

# Advent Lutheran Herald

***I worship at Advent  
and my religion is  
Kindness***

Dear Advent members,

***“Much violence is based on the illusion that life is a property to be defended and not to be shared.”*** - Henri Nouwen

***“We can never obtain peace in the outer world until we make peace with ourselves.”*** - Dalai Lama

I really do believe that the core principals and message of Jesus' teachings are not religious considerations alone but actually wisdom for living life. All of life. The way we interact with one another. The way we treat one another. The way we nurture our children and significant others. The way we support and embrace our neighbors and strangers. I also believe that America is at a crossroads as we have never been before. Our main political parties and their respective ideologies act as opposites one to the other. There is anger, frustration, name-calling and accusations flying around like never before. Our cities continue to groan under the weight of gun violence that is reaching major proportions. I was astonished and disappointed to read in the evening news that our Wisconsin State Senate by voice vote passed legislation to allow people to carry switchblade knives. This is pure insanity! Switchblades have been illegal virtually everywhere, for good reason, since I was a child. Switchblades, like handguns, have one purpose and one purpose only, to kill people. That's why they have been illegal until now. Where is our society going? What kind of madness has gripped us? Those who favor no gun laws whatsoever keep saying it is our constitutional right to arm ourselves. It is not my intent to argue gun control laws here, but simply to point out that "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness" which appears in the United States Declaration of Independence giving three examples of the "unalienable rights" which the Declaration says has been given to all human beings by their Creator, and for which governments are created to protect. At 30,000+ gun violence deaths a year I would say we have a serious problem. It is also clear that we are not able to stop this carnage on our own. Many innocent people including young children are getting caught in the crossfire. I think it's time we get serious about this before it gets even worse. ***Dear Advent friends, this is about common sense and a need to have a conversation that this violence cannot go on. There are other countries and societies that have gone through similar issues and for whatever reason many Americans with our fierce independence refuse to even consider the options.*** Australia, a much more conservative country politically speaking reversed their similar gun carnage and has a fraction of the gun deaths that we have in America. And they have a much larger and older hunting and sport rifle culture than we do. It can be done. It must be done. Imagine what the world would be like if we truly lived the way Jesus taught, and although we cannot change world events that are beyond our control

***Just Janis .....***

we can most certainly live our lives in the ways of peace and justice. I am reminded here of something that Robert Fulghum wrote regarding peace, conflict and change:

***“Peace is not something you wish for. It’s something you make, something you do, something you are, and something you give away.”***

And as we who are part of the Advent Faith Family know and have experienced, it begins when we practice more kindness than is necessary.

*Pastor Janis and Aina*

*My religion is kindness, and I worship at Advent Lutheran Church...*

**Worship Schedule**

***Weekly Service – 8 & 10:30 AM***

***Adult Forum & Sunday school***

***9:15 – 10:15 AM***

***Ash Wednesday February 10***

***7 pm worship***

***Advent Lenten Soup's On/Worship***

***6 PM / 7 PM***

***February 17, 24, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2016***

**Parish Register**



**Baptisms:**

**January 17, 2016**

Samantha Rae Silverthorn

Parents: Addy and Heidi (Motiff) Silverthorn

**Marriages:**

January 9, 2016

Daniel Roepke & Thomas Van Den Bogart



***February Birthdays***

- 1 Whitnie Bestor, Maxine Effenheim
- 2 Michael Maletzke
- 3 Vicki Capadona, Matthew Kennedy
- 4 Averi Malsom
- 5 Carl Lehnert
- 6 Anna Baumann, Michael McGraw
- 7 Heather Dalton, Michael Herkert
- 8 Connor Baumann, Angie Regnitz, Charlotte Slavin
- 9 Lorraine Hanson
- 10 Michael Bleau, Sue Covill, Elizabeth Eurich, John Gylland, Michael Savage,
- 11 Kevin Baumann, JoAnn Leonard, Kari Eckhardt, Tela Gerhke, Christine Hesse, Katherine Koepke, Melissa Oehme
- 12 Emily Arcuri
- 14 Rachelle Covert
- 15 Jim Kuznacic, Hadley Schwenzen, David Welky
- 17 John Pelikan
- 18 Patricia Christensen, Annika Schwab
- 19 Clare Kunschke, Daniel Pelkey
- 20 Colton Brandt, Elynor Kimmel
- 21 Patti Doughman, Lynn Salonen, MacKenzie Welch
- 22 Dennis Bjorge, Janet Blank, Amanda Groth
- 23 Kellan Zimbric
- 24 John Isbell
- 26 Grace Baumann, Regina Curran

