



# Advent Acts

April 2010

Volume 6, Issue 4

## A Note from Pastor Justin:

Dear sisters and brothers, grace to you and peace from God the Father and our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

*“Quickly bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found! And they began to celebrate.” (Luke 15:22-24)*

Ah, those good words from the parable of the prodigal son! By the time you read this, we would have had a Sunday sermon focusing on this scripture, but the words are so important to our faith that we must give it a little more press. If you ask me, the words of this parable and specifically the ones above express the ultimate promise of our faith. The loving response of the father to the son's return highlights the way our Father in heaven rejoices as we turn back to him in our daily life- seeking His will and His way as we live out our faith. As we make our way to Easter now and travel through the death and resurrection of our Lord, I pray that each one of us can begin to grasp a little more just how awesome this gift of unconditional love truly is. In Christ, we have the ultimate gift- the gift of new life so that we, like the prodigal can come back to life after being dead. In Christ we have hope, we have peace, we have promise and we have eternal life- does it get any better than this?

But so what? I mean, truly- so what? What does this gift mean to you, what is it that you are doing with this gift of love that God gives you freely, with this gift which becomes a call for you to share Christ with those in your midst? I fear that too often all of us fall victim to the state of complacency- we become comfortable in our life and our faith and forget that this great gift of Jesus Christ is a calling for us to be radical in our lives in a way that serves the Lord. Every day that we get on this earth is a gift and an opportunity for us to live in a way that matters! For me, Easter is the ultimate reminder of that and I pray that it may tug on you a bit as well. Perhaps this Easter can be a time for you to recommit your life, your action, your very being to serving the God who loves you and who promises to never abandon you.

One of my favorite musical artists Seth Bernard has a line in his song *Wonder Quest* which goes like this; “Thank you for this breath, I'll try not to let you down”. I am not sure what Seth had in mind when he wrote the song, but every time I hear it I come back to my life of faith. Am I living in a way that honors my God-that glorifies the Lord who loves me and that strives to let the light of Christ shine on in all of who I am? I hope so and I hope too that you ask that question with me as you continue to grow more and more into your life of faith.

Won't you celebrate dear friends the Easter promise that we who get lost, who die in our faith probably more than we want are found and are alive because of the great promise of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Jesus loves you, what are you going to do about it?

Honored and Humbled to be your pastor,  
Justin



## April Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary

### Birthdays

4/1 Noah Weichert  
4/4 Emily Fancher  
4/5 Janet April  
4/6 Mike Johnston  
4/6 Jacob Kalils  
4/7 Mike Achorn  
4/7 Robyn Ellis  
4/7 Jennie Wentzloff  
4/11 Doug Hockenbereger  
4/14 Cheryl Smith  
4/16 Paige Smith  
4/17 Alix Richardson  
4/19 Abbie Smith  
4/23 Kenneth Williams  
4/24 April Bisel  
4/24 Jeff Fancher  
4/26 Cherie Hockenberger  
4/27 Amiee Erfourth  
4/28 Jacob Ellis



### Anniversaries

4/1 Charlie & Cher Baumann  
4/1 Eric & Robyn Ellis  
4/19 Rich & Holly Andersen  
4/26 Adam & Traci Wong

## Special Thanks

### L.A. Snow Pine Fest

Thank you so much for the use of your building and all the help at the Lake Ann Snow Pine Fest. The day was well attended and we were able to make donations to the Baby and Food Pantries. Thanks again.

