

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today	Worship with Communion 8:15 am & 11:00 am	
	Bible Class/Sunday School	9:45 am
	Youth Disciples “Game Day”	12:30 pm-3:00 pm
	Jr. Youth	3:00 pm-5:30 pm
	Sr. Youth	4:30 pm-8:00 pm
Monday	Boy Scout Commissioners	7:00 pm
Tuesday	No Bible Study	9:30 am
	Worship Team	7:00 pm
Wednesday	Quilters	9:00 am
	Women’s Bible Class	9:30 am
	Handbells	6:00 pm
	8 th Grade Confirmation	6:30 pm
	Choir	7:00 pm
	Messenger Articles Due	
Thursday	Men’s Bible Study (away)	6:15 am
	WOL Geography Bee	1:45 pm
	Men’s Bible Study	7:00 pm
Friday	Nepali Home Bible Study	7:00 pm
Saturday	Pastor on KFYO	9:00 am
	Worship with Communion	5:00 pm

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT ASCENSION

SERMON SERIES FOR EPIPHANY Of all of life’s questions, perhaps the most important one is, “Who is Jesus?” While there are lots of different answers people might give, the season of Epiphany gives us the opportunity to look where the best answer is found—God’s Word. The word Epiphany means “to reveal.” During our weekends in Epiphany we’ll be looking at who Jesus reveals himself to be. We’ll be focusing on our Gospel readings from (mostly) the book of Luke as we journey with Jesus seeing and hearing who He is. Come and be better equipped to answer, “Who is Jesus?”

EPIPHANY SERMON SERIES
Who is Jesus?

A Journey with Jesus in The Gospel of Luke

January 12/13	Luke 3:15-22
January 19/20	John 2:1-11
January 26/27	Luke 4:1-30
February 2/3	Luke 4:31-44
February 9/10	Luke 5:1-11
February 16/17	Luke 6:17-26
February 23/24	Luke 6:27-38
March 2/3	Luke 9:28-36

STEWARDSHIP

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS Jan. 13 (Baptism of Our Lord)
Luke 3:21 – “Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened ...” We know why the people were baptized, but why was Jesus baptized? He didn’t need repentance or forgiveness. The answer is that He did it for us. The reason God sent His Son into the world is to fulfill all righteousness for us, to do what we could not do. The whole of Jesus’ life, everything He did and said was one great offering to the Father in our stead to fulfill all righteousness for us. With our righteousness fulfilled in Jesus and given to us in Baptism – our hearts now overflow with thanksgiving and praise.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS—EVERY ONE HIS WITNESS

Beginning January 20, Pastor Clark’s Sunday morning Bible class will participate in “Every One His Witness.” Every One His Witness seeks to motivate Christians to be active witnesses of the Gospel in their communities. In this Bible study we’ll seek to become better equipped to share the Good News of Jesus with people of differing religions and worldviews. The study will include, God’s Word, videos, and group discussion. The core study is 6 weeks in length and will be followed by other modules which focus on witnessing to specific groups including: Witnessing to De-churched Adult Children, Witnessing to Muslims, and Responding to Scientism. Come and become better equipped to share Christ’s love! All are welcome!

PASTOR AND THE NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

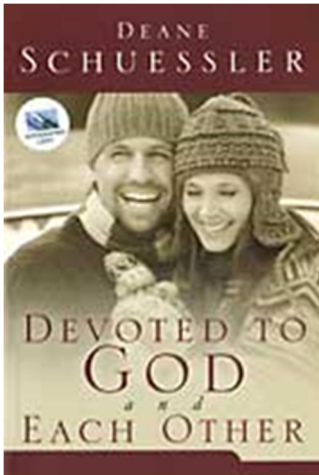
Pastor Clark will be in Minneapolis from January 14 to 16 for planning meeting for the 2019 LCMS National Youth Gathering. Pastor is serving as Director of Worship for the Gathering.

Stewardship Report	
Through 1/6/19	
Number Who Gathered Around God’s Word	
Ascension Location Worship	280
Peace Center Location	00
Total	280
Amount Received to Share Christ’s Love	
Amount Received	\$ 8,005
Budgeted Amount	\$11,289
Surplus/(Shortfall)	(\$ 3,284)
Sunday School	\$.00

Hintze Library Book of the Month

Each Book of the Month is a new addition to our library and is available for check out.

January's books of the month is: *Devoted to God and Each Other*
By Deane Schuessler



Devoted to God and Each Other is designed to provide positive and thoughtful inspiration and a renewal of hope that will strengthen marriages and fill voids in hearts in seventy-three short devotions.

