in each other's presence.
- 3] You wanted us to consider and discuss these matters among ourselves with both sides showing love and kindness. Then, you wished us to settle these matters by removing and correcting those things that were described and understood in different ways in the writings of both sides. Only then will Christians again find agreement on a single simple truth.
- 4] Christians could then also be able to accept and hold onto one pure and true religion in the future. Since we are all under one Christ and fight under him, we should also be able to live in unity and agreement in the one Christian church.
- 5] We, the undersigned **electors**, (Two of the German princes were among the seven men who elected the emperor) princes, and other leaders who joined with us, have been called to this council just like the other electors, princes, and authorities. We have obeyed your royal command and promptly come to **Augsburg**. (The city in southern Germany where this meeting was held) Although we don't want to boast, we were among the first to arrive.
- 6] Among other things, which at the very beginning of the council Your Royal Majesty proposed to the electors, princes, and other authorities of the empire here at Augsburg, was this: That the various authorities of the empire, in response to your royal decree, should write down and submit their opinions and decisions in both the **German and Latin** (Latin was the official language of the empire; but since this was a meeting of German princes, the writings were made available in both languages.) languages.
- 7] So on the first Wednesday, after careful consideration, we told Your Royal Majesty that we would submit the statements of our side's confession on the following Wednesday. Now, in order to obey Your Royal Majesty's wishes in these religious matters,
- 8] we here present the confession of our preachers and of ourselves. This shows what kind of doctrine from the Holy Scriptures and the pure Word of God has been preached up to this time in our lands, territories, and cities, and what is taught in our churches.
- 9] The other electors, princes, and authorities of the empire may wish, according to the royal decree mentioned above, to present similar writings in Latin and German, giving their opinions about these religious matters.
- 10] If so, then we, with the princes and friends listed above, are prepared for a friendly meeting with them here before Your Royal Majesty, our most merciful lord. We can then discuss all the possible ways and means through which we might be united, as far as this may be done with honor. After this matter has been peacefully discussed between us on both sides without giving offense, may it be brought to an end with God's help, and may we all agree again to one true religion.

11] For just as we are all under one Christ and fight under his command, we ought to confess the one Christ, in agreement with Your Royal Majesty's decree. Everything ought to be handled in agreement with the truth of God. With earnest prayers, we ask God to do this.

12] Now we turn to the other electors, princes, and authorities on the opposing side. Your Royal Majesty has ordered each side to present its case in writing and then to calmly discuss it with each other. But if this produces no progress, or if we reach no solution after handling the matter this way,

13] at least we will show you clearly that we are making every effort to bring about Christian harmony. And we will do so as far as God and a good conscience allow us.

14] Your royal majesty and the other electors and authorities of the empire, and everyone who has a sincere love and zeal for religion and who will listen honestly to this matter, will graciously notice and understand our good faith efforts from this **confession** of ours and our associates.

15-16] Your Royal Majesty, not just once but often you graciously informed the electors, princes, and authorities of the empire that in dealing with this religious matter, you were not willing to and would not decide anything on your own. You had this proclaimed publicly in your royal decrees, as well as at the **Council of Speyer** in A.D. 1526 (The council at the city of Speyer in 1526 had decided that each prince could decide whether his territory would be Catholic or Lutheran. A second meeting there in 1529 overturned that decision and again made the Catholic faith the only legal religion). Instead, you used your office to encourage the Roman pope to call a **general council**. (A council of church leaders from all parts of the church.)

17] The same thing was announced publicly in greater detail a year ago at the last council at Speyer.

18] There Your Royal Majesty, through his highness Ferdinand, King of Bohemia and Hungary, our friend and merciful lord, as well as through the official speaker and royal commissioners, had presented the following points, among others: that Your Royal Majesty had read and considered the decision of Your Majesty's representative in the empire, and of the president and royal counselors, and the representatives from other authorities gathered at **Regensburg** (A city in southern Germany where a royal council was held in 1527) as to the calling of a general council;

19] that Your Royal Majesty also thought it proper to call a council; and that Your Royal Majesty thought the Roman pope could be persuaded to hold a general council,

20] because the other matters that needed settling between Your Royal Majesty and the Roman pope were nearing agreement and Christian reconciliation. Therefore, Your Royal Majesty promised that you would yourself try to obtain the pope's consent for calling a general council and that Your Royal Majesty would send out letters to announce it as soon as possible.

21] So, if the differences between us and the other parties in this religious matter cannot be settled peacefully and in love, then here, before Your Royal Majesty, we agree to the following. In addition to what we have already done, we will all come and defend our position before such a general, free, Christian council. For at all the royal councils held during Your Majesty's reign, the electors, princes, and other authorities of the empire have voted in favor of calling a general council.

22] Already previously we have in a lawful manner taken a stand and urged that a general council be called in Your Royal Majesty's presence to settle this most important and serious matter.

23] We remain firm in seeking support from Your Royal Majesty and in seeking a general council. We do not intend nor would it be possible for us to give up our position by this or any other document, unless the matter between us and the other side is settled in a friendly way, the tensions are lessened, and Christian peace is restored, as called for in your latest royal decree.