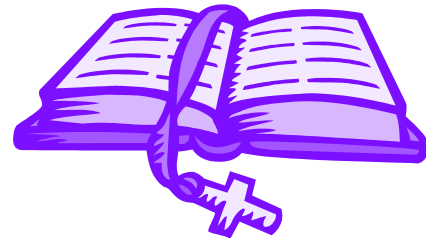
Sincerely,  
Tanya Struble  
Lake Ann Snow Pine Fest Committee

## Prayer List

Throughout this month, we ask that you lift these people up in your prayers:

**We remember in our prayers:** Barbara Karnowski; Jenny LaBarre; Lew Frostick; Judy Haiss; Gene Mayo; Dolores Anderson; Max Stowe; Elfie Steigerwald; Kief; Karen Copeland; Charlie Chamberlain; Liz Candelss; Eleanor Brown; Art Grubb; Vera Carmien; Helen Simpkins; Diane Petersen; Claire Torgerson; Jeff Fancher; Josh Griffith; Gary Cox; Todd Wittke; Josh Pohill; Mary & Bernie Holtman; Ed Bloxsom, Sr.; Helen Rought; Cam Deering; Gary Harris; Mary Ghering; Shelly & Bill Honer; Wally Schaub; Pastor Len Etzel; Margie Randall; the people of Haiti; the people of Chile; all troops: those deployed and those at home; Bishop Mark Hanson & the ELCA; and our mission here at Advent.

## April Readings



Here are the readings for this month:

- Apr 4** Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;  
1 Corinthians 15:19-26; Luke 24:1-12
- Apr 11** Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 50;  
Revelations 1:4-8; John 20:19-31
- Apr 18** Acts 9:16 [17-20]; Psalm 30;  
Revelations 5:11-14; John 21:1-19
- Apr 25** Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23;  
Revelations 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

## From the YOUth Group

### Bake Sale / Beverage Can Drive

The YOUth group will be at Glen's Market – Chum's Corner on Saturday April 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. We will be accepting can / bottle donations and hosting a Bake Sale to raise funds for summer Camp and activities.

If you are interested in donating baked items, please bring your items to the church Friday April 16<sup>th</sup> from 5-8pm or drop them off at Glen's market @ 10:00 am. We will have a table set up in the lobby entrance. The "can bin" will be available Sunday April 11<sup>th</sup> from 8am – 12pm.

## Advent Yard Sale

Our annual Advent Yard Sale is scheduled for Friday & Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>. If you are planning to clean out your houses, please save your unwanted articles for our sale. We would like to encourage you to hold on to your stuff until June, but if you are unable to store them until then, please let us know and we can make arrangements to store them for you. All proceeds will go to the Building Fund. We will also need volunteers to help set up, work at the sale and clean up afterwards. For information, please contact any Building or Property Committee member, or call the church office.

## From the Worship & Fellowship Committee

The following events are being planned by the Worship and Fellowship Committee:

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Sunday, April 25 <sup>th</sup>                                 | Silly Supper                  |
| Sunday, May 9 <sup>th</sup>                                    | Youth Sunday – "Mother's Day" |
| Sunday, June 13 <sup>th</sup>                                  | Pig Roast Picnic              |
| Friday, July 30 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, August 1 <sup>st</sup> | Church Property Camping       |
| Sunday, August 1 <sup>st</sup>                                 | Service on the property       |

Please save these dates as we gather together for fun and fellowship!!!

**COMING SOON – to a lawn near YOU . . .**

**"The Flock?" – sponsored by the YOUth Group**



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## Memories

Sometimes a change of pace joggles the mind and makes you think of memories that you've repressed into the deep crevasses of your mind. After listening to John Jeffrey give a sermon on March 7<sup>th</sup>, I was thinking to myself about some of the unusual hardships that we as individuals place on ourselves. With the warming temperatures and melting snow along with these hardships, my mind naturally went to some of my struggles on the golf course and one memory in particular.

During the time period when I was between 14 and 16, my father, grandfather, and I were at about the same golf skill. During the summer, we played regularly on Thursday afternoons and on a good day each one of us had the ability to shoot a 75 for 18 holes (Par 70 course). However, the object wasn't for us to shoot our best score; it was to beat the other two. To say that anything went that was within the rules of golf was an understatement.

