

THE ADVENT COURIER

Volume 15, Issue 05

Sharing Christ's Love, We Are A Welcoming, Caring, Serving Community. Come and See.

August 2013



Advent Lutheran Church
2222 S. Arlington Ridge Rd
Arlington, VA 22202
703-521-7010
adventlc@hotmail.com
www.adventlc.us

SUNDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Bible Study 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am

Pastor
Rev. Anna Anderson

President
Gerry Fuller

Office Administrator
Nancy Cox Jairrels

Director of Music Ministry
Michael Lewallen

Nursery Attendant
Roxie Jairrels

Newsletter Copy Editor
Marianne Hetzer



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Are you guilty of being a Christian?

I once said in a sermon "if you were put on trial for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?" Now I'm wondering, if you were on the jury at that trial, what evidence would you be looking for? What evidence would convince you? Perhaps you'd wonder if the accused read the Bible. If they admitted to being in a Bible study group, that



might be good evidence. If they admit to regular worship, that might be evidence too. What about prayer? Does the person take God seriously enough to maintain an ongoing conversation? Take God's interests into consideration in their life decisions? Hold others before God? Be open to listening to God?

A juror looking for evidence of Christianity might look at signs that the person honors the things from the creation that God has bestowed on the accused. The juror might look at whether the prisoner is a giver or a hoarder, because the ability to give is based on the trust that God can be depended on when things go wrong. And finally, the juror might ask: does the accused follow Jesus Christ? That juror might look to see what actions that reflect

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The 23rd Psalm on 23rd Street

The churches on 23rd Street are combining forces to celebrate our ministry in south Arlington on Saturday, September 14th. It is important for all the churches to be involved at each site, and Advent volunteers are needed at each event. Scheduled events include:

- * 8 - 10 am: Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at Calvary United Methodist Church (23rd Street and Grant)
 - \$5/person; all proceeds benefit Capital Area Food Bank (CAFB); begins the 63rd year of this monthly benefit breakfast

 - * 11 am - 1 pm: "Feed the Need" at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints parking lot (745 23rd Street).
 - Sample foods from local restaurants and help raise \$20,000 for CAFB. More information at www.facebook.com/feedtheneed2013
 - Minimum donation \$10

 - * 1 - 3 pm: Ice Cream Social at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church (935 23rd Street)
 - Homemade ice cream and cake in the Fellowship Hall
 - Free to the community

 - * 3 pm: Community Choir Concert at Advent Lutheran Church (23rd Street and S. Arlington Ridge Road)
 - Features choirs from all three churches
 - Free to the community
-

Stop Hunger Now project aided Haitian youth

Thank you to the 15 people of Advent who joined in the community church event to package 14,000 meals that will go to children in Haiti. This shipment will serve recipients through YouthBuild Haiti Rebuilding Academy (YHRA), a five-year initiative designed to improve the livelihood prospects of Haitian youth and mobilize young people in Haiti to play a significant leadership role in rebuilding the earthquake devastated country. The program is carried out by the Initiative for the De-

velopment of Young People Outside of School (IDEJEN).

As a result of our recent capital campaign to pay down our mortgage balance, the money we no longer pay toward the mortgage is available for ministry, like buying the raw materials for the meals. This additional cash flow is an ongoing source of funds. If God is calling you to a ministry that you would like to see happen at Advent, please bring it to the attention of the Church Council!



From the Pastor

What will the verdict be?

(Continued from page 1)

Christ can be attributed to the prisoner.

Each Sunday we get a few moments before we begin worship to be jurors at our own trial, and then we throw ourselves on the mercy of the court. I invite you to examine ways in which you might make the time to be intentional in just a little way in one of these areas as we as a faith community at Advent journey more deeply into our life with Jesus.

Love, Pastor Anna

Worship News

BIBLE STUDY

Participants at Sunday morning Bible study are beginning to discuss the Passion of Christ as told by St. Mark. You are invited to join in at 9 am each Sunday.

LABOR DAY SUNDAY

In recognition of Labor Day, on Sunday, September 1st we remember that God calls each of us to a vocation in our daily lives that serves the world. We ask God to bless our weekday jobs and ministries. If you would like to bring a token of your work on that Sunday, be it a pen, a trowel, a dust cloth, a badge, a briefcase/backpack, or a book, it will be gathered for a blessing.