A recurring thread woven through the book is that a relationship with God is the main conduit of protection and power in our marriages. Dr. Schuessler says that our deepest, most important relationship is with God, while the most intimate is with our spouse. He sees marriage as a huge gift from God. Receiving his gift and believing in him as the Giver, we will be much more apt to respect and receive each other in love.

Not merely a book for newlyweds or those heading toward marriage, it equally addresses the concerns and needs of couples in their mature years. Designed to be read together by couples, the book provides helpful, directed discussion starters and prayer guides. Issues such as mending little tears in marriage, finding purpose in your life together, nurturing growth and unity, and even steps to a real apology are dealt with in a sensitive way.

OUR NURSERY is located down the lobby hall in the Emmaus Room. It is equipped with an audio feed that enables you to participate in the service. If you need assistance, please ask an usher for help.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK Like Ascension on Facebook to stay current with events, Bible studies, photos, videos and other great resources! There are 4 Ascension-related Facebook pages:

Church page: "Ascension Lutheran Church LCMS"
Youth page: "Ascension Youth Fellowship"
Word of Life page: "Word of Life Lutheran School"
Young Adults: "Ascension Community Group"

DONATE FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE! Scan the image you see here by using your phone's QR code reader (bar code scanner). You will be taken directly to Ascension's on-line giving page. Simply set up your account, using your credit card, debit card, or checking account and donate electronically. Smart Phone users can also download the GIVE+Mobile app from the Apple or Google Play Store.



2019 Contribution Envelopes
Envelopes are ready for pick up.
They are located in the church lobby alcove.



FOUR-PART FOCUS Who are we as a congregation? What are Ascension's priorities? Where do we focus our stewardship of time, talents, and treasure? How do we live out our mission "Loved by Christ, Sharing Christ's Love?" To help

answer these questions, Ascension has adopted a Four-Fold Focus:

1. Outreach through Word of Life
2. Christian Friends of New Americans Partnership
3. Worship and Spiritual Life
4. Multigenerational/Intergenerational Ministry.

THE MINISTRY COUNCIL IS PLEASED TO PROVIDE you with the following update on our financial condition. Due to your generous gifts and support of our numerous ministries, we had a prosperous December that yielded a surplus of \$27,328. That means our deficit decreased to \$11,601. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! As we look forward to the many exciting plans for 2019, we ask for your continued prayers and support.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY began a new study on January 9 at 9:30 am in the Concordia Room. The study guide *The God of All Comfort* by Donna Pyle based on 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 will lend insight and encouragement that God is not blind to our troubles. Through God's Word and stories of eight faith-filled Christians who relied on faith despite their heartache, we will experience the unmistakable handprint of a loving, merciful Savior who relentlessly pursues us with His ultimate comfort. Please join us for prayer, study, and fellowship. Contact Marlene Maxfield – (314) 846-3880 – to reserve your study guide.

2019 LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTIONS Please use the Designated Envelope in your contribution envelope box to renew your subscription. Please mark the memo "Lutheran Witness". The 2019 price is \$15.96 for 12 issues. New Subscription/Renewals are due by January 27, 2019.

ASCENSION BIBLE INSTITUTE (ABI) will begin a new study on Wednesday, January 23 at 7:00 p.m. Our study this winter will focus on the Old Testament book of Jonah. Class will be led by Pastor Chris Agne. His teaching style brings life and relevance to the study of the minor prophets. Please join us on 1/23 for an introduction/overview. We will not have class on 1/30, and we will resume on 2/6 and conclude on 2/27.

DO YOU HAVE A THRIVENT POLICY? Life insurance or investment? Do you want to help the church and WOL (youth, Easter Egg Hunt, VBS) and many many other events at our church? You (and I can help) apply for these Thrivent Action Team (grants) but we can't help these organizations and our church without you! We had about 54 approved grants for WOL and church in 2018 and can apply for these same grants in 2019 AND we have about 15 more ideas for 2019 but we need your help. These grants have helped WOL and Ascension considerably without taking money out of the general budget for activities. To get started you need your policy #. Even if you do not have a computer or you need help with applying for the grant on your computer I can help you with these directions. By applying for these grants, they have NO negative impact on your policies. Please contact me if you want to help with these grants. Karen Hilkerbaumer at gbomber@swbell.net or (314) 752-9473. THANKS

Bible class is led by Pastor Clark as we explore the same Bible accounts as our children and youth Sunday school students. Come join us as we dig a little deeper into God's Word and grow in faith as congregation members of all ages. Parents—this is a great way to learn the same material your children are leaning in Sunday and continue the conversation in your home!