One extremely hot July afternoon when I was 16; the three of us were out walking 18 holes (golf carts then were forbidden by my grandfather) and for some reason the three of us were all putting together extremely good rounds. However, I was doing a few strokes better than the other two as we approached the middle of the back nine. On hole 14, Grandpa realized he had forgotten his putter next to the 13<sup>th</sup> green. So being the young chap, I dropped my clubs and ran back to grab his putter. On 15, Grandpa realized he'd forgotten his sand wedge next to the 14<sup>th</sup> green and he needed it since he was in the trap. So yet again, I strolled back to get it. Grandfather blamed the heat for his forgetfulness and I, being young, accepted it. This pattern continued on for the rest of the round.

A few weeks before Quenten was born, on a sunny August 2005 afternoon, the three of us got together for our last Thursday afternoon golf match at a course outside of Whitehall. By this time, I was living up here and my grandfather's body was a shell of what it used to be. Parkinson's disease, cancer and heart disease had taken their toll on him physically, but he was still mentally as strong as ever. As Grandpa and I were sitting in the golf cart (acceptable now), he brought up that hot day a decade plus before. He admitted that on the back nine that day, he was intentionally leaving his clubs behind in hopes of rattling me in order to beat me. His thought was this was his last chance to beat his grandson at the game he had taught him. But Grandpa also confessed remorse that we didn't spend more time cheering each other on when playing golf, as we did in our last few rounds together. I think Grandpa knew that this would be his last time playing golf with me and he wanted closure before he knocked on the doors of Heaven.

This past Father's Day, while camping in Muskegon, Quenten and I drove to that same course I played with my grandfather on that sunny August afternoon. On the 4<sup>th</sup> hole, Quenten started screaming in my backswing on my tee shot. I asked what was wrong and he realized he had left his putter on the 3<sup>rd</sup> green. This same event happened a few holes later. Yes, I was having an extremely good round; and yes the thought entered my head that here was another Branch, trying to get me off of my golf game by leaving clubs behind.

Mathew Branch

## Come on out for a great night of music!!! April 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM

Two of Michigan's most accomplished and inspirational musicians, Rachael and Dominic Davis will be blessing all who come out with their rich and thoughtful music in a very intimate setting. We will be presenting another concert in our Sola Gratia concert series which strives to bring justice and hope to life through great music while raising money and awareness for fair-trade and justice issues.

This evening will be one you don't want to miss with proceeds going to benefit "On the Ground" the non-profit arm of Higher Grounds Trading Company in Traverse City. You can read up on some of the exciting stuff Higher Grounds is up to at [www.highergroundstrading.com](http://www.highergroundstrading.com). As an added bonus, Higher Grounds Coffee will be on hand!

Tickets are limited due to space and will be sold for \$20 a piece or \$15 if you buy more than one. If you are interested, contact Pastor Justin. Tickets will go fast, so act quickly! For more information on Rachael and Dominic and other places you can see them play, check out [www.rachaeldavis.com](http://www.rachaeldavis.com) or [www.steppininit.com](http://www.steppininit.com)

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## The following people are assisting in worship this Month.

Communion Bread: Kathy Johnston  
Altar Guild: Mike Deering

### April 4

Counters: Becky MacGirr & Lis Bank

#### 8:00 Service

Assisting Minister: Becky MacGirr  
Communion: Ben & Jan Price  
Ushers: Bud & Marlene Habermann  
Acolyte: Abbie Smith  
Nursery: McKenna Cudney & Halee Coon

#### 11:00 Service

Assisting Minister: Ed Bloxsom  
Communion: Keith & Claudette Johnson  
Ushers: Elden & Carole Zang  
Acolyte: Michael Kaven  
Nursery: Emily Bramer & Mary Mikko

### April 11

Fellowship: Stewardship Committee  
Counters: Cher Baumann & Deb Mikko

#### 8:00 Service

Assisting Minister: Becky Douthitt  
Communion: Jim & Nedra Shoobridge  
Ushers: Ryan Brodbent & Dave Roelofs  
Acolyte: Mikayla Mayo  
Nursery: Laney Wiggins

#### 11:00 Service

Assisting Minister: Carole Zang  
Communion: Carrie Baldwin & Juanita Weber  
Ushers: Mike Achorn & Steve MacGirr  
Acolyte: Katie Bank  
Nursery: Laney Wiggins & Mary Mikko

