



THE ADVENTURE



APRIL 2026

PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

by KARYL CIMINI

Hearing or Listening...

Do you hear, or do you listen when someone is talking to you? When having a conversation, do you actively listen to what the other person is saying, or do you subconsciously complete their sentences for them? I know I'm guilty at times of half listening to others - wanting to verbalize what they are talking about - and my interpretation of what they are saying may not be correct ... Hearing or listening?

We did an interesting activity at our family Lent and Lunch gathering a couple of Sundays ago. As a group, we were presented with an envelope containing all the Words of Institution. Our challenge was to arrange the words correctly. Now, we hear those words every Sunday during communion. What we discovered was, it took us quite a while to get them arranged correctly. An eye-opening experience, to say the least. Hearing or listening?

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COUNCIL CONNECTION

BY JOYCE MONTAG

What is Your Talent?

Volunteering at Advent has been a part of my life for over 40 years. Since Keith and I joined Advent, I've been involved as a Sunday School teacher, choir and bell choir member, Heartstrings knitter, quilter, and techie. I'm a small part of the Altar Guild and recently accepted a position on the Church Council. All have been very rewarding in my life and I'm glad I can contribute to my church in meaningful ways.

Advent offers many volunteer opportunities in different committees and groups, such as Worship and Music, Fellowship, Finance, Education, Ushers, Altar Guild, Endowment, Tuesday Crew, and Campus Cleanup.

Fellowship Committee has been a big part of my volunteering at Advent. Throughout

the years, our committee has contributed to such a variety of enjoyable activities for Advent members. Long ago, we called ourselves "the party committee," and I think we delivered on this title. I remember the committee presenting plays and skits to the delight of all. We had some talented members who wrote funny scripts and many willing actors to delight the congregation. "An Evening on the Cutting Room Floor" comes to mind as we all had so much fun dressing up as Hollywood characters and acting out parts to a funny skit.

Our summer church campouts were big events as we gathered outside of our church environment to camp, sing, worship, sit around the campfire, and swim in mountain lakes. Something about being outdoors in nature brought us closer together. It was great for the kids as they grew up together and made life-long friends. One summer, we had 100 campers and condo campers gathering together at Lake Tahoe. I remember a special baptism at a lake and another time watching marathon runners run past our

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COUNCIL CONNECTION (CONT'D)

gathering place during our Sunday morning outdoor worship.

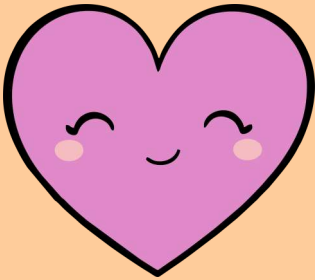
Throughout the years, the Fellowship Committee has had many different Chairpersons. Some that I remember fondly are Anna Lee Bjork, Curt Lipp, Tony Bubba, and Linda Belchem. There were probably many others that I am missing. In my years of being Chairperson of the Fellowship Committee, I am noticing our need to increase our committee membership. Sadly, some former members have needed to step away and some have passed on. We are still a fun

committee and continue to offer Easter Breakfast, receptions, and potlucks throughout the year. A rewarding part of our committee is setting up and serving for memorial receptions, helping the families where we can in a most difficult time in their lives.

We often hear that Advent's members have a variety of different talents. What is your special talent? Please consider where you can serve our Advent Church. At this time of transition, we need you more than ever!

Joyce

GODSPEED, ANNA LEE & HERUM!



All are invited to join us after worship on Sunday, April 26, as we wish Godspeed to Anna Lee & Herum Bjork upon their move to Seattle in May! This move will bring with it the blessing of living closer to their daughter, Marin, and will be an exciting new chapter in their lives—please join us to wish them well!

Quotables:

**For what has been—
thanks.**

For what shall be—yes.