<u>Class/Day</u>	<u>Time/Location</u>	<u>Teacher/Leader</u>
Tuesday	9:30 am/Concordia Rm	Pastor Clark
Wednesday Women's Bible Study	9:30 am/Concordia Rm	Marlene Maxfield
Thursday Men's Bible Study	6:15 am/Bread Co.	Mike Gibbs
Thursday Men's Bible Study	7:00 pm/Bremer Home	Chris Thies
Sunday YAGs (Young Adult Group-20s & 30s)	6:00 pm/Concordia Rm	Trevor Freudenburg
4 th Sunday Youngish Adults (30s & 40s)	5:00 pm/Maxfield Home	Pastor Clark

A huge thank you to all who are willing to
serve on our 2019 Ministry Council.

Nathan Decker-President
Rob Bremer-Vice President
Brad Muhlke-Treasurer
Marcia Passanise-Secretary

Carl Anderson-Member at Large
Mike Gibbs-Member at Large
Chhatra Gurung-Member at Large
Laura Lane-Member at Large
Marla Lopez-Member at Large
Mark Pfaff-Member at Large
Dianne Thies-Member at Large

A sincere thank you to all outgoing members
for your service and leadership.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & BIBLE CLASS

<u>Class</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>Teacher(s)</u>
Parents & Little Ones	Dorcas Room	Jasmine Duerr and friends
Pk3-Kdg	WOL Kindergarten	Ellen Hetz & Friends
Gr. 1-3	Bethany Room C	Cheryl Chambers, Kim Schave And Friends
Gr. 4-5	Music Room	Carl Anderson/ Rich Schaefer And Friends
Gr. 6-8	Youth Room	Sem. Matt Lorenz Sem. Matt Kolden Dcs. Anna Johnson
Gr. 9-12	Church Lobby	Lisa Clark Trevor Freudenburg Rob Bremer
Adult Bible Class	Fellowship Hall	Matt Kobs Pastor Matt Clark
Nepalese Bible Class	Fellowship Hall 1 st Sunday of Month	Matt Kobs/ Gagan Gurung
Sunday School Coordinator		Lisa Clark

WHERE DO I GO TO STUDY THE BIBLE? Sunday School and Bible Class are in full swing again! Here are a few changes to keep in mind:

- Preschoolers through 8th graders all meet in the same place at 9:45—the sanctuary—for an opening.
- Adults with little ones (babies, toddlers, or too young for preschool) will meet at 9:45 in the Bethany C room (directly below the church nursery).
- Pastor Clark will lead his Bible class for all adults in the Fellowship Hall starting at 10:00 am. He will be teaching the same lessons as the children will be learning, digging deep as well as equipping adults to reach out to children in the Ascension family with God's Word.

**CHURCH
IS NOT SOMETHING
YOU GO TO,
IT'S A FAMILY
YOU
BELONG TO.**

WORD OF LIFE

2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR THEME: This year's school theme is based on 2 Corinthians 5:7 "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

ENROLLMENT FOR THE 18/19 SCHOOL YEAR

PreK - 44

Kdg-8 - 143

If you are looking for preschool serving ages 3 - 5 or Kindergarten - 8th grade and would like to tour, please contact Megan Arnold at (314) 832-1244 ext. 112 or marnold@wordoflifefschool.net. We invite you for a tour to learn more about any of our three campuses.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION We are looking for graduates of Ascension Lutheran School/Word of Life Lutheran School who are interested in helping further develop an Ascension/Word of Life Alumni Association. If you are interested in this exciting opportunity to connect with former classmates, please contact Pastor Clark or Megan Arnold (Word of Life's Director of Admissions and Marketing).

SUPPORT THE WORD OF LIFE 8TH GRADERS on their trip to Chicago. Join us at Smoking Barrels, 5641 S. Kingshighway, on Tuesday, January 22. A portion of the entire days sales goes towards their trip. Restaurant hours are 11:00 am - 9:00 pm, perfect for lunch, dinner or carry outs. The more the merrier!

THE PTL TRIVIA NIGHT on January 26-2019, Doors open at 6:30 pm, play begins at 7:00 pm-10:00 pm. \$20 per person/8 to a table. Individual registration are welcome as well. The cost at the door is \$25 per person. Outside food and drinks are welcome. Adult beverages are allowed. Soda and water will be provided. For registration form go Word Of Life's website.

WE WILL NOT host a restaurant night in February in support of the 8th grade class fundraising activities.

