

Advent Lutheran Herald

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

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4:7



It is October 4, 2015. The weather is cool, the sky overcast. The excitement is palpable all around as 2,000 people mill around, wait at Porta-potties and take selfies as they begin one of the most challenging events for non-athletes and athletes alike. A marathon. **The Lakefront Marathon which on this cool October morning celebrates the 35th Anniversary running of this event.** I am 70 years old and by no definition an athlete. But having done some recreational jogging since the age of 35 or so, and having finished the 2001 Lakefront Marathon at 56 I have decided to try it once again. Our daughter Tija and her friend Rachel are doing the same. This my second and likely last marathon, and has once again taught me many life lessons. Perhaps you know the history of this famous athletic event.

Legend has it that Pheidippides ran non-stop from the battle of Marathon to Athens to announce the Greek victory over the Persians. Upon arrival in Athens he shouted "Niki!" which means victory! And promptly fell dead on the spot. That's the birth of the Marathon. I smile as I pass mile 20 and a sign that says don't you wish Pheidippides had dropped dead at 20 miles?

It is quite an experience. This particular marathon winds through some of the most beautiful countryside and neighborhoods in our area. Much of the course is on North Lakeshore Drive with Lake Michigan visible much of the way. The starting gun echoes its bark and we are off! I start out way too fast and by mile five I realize my mistake. I walk just a bit to catch my breath and a concerned young woman next to me asks: "Are you alright?" I am touched yet embarrassed by her kindness and answer, "Thank you, just taking a break." As the miles continue to pile up I am starting to wonder about the wisdom of this decision. I'm still moving along pretty well, but my legs are crying out in pain now and again as if they were saying, "Why are you doing this to us?" It is at mile 13 that I hear a loud shout; "You are half way Pastor, you can do this!" I feel a burst of energy that I did not know I had and run faster than I should. After a while I hear the same voices at mile 14 and acknowledge their kindness with a smile that is not easy to form. Now I am at mile 15 and instinctively reach into my right hand pocket to get my cell phone. I figure I could call my wife Aina to pick me up. No one would blame me; after all, I am 70 and should be careful with my health, right? Pocket empty. No phone. Just as I begin the descent into Bayside I wonder how I could end all of this. Around mile 16 or so I notice a man about my age with a brace on his left knee. He seems to be struggling a bit so I say hello and ask how he is doing. He answers, "I run down when the course dips south and walk if there is a hill." "Good plan" I say. "How are you doing?" he asks. "Not so well," but don't have my cell phone." "Me too," he says. "Is this your first marathon?" I ask. "No" he says, "My tenth and last." "Why," I query, to which he answers, "I just turned 60 and after knee and eye I figure this is enough." "This is my second, I say. "And likely my last I just turned 70," I say. And with that, a friendship is born and I learn once again about the power of relationship. My newfound friend is Dr. Chris Winter, an Optometrist who has a practice in Sussex, Wisconsin. And as we talk and support each other we learn our personal stories. At one point Chris says, "How are you doing?"

Just Janis continued.....



"I think I'm going to quit." To which he responds, "The pain that you feel now (after four months of training and perhaps five miles to go) is nothing to the pain you will feel if you quit now!" Chris is right. I break into a run and hear Chris behind me say, "You have discovered your fifth wind!" I smile through my pain. This back and forth continues and it is obvious that without each other the odds of our finishing the 26.2 miles are very remote. Chris turns to me and says, "I believe that everything happens for a purpose. We were meant to meet today. So we can finish this thing together." I believe him so much that I feel a new energy swell up within me. Two couples from our church have been following my progress. Jeff and Cindy Wandschneider and Randy and Bethany Wray and their beautiful dog Emma. They shout my name several times during the run when they see me. Chris turns to me and says, "You know a lot of people." And I say, "I wish they would just go away, because I can't stop while they are cheering me on!" Talk about a catch 22, grateful for their presence and encouragement yet wishing I could just stop. In fact this marathon is so much more than endurance run. Volunteers by the hundreds are playing music, offering water and sports drinks, pretzels and power bars. All along the course you hear, "Good job." "You look great." "Keep running!" And somehow we do. Chris finishes before me with a time of 5:25:54 and I scramble in behind him with a 5:29:29.