~ Dag Hammarskjöld



HART HAPPENINGS

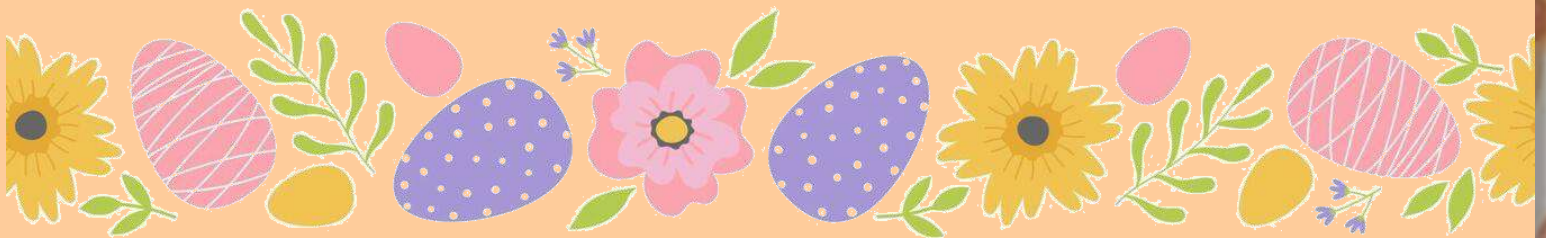
BY BARBARA OLSON

We supported another successful 2026 Winter Sanctuary that concluded on February 22 and served 51 different guests during the 7 weeks. About 1/2 of our guests were over the age of 50. While the statistics are interesting, the most important aspect of Winter Sanctuary is that we meet our unhoused neighbors regularly in a non-threatening environment. They learn that we are trustworthy, caring and able to help. As these relationships strengthen and they relax, they access needed services which improve their living conditions when the program ends.

Along with the hot meals, safe place to sleep, showers and getting clean laundry, guests were taken to the Emergency Room, 7 got necessary medications refilled and 5 guests were going to permanent housing by the time the program ended.

Remember, even though Winter Sanctuary has ended, our mission of care goes on. We are able to house and support one of the biggest Food Banks in the area. Every Tuesday we host Grace House, who prepares a hot meal and a to-go lunch for anyone who stops by between 3-4 in the afternoon. The program began in November last year and we are still working to get the word out in our neighborhood. The community Navigators attend every week and can help people access services, apply for new housing or other benefits.

Than you for practicing your Christian faith by loving our neighbors and supporting the community services that provide food each and every day. Please keep these people and services in your prayers and support them with funds when you are able.

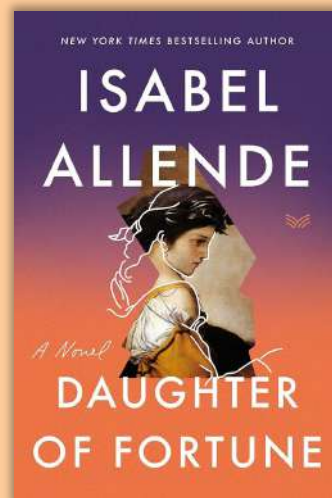


BOOK CLUB

Our book club meets monthly on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7pm via Zoom. The next meeting is on April 20th. The book club has selected "*Daughter of Fortune*" for April's discussion:

An Oprah Book Club selection!

"Allende has created a masterpiece of historical fiction that is passionate, adventurous, and brilliantly insightful...suspenseful and surprising." - Denver Post



From the revered New York Times bestselling author of *The House of the Spirits* and *A Long Petal of the Sea* comes a passionate tale of one young woman's epic journey to save her lover, set against the chaos, greed, and promise of the 1849 California Gold Rush.

Raised in the British colony of Valparaiso, Chile, English orphan Eliza Sommers meets and falls in love with the wildly inappropriate Joaquin Andieta, a lowly clerk with ambitious dreams. When gold is discovered in the hills of northern California, Chileans, including Joaquin, head north to seek their fortune. Eliza, pregnant with Joaquin's child, leaves behind everything she knows to follow her lover.