24] We hereby solemnly and publicly testify to this.



President's Message

**Lanny Johaneck,
Church Council President**

It appears that with the commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation has come memories for two of our members raised Catholic. Both Lanny and our View from the Pew, Patty Proffer, offer their first person experience of Lutheranism. Martin Luther continues to change lives! Beth Mora, editor

It has been an interesting couple of weeks learning about Martin Luther from both Pastor Cindy's classes and the documentary on PBS.

They brought back memories of my childhood as a Catholic. I got out of school every Tuesday for an hour and a half to go to church and have catechism (so much for separation of church and state.) During this time, and continuing into confirmation classes we were taught doctrine by the nuns and priests and I was often a problem. I questioned what they were teaching for example, "why Mary is up there on the level with God and Jesus?" I guess I was just inquisitive but I had a problem with being told what I should believe and especially being told not to ask questions. I now feel like I was a miniature Martin Luther. My questions continued into adulthood, and when the priest said he would not baptize my sons, it became the straw that broke this camel's back. I left the church and eventually came to Advent.

At Advent I started learning about the Lutheran church when my kids were in confirmation. Wow! This church believed what I had always believed! This was where I belonged!

The people here also treated each other like family. We stuck around and visited with each other after church. We socialized together. We became friends.

What a difference.

I also love the way we vary our liturgies and emphasize music. I could probably still recite some of the mass in Latin, and when we sing a song from my childhood it brings back memories, but I am so happy to be part of this 500th anniversary of the founding of our church.

Thank you, Martin Luther.



STEWARDSHIP

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN Coming in October

Jon Schedler says look for a Castle Door soon on which to post your "95 Theses" (aka a pledge) this year, starting in early October!

Watch for our
CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION
Led by Council
Sunday, October 22 (*following the worship service*)

2017/2018 ADVENT PLEDGE CARD

Faithfully Giving for 500 Years!

Name _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

I / We pledge:

One time gift \$ _____ Weekly \$ _____ Monthly \$ _____

I / We would like to sign up for Thrivent "Simply Giving"

Yes _____ No _____





Council Connections

It's not so much that it's difficult to be the church treasurer. The responsibilities are structured and procedural, which makes learning the job fairly straightforward. The job does require attention to detail, good organization, and an affinity for numbers. However, these words did not relieve my anxiety of feeling unprepared and overwhelmed the first two months in my new role as treasurer.

As I was driving to the June Council meeting, I had this feeling that I would be nominated as Treasurer, and sure enough, at the end of the meeting, I walked out as the newly elected treasurer. Needless, to say I had significant doubts about how I would meet this obligation. Nonetheless, my predecessor was a huge help; she reviewed the necessary steps, and gave me several assignments. The first was to change the signature cards at the bank so the new officers are authorized to sign checks, review the bank statements and get the necessary reports to the bookkeeper. She also checked on me frequently to see how things were going, guided me through my first Finance meeting and assisted me with presenting the Treasurer's report at the Council meeting.

I was doing some research on the Internet and I located an old document from an unspecified church accounting manual called the "Characteristics of the Church Treasurer". I would like to share a few of these qualities.

- **Dedication to Service:** The church treasurer must recognize that the money, which passes through his/her hands, is sacred money. The treasurer has dedication of heart, mind, and hand; all are basic to the calling of the office as treasurer.
- **Good Personal Relationships:** Exhibit a quiet spirit of dedication and good judgment before the church membership, fostering a feeling of confidence and trust in the hearts of the individual members.
- **Good Mental Attitude:** The treasurer can only do his/her work to the fullest effectiveness only as he/she pleads daily, hourly, for the Holy Spirit to come in and control every aspect of their life.
- **Willingness to Learn:** Whether involved with a small or large church, the treasurer should take every opportunity to learn to do their job more efficiently.

Of all these important qualities listed, number four speaks the most to my heart. I pray the Holy Spirit guides and direct me as I fulfill my responsibilities as your church treasurer.

Peace and blessing to all.

Linda Broaddus, Treasurer

The View From The Pew



Patty Proffer

Martin Luther & Me

How a fallen away Catholic ended up at Advent Lutheran Church

It's 1965 in my high school World History class. I learned all about the Reformation: There was this German monk named Martin Luther who wanted to reform "The Church." (There was only one church at the time - the Roman Catholic Church). He nailed his demands on a church door. "Yes," Sister Mary said, "it was a bad period in history with some bad Popes but Martin Luther went too far when he led the schism."

Fast forward to 1987. I'm working full time. I'm on my second husband, we have a son in elementary school, and life problems are getting me down. I had long since given up going to church because I would not be allowed communion since I was not married by a Catholic priest. Explaining my problems to a friend, she suggested that I find a church where I would be accepted and could have communion.

Mulling this over and praying about this decision to find a church other than the Catholic Church was not easy. Even though I wasn't going to church, I didn't want to take that step to actually leave "The Church." Leaving would be like condemning myself to hell.

Does this sound a little like Martin Luther?

