

# ADVENT NEWS

ADVENT EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD



## A Worm and No Book?

Some 500 years ago, Martin Luther pointedly identified how the world viewed Holy Scripture, ***“just as it is with Christ in the world, as He is viewed and dealt with, so it is also with the written Word of God. It is a worm and no book, compared to other books”*** (Luther on Ps. 22, WA 48, 31).

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, the world has not changed its view of Holy Scripture! And how many other “books” have surfaced and become popularized since then! The Koran, Book of Mormon, Evolutionary Science Textbooks, Legislation legalizing the murder of unborn babies in the womb, Legislation legalizing same-sex marriage, Transgender & Homosexuality issues . . . need I go on?

And how easy it is for the Christian to ignore and turn a blind eye to what is around us! The devil is crafty and sneaky, always attempting to slowly chip away at the foundation of our very faith and being. And when we allow ourselves to be swayed and convinced by the world, the devil and our own sinful nature, the Bible becomes to us “a worm and no book.” May it not be so among us.

Christ Himself was mocked and ridiculed (Matt. 27:28ff; John 6:42). Bearing the punishment for the world’s ignorance and disrespect of God’s Word, our Lord willingly offered Himself up, shedding His blood to cover your sin and mine. In His resurrection, we have the assurance that His sacrifice has been accepted . . . for us! Christ is Risen! Alleluia! Amen!

Emboldened by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be *“genuine”* while recognizing that the world ***“yet regards us as impostors”*** (2 Cor. 6:8). We pay heed to our Lord who said, ***“whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels”*** (Mark 8:38).

The teaching and preaching of Holy Scripture will continue to be the central labor of Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church. Together we hear and learn the precious truth: in Sunday School and Bible Classes, in our Preschool, in the Divine Services. Together we receive forgiveness for our timidity and sins against His Holy and precious Word. So let us teach such truths to our children and our children’s children! Let us labor diligently in the fields set before us here in Zionsville and beyond. Let us gather together around the Lamb, singing His praise and strengthening ourselves for the battle that yet rages around us. It is a joy to serve here among fellow saints who confess such truth and also wrestle with “what does this mean?” May the Lord bless us and keep us firm in the one true faith.

A worm and no book?

I think not, for ***“blessed is the one who is not offended by me”*** (Matt. 11:6).

**Pr. Mackay**

May, 2019

*...“how easy it is for the Christian to ignore and turn a blind eye to what is around us!”*

## In This Issue

Pastor Mackay

Voters’ Meeting

LCMS National Offering Program

Board News

CPH Summer Reading Program

School News

Mission Board

Making the Case Conference

2021 Heritage Tour

## Upcoming Annual Voter's Meeting



# ANNUAL VOTERS MEETING

We will soon announce the June Voter's meeting. You might be asking yourself, is it worth my attendance? I would argue for a solid yes.

There is much that we will cover during this important meeting that should be of interest to all Advent members:

**Pastor and Board reports** - Provides an update on the various activities taking place at Advent. Also a review of goals and activities planned for the future. This includes Trustee activities to keep up the facilities, Evangelism and Mission programs, and Seminary support. We will also provide a number of statistics on attendance, baptisms, new members, confirmation, weddings, etc.

**Election of new officers** - Once a year we vote on officers and board members to serve for a two year periods. If Eric Hubert, our vice chair asks you to serve in some capacity, please give it prayerful consideration. We have a member volunteer worksheet that spells out all the opportunities for service. If you have a chance, please fill one of these out so we have a better idea of your talents and ways you might wish to help.

Last but not least, a **Financial report** on giving and expenditures. Also, we will share information on the paying down of our mortgage debt and earmarked funds for specific purposes such as mission and building funds. We will then provide a proposed budget for the upcoming year that will be voted on by the assembly.

As you can see, there is much activity that goes on quietly from month to month that we wish to share with you. Please plan on attending. We will be offering a brief lunch after the 2nd service, then move right into the meeting. Babysitting for members with young children will be provided. Look forward to seeing you then!

