



THE ADVENTURE



OCTOBER 2025

CALLED TO VENTURES...

by Rev. Dr. Gabriele Schroeder

It is the last day of September, and my October newsletter article is by now badly overdue ... but what shall I write about?

The prophet Isaiah says that the word that comes from God's mouth won't return empty to God, but "it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it" (Isaiah 55:11). I firmly believe Isaiah's words to be true, but they don't make the task of sitting down and writing a newsletter article any easier. My staring at a blank screen hasn't helped either, and neither has my looking at what other pastors in other places have written. So, I do what I often do in this situation – sit back and ask myself the same question, "*What is it that Advent Lutheran Church needs to hear right now?*" And then I wait . . .

I firmly trust that God is with us as a congregation and that God cares *about* us and *for* us. Our congregation is facing significant challenges. We are an aging congregation. Over the past few years, some of the folks that regularly warmed the pew

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COUNCIL CONNECTION

BY KAREN FRANZ

My view from the pew is usually from the choir loft. I enjoy watching the comings and greetings, hugs, gasps of surprise and pats on the arms. These loving gestures all say The Welcome Place to me. Our



family came to Advent after leaving another church and needing a church home. I met Kari Buehler in the girl's locker room at ARC in 1980. I don't

remember what prompted me to ask (well actually I do) where her family attended church, she told me, and I thought Great! I went home and asked my folks and sister if we could go to Advent for Easter service. We went and felt so welcome, afterwards we said, "Let's join." Years later when my husband Todd and I were dating, he came to a service with my parents and I and after the sermon, looked over at my Dad and asked, "Could I become a Lutheran?" and happily he soon did. We married here and had our sons baptized here. I taught Sunday school as a young teacher and later assisted with Wednesday night classes. For many years I led the Vacation Bible School music, assisted by so many friends and learning new technologies as years passed. By the end we were pretty cool with our music videos and

dancing! I've been in choir for years and love it very much, when people ask what my hobby is, I say singing in the choir. I recently became an assisting minister which has been a goal for a long time. When I was going through confirmation in 1974, I asked my pastor if I could be an acolyte, (he really was a wonderful person but) Hurumphed! And said, "Absolutely not, girls are not allowed to be acolytes" so yay for times a-changin'. I have also recently joined our Church Council...a whole other view...I heard of many of the background goings-ons from my dad, Jim Pederson, who was on council, finance, building chairman, Tuesday Crew, President and Bass Singer in the Choir and Men's Chorus. He'd say, "I have Council tonight", I'd groan and say, "Ugh!" Whenever there was an upcoming budget or congregational meeting, he would declare to my mom and I that we had to stay for the meeting to ensure a quorum, funny I don't think our presence ever tipped the scales. I am very proud of all the contributions dad made to our church. Happily, my feelings about going to meetings is a-changin' too. As we are finishing up our recent Campus Improvements I am so happy for it! The front area looks so great with the welcoming cross inviting our neighbors to worship with us. The newly paved parking

COUNCIL CONNECTION (CONTINUED)

lot does indeed welcome community members to experience Christ in action through the bounty of the Sunrise Christian Food Ministry. The new patio is lovely and safe! What a blessing. The cross on the hill stands so bright on our "tallest hill in Citrus Heights" a beacon for all to gaze upon and remember God's most gracious love. A memorial rose garden has been placed at the bottom in loving remembrance of our members who have passed. Thank you all so

much for these improvements (there are probably many more but I don't know everything yet!). Thank you, Robin Bevier, for your strong, hard working commitment to making this happen, thank you, congregation, Council, and Pastor for supporting through monetary, physical and spiritual means. As a result of these great efforts our Advent campus continues to be The Welcome Place.

Karen

HART HAPPENINGS

BY BARBARA OLSON

On October 24 HART will be hosting their annual Spaghetti Fest fundraiser for 2025. We will have 3 tables available for Advent members and friends who would like to show their support for HART and enjoy a fun evening together. During September there will be sign up sheets in the narthex for the seats available. There is no request for payment, but if you want to contribute for your meal or want to bid on items at the silent auction and the raffle, your contribution will be much appreciated. In addition to the fundraising there will be live music and dancing.



If you would prefer to purchase your own table and invite your family and friends to join you, contact Barbara Olson at 916-765-3147 for information.

See more Hart Happenings on Page 10!

