



THE ADVENTURE



MAY 2026

PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

by KARYL CIMINI

My Garden

I don't know about you, but my garden this year is quite the weed patch. My son remodeled my backyard in 2020, and for a while, it looked quite nice. Then, last year, it fell into neglect, and here I am today - a fully developed weed garden, including 4-foot-tall dandelions. Ugh! Of course, this year's endeavor is to get the garden back to an enjoyable level - the fruit trees are growing quite well. The majority of the work comes in removing all the weeds. So far, I would say I've spent about 20 hours pulling weeds. A lot of work, yes, but the end result is worth the effort.



Our lives often imitate our gardens, and vice versa. A well-tended garden gives a lot of pleasure - the beautiful flowers, the prolific fruit trees, the vegetables produced based partially on all our efforts. If we let our garden go to seed (or weed),

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GODSPEED, ANNA LEE & HERUM!

On Sunday, April 26, we celebrated the shared ministry we have had with Anna Lee and Herum Bjork before their move to Seattle. It was a wonderful opportunity to not only wish them well in their new beginning, but also to see some familiar faces (their children, former members, etc.). We thank God for the many gifts Anna Lee and Herum have shared with Advent over the years, and we wish them well in this new chapter of their lives!



HART HAPPENINGS

BY BARBARA OLSON

God's Work—Our Hands

This month I would like to give special thanks to the members of Advent who have donated appliances, dishes, silverware, kitchen knives, utensils, and dish towels that they are no longer using to help settle our unhoused neighbors when they are finally able to obtain housing. Other items that we have been blessed with are air beds, bed sheets, pillowcases, blankets and bathroom towels. When you have been existing with what fits into your car or your cart, it is expensive to acquire things needed to live in a home, however small. These items that we take for granted, they cherish as a sign of their new way of living.



The Annual BIG DAY OF GIVING is going on right now until May 7th here in Sacramento. Since 2013, generous people in the Sacramento region have given \$117 million through Big Day of Giving. Many non-profits that our church supports, including HART, St. John's Program for Real Change and Sunrise Christian Food Ministry participate in this event each year. It gives them a chance to let especially the internet community know more about the services they offer and it is an opportunity for the non-profits to receive much needed funds to continue to provide these services. Log into: www.bigdayofgiving.org to read about all the opportunities to help out our community.



BOOK CLUB

Our book club meets monthly on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7pm via Zoom. The next meeting is on May 18th. The book club has selected “*The First Ladies*” for May’s discussion:

A novel about the extraordinary partnership between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune—an unlikely friendship that changed the world.



The daughter of formerly enslaved parents, Mary McLeod Bethune refuses to back down as white supremacists attempt to thwart her work. She marches on as an activist and an educator, and as her reputation grows she becomes a celebrity, revered by titans of business and recognized by U.S. Presidents. Eleanor Roosevelt herself is awestruck and eager to make her acquaintance. Initially drawn together because of their shared belief in women's rights and the power of education, Mary and Eleanor become fast friends confiding their secrets, hopes and dreams—and holding each other’s hands through tragedy and triumph.

When Franklin Delano Roosevelt is elected president, the two women begin to collaborate more closely, particularly as Eleanor moves toward her own agenda separate from FDR, a consequence of the devastating discovery of her husband’s secret love affair. Eleanor becomes a controversial First Lady for her outspokenness, particularly on civil rights. And when she receives threats because of her strong ties to Mary, it only fuels the women’s desire to fight together for justice and equality.

This is the story of two different, yet equally formidable, passionate and committed women, and the way in which their singular friendship helped form the foundation for the modern civil rights movement.

