

ADVENTur



Advent Lutheran Church

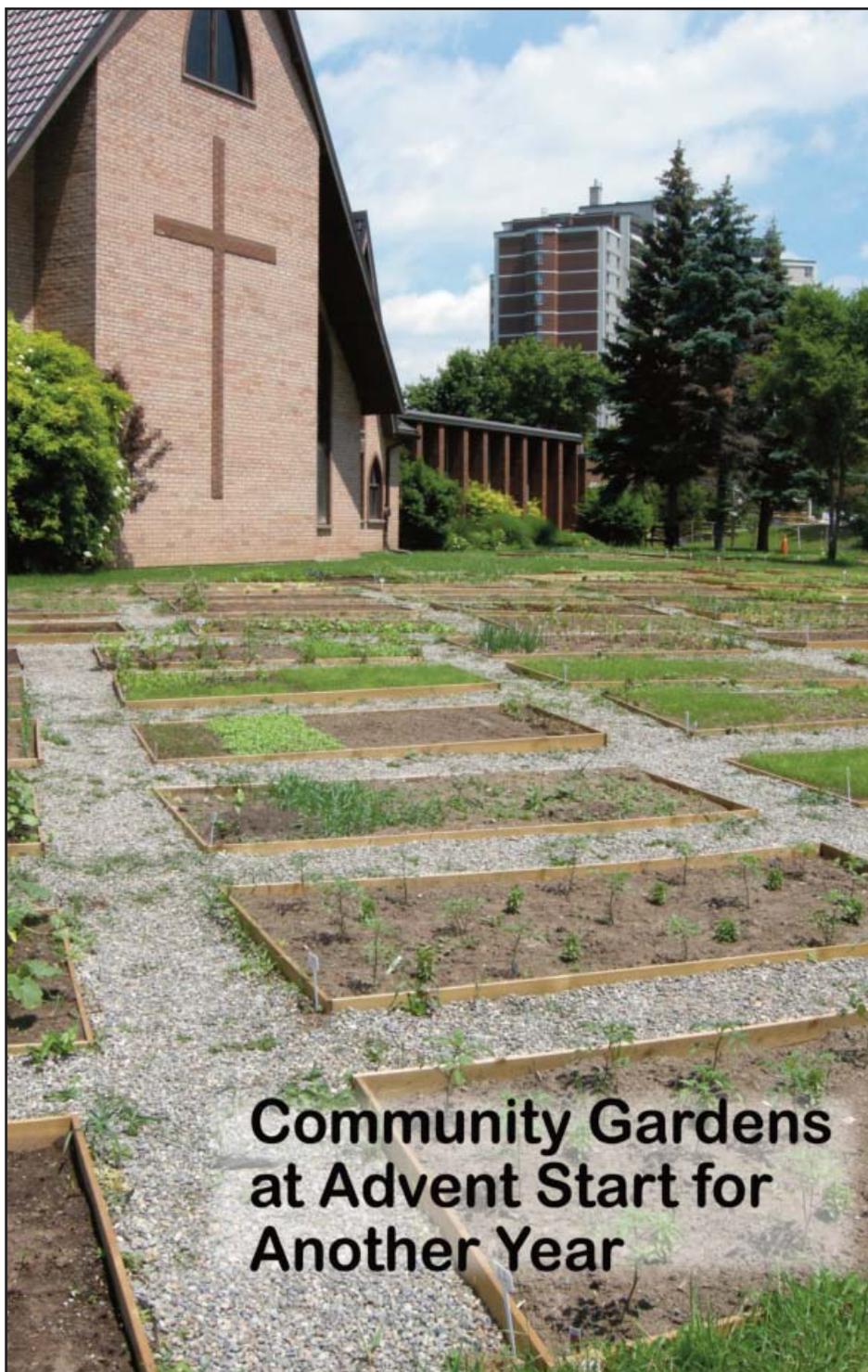
July/August 2015

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Summer Worship Schedule

For the summer, we will worship in Cedar Hall starting July 5 through September 6. We will return to our Sanctuary on September 13.



