

ADVENTure



Advent Lutheran Church

May 2013

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The Season
of
Easter

Welcome to ADVENTure...

Following Peter Reble's resignation as editor of Advent's newsletter earlier this year, I volunteered to take on the role. You'll notice a change in format to a smaller production with shorter articles where we plan to cover all of Advent's activities. I plan to produce nine issues a year. We will also include pertinent information related to the Toronto Conference, Synod and National Church to keep you informed.

Congregational Council has started a very busy year. We have begun putting together a Congregational Council handbook that will list the responsibilities of all areas of our work. It will be updated as required and will make it easier for new Council members to begin their roles when they are elected or appointed to a position.

We are preparing an annual calendar to list all events as early as possible to avoid conflicts in schedules and to ensure the space required is available. The monthly calendar will be posted on the bulletin board and as many events as possible covered in the newsletter.

We thank George Tang for volunteering to update our website and we'll let you know when the site is completed. The website will be updated as required.

We are also reviewing all the administrative requirements for the smooth running of the congregation. Last year Joan Fox, who looked after many responsibilities in the office, resigned from her role. Fran Brandes is also resigning as Property Chair after 24 years. The Mutual Ministry Committee has met to review the administrative requirements and is presenting their recommendations to Council.

Fran Brandes is thanking people in her article, but we owe her much greater thanks for all the work she has done so seamlessly over the years. She has often joked about us giving her a gold watch when she retires – we owe her more than one. She has really kept our building together on all fronts.

Advent Congregational Council 2013

Chair	Judy Baribeau
Vice Chair	Brit Missirlian
Secretary	Nalini Beekie
Treasurer.....	Fred Roth*
Christian Education	Peter Reble
ESO	Brit Missirlian
Financial Secretary	Claus Brandes*
GWA	Brit Missirlian
Finance/Stewardship	Erika Schurr
Mutual Ministry	Sonita Dillon-Rhodus
Property	Fran Brandes* ** Bob Schickedanz
Worship and the Arts	George Tang
Youth	Carrol Pearson
CNT Relationship Task Force	Mona Marcobelli
Newsletter	Judy Baribeau
Website	George Tang

*Appointed, not a Council member

** Resigning July 31, 2013

We are reviewing the complete Property Committee role and will need a number of persons to fill all the responsibilities Fran Brandes looked after for so many years. If you are interested in helping, please let me know.

The men's group has volunteered to donate the required funds to refurbish our organ. The work will be starting later this spring and we thank the men for this generous gift.

We are updating our membership list and ask you to give any updated information – address, phone number, family changes, email, etc., to Pastor Lisinski. Our plan is to email the newsletter and all special announcements to our members.

We thank Olga Cosburn for taking on the role of scheduling coffee hosts each week.

On the back page you will find a list of everyone who will be serving in the many capacities for the month.

Judy Baribeau



ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

2800 Don Mills Road
Toronto, Ontario M2J 3B6
416 493 1435 (church)
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The Rev. Peter Lisinski, Pastor
Email: fryarpuck@hotmail.com

Worship Service and Sunday School
at 10:00 a.m.

ADVENTure... is produced for our
members and friends.

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Pastor Peter Writes...

Whew! We made it through another Hollywood Award Season. (It seems to get longer every year.) One of my pet peeves about these telecasts is the trivial “Red Carpet” interviews which always include the predictable fashion question, “Who are you wearing?”

The answers are equally predictable: Versace. Gucci. Prada. Rosarie always comments that if she ever had the opportunity to answer that question she would proudly reply, “I’m wearing Sears, or Zellers.”

Well, in this Easter season, the Gospel stories of Jesus’ resurrection also raise the question of fashion. In them we read that the tomb in which the crucified, dead and buried Jesus lay was empty – except for the grave clothes he had left behind (see Luke 24:12; John 20:5-7). This tiny, often overlooked detail raises the question, “What was Jesus wearing after being raised from the dead?” ...

