

Advent Lutheran Herald

I worship at Advent and my religion is Kindness

Dear Advent Faith Family,

My article this month is based on the memorial service for Joe Herkert as a tribute to his incredible work among us. This is how our outreach beyond our walls all began with a simple announcement from Joe one Sunday morning. When Joe heard that a high percentage of the homeless are veterans he was outraged, and by putting on Christ he turned that rage into starting Joe's Clothes by requesting people here at Advent and beyond to take from their overstuffed closets clothes that they seldom if ever wear and give them to someone who really needs them. In the early years of Joe's Clothes he would stop at Advent, load up his car with clothes and two to three times a week take time off from work and take them to Repairers of the Breach. He organized the youth and others to make sandwiches for the homeless and held Bible Study so that they might be fed not only with bread but also by the word of God. When Joe heard that in the richest nation on earth people actually freeze to death on the streets of Milwaukee he was embarrassed and angry, and he put on Christ and turned that anger into literally thousands of sleeping bags over the years, and who knows how many people are alive or at least more comfortable in their desperate situations because of Joe's sleeping bag ministry. It is clear that Joe was ever so grateful for the blessing of marriage, family, children and the ability to work, and his faith in God brought him to the Gospel lesson from John.

"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete." And here it is important to understand that those demands are not religious ones, but commands or in Jesus' words the results of loving as in; "When I was hungry you gave me something to eat, and when I was thirsty you gave me something to drink. When I was a stranger, you welcomed me, and when I was naked, you gave me clothes to wear. When I was sick you took care of me, and when I was in jail, you visited me."

Joe actually did all of that and more, while still maintaining complete presence and availability to his family and to his chosen profession. Joe's philosophy of life and his religion were really very simple. It's one that finds titles, languages and theologies pretty much unimportant and basically comes down to what we find in every single religion in the world and we call it the Golden Rule:

"Always do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Whether it was a client, a seminar attendee, someone here at church, someone at Cross Church where Joe has extended family or a homeless person they were all treated exactly the same.

(Cont. on Page 2)

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Just Janis continued

I do want to mention that the very last hours of his earthly life for Joe were no less storied and miraculous than his life. He was able to be at home with Sammy, their boys, their wives, Joe's siblings and some very close friends as Joe passed over to the life that awaits us all. The one where there is no suffering, no pain, no death, only light, life and joy! And indeed we are all of us better people, better fathers and mothers, better sons and daughters because of Joe Herkert.

Speaking from and on behalf of the youth at Advent Meredith Milburn wrote the following on Facebook:

My heart goes out to the Herkert family and all those who knew this amazing man. You have provided our community with so much happiness and laughter and treated every single person you met with compassion and understanding. Your dedication to help and love others has passed on to me and I will miss you dearly. Thank you for inspiring good in others and for your years of guidance, friendship and laughter!

Our daughter Krista wrote me an e-mail when she heard that Joe had died.

"Oh, Joe. What an incredible, incredible soul. He has made such an impact in this life of ours, and has touched so many. It was so nice talking about him today. I get these moments that just hit me, and I think to myself, that this world cannot possibly keep going without Joe. He's just supposed to be here. It doesn't feel right. And then there is that unexplainable calm happiness, and you realize this cannot be it. There's something else so extraordinary, where Joe has gone, where all of our loved ones have gone, and we will meet again someday. And until then, we have to realize what we have, the miracles of life. The very thing people like Joe have shown us is such a gift. I love you, Joe!"

Advent Honors

I close with a legend that was attached to the e-mail, a metaphor to answer the question why some really good people suffer in this life and what it might possibly mean.

There is a legend about a bird that sings just once in its life, more sweetly than any other creature on the face of the earth. From the moment it leaves the nest it searches for a thorn tree, and does not rest until it has found one. Then, singing among the savage branches, it impales itself upon the longest, sharpest spine. And dying, it rises above its own agony to out-carol the lark and the nightingale. - One superlative song, existence the price. But the whole world stills to listen and God in heaven smiles. For the best is only bought at the cost of great pain...or so says the legend."

We are all of us here at Advent and beyond our walls better people for having known Joe Herkert and especially if we were counted among his friends, we were particularly blessed.