Yours in Christ,

Chuck Long, Advent Chairman

*You might ask yourself, "is it worth my attendance?" I would argue for a solid yes!"*

## LCMS National Offering and 2019 Lutheran Convention

Every three years, the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod convenes to determine mission and ministry priorities for the coming three years. This year, they will gather in Tampa under the theme “Joy:fully Lutheran.”

As part of the preparation for the triennial convention, LCMS households, congregations and organizations are invited and encouraged to participate in a Synod-wide gathering of special gifts called the National Offering. The 2019 National Offering theme is “Joy to the World.”



### **Advent will promote the 2019 LCMS National Offering on Sunday, June 9th.**

Members may make cash donations or if they wish their offering to be tax deductible, special envelopes will be provided. Two buckets will be placed in the Narthex for this special offering. **Bucks in the Bucket!**

Offerings from all congregations will be gathered at the opening service of the Synod’s 67th Regular Convention on July 20.

The National Offering theme of “Joy to the World” reinforces the convention theme, “Joy:fully Lutheran,” highlighting how the Gospel has brought great joy to God’s people through the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life. The 2019 National Offering will enable work that reflects that joy and shares it across boundaries with those who have not yet heard the joyful message of Christ..

As noted on the National Offering website, “Gifts to the 2019 LCMS National Offering will empower the work God has given us to do in His name to bring joy to the world, as we vigorously make known the Good News of Jesus Christ, that all might rejoice and give thanks to God our heavenly Father.”

Our own **Pastor Jim Grady** has been elected as the pastoral voting delegate to represent our circuit of the English District. Please pray for wisdom, discernment and safe travel for Pastor Grady.

For more information and resources about the 2019 National Offering, visit [lcms.org/national-offering](http://lcms.org/national-offering). The 2019 offering will remain open until May 2022.

Source: LCMS website and Lutheran Reporter

*Advent will promote the 2019 LCMS National Offering on Sunday, June 9th.*

## Board of Education

**Help Needed!** The VBS committee is looking for various volunteers for this year's Vacation Bible School to be held June 17 – 20th., 9-11:30 a.m. We are looking for additional teachers, helping in the kitchen with snacks, shepherding children around and assisting with arts and crafts, or other areas. See sign-up sheet on table outside Fellowship Hall.

Save the date! VBS 2019 to be held mornings, 9am to 11:30am, Monday June 17 – Thursday June 20th, daily for ages 3 ½ to entering 5th grade

This year's theme is "I AM" is a VBS program based on the seven "I Am" statements from the Gospel of John. I AM, the Good Shepherd, the Door, the Light of the world, the Way the Truth and the Life, the Bread of Life, the True Vine, and the Resurrection and the Life. Through these "I Am" passages, children will be taught Christian truths about the resurrection, law and gospel, the Word, the ministry, Holy Communion, and Holy Baptism.



### Summer Sunday school

Summer Sunday School will start June 2 and run through August 25. We plan two groups this summer. Group one, Preschool-2nd grade and Group two 3rd-6th. Older kids would help with either group. **See signup sheet for teacher volunteers in the Narthex.**

## CPH Summer Reading Program

Let God's Word  
brighten your path  
this summer!



Concordia Publishing House sponsors a CPH Reads program each year that **encourages people to read Christ-centered books all year long.**

From **May 25 to August 4**, families who participate can log points for each book read, and be entered to win prizes!

**ANYONE CAN PARTICIPATE!** Adults and kids. Even **if your child is not yet a reader**, you can read to him or her and record each book that you discover together.

**HOW DOES IT WORK?** Each time that a participant—child or adult—reaches **1,000 points**, the name and email address of the adult associated with that ONLINE account is automatically entered into a drawing for the grand prize.

WHAT ARE THE PRIZES?

- **Fire HD 8 Tablet!**
- **Five runners-up** will receive a copy of a CPH Bible of their choice.
- **Ten additional winners** will receive their choice of Niko's Night and Day or Clearly Christian.

**GET STARTED!** Sign up yourself and/or your household by creating an account at [CPH.org/reads](http://CPH.org/reads). If you are registering multiple family members, start by creating an account just for you. Learn more about family accounts on the Frequently Asked Questions page.