In the rough-and-tumble world of San Francisco, Eliza must navigate a society dominated by greedy men. But with the help of her natural spirit and a good friend, Chinese doctor Tao Chi'en, Eliza soon comes to discover that her search for love has become a powerful coming of age story and a quest of personal freedom.



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!



ADVENT CALENDAR

APRIL 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm NA Meeting - Here Try This	2 Maundy Thursday 10:00am - 2:00pm Underground Clothing Connection - Appt. Only 12:00pm & 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service 5:30pm - 8:30pm Knitters Guild	3 Good Friday 12:00pm & 6:00 pm Good Friday Service 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	4 9:00am - 12:00pm Easter Music Rehearsal 10:00am - 2:00pm CPR Class
5 Easter Sunday 7:30am - 9:15am Easter Breakfast 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion www.youtube.com/@Advent_Citrus_HeightsStreams 1:30pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Sunday Night HOW AA 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 - Zoom 7:00pm Christian Education Committee (ZOOM)	8 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm NA Meeting - Here Try This	9 10:00am - 2:00pm Underground Clothing Connection - Appt. Only 6:00pm Church Council Meeting 	10 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm CPR Class	11 8:30am Stern-Johnson Bike Club 10:00am - 2:00pm CPR Class
12 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion www.youtube.com/@Advent_Citrus_HeightsStreams 6:00pm Sunday Night HOW AA Group	13 9:30am Offering Counters 11:00am Bunco Babes 6:00pm AA Meeting	14 12:00pm AA Meeting - One Day at a Time 1:30pm Social Knitters 3:30pm Grace House Distribution 5:30pm CPR Class	15 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm NA Meeting - Here Try This	16 10:00am - 2:00pm Underground Clothing Connection - Appt. Only 6:30pm Park Oaks Neighborhood Association Meeting (Area 5, PONA)	17 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	18 10:00am - 2:00pm CPR Class 5:00pm Mexican Train Dominoes
19 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion www.youtube.com/@Advent_Citrus_HeightsStreams 1:30pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Sunday Night HOW AA Group	20 9:30am Offering Counters 6:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Zoom Book Club	21 12:00pm AA Meeting - One Day at a Time 1:30pm Social Knitters 3:30pm Grace House Distribution 5:30pm CPR Class	22 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm NA Meeting - Here Try This	23 10:00am - 2:00pm Underground Clothing Connection - Appt. Only	24 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	25 8:30am Stern-Johnson Bike Club 10:00am - 2:00pm CPR Class
26 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion www.youtube.com/@Advent_Citrus_HeightsStreams 6:00pm Sunday Night HOW AA 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 Class	29 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm NA Meeting - Here Try This	30 10:00am - 2:00pm Underground Clothing Connection - Appt. Only		

THANK YOU TUESDAY CREW!

Many thanks to our Tuesday Crew (Jeffrey, Rick, Biff and Donald) for springing into action this spring! Do you have a couple hours a week to join in? Many hands make light work!



The cutting and cleaning of the hill!



Pressure-washing the sanctuary patio!

The constant clean-up from the "Popcorn Trees"!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Please mark your calendar for these upcoming Holy Week and Easter activities:

