

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday	Coffee & Donuts Worship with Communion Sunday School / Adult Bible Study Worship with Communion	7:45-10:45 am 8:30 am 9:45 am 11:00 am
Monday	Pastor off all week for Spring Break Church Office closes at 12:00 pm	
Tuesday	NO BIBLE STUDY	
Wednesday	NO MORNING LENT WORSHIP Quilters Women of the Word Bible Study Church Office closes at 12:00 pm Meal Lent Worship	9:00 am 9:30 am 5:00 pm 6:30 pm
Thursday	Men’s Bible Study	6:15 am
Friday	Church Office closes at 12:00 pm	
Saturday	Worship with Communion	5:00 pm

STEWARDSHIP

Mark 10:45 – “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Jesus gives everything He has: He gives Himself. That self-giving is the model for our giving in all aspects of our lives. In our family, in our church, and in the world at large, Jesus calls us to follow His example of self-giving. We can only do this if we are connected to His self-giving in faith.

Stewardship Report

For the weekend ending March 10th

In-person attendance: 5:00 – 68
8:30 – 97
11:00 – 66

TOTAL – 231

Amount Received to Share Christ’s Love

Budgeted Amount	\$	12,478
Amount Received	\$	13,149
Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$	671

2024 Deficit through February: \$7,347

2024 BIBLE READING CHALLENGE!

2024 BIBLE READING CHALLENGE! At Ascension we strive to be people of the Word as we engage with Scripture on a regular, even daily, basis. In 2021-2022 we read through the Bible in two years. In 2023 we read through the book of Psalms. In 2024, we invite you to join with brothers and sisters in Christ at Ascension in reading through all four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The Gospels are at the heart of God’s story of salvation for us as they trace the birth, life, death, resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus our Savior. The reading schedule is available in the church library.

Each Friday, Pastor posts a video on Ascension’s Facebook page and YouTube channel highlighting a theme or insight of that week’s readings.

Our reading for **March 17 – March 23** is **Matthew 19 & 20**.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

MAUNDY THURSDAY: MARCH 28, 2024

Worship with Communion **8:30 am & 6:30 pm**

GOOD FRIDAY: MARCH 29, 2024

Tre Ore Worship at Timothy and on KFUE AM 850

12:00 pm-3:00 pm

Tenebrae Worship at Ascension **6:30 pm**

EASTER SUNDAY: MARCH 31, 2024

Sunrise Service at **6:30 am**

Worship with Communion at **8:00 am,**

9:30 am, & 11:00 am



EASTER BREAKFAST

EASTER BREAKFAST Enjoy a delicious meal, and support our youth! Ascension’s Youth Group will be serving breakfast in the Fellowship Hall from **7:30 am to 11:00 am** on Easter morning. The menu will include muffins, sausage, fruit, and a variety of casseroles. See you there!

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPENING

Children in Preschool through Grade 8 are invited to meet in the sanctuary at **9:45 am** each week for a brief Sunday school opening. Details about Sunday school for all ages are on page 5 of the News & Notes.

LIKE US



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK Like Ascension to stay current with events, Bible studies, photos, videos and other great resources!

There are four 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"

LAST MONTH'S ONLINE VIEWS

2/04: 309

2/11: 288

2/18: 275

2/25: 269

Note to Worshippers

Ever want to re-watch a worship service or listen to a sermon again?

Ascension livestreams our worship services.

Go to: AscensionStL.com/livestream to find archived services.

DONATE FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE

Scan the image you see here by using your phone's QR code reader (bar code scanner) to 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. Smartphone users can also download the Vanco Mobile app from the Apple or Google Play Store and set up an account. Please use only one email account per contribution envelope number.



NEW MEMBER CLASS

NEW MEMBER CLASS Are you interested in learning more about what Lutheran Christians believe? Are you looking for a church home and a church family? Does your child attend Word of Life School and you would like to be connected to one of the school's association congregations? Then please consider attending Ascension's New Member Class.

In this 7-week class we'll go over the basic teaching of the faith and answer any questions you may have about Ascension and its mission and ministry.

The class is taught by Pastor Clark and will meet on Sunday mornings at **10:00 am** in the Concordia Conference Room beginning **April 14**.



LENT 2024

LENT 2024: THE PASSION OF OUR LORD During this year's season of Lent, we'll be focusing on "The Passion of Our Lord." Reading from a compilation of all four Gospels, we will follow Jesus during the final hours before his death as we hear the entire story of Jesus' passion for our salvation. There are two opportunities for worship each Wednesday. Our **8:30 am** worship will follow the order of Matins and include the kindergarten through grade eight students of Word of Life Lutheran School. Our **6:30 pm** worship will follow an order of Evening Prayer which will include chanting as well as Lent and Evening Hymns. Next **Wednesday, March 20**, there will be no **8:30 am service**.