**GET READING!** Select an **age-based reading plan**. Log on regularly, check out your reading lists, and bury your nose in a bunch of books!

## School News

As we come to the end of the school year, we reflect on all the blessings our school has received from our gracious Lord. We are very grateful for another wonderful school year! Thank you, Advent for all your prayers and support throughout the year. **Our last day of school is Friday, May 24th.**

*There is room in the afternoon Pre-K and afternoon Kindergarten classes, which will include **EXPLORE** for no extra cost.*

Looking to next fall (our 20th year!), it seems our early childhood program is still very popular. Our morning Kindergarten, Pre-Kindergarten and Preschool classes are full. Mom's Morning Out for 2 year olds is half full as well. There is still room in the afternoon Pre-K class as well as the afternoon Kindergarten (special bonus for afternoon K--it will incorporate our outstanding EXPLORE offering for *no extra cost*). We will be accepting students throughout the summer until all classes are full, so please encourage anyone you may know who is interested in our school to contact soon. Call 317.873.6318 or email me at [dtrewartha@adventlutheran.org](mailto:dtrewartha@adventlutheran.org).



**Donation Request:** We could use some new Little Tykes type play equipment for the playground. Our little roller coaster and some of the climbing sets are in pretty bad shape. If you have any items to get rid of that you think we could use, please let me know. THANKS!

Deb Trewartha  
School Director

### Youth Music

Thank you to all the youth who have given time and talent though the year for all the anthems and special music. Advent is blessed to have talented and willing youth to participate regularly in our services! Mother's Day (Jubilate Sunday) was our last time to participate in services as a group until next fall--thank you, youth for being a special part of the services that day!

Deb Trewartha  
Assistant Music Director

### Summer Sunday Service Schedule—Reminder

Humans are creatures of habit. We all find comfort in regularity! So Advent will maintain its **regular Sunday service schedule during the summer months**—Sundays at 8:15 and 10:45 with Bible study and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Hope to see you all then!



## Mission Board

For the next fiscal year, the Mission Board's goals will include missions both international and local. An increased emphasis will be on Dr. Preus and the Dominican Republic Mission. We will try to find out what are his greatest needs for the next year so we can help meet them. Also, we would like to continue support for Lutheran Child and Family Services to contribute to their supply needs and their chapel services. The 1:1:1 Project of the English District will continue to be funded by donations of \$1 per member per week deposited in the two white mailboxes in the narthex and outside fellowship hall. Thank you all for your generosity as we promote these mission initiatives

## Making the Case Conference

Issues, etc., will hold its annual Making the Case conference **Friday, June 7 and Saturday, June 8, 2019 in Chicago**, (River Forest) Illinois.

**Featured speakers include Advent's own Rev. Hans Fiene** of Lutheran Satire. His topic will be "Making the Case for the Lord's Supper."

Additional speakers include:

Ross Douthat of the *New York Times*—"**Making the Case Why the Public Square Needs Christianity**"

Wesley Smith of *National Review*—"**Making the Case for the Hippocratic Oath**"

Rev. Matt Harrison, President of the LCMS—"**Making the Case for Being Joyfully Lutheran**"

Carol Tobias, President of National Right to Life—"**Making the Case against Planned Parenthood**"

Aaron Wolf of *Chronicles* magazine—"**Making the Case for Conservatism**"

Rev. Will Weedon, Director of Worship for the LCMS—"**Conference Hymn Sing**"

For more information go to [www.issuesetc.org/2019conference](http://www.issuesetc.org/2019conference).

The **Issues, Etc.**  
**MAKING the CASE**  
**CONFERENCE**

June 7 & 8 in Chicago, IL



## Coming in 2021—Advent's Lutheran Heritage Tour

Plans are beginning to take shape for the **2021 Lutheran Heritage Tour!** Advent continues its tradition to provide opportunities for its members to visit European destinations focusing on the history and culture of the Reformation. Watch upcoming issues of the Advent News and Advent Announcements for more information!