April 2—Maundy Thursday Worship at noon and 6 PM

April 3—Good Friday Worship at noon and 6 PM

April 5—Easter Breakfast served 7:30-9:15 AM

- **Easter Worship** at 9:30 AM



APRIL WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

DATE	4/5	4/12	4/19	4/26
GREETER	Cheryl & Ron Adams	Linda & Jeffrey Belchem	Leslie Scheurer	Debbie & Ernie Leporini
PASTOR	Greg Ronning	Susan Scott	Greg Ronning	Bruce Hannem
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Pat Johnson	Ernie Leporini	Jeffrey Belchem	Josh & Cole Tolman
LECTORS	Leslie Scheurer	Robin Bevier	Sally Smith	Keith Montag
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Altar Guild	Altar Guild	Altar Guild	Altar Guild
ALTAR FLOWERS	Easter Plants	Available	Nancy King	Available
AV TECH	Nolana Mymka	Nancy King	Bruce Hansen	Noah Qalliu
LIVESTREAM TECHIE	Adam Pollock (Nolana Mymka on 4/19)			
USHERS	** Steve Cook, Bruce Hansen, Dean Henricks			
ALTAR GUILD	TEAM D: **Lorna Mymka, Cornelia Chancellor, Carol Kent			

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Anna WilliamsApr. 2
 Ken Johnson.....Apr. 3
 Naomi Dasari Apr. 4
 Audrey WerthApr. 5
 Troy MalaspinoApr. 6
 Dean Henricks.....Apr. 8
 Adam Pollock Apr. 10

Luke Patterson Apr. 12
 Terry HeathApr. 13
 Zelia JonesApr. 18
 Maggie CiakApr. 19
 Ron AdamsApr. 23
 Karyl CiminiApr. 24

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Theresa & Derald SimmonsApr. 16
 Cheryl & Ron AdamsApr. 20

