Our Mission Statement:
“We are followers of Jesus Christ for the sake of the world.”
2019!

I know I am getting older because it seems a bit unbelievable that we are nearly 2 decades into the 21st century.

So much has changed, even over the past five years. Some for the better, some for the worse.

I now carry a computer in my pocket that has more power than they could fit into a building full of computer equipment when my father-in-law was a pioneer in the industry.

A disease that nearly killed my mom is all but eradicated.

My 10-year-old granddaughter can call me up at any time and “facetime” with me, even though she is in Pennsylvania and I am in Florida. (We would have said it’s like something from “The Jetsons”!)

Sadly, it’s also true that my oldest daughter, who teaches in an elementary school, has to remind her kids that, just because they see politicians on TV using insults and name-calling, that doesn’t mean they are permitted to do so.

Fewer people are involved in faith communities of any kind. Even the mega-churches are finding that, beyond a worship service, it’s more and more difficult to get people to commit to getting more deeply involved in mission.

The fastest growing religious group in the nation is the “nones”, those who claim no religious affiliation at all.

In the midst of all of this amazing, depressing, and blazingly fast change, one thing remains constant; there is a God who created the universe who longs to know and love the people of this planet.

The same Christ who sacrificed everything to save humanity is, right now, all over the world, connecting with the people God loves.

Our challenge in 2019 is to open our eyes and our ears, to see and hear what God is doing. Our mission is to discern what God’s beloved human beings need and to become God’s hands, feet, arms, and loving word to them.

What’s a bit scary is that it may look different from what we are used to. That’s OK. We not called to preserve what we are used to. We are called in 2019 to be the Body of Christ for our community and our world in whatever form that may take.

And our community, our world still needs the Body of Christ. That is something that will never change.

Serving and discerning with you,
ALMOST THERE!

It’s hard to believe that I’m starting my third year on the staff of this wonderful church. It seems likely that I will soon be a legitimate rostered minister of word and sacrament! Let me tell you what’s next.

In December, the Congregational Council agreed to recommend to the congregation to extend a call to me as your Executive Pastor. At our annual meeting in January, we will actually have two separate meetings. In the first meeting, you will have the opportunity to vote to extend a call to me. I will then have 30 days to accept. I don’t think it will take that long. More like 30 seconds. The second meeting will be our annual budget meeting.

After that, we will have some event or ceremony in which the bishop will come and announce that I am a called and rostered minister of word and sacrament at Advent Lutheran Church. Then, it will be official and final. Hurrah!

This has been a long process, but worth the journey. I am grateful to serve you, this church and this community. I look forward to all that we have envisioned in the future. I’m glad for the opportunity to make a difference here.

Many of you have expressed your kindness and gratitude to me and Kathy Ann. Thank you! That means so much to us.

My prayer for 2019 is that we would clearly hear God’s call to be the church we need to be in this corner of the world. We have many wonderful opportunities before us. We are uniquely poised and equipped to share the good news of the gospel and serve this community. May we joyfully use all these gifts to be a blessing to those around us.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your pastor.

Blessings,

[Signature]

PREPARE FOR THE KICK-OFF ...

The

IS COMING TO ADVENT February 2 & 3

(Stay tuned to the Advocate and the Messenger for details)
COMMUNICATING WITH YOU

January 1st will be my five month anniversary here at Advent. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know many of you and joining in on all the wonderful ministry opportunities. I look forward to getting to know more of you as we ring in a new year.

You may or may not know, but as your Pastor of Mission and Outreach I am responsible for overseeing the internal and external communications here at Advent. Now that I am settled in a bit I feel it is the right time to share with you some of the exciting plans we have for communications at Advent.

First, I will be working closely with Cathy Guilford our Worship Media and Publications staff member to make sure we have consistent and effective messages when it comes to all our publications and media. I will also be taking over the responsibility for creating and sending the weekly email. If you are not receiving the weekly email and would like to please contact me at pjadvent@gmail.com.