***February Anniversaries***

- 2 Michael and Kristin McGraw (8)
- 13 Dudley and Janet Blank (29)
- 14 Richard and Ellen Haynes (63)
- 18 Jeff and Lynne Ruehl (38)
- 25 Donald and Deborah Welch (27)
- 27 Wesley and Margaret Anderson (45)
- 29 Jim & Margaret Eggener (20)



**EMBRACE – With Love and Prayers**

In Your Prayers .... Please remember: Margaret Anderson, Jean Schulz, Doris McMahon, John Stahmer, Bertha Surges, Dennis Bjorge, Marian Jones, Bob Cenar, Steve Lettau, Lowell Weber, Connor Wollosz, Olivia Stern, Wendy Rauwerdink, Jack Zbiegen, Sandy Lange, Magnus, David Wihowski, Linda Mehlum, Allison Johnson, Diane Dricken-Flynn, Joe Roach, Bailey & Lily, Tom Bowitz, Evelyn, Diana Jennett, Jim White, Pat Lewinski, Barb Suhar, Emmy Hein, Mark Beavins, Mike Hutton, Earl Lebakken, Kay Walters, William Watts, Sue Gyarmati, Emily, Dale Ellenbecker, Andy Pretty, Brianna Reel, Linda Oakes, Kate Bennett, Dolores Sandoval, Lynne Ruehl, Karen Lovett, The Mayerl family, Kelly Whepley, Ray George, Sarah Runkel, Fred & Sara Wilhelm, Knox & Doris Salonen, Nikki Walters, Miriam Anderson, Josh Wolf, Dolph Struck. Our Cross Family, MABO Orphanage & staff, all men and women serving in the armed forces, all victims.



***In Homes Away from Home***

Marcy Rasmussen, at Lasata; Doris McMahon at The Crossings; Arlene Saltzmann, The Heights, Mildred Trede at McKinley Place; Dennis Bjorge at Heritage in Port Washington; Jean & Bill Schulz at Luther Manor

Pastoral Care

Hospital stays are brief these days; be sure to notify the church office of hospitalization, so pastoral care may be provided. The Federal Privacy Act may require you to give permission for church staff to visit. Check with your doctor or hospital admissions regarding visitation policies.

Pastor Kinens Cell Phone

(262) 573-9027



**Advent Prayer Chain**

Advent has an active prayer chain whose members are dedicated to add their prayers to yours upon request. You may call the church office with your request (262) 377-2710), or contact any member of the prayer chain. Members are: Fran Bentz, Aina Kinens, Jean Schulz, Linda Herkert, Jessica Zappia, Laurie Bell, Kay Walters, JoAnn Nennig, Marcy Mattson, and Heidi Lundren.

**EMBRACE MINISTRIES**

**Everyone Ministers By Reaching out, Affirming, Caring, Encouraging**

**THE PURPOSE OF EMBRACE, THE COMBINED MINISTRIES OF EVANGELISM, MEMBER CARE, SOCIAL MINISTRY AND HEALTH MINISTRY, IS TO EFFECTIVELY ASSIST GOD TO DIRECT THE ENERGIES OF ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH AND FOCUS ON THE RESOURCES OF FAITH – ABILITY TO PRAY, SHARE, SERVE AND WORSHIP AND IDENTIFY WITH THE HELP AND HEALING OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST.**

**FAMILY SHARING**

Continues to need our help. Currently they are in need of the following items:

Cold Cereals, Spaghetti-O's, Jam/Jelly, Ravioli, Canned Sloppy Joe Mix, Peanut Butter, Paper Towel, Toilet Paper, Diapers, and Toiletries.

