

ADVENTur e



Advent Lutheran Church

November/December 2014

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St. Nicholas Day

Saturday, December 6, 6:00 p.m.

Monthly candlelight vigil at the Jubilee Peace Globe

25th Anniversary of the 1989 Montreal shootings at École Polytechnique

Advent and Christmas Worship Services

■ **Advent 3, December 14** – Lester McLean and his friends will provide a jazz liturgy.

■ **Christmas Eve, December 24** – services with Holy Communion at 7:30 and 11:00 p.m.

■ **Christmas Day, December 25** – 10:00 a.m., joint service with Grace Communion International and Fairview Church of God.



Advent's Giving to October 31, 2014

Commitments	Received to 31/10/2014	Received to 31/10/2013	Difference
Current, Festival & Loose	\$73,242.09	\$59,384.30	\$13,857.79
Sunday School	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sub-total	\$73,242.09	\$59,384.30	\$13,857.79
Facilities	\$54,856.42	\$59,875.50	-\$5,019.08
Regular Benevolence	\$7,209.00	\$7,843.00	-\$634.00
Total Received	\$135,307.51	\$127,102.80	\$8,204.71
Other Giving			
Global Hunger	\$2,635.00	\$3,421.35	-\$786.35
Parking Lot Fund	\$9,035.73	\$11,067.83	-\$2,032.10
50th Anniversary	\$3,576.50	\$455.00	\$3,121.50

Current, Festival and Loose Giving and Received from Other Charities

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. Received from Other Charities are essentially Current donations to Advent from members that are received through another charity. Our total for these items for January-October was \$73,242.09, a significant increase of \$13,857.79 over 2013.

However, it should be noted that the 2014 amount includes Received from Other Charities of \$5,541.00, whereas the

2013 total was only \$1,888.00. Our Current, Festival and Loose giving was therefore actually \$67,701.09, up \$10,204.79 from the 2013 total of \$57,496.30. This increase has actually more than offset the decline in Facilities revenue that has impacted us through 2014.

Facilities

Facilities revenue for January-October was \$54,856.42, comprised of revenue from extra hours, in addition to revenue from our regular users. The revenues show a decline of \$5,019.08, a marked improvement over the decline of \$9,036.28 as of June 30, 2014.

Bear in mind that Facilities revenue fluctuates considerably as rental payments are received. Credit for the improvement in our Property position

belongs to Brenda Kroeker, who has worked diligently to bring our Property finances in order. Excellent organization by Brenda has resulted in recovered outstanding user fees.

Benevolence Giving

Regular Benevolence giving for January - October 2014 decreased by \$634 from 2013. Global Hunger giving is forwarded directly to Synod and does not affect Advent's financial position. The amounts are included for information only.

Parking Lot Fund

To the end of October 2014, receipts for the New Parking Lot Fund totaled \$9,035.73. This included an October 2014 donation of \$200 from Working Women's monthly parking, which is expected to continue.

Fred Roth, Treasurer

Thank you

■ Dr. Ivan Khan for giving the sermon on October 19 while Pastor Lisinski was on vacation.

■ Salvation Church for giving us flowers on the occasion of our 50th Anniversary. Salvation Church is the Mandarin congregation that uses our facilities a number of times during the week.

Confirmation classes will begin on Saturday, November 15, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the church.

Our Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes to Joe, Karen and Kyle Hunt on the death of Joe's father Tharmaratnam P. Hunt on November 6. He passed away at Shepherd Village.

New Members

New members will be received at the service on Sunday, November 23. If you are interested in joining Advent, please contact Pastor Lisinski.

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

2800 Don Mills Road
Toronto, Ontario M2J 3B6
416 493 1435 (church)
905 660 7780 (residence)

The Rev. Peter Lisinski, Pastor
Email: fryarpuck@hotmail.com

Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.

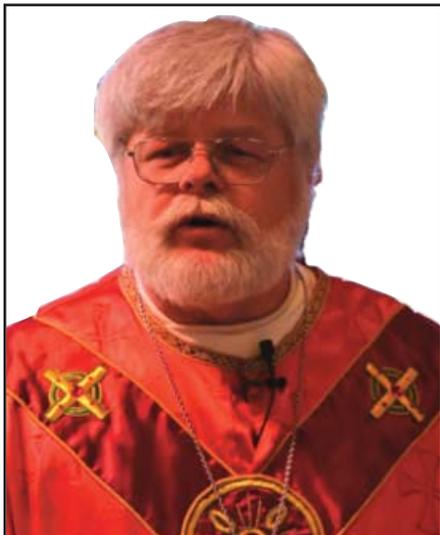
ADVENTURE... is produced for our members and friends.

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Pastor Peter Writes...