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

Considerably slower overall than my first ever marathon but an exhilarating finish all the same considering the pain and exhaustion. And most important of all are the lessons that I learned along the way. Among them something Coach Pete Carroll of the Seattle Seahawks once said about encouragement: "Each person holds so much power within themselves that needs to be let out. Sometimes they just need a little nudge, a little direction, a little support, a little coaching, and the greatest things can happen." Like finishing a marathon. When you are in pain, tired, exhausted, discouraged, and want to quit whether in a sports event or any other major challenge in life, it is then that you realize the power of relationship and encouragement. It can mean the difference between victory and defeat! *In Peace and Running, Janis, Aina, & girls.*



"Let us run with endurance the race God has set before us." -Hebrews 12:1



Tija and Aina post race pose! Tija doesn't even look tired.

Parish Register



Baptisms:

October 18, 2015
Eloise Hazel Lowery, b.3/13/15
Parents: Jason and Linsey Lowery



Burials:

October 17, 2015
Hudson Ryder Haack, b. 10/2/15



Cross Lutheran Church

Donations and additional servers are needed for Cross Luther Lunch on November 14, and additional 3rd Wednesdays in future months.

Thank you for considering your time, talents, and giving.

Contact the church office or Patrick Doughman with any questions.

Worship Schedule

Weekly Service – 8 & 10:30 AM

Adult Forum & Sunday School 9:15 – 10:15 AM

Holiday Service Schedule

Thanksgiving 10 AM

**Advent Soup's On/worship 6 PM / 7 PM
(December 2, 9, 16, 23)**

**Advent's Live Nativity 6:30 & 7 PM
(Friday, December 11)**

Christmas Eve 5 PM, 7 PM & 10 PM

Christmas Day 10 AM

New Years Eve 7 PM



November Birthdays

- 1 John Bowen, Sarah Hesse
- 2 Matthew Arvold, Heidi Janous. Joshua Oakes
- 3 Ken Bauer
- 4 Elsa Englebert, Norah Mayerl, Juanita Simonsen, Les Thompson,
- 5 Elmer Wetzel
- 6 Daniel Kobin, Richard Schultz, Valerie Vandenberg
- 7 Anne Mattson, Caitlin Wrobbel
- 8 Matthew Kennedy, Dawn Kuznacic
- 10 Scott Bestor, Billy Kobin
- 11 John Arcuri, Justin Borg, Joseph Riehle
- 12 Alli Malsom
- 13 Nathan Czinner
- 14 Graham Bentz, Katie Feuerstein, Rick Halusan
- 16 Aybree Becker, Payman Homayouni, Bette Johnson
- 18 Katherine Laurin, JoAnn Nennig, Mary Schultz
- 19 Stephen Adams
- 20 Jon Olsen, Lisa Peters
- 21 Kristin Luckow, James Svehlek
- 22 Mary Johnson, Jean Kobin , Jessica Zappia
- 25 Natalie Hill
- 26 Roger Tietz
- 27 Margaret Eggener, Herbert Huebner
- 28 Sylvia Arvold, Herbert Hannam, Pam Jay, Kayla Suhr
- 29 Kale Kimmel
- 30 Audrey Buehler, Sarah Griffin, Hannah Groth, Sheryl Huebner, David Koester, Nathan Nowicki

November Anniversaries

- 1 James & Dawn Kuznacic (29),
Edward & Suzanne Baivier (12)
- 2 Isaac & Rachele Covert (19)
- 5 Anne Mattson & Carol Feuerstein (24)
- 13 Roger & Kristen Tietz (23)
- 14 John & Cindy Westgor (45)
- 15 Edward & Sandra Weber (35)
- 17 Erick & Kelly Whelpley (25)
- 22 Richard & Jill Schultz (30)
- 24 Patrick & Katherine Ciha (20)
- 25 Tony & Jenny Frontier (20)
- 26 Alan & Donna Kindt (55)
- 28 Mark & Ruth Ann Belknap (34)
- 29 Lewis & Lorraine Hanson (14)
- 30 Mike & JoAnn Nennig (47)
Dale & Kathleen Waldo (24)