***There is a collection basket in the church narthex. Share your bounty with those who have little. Thank you for your help.***



### **ADVENT HAPPENINGS**

***Want to get involved in 2016? We have so many missions, your talents are needed! Contact the church office to see how your love can grow!***

***(262) 377-2710***

### **Cross Lutheran Church**

***Donations and additional servers are needed for Cross Lutheran Lunch on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.***

***Thank you for considering sharing your time, talents, and giving. Food is collected weekly for the food pantry at Cross.***

***Contact the church office or Patrick Doughman with any questions.***



Cookies are needed for Cross Church. If Gabe can make them anyone can!

### **CHECKOUT our Online Advent Directory**

Check out the new online directory by logging in at: (simply click the link listed below and type in the privacy key password - peace)

<https://adventchurch.ctrn.co>

Privacy Key is: peace

If you would like a hard copy of the directory, contact Cheri Hesse. The cost is \$8 and \$10 if you need a new binder.

***Flower and Rose sign up sheets are in the Narthex. Thank you to all who contribute on a regular basis. We can always use others to sign up.***

***Worship assistants, ushers, and greeters are always needed. Please sign up in the Narthex or contact Cheri Hesse with dates and times you are able to assist.***

### **Advent Lenten Worship and Soups On**

***Advent Soups On 6 pm & Worship 7 PM***

***Wednesdays***

***Feb. 17, 24  
March 2, 9, 16, 23***



***Bring a soup, salad, or dish to pass and join in connections with Advent friends and family.***

***If you are not able to bring food, come anyway. We always have plenty for all who come.***



It is hard to believe that we are in 2016 already. When I think back over the last five and a half years that I have been with Mr. Bob's, I realize that we have literally served thousands of people in Milwaukee. In 2015 alone, we gave away more than 10,000 cups of coffee, 6,500 cups of hot chocolate, thousands of hygiene kits, and tons of clothing. There is a constant need; homelessness never seems to go away. It appears that 2016 will continue on the same trajectory.

It is estimated that there are over 1500 homeless people in Milwaukee County. Several people have asked me how we can determine this number. The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development mandates a count and survey of the homeless people in order to try and meet the needs of those living on the streets, in emergency shelters, or in transitional housing. This particular event is known as Point in Time. Volunteers and police officers look for the homeless people living in parks, under bridges, in abandoned buildings, and any other place where the homeless might stay. This is one of the ways that the number of homeless people can be estimated. The founder of Mr. Bob's, Bob Burmeister, participates in the Point in Time count.

As I write this from my warm house, on my quiet street, after eating a hot meal, I am reminded of how these simple things that I take for granted are luxuries for many. It is important to never forget that fact.

I wish all of you safety, warmth, and shelter during these cold winter months.

Cathy Norene and the Mr. Bob's Crew

**Come help sort clothes and things  
 on Thursday evenings, 6 – 7 pm.**

**Advent Church basement ~**

**Many hands make light work!**



**Coffee, hot cocoa,  
 socks, sweaters,  
 pants, coats, hats,  
 gloves and blankets  
 needed.**





## MABO UPDATE

On a joyous note, we have received news that 3 of our youngest children, siblings brought to MABO by their parents in 2014, have been reunited with their family which is now back on its feet.

This is a huge triumph; empowering families is everything that we strive for!

2016 is likely to bring more change to MABO. Three of the Lsius family members (our main staff) have received advanced degrees, allowing them to pursue opportunities that will benefit not only their own families, but MABO as well. While they remain committed to their positions at the orphanage, it is important they are able to use their talents to the extent, which they feel called. To aid in this transition, the management team may consider employing 2-3 of the elder children at MABO as caregivers, cooks, and drivers. As they age out of our care once they reach 18 years of age.



