

February 2020

ADVENT ADVANCE



CAN YOU BELIEVE PASTOR BARB HAS BEEN HERE AT ADVENT FOR 10 YEARS?? A DECADE!! SHE GIVES PRAISE TO YOU AND SHARES A LITTLE MORE REFLECTION ON HER JOURNEY ON PAGE 7.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND LET'S CELEBRATE A DECADE WITH PASTOR BARB ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH!



WE ARE SO EXCITED TO ROLL OUT 'ADVENT'S NEW WORSHIP SERVICE CALLED "THE TABLE" STARTING ON **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH AT 5 PM.**

THIS WORSHIP SERVICE WILL BE DIFFERENT FROM OUR REGULAR SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE, BUT STILL FOCUSED ON FAITH AND COMMUNITY. READ MORE ABOUT IT ON PAGE 6.



Preparing for Rainbow Trails Camp? Check out page 5 for more information and important dates.

Vicar Aimee talks about attending a youth gathering at the Rocky Mountain Synod in Estes Park with our youth on page 8



Next month, the season of Lent is upon us! This year, Joe Munoz has offered to share his teachings in Centering Prayer. Starting on Wednesday, March 4th and all through Lent, we will meet at 5:15 and learn how to use Centering Prayer to develop a deeper connection with God. We are thankful to Joe and look forward to learning more about spiritual practices. More information on page 2!

February 2020 Birthdays



Jill Hartmann.....	1
George Boyle.....	2
Sharon Heuer.....	7
Clay Thomas.....	8
Mary Chihuahua.....	16
Marilyn Shea.....	24
Ryan Beach.....	25
Shirley Keith.....	25
Elayne Jacobson.....	27
Christina Meier.....	27
Tom Larson.....	29

If your birthday is **not** on the list, please call or email the office. Thank You

SPIRITUALITY 101 – Deepening your relationship with God

One of the many lessons I remember learning from my most influential mentor, my dad, was this... The most beautiful gift of following Christ is that we worship a God that wants nothing more than to live in relationship with us. We have gathered for more than 65 years at Advent to practice a communal spirituality that helps us develop that relationship. Spirituality is how we open ourselves to God, who is always there and waiting to enter into our hearts and minds and spirit. Practicing Spirituality is both a communal AND a personal exercise of opening ourselves to God.

This year during the season of Lent, a season of the church year that prepares us for the incredible gift of Jesus' death and resurrection, begins with Ash Wednesday of February 26th. As we do every year we will continue to mark this time with Wednesday evening Soup Suppers and Holden Evening Prayer worship. Supper is served at 6:15 PM. We are truly blessed this year to offer another opportunity to deepen our Spirituality. **On March 4th at 5:15 PM and continuing through Lent Joe Munoz, a trained Spiritual Director, will offer a time for Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary.** He will begin with a training for us on how to use Centering Prayer as a vehicle to a deeper relationship with God. On March 11, 18, 25, and April 1st he will meet with anyone who is interested to spend time in Centering Prayer and have discussion on this and other spiritual practices. If there is interest in this gathering we can continue it beyond the season of Lent.

Please consider investing some time this Lenten season in your relationship with God who is LOVE and who dared to become human to relate to and understand us. If you are unable to make this time, please include this effort in your prayers, and watch for other opportunities to join together in prayerful endeavors.

ADVENT FOOD BANK Open Tues & Thurs 10-12

Thanks to all who faithfully bring in food for our pantry. Don't forget CAN CAN Sunday on November 3rd. Here is a list of items that we need. All donations are gratefully received. **NO CORN OR GREEN BEANS PLEASE!** (we have plenty)
 crackers cereal/ oatmeal pet food
 1lb box/bag rice granola bars



2019 CHURCH COUNCIL

- Warren Blair—President
- Jesse Hammer—Vice President
- Jennifer Ragan—Secretary (Youth and Education)
- Jill Hartmann—Treasurer (Finance)
- Kara Bradley—Youth and Education
- MaryAnn Bradley—Youth and Education
- Virginia Feighner—Adult Education, EEET
- Pam Hammer—Worship and Music—Memorial
- Chris Hanson—Social Outreach, Mutual Ministry
- Tom LaRose—Stewardship
- Tom Larson—Social Outreach
- Al Muniz—Property and Garden

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

7979 Meade Street
 Westminster, CO 80030
 Phone: 303-428-7501
 Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9-3
Website: adventwestminster.org

WORSHIP TIME.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School/Adult Forum 10:45 & 10:40 a.m.

