

Advent Lutheran Herald

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

Dear Advent Faith Family,

Yesterday Aina and I returned home after an overnight trip to Kalamazoo, Michigan and my having conducted worship service in Latvian in my home congregation. This is the church that my father was instrumental in building and the congregation in which I was confirmed at age 17. There were not a lot of people in church because the congregation is made up of some of the original Latvian immigrants of my parent's generation, many of who have already passed on to the next life. The ones who are left are in their late 80's and early 90's. I am now a member of the "older" generation. There are also quite a few young Latvians whose children speak Latvian with difficulty, so they hold Latvian language Sunday school after the children's sermon, which I delivered on Sunday. This is the church where I believe I preached my first Latvian language sermon after ordination. Many memories swirl around that place whenever I go there. My parents were both buried from there. Aina and I were married at that altar. Many Christmases, Easters and regular Sundays of worship were experienced there. It was especially nice and a blessing to greet each person at worship with a hug (Latvians don't do that very easily!) as they left the sanctuary. I recognized people whom I had not seen in some cases for more than 40+ years. Several remember me only as a little boy and called me "Jani" the equivalent of "Johnny." Interesting how time and distance does not change some things. If nothing else my trip home reminded me of at least two absolutes in life. Time passes much too quickly. The last 64 years since we arrived in America seem to have fairly "flown" by. That they really have is the first absolute certainty. The second absolute is that when you are truly connected to someone (like some of the people I mention above) that passage of time does little to change the connection. Oh yes, our bodies certainly reflected that and more than one person said to me, "Oh my Jani, your hair is all white!" And I, in my response answered; "What there is left of it!" This always brings a smile or a chuckle. Good humor, lots of conversation and several hugs. Life is good. God is good. In that light I also want to say that I am excited, grateful and deeply moved by Pope Francis and his most recent conference on the family and sexuality. It does appear that this man is truly a man of God. His Cardinals are split in their reaction, but the world is taking notice and other Christians and even non-Christians are speaking out with encouragement and hope because Pope Francis represents the voice not only of Catholicism, but more importantly, I believe, humanity. What an exciting time to be alive, and to be a believer in God and the powerful message of Jesus. As you know, here at Advent we have already been on this trajectory and God has blessed our journey beyond expectation. All of you are to be thanked for your trust not only in my leadership, preaching, teaching and partnership in ministry, but most of all in your faithful participation in so many ways touching the lives of those who need us and practicing more kindness than is necessary. It was so good to spend some time with Pastor Sara last Friday, and I am already hearing good reports about her leadership in worship last Sunday. There is indeed much to be thankful for here at Advent, and everywhere else in our lives if we but take the time and effort to see it. May you continue to be blessed in many, many ways as we enter this season of Thanksgiving and the transition of God's beautiful creation as the cycles of life once again go full circle.

Pastor Janis and Aina.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30
ADVENT NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

8 & 10:30 SERVICES

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU
 ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A NEW MEMBER

Cross Church
Commitment Sunday
December 7

Would You Like to Win
 a Kindle® Fire?



You may have a chance on Sunday, December 7 at our Commitment Sunday event! Plans are underway for Cross' first-ever Commitment Sunday Fair, an entirely new way to learn about all the opportunities to serve our community and church in the coming year.

Imagine a church filled with tables representing committees and teams, everything from BOHEM and Youth to Caregivers and Endowment. After a brief start to the Sunday service, we'll break to allow all attendees to visit the tables of their choice for what could be called "Individual Contemporary Witnesses." We'll come back together for prayers, offering, communion and blessing.

On Sundays leading up to the Commitment Fair, some of our more active members will share thoughts about their participation in various committees and teams, and what motivates them to keep volunteering to serve the church and the community.

And the Kindle Fire? Everyone who participates on Sunday, December 7, will have the opportunity to enter a drawing to win the door prize. (We're pretty sure it will be a Kindle Fire, but that isn't confirmed as of the newsletter deadline.) All you have to do is visit 6 tables and get answers to easy questions from our "Scavenger Hunt" question list.



Daylight Savings Time Ends
Saturday evening November 1, 2014
 (Set you clock back one hour)

College Corner



Gabe Wray – Freshman at UW-Milwaukee

What do you like about UW-Milwaukee?

I love the city-feel that UWM offers, and the professors I have are beyond fantastic. I am really excited to keep learning here.

What did you least expect?