Pastor Janis and Aina.



In Loving Memory

Joseph Adam Herkert

April 17, 1947 – August 23, 2014



MABO Haiti Update - Rummage Sale Huge Success



The MABO team would like to thank everyone who helped out with the rummage sale. We picked the right weekend and so appreciate all the donations. Many basements and garages should be really clean based on everything we received. Thank you so much. Special thanks to Ray and Jan Perry, Vicki and Neil Frederiksen, Joan and Jodie Suhr, Sarah, Charlotte, & Ruby Slavin, Jessica, Tony, Dominic and Sophia Zappia, Dale and Kathy Waldo, Cheri Hesse, Patti Doughman, Margaret Anderson, Aaron Isbell, Aina Kinens, Lisa, and Bethany Thiede Wray for all helping to fill the work shifts, organize sale items, and clean up our fellowship hall. Thanks also to Janie White's women at Ellsworth for their donation of the two beautiful quilts for the raffle. The rummage sale brought in \$1,894. and the quilt sale up until September 25, - \$446. All these generous donations will help to pay the rent for MABO.

We are tentatively are planning a trip to MABO the week of November 16. The trip is tentative depending on our response. We also are planning on a trip to Haiti in the first half of 2015. We like to go before the hurricane season and before it gets really hot. Either trip is as you have heard from our travelers who have gone, a life changing experience. Contact Dale Waldo or Ray Perry if you are interested. Cost for the trip for air, hotel, transportation and meals is in the \$1200 range.

Thank you also to Westlawn Elementary School in Cedarburg for hosting a bike ride to donate proceeds to MABO on September 28. What a wonderful way to teach children in our community to support children in need in another country.

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, Janeen Mollenhauer, Nikki Walters, Sue Blankenheim, Bob Cenar, Mary Dommer, Jim White, Richard (Dick) Heinzelmann, Pat Chase, Courtney Wolosz, Kimberly Trester, Jean Schulz, Christina, Marge Grundman, Dan Gundrum, 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, Keith Reid, William Beseke, Fr. Roger Veik, Steve Lettau, John Trepanier, 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, Jean Schulz at Lasata; Doris McMahon at The Crossings; 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.



Parish Register

Baptisms:

August 24, 2004

Laila Annika Grants born April 6, 2014
Parents: Matiss and Kristina Grants

September 7, 2014

Norah Jeri Mayerl, born November 4, 2013
Parents: Jeff & Lindy Mayerl

Marriages:

August 21, 2014 – Brian Vogt & Dalma Csabai

August 30, 2014 – Jeffrey William Kopesky & Jessica Joy Balliet

Burials:

August 27, 2014

Joseph Adam Herkert
b 4/17/47 – d 8/23/14



October Birthdays

1 Jennifer Laurin, Tim Matchulat
3 James Becker, Brad Bertler, Marge Fay, Jeff Mayerl, Joan Scholz, Duane Weber
4 Dylan Czarnecki,
5 Claudia Butcher, Sue Cerbins, Jay Luckow, Doris McMahon, Wendy Mollenhauer, Matthew Weber
6 Ted Brueggemann, Kathy Groth, Hannah Jeske, Paul Rushing
7 Michael Adams
8 Kathy Wolfgram,
9 Jill Jeske, Croix Kimmel,
10 Amy Anderson, Treena Buehler
11 Eric Milburn, Benjamin Pook, Heidi Schneider, Jodie Suhr
12 Marion Andree
14 Ronald Dillahunt, Samantha Homme
15 Ellen Weitzel
16 Steve Lettau,
17 Jon Hannam, Stephanie Kraft, Joe Norene
18 Lynn Torrison,
19 Jessica Homme
20 Helen Butler
21 Craig Adams
23 Lilianne Leedy, Elizabeth Lengling, Anthony Rasmussen
24 Garrett Peters,
25 Daniel Hesse, Deb Koester, Vivienne Line
26 Mark Trede
27 Samantha Beseke, Daniel Effenheim, Katherine Herkert
28 Lee Jungkans, Brian Pomplun
29 Hailie Bestor, Lindsey Dalton, Krista Kinens, Dustin Scholz
30 Lucas Griffin, Jim White
31 Virginia Barribeau, Ellie Kate Walker, Bonnie Waskiewicz