Secondly, I have created accounts for Advent with the most popular social media sites and apps. Social Media can be an amazing way to share the good news of Jesus Christ to the world and share all the ministry opportunities here at Advent. We already have had a Facebook page for several years and now we are adding Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat to our social media footprint. Don’t worry if you don’t know what these are. We plan to have a few social media orientation classes in the next couple of months to help those who want to learn how to use these sites and apps. If you are familiar with these social media platforms here is where you can find us. Please follow us!

- Facebook: facebook.com/AdventLutheranChurch/
- Instagram: adventbrevard
- Twitter: @AdventBrevard
- Snapchat: adventbrevard

I again thank you for the wonderful welcome my family and I have received here at Advent and look forward to an amazing 2019 and beyond.

God Bless,

P.J.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE HERE

Please see our Council President Bill Johnson in the lobby to pick up your 2019 Offering Envelopes.
FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

In Colorado Springs, CO, there is a famous “megachurch” called Focus on the Family. While I have never attended a regular worship service there, I did have the opportunity to go to a Passion Play. It was amazing! Spectacular lighting, colorful makeup, unbelievable music and sound effects, etc. But what impressed me the most was the size of the cast. There were over 1000 people who performed in this drama. I was invited back stage where I could witness first hand the way the makeup was applied to Lucifer. He was spray painted a really putrid shade of green...even his long tail. If I had encountered this being on the street, I would have been scared out of my wits! His stage voice had a booming base quality, but when I spoke to him, he sounded very meek and mild. I asked him where they got so many people to perform this amazing drama and he said that everybody was told to involve all their family members in the production. So I guess when they say focus on the family, they mean it.

This Christmas, I hope that many of you could be together with your own family and your church family. “The greatest joy of our existence, and often its greatest trial, is living in relationship with other people. Year by year we learn just how dependent we are on the wisdom, affection, loyalty, and service to others. Our ability to think and to love comes in response to the love God gives us.” (Daily Readings from Spiritual Classics)

The Stephen Minister typically works alongside of a person who is facing life’s challenges. We provide one-on-one Christian care. However, frequently we realize the care receiver’s family is also in need of feeling God’s love. This is where congregational members can help. If you know of someone who is dealing with cancer, think about how this effects the family. If you know of someone who is deployed, think about that person’s family. If you know of someone dealing with substance abuse, think about what this does to the family. If you know someone who is a first responder, think about that person’s family situation. There are so many ways we can reach out and care for those family members. A card, a telephone call, a hug, a prayer... these are just a few examples of showing our love.

I pray that this year, we can focus on the family (including our church family). Help us dear LORD, to teach us how to love. Gracious God, thank you for the gift of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. May the light of His grace, sustain us in our life’s challenges in this world, and glorify us in your kingdom. Amen.

I do have a “Bible bullet” that helps me, the Stephen Minister: “Keep yourselves in God’s love as you wait for the mercy of our LORD Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.” Jude 1:21

Submitted by Georgia Van Hoesen, Stephen Leader

Stephen Ministry
God’s Love in Action
GRACE PRE-K CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

LUNCH BUNCH AT THE MANSION

SING-ALONG AT SARAH CARE
THANKOFFERINGS

Those who wish to donate to the Women of the ELCA (WELCA) church-wide organization may bring their offerings to services on January 12th and 13th. Baskets will be set up in front of the church, to accept the offerings.

When we make our Thankofferings, we share in a tradition that goes back at least to the 1800s, when Christian women formed “mite” or “cent” societies to support the mission of the church. When others said there was not enough money to carry out the church’s work, the women believed otherwise and acted together. In these societies, each woman collected her offerings at home. When WELCA was formed more than 30 years ago, it committed to continue this tradition of giving in gratitude for all God has given to us. Each year, in thousands of congregations, offerings are given to support the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA. These ministries include:

- Offering anti-racism training; addressing domestic violence, commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking; and supporting families with special needs.
- Assisting participants in their desire to discern God’s call in their lives and to discover their spiritual gifts through workshops, retreats, resources, scholarships, and global education.
- Offering grants to not-for-profit organizations, both domestic and international, that support healing and wholeness for women of all ages through the affirmation and advancement of women’s emotional, physical, and spiritual health.