PERSONNEL

Pastor Barb Martens	Cell# 720-849-4179 adventpastor7979@gmail.com
Vicar Aimee Pagan	aimee@tangledblue.com
Natalie Borton	adventwestminster@gmail.com
Greg Komma	gkomma1@yahoo.com
Lisa Cook	lisa.m.cook@Colorado.EDU
Natalie Borton	adventwestfinance@gmail.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 8:00 Men of Advent breakfast at Morning Story on 80th and Sheridan 9-12, 5-9 SDA
2 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 Sunday School/ Adult Forum <i>Radio Players Cast Party</i> <u>CAN CAN SUN</u>	3 4 Yoga 6 EET Meeting	4 10 Women's Bible Study 7 CA 7-9 SDA	5 9 Quilt Patch 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Choir 7:30 Bells 8 CA	6 5:30 Community Dinner 8 CA	7 Office Closed	8 9-12, 5-9 SDA
9 OLTC 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 Sunday School/ Adult Forum <u>5 "The Table" Worship</u>	10 4 Yoga	11 7 CA 7-9 SDA	12 12 XYZ Lunch 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Choir 7:30 Bells 8 CA	13 ADVANCE ARTICLES DUE!! 8 CA	14 Office Closed 	15 9-12, 5-9 SDA <u>Council Retreat</u>
16 A DECADE WITH PASTOR BARB 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 Sunday School/ Adult Forum <u>5 "The Table" Worship</u>	17 PRESIDENTS DAY 4 Yoga	18 7 CA 7-9 SDA	19 9:00 Quilt Patch 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Choir 7:30 Bells 8 CA	20 8 CA	21 Office Closed	22 ADVENTurers Tour the Forney Museum 10-12noon 9-12, 5-9 SDA
23 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 Sunday School/ Adult Forum <u>5 "The Table" Worship</u>	24 4 Yoga	25 MARDI GRAS 7 CA 7-9 SDA	26 ASH WED. 12 AND 7 PM WORSHIP 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Choir 7:30 Bells 8 CA	27 8 CA	28 Office Closed	29 9-12, 5-9 SDA

Radio Players Annual Meeting and Cast Party, Feb. 2nd!

All present, past and future Advent Radio Player are encouraged to attend the Radio Players Annual Meeting and Cast Party on Sunday, Feb. 2nd after Adult Forum! Enjoy a light lunch as we decide what to do with funds raised at our recent holiday play and also discuss ideas for future plays in the spring as well as our next holiday production! Ideas and input are needed!!! Hope to see you there!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Last month we looked at the call stories of several Old Testament prophets. This month we move into the New Testament to reflect on being called by Jesus. First, we will consider how Jesus called disciples during his earthly ministry. Then we will look at the story of the risen and ascended Jesus calling Paul. Finally, we will reflect on Jesus' invitation to all of us to take up the cross and follow him.

We had another new person join us last month and always enjoy their take on things. Just grab your Bible, we have extra study material, and join us at 10 AM Tuesday, February 4th in the Fireside Lounge.

We divided up 87 stocking caps and gloves and gave them to the following elementary schools: Harris Park, Skyline, Swanson and Westminster. We thank everyone that contributed to our traditional tree and the schools were very thankful for the much needed items. One school had such a need, they were gone in a couple of days!

EEET (EXCITEMENT, EMPOWERMENT AND EVANGELISM TEAM)

Help your Triple E Team Excite, Empower and Evangelize!

Sparkling interest, excitement, and enthusiasm is the mission of your Triple E (Excite, Empower and Evangelize) Team! Help us recruit new members and excite present members! Please join us with your ideas at our upcoming meeting on Monday, February 3rd at 6 p.m. Get excited! Empower others "So All may know Christ's love!"