WAYS TO WELLNESS

BY DEBBIE & ERNIE LEPORINI



Fall is upon us. Summer is over. I don't know about you, but I am glad for the end of the heat, looking forward to cooler days, fall colors, and new adventures. As we move into the new season, Ways to Wellness has begun laying out our schedule for the rest of 2025.

Our Fall has already started with the Fraud Prevention Seminar on September 14. There was so much good information provided to help us stay safe in this digital age. Probably the biggest takeaway for me was remembering that nothing on phone calls, emails or text messages needs an urgent response! That will give me time to slow down, talk to others and check things out appropriately. If you were unable to attend and would like a copy of the material, let us know.

On October 17/18, Advent will send a team to a "Fresh Expressions" Retreat at St. John's, where they will learn how to "...mesh the existing church culture with newly-inspired ways of reaching those who don't go to church."

On Tuesday, October 21, we will be going on an outing to Apple Hill. Word on the street is that the apple crop this year is the best ever, so there should be adequate supplies of apples, apple pies, and apple donuts to taste and enjoy. Let us know what your favorite farm is.

Tuesday, November 11 at 2:30pm, we will meet at the Food Closet with the youth to sort and pack Thanksgiving meals.

Also in November, we hope to do an art event. So, get into artist mode and come to have a good time and fellowship as we get creative.

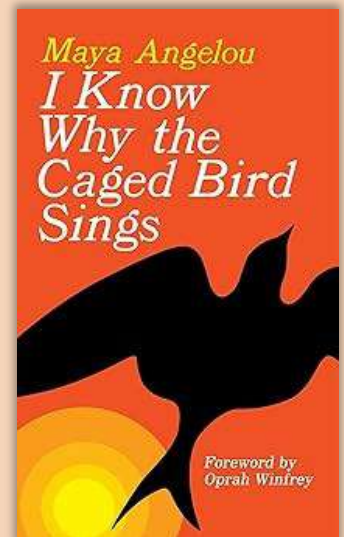
And in December (maybe on the 14th), after church, come to the Fellowship Hall for a Christmas craft project event, co-sponsored with the Christian Ed/Youth Committee.

Be sure and watch your email and bulletin announcements for details. I am excited for the upcoming events (especially the apple pies).

ZOOM BOOK CLUB

Our book club meets monthly on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7pm via Zoom. The next meeting is on October 20th. The book club has selected "*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*" for October's discussion:

Here is a book as joyous and painful, as mysterious and memorable, as childhood itself. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* captures the longing of lonely children, the brute insult of bigotry, and the wonder of words that can make the world right. Maya Angelou's debut memoir is a modern American classic beloved worldwide.



Sent by their mother to live with their devout, self-sufficient grandmother in a small Southern town, Maya and her brother, Bailey, endure the ache of abandonment and the prejudice of the local "powhitetrash." At eight years old and back at her mother's side in St. Louis, Maya is attacked by a man many times her age—and has to live with the consequences for a lifetime. Years later, in San Francisco, Maya learns that love for herself, the kindness of others, her own strong spirit, and the ideas of great authors ("I met and fell in love with William Shakespeare") will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned.



Poetic and powerful, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* will touch hearts and change minds for as long as people read.

All are welcome to join the discussion. Contact Beth Mora at emorab@comcast.net for the Zoom link.

We'll look forward to seeing you!

OCTOBER WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

DATE	10/5	10/12	10/19	10/26
GREETER	Twila Engler	Barbara Olson	Bill & Robin Bevier	Joan & Ron Conklin
PASTOR	Rev. Dr. Gabi Schroeder			
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Karen Franz	Jeffrey Belchem	Melanie Chancellor	Pat Johnson
LECTORS	Barbara Olson	Carol Crespo	Cornelia Chancellor	TBD
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Altar Guild	Altar Guild	Altar Guild	Altar Guild
ALTAR FLOWERS	Available	Lorna Mymka	Available	Available
AV TECH	Nancy King	Nolana Mymka	Bruce Hansen	Joyce Montag
LIVESTREAM TECHIE	Adam Pollock (Nolana Mymka on 10/19)			
USHERS	** Tom Chancellor, Keith Johnson, Dean Henricks			
ALTAR GUILD	TEAM E: **Lorna Mymka, Cornelia Chancellor, Carol Kent			