EMBRACE – With Love and Prayers

In Your Prayers Please remember: Margaret Anderson, Jean Schulz, Doris McMahon, John Stahmer, Bertha Surges, Dennis Bjorge, Marian Jones, Nikki Walters, Bob Cenar, Steve Lettau, Lowell Weber, Connor Wollosz, Olivia Stern, Wendy Rauwerdink, Chrissy Sunter, Jack Zbiegen, Fr. Roger Veik, Mary Ann Wirth, Dillon Weitzel, Sandy Lange, Magnus, David Wihowski, Linda Mehlum, Allison Johnson, Diane Dricken-Flynn, Joe Roach, Bailey & Lily, Tom Bowitz, Evelyn, Brett Klauer, Diana Jennett, Jim White, Pat Lewinski, Barb Suhar, Emmy Hein, Mark Beavins, Mike Hutton, Earl Lebakken, Kay Walters, The Mulvaney family, Dee Newton, William Wats, Sue Gyarmati, Emily, Dale Ellenbecker, Andy Pretty, Brianna Reel, Linda Oakes, Kate Bennett, Dolores Sandoval, Lynn Ruehl, Karen Lovett, Our Cross Family, MABO Orphanage & staff, and all men and women serving in the armed forces, all victims of natural disasters, and the volunteers



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

Herkert Sleeping Bag Sale – purchase one, purchase 10, for our friends who are homeless and need warmth. \$20. Per bag. Donate on line or in the church office.



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



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 Worship and Soups On

Advent Soups On & Worship held at 6 PM & 7 PM

Wednesdays (December 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.



Margaret and Wes Anderson share their mum and blue chair project. So resourceful!

Mr. Bob's 
"Under the Bridge"

An Outreach Ministry of Advent Lutheran Church
'Serving The Homeless Community'



There was a snap in the air when I walked outside to get the morning paper. Any hope of holding onto the summer temperatures was fading fast. Fall had arrived, and that only means that winter is fast on its heels. The wind was picking up, which only added to the misery. The morning was cold, dark, and damp – a miserable morning.

We arrived at the park to the usual crowd of people and instantly began our routine. We somehow managed to have a large selection of warm sweaters that day, which was a blessing. Those sweaters flew out of the bins. We received many thanks along with requests for more sweaters, coats, and blankets for the upcoming winter.

John and I left for Salvation Army and talked about our concerns for our friends during the upcoming winter season. The crowd at Salvation Army was a rather small one, which was a good thing since we ran out of many items at the park. The one thing that we had not counted on, though, was the number of new arrivals, who just so happened to be young children. That always breaks our heart.

There was one little boy who caught our eye that morning. He was about 5 years old. He stood next to his grandmother, shivering next to the bin while she was looking for clothing. I walked up to him and asked where his coat was. He told me that he didn't have a coat anymore because he had to move to the Salvation Army. His smile never left his face. He started to chat about school and his new friends. He followed me to another bin that had adult clothing in it. Miraculously, there was a lined, red coat that was just the perfect size for my new pal. I lifted it out of the bin and put it on him.

"There you go, buddy. Here is a coat for you!" As I said these words to him, I sent a silent prayer of thanksgiving. No child should ever be cold.

He threw his arms around my waist and said, "Wow! Thank you! You make me feel so warm!"

Right back at you, buddy.

May you and yours always be kept warm.

Cathy Norene and the Mr. Bob's Crew

**Coffee, hot
cocoa, socks,
sweaters,
coats, hats,
glove and
blankets**



*Come help sort
for Mr. Bob's*

*Thursday
evenings, 6-7 pm*



MABO UPDATE



We continue to support the children of MABO and would encourage all to consider sponsoring a child for the coming year. Monthly, Advent has committed to send \$2,500. to help with the cost of food, clothing, school supplies, and

healthcare needs. This expense is above and beyond our regular Advent operating budget.

