

ADVENTure



Advent Lutheran Church

March/April 2018

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Meetings and Events

- March 5, 7:00 p.m., Constitution Sub-Committee
- March 19, 7:30 p.m., Congregational Council
- March 25, Installation of Council Members
- March 25, Assisting Ministers

Choir Rehearsals

If you like to sing, please join Trevor Hicks and the choir as they rehearse on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the balcony. New voices are always welcome.



Annual Meeting Highlights

Advent's Annual Meeting was held on February 18 following the worship service. We needed a quorum of 20 and 30 voting members were present.

The Agenda was adopted as presented. The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held February 12 and the Special Congregational Meeting held October 14, 2017, were adopted as distributed.

Reports

The Pastor's and other Council reports were included in the Annual Report and no additions were made at the meeting.

Erika Schurr reminded everyone to consider donating to the Endowment Fund when making preparing their wills or making other donations.

Nominations and Elections

Erika Schurr, Bob Schickedanz and Judy Baribeau have completed two three-year terms on Congregational Council and are not eligible for re-election. The following persons were elected by acclamation to Congregational Council: Adele Buckley, Karyne Holgate-Lemieux, Michael Lenzner, Brit Missirlian, Carol Peck and Gabi Schickedanz. There are other vacancies on Council, and the Council can appoint persons to fill these positions for a period of one year. Sonita Dillon-Rhodus

was elected the congregation's representative on the Mutual Ministry Committee. As there has been little activity in the Endowment Fund, no changes were made to the representation on that Committee.

Financial Report and Budget

Treasurer Bill Wesioly reviewed the 2017 financial report and noted that it was a good year and we have extra cash on hand due to not having a full-time pastor for most of the year. Council approved dedicating \$50,000 in a GIC for property enhancements. Our parking lot was fully paid during the year and we currently have no debts. We set up an Anneliese Schickedanz memorial fund, and the family is deciding how that will be used. We also set up a Heinz Weltner memorial fund and money in that fund will be used for major organ repairs.

Our congregational income was down, but the rental income was up during the year. We transferred money from the Current Fund to Benevolence so that we could make our full commitment to Synod.

We noted that the income from St. Dumitru is a lot less than other users, and that situation is being addressed by charging them for the other facilities they have been using. Rates for all users in 2018 have been increased.

We passed a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Bill Wesioly then presented the budget for 2018. Our anticipated envelope revenue has been increased. We are also asking for increased donations for Benevolence. We have a new user, ABA Academy, which will increase our user revenue. Now that we have a full-time pastor, the pastor's expenses portion will also increase from 2017. Some smaller amounts have been condensed into a single line item. We had a question about the amount designated to pay for a bookkeeper. Because we do not have anyone who volunteered to do the work, it was necessary to go outside and hire someone. We passed a motion to adopt a 2018 budget of \$161,243.

Other

Jim Doak, Chair of the Constitution Subcommittee, gave an update on the Committee's initial work on reviewing Advent's Constitution.

Pastor Boone closed the meeting with a prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

If you were unable to attend the meeting and did not receive your Annual Report by email, please let me know and I will forward a copy to you.

Judy Baribeau



**Join us for Easter Worship
April 1, 10:00 a.m.**

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Pastor Elaine Writes...

"I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life..."

Deuteronomy 30:19

You have set before us choice, Adonai.

And the power to choose.

And the commandment to choose life.

Grant us the willingness to choose life, today and always.

And by life we mean all of it –

Breath and strength,

Trees and tools,

Joy and justice,

Grief and celebration,

Renewal and desire,

Sabbath and work,

The light and the dark,

Relationship and solitude,

And You, always You.

AMEN

(from Revgalpal blog).

I am a regular reader of the revgalpal blog and a fan. I find that the prayers enrich my spiritual life, the humour gives me a chuckle and the shared community of clergy helps to create a feeling of connection on days when I might feel alone. I am also participating this Lent in a daily devotion put together by Lutherans Connect. Each day there is prayer, music, scripture and reflection. I have found these devotions a wonderful routine that I look forward to each day. I encourage you to participate as well (lutheransconnect@gmail.com).

Often when we think about Lent or talk about Lent we focus on "giving up" things – whether it is chocolate or chips (or something else). We see this as a time

of denial. A time to eliminate something in our lives that might be separating us from God. But Lent does not have to be a time of denial. It can be a time for "taking something on". Perhaps this is the year to commit to a daily devotion, or to increase benevolence givings, or to volunteer to host a coffee hour or to carve out time each day to pray. Whether you choose to give up something or take something on I pray that this Lenten season will be one of connection. That you will feel connected to community and to God. That you will choose, as the prayer above asks, to live abundantly for that is what our loving God wants for all of us.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Elaine



Pastor Boone's Office Hours

Sunday – 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Monday – 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Wednesday – 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

I am happy to arrange other times to meet with you if this schedule does not work for you.