**Community Gardens
at Advent Start for
Another Year**

Advent's Giving to May 31, 2015

Commitments	Received to 31/5/2015	Received to 31/5/2014	Difference
Current, Festival & Loose & Rec'd. Other Charities	\$36,922.43	\$40,801.41	-\$3,878.98
Sunday School	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sub-total	\$36,922.43	\$40,801.41	-\$3,878.98
Facilities	\$28,356.16	\$23,804.17	\$4,551.99
Regular Benevolence	4,037.00	\$3,677.00	\$360.00
Total Received	\$69,315.59	\$68,282.58	\$1,033.01
Other Giving			
Global Hunger	\$1,430.00	\$1,327.00	\$103.00
Parking Lot Fund	\$6,479.00	\$3,778.33	\$2,700.67

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-May was \$36,922.43, a substantial decrease of \$3,878.98.

However, it should be noted that the 2014 amount includes Received from Other Charities of \$5,541.00, whereas the 2015 total was only \$3,043.20. Our Current, Festival and Loose giving was therefore actually \$33,879.23, down \$1,381.18 or 4.2% from the 2014 total of \$35,260.41.

Facilities

Facilities revenue for January-May was \$28,356.16, comprised of revenue from extra hours, in addition to revenue from our regular users. The revenues show a significant increase of \$4,551.99. Bear in mind that Facilities revenue fluctuates considerably as rental payments

are received. Notwithstanding, Brenda Kroeker's organization of rental revenues is reflected in this increase.

Benevolence Giving

Regular Benevolence giving for January-May 2015 increased by \$360 from 2014. 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 May 2015, total receipts for the New Parking Lot Fund totaled \$6,479.00.

Fred Roth, Treasurer



Please come support a fundraiser for
ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

Saturday July 25, 2015
12pm to 5pm
(weather permitting)

SUGGESTED DONATION \$10

Welcome, Pastor Moses Prashad

On June 21, we welcomed Pastor Moses Prashad and his wife Joyce to Advent. The Prashads have recently arrived from Guyana, and he is seeking a call in the Eastern Synod. During this interim period, Pastor Prashad has been assigned by Bishop Pryse to be affiliated with Augustburg Lutheran Church in Brampton and Advent. He is a former President of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana.

Our Sympathy

We received news recently that Dolores Prussak, a charter member of Advent, died. Our sympathy goes to her daughters and their families.

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.

Judy Baribeau, Editor 416 264 4527

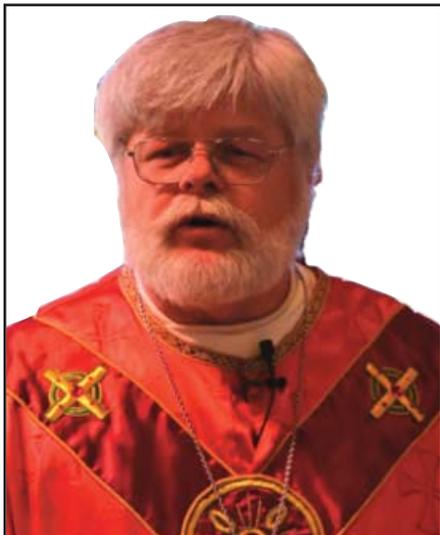
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Advent Lutheran Church

www.adventlutheranchurch.ca

Pastor Peter Writes



Dear Adventurers,

According to historian Karen Armstrong, one of the primary reasons for the Christian church's rapid growth during the first three centuries of our history – during which it was illegal to be a Christian – was its charitable outreach. “By the year 250 AD” she writes, “the church in Rome was feeding fifteen hundred poor people every day...” (*Fields of Blood*, p. 149).

At that very time, the Roman Empire was enduring much internal political conflict and social unrest. In 257 Emperor Valerian initiated a vigorous persecution of the church, seizing church assets and property, as well as forbidding Sunday worship assemblies. In response to the imperial decree that the church turn over its wealth to the government treasury, Brother Lawrence, the deacon in charge of the church's mission to the poor, gathered a large number of the blind and lame, homeless and hungry, widows and orphans in the city and escorted them to the governor's palace, presenting them with the announcement: “Here is the most precious wealth of the church!”