### April 18

Fellowship: Wednesday AM Bible Study Group  
Counters: Bud Habermann & Margaret Achorn

#### 8:00 Service

Assisting Minister: Laney Wiggins  
Communion: John & Mary Jeffrey  
Ushers: Cheryl Smith & Jennie Wentzloff  
Acolyte: Abbie Smith  
Nursery: Emily Bramer

#### 11:00 Service

Assisting Minister: Amiee Erfourth  
Communion: Michelle Anderson & Abby Cudney  
Ushers: Harold & Gwen Muenchow  
Acolyte: Miranda Stradinger  
Nursery: McKenna Cudney & Halee Coon

#### 7:00 Prayer Service

Nursery: Emily Bramer

### April 25

Fellowship: Property Committee  
Counters: Del Roelofs & Keith Johnson

#### 8:00 Service

Assisting Minister: Tom Peterson  
Communion: Rich Andersen & Clint Douthitt  
Ushers: Jin Harris & Nedra Shoobridge  
Acolyte: Logan Grimm  
Nursery: Laney Wiggins

#### 11:00 Service

Assisting Minister: Juanita Weber  
Communion: Charlie & Joan Chamberlain  
Ushers: Ed & Laurie Bloxsom  
Acolyte: Halee Stalmack  
Nursery: Laney Wiggins & Halee Coon

*If you are interested in helping with the Sunday morning worship experience, please see Tom or Sally Peterson.*

*If you are unable to help on the day listed, please be sure to make arrangements for your spot and advise Tom or Sally of the change. (Counters, please contact Wendy Roelofs.)*

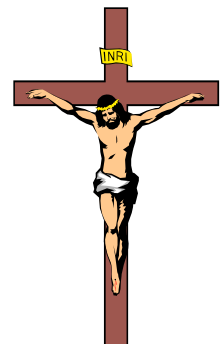
## Holy Week Schedule

**Maundy Thursday Service** – Thursday, April 01 at 7:00pm (at LAUMC)

**Good Friday Tenebrae Service** – Friday, April 02 at 7:00 pm

**Easter Sunday Services** – Sunday, April 04 at 8:00am & 11:00am

**Easter Breakfast** – Sunday, April 04 at 9:30 am



## Advent Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 249  
Lake Ann, MI 49650  
Church: 231.275.8031

Pastor Justin Grimm:  
PastorJustin@charter.net  
Phone: 231.632.0824

[www.adventlakeann.org](http://www.adventlakeann.org)

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### Worship with Us

Advent Lutheran Church  
19631 Maple  
Lake Ann, MI 49650

#### 5:00 Saturday Evenings

8:00 & 11:00  
Sunday mornings  
and  
9:30 AM  
Education Hour

## Church Staff

If you need Pastoral Care, are interested in helping out during the service, have an idea about a new program, interested in the choir, or want to help out with children and teen spiritual growth, please contact one of us.

Rev. Justin Grimm, Pastor

Becky MacGirr, Director of Faith Formation

Jan Price, Church Secretary

## Church Council

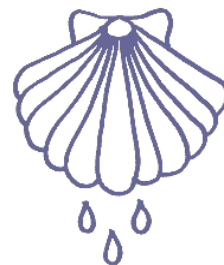
Church council meetings are held the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 at the church. Meeting minutes are available upon request. Please see Rich Andersen or Marlene Habermann.

For a list of your Church Council members, please go to [www.adventlakeann.org](http://www.adventlakeann.org) and click on Directory.

## Pastoral Assistance

If you or a loved one is in need of pastoral assistance, don't hesitate to contact Pastor Justin.

Are you interested in learning about Baptism or Communion for you or a family member? Pastor Justin would love to talk with you! Call or email him to set up a meeting.



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### Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday – 7PM  
(at LAUMC)  
Good Friday - 7PM  
Easter Sunday - 8AM & 11AM  
Easter Breakfast – 9:30AM