



The Advocate

October 2020

Suntree, FL
Melbourne Beach, FL

Our Mission Statement:

"We are followers of Jesus Christ for the sake of the world."



From the Pastor's Pen...



The council unanimously voted on September 21 to approve pursuing a partnership with Rock Harbor Evangelical Covenant Church at our Melbourne Beach Campus.

Pastor Rick and Pastor Kevin, Lead Pastor of Rock Harbor, have continued to get to know each other from the time Pastor Kevin started doing ministry in the Melbourne Beach community a year ago. In just a year Rock Harbor has grown with young families and unchurched people to be a wonderful faith community with vibrant worship, community service, and engaging discipleship. Rock Harbor is doing the type of ministry that we at Advent have been talking about happening at our Melbourne Beach Campus.

One of the biggest obstacles for Rock Harbor has been finding a consistent and functional space to worship. Since Rock Harbor is doing the exact kind of ministry we want to do in the community, we felt the Holy Spirit guiding us to being partners in ministry together.

Pastor Rick will continue to lead worship and minister to the people at our Melbourne Beach Campus as well as engage in ministry with Grace Preschool. This ministry partnership will not take away anything from our ministry that we are already doing. In fact this ministry partnership will only enhance the ministry we are doing.

Rock Harbor is a member of the Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC), which is a branch off of the Lutheran State Church of Sweden. The ECC and the ELCA are in agreement in our theological beliefs of faith. We believe in the three persons of the Holy Trinity and confess what is in our creeds, with

the cornerstone being our hope and faith in the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. You can learn more about the ECC at www.covchurch.org.

In these early conversations our biblical focus of this partnership is when Jesus speaks to the Samaritan woman at the well in John 4:35-38. At the end Jesus says, "You know the saying, 'Four months between planting and harvest.' But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest. The harvesters are paid good wages, and the fruit they harvest is people brought to eternal life. What joy awaits both the planter and the harvester alike! You know the saying, 'One plants and another harvests.' And it's true. I sent you to harvest where you didn't plant; others had already done the work, and now you will get to gather the harvest."

For Advent and Rock Harbor to partner in ministry is to gather a harvest together for the Kingdom of God. Gathering the harvest together isn't to say the work is over, but that in fact some of the hardest work and longest days are just beginning.

What will it look like?

- This would be a full partnership in ministry.
- Much more than just renting space and it is not Rock Harbor "taking over".
- Both congregations would be invited to fully participate in all ministry opportunities including worship, faith formation, service, and outreach.
- Pastor Rick and Pastor Kevin will work directly together to spread the good news of the Gospel and build up God's kingdom in the community and beyond.

What is happening at this time?

- Moving the Melbourne Beach Campus 9:00 a.m. Sunday worship service to 8:30 a.m.
- Rock Harbor having Sunday services at 10:30 am at Melbourne Beach Campus
- Rock Harbor currently worships at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays.
- Rock Harbor paying a monthly lease.
- Rock Harbor will also have the use of the facility for other church functions which would be defined and scheduled with approval from Pastor Rick and Debbie Hogan, Director of Grace Preschool.
- Rock Harbor will start worshipping on October 4th (their 1 year anniversary).
- The two congregations will work together on having a fellowship time in-between the services on Sundays (when COVID-19 protocols are lifted).
- Rock Harbor and Advent will advertise jointly for all worship services and ministry events/opportunities.

Here is a note from Pastor Kevin and the people of Rock Harbor Church:

On behalf of everyone with Rock Harbor Church...I bring this Pauline greeting to everyone of Advent Lutheran Church from Philippians 1: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you. In every prayer for all of you, I always pray with joy,...

It is with great joy that we see the Holy Spirit doing what only He can do and bring two churches into partnership around the only name worthy to receive our praise and that is the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When our church started in a small room inside the Town of Melbourne Beach just over a year ago, we had no idea what the next year would bring. We did not know for sure if we'd be able to have Gemini Elementary School as our starting location, but God did. We did not know that our world would be changed so drastically by a pandemic, but God did. We did not know

that our friendship with Advent Lutheran of Melbourne Beach and Pastor Rick would become so fruitful, but God did. None of this has caught God off guard and He has been guiding all of us towards His Kingdom Ministry together. Over the past six months we have had church in Gemini Elementary, on the beach, online, at Ryckman Park, back online, outside of Gemini, and now we are thrilled to come into the sacred space at 1805 Oak St in Melbourne Beach to be our church home and to partner with all of you in our pursuit of the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.