WELCA envelopes for the donations will be available at the Welcome Center.

THE ADVENT LUTHERAN WOMEN’S GROUP

will meet on January 7th in the conference room in the administration building, Suntree Campus, at 10 am. Bible study will follow at 11:00. The no-bake bake sale will be coming this spring. Watch the Messenger and Advocate for more information.

MEN’S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY

Men’s Breakfast & Bible Study will meet on Thursday, January 3rd & 17th at 7:30 AM. Gary Roverud will continue to facilitate the discussion. The new topic for the coming year will be JESUS, the Great I AM. All are welcome.

THE SUNTREE SENIORS

will meet at Florida Seafood on January 9th at 12:00. If you are interested in eating with us, please contact the church office.

MELBOURNE BEACH LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch will meet Wednesday, January 9th at Shells of Melbourne (722-1122) located at 1490 W. New Haven, Melbourne (almost in front of the mall.) Reservations are needed. Please sign the list on the bulletin board in the Narthex.
RUTH CIRCLE WOMAN’S BOOK STUDY GROUP

The first meeting of our Ruth Circle Woman’s Book Study Group will be Thursday January 24 at 1:00 at the Melbourne Beach Campus in the conference room.

Jane Eyer by Charlotte Bronte will be our book for January. We open with prayer and concerns of those attending. Georgia Van Hoesen will facilitate our meetings.

Small Great Things by Jodi Picoult will be the book for our Thursday, February 28 meeting.

Any questions our concerns please contact the church office.
If we have missed your special day, please contact the office.
Please direct all concerns for member/attendee and extended family & friends to Eric Myers (321-259-8515). The prayer cards are in the pew racks. Fill one out and place it in the Prayer Box located next to the door as you exit the Narthex (lobby).

**Please pray for the following people:**

**Our Prayers** for God’s peace go out to the following families:

- **for those who are ill or recovering from surgery**
  Diane Ford

- **for those who are sick, homebound, in a progressive care or in an assisted living facility**
  Bev Alfred  Cathy Barrett  Betty Brousseau  Betty Christianson
  Roger & Marilyn Dobson  Betty Gordon  Bill Kilbourne
  Marilyn Parker  Leona Partlow  Bette Porada  Deb Ridel
  Jo Smith  Carole & Earl Wilen  Mary Wilgeroth  Laura Wunder

- **for those who are serving overseas**
  Daniel Learned

Please update the office regarding your loved ones’ status.
If you would like to be removed from the prayer list, please contact the office at 321-259-8515 ext. 223

**UPDATES ENCOURAGED!**
If our prayers for comfort and healing have been answered, please contact the office to let us know so that we can move your loved ones to the section of “Prayers of Thanks!”
*If a member is in the hospital or rehab and is not listed above, please call the office to let us know.

The following people have given donations to Advent in memory of loved ones:

In memory of Yvonne Kilbreth: Daniel & Marlene Motter, Cindy Strone, John & Carolyn Motter, Bradley Gust
In memory of Dan Coviello: Carolyn Boyken