I really did not expect the independence that came along with living in the dorms and managing my schedule all on my own. I am really glad I can work my time around my priorities well.

Which classes do you like best?

I really enjoy my Latin and Public Speaking courses. They are a lot of work but are enjoyable to learn about.

What advice would you give to high school students?

Make sure to leave some free time available for hanging out or exercising, get involved, and make sure you manage your time well. Hanging out with friends is a big part of college, but make sure to leave plenty of time for homework and work, if you decide to get a job. (Gabe is the student manager of the UWM Men and Women's swim team, helping with practices, meets, and coaching support.)

What do you hope to do with your education?

I hope to use my Communication degree to pursue a career as a Public Relations Specialist at a company in Milwaukee, and maybe move out of state if the opportunity arises. Gabe is the son of Bethany & Randy Wray

MABO Haiti Update



What is so wonderful about the story of MABO is that it reaches the hearts of so many beyond Advent Lutheran Church. When Marco Lisius visited in September, he was able to visit Westlawn Elementary School in Cedarburg and West Bend High School in West Bend. He spoke to classes about Haiti, MABO and our children there that want the opportunity to go to school. Children and young people can be our best examples of what is right in our world. Westlawn sponsored the bike ride for MABO and raised \$1,609. What a wonderful event and contribution! In October, Madame Christi Fischer from West Bend East High School, challenged her classes to see who could raise the most money for the tuition of the MABO children. The students were in awe hearing Marco speak of the orphanage and the children when he presented to five of the French classes at West Bend High School. Donations for this event are still coming in and will be reported next month.

What we learn from these youth is that education is valued here, and in other countries and to create this opportunity for our MABO children is our challenge and responsibility. It takes approximately \$500. a year, per child, to provide for their education, books, and uniforms. Perhaps you and your family would consider sponsoring a child for the coming year. The children of MABO thank you and Marco Lisius, Director of MABO and his family thank you.

We also are planning a trip to Haiti in the first half of 2015. If you are interested to visit Haiti and meet our children of MABO first hand, please contact Dale Waldo or Ray Perry. Cost for the trip for air, hotel, transportation and meals, is in the \$1200 range. Thank you for your continued support of this mission.

The MABO Team



Check out the New MABO website and Facebook page www.mabohomehaiti.org/

www.facebook.com/Mabohomehaiti?ref=br_tf

Thank you to Sarah Slavin for creating these wonderful resources.

EMBRACE – With Love and Prayers

In Your Prayers Please remember: John Stahmer, Bertha Surges, Doris McMahon, Ray Norene, Connor Wolosz, Dennis Bjorge, Margaret Anderson, Ellen Haynes, Millie Czarnecki, Jean Schulz, Marian Jones, Nikki Walters, Sue Blankenheim, Bob Cenar, Mary Dommer, Jim White, Richard (Dick) Heinzelmann, Pat Chase, Courtney Wolosz, Kimberly Trester, Lowell Weber, Christina, Allison Nolan, Sonja Kalgren, Sam, Nancy Fairbanks, Olivia Stern, Wendy Rauwerdink, Tim Preboski, Doug, Chrissy Sunter, Jack Zbiegen, Virginia Riewesthal, Hope, Deb Volkert, Nora Kamp, Russ Wanta & family, Keith Reid, William Beseke, Fr. Roger Veik, Steve Lettau, John Trepanier, Mary Ann Wirth, Ann Mattson & family, Marco and family, MABO Orphanage and all Haitians, all men and women serving in the armed forces, all victims of natural disasters, and the volunteers committed to their relief and our homebound and those in homes away from home.



In Homes Away from Home

Marcy Rasmussen, at Lasata; Doris McMahon at The Crossings; Arlene Saltzmann, The Heights, Mildred Trede at McKinley Place and Dennis Bjorge at Heritage in Port Washington

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, Ruth Lee, Jean Schultz, Joe & Linda Herkert, Jessica Zappia, Laurie Bell, Kay Walters, JoAnn Nennig, Marcy Mattson, and Heidi Lundgren.

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.



Thanksgiving Service

Thursday, November 27 – 10 am

Come, worship and give thanks for all the blessings the Lord has provided.



Hand Bell Choir

Our Hand Bell Choir has begun rehearsals again after a well-earned vacation. All of last years ringers have returned which include: Margreda & Dave Kukla, Teresa Dorn, Pam & Tim Gergens, Heidi Janous, Leslie Feiler, David Poethke, Heidi Janous, Loey O'Keefe, and Director Sandy Knuth.

