

Advent Journey



Fall 2012

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Advent Journey is the newsletter of Advent Lutheran Church
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Martin Luther's Seal or the Luther Rose

As it became more and more plain to Dr. Martin Luther that the cross of Christ and the pride of the world were at odds with each other, he chose for his family a new crest, which has become the "family crest" of Lutherans worldwide. The best person to explain the meaning of the now famous "Luther Seal" is Dr. Martin Luther, himself..

First, there should be a black cross set in a heart, which should keep its natural colour. This will remind me that faith in the Crucified saves us. Because: *"If you believe in your heart, you will be justified."* Even though it is a black cross, which kills us and causes pain, yet it allows the heart to remain its natural colour; it does not destroy the heart's nature, that is, it does not kill the heart, but keeps it alive. Because *"The just will live by faith"* - but faith in the Crucified.

Now, although the cross is black, mortified, and intended to cause pain, yet it does not tend to change the colour of the heart, does not destroy nature, i.e., does not kill, but keeps alive. *"For the just shall live by faith,"* - by faith in the saviour.

But this heart is fixed upon the center of a white rose, to show that faith causes joy, consolation and peace. The rose is white, not red, because white is the ideal colour of all angels and blessed spirits.

The rose, moreover, is fixed on a sky-coloured ground, to denote that such joy of faith in the spirit is but an earnest yearning and beginning of heavenly joy to come, as anticipated and held by hope, though not yet revealed.

And around this groundbase is a golden ring, to signify that such bliss in heaven is endless, and more precious than all joys and treasures, since gold is the best and most treasured metal. Christ, our dear Lord, He will give us grace unto eternal life.

Put them all together, the complete seal.



Toronto Conference Reformation Service

The Toronto Conference Council is hosting a joint Reformation Service on Sunday, October 27, 3:00 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, 8795 Keele Street, Maple. Everyone is invited to attend.

Join the celebration of our Lutheran heritage and in the multiplicity of its cultural expressions. A mass choir will participate, and we will include readings and prayers in our various languages. The offering will be given to CLWR.

We invite attendees to bring potluck refreshments that represent their particular culture.



From The Editor

Believe it or not, this is an exciting time to be a member of a Lutheran church in Toronto. The notion that our churches are turning into an oasis for “old” people may be hitting pay dirt. At the last Council meeting, Pastor Lisinski reported that among the four Lutheran parishes in the vicinity of Advent, only two of them have a conformand for the coming year (Advent and Christ the King Dietrich Bonhoeffer each have one). If the only way possible is up when hitting rock bottom, this has got to be it and thus this has got to be the moment when things start turning around.

It really shouldn't be surprising to have things show up as they have. Advent began as a response to the people moving into the new neighbourhood of Don Mills/Willowdale East area in the early 60's. Back then, almost all of these people would have pointed to Europe as the source of their ancestral journey. As such, there was good cause to think a portion of them would have Lutheranism as a part of that passage. Sure enough, from the basis of a door to door survey that was carried out in 1962, “50 families expressed interest and 10 of them stated they would help form a new Lutheran congregation.”¹ The consequence was the identification of the core group of people with the insight and intention to form a community under Christ which we know today as Advent Lutheran Church.

A totally new demographic has come into play in our neighbourhood. What I find fascinating though, is that the very same intention that led people into our particular neighbourhood of Toronto in the early 60's has not changed; a safe, affordable and providential place to put down roots for oneself and family.

The following quote by William Sutherland, Councilor for Ward 11, is as relevant today as it was when expressed in a letter written to Advent's first pastor, Rev. William Huras, on May 4, 1966:

When I first moved into Don Valley Village, nearly three years ago, there were no churches whatsoever in our community ... It seems to me that your church is unique in two ways. I believe you have the honour of becoming the first

¹ *Advent Lutheran Church, Willowdale, Ontario 25th Anniversary* (Downsview: Institutional Promotions of Canada Limited, 1989).

permanently built church in Don Valley Village. I don't know the secret to this but it certainly appears successful.