*A huge Thank You to the students in Madame Christie Fischer's French Classes at West Bend High School who will raise money during Charity Week in February for MABO. AMAZING KIDS!!*

## EMBRACE MINISTRIES

*The purpose of Embrace, the combined ministries of Evangelism, Member Care, Social Ministry, and Health Ministry, is to effectively assist God to direct the energies of Advent Lutheran Church and focus on the resources of faith – ability to pray, share, serve and worship and identify with the help and healing of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*



This quilt was made as a combined effort of many of Advent's missions, MABO, Syzygy Women's group, Ellsworth Prison group and blessed by many hands who helped create it for our Narthex.

***The open collection on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month goes to support our EMBRACE ministries and special needs that may be brought to the church for care and support. If you know of someone or have a mission that needs our support let Cheri Hesse know and the EMBRACE ministries may be able to provide support.***

*This past year money from EMBRACE went to support the Yarn Ministry, MABO, the coffee fund, and special programs.*

The work of the Embrace Evangelism Committee at Advent is ongoing and always growing. Let us know how we can help.

**REFLECTIONS**



**Prayers of Intercession** ~ Celebrate Jan. 24, 2016  
Vol. 47 #1

*Grant unity in the body of Christ, your church. Replace dissension with reconciliation, and strengthen its witness to the world.*

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

*When your creation is harmed, all suffer together. Guide your people to make wise choices that protect the land, sea, and all life.*

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

*Put an end to strife, violence and hate in nations where there is turmoil. Guide leaders and movements for change to seek peace above all else.*

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

*Be present where there is loneliness. Be comfort where there is pain. Be healing where there is brokenness.*

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

*Grant health and new life in this assembly. Send us to share the good news of your abundant love in Christ.*

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

*We give thanks for the faithful departed who have come to know the fulfillment of your promises. Assure us of your hope until we join the saints in light.*

**Come reflect with Advent members and Pastor Janis at Adult Forum every Sunday between services, 9:15 – 10:15 am.**

**February Forum Focus is, "Let's Talk About Death"**



**Mt. Meru Coffee is simply the best. Offered fresh in the Narthex for purchase in whole bean or ground packages. The Mt Meru Coffee Project continues to improve the standard of living as well as economic and social justice to the Meru Diocese in Tanzania. Order forms for coffee are in the Narthex. Contact Lisa Wegner with any questions. (262) 387-1925**



## Children's Ministry News

*Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.*

### January highlights:

The children made Valentine's Day hearts with messages of caring to be delivered to the children at MABO. This is part of an ongoing ministry that connects the children here with the children in Haiti, as well as, with one of Advent's ongoing ministries.

On January 31 our third grade and our new fourth grade students received Bibles as a gift from Advent. The day that the children receive their Bibles is a special one. It marks the time they are old enough to begin reading the Bible on their own, and shows them that the congregation cares enough about them to give them their own Bible. It is a way to say to them that God's word is important to this congregation, and we want you to share in the reading of it. Mrs. Gergens, Children's Choir Director, shared with the children that she still has the Bible she received in third grade.

Seeing the children receive the Bibles is a good reminder that we should continue to read and reflect on God's word throughout our lives. Although we hear the words many times in our lives, as we mature, our understanding changes. As we experience life, we relate differently to passages; as we re-read familiar passages, they can seem fresh and relevant.



This year the children and youth will be teaming up to participate in this national movement to raise money to fight hunger. We have added some new events and a new way to order soup.

**Soup Lunch on January 31:** Following the late service, we will be serving a soup lunch in Fellowship Hall. All the flavors of the soup mixes that the Sunday School children make will be available to sample. A donation will be accepted for the soup with the money going to the Souper Bowl effort.

**Orders taken:** Also on January 31, we will be taking orders for soup mixes. Don't risk your favorite being sold out.

**February 7:** On Souper Bowl (and Souper Bowl) Sunday, the children will be making soup mixes and collecting money after services. Some orders may be available following late service.