Substitute ringers include: Marty Gross, Brian & Melody Harries, Sue Karlman, Aina Kinens, Dave Kliss, Mary Schraut, and Judy Weiss.



Come be a part of the Live Nativity Friday, December 5, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Advent Lutheran prayer garden

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die;

A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal;

A time to break down, and a time to build up,

A time to laugh,

A time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together.



Rambling Lane, Rhinelander, WI

A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

A time to seek and a time to lose;

A time to keep and a time to cast away;

A time to keep silent and a time to speak;

A time to love and a time to hate;

A time for war, and a time for peace.

~ Ecclesiastes 3



“I’m too late, aren’t I?”

These words startled me as I was packing up the trailer at the end of our stay at Zeidler Park last week. I looked up to see a young man of about 20 years, incredibly thin with dark rings under his eyes. His shoes were wet, and he had no socks on his feet. He has been on the streets for just a couple of weeks, and already the street life is taking its toll.

I explained to him that we are at the park by 8 in the morning and then pack up to go to the Salvation Army. I then proceeded to rummage around the trailer to find him a jacket, sweater, two blankets, a pillow, and some socks. We talked for a short time. Like so many of our friends, he never dreamed that he would be living in the streets and at the shelters. He told me of his struggles that have caused him this great pain and put him in this predicament.

I have been thinking about this young man and have been praying for him daily. He could be my son. He could be your son. He could be your brother. All of our friends at the park and Salvation Army are or were part of a family at one time. Now they are part of the Mr. Bob’s family. Family takes care of each other.

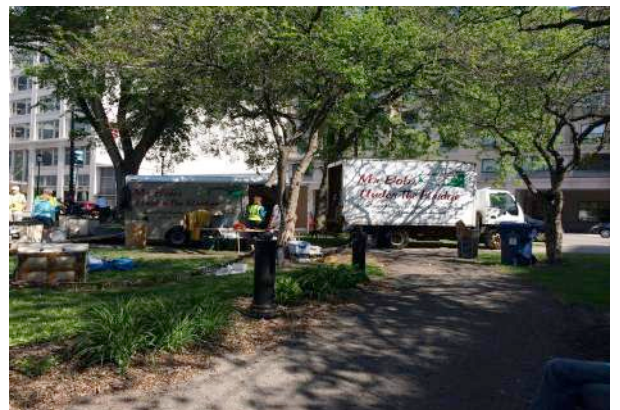
May you and your family always have health, food to eat, and homes where you are safe, warm, and dry.

Cathy Norene and the Mr. Bob’s Crew



*Mr. Bob’s UTB Awareness Picnic
October 5, 2014*

*Come help sort on
Thursday evenings, 6-7 pm
Advent Church Basement
Many hands make light
work!*



Children's Ministry News

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

Who put the "fun" in fundraising? The Sunday school classes did! We declared October 26 "Sleeping Bag Sunday." The children were encouraged to donate to the sleeping bag fund, and they could wear their pajamas to Sunday school. It is always so much fun for children to wear pajamas in unexpected places, and it helped remind people to donate to the fund. Yes, I wore my pajamas, too.

Throughout the month of November the children will be collecting yarn and material for the yarn and sewing ministry at the women's prison. Special activities and a talk by Jane White about the ministry started us off, and throughout the month we will be filling baskets with yarn and material.

Our music and worship ministry is in full swing with the children learning two songs for the November family service and working on the Christmas program. Family Service will be November 2, All Saints Sunday. Please join us at 10:30 for worship.

These parts of our children's ministry at Advent are truly essential and important. It is often difficult for young children to find a way to make a difference in the world and practice more kindness than necessary. By offering them these opportunities, it gives them a chance to *do* something and builds the mindset that reaching out to others is part of our faith. Participating in a meaningful way in the Family Services lets children know that worship is for them, too, and gives them a chance to share something with the congregation. I am grateful that Advent is the kind of congregation that makes a place for them.

Lisa Wegner

Child and Family Ministry



Mt. Meru coffee is available for purchase in the church narthex. For special ordering needs contact Lisa Wegner.

lisa@adventchurch.org or (262) 387-1925

Mt. Meru News

Would you like to learn more about Mt. Meru coffee and what is happening in the Meru diocese? Do you believe in social justice? Would you like to know how sales of Mt. Meru coffee in our congregation make a difference?