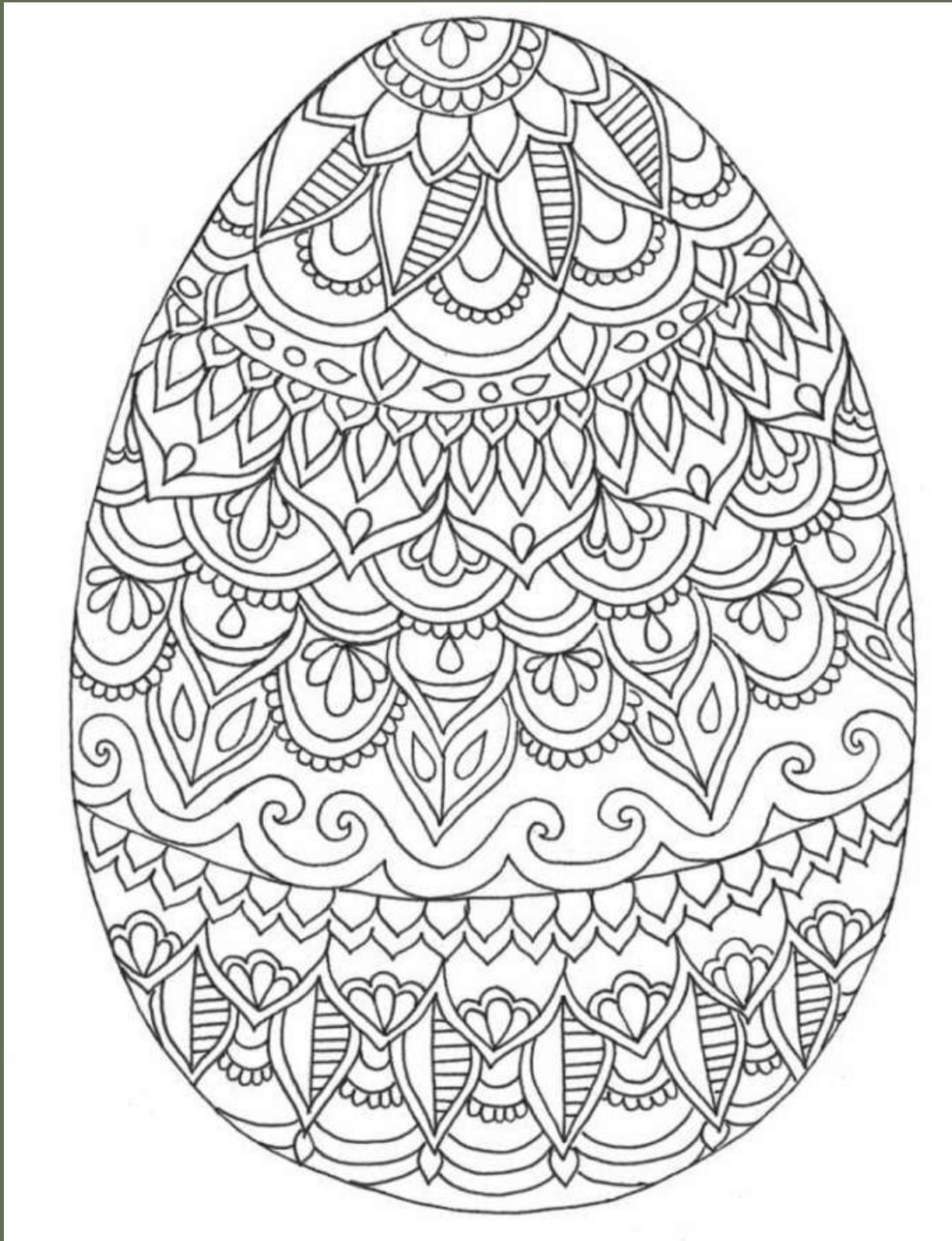


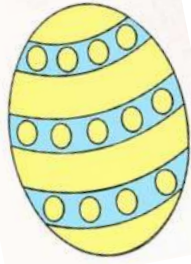
HOLY WEEK WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

SERVICE	MAUNDY THURSDAY	GOOD FRIDAY
PASTOR	Bruce Hannem	Susan Scott
ASSISTING MINISTER	12—Karen Franz 6—Dean Henricks	12—Luke Patterson 6—Debbie Leporini
LECTOR	12—Carol Crespo 6—Bill Bevier	12—Linda Belchem 6—Arlys Clinton
AV TECH	12—Nancy King 6—Nolana Mymka	12—Nancy King 6—Bruce Hansen
USHERS	Steve Cook, Bruce Hansen, Dean Henricks	

JUST FOR FUN!

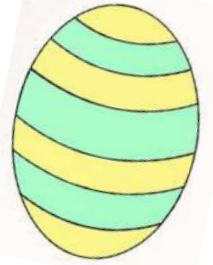
Did you know that coloring reduces Stress and Anxiety? The repetitive motion of coloring is soothing and can lower heart rates and respiration. Studies have shown that coloring mandalas (intricate geometric patterns) specifically reduces anxiety more effectively than free drawing or reading. Get out some colored pencils and enjoy this coloring page!





TREASURER'S REPORT

PROFIT & LOSSES FEBRUARY 2026



	TOTAL
Income	
4000 Budgeted Offering	12,747.28
Total 4030 Facility Use	472.00
4035 Interest Earned	5.95
4050 SCFM Rent	1,200.00
4057 Other Income - Maintenance	150.00
Total Revenue	\$14,575.23
TOTAL INCOME	\$14,575.23
Expenditures	
Total 6000 Personnel	7,314.19
Total 6220 Payroll Taxes and Benefits	432.24
7015 Christian Education	50.00
Total 7030 Finance	146.20
7050 Property	17.23
Total 8190 Office Expense	91.00
8260 Church & Casualty Insurance	1,007.45
Total 8280 Service Contracts	1,789.38
Total 8330 Utilities	1,870.54
8345 Bank Charges	11.05
Total 8350 Benevolences	2,547.96
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense	894.49
Total Expenditures	\$16,171.73
NET OPERATING REVENUE	-\$ 1,596.50

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



PRAYER CHAIN INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVING

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

The Congregation of Advent, as together we navigate this time of pastoral transition. May we all keep our hearts and minds open to the new things God has in store for us!

The family and friends of Amanda, a friend of Karen Franz, who passed into life eternal on 3/24. Please pray that Amanda's family is surrounded by God's peace.

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.