Secondly, your geographic location is very unique. As you know the parcel of land upon which the church and schools etc. are built is shaped much like a peanut. The term "peanut" has certainly caught on and is even referred to in some of the official planning documents. Your church, therefore, will become a major focal point for the thousands of people in northbound cars who will travel up Don Mills Road when it connects to Finch Avenue in about two years. You have a real challenge as the eyes of many will be upon this very fine building ...²

Advent Lutheran Church was not started as the result of a survey but because people wanted to have the presence of God in their lives and in the life of the community in which they lived. It was true in 1962 and it is true today. Is it possible for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada to revisit its mission in Don Valley Village (known today as "The Peanut") given the new demographic that exists in Toronto today? Not only do I think it can, I think it can be just as exciting as it was for those who set out on this very same task fifty years ago. And maybe "the eyes of many will be upon" us as we do.

Peter Reble



Dear Adventurers!

I hope you have all had an opportunity for rest and leisure this summer, and have returned to familiar routines refreshed in soul, renewed in mind and restored in body, ready to continue our common Christian vocation of service.

In his famous "Love Chapter" of First Corinthians 13 – often read at Christian weddings – St. Paul identifies love as the foundation for any and all authentic Christian service. Allow me to paraphrase I Corinthians 13:3:

"If I give all my money to charity, and spend all my time and energy volunteering in the community, without loving the people who benefit, I am just going through the motions."

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to love others as God loves us in Jesus Christ. To love as Jesus loves is not natural; but it can be learned, as St. John teaches in his own "Book of Love": "We love because God first loved us" (I John 4:19).

God's love for human beings is *natural* – that is, an expression of God's divine *nature*. God's love is also infinite – that is, inclusive of all people. Human love, on the other hand, is *naturally* shared in our most intimate family and romantic relationships – and we

² Ibid.

soon learn that these natural relationships are not able to fully satisfy our deep spiritual yearning for the fulfillment of our humanity. We need to *intentionally* reach out beyond the natural limits of our emotional attachments – over which we have no control – to the world and community of people around us, just as God *graciously* reaches out beyond the self-fulfilling love within the divine community of heaven revealed as the Holy Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

God's love is *self-fulfilling* because God's love is *self-giving*—that is, God not only gives of himself; God gives his *very self* – his divine *substance*, as our ancient creeds insist! God's self-giving love is not expressed only in *doing* good things *for* us or *giving* good things *to* us. God's self-giving love is most fully revealed in the mystery of the Incarnation – God made human in the historic Jesus of Nazareth – called Emmanuel, “God with us” (Matthew 1:23).

Self-giving love, whether it be God's love for us, or our love for others – the love that fulfills our humanity is a matter of *being with* more than *doing for*! It is a matter, not only of *relationship*, but of intimate *companionship*. Companionship literally means “breaking bread together”. The breaking of bread we share in the sacrament of Holy Communion *within* the church, is a sign of the very companionship we are called to build in all our giving and doing – being with our *neighbours*, as God is with *us* in Jesus Christ, the divine source and infinite power of self-giving love – God's as well as our own!

With love,

Pastor Peter



What Has Love Got To Do With It?

Always insightful, Judith Snow, a regular columnist for the Advent Journey, reflects on what the Bible reveals on what it takes to be a participant in the Holy Spirit in the “new” Jerusalem we are building at Advent Lutheran Church today.



It is said that when the word “love” is seen in the scriptures, it is being used to translate four different Greek words: Eros, Storge, Philia, and Agape. “Eros” accounts for sexual attraction. “Storge” is used in matters of family affection. “Philia” refers to fellowship and friendship. So what then is “Agape”? Haven't we covered all the love that there is?

Agape is to human beings like water is to fish. The fish does not notice that it is in water. We do not notice that the very ground of the sense of ourselves is in the context of social relationship. I cannot exist unless there is “other”. We are deeply connected and continuously in relationship with not only all human beings currently alive but those who have gone before us as well. This is “Agape”.

The love that God has for us is Agape. The living fish is not separate from water. The Living God is not separate from us. Neither are we in any way separated from each other.