Two of our church's six affirmations are:

- *We affirm a commitment to the whole mission of the church.*
- *We affirm the church as a fellowship of believers.*

This partnership with Advent Lutheran will live out these affirmations in a way that our greater communities are already paying attention to. In a world that has become increasingly divided, it is a joy to show our communities that we can always come together in the name of Jesus.

*Blessings,
Pastor Kevin Diamond
Lead Pastor
Rock Harbor Church*

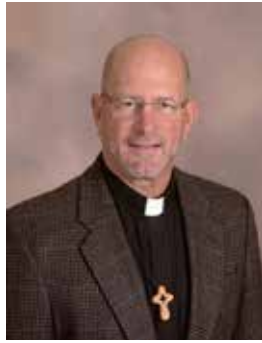
Much more information will be coming as we grow together as ministry partners. Please don't hesitate to contact me or Pastor Rick with any questions.

God Bless,



Pastor

As many of you know, my mentor of the past 44 years, Chaplain Dick Camp, died on Tuesday, September 15. I was fortunate to be with him in the last few days of his life. Just hours before he died, through the gift of modern technology, I led about a hundred people as we prayed the Cadet Prayer with him.



Pastor Rick

A couple times a year, Chaplain Camp would send out a newsletter of hope and encouragement. These were always a blessing. Two years ago, he and his daughter, Kathy, composed one last newsletter. She sent it out on social media the day after he died. Within 12 hours, 12,000 people had read it. I offer it to you below.

Friends,

“When our work is done, our course on earth is run, may it be said, “Well done” be thou at peace.”

My goal in life has been to build strong Christians. At West Point I used the term "Spiritual Muscle." Every cadet is an athlete and can understand the need to be physically fit. 1 Timothy 4:8 says, "physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." This has been the roadmap by which I've lived my life.

As the fierce waves of Parkinson's and age wash against and over me, I'm reflective on my life and legacy. I don't know what's ahead - whether God gives me another day or another year. I'm tired, both physically and emotionally. I've gone from being focused on my health to focusing on Heaven.

If I could do it all over again...

*I would exercise harder. I've made athletics a lifelong pursuit but there is always more in the tank. We can always do one more rep, one more yard, one more set. “You’ve been to the stadium and seen the athletes race. Everyone runs; one wins. Run to win. All athletes train hard. They do it for a gold medal that tarnishes and fades. You’re after one that’s gold eternally. I don’t know about you, but I’m running hard for the finish line. I’m giving it everything I’ve got. No sloppy living for me! I’m staying alert and in top condition. I’m not going to get caught napping, telling everyone else all about it and then missing out myself.”
(1 Corinthians 9:24-27)*

I would take more time for family. Go to the games, help with the homework. Have the big conversations as well as the little ones. Sit down for family meals. Don’t let your work consume you – let your family know they are the priority. Pursue your spouse and your children every day. It's the best investment you can make.

I would say "thank you" more often. Thank your family, your friends, your peers for their presence in your life. Thank God for your blessings and your hardships - both are necessary for character development. "...but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character and character, hope." (Romans 5:4)

I would work harder on my relationship with God. What does that look like? Take scripture seriously. Memorize it. Scripture brings us closer to God. It instructs us on how to live our best lives. Pray. The bible says to "pray without ceasing." To me, that means you have a daily dialog with God. In the car, in the shower, at the dinner table, with your kids, with your spouse, on your knees or on a run. We were made for relationships. The most important is with the Creator and Sustainer of life. Memorize scripture, know what God wants and expects from you and for you. Place your fears and desires at His feet and feel His peace. Exercise your muscles of faith. Keep yourself spiritually fit.

"Pass on what you heard from me... When the going gets rough, take it on the chin with the rest of us, the way Jesus did. A soldier on duty doesn't get caught up in making deals at the marketplace. He concentrates on carrying out orders. An athlete who refuses to play by the rules will never get anywhere. It's the diligent farmer who gets the produce. Think it over. God will make it all plain." (2 Timothy 2) Continue to do your best for God.

"I'm about to die, my life an offering on God's altar. This is the only race worth running. I've run hard right to the finish..." (2 Timothy 4:7) I've invested in you, as you have in me. Thank you. Thank you for showing up again and again for our relationship. Remember me in your prayers, as I will remember you. I won't say good-bye because I plan to see you all again in Heaven. Make sure you right your heart with God now. Don't wait!