**February 14:** Remaining orders will be delivered. *Additional soup mixes will be for sale.*

By the end of February all soup will be delivered and sold, and the money will be counted and donated to Cross Lunch Program, Meals on Wheels, and Ozaukee Family Sharing.

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### The Youth Scoop

It may be the middle of winter, but we're thinking warm thoughts with great Youth happenings!

January is often a time for resolutions, so we dedicated our New Year discussion to priorities in our lives, and how we can see them to fruition. We agreed on the importance of recognizing things that distract us from our relationship with God, nature, and people that we love. Many of our students also tackled exams early in the month, which prompted conversation about stress that is encountered not only in school, but in terms of peer pressure, relationships, and expectations. Sharing feelings on this topic brought up the fact that helping others is a tremendous stress-buster! Not only does kindness bring a sense of inner calm, comfort and security-but it is medically proven to benefit our health. Other topics last month included Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., racism, and equality.



We kicked off our Souper Bowl of Caring project at the end of January by hosting a cozy soup luncheon along with the Sunday School. We will continue our efforts to combat area hunger by selling soup mix through February 14<sup>th</sup>. We are grateful to Lisa and the Sunday Schoolers for inviting us to partner with them in this group outreach. Also coming up this month will be a Valentines visit to Lasata, and snow tubing at Sunburst. If you'd like to see what we're all about, consider joining us as a chaperone on one of our upcoming outings!

*Sarah Slavin & the Youth Group Crew*



*Share kindness everyday,  
everywhere, whenever you  
can!*

**FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU, DECLARES THE LORD, PLANS FOR WELFARE AND NOT FOR EVIL, TO GIVE YOU A FUTURE AND A HOPE. Jeremiah 29:11**

**Giving and Attendance**

	General	Expenses	Over (Short)	Average Attendance
2010 Total	\$348,270	\$343,459	\$4,811	218
2011 Total	\$327,561	\$343,339	(\$15,778)	209
2012 Total	\$323,397	\$329,103	(\$5,706)	208
2013 Total	\$335,908	\$326,881	\$9,027	188
2014 Total	\$377,827	\$317,398	\$60,428	190
<b>2015 Through December 2015</b>				
	<b>\$352,462</b>	<b>\$331,443</b>	<b>\$21,019</b>	<b>183</b>

**ADVENT PARISH DIRECTORY**

**Officers**

President	Dale Waldo
Secretary	Patrick Doughman
Treasurer	Ethel Veik
Asst. Treasurer	Lynne Ruehl
Pastor	Janis J. Kinens
Office Secretary	Cheri Hesse
Child & Family Ministry	Lisa Wegner
Youth & Family Ministry	Sarah Slavin
Organist/Handbell Choir	Sandra Knuth
Sr. Choir Director	Jackie Vandenberg
Financial Secretary	Kelly Cisar
Custodian	Krista Kinens
Wedding Coordinator	Brenda Schilke

**COMMITTEES**

Worship and Music	Christy Cummings
Evangelism*	Bethany Thiede Wray
Finance	Matt Kennedy
Family Ministry	Karen Kunschke
Membership Care *	Ellen Weitzel
Memorials & Wills	Judy Weiss
Property	Bob Burmeister
Stewardship*	Joe Kaylor
Social Ministry*	Teresa Dorn
Staff Support	Mickey Else

• **EMBRACE Ministries**

**HERALD** ~ Editor, Bethany Thiede Wray  
 Associate Editors, Cheri Hesse, Linda Oakes  
 Editor Emeritus – Bill Schulz

**Pastor Kinens cell phone:**

**(262) 573-9027 email: [jkinens@gmail.com](mailto:jkinens@gmail.com)**

**Church office (262) 377-2710**

**[Cheri@adventchurch.org](mailto:Cheri@adventchurch.org)**

*Worship assistants, greeters, and ushers are always needed for services. Please contact the church office to sign up.*