And yet for some strange reason, from a very early age, most of us live as if our existence was separate from the existence of others. At the same time we live with the anxiety that arises from us experiencing that we are alone and even that we might somehow not belong. This is a very intense and apparently unavoidable part of the journey of being a human being.

My point in writing these last few articles for Advent Journey is not to defend inclusion or to defend the unavoidable sense of self and individualism. My point is simply to express that inclusion – valuing diversity, or valuing giftedness as the scriptures say – gives us a road away from the terrible illusion of individualism back to the empowering experience of Agape. I am inseparable and you are inseparable from the eternal presence of the Love of God.

When I am willing to notice that you are not me and that you are not like me and yet we are eternally connected, then I can no longer be afraid and feel inadequate.

There is more than one way to swim. There is more than one way to be inclusive. We have some many opportunities to discover and discover again how deeply related we are to each other.

But somehow we are so certain that we must hang on to our sense of self that approaching the opportunity of valuing and welcoming the stranger has to be couched in regulations and policies and limited spaces. We are certain that we must not be inclusive too much and when we do, we must do it in the right way. And so we stand apart from each other!

How valuable it is when we encounter individuals who are gifted with not knowing that they are separate. Every now and then we run into somebody who easily touches us, shakes our hand, hugs us, asks us for food or money, demands to know our name, and how we are feeling that day. Very often we think of such person as being developmentally or emotionally limited, yet such a person is the very one who is swimming with grace and who is offering us the opportunity to do the same.

It is said that the disciples attempted to separate the children and the adults, but that Christ demanded that they let the little children come on to him. Perhaps that day he was thirsty for the experience of being bathed in the water of life – for agape.

In some way today welcome a stranger. In some way today be the intrusive stranger for someone else. Let us at least get our toes wet in the wading pool!!!



Peace Week Celebration – a Play and a Panel Discussion

By Mona Marcobelli and Adele Buckley

Hello Everyone,

This is a friendly reminder that Advent Lutheran Church will be holding an event on September 22 for the purpose of promoting Peace during Peace Week.

The public is also invited to “**The 1325 Key to Peace**”, a play about women’s influence on a peace process, followed by Q & A with a panel of long-time peace volunteers. Music and refreshments included.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Advent Lutheran Church, 2800 Don Mills Road, just north of Fairview Mall.

CONTACT: 416 493 1435

COST: Free

There will be three panel members, and Adele Buckley as moderator. Before introducing the panel, I will introduce Shirley Farlinger, the author of the play, if she is able to attend.

Panel Members:

Prof. Helmut Burkhardt (ret.) - He was at Ryerson University, Dept. Of Physics; member of Canadian Pugwash and Science for Peace, actively involved in topics like “Governance for a World without War”; has international awards in recognition of his work

Janis Alton –Voice of Women for Peace, Canada. She has extensive experience as the representative of Voice of Women (a non-for-profit organization) at the United Nations in New York, and travels to meetings at least once per year; organizes local Toronto meetings

Anna Jaikaran – she is on the Executive Committee of the Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons; she and a partner visit high school and give educational presentations; she is also actively involved in efforts to prevent weaponization of space

After brief opening remarks by each one, we will open the floor for dialogue with the audience.

We invite you to come out to support this initiative and celebrate Peace with us.

Hope to see you all there!

NEWS RELEASE

From the National Office of the ELCIC

ELCIC National Bishop invites prayers for peace on September 21

Winnipeg, 6 September 2012--Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) National Bishop Susan C. Johnson invites members of the church to pray for the global community on September 21. In a letter to the church from Bishop Johnson, she encourages ELCIC members to add their prayers "to those of our sisters and brothers around the world" and pray for peace. The World Council of Churches marks September 21 as International Day of Prayer for Peace.

The full text of the letter follows.

Dear members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada:

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

*I write to you, this early fall day, to ask for your prayers. **Pray** is one of the seven action words associated with the call to spiritual renewal and deeper discipleship that I am encouraging throughout our church. I invite your prayers in two directions.*

First, I'd like you to pray for your leaders, for the members of National Church Council (NCC) and for those who support this work. NCC will meet in Winnipeg September 6-8 and have a busy and full agenda ahead of them. Please hold your leaders and your church in your prayers.