ST. LUCAS LUTHERAN CHURCH is opening a New Childhood Center. We are now accepting enrollment and part-time employment. Contact Laurie Riley at laurie.riley@stlucaslcls.org

TEACHERS OF THE MONTH

Our Word of Life teachers of the month for January are:

Sarah Maxfield
5th Grade Teacher, 5th-8th Grade Language Arts

Nathan Dehn
6th Grade, 5th-8th Grade Science, Athletic Director

Laurie Jones
7th Grade Teacher, 5th-8th Grade Social Studies

WORSHIP NOTES

LITURGIST: 1st Weekend -

Pastoral Assistant Trevor Freudenburg-
2nd Weekend - Seminarian Matt Lorenz
3rd Weekend – Seminarian Matt Kolden
4th Weekend – 8:15 Seminarian John Kyle

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: 8:15 Gabe Maichel, organist;
11:00 Worship Team Gabe Maichel, piano;
Mark Maxfield guitar; Matt Bergholt, guitar/bass;
Nadia Zaza, guitar; Gary Notch, drums

ACOLYTES: 5:00 Bella Bracken; 8:15 Grant Maxfield;
11:00 Rebekah Rhyne

NEXT WEEK: 5:00 Matthew Hofman; 8:15 George Morris;
11:00 Tyler Kern

ALTAR GUILD: 5:00 Bev & Rich Schaefer;
8:15 Elizabeth Nease; 11:00 Marcia Passanise
NEXT WEEK: 5:00 Bev & Rich Schaefer;
8:15 Elizabeth Nease; 11:00 Marcia Passanise

ELDERS: 5:00; 8:15 Jeff Stiles;
11:00 Mark Maxfield

NEXT WEEK: 5:00; 8:15, 11:00

HOSTS: 5:00 The Bracken Family;
8:15 The Bill A. Maxfield Family; 11:00 The Hansen Family
NEXT WEEK: 5:00 Rich & Bev Schaefer;
8:15 Arlene Headrick; 11:00 Terry & Nancy Nickolotsky

MULTIMEDIA ROOM: 5:00 Bella Bracken/Noah Clark;
8:15 Matt Bergholt/Bill A. Maxfield;
11:00 Vernon Schmidt/Chris Thies
NEXT WEEK: 5:00 Bella Bracken/Noah Clark;
8:15 Matt Bergholt/Bill A. Maxfield;
11:00 Vernon Schmidt/Chris Thies

READERS: 5:00 Ted Cox; 8:15 Gerry Kassing
11:00 Paul Brock
NEXT WEEK: 5:00 Rich Schaefer; 8:15 Matt Kobs
11:00 Debbie Schmidt

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK Jan. 20, 2019
Isaiah 62:1-5
! Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

USHERS: 5:00 Walter Scoggins, Walt Simpson
8:15 Jake Bremer, Rob Bremer, Jonathan Gibbs,
Jack Pendleton
11:00 Gary Freer, Dave Jones, Carlos Lopez
NEXT WEEK: 5:00 Karl Hofmann, Robert Hofmann,
Ed Holderle
8:15 Gene Bockelmann, Nathan Decker, Mark Shaffer
11:00 Paul Brock, Sr., Paul Brock, Jr., Roger Jensen

PRAYER REQUESTS

Our In-Home Ministry members are designated with an *

The Church Staff prays for you during their bi-weekly staff meetings. If you have a specific prayer request, please contact the church office or fill out a note from the Record of Fellowship folder and place it on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

HOUSEHOLDS OF THE WEEK

Allen & Sandra Pfeuffer
Douglas & Nancy Pfitzinger
Patricia Pfitzinger
The Pisoni Family

YOUTH OF THE WEEK

Anish Gurung
Bhumika Gurung
Gavin Schulz
Sarah Stiffler

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

1/13 Manoj Gurung, Ava Morton
1/14 Melissa Fox, Brian Hilkerbaumer
1/15 Jill Munoz, Melvin Sheets Jr., Leslie Todd
1/16 Sandi Kitson
1/17 Timothy Danneman, Christina Rosenberg
1/18 Elizabeth Nease
1/19 Scott Anderson, Kayelyn Coleman, Joyce Meckfessel

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1/13 Troy & Sarah Hansen

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS

1/13 Martin Dicke, Asia

ASCENSION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SERVING AS FIRST RESPONDERS

Kevin Duffy	Phil Green
Ross Hetz & Firehouse	Kevin Keller
Adam Notch	Gary Steffens
Denise Strittmatter	

ASCENSION MEMBERS & FRIENDS SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Andrew Jensen	Alex Jones
James Keltner	Brian Kitson
Thomas Kitson	Tony Urschler