Pastor Elaine

Holy Week Worship



Palm Sunday
March 25

The service begins with a procession of palms and volunteers sharing the reading of the Passion Gospel. Please volunteer on March 11 or 18 if you would like to read a portion. All worshippers will receive a palm leaf to take home.



Maundy Thursday
March 29

Join us at 7:30 p.m. for our service of Holy Communion, hand washing and stripping of the altar.



Join us at 10:00 a.m. for our traditional Good Friday service.

We will not hold an Easter Vigil this year.

From the Loft

The Organists Psalm

For those who were present the two times I delivered the sermon on the topic of church music, you might remember my mentioning what I call “The Organists Psalm.” That Psalm is 150, the last Psalm, and one of my personal favourites.

In Psalm 150, we see many ideas in a relatively short text. Principally, Psalm 150 can be summarized as the reminder that there are many ways to praise God. Moreover, it reminds us that the instruments of praise are varied and are not limited to musical instruments. In fact, we ourselves are an instrument of praise.

But why do I call this the “Organists Psalm?” Very simply, one can see the organ in the text of the psalm.

The organ has the ability to imitate a full orchestra. It has the capability to be incredibly loud and at times incredibly soft. Its sound palate can be classified much like an orchestra: reeds, flutes and strings to name just three (although there are more). The sounds it can make varies from strings to oboes, to flutes and trumpets, to tubas and clarinets. Some organs have an added feature of chimes operated from the console and a rotating collection of bells called a Zimblestern, which sound when the organist pulls the stop that activates the hammer that the chimes hit in order to chime.

Now, let’s look at the text:

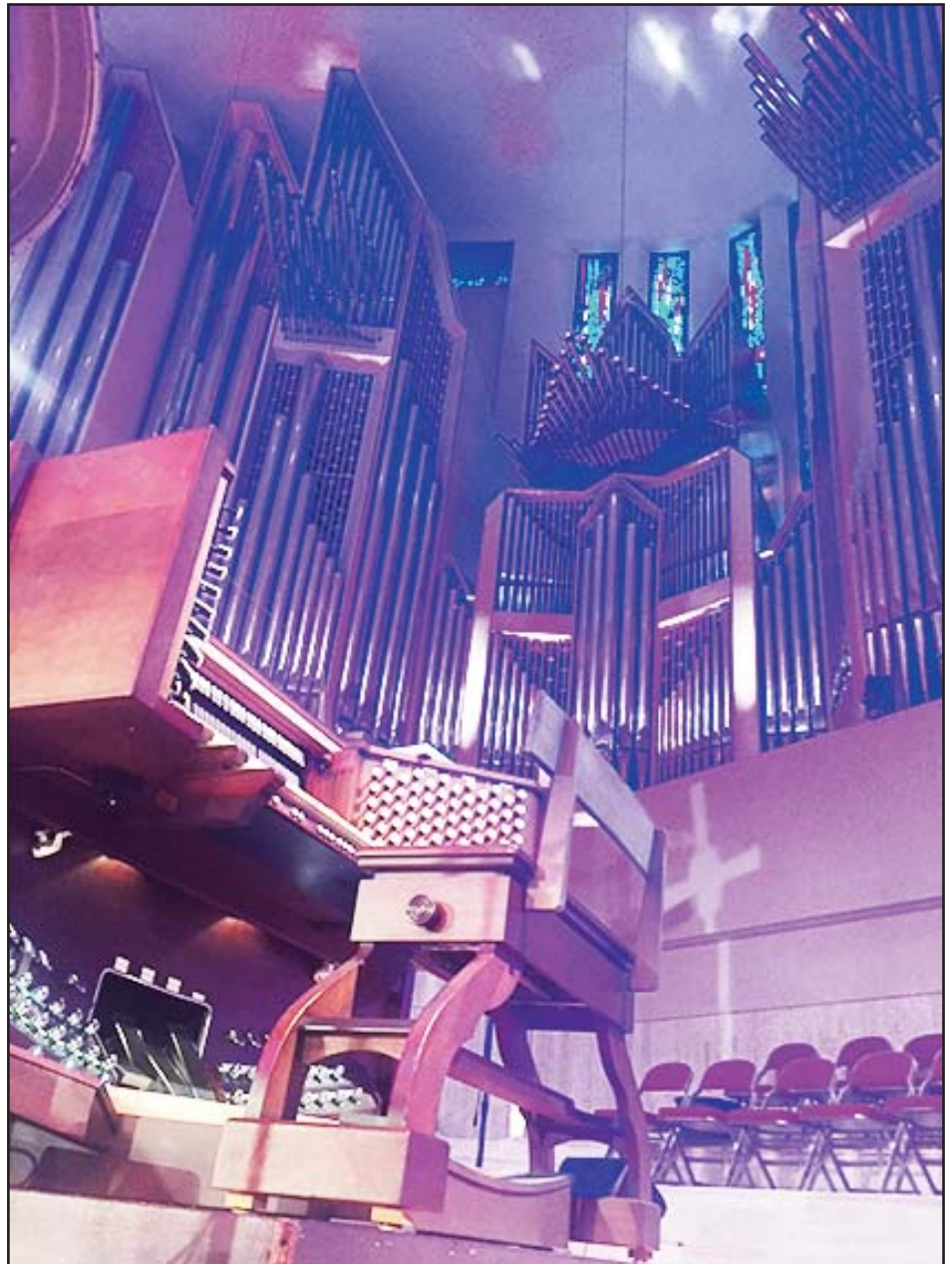
“3. Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre,

4. Praise him with timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe,

5. Praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals.” (NIV)

Does that not sound like the organ I just described? And there you have it, the reason I call this the “Organists Psalm.”