Second, I want to invite you to pray for the global community. The World Council of Churches (WCC) marks September 21 as an International Day of Prayer for Peace. Let us add our prayers to those of our sisters and brothers around the world. Let us pray for peace.

The following are two links, which you might find helpful to you and to your congregation or community. The first is a link to the WCC International Day page and to further resources. The second is the website of Project Ploughshares, a Canadian Council of Churches agency sponsored by nine Canadian churches, including the ELCIC.

www.oikoumene.org/en/news/events/ev/se/article/1634/international-day-of-pray-10.html

www.ploughshares.ca

I would be grateful if you would join with me in praying for our church, as well as joining with me and with Christians around the world in praying for peace.

Please know that every day my staff and I uphold you and our whole church in prayer.

Yours in Christ,

*The Rev. Susan C. Johnson,
National Bishop,
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.*



ALL ABOUT OUR HOUSE

Wow!!! What a Summer!!! It was hot, beautiful and probably too short. Well all good things unfortunately come to an end and summer is no exception. Here we are looking at the Fall and already missing the Summer.

Just to give you an update on what has happened over the past few months Advent hasn't taken a holiday but has kept on chugging along with the help of many.

Siamak Fadavi installed new lighting fixtures and electrical wiring in both washrooms

Our entry gardens were once again the "Talk of the Town" thanks to Judy Baribeau and her expert gardening skills. While we are on the subject of gardens the Advent gardens were expertly maintained this past season by Rosemarie Gardow, Elyas and Forazon Yousefi, Elizabeth Mathew and Ken Zhang. They have all done an outstanding job to say the least and on behalf of the Congregation I am sure you would join me in saying a HUGE thank you.

We now have City issued garbage bins however filling those bins still remains a challenge. It seems that no matter how many signs, pictures, or notices are posted many people still have trouble in separating garbage from recycle from organics. If anyone has a suggestion how to implement proper sorting PLEASE contact me. Any and all suggestions will be gratefully received.

These new bins stand in the same place where our old shabby garbage shed stood. The shed has been removed by Gerard Baribeau, thank you Gerard, and the base has been leveled, the old boards removed and there is now a new stone floor base. We will continue to have the bins exposed and "test" the waters to see what the winter weather brings and then a decision will be made if we want them enclosed or leave them as they are.

Water in the basement still remains somewhat of a challenge but hopefully a solution will soon be found.

Walter Rothenberger and I have started a major clean-up in the attic. It is amazing how an area that is supposed to be empty has the appearance of being so full. .

Thanks to Heinz Weltner and George Mclean for constructing the storage cabinet in the Cedar Hall which is used by the Mandarin Ministries.

Hopefully, by the time you are reading this article, the blue hose that runs from the street to the building will have been removed. This landscape addition was necessary because a major water main broke on Don Mills Rd. For a short time we were without water totally but the City did provide water to us via this hose as a stop gap measure.

Last but not least I want to bring you up to date on the parking lot. We encountered a bit of a delay from the start-up date of Aug 21st but we are well underway now. Hopefully if the weather co-operates and all goes as planned we should finish in about 2 weeks. I apologize for the inconvenience but I am sure everyone will be happy with the outcome. Thank you Bob (Schickedanz) for all your hard work and attentiveness.

Well I think that is a wrap. Thanks for reading,

Fran Brandes, Property Chair



OF INTEREST AT ADVENT

Inclusive Ministry Task Force Update Sept. 8th

At the Congregational Council meeting in May, a Task Force was set up to give witness to the diversity in which our Church exists both within and without us. At the last Council meeting in June, the opportunity to apply for funding from the Church Extension and Capital Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) was presented and approved. In this report I'd like to update the state of affairs with the Task Force and the areas of attention that it is focused on its application. To do that, I will be recalling the original intention of the Task Force and the objective of its work.