I had a Catholic version of the bible with me at work and I spent my lunch hour asking God for help. I held the bible with both hands and let it fall open. The Holy Spirit was right there with me. The page opened to Romans 8:1 "For now there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

When I went home that night I read Romans from beginning to end. St. Paul explained things so beautifully and later I read that the epistle to the Romans meant a lot to Martin Luther, too.

Now I am studying the Reformation through different eyes than when I was in high school. What eyes? Pastor Cindy's Lutheran eyes. You can, too. Don't miss Luther's "Three Treatises" class she is giving on Wednesdays and the Augsburg Confession sermon series on Sundays in October.

Glad to be saved by faith alone,
Patty Proffer



FOOD FOR THE POOR, INC.

Saving Lives... Transforming Communities... Renewing Hope

WWW.FOODFORTHEPOOR.ORG

October 22, 2017
'FOOD FOR THE POOR'

Pastor Cindy Beck

Marv Abramson, an ELCA Pastor currently serving as Interim Pastor at Resurrection Lutheran in Oakland, will be on hand before and after worship to share information regarding "Food for the Poor," an International Relief Organization.

FFP is 35 years old, serving the poorest of the poor in the western hemisphere; 17 Caribbean and Latin American countries. FFP has the highest rating with the watchdog agency "Charity International." For every \$1 given to FFP, 96 and 1/2 cents go directly to housing and feeding projects, medical care, educational programs, orphanages, micro-industry development like fishing, farming, bee-keeping, sewing, and many other training and equipping programs for poor people.

FFP has built over 110,000 homes, actively feeds 2 million people each day, and builds safe, clean water systems – often solar-powered - in remote villages.

Pastor Abramson has travelled to Haiti and Nicaragua on week-long mission trips, and has many stories!



Linda Broaddus

General Fund Treasurer's Report	August 2017	YTD (as of August 31, 2017)
Total 2017/2018 Budget	\$366,794.00	\$61,134.00
Budget Year to Date (YTD)	\$61,134.00	\$61,134.00
Actual Income	\$25,058.77	\$52,528.80
Actual Expenses	\$26,767.79	\$54,271.00
YTD Income less Expenses	-\$1,709.02	-\$1,742.20
Benevolence to Date	\$1,414.68	\$3,521.68



SAVE YOUR BOOKS!

BOOK & QUILT SALE

Saturday, October 14
9:00 am—3:00 pm

BOOK SORTING PARTY

Friday, October 13
1:00 pm until we're done

Bring your book donations beginning NOW!
to the Friendship Hall.

Fiction, Non-Fiction, History, Children's,
Cookbooks, Health, Religion,
CDs and MORE!!!

Sign up to help in the Narthex in October.
See you there!

Quilts!





Natalie Jones,
Children's Ministry
Director
ntolman@yahoo.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL starts
at 8:45 am

WEDNESDAY CLASSES start
at 6:15 pm

YOUTH GROUP AFTER DARK

Jumping at Sky High

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6th

Plan NOW to Join the FUN!



CONFIRMATION PREP
Sunday, October 15, 2017

Following Service
Confirmands & Parents
are asked to meet with
Pastor Cindy

1st Chapter Review

*See all meetings with Pastor Cindy on the
Youth page of our website at:*
[CONFIRMATION DATES](#)

CONFIRMATION
Sunday, October 1, 2017
9:30 am

Mt. Cross Elementary Retreat
October 13-15

Don't miss the fun and learning—
see Natalie to register.

FELLOWSHIP

STERN-JOHNSON BIKE CLUB

Bike Ride

October 14 & 28

9:00 am

**Join the group at the Wells Fargo Bank
parking lot on the corner of
Sunrise and Gold Country Blvd.**

MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

October 21st at 6:00 pm

Gary & Dorothy Slade's home

Don't miss this train! Join the fun!