SERMON SERIES

Pastor Anna is preparing a sermon series, "Kingdom Living: Responding Ethically in Challenging Times," on Jesus' call for ethical decisions in our daily lives. The sermon titles and dates are:

September 22 - "Anything to Get Ahead"

September 29 - "Self-Sufficient Smugness"

October 6 - "Our So-Called Friends"

October 13 - "Taking Under the Table"

October 20 - "Profiting from Injustice"

October 27 - "Lying to Oneself and Others"

Choir resumes rehearsals

All are welcome when the Advent choir begins rehearsals on Thursday, September 5, from 8-9 pm. No auditions are required.

Rehearsal for the upcoming concert will be held at Calvary United Methodist on Saturday, September 7, at 10:30 am.

Get to know us better over lunch!

Advent is pleased to invite newcomers to the community to join a few of us for lunch on September 8th following worship so that we can get better acquainted.

Highlights from the July meetings



Submitted by
Council Secretary
Marianne Hetzer

Motions Passed

- * to approve expenditure of \$2,200 from the McKenzie Memorial Fund to replace tempered glass panels protecting the sanctuary art-glass windows.
- * to approve employment contracts for Pastor Anna and Michael Lewallen for the coming year.
- * to appoint the following officers and ministers to a one-year term, ending June 30, 2014: Treasurer – Ellie Holsopple, Financial Secretary – David Falksen, Secretary – Marianne Hetzer, Finance Minister – Rensford Lovell, Property Minister – George Toth, Landscape Minister – Ingrid Berdahl.

Landscape Report: Three people participated in the June 18th Evening in the Garden. A labyrinth maintenance consultation will be scheduled.

Property Report: Research will be conducted to improve acoustics in the meeting room. Research will also be conducted to ascertain a solution (intercom/camera) for the office administrator to communicate with visitors at the front door.

Leadership Retreat: The theme is “Spiritual Renewal for Leadership.”

Appreciation for our contributions

Lutheran Social Services

Thank you for your gift of \$137.23 that we received through your congregation on August 13, 2013. With your help and the support of our other brothers and sisters in Christ, LSS/NCA has walked with those in need and mobilized community partners to provide services that offer hope and rebuild lives for nearly 100 years. - Autumn Orme, Lutheran Social Services

Stop Hunger Now

Dear friends, you're a hero to us! Your generous gift of \$700, made on July 18, 2013 to Stop Hunger Now is making a difference in someone's life right now. From the child whose only meal is the one he receives at school, to the nursing home patient in Vietnam who experiences the love of someone far away when they feel a warm meal in their stomach once a day, your contribution is offering hope and opportunity.

- Rod Brooks, Stop Hunger Now



September

17th	Charles Russ Diana Nichols
20th	Ellie Holsopple
23rd	Carlie Lynn
27th	Danielle Thomas

newsletter
deadline

SEPTEMBER 18

Please submit articles
to office by 2 pm

Experience a Rainbow Via de Cristo weekend

Do you need a break from the stress of your life? Are you longing to recharge your spiritual battery? Spend three days on a Rainbow Via de Cristo weekend. It's a great way to be renewed and strengthen your relationship with Christ. There's singing, worship, food and fun!

The men's retreat will be held October 3-6 and the women's retreat will be held October 10-13 at a peaceful retreat center in Upper Marlboro, MD. Both weekends begin on a Thursday evening and conclude late Sunday afternoon. Transportation is provided and there are no out-of-pocket expenses. For further information, please contact Debbie Lewis.

Hunger focus of free movie

The Northern Virginia Chapter of the Virginia Interfaith Center invites you to a free screening of *A Place at the Table* and a community discussion about hunger and poverty, particularly as it impacts children in Virginia. Made in 2012, the film explores the current status of hunger in America and the public policies that affect it.

A Place at the Table A Community Screening & Discussion Tuesday September 17th

Refreshments and fellowship at 6:30, program begins at 7 pm at Annandale United Methodist Church, 6935 Columbia Pike. The program is free to the public; invite your congregation, neighbors and friends! Please consider bringing a canned food donation for a local food pantry.

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