Original Intention: More than Multicultural: God's call to us is in diversity. Canadian churches and communities are increasingly finding themselves in the midst of diversity, or becoming more diverse themselves. This can be something to celebrate, but it can also cause us to worry about losing who we are as a community of faith. As a church, we are being invited to name and celebrate the diversity of our community and congregation, and to contemplate what God may be calling us to in this diversity. The Inclusive Ministry Task Force will be seeking out activities and conversations that will help us reflect on how that diversity already shapes us and our community, and some possible ways to be intentional in that same diversity.

Our faith as a means to be challenged and grow: “We did hear about and discuss ideas and facts about cultural differences that we had already understood. What was new was the concentration on the topic. The goal was to add depth to our understanding and equip us to interact successfully with “others”. – comment by Adele Buckley regarding Council Retreat in February

Five areas of focus:

1. **Building Capacity for Inclusion & Building Respect for Diversity Through the Recognition of “Giftedness”**
 - Jonathan Schmidt & Chris Pullenayegem/Deepening Understanding for Intercultural Ministry
 - Judith Snow/Inclusion as a call to the recognition of “giftedness”.
2. **Expansion of English Circle**
 - Additional conversation and formal ESL classes & the development of a mentoring roster.
3. **Creative Expression of Inclusive Ministry**
 - Tie into Mona Macrobelli and The Canadian National Theatre.
 - Pastor Peter’s suggestion of a community youth choir
4. **Engagement with the “garden”.**
 - Community garden Tai Chi classes.
 - English as a Second Language program for community gardeners.
5. **Creative engagement with “Word” & “Sacrament”**
 - Elyas Yousefi and the support of a Farsi speaking Ministry.
 - Introducing the context of “welcoming the stranger” into the liturgy.
 - Translation equipment for multilingual services.

A sixth pivotal area of importance is young adults. To date we haven’t been able to give it a specific identity while acknowledging its importance. Carrol Pearson has stepped forward very recently and expressed a commitment to be involved. There is the appearance of something happening in this area, *Inshallah*.

Important questions remain unclear and to date unasked. A primary one is: Is it the Task Force’s job to just write the report or are its members committed to implementing this initiative? Secondly, what is the relationship of the broader congregation, including the Council, to the initiative? We need to be clear about such questions in order to guide

the congregation through the process. Certainly when the Council next meets and the final proposal is presented for approval, all of us must be prepared to give answers to such questions.

The Task Force has expanded from the four Council members who originally volunteered (Pastor Lisinski, Mona Macrobelli, Nalini Beekie and Peter Reble) and now includes Sophia Liu, Michaela Ehring, Elyas Yousefi, and Carrol Pearson.

Submitted by Peter Reble

All of our regular classes are up and running after the summer hiatus. Xiuyan Xu leads our **Sunday School** during service hours. Pastor Lisinski will be leading a biweekly adult education class appropriately named “**Table Talks**” starting after fellowship on Sunday’s starting Sept. 16. He will also be leading a catechism course targeting newcomers to Christianity which he is calling “**Christianity 101**”. Two classes are scheduled starting Wednesday, Sept. 19, starting at 7 pm. and a consequent class Sept. 26 same time. A special **Bible Study** takes place every Sunday morning at 8:30 to 9:30 for newcomers to the Body of Christ (another name for the Church, the community of faith that comes together in Christ). It is exploring the Apostle Paul and the work of the Holy Spirit in the elementary stages of the church to which he committed himself.

The **English Circle** Sunday mornings at 8:30 is in need of an assistant to help out Michaela Ehring. Michaela is also asking for volunteers to become “mentors” for some of our regular “visitors”. This would entail a couple hours a week of being in one on one conversation. It is a truly rewarding experience for all who participate. Do not miss out on this chance of being “in mission for others”. Please be in contact with Michaela at michaela.ehring@gmail.com or before service on Sunday’s.

Men’s Group meets first Saturday of every month for breakfast and fellowship at the Rosemary and Thyme Restaurant located at 2798 Victoria Park Avenue and the corner of Van Horne.