Until we meet again, may the God of Hope fill you with all Joy and Peace as you believe in Him so that you may overflow with Hope by the Power of the Holy Spirit.

Gratefully,
Dick



From the keyboard of *Pastor Dave* —



I'm convinced God wants us to "be" much more than to "do".

God didn't create us because the Holy Trinity needed worker bees. God created us because God delights in infinite, diverse, eternal relationships. The "doing" is pure gift.

We exist simply because God delights in us, but because God loves us, we are also given real, meaningful, good work to do for our joy and to bring the reality of God's presence into the world.

What an amazing God!

This is why worship is important. It draws us deeper into the most important, eternal relationship we have.

When we worship only for what we can get out of it, it's a bit like buying someone a gift because it's something you want, and you plan to borrow it from them on a regular basis. (Like a boy buying his mom a football for her birthday.)

So, marvel in this truth; in this whole, vast universe, God chose you and delights in you, just because you "are".

The Bible makes it clear that life is so much more worth living when the love flows both ways and all kinds of ways: God's love for you, your love for God, God's love for others flowing through you, God's love for you flowing to you through others, it goes on and on...if we will allow it. ☺

Standing in awe and joy with you...



Pastor Dave



Available on
Podbean

Pastor Jeremy's Daily Devotion Podcast

Pastor Jeremy is doing a Podcast Monday – Friday that consists of a daily devotion with scripture. You can find this podcast at www.adventbrevard.podbean.com. Our Pastor's sermons are also on our Podcast Channel. The Podcast can be found on our website, Facebook Page, or wherever you stream your podcasts.

In-person Ministry/Group Meetings Guidelines

Now that we are meeting for in-person worship we also have some new guidelines for in-person ministry/groups that would like to meet on our campuses. If you have any questions about these guidelines please contact Pastor Jeremy. If you want to schedule using space on our campuses please contact our Director of Operations, Ashley Drake-Poe. The guidelines are:

- Meet in the biggest space possible
- Practice physical distancing being 6 feet apart from each other
- If you can't practice physical distancing wear masks (masks are recommended even if you can practice physical distancing)
- Use cleaning products provided to clean surfaces before and after gathering
- Do not meet in-person if you are sick
- No gatherings at the Melbourne Beach Campus during Grace Preschool hours 7:30am - 4:00pm Monday-Friday.
- All gatherings at the Melbourne Beach Campus must be approved by Debbie Hogan, Director of Grace Preschool, and Pastor Rick Funk, Lead Pastor of Melbourne Beach Campus and Pastoral Care.

Zoom Bible Studies

Aloha Bible Study

Sundays at 10:30AM (**Please note the new start time**)

Topic: Book of John

Leader: Rudy Pacarro

rakurudy@gmail.com

Rudy is using his own Zoom account so please email Rudy for connection information.

Pastor Rick's Bible Study

Tuesdays at 5:00PM

Topic: Book of Colossians

Connect through computer/tablet/smartphone for Pastor Rick's Bible Study follow this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85059659492>

Meeting ID: 850 5965 9492

Connect through phone for Pastor Rick's Bible Study Dial 301-715-8592

You will need the Meeting ID: 850 5965 9492

Disregard when they ask you for a Member ID

The Word

Wednesdays at 6:00PM

Leader: Pastor Dave

Topic: Book of Acts: The Challenged Church - How God works through suffering and crisis."

Connect through computer/tablet/smartphone for Pastor Dave's Bible Study follow this link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/861405662>

Meeting ID: 861 405 662

Connect through phone for Pastor Dave's Bible Study Dial 253-215-8782

You will need the Meeting ID: 861 405 662
Disregard when they ask you for a Member ID



Together for Joy: Stewardship 2020

“Together.” We used to think we knew just what that word meant, didn't we? We never used to wonder, most of us,

how the definition might be stretched, how important togetherness might become or how clever we'd need to be in order to make it happen.

2020 has changed and challenged the whole idea of what “together“ means. Amid a sea of confusion, fear, and interruptions, we suddenly became desperate for some kind of joy, precisely when it became impossible to get together in most of the ways we knew would bring it to us (worship, Bible study, choir rehearsal, fellowship hour, service events, and so much more). But we were not discouraged to the point where we couldn't respond! We stretched ourselves to find new ways to be together and find joy in our faith community.