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

Greg Bell, the husband of Steve Cook's niece. Greg has been diagnosed with a tumor on his leg that his doctors are observing. Let us pray it won't grow or turn malignant.

Lou Braafladt, Twila Engler's son-in-law, who is undergoing chemotherapy for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Please pray that the treatment is successful and that Lou experiences minimal side effects.

Bobbe Brown, a friend of Suzane Henderson's, who is being treated for a rare ovarian cancer. Let us pray that the treatment is successful.

Pam Cameron, a friend of Melanie Chancellor's, who is now home from the hospital, but is suffering from shingles. Please pray that Pam is able to get relief soon.

The family of Joan Conklin, especially her husband Ron, following Joan's death on 3/25. Let us pray that Ron and family may find comfort in the knowledge that Joan is now in the loving embrace of God, and may their memories of Joan bring them peace.

Burrell DeVine, Melinda Malaspino's cousin, who has been diagnosed with bone cancer. Let us pray for Burrell's comfort and healing.

PRAYERS CONTINUED...

Pamela Dimberg, Melinda Malaspino's aunt, who has moved into assisted living after multiple medical issues. Please pray for a happy transition and for improved health.

Kris Heath, who is recovering from a small fracture in her back coupled with arthritis pain. Please pray that Kris receives relief from her pain and that her healing is smooth.

Jeff Henry, Kathy and Ken Johnson's son-in-law, who is now facing extended treatment for newly found cancer issues. Please pray for strength for Jeff and for positive results from the treatment.

Susan Howard, Diane Nelson's cousin, who is in need of prayers for general health. Let us pray for God's healing touch in Susan's life.

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

Mark, Winnie Parish's "son", following spinal surgery. Please pray that Mark has a smooth recovery.

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

Paul Streeter, Pat Johnson's brother, who is hospitalized for a spinal stroke and is battling a MRSA infection. Please pray that Paul has a full recovery.

Margaret Sumpter, a friend of Diane Nelson's, who has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Please pray that her medical team can develop an effective treatment plan.

Krissy Westfall, Diane Nelson's cousin, who is dealing with mental health issues. Let us pray that Krissy may know God's peace and comfort.

Carol Whyte, who is working on regaining her strength and balance following a stroke. Please pray for patience for Carol as she works through this process.

PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE CONTINUED... (continued from page 1)

Hearing is the passive, involuntary physical process of perceiving sound waves with your ears. In contrast, listening is the active, voluntary, and learned skill of paying attention to and interpreting those sounds to understand a message. Hearing is easy....listening can be much more challenging....

I am guilty of hearing and not listening. Are you the same? I'm working on being a better listener, allowing the words of others to actually help me to discern what is the best path to take. I know I don't have all the answers, there are many who have more experience and expertise than I, and I know I need to strive to listen to them and not just hear them.

Listening to God is another area where I know I need to grow - "Be still and know

that I am God (Psalm 46:10) - taking time to really listen to what he's saying to me. Just like the activity that we did with the Words of Institution - I hear those words every Sunday - but do I really listen to what those words are saying to me? Do I listen to what God is saying to me in my day to day life or am I hearing, but not listening? Guilty...I hear lots, but sometimes don't listen.

As is normal for me, I offer you a challenge. Challenge yourself to really take time to listen - to God, to others around you. Let's all take time to really listen to God and to one another - I think we'll all be surprised at what can happen when we listen (and learn).

Peace,

Karyl



OUR RWANDA COMPANION CONGREGATIONS

Pastor George Twesige sent us some pictures from a recent district-level meeting in which attendees discussed strategies about door-to-door evangelism in their area. Pastor George and members of the parish he serves in Nyagashanga shared their experiences and successes in their evangelism efforts. Please continue to keep our companion congregations in your prayers as they work to spread the Good News in Rwanda!






ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**ADVENT'S MISSION:
THROUGH GOD'S GRACE,
WE GATHER, WORSHIP,
GROW, AND CARE**

GIVE PLUS⁺

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**