The **Advent Choir** has reconvened for practices for all those who would like to participate. Don’t be shy to let Trevor Hicks know of any inner “songbird” impulses. No prerequisites or experience required.

Adam Lancia, and company, did it again. The Canadian Wheelchair Basketball Team won gold in a close game against Australia at the Paralympics which just wrapped up in London. How many Lutheran congregational families can claim two gold’s and one silver over the past nine years? This is very rare folks and very special. What made it double sweet this time is Adam’s mother Elizabeth and sister Valerie were there to lend support. For those able to contribute, they still are accepting financial support to cover the cost of their trip.

Grace Barbara Jones, daughter of Cheryl Drager and Darren Jones, was Baptized on August 25. The mother of Parvati Prasaud, **Kamloutie Sukhmagnal**, passed into the Glory of God on June 26. **Allan & Myrtle Greve**, long time members Advent before

moving to Ancaster, Ontario at the end of the 80's, are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this month.



Reconciling Works meets in Washington, DC

Bill and I had the privilege along with 2 other Canadians to attend Reconciling Works (formally Lutherans Concerned/North America) Assembly in Washington, DC from July 6 – 10.

One of the other Canadians was the Rev. Brian Rude who is a Missionary working in El Salvador with prisoners. His primary reason for being in Washington was to attend the International AIDS Conference which occurred after our Assembly. We were able to spend time together and hear a lot about his work. One of the profound things that have occurred in the last 6 months is that there is a gang truce and pacification process launched. It is estimated that over 1000 lives have been saved in this period as the homicide rate has dropped from 14 per day to 5.5 per day.

Pastor Brian sends greetings to Advent for their support and prayers. It was sad to hear that the National office of the ELCIC doesn't financially support his work anymore but luckily the Alberta Synod is taking up the cause. El Salvador feels like his home after being there for so many years.

The Assembly was exciting to attend the wonderful services, workshops, Bible studies, business meetings, social events and to meet old friends and make new ones. This was the first Assembly that a presiding Bishop addressed the Assembly. Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson of the ELCA was the Keynote speaker. He thanked us for remaining in the church to making it a church committed to welcoming all while some of us were not permitted full participation, experiencing marginalization and rejection. He talked about many things including the leadership we provide in the ELCA's anti-bullying commitment.

We saw an exclusive screening of the award winning film, "Call Me Kuchu". It is about the life and work of David Kato and how the LGBT community in Uganda can live while fighting for their basic human rights. Bishop Christopher Senyonjo of Uganda was present and is shown in the film. There was total silence when the film ending with tears flowing and took a while before any spoke. Did you know that there still are 76 countries where it is a crime to be gay?

The last day of the Assembly was called The Day on the Hill. We met for breakfast at Reformation Lutheran Church which is just a block and a bit from Capitol Hill. 85 of the US delegates had appointments to go to Capitol Hill to lobby their elected legislators and their staffs with regards to same sex marriages and anti-bullying. They were mostly well received. There was only one instant where one of the youth told her experience of being bullied. The legislator turned to her and said, "Did you ever think that you might be the cause of it?" She had been trained as had the others by a professional lobbyist not to respond to a negative response such as this. They also were asked to dress in their Sunday best. It was interesting to see the process.

The delegates that didn't go to the Hill were able to watch the continuous showing of the documentary film "Out Late" which Bill and I am in and have wonderful footage of Advent. It was well received.

Submitted by Walter Rothenburger



ADVENT'S FINANCIAL POSITION

At 31st August, 2012

Our Revenues

The January to August, 2012 totals for Advent's Giving are summarized below:

ADVENT'S GIVING TO TO 31/8/12

Commitments	Received to 31/05/2012	Received to 31/05/2011	Difference
Current, Festival & Loose	\$46,616.40	\$47,879.57	\$1,263.17
Mortgage	\$3,723.50	\$3,103.00	\$620.50

Sunday Sch.	0	0	0
Sub-total	\$50,339.90	\$50,982.57	\$642.67
Facilities	\$53,589.35	\$48,529.15	\$5,060.20
Benevolence	\$6,242.00	\$6,357.00	\$115.00
Received	\$110,171.25	\$105,868.72	\$4,302.53
Other Giving			
Glob Hunger	\$2,639.70	\$2,362.00	\$277.70
Parking Lot	\$9,388.00	\$0.00	N/A

Current, Festival and Loose Giving

Current giving corresponds with the "Current Budget" line of your offering envelopes, Festival donations are those from the pink envelopes at Easter, Christmas, etc., and loose are miscellaneous funds not specifically indicated from a specific member or envelope. Our total for these items for January – August was \$46,616.40, a decrease of \$1,263.17.