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Carolyn Youngquist Oct. 3
Tom Kent Oct. 4
Cheryl Adams Oct. 5
Beth Mora Oct. 12
Charles Williams..... Oct. 12
Tony Gariano Oct. 13
Shirley Cleveland Oct. 14
Noah Qalliu Oct. 18

Linda Mathews Oct. 22
Nancy King Oct. 23
Carol Keehner Oct. 29
Margaret Johnson Oct. 30
Sienna Tolman Oct. 30
Ernie Leporini Oct. 31
Steven Cook Oct. 31

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Robin & Bill Bevier Oct. 5
Marilyn & Rick Hermanson Oct. 6
Linda & Jeffrey Belchem Oct. 11
Natalie & Michael Jones..... Oct. 12



Quotables:

“The days in my life that stand out most vividly are the days I’ve learned something. Learning is so exciting I get goose bumps.”

Lucille Ball



PASTOR'S ARTICLE CONTINUED...

(continued from page 1)

next to us have passed away; other long-time members now attend worship at a different church; our choir is smaller than it used to be; the Women's Bible Study group has stopped meeting; and it is getting harder to recruit volunteers for leadership positions. In short, Advent Lutheran Church is experiencing what many mainline Protestant congregations are experiencing.

As your pastor, I am aware of the institutional challenges of keeping things running. The fact that giving is down is related to our

shrinking worship attendance and the shape of our economy. But here is the thing, I don't think that God is done with us yet. It simply means that we have reached a new season in the life of our congregation, a season that requires imagination, discernment, and creativity as we seek to meet the needs of our own members and the needs of the

community at large. I believe that God is with us as we step out to do ministry in new ways!

During this new season in the life of our congregation, the words of a prayer that is by now over a hundred years old proves ever more meaningful to me:



*O Lord God,
who called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see
the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden,
through perils unknown;
Give us faith
to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we are going,
but only that your hand is leading us,
and your love is supporting us
to the glory of your name.
Amen.*

(British clergyman Eric Milner-White wrote this prayer for the soldiers he served as chaplain during WWI).

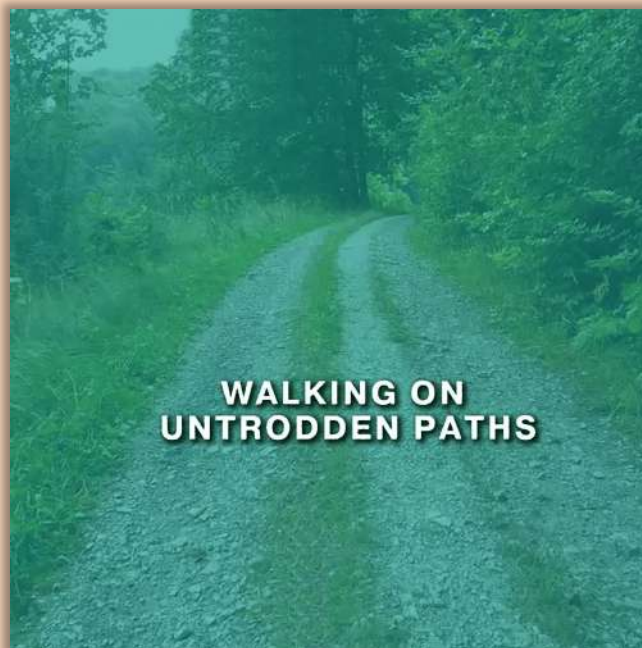
God's Word won't return empty but will accomplish God's intended purpose and succeed in the thing for which God sent it. God's purposes include showing humanity how to love, forgive, and support one another, how to bring

(Continued on next page)

PASTOR'S ARTICLE CONTINUED...

healing to God's entire creation, and how to be in life-giving community with God. Those are lofty purposes, and it is often hard to view our modest present as part of God's lofty purpose. At the same time, every small thing that we do for one another and for our neighbors is an important aspect of God's history with humankind.

Thus, I am grateful for the way that Advent Lutheran Church serves our community. We do so by partnering with other local organizations – the Sunrise Christian Food Ministry (the “food closet”), Citrus Heights H.A.R.T. (Homeless Assistance Resource Team), and Grace House, a faith-based residential recovery program that seeks to provide paths out of homelessness and incarceration, to both men and women. On Tuesday afternoons, Grace House is using our new patio to distribute hot meals to the local unhoused population (for a 3-month trial period).