Life in Haiti is difficult, at times, dangerous, and the love and support we provide the children of MABO is appreciated more than you can even imagine. As our Advent Youth sang the song Imagine today in church, I couldn't help but think of the life we provide for the children of MABO, so we may all live as one.

Thank you for your continued support, love, and prayers. Our children near and far know you care.

With gratitude in this season of sharing

The MABO Team

COLUMBARIUM UPDATE

Progress! After several delays on the floor of the WI Assembly, the vote on Assembly Bill 285 is now scheduled to take place on Wednesday, Nov 4 around 2 pm. The WI Senate unanimously passed the Senate version of the bill in October. After the Assembly passes it (presumably), the bill will go on to the desk of the Governor for signature sometime in late November or early December, whereupon, it will become law. By the way, we'll be there and get a pen. Who hoo!

Remember, this is a law that exempts religious associations (churches) from the 'cemetery law' which states that no new cemeteries are allowed within 250' of an inhabited dwelling. We now must go to the City to ask that a 'model ordinance' be made part of the Zoning Code which will define in detail how columbaria will be allowed on church property in the City. We already have several in-hand and as soon as the bill becomes law, we will be talking to the city about adopting it and making it part of the code. This must also go before the Common Council to be approved. Then once that is approved, Advent will request approval of our columbarium based on the newly installed 'columbarium ordinance'.

Of course we will need support of the entire congregation throughout the process. - Paul Rushing

Thank you to Paul Rushing, Kit Keller, and the entire Columbarium Prayer Garden Committee for their tireless commitment to see this become a reality. Feel free to call Paul Rushing (262) 617-6180 with any questions.

Advent Women's Retreat



Sharing, Caring, Loving, Crying, Hugging, Haikus, Amazing Food, Wonderful Women

Words cannot describe the rejuvenation and sharing experienced at the Annual Advent Women's Retreat held the first weekend in October. Thirteen of Advents lovelies shared time at the Tree of Life Retreat Center in Greenbush, WI.

*Nature, nurture, God
Sharing memories, blessings
Tree of Life Retreat
Blazing, red sumac
Shining in the fall sunlight
Autumn shows signposts - Kathy Harrison*

REFLECTIONS

The Peace of Wild Things - Wendell Berry

When despair for the world grows in me and I wake in the night at the least sound in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be, I go and lie down where the wood drake rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds. I come into the presence of still water. And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light. For time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

- Shared by Loey O'Keefe



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.

Feel the chill in the air? Why not warm up with a mug of Mt. Meru coffee? You can get the coffee in regular or decaf in your choice of whole bean, drip, perk, or single serve cups. Looking for something more? Mt. Meru come in flavors: french vanilla, butter pecan, hazelnut, and chocolate raspberry. Not only do you get delicious coffee, but every purchase helps a coffee farmer in Tanzania earn a wage that supports his or her family. It tastes good, and it does good. Order your coffee from the table in the narthex.

Prayers of Intercession – CELEBRATE NOV. 1, 2015

We seek your healing for oceans, streams, hot springs, and lakes. Clean the waterways damaged by human carelessness and provide all who thirst access to fresh water.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We seek protection and healing for veterans, civil rights leaders, and military personnel. Where there is pain, bring comfort. Where there is anger, bring mercy. Where there is war, bring peace.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We seek your healing for all who struggle with addiction, mental illness, physical ailment, or spiritual distress. Refresh them with the water of life and fill them with your abundant love.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Doing Justice Never Tasted So Good!
Coffee orders may be submitted in the church Narthex. Orders are placed on Monday and arrive by Wednesday.

Haikus - Advent Women's Retreat
 Verdant leaf changes
 yellow, ochre, scarlet, brown
 reclaimed by the earth
 a song in my heart
 self, others, nature, God
 mindful, grateful, peace - Patti Doughman

Shared memories
 All our saints were with us there
 merged tears with joy - Lisa Hanson

Children's Ministry News

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

We were excited to welcome many new faces to Sunday School this year. Everyone, returning and new participants and teachers, are settling in nicely.