October Anniversaries

1 Nathan & Melissa Czinner (3)
4 Michael & Peggy Groth (28), Susan & Ed White (39)
5 Peter & Jean Kobin (24), Eric & Sylvia Arvold (23)
7 Matthew & Lisa W2gner (19), Nathan Hall & Monica Awe (9)
9 Jim & Kathy Awe (43),
11 James & Margaret Coulson (27)
12 Mark & Marie Golanowski (40), Christopher & Janice Roller (12)
15 Michael & Marie Schwenzen (9)
18 Eric & Amy Anderson (17)
21 James and Cheryl Svehlek (36)
22 Lee & Sharon Jungkans (20)
23 David & Ramona Schmitz (31)
24 Christopher & Tasha Janssen (11)
29 Brian & Loey O'Keefe (37)
30 Michael Montaba & Harriet Zale (10)

The Joy of the Annual Outdoor Worship and Picnic – 9.7.2014



Thank you to Jessica & Tony Zappia and the picnic committee for doing an outstanding job planning, organizing, and implementing another fabulous annual outdoor service and picnic. Everyone who attended felt so blessed to worship and share in food and camaraderie on this perfectly, heavenly day. Advent is so very blessed to have such wonderful members who help make these special events happen and be such a success. Special thanks to Lisa Wagner, Sarah Slavin, Aaron Isbel, Stacy & Rick Stark, David Kukla, Sherry Jones, Joe Kaylor and the pit crew and the taste tester.

Willie





Come join in the fun and listen to some great music as we celebrate the mission of Mr. Bob's. All are welcome! Bring your family, friends, or a guest to enjoy a day in the park.

Come help support
Mr. Bob's "Under the Bridge"
 (an Outreach Ministry serving Milwaukee's Homeless Community)
Sunday, October 5, 2014
Cedarburg Cedar Creek Park
Noon - 3:00 PM

Enjoy music by The Starlites band
Please bring your own picnic lunch and lawn chair
Beverages available by donation

Admission
 Please bring any of the following items:
 Deodorant • Toothbrush • Travel-Size Toothpaste
 Toilet Paper • Soap • Shampoo

Milwaukee's Homeless Facts:
 • 1,500 persons counted in Milwaukee
 • Almost 60% are aged 41-59
 • Almost all have some sort of disability
 For more information, visit: www.mrbobsunderthebridge.com

Take Only What You Need

"Guess what! Guess what! Guess what!! We got a house! We got a house! I am so happy!" The happiness on Gia's face could have lit up a room. She was bouncing. That kind of happiness is contagious. I couldn't help but feel excited for her.

Gia attends middle school and lives in transitional housing with her mother and siblings. She was discouraged because when she first met us, we didn't have any clothes that were appropriate for a young teenage girl. The second time I met Gia, she came out with a big smile and began to help her mother look for clothes for the rest of her family. As fate would have it, there was an unopened bag of clothing that someone had dropped off for us at the park

Normally, we throw these bags in the back of the trailer so they can be sorted on Thursday evening, but something told me to open this one. At the very top of this bag were three shirts, two sweaters, a couple of hoodies, and two pairs of jeans – all in Gia's size. She was so excited that she hugged me.

The last time I saw her was the day she told me that she was moving. She was helping some people find clothing for their children and looking for a coat for an older gentleman. When I asked her if she needed anything for herself, she replied, "No, thanks. If I mix up and match the clothes you gave me the last time, it will seem like I have lots of clothes. I should leave some for these people. I have all I need for now."

We can all learn from Gia. Take only what you need. Help others. Be grateful. Be kind.

May all your needs be met.

Cathy Norene and the Mr. Bob's crew



Children's Ministry News

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

Once again we were able to start off Sunday School in conjunction with the annual outdoor worship and picnic. The bright sun was perfect for a bright start to the year and for a walk to the park. Although not all of our Sunday School attendees made it to the park those who did, contributed to the service by reading and singing. Thanks to Ruby Slavin, Sabrina Borg, and Julia Gergens for reading so well. Thank you Aaron Isbel for leading "The Hippo Song." This was a fun preview for our [Family Worship services which will resume on October 5](#). Please join us at the 10:30 AM service.