ADVENTurers

February: Tour the Forney Transportation Museum on Sat. Feb 22nd! Join the adventurers on a guided tour of the Forney Museum of Transportation near the Denver Coliseum on Saturday, Feb. 22nd from 10 a.m. to Noon. Sign up in the narthex and make payment to Denny Thompson by Sunday, Feb. 9th (Adults are \$14, Seniors \$12 and Children 3-12 \$8). On the sign up please indicate if you are interested in doing lunch after the tour at a nearby restaurant TBD. This should be interesting and fun! Invite family, friends and neighbors to join in for this neat experience!

March: The ADVENTurers will be attending the popular Agatha Christie's play "Murder on the 'Orient Express'" at 2 PM on March 21, 2020 at the Arvada Center. Twenty tickets have reserved at a group discount rate of \$35 per person (\$10 off regular matinee price). We must have 10 people attend to receive the discount and monies must be paid one month in advance. ***Please sign up in the narthex and pay Joan or Tom LaRose for your tickets by Sunday, February 16th.*** Those interested in dinner afterward will meet at the Black Eyed Pea. If you have any questions, contact Joan or Tom LaRose.

XYZ'S (XTRA YEARS OF ZEST)

Thanks to Alice Hanson and Donna Harris for making the arrangements for another very successful gathering at the Wishbone Restaurant on Jan. 8th. We are so glad that Alice's son, Brian and daughter-in-law Sandy, were once again able to bring Alice and stay to enjoy lunch and fellowship.

We had a very short business meeting at which time Virginia Feighner accepted nomination to President of the XYZs and was elected unanimously.

This month on Feb. 12th we will meet in the Fireside Lounge at noon for a potluck lunch hosted by Vonda Crow and Annetta Hernandez. The theme for our luncheon is "TEDDY BEARS". If you have a bear, doll or other stuffed animal that has a special meaning to you, please bring it along and share a little of the story with us. Shepherds pie will be provided so please bring a salad, fruit or vegetable, side dish or dessert to share.

We will also be discussing what to do with the money in our treasury so be prepared with some ideas. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

QUILT PATCH



The quilt group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9 am. Thank you to this group that devotes several hours at church and at home to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

ALTAR GUILD— Please consider spending a minimum of time volunteering to help take care of the altar and prepare and clean up for communion.

February 2020

ALTAR SERVANTS

Donna Clarke, Shirley Nelson, Jean Skinner

LECTORS

9:30	
Feb 2	<i>Tonya Hanson</i>
Feb 9	<i>Michelle Lamirato</i>
Feb 16	<i>Jean Skinner</i>
Feb 23	<i>Chris Borquez</i>

ASSISTING MINISTERS

9:30	
Feb 2	<i>Vicar Aimee Pagan</i>
Feb 9	<i>Kara Bradley</i>
Feb 16	<i>Ruth Cook</i>
Feb 23	<i>Judy Warhola</i>

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

9:30	
Feb 2	<i>Mark Moyer</i>
Feb 9	<i>Judy Neve</i>
Feb 16	<i>Judy Warhola</i>
Feb 23	<i>Ann Hibbs</i>

Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp 2020 – Let's get all of our kids there!!

One of the priorities we identified during our last Stewardship drive is to get as many of our children and youth to camp this summer. The theme at Rainbow Trail for this year is, "Seeing Ourselves and Others as God Does" based on 1 Peter 4:10. Our Confirmation age kids have had a wonderful, life changing time the past few years after spending a week at camp. This year we would like to try to get children of all ages to camp. Intro to Camp is a 3 day camp experience for children entering the 2nd or 3rd grades. Junior camp is a week long experience for 4th to 6th graders. Confirmation Camp will happen on July 12-18th and includes anyone entering Confirmation in the fall of 2020, or 6th to 8th grade.

Senior High Camp is for 9th to 12th graders. A week of camp costs \$ 465 per child. The council has approved some of our annual budget to help offset this cost, and there will be fund raising efforts from the youth to also contribute to Camp. We hope to get any child who wants to attend camp to go at a cost of only \$ 100 to the parents.