Brother Lawrence was immediately arrested and, after languishing in prison for more than a year, he was executed on August 10, 258 AD – possibly by being burned at the stake; but more likely, as a Roman citizen, he was spared such a

long and torturous martyrdom in favour of the quicker, more humane method of beheading.

Let anyone with ears hear what the Spirit of God is saying to our church and congregation. (see Mark 4:9; Revelation 2:7)

Have a happy, healthy, holy summer.

Pastor Peter

PS: May I present Rosie's and my second granddaughter, Arissa Rose Munday, born on June 7.

Her mother, our daughter Rachel, and husband Damian, are thrilled – as are we. But I wonder what kind of life she will have in the increasingly uncharitable world our generation has bequeathed her.



Health & Happiness Group

Fun & Learn Session 7

We meet twice a month to discuss and learn about how to live a healthier, happier and longer life. The topics include:

- Health & wellness
- Nutrition
- Exercises
- Stress management
- Pain management
- Holistic medicine
- And more

Date: July 6, 2015

Time: 7–9pm

Address:

Advent Lutheran Church
2800 Don Mills Road
(Don Mills & Sheppard)

Contact:

healthandhappinessgroup@gmail.com

Fear the Future – Understand Your Fear

This presentation is about financial literacy. As we know, fear of the financial unknown is the primary source of stress in our society and has been linked to cancers, heart attack and stroke. The presentation will be about learning how to manage these issues.

“Sometimes we can't help what happens to us, but how we react will determine the course of future events”

“To deny the reality that financial stress is caused by poor decisions is to ignore that elephant in the room”

Our speaker David K. Oshier EPC., CPCA is a senior consultant and Field Trainer from Investors Group. His wisdom about cash saving and investment would make a difference of your life.

\$2-\$5 donation is welcomed to cover the group expenses. Any extra money will be donated to the Advent Lutheran Church



Congregational Council Update

Oriole Food Space

In mid-April Advent was approached by Oriole Food Space to temporarily house their food bank at Advent for 18 months beginning September 1. This request is because their facilities are being renovated, and they have to make other arrangements if they wish to provide the food bank during this time. They approached us because other churches in the area are unavailable or do not have sufficient space. Their food bank is currently open three days a week.

They sent nine representatives to our Council's May meeting to present their request. We were not able to make a decision at that meeting and needed more information to discuss it further. They were requesting dedicated space, which we are not able to give them. Their current space is also larger than we would have available.

However, after further discussion and their measuring the space available in the room adjacent to our fellowship hall, we did pass a motion at our June meeting to permit them to use space in the room for storage shelving and a refrigerator/freezer, plus use of the fellowship hall two days a week (five hours each day) for their distribution. They would not be able to move all of their current shelving and other equipment into our space because we simply do not have the space available.

We would charge the same hourly rate as we do for all other users for the same space. This is only fair since many of our current users have modest means yet still provide support and outreach to the community.

They would also bring a refrigerator unit onto our premises, and we have to check if our current electrical wiring is up to code for their unit. They would have to pay for any costs for electrical changes.

Following the motion, we drafted terms and conditions to be included in the contract for the use of the space. We have three major long-term users of our space, and we need to ensure they have

complete access to their storage areas, as well as Advent to access our ladders.

This was a difficult decision to make, and it was not unanimous. We do see responsibility to the community; but we also have to be practical and cannot allow our other users to be inconvenienced or risk losing them. As you can see from our budget and financial statements, we require income from our users to continue our full-time ministry. We could not survive without it.

We have presented our proposal to Oriole and are waiting for their response.

Donation of items to Advent

We thank everyone who came to our spring clean-up and to Bob Schickedanz for organizing it. As in every clean-up, we discover a number of items that have found their way to the church that we have to get rid of. We ask that if you are considering donating anything electronic, furniture, etc., to please check with Council first to see if it can be used.

Altar Paraments

We will receive shortly the white, red and blue altar paraments and thank the donors for them.

Pastor Lisinski's Sundays Away

Pastor Lisinski will be attending the ELCIC National Convention as a Toronto Conference delegate from July 9-12. We thank Jim Doak who will do the sermon on July 12.