✝ **Wednesday of Lent 5 – March 20, 2024**

Calvary

Seminarian Michael Winckler

MIDWEEK LENT MEALS

MIDWEEK LENT MEALS A meal will be served starting at **5:00 pm** on Wednesday evenings before the Midweek Lent services. Below is a list of the groups serving and the menus. A huge thank you to all of our volunteers!

- **3/20** Women of the Word: serving Chicken Tetrazzini

THANK YOU

THANK YOU A big thank you to Ted Drewes for their very generous donation of gift cards for concrete ice cream and to Dairy Queen at Hampton/Eichelberger for allowing us to purchase children's meal gift cards at a very discounted price. We used Thrivent money to add to the purchase of these cards. Thank you very much to these two companies which allowed us to give these gifts to the children who attended the Easter Egg Hunt Saturday.

LUTHERAN SCHOOL GROWTH

THANKFUL FOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL GROWTH! The Sunday, February 25 cover of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch featured a story that highlighted the significant growth of Lutheran schools in the St. Louis area. Since 2019, overall enrollment at Lutheran schools in the St. Louis area has increased by 19%. Our own school, Word of Life has also seen a trend in increased enrollment growing from approximately 175 students in 2019 to 224 students in 2024. We give thanks to God that more children and youth are hearing about their Savior Jesus Christ each and every school day! You can access the Post-Dispatch article at stltoday.com. The article is also displayed on our lobby bulletin board.

ASCENSION YOUTH FELLOWSHIP



ASCENSION YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (AYF) is the volunteer-led youth ministry at Ascension Lutheran Church for the children of Ascension and beyond. We have two distinct groups that gather based upon their ages: The Junior Youth

is open to all youth in grades 5 through 8; and the Senior Youth is open to all youth in grades 9 through 12.



YOUTH SUNDAYS

- **Junior Youth meet from 3:00-5:30 pm**
- **Senior Youth meet from 4:45-8:00 pm**

A meal including both Junior and Senior Youth will take place at **5:00 pm**.

YOUTH SUNDAY DATES:

May 19 (Youth BBQ)

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for these other important dates!

- The Youth will serve Easter Breakfast on **Sunday, March 31, 2024**
- The Missouri District Youth Gathering **April 5-7, 2024**
- Youth Trivia Night will be **Saturday, April 20, 2024** from **6:00-10:00 pm**. Proceeds will benefit the 2025 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

QUESTIONS? If you have any questions about Ascension Youth Fellowship, please contact Lisa Clark or Pastor at the church office.

Lisa Clark

(314) 659-7558

lisaclark.lc@gmail.com

YOUTH TRIVIA NIGHT

YOUTH TRIVIA NIGHT The Youth Trivia Night will be **Saturday, April 20th**. This annual trivia night / silent auction is the primary fundraiser for participation in the tri-annual LCMS National Youth Gathering.

The youth are asking the Congregation's help with donations of themed baskets or gift cards to local businesses to be used for the silent auction. Please drop off donations to the church office by **April 7th**.

There will soon be a sign up board in the lobby for tables. \$20 per person, 8 people per table.

Text or call Kathy Thies with any questions (314) 580-2074



EASTER LILIES

EASTER LILIES Donations are needed to purchase the lilies that grace our altar on Easter Sunday. With your lily purchase, you have the opportunity to honor a loved one or include a note of thanksgiving that will be printed in the Easter bulletin.

To order, please complete the following form and return it to the church office **by March 24, 2024**.

The cost of the lily is \$14.

Make checks payable to Ascension Lutheran Church.

Thank you!

Name _____

Number ordered _____ Total at \$14 each _____

I will pick up _____ I will not pick up _____

Dedication _____

Lilies may be picked up after the 11 a.m. service on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024.

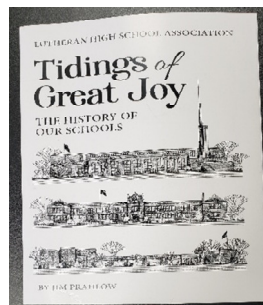
Please note: lilies will be discarded on April 4th.



MARCH LIBRARY LOOK

Tidings of Great Joy: The History of Our Schools

By Jim Prahlow



Tidings of Great Joy: The History of Our Schools celebrates the 75-year history of the Lutheran High School Association. Jim Prahlow is a long-time teacher at Lutheran North and his father, Dr. Don Prahlow, was a long-time teacher at Lutheran South.

This book has received an award from the Concordia Historical Institute as an outstanding work in recording the history of an institution. You may remember that this title was featured in a past issue of Library Look. We have now received a signed copy of the work in recognition of our church's long history of serving as a delegate congregation of the Lutheran High School Association so I wanted to feature this title again.