Worship

WORSHIP TIME

Sundays 9:30 am

Praise Band Sunday
October 8
Trinity Liturgy Service

SANCTUARY CHOIR

All are Welcome!
Rehearsals Wednesdays
7:00 pm
Friendship Hall

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

DATE	SUNDAY
Sept. 3	97
Sept. 10	110
Sept. 17	110
Sept. 24	99

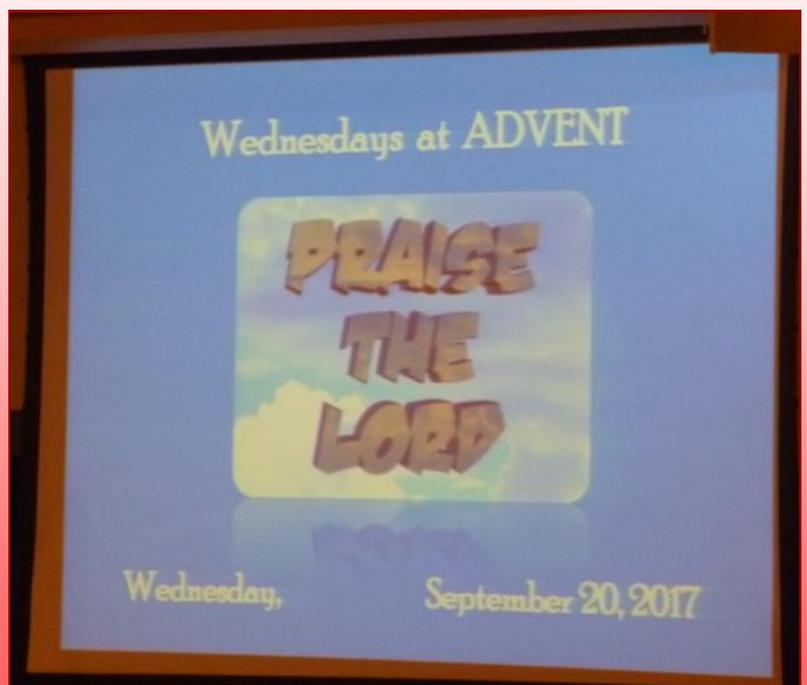
REFORMATION SERMON SERIES

Invite your friends for a special series in October.
See details on page 5

WEDNESDAYS at ADVENT

Join our Wing & A Prayer Band
for a spirit-filled 1/2 hour
service with Communion every
Wednesday night at 7:00 pm.

Give yourself a treat—
recharge your mid-week!



500 Reformation Five Hundred Years 1517-2017

REFORMATION HYMN FESTIVAL

October 22 3:00 pm

The combined choirs of
Advent, Christ the King and Ascension
Lutheran Churches

Invite you to join us for a
Special Concert in celebration of
500 years of Lutheranism

Advent Lutheran Church 5901 San Juan Ave.
Citrus Heights, CA 95610
916 966-7242

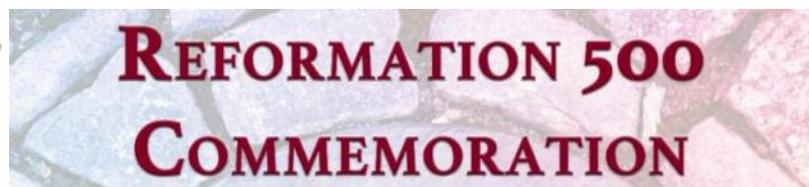


Freed & RENEWED in Christ 500 YEARS OF GOD'S GRACE IN ACTION

The Sierra Pacific Synod Commemorates the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in Worship



Common Prayer
From Conflict to Communion
Lutheran-Catholic Commemoration of
the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation



Luncheon

Monday, October 9th 12:00 Noon
Gethsemane Evangelical Lutheran Church
4706 Arden Way at Mission, Carmichael
RSVP to [Rev. Jason Bense](#), (916) 915-7320

Common Prayer Service

Monday, October 9, 2017 at 7:00 pm
St John's Lutheran Church
1701 L St., Sacramento

This ecumenical service is open to everyone.
Pastors and Deacons are invited to vest and
process. The color of the day is white.

The service will be followed by a reception.

REFORMATION 500 COMMEMORATION

Reforming:

Past - Present - Future

Grace Cathedral, San Francisco
Sunday, October 29, 2017
2:00 - 5:45 PM

1100 California St, San Francisco

REFORMATION HYMN FESTIVAL

October 22 3:00 pm
Advent, Christ the King &
Ascension Lutheran Church
Choirs

See flyer on page 17

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS!



Thank you to our first two dinner providers—Tri-Tip from the Praise Band and Rotisserie Chicken from Kathy and Amy!

Don't miss out . . .

October 4 Twila & Friends

October 11 Worship
Committee Potato Bar

October 18 Dorothy Slade &
The Casserole Ladies

October 25 OPEN
Halloween?



Monthly Outreach



Loaves & Fishes
Homeless Survival Services
Since 1983

LOAVES & FISHES

Thank you to our volunteers who came out to help on September 30!

Our next service date is
Saturday, December 30.

10:30 am—12:30 pm

Mary Grivna

HEARTSTRINGS

Monday, October 2 at Diane Peterson's home. Please bring any completed hats or dishcloths and we will package them. We will have yarn on hand for those who would like to knit or crochet chemo hats in the winter style. Please come!

We have a great time visiting, eating cookies and packaging hats to donate. Please let Diane know if you can come.

Diane Peterson
1319 Ridgecrest Way
Roseville, CA 95661
916-773-4756
dianep1946@gmail.com

WE needs hangers - please!



**Thank You All for Donations
to Women's Empowerment!**

Keep up the great donations!

Donate clothes for job interviews and work to help women get a new start!

2nd Sunday each month



Sunrise Christian Food Ministry

Advent has designated the **third Sunday** of every month as our
"Food Closet Sunday."

Please bring donations of food items or place monetary offerings designated to the "Food Closet" in the offering plate.

["Like" us on Facebook!](#)

Thank you for your support!



**Serve at St. John's
Monday, October 23**

Join Jenny Stern and
the women of Advent
to

prepare and serve the

noon meal at St. John's Program for Real
Change on

October 23rd at 10:00 am.

Jenny has it all coordinated;
just lend a hand
in this ministry.



Amy Gariano provided the attached flyer for an upcoming event being put on by the American Legion Post 635 (Maynard Johnson is a member and they sponsor our Boy Scout Troop.) It's a fun low cost event - "Vets Helping Vets Fund" - a great cause.