Pastor Lisinski will be on vacation August 2 and 9. The GWA will do the service on August 2 and the person preaching on August 9 will be announced when available. A pastor who will be available in an emergency during these times will be announced. Pastor Lisinski will also take vacation on September 27, October 4, November 8 and 15.

Other

Please remember to continue your contributions to help pay for the parking lot.

We still have a considerable amount owing and other needs may also come up. The car wash has been organized (Page 2) and the silent auction at our potluck dinner in October (Page 6) to raise parking lot funds. Council has started discussion on installing outdoor lighting to make it more convenient for people who are at church after dark.

Council does not have any scheduled meetings during July and August and will meet again on September 14.

Enjoy your summer.

Judy Baribeau



ELCIC
Praise
 APPEAL 2015

**Liberated by God's
 Grace: Creation –
 Not for Sale
 Advent's Goal is \$750**

Our Congregational Council has designated Sunday, August 2, as Praise Appeal Sunday. On this Sunday, the GWA will lead the worship service. We thank everyone who has already contributed to the appeal and encourage you to support the appeal if you have not already done so.

Some Call it a Journey

Some call it a journey, others, as it progresses, refer to it as a battle. Whatever name you apply, a cancer diagnosis (metastatic melanoma in my case) is a shock. My initial diagnosis came in January 2011, exhibited by a small black mole in the middle of my back. The mole was excised and a sentinel node biopsy performed, which involved injection of liquid dye in my back at the approximate location of the mole, and tracing of the dye to the lymph nodes under my arms. Surgical removal of lymph nodes under my arms reflected melanoma at Stage 3a, not advanced, but not at an early stage.

High-dose Interferon treatments were trying and I missed a month of work. Subsequent low dose Interferon treatments through 2011 and 2012 did not impact on my ability to work, and life went on pretty much as normal. My mindset was to live life as normal as possible, where both work and Treasurer's responsibilities were concerned, and try not to think of what might be in store for me in the future if the cancer spread further. Up to this point, I would say that my spiritual outlook did not change significantly. I continued to serve in a normal capacity as a lay assistant, member of Church Council, and Advent Treasurer from 2012-2014.

A June 2014 CAT scan revealed the melanoma had spread to my lungs. In September 2014 a tumour had also pushed into my brain, with symptoms of overall weakness on the right side of my body, and an inability to write (including my signature). A spill from my bicycle in September 2014 and an ambulance ride to the hospital, followed by a period at work the following day where I was

bumping into things and had limited depth perception, resulted in a trip to Sunnybrook Emergency. The diagnosis of a metastatic melanoma, which had hemorrhaged to the size of a ping-pong ball, came as a bit of a shock.

On October 3, the doctors elected to remove the tumour, and I would term the operation a success. I recouped my right side strength and my writing skills. Unfortunately, I also developed an infection, so they opened my skull a second time, cleaned the bone that was removed to access the tumour, and closed it up. Healing was slow, as I was awaiting radiation treatment, so they decided to open it up a third time and discard the bone. Hence, my rather soft, pulsating but fully healed skull of late.

Between the nodules on my lungs, for which I am presently on a drug with a strange name of Yervoy (Ipilimumab), and full brain radiation which finished just before Christmas, the doctors are making a valiant effort. The brain tumours are relatively stable, some shrinking in size and some increasing marginally, but could act up at any time. The impact of Yervoy on the lung tumours remains to be seen. I am on long term disability from my job and take it "one day at a time".

What impact has it had on my activities at church from mid-2014 onward? Well, you've probably noticed that my wife accompanies me to services. Even though she is Roman Catholic, she still volunteers as my driver (P.S. she likes our communion wine). I don't participate in sharing of the peace during the service. Instead, I sneak quietly out of the sanctuary and return in time for the offering.

This is nothing personal, just an avoidance of germs, viruses, etc.; my resistance to disease being low due to the chemotherapy. Also noticeable is the reduced quality of my reading when assisting during the service. My brain just doesn't function as it used to. Fatigue from the chemotherapy gives me difficulty when singing the hymns, and my hearing has been reduced marginally as a result of the radiation.