Come to the **AMBASSADOR EVENT, Saturday November 1st, 9:00 - 11:00 AM at St. Matthew Lutheran Church – 1615 Wauwatosa Ave. Wauwatosa, WI.** Be inspired and perhaps become involved in the ministry at Advent. Contact Lisa Wegner at lisa@adventchurch.org or 387-1925 to find out more info or how to sign up.

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Special dates to note:

11/1 Saturday 1-2:00pm: Meet at Lasata for pet visit with residents

11/5 Wednesday 7-7:45pm Meet at Target Grafton, Christmas gifting for needy children

11/12 Wednesday 6:30-7:45: Meet at Rosetti's Pizza, walk to Pick n' Save-Thanksgiving shopping for area families in need

11/26: No classes Thanksgiving break

**PUERTO RICO
YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2014**

How does one thoroughly describe an experience that impacts lives in such a way that you are forever changed?

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Stepping away from our communities and immersing in another, helps us relate and understand we are all ONE. The youth who travel to Puerto Rico and meet these beautiful, loving, caring, hard working and just amazing nuns really know how special life in a different land/culture truly is. The painting help we provided this year was so little in what we received back. We all fell in love! The nuns received word, while we were there, that they could legally move into their beautiful new monastery. Joy, tears, relief and laughter were shared. There is still work to be done, but in our hearts, they are safe at home.

Thank you Advent for giving me this experience of a lifetime.

Lauren Milburn

It's hard to believe that it's November already- we've had a great start to our fall season! Many thanks to our October guest speakers including Marcorel Lisius, Jane White and Bob Burmeister for sharing inspiring personal journeys that have led them to their missions in serving others. We will continue this concentration of serving God by serving others as we enter the holiday season. The importance of "paying it forward" and practicing random acts of kindness will be explored as we visit Bible messages that send us on this mission. To put our faith into action, we have several service and outreach activities planned for the month including a "comfort" dog visit to Lasata, Thanksgiving meal shopping for area families, and Christmas gifting for children in need.

"One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessings will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered" (Proverbs 11:24-25)

Blessings & Peace!

Mrs. Slavín

If you did not receive a fall schedule in the mail, please contact church secretary Mrs. Cheri Hesse (262) 377-2710. Youth Group meets Wednesdays, 7 – 8 pm in the narthex of the church. 6 – 12 Th grade students' welcome.

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

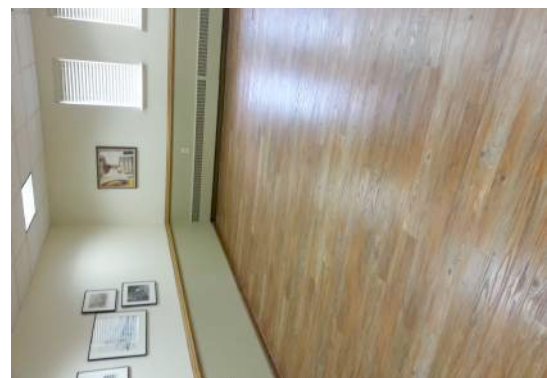


Westlawn Elementary families, the community and Advent members participated in the bike ride supporting MABO and HAITI. Held on September 28, 2014 and raising \$1609.00 WAY TO GO!!!

ADVENT IN MOTION



Sunday School classes dressed in their jammies to promote Joe's sleeping bag fundraiser for the homeless.



Syzygy ladies group have turned the classroom downstairs upside down and we couldn't be more pleased with the new look. Check it out!

Giving and Attendance

	General	Expenses	Over (Short)	Average Attendance
2009 Total	\$340,718	\$338,596	\$2,121	218
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 Through September				
	\$244,623	\$235,482	\$9,140	175

ADVENT PARISH DIRECTORY

Officers

President	Stacie Stark
Vice-President	Tim Gergens
Secretary	Mike Schade
Treasurer	Ethel Veik
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	David Kukla
Evangelism*	Bethany Thiede Wray
Finance	Tim Gergens
Family Ministry	Sarah Slavin
Membership Care *	Kitty More
Memorials & Wills	Kent Wuebben
Property	Rick Stark
Stewardship*	Joe Kaylor
Social Ministry*	Jessica Zappia
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

Church office (262) 377-2710

Cheri@adventchurch.org

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