BANDS **BBQ's** **Ghost Soldier Ceremony**
Child Activities

October 7, 2017

Children 12 years and under FREE

Food, Wine, Beer and Non-Alcoholic Drinks Included in Ticket Price

Gates Open: 10:30 AM / Opening Ceremony 11:00 AM

Historic Rusch Home & Gardens: 7301 Antelope Road, Citrus Heights

Buy Your Tickets Today!

Online: www.eventbrite.com (Search for "WE SUPPORT VETS")

Or Call: Sylvia 916-792-9669 or maminka1@yahoo.com

Tickets \$15 (\$20 at the door)

Host: American Legion Post 637- Proceeds go to the "VETS HELPING VETS FUND"



FROM ACADEMY AWARD® WINNER JAMES MOLL
A FILM BY SCOTT HAZE

CHANGING THE WORLD ONE CHILD AT A TIME

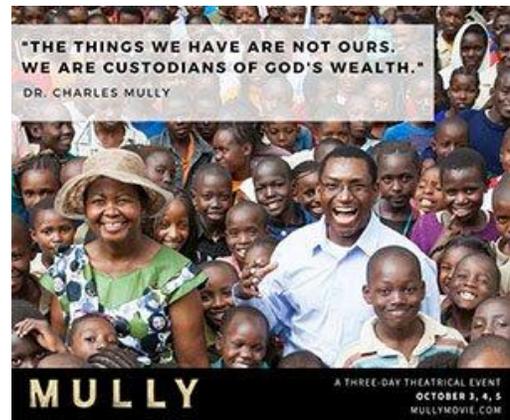
MULLY

IN THEATERS OCTOBER 3, 4, 5

MULLY is no ordinary rags-to-riches tale. It's the true story of Charles Mully, whose unlikely rise to wealth and power leaves him questioning his own existence, searching for meaning in life. Against the better judgment of family and community, Charles Mully sets out to enrich the fate of orphaned children across Kenya. Jeopardizing his own life and the security of his family.



BUY TICKETS NOW



THANK YOU HEARTSTRINGS

Dear Ladies,

Thank you so much for the work you do on making the Chemo Hats. It was so good to see two of them in my cancer kit.

Thank you again, Jan

Women's Bible Study

gather
Magazine

October 12, 2017 10:00 am
Friendship Hall

September's *Gather Magazine* - Apostle's Creed
Join us for this series of studies and discussion
All Are Welcome!

Women ^{of the} ELCA 



TAKE OFF POUNDS
SENSIBLY

TOPS

A local club of the national organization is now meeting at Advent on
Thursdays, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Weigh-in from 9:00 am—10:00 am

Program 10:00 am—11:00 am

Friendship Hall

For more information on TOPS—click here: <http://www.tops.org/>

All Are Welcome to attend and
get to know our newest community group.



Women of Advent Meeting September 16, 2017

Pat Johnson

The Women of Advent met to receive updates on our projects and programming.

Highlights of the meeting were:

- **Bible Study**—Our monthly Bible Study organized by Twila Engler and led by members is studying the Apostle's Creed. Meets the 2nd Thursday each month at 10:00 am.
- **Caregiver Training**—AnnaLee Bjork reported that the this program will resume in January with an emphasis on gathering a support group through work with other congregations.
- **Communion for Homebound**—Pastor Cindy and Diane Peterson reported on their training and they credited Joel Blaylock with the idea of having a trained team deliver communion to the homebound.
- **Women's Empowerment**—Our congregation continues to support the Women's Empowerment program with donations of clothing, shoes, purses and jewelry for women re-entering the workforce. Linda Mathews coordinates this program and expressed a need for clothes hangers. Just place your donations in the wicker hamper labeled for the Women's Empowerment.
- **Advent Quilters**—reported they will be selling quilts at the annual Book Sale on Oct. 14th. Funds raised will be used to purchase more supplies.
- **St. John's Program for Real Change**—Jenny Stern has this program well in hand but is seeking volunteers willing to lend a hand serving lunch on the fourth Monday of each month.
- **Cards**—we thank Inge Clarke for all her work on creating cards we use in remembering important events in the life of our congregation.
- **Heart Strings**—coordinator, Diane Peterson thanked the congregation for all the donations received in honor of Pat Galland. The next meeting will be Oct. 2nd at 1:00 pm in her home.
- **Christmas Tea**—will be Dec. 2nd from 2:00pm until 4:00pm. Cindy Windsor-Schultz has lined up her friend's dance troupe, The Rascals to entertain us. More to come on them.
- **E-Scrip program**—Linda Mathews has taken over this program and will let us know of the changes to that program in the near future.
- **WELCA Scrapbook**—Twila has asked for help in organizing a scrapbook of our activities and thought Inge might be willing to help. She also thought there might be an interest in resurrecting the "Young at Heart" program. Anyone?

On behalf of the Women of Advent I thank all the women who have given so generously of their time and talent toward making the Women of Advent a reality.

See you on December 2nd for our Christmas Tea!