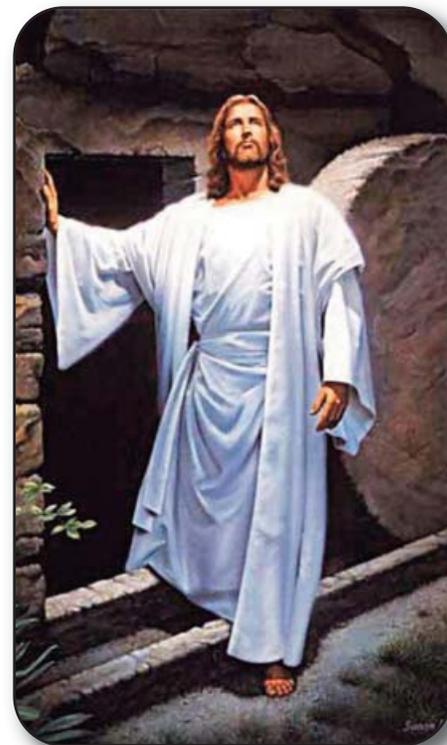
Of course, we don’t know the fabric, colour or style of Jesus’ clothing. But we do know that, having left behind the old clothing of our human mortality, Jesus has put on the new clothing of God’s eternal life. And the same is true of us. The Apostle Paul says, “As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ” (Galatians 3:27).

In baptism, you and I have our old clothing of sin and death removed, and we have been clothed with the new life of our risen Lord and Saviour. No matter how long ago; no matter how recently we may have been baptized, our “garments of salvation” (Isaiah 61:10) don’t quite fit us perfectly – yet. But by God’s grace we continue to grow into our God-given “robes of righteousness” (Isaiah 61:10) as long as we live our imperfect lives in this imperfect world.

Nonetheless, should you and I ever find ourselves on a red carpet being interrogated about our taste in fashion – or challenged to defend our Christian lifestyle – whether dressed in an Armani suit, Vera Wang evening gown, or blue jeans from Value Village – I hope we would remember our baptism and answer the question “Who are you wearing?” with integrity and credibility, oldly replying: “I’m wearing Jesus Christ.”

In the meantime, we gather in worship for alterations – that is, “altar rations” of God’s Word and Sacraments.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!



Pastor Peter

ADVENT YOUTHS!!

AGES 13 - 35



- Come watch a Movie or Two!
- Enjoy finger foods
- Meet old friends
- Make new friends
- Create a social and career network
- Help Create a better Community within Your Church



DATES:
MAY 11
JUNE 8
JULY 20






WHERE: Don Mills Advent Lutheran – FELLOWSHIP HALL

TIME: 4:30pm – 9:00pm



More Dates to Follow!

More Activities Can Be Done with Your Input and Help!

Dates To Be Determined: We will be asking one Senior Member to present a brief (5-10min) bio of themselves before the start of each Movie Night. **Why?** Think on the Career Networking and Learning Possibilities. We have a lot of Professionals in several career areas; let’s take advantage of the hidden tips and ideas that may help us to be Successful in Our own Goals.

YOUTH MEMBERS! - Looking to complete your High School Community hours or Just Looking to Volunteer and gain Valuable Experience with References, we may be able to help!

Contact: Carrol Pearson
carrolp@hotmail.ca
Text: 416-399-3159



Over the years I have submitted an article for the *Advent Journey* with the idea of keeping our Congregation abreast with what was going on – current and future.

This time I will take this opportunity to thank everyone in my Advent Family for all of the help in the last 24 years

that I have received that made my job as your property manager an enjoyable experience.

There were always Heinz Weltner and Gerard Baribeau with their trusty hammers to build closets, repair chairs, dismantle trash bins to name but a very few items. When light bulbs needed changing Claus Brandes and Fred Roth were always right there. My friend Alex Sohan, from the GCI congregation was my eyes everywhere. Arie Fox issued *concern alerts* on a regular basis so I was kept aware of things that needed tending to. The Michael-angelettes were always available when it came to wielding a paint brush and sprucing up different areas. I am probably going to miss many others who have made monumental contributions so I ask your forgiveness. Know that what you did was always very, very much appreciated.

Coffee hosts – what can I possibly say. You have ALL been more than willing to lend a helping hand as needed. I can't put into words that would even come close to expressing my gratitude. Olga Cosburn will be calling to ask for your help as of July 1, 2013.

Claus and I will in all likelihood be in Toronto many times during the year; but when any of you are in Connecticut, please know that you are more than welcome. The door is open, the bed is turned own and a meal is ready and waiting.