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

MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	2 10:00am - 2:00pm CPR Class
3 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion www.youtube.com/@Advent_Citrus_HeightsStreams 10:45am Cong. Conv. 1:30pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Sunday Night HOW AA Group	4 9:30am Offering Counters 6:00pm AA Meeting	5 12:00pm AA Meeting - One Day at a Time 1:30pm Social Knitters 3:30pm Grace House Distribution 5:30pm CPR Class 7:00pm Christian Education Committee (ZOOM)	6 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 12:30pm Brown B.A.G. Fellowship 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm NA Meeting - Here Try This	7 10:00am - 2:00pm CPR Class 5:30pm - 8:30pm Knitters Guild	8 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	9 8:30am Stern-Johnson Bike Club 2:00pm - 4:00pm Women's Tea
10 Mother's Day 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion www.youtube.com/@Advent_Citrus_HeightsStreams 6:00pm Sunday Night HOW AA Group	11 9:30am Offering Counters 11:00am Bunco Babes 6:00pm AA Meeting	12 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 5:30pm CPR Class	13 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm NA Meeting - Here Try This	14 Ascension Day 10:00am - 2:00pm Underground Clothing Connection - Appt. Only 6:00pm Church Council Meeting	15 1:00pm - 5:00pm CPR Class 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	16 10:00am - 4:00pm Knitter's Guild Tailgate Party - Upper Lot 5:00pm Mexican Train Dominoes 
17 COMMITMENT SUNDAY 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion www.youtube.com/@Advent_Citrus_HeightsStreams 1:30pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Sunday Night HOW AA Group	18 9:30am Offering Counters 6:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Zoom Book Club	19 12:00pm AA Meeting - One Day at a Time 1:30pm Social Knitters 3:30pm Grace House Distribution 5:30pm CPR Class	20 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 3:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm NA Meeting - Here Try This	21 10:00am - 2:00pm Underground Clothing Connection - Appt. Only 6:30pm Park Oaks Neighborhood Association Meeting (Area 5, PONA)	22 1:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	23 8:30am Stern-Johnson Bike Club 10:00am - 2:00pm CPR Class
24 Pentecost Sunday 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion www.youtube.com/@Advent_Citrus_HeightsStreams 6:00pm Sunday Night HOW AA Group	25 Memorial Day Church Office Closed 10:00am Serve Lunch @ St John's Program for Real Change 6:00pm AA Meeting	26 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 Class	27 10:00am AA Meeting - Sierra Wednesday Group 6:30pm NA Meeting - Here Try This	28 10:00am - 2:00pm Underground Clothing Connection - Appt. Only	29	30 9:00am - 11:00am Church Work Day 10:00am - 2:00pm CPR Class
31 Trinity Sunday 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion www.youtube.com/@Advent_Citrus_HeightsStreams 6:00pm Sunday Night HOW AA Group						

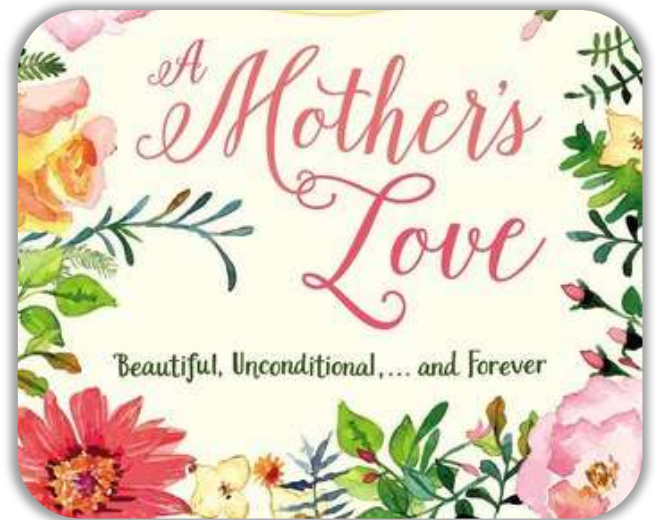
WOMEN'S TEA

Please join us on Saturday, May 9th at 2 PM for our annual Women's Mother's Day Tea under the theme "A Mother's Love". Together we will celebrate the gift of mothers/mother figures in our lives, in the wild and in our mothering God.

Sign up sheets are in the narthex, or you can call the church office or Pat Johnson to let us know how many will be in your party and what you are able to bring to share (tea sandwiches, salads or cookies).

As part of our table decorations, we will incorporate pictures of our mothers/mother figures. Please provide a framed 4x6 or 5x7 photo to Pat or Nancy King by May 3 (all photos will be returned).

