

THE ADVENT COURIER

Volume 14, Issue 06

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

October 2012



Advent Lutheran Church
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SUNDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

Pastor
Rev. Anna Anderson

President
Debbie Lewis

Office Administrator
Nancy Cox Jairrels

Director of Music Ministry
Michael Lewallen

Nursery Attendant
Roxie Jairrels

Newsletter Copy Editor
Marianne Hetzer



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From the Pastor

Giving Thanks

for the gifts of creation



Here in the Washington area we are blessed to have the glorious season of fall. The sky is bluer than blue and the red, gold, and bronze leaves against it takes my breath away every year. It's also a time to enjoy and celebrate the year's harvest, epitomized by heaps and heaps of Orange pumpkins. The gifts of the season make my heart overflow in thanksgiving to God, and I want to give something back. One way I can do that is to care for this gift of the creation which God has given us.

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Worship and education opportunities

Mid-week Bible Study gets a make-over

Table Talk, weeknight Bible Study, begins October 3 at 7 pm. Soup, cheese and crackers will be available to share around the table as we talk about a Bible passage. The doors will be open and food available at 6:45 if you want to come a little early.

Talk will examine the Reformation's motives

"The Reformation, and Do We Need Another?" discussion with Pastor Anna will follow worship on Reformation Sunday, October 28. If you have ever heard Mendelsohn's "Reformation Symphony," you may have recognized his use of Luther's hymn paraphrase of Psalm 46, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our



God." We will sing it at worship that day.

Service at cathedral for all Lutherans

Join your Lutheran brothers and sisters from around the area on October 28 at 4 pm for All-Lutheran Reformation Service at the National Cathedral.

Remembering the Saints who are gone

All Saints Sunday is November

6. On that day we give thanks in our prayers for the lives of those who have gone before us and now rest in Christ. If there is someone you would like remembered, especially someone who has died in the past year, please email the office with that person's name and their relationship to you.



It's time to spruce up!

We had such a great turnout for our fall workday last year! Can we do it again? On Saturday, October 13th, starting at 9 am, we will be weeding, mulching and trimming.

Indoors, Property Minister Georges Toth needs three or four volunteers to empty the Fellowship Hall and classroom so the floors can be waxed and buffed the following week. You may also volunteer to help polish the brass memorial plaques on the sanctuary chairs.

Come out and help us make our property beautiful!

Ministry in Africa

Patrick West will join us on November 4 to share tales of his astonishing trip to Africa. Plan to stay after worship to enjoy it!

Friends at Advent, here are a couple pictures from the South African township of Imizamo Yethu where I have been shooting. Although the situation here is dire, it is great to see the resilience of people under particularly dire circumstances. You can read a little about the ministry here at www.hbcca.co.za/imizamo_yethu.htm and see the work they are doing. Since the web page was launched, the township has doubled in size to 30,000 with an influx of refugees from other African countries.

The pictures are of a weekday congregation and some of the local children. I will have more when I return.

Best wishes, Patrick West



Weekend celebrates Stewardship of Creation

(Continued from page 1)

To lift up this joyful duty, we at Advent are setting aside a Sunday to celebrate the Stewardship of Creation. We begin on Saturday, Oct. 20 with a game day to raise money to fight cancer, to remember that the creation includes our bodies, and that care for the body of each person is part of our care for the creation. On Oct. 21 our worship will reflect that care and concern for the whole of the world and everything in it. Following worship we will celebrate the creation with our Fall Festival. It will include a fall lunch of chili and hot dogs, pumpkin carving for those who bring them, and relay games.

From the Pastor *So plan to celebrate the gift of each other, each of us created by God and given to each other by God to share and enjoy.*

The following Sunday, Oct. 28, is Reformation Sunday. The priest Martin Luther began to reform the Church by exposing some abuses he saw. Following worship we will discuss the motives for reformation and whether we need another. Luther's home was always open to scholars, and he regularly had students to dinner, where they debated Bible and theology. It was called Table Talk. At Advent we're going to be starting our own Table Talk. We'll have soup and Bible talk each Wednesday night at 7 pm (but you can come a little earlier to get started on food!) Come and nourish body and spirit!

Love, Pastor Anna

Highlights from the September meeting



Submitted by
Ingrid Berdahl

Pastor Anna reported that she had attended a number of meetings in August, including one with the craftsman who is working on a stained glass window for the Welcome Center.

Treasurer Ellie Holsopple reported August receipts were low and that expenditures exceeded receipts by \$4,218. Expenditures for all major budget categories are at or below budgeted levels for the year-to-date. The mortgage balance is \$146,813.

YiYi Lin, Walter Pfannmuller and Larry Tindal were appointed to serve on the Audit Committee.

Council approved a motion to host a gaming fundraising event from 8 am to 8 pm on Saturday, October 20. Proceeds will benefit the Children's National Hospital in Washington, DC. Roxie Jairrels is coordinating the event and is looking for volunteers to assist. The fundraiser will be followed by our Fall Festival on Sunday, October 21, starting with a chili cook-off at 11:30 or 12:00.