I wish you all God's speed and His abundant blessings.

Thanks for reading,

Fran Brandes

Mother's Day Presentation

The Canadian National Theatre is presenting on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12, a religious reflection piece, entitled "Mary Mother of The World".

The piece delves in the unconditional love of a mother for her child depicting the blessed Mary mother of Jesus, and her lamentation at His death at the cross. The narration that is based on the scriptures, delivers a powerful message that shouldn't be missed. The piece will be performed during the worship service by the talented Victoria Gangadeen.

On behalf of myself and CNT, we cordially invite you to join us in this celebration of Mothers. Please feel free to bring a friend.

*CNT Artistic Director
Mona Marcobelli*



Advent's Giving to March 31, 2013

Commitments	Received to 3/31/2013	Received to 3/31/2012	Difference
Current, Festival & Loose	\$20,217.01	\$17,129.79	\$3,087.22
Sunday School	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sub-total	\$20,217.01	\$17,129.79	\$3,087.22
Facilities	\$20,230.00	\$21,895.10	-\$1,665.10
Regular Benevolence	<u>\$2,750.00</u>	<u>\$2,015.00</u>	\$735.00
Total Received	\$43,197.01	\$41,039.89	\$2,157.12
Other Giving			
Global Hunger	\$1,059.00	\$807.00	\$252.00
Parking Lot Fund	\$3,311.43	\$3,729.00	-\$417.57

*Fred Roth
Treasurer*

The English Circle and Outreach at Advent

Have you ever been in an unfamiliar environment – it could be a different part of town, a different town or a different country?

If you have been to an environment where things were not familiar, you were probably relieved when you found someone to ask the way, to point you to a place you were seeking. If you have ever been in an environment where no English was spoken and you were not familiar with the local language, you were probably glad when you found someone who could help you out with a bit of English.

Toronto has been a focal point for newcomers to Canada for many generations and Advent Lutheran Church sits right in the middle of a community that is filled with immigrants, refugees and visitors to Canada.

The Early Years

Silke Force, Mercy de Silva and I realized a number of years ago that there seemed to be a need for people who came to our door to learn a bit of English in case they wanted to participate in worship and find out about our church and wider community. In following the example of Jesus we thought it was appropriate to “open the door to a stranger” and established the English Circle on Sunday mornings before worship.

The English Circle Today

Six years later the English circle is still in operation and fulfills a need of many as an initial point of contact within our neighbourhood. We have developed into a conversation class because it became clear that this was the primary need. As we progressed in welcoming our neighbours it became clear that it would be beneficial to those coming to us

on Sunday mornings to see more involvement with our Advent community. If we want to truly welcome the stranger, a closer bond between Advent members and friends mentoring is a great idea.

A mentor is someone who helps a mentee (somebody who is new to a job, a place, etc.). In case of mentoring a newcomer with varying language needs, the

For the summer we are planning to widen our involvement and run an ESL group for gardeners, because although we as Advent Community provide a great service to the community through the community garden, we do not have a lot of contact with the people who are actually gardening on the grounds.

The English Circle is run on a volunteer basis and welcomes any participation from members and friends.

Join Us on Sunday Mornings

Please come by and join us any time on Sunday morning between 8:30 and 9:30 and you can see for yourself what it is about. Also, if you are interested in becoming a mentor (for instance meeting with a newcomer an hour a week or once every two weeks at a time and place of your choice – it could be a cup of coffee at Tim Horton’s, a walk, etc. – please get in touch with me.

Advent Lutheran Church has been a multicultural community for a long time. It now has the opportunity to evolve into a true intercultural community by building on the foundations that already exist, one of them being the English Circle.

“It may be surprising to find that the primary aim in many community-based ESL programs is not actually the teaching of English. Contrary to the academic or business English class, which has specific language targets that the student must reach, the aims of the community centred program are often more holistic. Helping students integrate into their new community is usually the goal; the teaching of English is a means to this end, but not the end in itself.”
(COPAL Concordia Working Papers 1, 2008 ‘Launching a Community-Based ESL Program’).



benefit actually goes both ways. As a mentor you can learn about a different culture, language etc., whereas the mentee has the great benefit of being able to practice his or her language skills (which are so important for integrating into a new community).