HOW A 200-YEAR-OLD, DECLINING, COUNTY SEAT CHURCH GOT ITS GROOVE BACK

August 1st, 2010 by Martin Thielen,
United Methodist Pastor

Like many mainline congregations, First United Methodist Church in Lebanon, Tenn., peaked in the mid 1960's. Then, over the next thirty-six years, the church slowly grew older, smaller, and more internally focused. The median age of the congregation increased, membership and worship attendance decreased, and the congregation's primary focus shifted to its facilities.

In 2001 that trajectory changed. Over the past nine years our median age has decreased, membership has increased, worship attendance has doubled, and the congregation no longer focuses on our facilities but on our mission. So how did a two hundred year old, declining, county seat, mainline church get its groove back? We got it back by boldly embracing our United Methodist identity while intentionally implementing the following seven strategies.

1. We Dreamed a New Dream

Years ago a Vietnam veteran told me, "When I first went to Vietnam, I had a clear sense of purpose—to save the world from communism. But as the weeks and months wore on and I saw the insanity of the war, I gained a new purpose—to survive another day." Sadly, that's the story of many churches. They start out with great vision and dreams. But as the years pass by the dreams slip away. Before long, their only purpose is to survive another day or week or year. That survival mentality leads to stagnation, decline, and even death.

On my first Sunday at Lebanon, I told the story about that Vietnam veteran and said, "I have not come to Lebanon First to survive another day. Rather, I've come to this place to dream new dreams with you about what God wants to do with us in this community." We did.

2. We Determined Our Niche

No church can be all things to all people. Our worship and preaching style won't attract every demographic in our community. Our programs will not meet the needs of all persons. Every church must discover its own unique niche. At Lebanon First, our niche is providing a vibrant, centrist, mainline congregation to our "Bible-belt" community of mostly conservative churches.

3. We Renewed Our Worship

In order to revitalize, Lebanon First needed to renew its tired worship services. We made improvements to our lighting and sound system and installed a high quality projection system. Most important, we established a worship pattern and style that met the needs of the current congregation but also attracted new people.

We practice a blended worship style that we call "ancient-modern" worship, incorporating historic, traditional, and contemporary styles of praising our Creator.

4. We Emphasized Evangelism

Most United Methodists are terrified of the word "evangelism." It conjures up images of high pressure, obnoxious gospel salesmen. Trying to sell our congregation on "evangelism" would have been a losing battle. However, they loved the idea of becoming an "Inviting and Welcoming Congregation." Inviting and welcoming people soon became a major emphasis for our church, part of our culture. The vast majority of our growth can be attributed to our congregation inviting people to worship. But other factors also play a role, including a new website, direct mail to newcomers in our community, guest parking, a welcome center,

trained greeters, and a thorough system of guest follow-up.

5. We Connected People to Small Groups

We believe the best way to experience Christian community is to participate in a small group. Our primary small group connection is our Sunday school program. However, as important as Sunday school is, we know it's not enough. So, we offer many other options throughout the week, including music groups, men's groups, women's groups, youth groups, senior adult groups, and short term groups like marriage enrichment and financial planning classes. Our goal is to connect every member and friend of the congregation to a small group.

6. We Ministered to Our Community

Several years ago we showed our congregation a tongue-in-cheek video called "The Me Church." The short video features people making ridiculous demands of their church. One woman wants her car buffed and waxed during worship. A young man wants tickets to the Super Bowl. A little girl wants a pony. In every case, the church meets their request. The video ends by saying, "The Me Church. Where's it's all about YOU."

If churches are not careful, we can spend all our energy meeting the needs of our own members while neglecting our community. But, as Jesus inconveniently reminds us, church is not all about us but all about others.

7. We Organized for Results

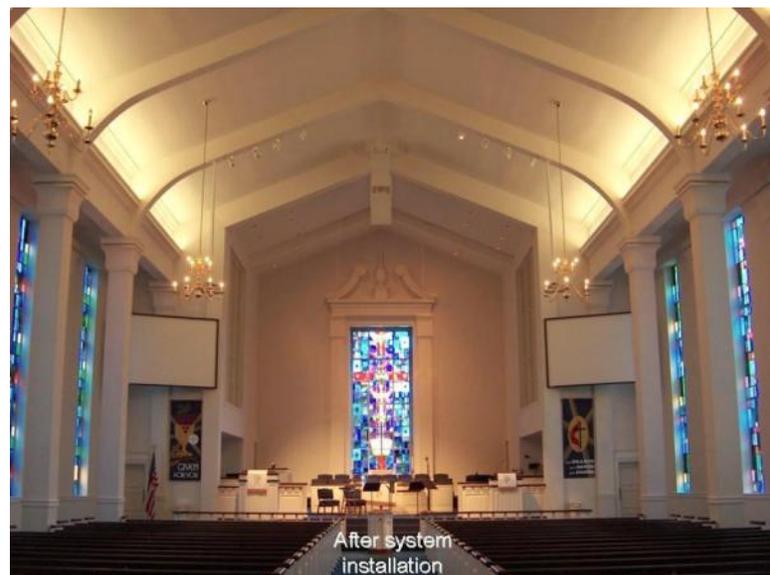
Seven years ago our leaders wrote a document called "Foundations" which laid out our mission, tasks, and culture. However, we needed a *process* for actually reaching those lofty goals. So, we added a simple yet comprehensive four-step process to help members grow as disciples:

- Worship God Weekly
- Connect to a Small Group
- Serve on a Ministry Team
- Invite and Welcome Others

We've certainly faced struggles along this path to revitalization. One staff member rejected our mainline identity and sought to lead the church in a fundamentalist direction, causing tremendous pain for me and the entire staff. When we tried to demolish a historic house on our campus and replace it with a new building, some of our best members threatened to "stand in front of the bulldozer."