Pastor Anna, Debbie Lewis and Desiree Jessimy will attend "The Journey" on October 12-13 to learn about the 3-year program of renewal.

We have received an initial contribution of \$10,000 to the Capital Campaign and will be looking for a coordinator for this campaign

Lutheran retirement communities are expanding

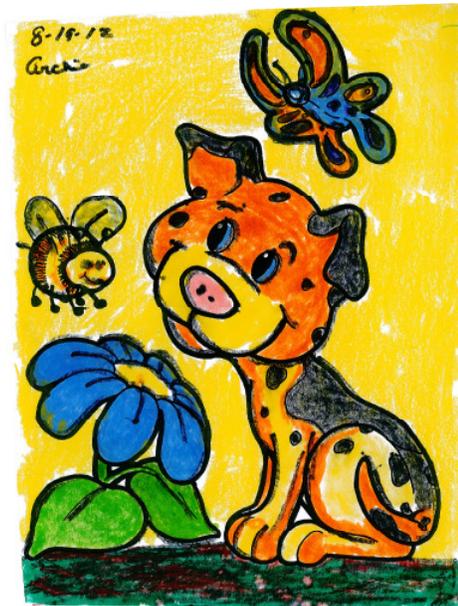
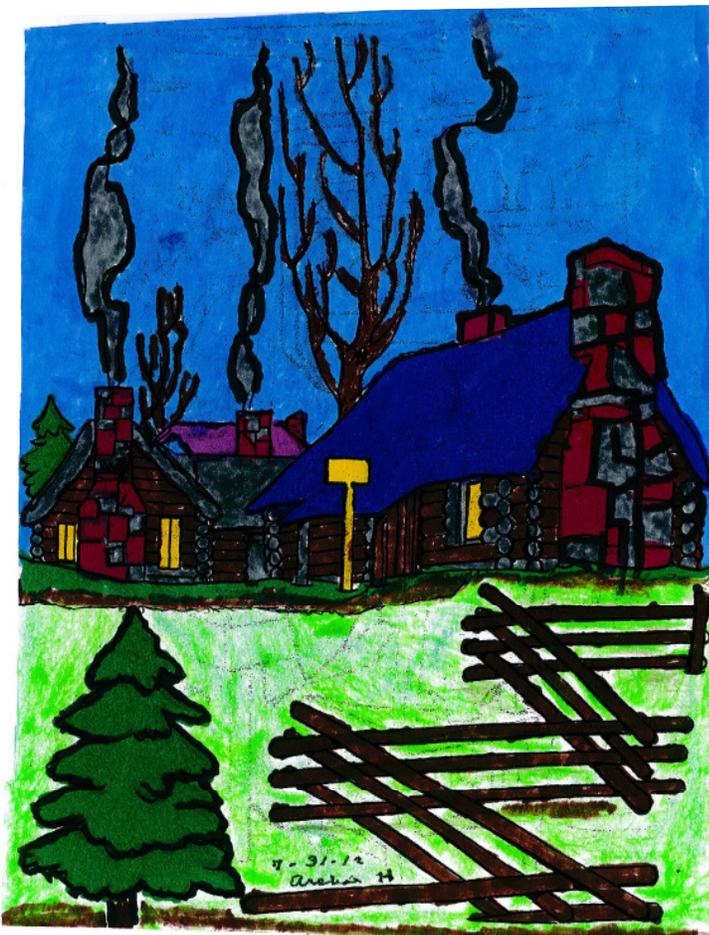
A representative from National Lutheran Communities & Services (NLCS) will be with us on October 28 to discuss their retirement facilities. What once started as The National Lutheran Home for seniors in D.C. is now a family of retirement communities and services located in Maryland and Virginia.

NLCS was created as the corporate parent in 2008 by the Board of Trustees. The retirement communities now include The Legacy at North Augusta in Staunton, The Village at Orchard Ridge, currently under construction in Winchester, Va., and coming soon, The Village at Crystal Spring in Annapolis, Md. Find more information at www.nationallutheran.org.

Is rear enhancement worth the walk?

Welcoming, Caring, Serving... that is our motto. In an effort to live into this vision, we have installed a labyrinth, rebuilt our facility and landscaped our grounds in the past few years. In September, we did additional landscaping behind the building, near the boiler room. There is a proposal to further enhance the area by adding a flagstone path from the parking lot to the boiler room (running along the newly landscaped area) and alongside the boiler room to the end of the building where a wooden utility screen would be installed to mask a storage area for garbage cans. The flagstone path would provide a solid walking surface where there now is gravel. However, moving the cans would require a bit more effort to dispose of trash, since the cans will not be directly outside the kitchen door.

What do you think? We will discuss this proposal after worship on October 14! If this would impact you, we would especially appreciate your input, or you may email your comments to the church office.



Archie's Art

Longtime member Archie Hall loves art and often shares his work with Advent. Included here are two new pieces and more are on display in the nursery. Thanks, Archie!