We have had one Family Service and will be celebrating our second one on All Saints Day, November 1. All Saints Day may seem difficult for kids, but celebrating Family Service on it each year gives the children a chance to learn more about what it means and helps them be in tune with the rhythm of the liturgical year. (As we all should be.) Our song this year brings the meaning of the day into focus.

On November 1, we will be wrapping up the first outreach event for the year. The children's envelope money for three weeks went to the sleeping bag fund. This project helps the children connect with both the congregation and the mission of helping others. Children were encouraged to use their allowance, earn money doing extra chores, and asking others (with parents' permission) to contribute so they could really be part of the project.

The rest of the month will be busy. Mid-month children will be working on Thanksgiving craft projects, reflecting on what they have to be thankful for and why it is important to thank God for those things. In music, they will be getting ready for the annual Christmas program (Dec. 20), and they will be preparing for a special song that they will be singing with the youth on Dec. 6.

One of the benefits of working with children in the Sunday School is it sharpens my focus on the seasons, liturgical and otherwise, and what that means in our everyday lives. That enriches my spiritual life and keeps me from getting too busy to notice the changes and sense of the seasons. I consider it to be one of the blessings of working in ministry. I hope that everyone can find at least of that in their own lives.

Lisa Wegner
Child and Family Ministry
lisa@adventchurch.org
(262) 387-1985



Preschool class gathers leaves for their flaming bush Bible story.



Children sing – Saints Today Saint of Old for All Saints Day – November 1.



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October was an exciting and busy month for Advent Youth, with several service and social projects, as well as guest speakers.

Bob Burmeister of “Mr. Bob’s Under the Bridge” came to share his work with the Milwaukee homeless, helping us better understand their needs in preparation for outreach. Our discussion was followed up with a service project involving sorting hygiene supplies and assembling “care kits” consisting of socks and special snacks. Several of our Youth then accompanied the team to Zeidler Park to distribute the supplies to the homeless. All were in agreement that the experience of serving face to face develops empathy in a unique and deeply touching way.

In honor of Red Ribbon week, we also received a special visit from Paula Buford, a friend of our dear Janie White. Ms. Buford candidly shared her experiences with substance abuse, the correctional system, and recovery. We are grateful for her courage and willingness to help others on their journey to rise above.



Our service projects for the coming month will include shopping for Thanksgiving meals to be donated to needy Ozaukee County families. We will also be Christmas shopping to provide gifts for children at our sister church, Cross Lutheran. Please let us know if you would like to help support these efforts!

Our discussion topics in October were focused on faith, spirituality and religion.

Meaningful conversation was shared on the differentiation of this terminology, which is often used interchangeably, and also on our own personal beliefs. Continuing with this topic, and coinciding with Reformation Day, we will be discussing the significance of Lutheranism and the importance of the individual.

Social activities this past month included a fun morning of “Doughnuts & Dogs”, watching our four legged friends romp while we enjoyed some morning treats. We also made a visit to Cross Lutheran for their inspiring Gospel Service Sunday. We thank the Andersons for making this trip EXTRA special by donating pumpkins for us to bring to needy kids at Cross!

Please keep an eye out for our Johnson’s Gardens Holiday Gift Card Fundraiser going on in the Narthex. The cards can be used to purchase Christmas wreaths, trees, garland, décor, ornaments, gifts & more! The gift cards also make wonderful presents for teachers, co-workers & friends! This effort will help us to plan future summer mission trips and programs.

In peace and gratitude

Sarah Slavin & the Advent Youth Group



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
2015 Through September 2015				
	\$229,886	\$247,572	\$(17,686)	168

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	Christy Cummings
Evangelism*	Bethany Thiede Wray
Finance	Tim Gergens
Family Ministry	Bob Burmeister
Membership Care *	Kitty Moore
Memorials & Wills	Dale Waldo
Property	Rick Stark
Stewardship*	Joe Kaylor
Social Ministry*	Jessica Zappia
Staff Support	Mickey Else

• **EMBRACE Ministries**

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