Please be sure to check it out to see if you or your friends from Lutheran South are included!

Claudia Seifert, librarian
claudia_s_seifert@yahoo.com
314-616-2735

OTHER EASTER EGG HUNTS

TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 23

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

at Lindenwood Park

- Egg Hunt Fun, Easter
- Bubble Eggstravaganza
- Face Painting
- Games & Crafts
- Easter Bunny
- Family Photo Op

Register at www.timothystl.org/egghunt



ST. LUCAS LUTHERAN CHURCH EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 30

12:30 – 2:00 pm

7100 Morgan Ford Rd

St. Louis, MO 63116

- Registration begins at 12:30 pm
- Crafts, Games & other activities
- Generous prizes and drawings
- Easter Egg Hunt begins at 1:00 pm

LUTHERAN SOUTH SUMMER CAMPS

LUTHERAN SOUTH SUMMER CAMPS Does your child enjoy shooting hoops? Love creating and drawing? Want to try a new sport like football or field hockey? LuSo Summer Camp offers a variety of athletic and enrichment activities with morning and afternoon sessions available. From playing tennis to the trombone, we have coaches and instructors who offer positive reinforcement. Your campers will have fun while learning a new skill. Register today at LSlancers.org/summer



THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS® BY MARCH 31

Eligible members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who have been designated Choice Dollars: If you haven't already done so, be sure to direct your designated Thrivent Choice Dollars by **March 31, 2024**. After that date, any undirected Choice Dollars® will expire. Don't miss this opportunity to help support Ascension Lutheran Church or Word of Life Lutheran School or any other entity. THEN if you want the money to go to a specific area, please contact Brad Muhlke (i.e. if you want it to be allocated toward Capital Campaign or WOL or kitchen, etc.) Brad's e-mail is bmuhlke@stjohnsbank.com Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-THRIVENT and state "Thrivent Choice®."

This is different than Thrivent Action Team (grants). Choice \$ will not apply to everyone.

VOCATIO: HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT

VOCATIO: HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT Thinking About Serving as a Pastor or Deaconess? If you are in high school and thinking about a vocation as a pastor or deaconess, then consider attending this summer's "Vocatio" retreat at Concordia Seminary. Vocatio is a retreat that encourages high school students to find God's calling for their lives through experiencing many aspects of the Seminary including worship and devotions, sessions with professors, and even some fun and recreation. Vocatio takes place from **June 22 to June 29, 2024**. The cost is only \$100 per person. Register at www.csl.edu/register/VocatioHighSchool

VOCATIO: RETREAT

VOCATIO: RETREAT Interested in a distinctively Lutheran retreat that provides the space to rest in God's Word, time to spend in prayer and the opportunity to learn from some of the brightest theologians in the church? Concordia Seminary, St. Louis invites you to attend *Vocatio: Retreat* — a three-day retreat (**April 14-16, 2024**) geared toward college students and second-career men and women who are considering serving as a pastor, deaconess, missionary or chaplain. Registration is free and includes lodging and meals. To register visit www.csl.edu/vocatio-retreat Hurry! Registration closes March 29.

CFNA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

CFNA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY Looking for ways to be the hands and feet of Jesus to refugees in St. Louis? CFNA is seeking volunteers to drive refugee clients to medical appointments. Transportation to appointments is the last and most crucial link to accessing needed medical care. Appointments are mostly on weekdays during normal business hours. Interested? Reach out to Paige Bernau, RN at pbernau@cfna-stl.org. More information can be found on the bulletin board in the lobby.



Christian Friends of New Americans
4019 SOUTH GRAND, ST. LOUIS, MO 63118 | 314-351-1740

CFNA TRIVIA NIGHT

CFNA TRIVIA NIGHT

April 6, 2024

Doors open at **5:15 pm**

Trivia begins at **6:00 pm**

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
4355 Butler Hill Road
St. Louis, MO 63128

\$30 per person, \$200 per team of eight
All information, including how to register, sponsor, and donate, can be found at the CFNA website.

<https://www.cfna-stl.org/trivia>

JOIN ONE OF OUR BIBLE STUDIES

Bible studies are a wonderful opportunity to be in God's Word and enjoy fellowship as you grow in faith and friendship. For more information on any of the Bible studies listed below, you may contact the leaders directly or our Bible Study and Small Group Coordinator Barbara Shippy at bjshippy@gmail.com or (314) 795-2568.