Essays explore end of life concerns

What will the end of life be like? Can we prepare for it, or is it totally unpredictable? What are some of the possible challenges? *At the End of Life* is a collection

Book Review

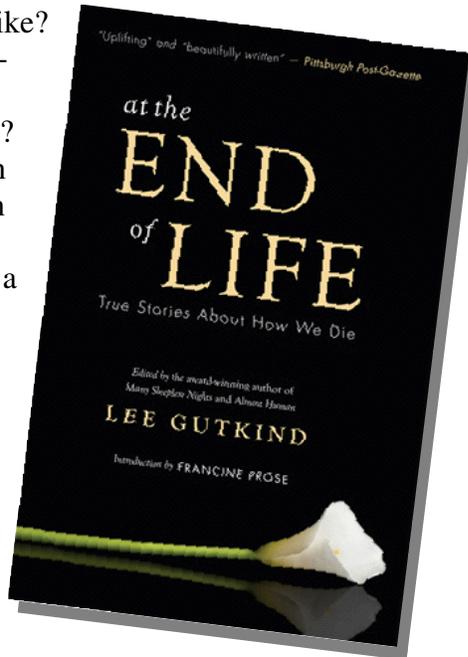
Ingrid Berdahl

of essays written by 22 different people - usually a close relative, but sometimes a health-care provider - each of whom describes the end of someone's life. The authors range from a daughter who left her job to start caring for her father when he was 94 (he lived to be 103) to an ER nurse in the room with a dying patient. There are decisions to be made in the face of many uncertainties, relationship issues to be dealt with, and then there is the invasiveness of modern technology. There are no second chances to get things right.

Each situation is unique and the authors of these essays share their close-up nitty-gritty observations as well as their own personal reactions to what they observe. The editor, Lee Gutkind, in an editor's note, says that,

"...yes, the collection contains sadness, as all works dealing with death must. And yet the messages inherent in these essays are positive, demonstrating that people can die with strength and dignity and, even more to the point, that their loved ones can endure these deaths and go forward in their lives, with strength and dignity and even a sense of confidence and hope."

This is collection of essays is well worth reading.



Can't find the book you want? Check the sign-out list to see if it has been borrowed. And don't forget to sign out your book, and back in when you return it. Thanks!



October

6th	Murray Lynn
18th	Karin Norton
26th	Katariina Alankos

newsletter DEADLINE

October 18th

Articles for the November newsletter must be

Game Day for healthier kids

For the last four years, thousands of gamers have joined together annually to play video games for 24 hours for Extra Life – a gaming marathon in support of Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals®. This year Advent will sponsor 12-hours of gaming from 8 am - 8 pm on Saturday, Oct. 20. The day will include video gaming for children through adults, board games, and a training session on the use of social media. Gamers rally friends and family members to sponsor their play and funds raised go to help save and improve the lives of kids at the CMN Hospital in their community. Our proceeds will benefit the Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, DC. Sign up to join Advent’s team - *ALC Gamers* - or make a donation at www.extra-life.org/team/alcgamers. Contact coordinator Roxie Jairrels at [alclife@gmail.com](mailto:extralife@gmail.com) or twitter.com/alcgamers for more information and questions.



Retreat to Maryland for a spiritual weekend

Do you need a break from the stress of your life? Are you longing to recharge your spiritual battery? Spend 3 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 11-14 and the women’s retreat will be held October 18-21 at a peaceful retreat center in Silver Spring, MD. Both weekends begin on a Thursday evening and conclude Sunday late afternoon. Transportation is provided and there are no out-of-pocket expenses. For further information, please contact Debbie Lewis.

Careful with the lounge doors!

You are invited to use the lounge for quiet contemplation or an intimate meeting space. If you open or close the sliding doors, please do it gently and without pushing on them or forcing them or they will come off their tracks. They are easy to move when gently pulled parallel to the wall and not past the stop points. Please enjoy this space!

DC Young Adults website is back!

"It may have appeared as if DC Young Adults went dormant for a while. While we assure you it didn't, we can imagine how it may have appeared that way. In any case, we are up and running again with a new website, a blog, and some new stuff going on," says the new post at <http://dcyoungadultsblog.wordpress.com>. Check out for yourself the blog and refreshed site at www.dcyoungadults.org.

Interfaith Council to meet at Advent in November

The Arlington Interfaith Council will meet at Advent on November 19 at 7 pm. You are invited to attend and to help present the face of Advent's hospitality to our guests. Currently we have no representative to the Council, so if this is a ministry that interests you, please contact Pastor Anna. The AIC consists of representatives from 48 Arlington faith communities and 18 Helping Hands. Its mission is to provide tangible religious witness in the community through promotion of understanding and cooperation ... and to develop and support programs to alleviate suffering and promote justice for residents of Arlington County.

ADVENT
News & Announcements



October 21, 2012

An afternoon of fun for members and the community will include pumpkin carving, sack races, a chili cook-off, refreshments, and time to socialize. Sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Center to participate in the chili cook-off, help with a game station or bring a dish.

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