We had some tensions when we added projection screens in the sanctuary, and because of our growth, we constantly struggle with space issues. In spite of these and other challenges, the past nine years have been overwhelmingly positive.

Pastor Cindy found this an interesting article and thought it would be interesting to others.



Prayers & Thanksgiving



Colleen Butler, friend of Lanny Johaneck diagnosed with cancer
Joan Thompson, who has a bad case of the flu
Ann Schmitz, hospitalized following a stroke
Cher Rush, friend of Kathy Henricks with a tumor on her throat
Robert Johnson, Maynard Johnson's cousin with fractured hip and pneumonia
The Family of Montie Nexsen, Margaret Johnson's cousin who entered life eternal on 9-23
Carol Blaylock, recovering from surgery
Leonard and Winnie Parish with health issues
Amy, co-worker of Rebecca Williams injured in a home invasion
Richard Tolman, Natalie Jones' father undergoing surgery related to dialysis treatment
Sharon Johnson, recovering from knee replacement surgery
Tom Chancellor, recovering from a total knee replacement surgery
Maloney Family upon the death of Marty's sister, Nancy Rose, friend of Chuck and Karen Urban
Fred Gustafson, Kris Heath's brother-in-law with bladder cancer
Angie and Tom Easter, friends on Natalie Jones. She with MS and cancer, Tom with health issues
Ann Beeck, sister in law of Russell Beeck and Carol Whyte in hospice
Mikal Kendrick, Michael Jones' sister with family issues
Naomi and John Howard and Kendra Sills, friends of Karen Urban with illness

Those who continue their need to be lifted in prayer: Kay Johnson; Beryl Baierl; Lillian Eggers; Diane White; Don Rogers; Andy Goltz; Kim Berring; Ron Naswall; Jim and Marilyn Pederson; Dave & Betty Yeager; Austin Kepler; Joel Blaylock; Ann, sister-in-law of Carol Whyte; Eleanor Wallace; Darlene and Bill Baker; James Hansen, Bruce Hansen's father; Allen Hansen; Dorothy, Karen Urban's Mother; Doris Hale, Pam Lipp's mother; Karen Peterson; Vic, son-in-law of Bill and Darlene Baker; Ryan Patterson; Pastor Jim and Elaine Patterson; Connie and Meghann Smiley; Meagan Brown; Ray King; Kurt, Karyl Cimini and Karen Sorenson's father; Julie, Amy Gariano's cousin; Keith McIntyre; Willa Clore; Wendy Slater, friend of Kathy Henricks; Helen Clouston, Diane Peterson's mother; Gary Peterson's brother and sister-in-law; Tom Chancellor; Maynard Johnson; Alice Davidson; Derald Simmons, Sr.; Afghan Family; Amy and Allison Daby; Loretta Gale, friend of Cindy Schultz; Julia McLoughlin, friends of Henrick's family; Gregory Bell, friend of Steve Cook; Henry Reiss, friend of the Bennett family; Jan Henricks, Dean Henricks sister in law; Tanya Bowers; Orlean Ray; Gary Peterson; Jim Myers, Deb Clore-Myers husband; Nita McGuire; Michelle McAllister; Karen Ammons; Heidi Swanson; Marty Malone, friend of the Urbans

Family Members serving in the military: Brandon Lovett, Jane Lockhard's grandson, Army; Scott Atchley, Air Force; Alex Chesire, Air Force; Jason and Heather Stickney, nephew and wife of Keith and Joyce Montag, Air Force; Heath Jennings, Linda Jennings-Belchem's son, Air Force; Charles Roney, Army; David Schedler, son of Paul Schedler, National Guard; Sara Elliott, daughter of Bill and Diana Elliott, National Guard; Alex Reginato, friend of the Malaspino family, Marines; Brandon Drake, grandson of Curt & Pam Lipp, Army; Sheldon Gray, Bernadette Kennedy's grandson, Army; Caitlyn Werth, Tom and Audrey Werth's granddaughter; Chaplin, Jordan Henricks, Amy Gariano's cousin, Army; Fritz Brinkman, son of Keith and Stephanie Brinkman, Marines;

Please notify the church office to add or remove your prayer request. Thank you.