Jubilee Year Activities Continue

Dear Adventurers,

On the dark and stormy night of October 15, World Food Day, our first ever Candlelight Vigil in our Jubilee Peace Garden was held – sort of. The cold and rain forced the crowd of six – three members of Advent; one young mother and her sleepy toddler; and our invited guest speaker Angie, Coordinator of the Oriole Food Space next door – to meet in our Fellowship Hall. But the weather did not dampen our spirits as we learned that 1,900 of our needy neighbours “shop” at the food bank Advent helped to establish and continues to support.

By the time this issue of *Adventure* is published, our November 11 Remembrance Day vigil will be history, and our

St. Nicholas Day vigil on December 6 at 6:00 p.m. – commemorating the 25th anniversary of the shocking and tragic murder of fourteen female students at Montreal’s École Polytechnique in 1989 – will be less than three weeks away. Hopefully the weather and the turnout for our next two monthly vigils will be better than it was for our first.

But no matter how favourable the climate may or may not be – either meteorologically or sociologically speaking – regardless of our congregation’s degree of interest, or our community’s level of participation, the Christian church’s mission remains theological. God calls us to faithfulness “in season and out of season”, as Apostle Paul reminded his student Timothy. The proclamation of God’s word is independent of “public opinion”, and indifferent to “personal preference” – two powerful influences in our idolatrous society’s accelerating evolution toward disintegration. And so, in the spirit of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada’s commitment to be “In Mission

For Others”, Advent’s Jubilee Task Force initiated the Peanut Peace Project during our fiftieth anniversary commemoration.

Although our Golden Jubilee Year has ended – with our resoundingly jubilant banquet at Frankie Tomatto’s on October 25, followed by our gloriously jubilant Anniversary Sunday celebration the next day – nurturing peace in our Peanut *Neighbourhood of Nations* and in the world beyond remains our ongoing project as God’s advent people at Advent Lutheran Church. Please plan to share our monthly Candlelight Vigils throughout 2015. And may the spirit of jubilee, which inspired and sustained us during the year now past, strengthen us to remain vigilant as we walk into God’s promised future during our fifty-first year of mission and ministry proclaiming Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Jubilate Deo.

Peace be with you all.

Pastor Peter



Please join us during Advent each Sunday morning (November 30, December 7, 14, and 21) from 9:30-9:50 a.m. for a hymn sing of seasonal favourites in the sanctuary.

See you all there.

50th Anniversary Celebration



Former members joined with current members of Advent on October 25 at Frankie Tomatto's for dinner.



Organist and Choir Director Trevor Hicks composed an anthem entitled *Sing a Song of Peace* which the choir sang during the Anniversary Celebration service on October 26.



Bishop William Huras, Retired, preached at the service. Pastor Huras was the Pastor Developer of Advent and served as Advent's first Pastor.



The Peace Pole



Following the service, everyone was invited to stay for lunch, which included a special anniversary cake (above). We thank everyone for providing food, setting up and then cleaning up after.



A number of Charter members were present at the service.

Thank you to George Tang and Gerard Baribeau for photos.

Peanut Peace Project Banner



The banner that I created for the Peanut Peace Project represents symbols of some of our world's religions:

Top row: Hinduism, Christianity, Sikhism

Middle row: Native Spirituality, Judaism

Bottom row: Islam, Buddhism, Unitarianism

These symbols are intertwined as we, as peoples of this earth, have common goals in life regardless of our religious backgrounds in that we all want to have a roof over our heads, food to eat, family and friends, good health; and invariably we live in Peace without the fear or threat of war as we witnessed in our own country recently. It was heartening to see our political leaders in our House of Commons in Ottawa embrace each other and to see the outpouring of grief, love and solidarity by so many Canadians and others for our two fallen soldiers and their families.

My hope and wish is that we too in this community can be an example to others in this great City, Province, Canada and the World.

May Peace and Respect Prevail for All.

Walter Rothenburger

Congregational Council Update

As our year is quickly coming to a close, Congregational Council is putting emphasis on preparing our budget for next year. When you look at our financial update, you can see that this year our offerings have increased, but our revenues from users has dropped. Our donations for Benevolence are below what we have committed, and our donations for this year's Praise Appeal have only been \$270 compared to the \$500 that Council has designated. If you are able to make additional contributions to either of these funds, please do so. The current issue of *Canada Lutheran* contains an article *An Attitude of Gratitude* by Rev. Bonnie Arends that you may find interesting.

We are also continuing to collect donations to replace our altar paraments. We have ordered the green set which should arrive early 2015. The next set we will order when funds are available are the white ones.

On a happier note, we have received an anonymous donation to cover the outstanding cost of the peace pole. This is the end of our anniversary year, and at our November Council meeting, we carried a motion to dissolve the 50th Anniversary Committee and thank Mona Marcobelli, Chairperson, and her committee for their work.

There will be ongoing events for the Peanut Peace Project, and Pastor Lisinski will form a committee to plan these events.