Their first distribution day was September 23, with a great attendance on both the serving and the receiving end. With Advent making available our property on Tuesdays, meals are now being distributed by churches and faith-based organizations every day of the week.

Considering our aging membership, we also continue to adjust the way we function. Sunday after worship has emerged as the most popular time slot for offering classes, sponsoring outside speakers, and hosting fellowship events. We have launched a new kind of gathering ... house church. Meeting monthly in people's homes enables us to

bring the message of God's love to people where they are. A first gathering took place on September 19 at the home of Bob and Linda Mathews. We will continue offering monthly meetings in Roseville-Rocklin and surrounding areas. If they take

(Continued on next page)

PASTOR'S ARTICLE CONTINUED...

off, a similar monthly house church gathering could be launched in Citrus Heights. All the while, our Wellness Team continues to sponsor events that are tailored to the needs of an aging congregation.

The same prophet Isaiah comforts his hurting and grieving people with words of promise that he received from God, "a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice." We, my friends, are that bruised reed and the burning wick. It is to us that God promises to never abandon us and to always love and support us. May it be so!

Pastor Gabi

DID YOU KNOW...

Candy Corn is a Halloween favorite. Sure, there are lots of candy corn haters, but it's actually one of the most popular Halloween candies. It takes a second place only to chocolate, and it's the number one favorite in Oregon, Texas, Tennessee and South Carolina.



To create that striped effect, the candy corn batter is poured in three phases. First, they do white, followed by the yellow and the orange. Then, they finish the candies with confectioners glaze to give each candy its characteristic shine.

Each piece of candy corn has only seven calories. As long as you contain your munching to under 14 pieces, you can enjoy them as a tasty 100-calorie snack! They do contain a lot of sugar, though, so it's not the ideal choice for dieters.

ADVENT DIRECTORY 2025!

The new Advent Directory is available! If you have not yet received yours, please see Nancy King or call the church office at 916-966-7242. Thank you all for your patience and help as this was put together, corrected and re-corrected!

HART HAPPENINGS, PART 2

As many of you know, we were unable to participate in Winter Sanctuary last year because we no longer have the people to provide the staffing needed. Recently we were offered the opportunity to serve our homeless neighbors in a different way, when Grace House requested permission to use our front patio each Tuesday afternoon to serve a hot meal and to-go sack lunch to the homeless in our neighborhood. Grace House, transitional housing program has been offering this same service for many years behind the Walmart on Auburn Ave., but recently lost that location.

The Church Council agreed to give them a 90 day trial period to see if this partnership worked for both the church and for their mission. See photos on pages 18-19.

So come by any Tuesday from 3:30–4:30 PM and experience their ministry for yourself.



We need YOU!!! Please see Nancy King or Jeffrey Belchem to volunteer. Each team serves two months out of the year.



ADVENT CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	2 5:30pm - 8:30pm Knitters Guild	3 1:00pm Ways to Wellness 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	4 10:00am - 2:00pm CPR Classes
5 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion www.youtube.com/@Advent_Citrus_HeightsStreams 1:30pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Sunday Night HOWAA Group	6 9:30am Offering Counters 6:00pm AA Meeting	7 12:00pm AA Meeting - One Day at a Time 1:30pm Social Knitters 3:00pm Finance Committee ZOOM Meeting 3:30pm Grace House Distribution 4:00pm Executive Committee 5:30pm CPR Classes 7:00pm Christian Education Committee (ZOOM)	8 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	9 6:00pm Church Council Meeting	10 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 	11 8:00am - 5:00pm Knitter's Guild Workshop 8:30am Stem-Johnson Bike Club
12 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion 1:30pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Sunday Night HOWAA Group	13 Columbus Day Church Office Closed 11:00am Bunco Babes 6:00pm AA Meeting	14 9:30am Offering Counters 12:00pm AA Meeting - One Day at a Time 1:30pm Social Knitters 3:30pm Grace House Distribution 5:30pm CPR Classes 6:00pm HART Meeting	15 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	16 6:30pm Park Oaks Neighborhood Association Meeting (Area 5, PONA)	17 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 3:00pm Advent North - Worship & Fellowship	18 10:00am - 2:00pm CPR Classes 5:00pm Mexican Train Dominoes 
19 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion 1:30pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Sunday Night HOWAA Group	20 9:30am Offering Counters 6:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Zoom Book Club	21 10:00am Ways to Wellness Apple Hill Outing 12:00pm AA Meeting - One Day at a Time 1:30pm Social Knitters 3:30pm Grace House Distribution 5:30pm CPR Classes	22 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	23	24 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	25 8:30am Stem-Johnson Bike Club 10:00am - 2:00pm CPR Classes
26 REFORMATION SUNDAY 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion 1:30pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Sunday Night HOWAA Group	27 9:30am Offering Counters 10:00am: Serve Lunch @ St John's Program for Real Change 6:00pm AA Meeting	28 12:00pm AA Meeting - One Day at a Time 1:30pm Social Knitters 3:30pm Grace House Distribution 5:30pm CPR Classes	29 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	30	31 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	