And in the end, we were together, weren't we? When we logged on for Zoom meetings and Bible studies, streamed worship services, gathered online for youth group, drove through Back to School Blessing, we were together in joy, weren't we?

Our togetherness may not have happened in the sanctuary, or in the lobby, or in the education rooms, but it happened! And through it all, we were

together with God, whose love covers every distance and heals every heart.

I am so proud of the way our staff, council, and lay leaders navigated through this challenging time. Everyone did what was asked of them and even more. Some staff sacrificed hours and pay, while some amazing lay volunteers stepped up and did more than we could have ever asked for.

During the months that we were not meeting for in-person worship our goal was to keep our expenses under our income (and for the most part we succeeded) but our income was significantly down from previous years. Our general fund is currently around \$100,000 in the negative.

While our cash position is strong due to our designated funds, we realize we need to make up this deficit so we can have the resources we need for our ministries in 2021 and replenish our other funds.

To accomplish this task we will be having a stewardship campaign in October. It is called Together for Joy and is built around Psalm 98: “Sing to God a new song, for God has done marvelous things. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy.”

In early October you will be receiving a letter from me. In this letter I am asking you to prayerfully consider giving a one-time offering gift that is over and above your normal giving. There will be a special offering card and a stamped self-addressed return envelope.



If you so choose to give please mail the offering card and your gift back to the church by Wednesday, October 21 so we can celebrate and bless these gifts on Reformation weekend (October 24/25). You can also bring your special offering card and gift to the Suntree Campus Office or in-person worship or you can give online by going to our website (put amount in "Other" and designate it for "Together for Joy").

As every organization you're a part of has already said to you, your financial support means more now than ever if we hope to keep this flexibility, creativity, and faithfulness alive and thriving in the year to come.

You will be receiving more detailed information on this campaign throughout October so please watch your mailboxes and email.

For all that we've already accomplished together during this challenging season, and for all that we will accomplish together in the future, I thank God and I thank you.

See you soon - and until then, let us be together for joy.

As our habits change amid the COVID-19 spread, we want to remind everyone of the different ways to give. We know that supporting Advent and its ministries is important to you. Our work supporting people and our community will not stop because of this public health challenge. This is a friendly reminder that Advent uses Vanco eGiving tools, so you can continue to support our work.

Please visit our website for more information on online giving. You can also download the Give Plus App (Go to the App Store or Google Play and search "give plus church"). You can also Text to Give: Just text the amount you wish to donate to 833-284-0593

Advent is a strong faith community. We will weather this together, even if we're not all at services. We appreciate your giving, and we do important work with people's generosity. As we alter the way we operate, please consider making a gift via eGiving.

	Actuals for August	Year To Date Actuals	Year To Date Budget	Annual Budget
General Operating Contributions	54,115	418,535	549,033	862,400
General Operating Expense	58,528	504,544	569,027	853,540
Difference	(4,413)	(86,009)	(19,994)	8,860



Chris Quavillon Retirement Gift

Last spring Chris Quavillon retired after 32 years of serving as the Director of Advent (Suntree) Preschool. We thank Chris for the years of service and the unmeasurable impact she had on so many children's lives.

Chris was gifted a plaque and \$3,200 from Advent to honor her 32 years of service. Pictured is Chris receiving her gifts with Pastor Jeremy and Courtney McMahan (Advent's bookkeeper and mother of two children who attended the preschool.) Here is a thank you letter from Chris.

To the wonderful people of Advent,

Thank you so much for the generous retirement gift and plaque, which is already hanging in my home office. I realize that it is especially generous as this is such an uncertain time for all of us, but it is very much appreciated.

Working at Advent for the last 32 years has been such a blessing for me. I've met so many wonderful children and families and enjoyed working with them at Advent. They will always remain in my heart. My fervent wish is that a preschool will open again on the Suntree campus so more families can benefit from this loving community.

Thank you for your constant support of the preschool, your support of me as director and thank you for the friendships I've made here that I will always cherish.

Chris Quavillon



*The best teachers teach from the heart, not from the book.
Thank you for 32 years of service in Christian preschool leadership.
We wish you the best in your future endeavors.
God bless you.*

Melbourne Beach Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study will meet Thursday, October 15 at 7:30 AM. Please bring your own breakfast for this meeting. Coffee will be provided. Gary Roverud will continue to facilitate the study and discussion of sections of Isaiah, before beginning the next topic.