Facilities

Facilities revenue for January - August was \$53,589.35, comprised of revenue from extra hours, in addition to revenue from our regular users. The revenues show an increase of \$5,060.20, or about 10.4%. Bear in mind that Facilities revenue fluctuates considerably as rental payments are received. Overall, we are well ahead of last year.

Benevolence Giving

Regular Benevolence giving for January-August, 2012 decreased by about \$115.00 or 2% from 2011, not a serious decline. Global Hunger giving is forwarded directly to Synod, and does not affect Advent's financial position. The amounts are included for information only.

New Parking Lot Fund

To the end of August, 2012, total receipts for the New Parking Lot Fund totalled \$9,388.

Advent's Income and Expense

To the end of August, the Income and Expense situation is as follows:

ADVENT INCOME AND EXPENSE – TO AUGUST 31, 2012

Category	1-1-12 to 31/05/2012	1-1-11 to 31/05/2011	Variance
Income			
Current, Festival, Loose	\$46,616	\$47,880	\$1,263
Mortgage	\$3,724	\$3,103	\$621
Expense Recoveries	\$804	\$1,823	\$1,019

Facilities	\$53,589	\$48,529	\$5,060
Total Received	\$104,733	\$101,335	\$3,398

Expenses

Administration	\$4,835	\$6,614	\$1,779
Building	\$27,355	\$27,254	\$101
ESO	\$276	\$0	\$276
Worship and Music	\$6,229	\$5,306	\$923
Pastoral Services	\$58,546	\$55,423	\$3,123
Stewardship & Finance	\$33	\$14	\$19
Sunday School	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenses	\$97,273	\$94,610	\$2,663

Net Position	\$7,460	\$6,725	\$735
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2012 ESO costs include the travel, photography and honorarium for Judith Snow in February. Parish Administration costs include travel and Synod Convention costs for 2012. Worship and Music costs have increased somewhat this year, with the purchase of Choir Music and Cranberry Books.

Fred Roth
Treasurer



Shhhhh!

Silent Auction



Sunday, October 21

Help Advent raise funds for the Parking Lot by participating in a Silent Auction to be held at our Congregational Potluck Dinner.

Please donate quality, salable items (no rummage sale stuff). Items can be brought on Sunday mornings ahead of time or prior to the dinner on October 21. Indicate reserve bids and increments for bidding.

Pick up a bid sheet from Judy Baribeau.

The donor must take any unsold items back home.

Sunday Worship Roles at Advent Lutheran Church

Please contact the appropriate person's listed after the table below if you are interested in participating in Sunday worship roles.

Date	Greeters	Assisting	Readers	Communion Assistants	Counters	Coffee Hosts
Sept 23	Yvonne Cumberbatch	Lester McLean	Olga Cosburn	Mona Marcobelli	Brit and Fran	Martin and Karen Gangedeen
Sept 30	Prihan DeSilva	Erika Schurr	Peter Buckley	Nalini Beekie	Sonita and Walter	Khan Family
Oct 7	Indira Beekie	Fred Roth		Judy Baribeau	Carol and Sonita	
Oct 14	Mona Marcobelli	Peter Reble		Sonita Dillon-Rhodus	Carol	Avril Latchman and Family
Oct 21	Cynthia Stewart	Sean Fromme		Mona Marcobelli	Judy and Nalini	Astrid and Tracy Walther
Oct 28		Jonah Mills		Walter Rothenburger	Peter and Mona	Alice and Martin Hubbes

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