All Around Arndt's - November 25, 2024

Arndt's Lutheran Church 1851 Arndt Road, Easton, PA 18040 610-253-3732

Website: www.arndtslutheranchurch.org. Email: arndts.lutheranchurch@rcn.com

Waiting on God

Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant. Genesis 18:4-5

Advent is a season of waiting. When God, as three persons, visits Abraham, Abraham has been waiting for God's promise of an heir to be fulfilled. But now, he waits upon God. Abraham provides water for foot washing and bread for the divine visitors to eat. This may remind us of the actions of Jesus during the week of his Passion, but these actions are also fundamentally practical refreshment for the road-weary. Abraham has been blessed, and now, through the gift of his hospitality, he has a chance to bless God.

As we set about making ready for the coming of Christmas, waiting for the arrival of the Son who has been promised to us, we should ponder: Do we still wait for God with joyful hope? How can we make ready to practice the faithful hospitality of Abraham? How will God appear to us? As a road-worn stranger? As a child in a manger? And what is the "bread" that we are called to offer? How are we being called to wait on God?

Gracious God, give us eyes to see you and faith in your promise, that we may welcome you into our hearts and share the bread of life you offer to us. Amen.

From "The Word Made Flesh", Devotions for Advent, by Jacob Tobeck, Creative Communications, 1564 Fencorp Drive, Fenton, MO 63026. 800-325-9414. www.creativecommunications.com

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Attendance and Offering:

November 24, 2024: Attendance –48 Offering - \$1,623.00

Stewardship Snippets: December 1, 2024: (First Sunday of Advent)

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. Psalm 25:4

The First Sunday of Advent's theme is hope. Christians find our hope in God. We hunger for God and ask for guidance and strength to live fully as steward/disciples.

Let us pray for families of Arndt's:

Connie Witmer; Erik Wood; Rawlynn Wood; Kyle, Carly, Gabriella and Ryan Yanders; Bob and Barb Young; Denice Adams; Heather, Anthony, Anthony, Jr., and Zayden Annunziata; Mary Barba; Patricia Barbera; Jerry Baucom.

Announcements and Reminders

Covid 19

Recommended actions from the CDC: Stay <u>up to date</u> with COVID-19 vaccines and get tested if you have symptoms. Wear a mask if you have symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19. When worshiping in the Arndt's sanctuary masks are optional. Your consideration of others is appreciated.

Open Arms' "Basket Raffle Fundraiser and Bake Sale: Thank you to everyone who helped with the Open Arms "Basket Raffle" fundraising event this past Saturday. We had 23 themed baskets displayed and available to win and lots of delicious baked goods to purchase. Approximately \$586 was raised from this project.

Midweek Advent Soup Supper and Worship Service: On Wednesdays during Advent the churches in our Easton Cluster will once again join together for a meal and worship (Holden Evening Prayer) each week during Advent, with soup being offered at 6:00 p.m. and worship beginning at 7:00 p.m. The location will change each week.

December 4: Arndt's, 1851 Arndt Road, Easton

December 11: St. Paul's III, 2561 Newburg Road, Easton

December 18: St. Andrew's, 3900 Freemansburg Avenue, Easton

Offerings received during these services will be forwarded to Safe Harbor Homeless Shelter. In addition, we will be collecting canned goods (with pop-top lids) for the Safe Harbor Food Bank, which helps to supplement the homeless who utilize their warming center over the winter months.

Poinsettia Orders for Christmas: Worship and Music Committee is sponsoring a poinsettia sale. By purchasing poinsettias, you can help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas Eve. The cost this year will be \$10 per plant (6-1/2 inch pot), and the plants are available in red, white or pink. Complete the order form included in AAA and place it in the offering plate with payment, checks made payable to "Arndt's Lutheran Church". Orders are due by Wednesday, December 11th. Plants may be picked up after the Christmas Eve services.

<u>Thanksgiving Dinner at Safe Harbor this Thursday, November 28th, at 12:00 Noon</u>. Food donations for the noon meal at Safe Harbor on Thanksgiving Day should be dropped off no later than 10:00 on Thursday morning. Please place a note on the item to indicate if heating or cooling will be needed. Thank you for sharing with others in our community.

Advent Food Drive: The Arndt's 2024 Advent Food Drive begins on Sunday, December 1st and continues through Sunday, December 22nd, and will benefit the ProJeCt of Easton Food Pantry at St. John's Lutheran Church in Easton. The Food Pantry has been a community cornerstone in the Easton area for more than 30 years, helping families and individuals reduce food insecurity and increase their knowledge and understanding of quality, nutritious food. The "Reverse" Advent Calendar is attached. Each day, a different suggested pantry item is collected and placed in a box or bag pending delivery back to the church for sorting and distribution. All items should be brought to the church on or before Sunday, December 22nd. Collection bins will be in the coat room. Thank you for your generosity and support of this community project.

Giving Tree for Northampton County Family, Children and Youth: The Christmas tree is set up in the lounge and decorated with tags for you to select and purchase gifts for families in our community. NEW THIS YEAR. Unwrapped gifts should be returned to the church in a gift bag with the original tag attached to the gift bag. Gifts should be returned to the church by Sunday, December 15th. A representative from the county will pick them up the following week for distribution to the families. If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Horton at 610-258-4584. Thank you for generosity and support of this annual project.

<u>Congregational Meeting:</u> Our annual congregational meeting to elect new council members and approve the budget for 2025 will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, December 15, 2024. Please plan to attend this important meeting in the life of the church.