Women's Ministry Meeting and Bible Study

Monday, October 5: 10AM: Meeting; 11AM: Bible Study; Rooms 2/3 in the Education Building at Suntree Campus or by Zoom

All women of Advent are invited to come to their monthly meeting. You can attend in-person (socially distancing) or by Zoom. Please contact Carol Wilson cpowilson@gmail.com if you would like the Zoom link or if you have any questions.

Advent's Youth and Family Ministry October 2020

Luther Kids (Birth-5th) AND Middle and High School (6th- 12th)

This fall will look a bit different, but I am going to try my best to do fun activities/ events for BOTH children and youth while still maintaining the 6 feet apart rule and everyone will have to wear masks at these activities BUT we will be able to see each other. ☺

With that being said, the rest of the year (2020) we will be doing a hybrid of BOTH children and youth activities/ events. Then on January 1st, I will see what the CDC says about the virus and if Brevard and Florida has fewer cases.

Please look for an email from me about the calendars for children and youth. The children's calendar is green and the youth's calendar is orange. If you haven't received a calendar and would like one, please email me, Ms. Joy, at youthandfamily@adventlutheranbrevard.org
Stay safe and healthy, and feel free to reach out to me if you need someone to watch the kids or if you need anything at all. Blessings, Ms. Joy

The logo for the scavenger hunt features the words "Scavenger Hunt!" in a playful, multi-colored font. "Scavenger" is in blue, "Hunt!" is in red, and "Hunt!" is in blue. The letters are slightly irregular and have a hand-drawn feel.

Youth Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, Oct. 10th at 12-2PM at Advent-Suntree Campus

Youth group Scavenger hunt at the church and we will also be filling the school bags for the women's ministry like we did last year.



Saturday, Oct. 24th at 11AM-1PM

Luther Kids Barrier Island Sanctuary Outing

We will be meeting there that Saturday. Directions will be in an email Ms. Joy will be sending out closer to the date. It's free admission, and this sanctuary focuses on sea turtles. You can bring a picnic if you want; there are picnic tables there onsite.

Youth (6th-12th) Calendar

October

- Oct. 10th-Youth 6ft apart- Scavenger Hunt at Advent: Suntree at Noon-2PM
 - Packing school bags for women's group and having a scavenger hunt around the church!
- Oct. 11th –Youth Group online at 10AM
- Oct. 18th – Confirmation online/in-person
- Oct. 25th – Youth Group online at 10AM

Advent Lutheran Church
7550 N. Wickham Road
Melbourne, FL 32940
AND
1805 Oak Street
Melbourne Beach, FL 32951



The Advocate

October 2020



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

**“We are followers of Jesus Christ
for the sake of the world.”**

Worship Services in October 2020

SUNTREE CAMPUS

Saturday Service: 5:00 pm - Informal Traditional
Sunday Services: 9:00 am - Contemporary
11:00 am - Traditional

MELBOURNE BEACH CAMPUS

Sunday Services: 8:30 am - Traditional

Holy Communion is offered at every service

OCTOBER GOSPEL READINGS

October 4 2020

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost -- Matthew 21:33-46

October 11 2020

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost -- Matthew 22:10-14

October 18, 2020

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost -- Matthew 22:15-22

October 25, 2020

Reformation Sunday -- John 8:31-36



TELEPHONE

Suntree: 321-259-8515
Melbourne Beach: 321-727-1724
*(It's always best to call
before stopping by!)*

E-Mail: info@adventbrevard.org
Web: www.adventbrevard.org

STAFF

Senior Pastor*: Jeremy Freye
Pastor of Worship & Discipleship*: David Jahn
Lead Pastor Melb. Beach & Pastoral Care: Rick Funk
Director of Operations: Ashley Drake-Poe
Pastors' Assistant: Lynda Herrman
Dir. of Youth & Family Ministry: Joy Gemmer
Melb. Beach Admin. Asst.: Jennifer Mitz
Bookkeeper: Courtney McMahan
Financial Secretary: Katherine Andrews
Director of Choirs/Organist: Betty Jo Couch
Organists: Lori Jahn
Betsy Stansifer
Accompanist: Michelle Widere
Praise Band Leader: Andy Harrington
Worship Media & Publications: Cathy Guilford
Suntree Custodian / Sexton: Tom Hawk
Melb Beach Custodian / Sexton: Rick Funk
Melb. Beach Preschool Director: Deb Hogan
Nursery Attendants: Terry Armstrong
Alberta-Jo Parker
Tynesha Peacon

*Acting