We are also looking toward our annual meeting which will be held on February 15, 2015. Four Council members' terms are completed and we will need nominations for Council members. Mona Marcobelli is completing her second term and is not eligible for re-election. Bob Schickedanz, Erika Schurr and I will be completing our first terms and are eligible for re-election. A nominating committee will be formed; but in the meantime, if you would like to suggest someone's name, or volunteer yourself, please let me know.

I thank everyone who participated in our anniversary events this past year, particularly those who planned and did the work for our luncheon following the service on

Participatory Budgeting

It's November and that means budget time at Advent. Every committee is meeting to plan what they would like to do next year and how much they think it's going to cost and will be submitting it to Council. It's a lot of work and the volunteers who serve on these committees deserve our thanks.

I read recently about something called *Participatory Budgeting*. *Wikipedia*, my source of information in this digit age, defines the concept as:

"A process of democratic deliberation and decision-making, and a type of participatory democracy, in which ordinary people decide how to allocate part of a municipal or public budget. Participatory budgeting allows citizens to identify, discuss, and prioritize public spending projects and gives them the power to make real decisions about how money is spent."

I found this a really interesting concept and idea because that's the way we already behave at Advent. Every member of our church has the power to bring ideas, debate, vote and determine what we want our church to be. Want to us to be using a particular setting during service? There's a worship and arts committee. Have an idea for an event that you think would be a fun activity? There's a committee where you can make your voice heard. Do you want to see a larger flower garden out front? The property committee would like your input and your help.

We all have a role to play in making our church a vibrant, thriving, welcoming centre of the community. Without its members, a church is just an empty shell.

Erika Schurr

Finance and Stewardship

October 26. It was great to see a number of charter and former members present for the service and lunch.

Judy Baribeau

After-Worship Coffee Hour Changes after November 1

There are fewer and fewer people that are willing, or able, to host our after service coffee social. The people currently participating say that i) every five months is too often and ii) it is too expensive. I agree.

So, starting in November, there will be coffee hosts two Sundays per month and coffee only will be served the other weeks. This arrangement still presents some problems – someone will still have to buy the coffee, tea, milk, cream, juice, make the coffee/tea and clean up.

If you currently do not participate as a coffee host your help is needed in the following ways:

- offer to bring some supplies
- offer to make and serve coffee
- offer to help with cleanup
- make a small donation toward the purchase of supplies

Only if everyone, and I mean everyone, participates in their own small way can we keep this tradition going.

Thank you for your co-operation,

Olga Cosburn

GWA Update

■ On October 19, five of us enjoyed a walk in Edwards Garden followed by a chili lunch hosted by Brenda Kroeker.

■ **Bake Sale in Fellowship Hall** (following the service). Bring your donations priced for the sale.

■ **December 12 we will host our Annual Christmas party.** Again in the Fellowship Hall at the church. As in previous years, the main dish will be provided and then we look for side dishes, salads and desserts from the attendees. We will also have our traditional gift exchange – bring a small gift (\$2 - \$5) and, for the Food Bank, non-perishable food items. Look for a sign-up poster on the Bulletin board.

Brit Missirlian



Jubilate Deo: An Evening of Choir Music

Presented by the choirs of Advent, Fairview, Grace, Salvation Mandarin churches. Saturday, November 15, 7:00 p.m. A free will offering will be collected in support of the breakfast programs at Georges Vanier Secondary and Woodbine Junior High schools.

Volunteer Schedule

Altar Care	Greeter	Assisting Minister/ Communion Assistant	Reader	Counters	Coffee Hosts
November 15 Carol Peck	Adele Buckley	Erika Schurr Karen Doak	Elizabeth Lancia	Erika Schurr Brit Missirlian	Coffee only
November 23 Carol Peck	Olga Cosburn	Lester McLean Judy Baribeau	Karen Doak	Judy Baribeau Sonita Dillon-Rhodus	Mary Hassan
November 30 Judy Baribeau	Peter Reble	Lester McLean Olga Cosburn	Carol Peck	Bob Schickedanz Nalini Beekie	Coffee Only GWA Bake Sale
December 7 Elizabeth Lancia	Yvonne Cumberbatch	Gabi Schickedanz Carol Peck	Erna Krause	Brit Missirlian Mona Marcobelli	Mona Marcobelli Xiuyan Xu
December 14 Walter Rothenburger	Indira Beekie	Erika Schurr Jim Doak	Jim Doak	Bob Schickedanz Nalini Beekie	Sonita Dillon-Rhodus
December 21 Judy Baribeau	Elias Yousefi	Lester McLean Indira Beekie	Mercy De Silva	Bob Schickedanz Erika Schurr	Coffee Only
December 24 (7:30) TBA (11:00) Brit Missirlian		Nalini Beekie Fred Roth	Erich Lisinski Carol Peck	Brit Missirlian Carol Peck	N/A N/A
December 25		Gabi Schickedanz	TBA		N/A
December 28 Elizabeth Lancia	Jim Hicks Ted Winslow	TBA Carol Peck	Olga Cosburn	Sonita Dillon-Rhodus Bob Schickedanz	Coffee only

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