<u>Worship Minister Volunteers:</u> We are always looking for new people to help as worship ministers: lectors, ushers or greeter, assistant ministers, acolytes, and altar guild personnel. Please take time to look over the signup sheet on the clipboard in the narthex and add your name where you would like to help. Training is available, if needed.

Backpack Pals Program: Arndt's Church continues to collect applesauce packs for the Backpack Pals program—either the 4-cup or 6-cup packages, unsweetened preferred. There is a bin in the narthex for donations. We thank you for your continued support of this community project.

<u>Church Calendar on Arndt's Website:</u> For up-to-date information on dates and times of services and activities at the church, check out the 'Calendar" tab on the Arndt's website, <u>www.arndtslutheranchurch.org</u>.

<u>Gift Card Program:</u> Support the church by purchasing gift cards through the RaiseRight Gift Card Program (formerly SCRIP). This fundraiser helps support our church financially and also helps provide services to our community. Questions: Call Denis Burns at 610-216-9539.

Arndt's Weekly Calendar

<u>Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2024:</u> Open Arms Senior Connection, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

<u>Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2024:</u> Boy Scout Meeting, 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2024: No Midweek Service this month.

Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2024: No Country Line Dancing Class this week.

Contact Barbara Willett: 610-253-7382

Thursday, Nov. 28, 2024: Church Office Closed. Happy Thanksgiving!

Thursday, Nov. 28, 2024: No Bible Study tonight.

Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024: Children's Sunday School, ages 3 through grade 6,

9:00 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024: Holy Communion Service – First Sunday in Advent -

10:30 a.m.

Looking Ahead

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024: Midweek Advent Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m., at Arndt's

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024: Midweek Advent Worship, 7:00 p.m., at Arndt's

Sunday, Dec. 8, 2024: Holy Communion Service – Second Sunday in Advent -

10:30 a.m., followed by a luncheon celebrating the Twentieth Anniversary of Pastor Jean's Ordination at

12:00 noon. (reservations required).

Monday, Dec. 9, 2024: Women's Christmas Party, 5:30 p.m., in Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024: Annual Congregational Meeting following morning

worship with election of new council members and

approval of 2025 budget.



Once again, we will collect for the ProJeCt Easton Food Pantry located at St. John's Lutheran Church in Easton. This is the 5th year for our Advent Food Drive. Thanks to the generosity of the families and friends of Arndt's Lutheran Church, <u>last year</u> we donated 907 items weighing 1,060 lbs. for a total value of \$2,035.

ProJeCt Easton's Food Pantry has been a community cornerstone for more than 30 years. The goal of the food pantry is to reduce food insecurity and increase food knowledge by providing high quality nutrient food to low-income, at-risk adults, children, and seniors. Participants may choose the food they can use. Trained volunteers and the Food Pantry Coordinator work with clients to help them choose food that is right for their families.

The food pantry is servicing so many more families and there are certain items that are in HIGH NEED this year as indicated on our list.

This is a "reverse" Advent Calendar. Instead of opening a daily surprise on an Advent Calendar, you will collect a different pantry item at home, place it in a bag or box, and deliver your collection to church by the end of Advent. The flyer details the items needed this year.

If you have questions, please contact Gerry Burns at 610-349-8746.

Please bring your advent collection of items to
Arndt's Church
on or before
Sunday, December 22

Collection Bins are in the Coat Room

Your generosity is so appreciated!

WE HOPE YOU WILL HELP US GIVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!



ADVENT FOOD DRIVE 2024

To benefit ProJeCt Easton Food Pantry

Each day during Advent, put an item in a box or bag at home Final Drop-off at Arndt's Lutheran Church is Sunday, <u>December 22</u>

Anything on this list that you can provide will be most appreciated.

December 1	Pancake Mix – HIGH NEED
December 2	Ranch Salad Dressing – HIGH NEED
December 3	Body Wash – HIGH NEED
December 4	Shampoo – HIGH NEED
December 5	Deodorant – HIGH NEED
December 6	Dry Spaghetti or Pasta
December 7	Spaghetti Sauce - (NO GLASS JARS)
December 8	Mayonnaise – (NO GLASS JARS)
December 9	Cereal
December 10	Shelf Stable Milk
December 11	Peanut Butter – regular size jars
December 12	Canned Fruit
December 13	Macaroni & Cheese
December 14	Tuna-canned or pouch
December 15	Graham Crackers
December 16	Canned Vegetables
December 17	Jelly – Squeeze bottles
December 18	Catsup, Mustard (small squeeze bottles)
December 19	Pork & Beans or any canned beans
December 20	Chicken Noodle Soup
December 21	Rice
December 22	Disposable Diapers (sizes 4,5,6) and Baby Wipes
	Toilet Paper – HIGH NEED

REUSABLE SHOPPING BAGS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

The Worship & Music Committee is sponsoring a poinsettia sale. You may help us decorate the sanctuary for Christmas by purchasing poinsettias. The cost will be \$10.00 per plant (6-1/2-inch pot). **Please make checks payable to "Arndt's Lutheran Church".**

Complete the order form below, include payment, and place it in the offering plate. <u>Orders must be received</u> <u>no later than Wednesday, December 11th.</u>

You may pick up your plants after the Christmas Eve Services.

Poinsettia Plant Order Form

Given By						
Telephone						
In Honor of / In Loving Memory of:						
	Red Poinsettia	@	\$10.00 ea.	\$		
	White Poinsettia	@	\$10.00 ea.	\$		
	Pink Poinsettia	@	\$10.00 ea.	\$		
	Total Payment Enclosed			\$		

Availability of pink and white poinsettias may be limited. In the event they are not available, red will be substituted.

