

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today	Worship with Communion	8:15 am
	Sunday School Christmas Program	11:00 am
	Bible Class/Sunday School	9:45 am
Monday	Ministry Council	7:00 pm
Tuesday	No Bible Study	9:30 am
	Evening Guild	7:00 pm
Wednesday	Worship Team	7:00 pm
	Quilters	9:00 am
	Women’s Bible Class	9:30 am
	Handbells	6:00 pm
	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation	6:30 pm
Thursday	Choir	7:00 pm
	Men’s Bible Study (away)	6:15 am
	Cub Scouts	7:00 pm
Friday	Men’s Bible Study	7:00 pm
	Nepali Home Bible Study	7:00 pm
Saturday	Men’s Retreat	
	Pastor on KFUE	9:00 am
	Worship with Communion	5:00 pm

### STEWARDSHIP

#### GENEROSITY THOUGHTS Dec. 31 and Jan. 1

Luke 2:21 – “**And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.**” So how was your 2018? What are you looking forward to (with either joy or dread) in 2019? No matter our joys or our sorrows, this is certain: last year and next year belong to Jesus. And His very Name is a comfort to us for He is called Jesus because He will save His people from their sins, as the angel said. As you begin a new year, rest in that knowledge.

#### *Stewardship Report* Through 12/25/18

##### Number Who Gathered Around God’s Word

Ascension Location Worship	398
Peace Center Location	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>441</b>

##### Amount Received to Share Christ’s Love

Amount Received	\$24,184.02
Budgeted Amount	\$11,289.00
<b>Surplus/(Shortfall)</b>	<b>\$12,895.02</b>

Sunday School      \$12.00

### WHAT’S HAPPENING AT ASCENSION

**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.



**WELCOME BABY MAICHEL** Natalie Lynn was born in the evening on Friday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. Natalie will be baptized at the 8:15 am worship service this weekend.

**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.

**ASCENSION EVENING GUILD** will meet this Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in church fellowship hall. Join us in planning upcoming events and activities.

**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.

2019 Contribution Envelopes  
Envelopes are ready for pick up.  
They are located in the church lobby hallway  
toward the Concordia Room.

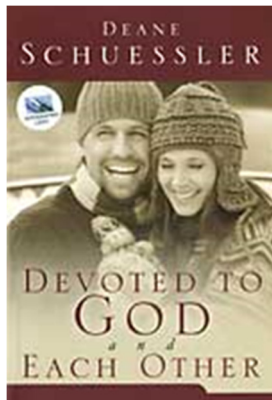
## Hintze Library Book of the Month

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.

### THEY DON'T GO IN YOUR CURBSIDE RECYCLE BIN!

Return Plastic Bags to the Store  
Find a location at [PlasticFilmRecycling.org](http://PlasticFilmRecycling.org)



Properly Dispose of Your Household Hazardous Waste  
Paints, varnish, lawn products, and pool chemicals are all household hazardous waste. Schedule a drop-off at

[www.hhwstl.com](http://www.hhwstl.com)

Two locations - Including South County

**WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** will begin a new study on January 9 at 9:30 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 – 846-3880 – to reserve your study guide.

**ASCENSION'S BOY SCOUT TROOP 34** Troop 34 is looking for members of their Oversight Committee—specifically a committee chair pro tem, secretary, and treasurer. Training is available through online videos. The committee meets up to six times per year in order to review program plans and finances. If you are interested in serving and leading our scouts, please contact the church office or Suzanne Alexander at [suzanne.alexander@slu.edu](mailto:suzanne.alexander@slu.edu).



**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.

**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

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.

## BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

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 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Youngish Adults (30s & 40s)	5:00 pm/Maxfield Home	Pastor Clark

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

## 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 <sup>st</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 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](mailto: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).

**JANUARY RESTAURANT NIGHT-** McDonald's 7259 Watson Rd Shrewsbury. Tuesday Jan 8, 2019 from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. 20% of all sales will benefit WOL!

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

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!** The PTL Trivia Night on January 26, 2019, 6:30 pm-10:00 pm. More info to follow at a later date.

### TEACHERS OF THE MONTH

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

Sarah Maxfield – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts  
Nathan Dehn -6<sup>th</sup> Grade, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science, Athletic Director  
Laurie Jones - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

## WORSHIP NOTES

### LITURGIST: 1<sup>st</sup> Weekend -

Pastoral Assistant Trevor Freudenburg-

2<sup>nd</sup> Weekend - Seminarian Matt Lorenz

3<sup>rd</sup> Weekend – Seminarian Matt Kolden

4<sup>th</sup> 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 Kayla Loesche; 8:15 Anna Clark;

11:00 Alyssa Hansen

**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00 Bella Bracken; 8:15 Grant Maxfield;

11:00 Rebekah Rhyne

### 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, 11:00 Mark Maxfield

**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00; 8:15 Jeff Stiles;

11:00 Mark Maxfield

### HOSTS: 5:00 Randy & Sharon Agne;

8:15 Clarence & Carol Goetsch; 11:00 The Fox Family

**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00 The Bracken Family;

8:15 The Bill A. Maxfield Family; 11:00 The Hansen Family

### 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 Randy Agne; 8:15 John Brink

11:00 Dianne Thies

**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00 Ted Cox; 8:15 Gerry Kassing

11:00 Paul Brock

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Jan. 13, 2019

Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 43: 1-7

Romans 6: 1-11

Luke 3: 15-22

### USHERS: 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

**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00 Walter Scoggins, Walt Simpson

8:15 Jake Bremer, Rob Bremer, Jonathan Gibbs,

Jack Pendleton

11:00 Gary Freer, Dave Jones, Carlos Lopez

## 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

Edward & Lois Peek

Jack & Jan Pendleton

Adam Pfaff

The Pfaff Family

### YOUTH OF THE WEEK

Abigail Green

Abashak Gurung

Samuel Reeves

Andrew Roussin

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

1/6 Gary Notch, Rebekah Rhyne

1/7 Blake Patzius

1/8 Kristine Schneidewind

1/9 Lilliah Danneman

1/11 Savannah Breitendfeld, George Morris

1/12 Gabrielle Ferranto, Abashak Gurung

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

### MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS

### 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