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# “Doings” of the Advent Historical Society

## Stay In Touch With Us

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**Find us on Facebook:**  
[www.facebook.com/AdventHistoricalSociety](http://www.facebook.com/AdventHistoricalSociety)

## Support the Advent Historical Society

The Advent Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation [EIN 84-2266811] qualified to receive tax-deductible gifts to support the work of the Society.

Donations in the form of checks should be made payable to The Advent Historical Society and mailed to:

Advent Historical Society  
P.O. Box 983  
Milesburg, PA 16853

Credit card and PayPal donations can now also be accepted online via our website, our Facebook page, and by using the following QR code:



(Directions: Use the camera on your smart phone to scan the QR code, which will allow you to access the online donation site for Advent Historical Society.)

## Board President Welcome & Updates

Dear Friends of the Advent Historical Society:

The Advent Historical Society has accomplished a number of its strategic goals this year. Participation in the online day of giving at Centre Gives was a success, raising nearly \$3,000 and helping to support the new concert series. Thanks to the leadership of Jeff Watson, we presented our first successful season of Music at the Advent with three programs. Programs for next year will be announced in the spring.

The storage buildings were power washed this summer with help from Josh King who is now mowing the lawn and doing other work to help maintain the buildings and support the programs. The National Register nomination for Marsh Creek Advent Church & Cemetery was well received by the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Board at their June meeting and endorsed with a unanimous vote. The application will be submitted next to the National Park Service for final approvals.

Next spring, we will open a new exhibition in the refurbished barn gallery based on family photographs and the Holts Hollow columns written by Emma Watson in the Centre Democrat from 1924 to 1945. We are still collecting family photographs from that time period, so please check your family albums and send your snapshots to us at P.O. Box 983, Milesburg, PA 16853. We will scan them and return them to you.

On behalf of the Board, thank you for your contributions and support that make all this work possible. Best wishes for the holidays and a Happy New Year to all, both near and far. We hope to see you next year.

Barbara Franco  
President

## Music at the Advent: Fall Program Information

Harvest Home, our third and final program in the Music at the Advent 2022 concert series, will be held on **Sunday, October 23, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**, at the historic Advent Church. At this lively, family-friendly event, local musicians will perform in the church, and a variety of artisans will display their work for sale. A children's craft table will offer quilt designing, pumpkin painting, and other hands-on activities. Homemade



jams and jellies, baked goods, and fudge will be available for sale. The Advent Historical Society museum will be open, with members of the History Committee available with information about grave sites in the Advent Cemetery. FREE apple cider and donuts will be served. Details on craft vendors and musicians will be published in early October on our Facebook page and website.

## In Remembrance 2022

We are thankful for the generous gifts to The Advent Historical Society given in honor of:

- Don Watson
- Eloise McMullen Watson
- Richard Fyfe
- James McKinley, life member of the Advent Historical Society



# Music at the Advent: Spring & Summer

## Memorial Day, 2022: Remembering Family

Advent Historical Society's first event of the 2022 Music at the Advent series was Remembering Family, held on Memorial Day, 2022. The program began with the Boy Scouts presenting the colors, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and singing of *The Star-Spangled Banner*. Jeff Watson introduced The Stauffer Family Band, who led the audience in patriotic songs and favorite hymns. Doyle Stauffer shared remembrances of growing up in a house filled with music. Their father, Miles Stauffer, taught them to play the guitar, and their mother, Eva (Polly) Watson Stauffer, taught them the piano. All the children learned to play by ear, rather than read music, and Myrna Stauffer, who donated her piano to the Advent Historical Society, was remembered as the most talented musician who played several instruments.

A social hour that included delicious homemade pies and cakes, tours of the Advent Historical Society Museum, and visits to the graves of friends and family provided a fitting close to our first program.



Clockwise from top left: Boy Scouts presenting the flag; *The Star-Spangled Banner* (with special guest flag waver); The Stauffer Family Band (L to R: Paul Confer, Bob Stauffer, Randy Stauffer, Doyle Stauffer, Duane Stauffer) ©Advent Historical Society, 2022



Judy Hefty, AHS Board member and expert hostess  
©Advent Historical Society, 2022



Event attendees enjoy the social hour outside the Advent Church  
©Advent Historical Society, 2022

## July 17, 2022: Songs from Parlor and Pew

Our July 17th concert, Songs from Parlor and Pew, featured internationally-recognized soprano Susan Bender and pianist Dr. Jeffery Watson. Dr. Watson provided the program notes for the musical selections, which ranged from hymn tunes, to Stephen Foster classics, to operatic favorites from Verdi and Puccini. Susan Bender's dramatic interpretation of the arias—as well as her enthusiasm and energy in leading the singalong lyrics—engaged the audience throughout the program, which ended with a rousing, full-voiced chorus of "Promised Land" that filled the building with song.

Following the concert, an ice cream social brought visitors and friends together to celebrate the tradition of Music at the Advent.

We also thank Jeff and Susan for offering this concert for the residents at Centre Care on Friday, July 15th, as part of the Advent Historical Society's community outreach.



Clockwise from top left: Dr. Jeffery Watson, pianist; Susan Bender, soprano; Jeff Watson and guest; Board Vice President Dorothy Ogden, Board President Barbara Franco, Board member Don Wesley, History Committee member Elaine Franco, and Board Treasurer Carolyn Hedges; founding Board member John Fyfe; two thumbs up from our young guests; attendees enjoying the ice cream social  
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