This year with both students and teachers we welcomed back many familiar faces and a few new ones. This is the first year in a while that we were able to begin the year with all our teachers in places. Thank you to the new people who stepped forward to teach, and thank you to those who are continuing to serve as teachers. You all contribute to the success of our program.

New students are welcome to join Sunday School at any time. Sunday School starts at age 3 and continues through 5th grade. Class are held on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15. Contact Lisa Wegner at lisa@adventchurch.org or 387-1925 or stop by on Sunday mornings.



I want to share one little story on the simplicity of children and what we can learn from them. There was a little excitement in the 1st/2nd grade classroom one Sunday morning when the children spotted a chipmunk in the window. The lower edge of the window is ground level so the children were getting a different view of the chipmunk than they usually do. They were all gathered at the window looking at the chipmunk, and some were worried because it was eating some of the bird seed that had fallen on the ground. My first thought was how cute that was, but later I realized how wonderful it was that they were so excited about one of God's wonderful creations. Most of us as we get older and busier fail to appreciate the wonder of the most commonplace of God's creation. Being with children can remind us of the wonders of God all around us, and I thank the children for reminding me. I hope you appreciate the chipmunks in your lives.

Lisa Wegner ~ Child and Family Ministry

**Welcome Sarah Slavin
Advent's New Youth Director**



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Activity: Saturday, October 11th from 2:00-3:30pm is Stocky's Indoor Race Track. Please sign up ASAP! Cost is \$10.00pp and one friend invited. Drivers maybe needed.

Youth Group meets Wednesdays, 7 – 8 pm in the narthex of the church. All students 6 – 12 th grade are welcome.

Sarah brings an amazing amount of positive energy, knowledge and enthusiasm to work with Advent's youth. She has been a lifelong member of Advent having been baptized, confirmed, and married here. Sarah is married to Eric and they have two beautiful daughters, Charlotte and Ruby. Sarah brings to the position her experience as a Sunday School teacher, Council Committee Member, and MABO Team member traveling to Haiti twice to work with our orphanage. Sarah is grateful and enthusiastic for the opportunity to work with our Youth and wanted to share that Lauren will be so dearly missed. She created a culture of kindness and acceptance that will be nurtured as we continue to explore our Christian faith. Weekly youth group meetings will delve into the realities of adolescent life, and how we can use the Bible and Christ's teachings to navigate in today's world. We will also have lots of exciting faith based activities and service projects, so stay tuned! Coming up in October class time will include the Ten Commandments and also a guest speaker for Red Ribbon Week. On Saturday, October 11th we will head to Stocky's Indoor Racetrack for go-kart fun, and will be planning service activities involving Lasata.

If you did not receive a fall schedule in the mail, please contact church secretary Mrs. Cheri Hesse (262) 377-2710.

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

Advent Women's Retreat – 9.12 – 9.14.14



Fifteen wonderful women of Advent attended this year's Women's Retreat at the Tree of Life Retreat Center in Greenbush, WI. Focusing reflection on the story of Ruth and Naomi, the women discussed their life, journey and the parallels to life today. Christy Schwan and Janet Blank helped to facilitate the reflections and discussions. Sherri Musa, Lisa Hanson, and Christi Schwan created amazing healthy meals we all very much enjoyed. Thank you Cheri Hesse for your coordination of this wonderful event.

Mandala's relections were created from images in our hearts.



Stay tuned for another wonderful Women's Retreat to be planned for the fall of 2015.



Mt.Meru coffee is available for purchase in the church narthex. For special ordering needs speak with Lisa Wegner – Advent's Mt Meru contact. 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 makes 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.

Advent Substitute Bell Ringers are needed. See Sandy Knuth, Organist and Bell Choir Director, if you are interested.

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 August				
	\$216,477	\$210,473	\$6,003	178

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

Council Corner ~

Advent is an amazing place where all continually show kindness and love daily. Thank you for your generous giving of time, talent, and tithes, always.

Pastor Kinens cell phone:

(262) 573-9027 email: jkinens@gmail.com

Church office (262) 377-2710

Cheri@adventchurch.org