We hope you'll join us—and invite a friend, daughter, granddaughter, niece, etc.!



BROWN B.A.G. FELLOWSHIP

In response to the positive feedback from our Lenten Lunches, we will be meeting the first Wednesday of every month at 12:30 PM to have lunch together and spend time in fellowship. Some weeks we will have guided discussions, some weeks a study, and some weeks will be something "just for fun"! Please plan on joining us whenever you're available!



B.A.G. = Being and Growing

Accompanying each other in who we are and who we are becoming!

MAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

DATE	5/3	5/10	5/17	5/24	5/31
GREETER	Maggie Ciak	Ken & Kathy Johnson	Dean Henricks	Pat & Keith Johnson	Carol Crespo
PASTOR	Rev. Dr. Charlane Lines	Bruce Hannem	Greg Ronning	Misty Lampshire	Bruce Hannem
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Luke Patterson	Dean Henricks	Pat Johnson	Jeffrey Belchem	Melanie Chancellor
LECTORS	Carol Kent	Carol Crespo	Phil Davidson	Linda Belchem	Suzane Henderson
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Altar Guild	Altar Guild	Altar Guild	Altar Guild	Altar Guild
ALTAR FLOWERS	Available	Kathy Johnson	Frank Vouri	Available	Available
AV TECH	Joyce Montag	Nancy King	Noah Qalliu	Bruce Hansen	Nolan Mymka
LIVESTREAM TECHIE	Adam Pollock (Nolana Mymka on 5/10 & 5/24)				
USHERS	** Jeffrey Belchem, Biff Strom				
ALTAR GUILD	TEAM E: **Leslie Scheurer, Dorothy Michaelis, Arlys Clinton				

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Ann Chehak May 11
Kathy Johnson May 12
Jamal Karamatov May 16

Ashton Tolman May 26
Diane Peterson May 28
Kallie Sorenson May 31

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Leslie Scheurer & Tony Bubba.. May 1
Jen & Josh Tolman May 21
Debbie & Ernie Leporini May 21



COMMITMENT SUNDAY

By now you should have received the 2026-2027 Commitment Card in the mail. Please prayerfully consider how you can participate in Advent's ministries during the coming fiscal year—both financially and through the sharing of your gifts and time. Each of us bring something to our shared purpose and mission; what YOU bring is important!



The Commitment Cards will be received on Sunday, May 17 during worship. Please plan on joining us for this special time of committing to and celebrating the ministries of Advent.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the Fellowship Committee for once again providing a delicious and fun Easter Breakfast!



Thank you to ALL who gave extra time to make our Holy Week and Easter services possible: ushers, altar guild, decorators, musicians, choirs, Music Director Dave Wammer, Jamal, Alex, Adam and Techies...the list goes on and on! We enjoyed a beautiful celebration of Christ's resurrection!



Many, many thanks to Barbara Olson and Lanny Johaneck for stepping in as our Synod Delegates for the upcoming Synod Assembly gatherings—both in -person in Reno and online! Advent is so grateful to have you both represent us!



TREASURER'S REPORT

PROFIT & LOSSES MARCH 2026

	TOTAL
Income	
4000 Budgeted Offering	15,927.30
Total 4030 Facility Use	1,290.00
4035 Interest Earned	114.31
4050 SCFM Rent	1,200.00
4056 Other Income - Misc	1,770.16
Total Revenue	\$20,301.77
TOTAL INCOME	\$20,301.77
Expenditures	
Total 6000 Personnel	9,565.47
Total 6220 Payroll Taxes and Benefits	-1,541.45
7015 Christian Education	16.14
Total 7030 Finance	146.20
7050 Property	133.48
Total 7080 Worship & Music	849.53
Total 8190 Office Expense	266.70
8260 Church & Casualty Insurance	1,007.45
Total 8280 Service Contracts	4,347.03
Total 8330 Utilities	1,800.23
8345 Bank Charges	2.35
Total 8350 Benevolences	1,219.78
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense	-940.02
Total Expenditures	\$16,872.89
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$3,428.88

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.

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.

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

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.