Through the English Circle we have welcomed for instance Elyas and Yusefi Forozan and their daughter. We have also now the benefit of our Sunday School teacher who first came to the English Circle. And her daughter has now become a volunteer for the class.

Michaela Ehring

The ELCIC Beyond Advent's Doors

■ **Toronto Conference Spring Meeting, Saturday, May 11**, at Epiphany Lutheran Church, 20 Old Kingston Road, Toronto.

Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. with the opening worship at 9:30. The business meeting including presentations, reports and elections will follow. We plan to conclude by 12:45. There is no cost for registration.

Rev. Ron Ewart will join us to speak on Collaborative Ministry. He has done extensive work on the subject for the United Church of Canada and has much expertise to share with us. This is a beginning step in helping us work into our new areas.

Bishop Michael Pryse will present the Synod Report and will include information on the *Covenant Concerning the Life and Ministry of the Eastern Synod, ELCIC*.

Elections: We are looking for nominations to fill four positions on the Conference Council – both lay and clergy. Those elected will continue in their positions until restructuring takes over. There will be no Conference Council elections in 2014.

Brit Missirlian and Sonita Dillon-Rhodium will be Advent's delegates to this meeting. However, others who are interested are encouraged to attend. Significant information will be presented to help us understand the process as we move toward our National Convention this year and Synod Assembly in 2014.

■ **The ELCIC National Office will be moving on April 29** to 600-177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0W5. This move is being done as a result of staffing changes over the past few years and the office no longer needs all of its current space. The CLWR office will also relocate with the ELCIC office.

■ **Anglican-Lutheran Joint Assembly will meet in Ottawa July 3-7.** Pastor Lisinski is one of the Toronto Conference clergy elected to be a delegate. If you would like to follow the information leading up to the Assembly and during the Assembly, please subscribe through www.jointassembly.ca. You can also get information on the ELCIC website elcic.ca.

■ **Nurturing Generous Giving Workshop – October 5.** Jeff Pym will host the workshop at St. Philip's, Toronto. Those who have attended from other Conferences have spoken very highly of the event. It is open to clergy and lay members, and lay members are encouraged to attend – to learn and bring something back to their congregations. We hope to have at least three members from each congregation attend the workshop. Detailed information on registration will be available soon.

GWA Plans

The GWA is planning another "Health" presentation. We have invited Canadian Diabetes Association to come on June 17. Please watch for the poster on the bulletin board to register.

The GWA is also discussing an outing to the AGO to view their Renaissance exhibit. It will probably be on a Saturday or Sunday. If you are interested, please contact Brit Missirlian at 416 447 6895.

The GWA barbecue will be held on Friday, June 21. Watch for details.

Brit Missirlian

Seniors meet on Tuesdays,
May 7 and 21
from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Baptisms

We welcome the following persons into Advent's family through Holy Baptism

■ **Maryam Zomorodi** was baptized at the Easter Vigil on March 30.

■ **Dylan Samuel Wagner**, son of Catherine Cosburn and Lance Wagner, was baptized on April 7.

Our Sympathy

Our sympathy goes to Yvonne Cumberbatch, Joan McLean, and Joyce Tadege and their families on the death of their brother Alvin Cumberbatch.

Volunteer Schedule

Altar Care	Greeter	Assisting Minister/ Communion Assistant	Reader	Counters	Coffee Hosts
May 5 Elizabeth Lancia	Adele Buckley	Gabi Schickedanz Judy Baribeau	Peter Buckley	Erika Schurr Judy Baribeau	Sophia Lui, Qi Chen, Joyce Gao
May 12 Elizabeth Lancia	Joyce Tadege	Lester McLean Sonita Dillon-Rhodium	Erna Krause	Brit Missirlian Sonita Dillon-Rhodium	Tracey Walther Astrid Walther
May 19 Judy Baribeau	Peter Reble	Nalini Beekie Indira Beekie	Mona Marcobelli	Peter Reble	Karen McDonald & Martin Gangadeen
May 26 Rosarie Lisinski	Yvonne Cumberbatch	Fred Roth Judy Baribeau	Judy Baribeau	George Tang	Adele & Peter Buckley

Please check the Usher sign-up sheet on the bulletin board and volunteer for Sundays you are available.