Camps at RTLC fill very fast, so we will need to start registering the children very soon. Please contact Pastor Barb or Vicar Aimee if you have a child, grandchild, or anyone else that you would like to get to camp. We will gather the parents in early February to help get the registrations going. If you want more information please check out the Rainbow Trail web site at rainbowtrail.org.

WORSHIP SERVANTS

GREETERS

9:30	
Feb 2	<i>River and Jennifer Ragan</i>
Feb 9	<i>Jim Bohn, Denny Thompson</i>
Feb 16	<i>Chuck and Paula Beach</i>
Feb 23	<i>Kathy Zangari</i>

USHERS

9:30	
Feb 2	<i>Cindy Lindholm, Abby Lindholm, Rene Bradley, Lizzie Graham</i>
Feb 9	<i>Chris and Tonya Hanson, Mary Lamirato, Jim Bohn</i>
Feb 16	<i>Jan and Sandi Bordner, Jeri Smith, George Boyle</i>
Feb 23	<i>Virginia Feighner, Ande Wilkins, Zephyr Wilkins, Karen Trinidad</i>

Come to THE TABLE

For those of us who worship on Sunday mornings the liturgy we use is familiar and usually comforting. For folks who haven't grown up in a church or for whom the "church" felt unwelcoming or hurtful, traditional Sunday worship often doesn't feel welcoming. In today's culture there are more folks who express "none" as religious preference than those that identify with a denomination or religion. It has been my dream for a very long time to create a worship that reaches out to that population... So All May Know Christ's Love!

Our Vicar Aimee Pakan agreed to work on this idea as her project for Seminary (all interns have to do one, think first Women's Retreat and Neighborhood Block Party). We have pulled together a team of people who have worked to make a plan with some enthusiasm. The council has agreed to help fund it, and a special donation has been given to give it a good chance of success. This new "alternative" or "Emerging" worship endeavor will be called "The Table".

"THE TABLE" WILL GATHER FOR THE FIRST TIME ON FEBRUARY 9, 2020 AT 5:00 pm IN THE FIRESIDE LOUNGE. The music will be lead by a team of musicians brought together by Aimee and Joel Pakan, who will lead the song leaders. The liturgy and style will be much different than what we use on Sunday morning, but faithful to our deep roots in Lutheran theology and tradition. It will also be very flexible, hopefully able to change with the dreams of its participants as a guide. We are hoping that some of you will join us, especially in these early days to offer the incredible hospitality that Advent is famous for.

So, if Sunday morning at 9:30 is too early for you, or if you know folks (and you all do!) who want to find a place for God in their life but have been turned off by tradition or "organized religion", PLEASE invite them to come and worship on Sunday evenings. We will have a space especially designed for children, so families are welcomed. "The Table" is a part of OUR ministry, not a separate entity. I can't wait to see what the Spirit will do in this space. I hope you are excited too!

With you on this Journey, Pastor Barb



FREE Community Dinner
Thursday, February 6, 2020
from 5:30pm to 6:30pm in the basement
Hosts: Evangelism, Excitement and Empowerment Team (EET)
Menu: Lasagna

Thanks to everyone who helped with the Dinner in January. We served meatloaf and mashed potatoes to about 50 people.

If you are able, the EEE Team would appreciate your help. It is also wonderful when you come and visit with our guests while sharing a meal.

MISCELLANEOUS & THANK YOU'S

A Decade of Ministry Together!!

It hardly seems possible that on February 15th, 2020 we will mark 10 years of ministry that we have done together in this place! I see Ben, our first baptism and Julia, our first baby born after I started as your called pastor, and I am flabbergasted that the decade has gone by. It has been a wild ride of joy, heartache, love and challenge. But through it all Advent Lutheran Church has managed to thrive while many congregations around us are barely hanging on.

First of all let me say to all of you **THANK-YOU, THANK-YOU, THANK-YOU** for the love and support you've given me through the years. Thanks to all of you who have served on committees and council; who have made worship work; contributed to Advent being a place of refuge for those who have lost loved ones; for the hours spend on task forces and in meetings; for jumping in and tackling every challenge the world has put before us; for your commitment to prayer and hospitality. Mostly, I thank God for you because you truly strive to make sure that "All may know Christ's Love". You really do it beyond words, but in how we live together as a community in Christ.