Conrad Engler, Jr., following knee replacement surgery on April 30. Please pray that Conrad's healing goes well and that he is able to resume normal activities soon.

Margaret Graham, Mike Jones' aunt, who has been placed on hospice care. Please pray for peace for Margaret and God's comfort for her family.

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 positive results from the treatment.

PRAYERS CONTINUED...

Keith Johnson, who is in Citrus Heights Post Acute following hospitalization for a TIA. Let us pray for Keith's ongoing rehabilitation and for continued strength for Pat.

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

Jann Knutson, who is at Fair Oaks Health Center for further physical and occupational therapy following a hospitalization for pneumonia. Please pray for Jann's healing, comfort and a swift return home.

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

Dorothy Michaelis, who is now home following a hospitalization for an infection. Please pray that Dorothy continues to heal and may soon resume her normal activities.

Beth Mora, who is undergoing chemotherapy for pancreatic cancer. Please pray that Beth's treatment will be effective in fighting the cancer.

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

Linda Roshay, Natalie Jones' aunt, following heart surgery. Please pray for healing and strength for Linda, and comfort for all those concerned for her.

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.

Carol Whyte, whose strength and balance have improved a bit following a stroke. Please pray for patience for Carol as she works through this process.

JUST FOR FUN

Pentecost



B A H S L A X R J D C L P X K G Q Z S M B K X I
J T B Q H V L Y G I I N B G E N T L E N E S S P
V Q R I E B L R P A G Q S Y S G R X D S D X F B
E A Y O O K I N D N E S S O V H G S Y K S K P X
I P E A C E P D W Q Q F I G M B G V K R Z R I U
A Q J X N H P V S U S E J S P L E H W O N T V I
N I H E R H E M L G O O D N E S S K A N P N I J
P S D C B O U I B K J F P P Z R O P T J W L E R
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A C V G E S T E S O U I V J B H P E H S F W Q B
T E F B C P L T O N G U E S H L G R R H C A H P
F J A V N I R Y A O P T V X L L P J N Q N O C K
I S I I E R S L B Q K J M L E E E M Z N R F Z D
G S T F I I E F V G H C A E T K N T N K B F L O
B R H L T T L I T W A A B G O W T A Q C H M C D
O B F I A S F R S C I Z W P R U E S Z P G H C E
Z Y U U P Y C E F F Y N S O Z G C E B B P R K M
E E L U X P O Y X Y Y T G T B Y O Q L H E H J F
W S N L O O N G O P T I N S M I S J U Y O J N D
D K E R B O T D B Q C Z K W H H T W Z B Q N D H
E G S W Z B R B V L A M H C A E R P R Z R D F U
Z G S C O S O J Y T F I F V R U H M I N X B G L
A A M C I M L A F S M E B N G R O L U W Q D M S

Self Control

Pentecost

Tongues

Power

Peace

Faithfulness

Goodness

Preach

Water

Gift

Holy Spirit

Patience

Jesus

Helps

Fire

Gentleness

Kindness

Fifty

Teach

Joy

OUR RWANDA COMPANION CONGREGATIONS

Some news from the Lutheran Church of Rwanda:



Rev. Prince Atupenda Kalisa and the new LCR General Secretary Rev. Jackson Musafiri (*currently serving our companion congregation in Matimba*) were elected at the church's General Assembly on 7 February. The new bishop will be consecrated in August. Ordained in 2009, Kalisa has served as LCR General Secretary

since 2024, and as the church's interim leader since Bishop Evalister Mugabo retired over a year ago. He studied theology at the Mekane Yesus Seminary in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Georg-August University in Göttingen, Germany, and is currently pursuing his doctorate studies in Systematic Theology with the Emmanuel Lutheran Global Seminary, Florida, United States.

Pastor George (*serving our companion congregation, the Nyagashanga Parish*) has informed us that 3 new pastors were ordained in Kigali on April 26!

A huge thank you to Cornelia and Melanie Chancellor for their ongoing work in keeping our communication with both Pastor George and Pastor Jackson going! Your dedication to strengthening our relationship with our companion congregations is so very much appreciated!

May God continue to bless the ministry of the Lutheran Church in Rwanda!






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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