In the photo that accompanies this article, taken last summer at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church when I was in the



Fort Lauderdale area, you can see a set of pipes that come out horizontally from the chest. These are examples of reeds, more specifically, the mighty horizontal trumpets that Coral Ridge’s legendary organist emeritus Diane Bish often spoke of in her Joy of Music TV show. Perched above, you can faintly see what appears like a star. This is an example of the Zimblestern that I spoke of.

Music is vitally important to our service to God, and I invite you to sing with

full voice, be it from the choir or your pew as we praise Him. If you play an instrument and are interested in collaborating and sharing your gift with Advent, please speak with me.

As the final verse exclaims: “Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Alleluia!”

*You’re from the loft,
Trevor Hicks
Music Director*

MAID (Medical Assistance in Dying)

MAID is a topic that has grabbed the public's attention for some time and with the recent legal changes individuals, churches and medical professionals are re-examining what this will mean for Canadians. The National Church has asked congregations to participate in a study guide and to share thoughts on the issue. The National Church will be creating a new statement and policy regarding MAID. During Lent I am offering an opportunity to discuss the issue by following the study guide on Wednesday mornings and directly after service on Sundays. The remaining sessions are: Wednesdays, March 14 and 21 at 10:30 a.m. and Sundays – March 4, 11 and 18.

On Sunday, March 25, the two groups will have an opportunity to discuss the issue together and consider our feedback to the National Church. The Study guide can be downloaded from the National Church's website. http://www.elcic.ca/Decisions-at-the-end-of-life/documents/MAIDStudyGuide2016_FINAL.pdf.

Please download and print your copy of the guide.

Pastor Elaine

Georges Vanier Thanks Advent

We received a letter from Georges Vanier Secondary School thanking Advent for donating \$450.30 to its breakfast program from money received in 2017. Their program runs five days a week and serves nearly 100 breakfasts to students each day. Our Council has designated the offerings received on Ash Wednesday for the Breakfast Program and welcomes any additional donations to this worthwhile program throughout the year. ♦

Easter Flowers



On March 5, 11 and 18 we will provide donation envelopes for you to donate for Easter flowers for the church. We invite you to donate the amount you would spend on an Easter plant and designate your donation "In Memory of...", "In Honour of" or other. Please pick up an envelope for your donation from an usher on Sunday mornings and place it in the offering plate. Following the Easter service, those who donated may take a plant home with them. A list of those who donated will be included with the Easter Sunday bulletin. Please help beautify our church for Easter.

Volunteer Schedule

Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board for the Sundays you wish to read and usher. Please check the bulletin for coffee hour hosts.

	Altar Care	Greeter	Assisting Minister Communion Assistant	Counters	Coffee
March 4	Judy Baribeau	Yvonne Cumberbatch	Erika Schurr Sonita Dillon-Rhodium	Tracy McPherson Bob Schickedanz	Coffee Only
March 11	Elizabeth Lancia	Indira Beekie	Lester McLean Indira Beekie	Erika Schurr Tracy McPherson	No Coffee
March 18	Carol Peck	Elias Yousefi	Nalini Beekie Judy Baribeau	Judy Baribeau Nalini Beekie	Sonita Dillon-Rhodium & Janet Singh
March 25	Judy Baribeau	Elizabeth & Samantha Walther	Lester McLean Jim Doak	Carol Peck	No Coffee
March 29 Maundy Thursday	Walter Rothenburger		TBA Sonita Dillon-Rhodium	Nalini Beekie	-
March 30 Good Friday	Walter Rothenburger		TBA	Nalini Beekie	-
April 1 Easter	Walter Rothenburger	Cynthia Stewart	Bill Wesioly Olga Cosburn	Erika Schurr Bob Schickedanz	Olga Cosburn, Cynthia Stewart, Carol Peck, Elias Yousefi
April 8	Judy Baribeau	Joan McLean	TBA Sonita Dillon-Rhodium	TBA	No Coffee
April 15	Brit Missirlian	Adele Buckley	TBA Judy Baribeau	Nalini Beekie	Elias Yousefi & Family
April 22	Carol Peck	Olga Cosburn	TBA Indira Beekie	TBA	No Coffee
April 29	TBA	Joe Hunt	TBA Olga Cosburn	TBA	Communal Lunch. Details coming.