On **Sunday, February 16th** let's take a moment to mark this occasion, and enter the future with excitement. It won't be a big deal, probably cupcakes and memory sharing. I just wanted to be sure that we don't let this go by without marking the incredible blessing we've been to each other. Hope you'll join us.
Pastor Barb and the EEET Team

Thank you!

The staff, children and families of Swanson Elementary want to Thank You for your generous donation of mittens and hats. Our children often come to school without the proper clothing to protect them in cold weather.

Recently, we received a warm and generous donation of hats and mittens for our Students at Westminster Academy. This donation came at a time when temperatures are cold, and the need for items like these increases for the kids. We have already begun to put the clothing to good use, and cannot thank you enough for helping to support our students, and families. Please know how much we appreciate your help as a part of our community.



Thank you to EVERYONE on the **Christian Care Team**. Kathy Zangari will send cards in February.

Thank you to Advent's office internet connection and Elayne Jacobson, our phone connection, when important information needs to reach the congregation. Please let the office know if you would like to be on the contact list, or if you need to update your information, or if you'd like to add someone to the Prayer list.

The Home Visiting Team is an important part of the Christian Care Team, and involves visits to home bound members. If you would like to be part of this team, please contact Pastor Barb.

To get ADVENT
EMAIL REMINDERS,
please email the office at
adventwestminster@gmail.com



Men's Breakfast is Feb. 1st – Men of Advent, remember that our monthly breakfast is on Saturday, February 1st at 8 a.m. at the Morning Story at 80th and Sheridan. All Advent men between 12 and 112 are welcome! We will discuss what we need to do to support Advent activities and events in 2020. We also will share a few stories and have a brief devotional. Help us fill our large reserved table and keep beating the Gideons in attendance!



DON'T FORGET TO CALL THE OFFICE.....

- ◆ When a new child is born or adopted into your family.
- ◆ When a loved one is hospitalized or very ill.
- ◆ To add someone to the prayer list.
- ◆ To request that the Pastor visit at home, in the hospital or care center.
- ◆ To update the address/phone numbers of family members such as college students or members moved to care facilities.
- ◆ To make an appointment to meet with the Pastor or a staff member.
- ◆ When your church community can assist you in any way.



ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

7979 Meade Street

Westminster, CO 80030

Phone: 303-428-7501

Email: adventwestminster@gmail.com

Website: adventwestminster.org

Giving Thanks For:

On the weekend of January 18th-20th I went to the Rocky Mountain Synod youth gathering with four of our Advent youth. This event took place at the YMCA of the Rockies at Estes Park. Did you know that we have some amazing young people here at Advent? While at the youth gathering, we had four worship and learning times where all participants at the event got to hear music, dance, listen to great speakers, and pray together. Our youth participated in all of these with gusto and taught me some new dance moves! They were invited to participate in smaller group conversations at the end of each large group worship and learning time. In these small groups they were able to make some new friends and share their thoughts about the ideas which were presented during worship.

We also had two worship times where our youth got to explore topics of interest like music leadership, world hunger, and they got to explore their questions of faith and identity with our Bishop, Rev. Jim Gonia.

During our free time, the youth went swimming and roller skating. We partnered with the Evergreen Lutheran youth group and this was a great time to have fun and build new friendships with them. Another fun highlight is that two of our youth participated in the variety show. One of them shared a joke and one of them won a handstand contest. It took great courage for both of them to stand in front of their peers and share these gifts!

At the end of each day, we had congregation time with the Evergreen youth group. During this time we shared our highs and lows (or kyries and glorias), read our theme verse (Romans 12:1-2) and talked more deeply about how God is working to transform us. We ended both nights in prayer.

I'm extremely proud of our youth for their willingness to grow in faith and to share more deeply who they are with one another and with me. They showed courage, made new friends, and learned more about their faith. May we all learn by their example!

Under the Mercy,
Vicar Aimee