FRAUD PREVENTION SEMINAR



The Fraud Prevention Seminar presented by the Sacramento Sheriff's Department on September 14 was extremely informative! If you'd like a copy of the materials distributed, please see Ernie or Debbie Leporini. Thank you, Ways to Wellness, for providing this opportunity!

THANK YOU FROM MARY

To my Advent Family—

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, texts and emails for my surgery recovery. I appreciate everyone's support so much.

Love,
Mary Grivna



PRAYER CHAIN INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVING

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Patty Barnes, sister of Russell Beeck and Carol Whyte, who was diagnosed with kidney cancer in mid-2024. Prayers for the success of her cancer treatment in stopping the progress of the disease.

Marcia Becwar, a close friend of Jenny Stern, who is undergoing treatment for recurring cancer. Please pray for Marcia's comfort and successful treatment.

Russell Beeck, following surgery on Thursday, 9/16. Please pray that the surgery was successful and that Russell's recovery is quick and smooth.

Herum Bjork, after a fall in his home. Fortunately there were no broken bones, but Herum did need stitches in his forehead. Let us pray for healing and minimal pain for Herum.

Kerry Briggs, Leslie Scheurer's cousin, who has moved to a memory care unit. Let us pray that the transition will go smoothly for Kerry and offer her and her family peace of mind.

Karyl Cimini, who will be undergoing a second cataract surgery. Please pray that Karyl's healing from her previous surgeries continues smoothly before this next one.

Inge Clarke, following total reverse shoulder surgery on 9/30. Please pray that the surgery is successful and allows Inge to be pain free.

Debbie, Dorothy Michaelis' daughter, who has been diagnosed with lung cancer and will be starting chemotherapy soon. Let us pray that the treatment is successful and that there are minimal side effects for Debbie.

Ted Hansen (no relation to Bruce Hansen), who has been placed on hospice care. Please pray for God's comfort and peace for Ted and his family.

PRAYERS CONTINUED...

Jeff Henry, Kathy and Ken Johnson's son-in-law, who has begun chemotherapy for pancreatic cancer. Please pray that the treatments are effective and that Jeff is able to adjust to his new lifestyle without a pancreas and spleen.

Tom Kent, prayers for increased physical strength and mobility, and the optimal functioning of his main medical devices.

Jann Knutson, who has returned home from the rehab facility she was at. Her Parkinson's Disease has worsened to the degree that she is now eligible for hospice care at home. Let us pray that Jann will feel the love of God and those around her.

The family of Mary Lou, following her death. Let us pray for comfort and protection for all those who mourn her passing.

Betty Rockwell, as she lives with the long-term effects of a stroke. Please pray for comfort and patience for Betty.

Joy Rowland, who has begun radiation treatments for uterine cancer. Let us pray that Joy's discomfort will ease, and that the treatments will be successful in removing the cancer entirely.

Audrey Werth, who has been suffering from polymyalgia rheumatica since December, causing headaches and pain. Please pray that Audrey's treatments will bring her relief from the pain and enable her to resume her normal activities.

Tom Werth, who is doing well following back surgery. Let us pray that Tom's recovery continues to go smoothly and that his body will produce new bone growth swiftly.

Carol Whyte, following shoulder surgery on 9/16 after experiencing debilitating pain for the last several months. Please pray that the surgery is successful in providing Carol relief, and that her healing is fast.