What spiritual impact has this part of the journey had? Going from trying to ignore the potential future advancements of the disease up to mid-2014, to having to deal with the reality since then, is quite a shock. The words of the prayers, readings, and especially the hymn lyrics, take on a whole new significance. Where once you glazed over the lyrics of a well-known hymn, you do a double-take, to take in the full meaning of the words. The prayers and psalms seem more personal than before. You even listen more intently to the sermon than previously, to take in the Pastor's message.

Contemplating the end to one's life, whenever or wherever that takes place, you go from feelings of self-pity, to ones of hope that indeed you are ultimately headed to a better place. The support of my wife and family, my Advent family, Pastor Lisinski (who endured marathon sessions at Sunnybrook during my surgeries), friends and colleagues, and the skills of doctors and staff at Odette Cancer Centre and Sunnybrook Hospital, have truly been a godsend. I don't know what lies ahead for me as I move to the conclusion of my journey, but I know I won't be alone.

Fred Roth



Congratulations

Wedding

Congratulations to Ashley Strands and Michael Day who were married at Advent on May 9.

John Dillon – 106th Birthday

Congratulations to John Dillon who celebrated his 106th birthday on May 24. Many of his family and friends worshipped with us that day and joined in a special coffee hour in his honour.

Welcome – New Member

We welcomed Harry Nastagagos as a member of Advent on May 31.

Jim Hicks – 90th Birthday

Congratulations to Jim Hicks who celebrated his 90th birthday on June 28. Jim is the grandfather of Trevor Hicks, our organist and choir director. Many family members and friends were at the service and hosted the coffee hour following the service. Trevor composed special music for the service in honour of his grandfather. The choir, Gabi Schickedanz and Lester McLean also provided special music. ♦

Learning and Living Kits for CLWR



Thank you so much to everyone who supported the GWA's drive to supply CLWR with Learning and Living Kits. We have now shipped 50 kits to Winnipeg and have closed the drive. We might come back again in the fall with another type of kit – will keep you posted. There is so much need in this world and even small acts can add up to great things.

Brit Missirlian

Advent Anniversary Potluck Dinner and Silent Auction

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, October 24, or Sunday, October 25. The date will be dependent on space available. This evening will be on a Luther theme as the Lutheran Church is planning events toward 2017 to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. We will hold our anniversary potluck dinner and a silent auction to raise funds for our parking lot. If you have items suitable for the auction (no rummage items), please set them aside for this event. More information will be available in early fall.

Volunteer Schedule

July and August will be mostly coffee only Sundays. We do have several people who have volunteered to host. They will be announced in the weekly bulletin. If you can host coffee during the summer months, please let Olga Cosburn know. Volunteers are needed to help with the cleanup after coffee. Also, any offerings of goodies are welcome.

Altar Care	Greeter	Assisting Minister/ Communion Assistant	Reader	Counters	Coffee Hosts
July 5 Rosarie Lisinski	Yvonne Cumberbatch	Erika Schurr Judy Baribeau	Judy Baribeau	Judy Baribeau Elias Yousefi	See note above
July 12 Walter Rothenburger	Indira Beekie	Bill Wesioly <i>No Communion</i>	Erich Lisinski	George Tang Sonita Dillon-Rhodium	
July 19 Elizabeth Lancia	Elias Yousefi	Victoria Gangadeen Indira Beeki	Peter Buckley	Erika Schurr Judy Baribeau	
July 26 Elizabeth Lancia	Jim Hicks Ted Winslow	Nalini Beekie Waveney Kanhai	Erich Lisinski	Erika Schurr Nalini Beekie	
August 2 Carol Peck	Mona Marcobelli	GWA <i>No Communion</i>	GWA	Brit Missirlian Elias Yousefi	GWA
August 9 Carol Peck	Cynthia Stewart	Erika Schurr <i>No Communion</i>	Adele Buckley	Judy Baribeau Nalini Beekie	
August 16 Judy Baribeau	Joan McLean	Lester McLean Olga Cosburn	Mercy De Silva	Erika Schurr George Tang	
August 23 Rosarie Lisinski	Adele Buckey	Fred Roth Judy Baribeau	Jai Sahadeo	Judy Baribeau Elias Yousefi	
August 30 Judy Baribeau	Olga Cosburn	Nalini Beekie Indira Beekie	Bill Wesioly	Brit Missirlian George Tang	

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