E-mail: advent1@adventcitrusheights.org

Note: Long-term prayer requests are under "continued to be lifted up"



October

Birthdays

Jon Schedler	10-1
Laura Schedler	10-2
Steve Cook	10-3
Carolyn Youngquist	10-3
Charles Brown	10-4
Stephanie Bevier	10-8
Maynard Johnson	10-10
Beth Mora	10-12
Charles Williams	10-12
Tony Gariano	10-13
Shirley Cleveland	10-14
Doug Bevier	10-16
Pam Lipp	10-21
Linda Mathews	10-22
Nancy King	10-23

Anniversaries

Bill & Robin Bevier	10-5
Rick & Marilyn Hermanson	10-6
Jeffrey & Linda Belchem	10-11
Robert & Connie Smiley	10-11
Michael & Natalie Jones	10-12
James & Deb Clore-Myers	10-16
Dean & Kathy Henricks	10-24
Dominic Bubba	10-26
Austin Clatte	10-26
Joan Neubauer	10-27
Pauline Sirl	10-28
Carol Keehner	10-29
Kaseyk Schutz	10-29
Margaret Johnson	10-30



Altar Guild: *Linda Mathews, Erika Shepherd, Kate Wicks

Breadmaker: Kathy Henricks

Ushers: *Tony Bubba, Troy Malaspino, Leslie Scheurer, Joel Blaylock,
Beth Mora, Tom Chancellor

* *Lead*

	October 1	October 8	October 15	October 22	October 29
Assist. Ministers 9:30 am	Jeffrey Belchem	Karen Urban	Luke Patterson	Pat Johnson	Tom Kent
Greeters 9:30 am	Dorothy Michaelis	Gary & Diane Peterson	Jackie Michehl & Dorothy Slade	Carol Crespo	Lorna Mymka & Nolana Daoust
Lector 9:30 am	John Hultman	Joel Blaylock	Tom Werth	Mike Jones	Bill Bevier
Techie 9:30 am	Tom Werth	Keith Johnson	Nolana Daoust	Deb Clore-Myers	Troy Malaspino

October



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship with Communion & Confirmation 12:00 PM LOC Worship	2 9:30 AM Quilters 6:00 PM AA Mtg 8:00 PM AA Mtg	3 12:00 PM AA Mtg 1:15 PM Social Knitting 6:00 PM Love of Christ Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Christian Ed	4 10:00 AM AA Mtg. 1:00 PM Adult Bible Discussion 5:30 PM Dinner 6:15 PM Classes 7:00 PM Contemporary Worship 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 9:00 AM TOPS 8:00 PM AA Mtg	6	7 8:00 AM LOC Women's Group
8 8:45 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship with Communion 12:00 PM LOC Worship	9 6:00 PM AA Mtg 8:00 PM AA Mtg	10 12:00 PM AA Mtg 1:15 PM Social Knitting 6:00 PM Love of Christ Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	11 10:00 AM AA Mtg. 10:00 AM Finance Committee 1:00 PM Adult Bible Discussion 5:30 PM Dinner 6:15 PM Classes 7:00 PM Contemporary Worship 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	12 9:00 AM TOPS 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Worship Meeting 7:00 PM Council Mtg 8:00 PM AA Mtg	13 1:00 pm Book Sorting Party	14 8:00 AM LOC Women's Group 9:00 AM Book Sale 9:00 AM Stern-Johnson Bike Club 10:00 AM Finance Committee
15 8:45 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship with Communion 10:45 AM Confirmation Class Meets 12:00 PM LOC Worship	16 9:30 AM Quilters 6:00 PM AA Mtg 8:00 PM AA Mtg	17 12:00 PM AA Mtg 1:15 PM Social Knitting 6:00 PM Love of Christ Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	18 10:00 AM AA Mtg. 1:00 PM Adult Bible Discussion 5:30 PM Dinner 6:15 PM Classes 7:00 PM Contemporary Worship 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	19 9:00 AM TOPS 7:00 PM P.O.N.A 8:00 PM AA Mtg	20	21 8:00 AM LOC Women's Group
22 8:45 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship with Communion 10:45 AM Congregational Conversation 12:00 PM LOC Worship	23 10:00 AM Serve Lunch at St. John's Shelter 6:00 PM AA Mtg 8:00 PM AA Mtg	24 12:00 PM AA Mtg 1:15 PM Social Knitting 6:00 PM Love of Christ Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	25 10:00 AM AA Mtg. 1:00 PM Adult Bible Discussion 5:30 PM Dinner 6:15 PM Classes 7:00 PM Contemporary Worship 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	26 9:00 AM TOPS 8:00 PM AA Mtg	27	28 8:00 AM LOC Women's Group 9:00 AM Stern-Johnson Bike Club
29 8:45 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship with Communion Reformation Day 12:00 PM Love of Christ Worship	30 6:00 PM AA Mtg 8:00 PM AA Mtg	31 12:00 PM AA Mtg 1:15 PM Social Knitting 6:00 PM Love of Christ Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts				



[Click here Join the fun!](#)

Advent Lutheran Church
5901 San Juan Avenue
Citrus Heights, CA 95610

ADVENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion

Advent's Mission Statement

With Joy and Thanksgiving
we commit Advent Lutheran Church
to be the Welcome Place,
where, through
God's Grace, we Gather,
Forgive, Grow and Care.

Deadline for the next Newsletter:
October 21, 2017

Please submit all articles to Beth Mora at:
emorab@comcast.net

Check out the newsletter on our website!

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