Del Oro Caregiver Resource Center in partnership with
Kaiser Permanente present:

Caregiver Academy

FREE online education for family caregivers
October 2025–December 2025



Successful Aging: It Takes a Plan

Tuesday, 10/14/25 from 10:30–11:30 am

Caring for a loved one can feel overwhelming. This presentation will provide tools for planning ahead, accessing resources, and exploring support systems to help care partners stay healthy. Elder Care Management will cover legal, medical, and financial planning, levels of care and payment options, crisis management, and hospice/palliative care.

REGISTER TODAY tinyurl.com/KA101425

Rooted in Care: Empowering Family Caregivers

Tuesday, 11/6/25 from 10:30–11:30 am

Caregiving is deeply rooted in love, family, and tradition. Join Bernadette Abrea, ACSW, for an engaging session to reconnect with your values, explore supportive relationships, and gain practical tools for self-care. A guided activity will help you reflect on your caregiving strengths, leaving you grounded and empowered in your role.



REGISTER TODAY tinyurl.com/KA110425



The Gift of Presence: Joy in Small Moments

Tuesday, 12/9/25 from 10:30–11:30 am

Discover how mindfulness can bring calm and joy to the holiday season. This session offers simple tools to stay present, reduce stress, and create meaningful moments with your loved ones. Caregivers will leave with practical strategies to nurture both themselves and those they care for.

REGISTER TODAY tinyurl.com/KA120925

Respite may be available for participants but should be requested at least two weeks in advance of the event.


DELORO
caregiver resource center

TREASURER'S REPORT

PROFIT & LOSSES AUGUST 2025



	TOTAL
Income	
4000 Budgeted Offering	15,747.79
Total 4030 Facility Use	89.00
4035 Interest Earned	531.88
Total Income	\$16,368.67
GROSS INCOME	\$16,368.67
Expenditures	
Total 6000 Personnel	14,350.98
Total 6220 Payroll Taxes and Benefits	-204.88
7015 Christian Education	100.00
Total 7030 Finance	65.70
7050 Property	235.90
Total 8190 Office Expense	26.00
8260 Church & Casualty Insurance	1,019.34
Total 8280 Service Contracts	398.36
Total 8330 Utilities	1,428.37
8345 Bank Charges	7.68
Total 8350 Benevolences	676.46
Total Expenditures	\$18,103.91
NET OPERATING REVENUE	-\$ 1,735.24

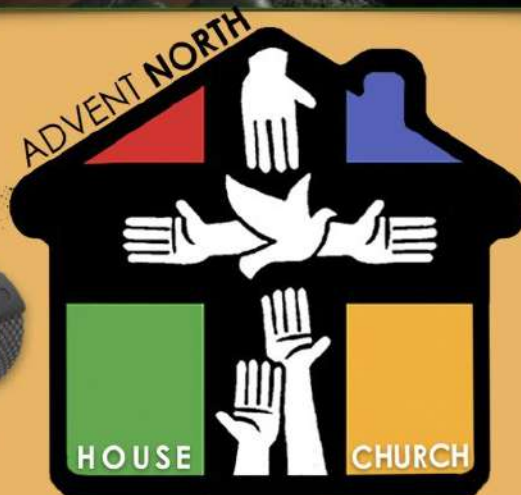


REPORT PROVIDED BY
POWERS BOOKKEEPING SERVICE, INC.
 MANY THANKS!





House
Church
Organist



Happy Birthday,
Dave!



Our new
winged friends

On the Mathews'
front porch





Grace House (a residential recovery program for formerly unhoused men), under the auspices of Citrus Heights HART, distributes hot meals on Tuesday afternoons on our new patio. Very efficient set-up, distribution, and clean-up. For now, they'll be doing this on a 3-month trial basis. The other days of the week are covered by other local churches. Thank you, Advent, for providing space on our campus for this ministry !



ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

5901 SAN JUAN AVENUE
CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA 95628

WWW.ADVENTCITRUSHEIGHTS.ORG WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ADVENTCITRUSHEIGHTS 916.966.7242



GIVEPLUS⁺

Please do not forget to send in your offerings or sign up for GIVE PLUS+, a service of VANCO, Advent's online giving service provider. A new GIVE PLUS MOBILE app for both iPhone and other smart phones allow you to donate from your mobile device. The app is available on the Apple App Store or From Google Play.

NOW, for your convenience,
'Online Giving' link is LIVE on Advent's website, in the upper right corner