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CHURCH STAFF

259-8515
David Jahn, ext. 0222
Rick Funk,

Mindy Middleton, ext. 0228

Melbourne Beach Campus

Pastors’ Assistant

Stefanie Canjar,

Melbourne Beach Administrative Assistant

Ashley Drake-Poe, ext. 0321

Bookkeeper

Courtney McMahan, ext. 0224

Worship Media and Publications

Cathy Guilford, ext. 0223

Director of Choirs / Organist

Chris Dickman,

Worship Leaders

Andy Harrington,

Disciple13 / Non-Fiction Band Leader

Rocky Parker, ext. 0231

Property Manager

PRESCHOOL STAFF

Director, Suntree Campus

Chris Quavillon, ext. 0230

Director, Melbourne Beach Campus

Debbie Hogan, ext. 0330

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN AT SUNTREE

Carol Wilson,

President

Phyllis Lanoue,

Vice-President

Wendy Poffenberger,

Secretary

Lucile Zimmermann,

Treasurer

Betty Symons,

Bible Study Leader

Dij Pacarro,

Comfort Quilts

MELBOURNE BEACH CAMPUS RUTH CIRCLE

Nancy Anderson

Karen Chadbourne

Patty Cooper

Sunny Farotto

Harold Fish

Deb Gum

Sharon Landis

Anne Marshall

Nell Mussler

Lynn Newman

Caryl Strand

Georgia Van Hoesen

Gloria Vosseteig

Dana Yurich

SUNTREE CAMPUS SCHEDULERS OR LEAD PERSON

Wendy Poffenberger,

(9:00 am) David Moyer,

(11:00 am) Richard Lanoue,

David Moyer,

(9:00 & 11:00 am) Eric Myers, ext. 0221

Melbourne Beach Campus

Assisting Ministers, Readers, Acolytes,

& Communion Assistants

(9:00 am) David Moyer,

(11:00 am) Richard Lanoue,

(1:00 pm) Richard Lanoue,

Welcome Center

(9:00 & 11:00 am) Eric Myers, ext. 0221

Sound System, Projection & Multi-Media

David Moyer,

SUNTREE CAMPUS SCHEDULERS OR LEAD PERSON

Melbourne Beach Campus

Assisting Ministers, Readers, Acolytes,

& Communion Assistants

Pat Ferris,

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm (Suntree)
Monday through Friday 8:30 am - 1:30 pm
(Melbourne Beach)

(It’s always best to call before stopping by!)

Chapel hours (Suntree):

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

or call the office

E-mail address: info@adventbrevard.org
Website address: www.adventbrevard.org

2018-2019 Church Council

President

Bill Johnson:

Vice President

Josh Pulver:

Treasurer

Bill Stanton:

Recording Secretary

Paige Ferris:

Members-at-Large

Helen Ann Bower:

Karen Hagen:

Tom Hawk:
The Advocate
January 2019

STAFF
Senior Pastor: David Jahn
Executive Pastor: Rick Funk
Associate Pastor: Jeremy Freye
Pastors’ Assistant Eric Myers
Business Manager: Mindy Middleton
Director of Youth Ministry: Stefanie Canjar
Melb. Beach Admin. Asst.: Ashley Drake-Poe
Bookkeeper: Courtney McMahan
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: Rocky Parker
Suntree Preschool Director: Chris Quavillon
Melb. Beach Preschool Director: Deb Hogan
Nursery Attendants: Terry Armstrong
Alberta-Jo Parker
Tynesha Peacon

Worship Services in January 2019

SUNTREE CAMPUS
Wednesday Service: 6:00 pm - The Word - Worship Service with Bible Study*
Saturday Service: 5:00 pm - Informal Traditional
Sunday Services: 9:00 am - Contemporary†
11:00 am - Traditional*

MELBOURNE BEACH CAMPUS
Sunday Services: 9:00 am - Traditional
6:00 pm - Contemporary†

Holy Communion is offered at every service.
* Nursery care through age 2 is available!
† Kids’ Town - age 3 to grade 5

JANUARY GOSPEL READINGS
January 6, 2019
Epiphany of Our Lord – Matthew 2:1-12
January 13, 2019
January 20, 2019
January 27, 2019
Third Sunday After Epiphany - Luke 4:14-21

To submit articles for publication, please email WorshipMedia@AdventLutheranBrevard.org by the 20th of each month.