Sunday Morning Bible Study All are welcome!
Join us for Bible class between worship services.
Sundays from 9:45–10:30 am / ongoing
Location: Ascension / Fellowship Hall
Leaders: Pastor Clark & Pastor Kobs

Tuesday Morning Bible Study (Men & Women)
Tuesdays from 9:30–11 am / ongoing
Location: Ascension / Concordia Room
Leader: Pastor Clark
Contact: pastor@ascensionstl.com / (314) 832-5600

Women of the Word Bible Study
Wednesdays from 9:30–11 am / ongoing
Location: Ascension / lower level classroom
Leader: Marlene Maxfield
Contact: marmaxfield@aol.com / (314) 221-0999

Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study
Thursdays from 6:15–7:30 am / ongoing
Location: Ascension / Hintze Library in Church Lobby
Leader: Mike Gibbs
Contact: jackfan39@yahoo.com / (314) 352-1297

Thursday Evening Men's Bible Study
Thursdays from 7:00–8:00 pm / ongoing
Location: Personal residence
Leaders: Rob Bremer and Chris Thies
Contact Rob: rwbjhb@sbcglobal.net / (314) 413-2603
Contact Chris: chris.thies@outlook.com

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY

FAST FORWARD We have begun a new Sunday morning Bible study topic. Each Sunday we'll be "fast forwarding" to the Scripture readings that will be used in worship the *next* weekend. As we look ahead at God's Word together, our discussion might even help inform and shape the sermon for the next weekend. Come join Pastor Clark on Sundays at **10:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall to be a part of the conversation and be a week ahead!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

At Ascension, we strive to engage with EVERY person at EVERY age in learning more about our Savior, Jesus.

On Sunday mornings, we have a class for YOU!

Students in Preschool through Junior High meet in the church sanctuary at 9:45 am for Sunday School opening.

Toddlers & Parents

If you are ready to get your family in a Sunday morning Bible class habit, join us in the nursery for a special Sunday School option just for you. Singing, activities, and stories focused on God and his love for his littlest learners (and their caregivers). Contact Brittany Schelp at (417) 438-7860 for more details.

Preschool and Kindergarten

Teachers: Marcia Passanise, Dan Passanise & Cathy Kramer

Grades 1 through 3

Teachers: Emily Jones, Brittany Schelp, Mary Pastor, and Aubrey Blank

Grades 4 through 5

Teachers: Rich Schaefer and Carl Anderson

Junior High

Teachers: Deaconess Anna Johnson, Lisa Clark, and seminary students

Senior High

Teachers: Rob Bremer, Jeremy Johnson, and seminary students

Adults

Teachers: Pastor Clark, Pastor Kobs, Gagan Gurung, and John Gurung

Nepali Fellowship

Teachers: Pastor Clark, Gagan Gurung, John Gurung, and Friends

Sunday School Coordinator

Deaconess Anna Johnson

Assistant Coordinator

Brittany Schelp



SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES

WHAT ARE WE LEARNING ABOUT IN SUNDAY SCHOOL?

March 17, Lesson 10

"The Fearless Shepherd" is the title for today's lesson. As their armies remain encamped against one another, the Philistines send for their champion, Goliath, to challenge the Israelites. The Israelites fear to challenge the giant. Young David expresses dismay at the soldiers' lack of trust in God. Confident that the Lord will give him victory, David uses his sling and knocks Goliath to the ground before cutting off Goliath's head with the giant's own sword.

WORSHIP NOTES

PREACHER: Pastor Matthew Clark

LITURGIST:

Vicar John Gurung: Sundays at 11:00am
Seminarian Joshua Wareham (2nd year): 1st Sunday of month
Seminarian Joel Her (4th year): 2nd Sunday of month
Seminarian Michael Winckler (4th year): 3rd Sunday of month
Pastor Matthew Kobs: 4th Sunday of month
Seminarian Kurtis Polodna (1st year): 5th Sunday of month

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Gabe Maichel, organist

ACOLYTES: 5:00p open
8:30 Micah Stiles; 11:00 Viento Hernandez
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Tyler Kern
8:30 Kiera Stiles; 11:00 Brenden Brock

ALTAR FLOWERS The flowers that grace our chancel have been provided by:

Richard & Claudia Seifert in memory of Claudia's mother Patricia.

Donna Bedwell in thankfulness for the Easter Resurrection & in memory of my mother Gladys' birthday.

ALTAR GUILD: 5:00p Tracy Middleton
8:30 Marlene Maxfield; 11:00 Julie Brock & Lisa Schrum
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Lisa Holderle
8:30 Marlene Maxfield; 11:00 Julie Brock & Lisa Schrum

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

5:00p Rich Schaefer
8:30 Michael Winckler;
11:00 Michael Winckler & Rudy Blank
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Rich Schaefer & Rudy Blank
8:30 Pastor Kobs & Steele Shippy;
11:00 Pastor Kobs & Mark Maxfield

A/V ROOM: 5:00p Bella Bracken, Anna Clark, Matthew Hofman;
8:30 Bill Maxfield, Grant Maxfield;
11:00 Vernon Schmidt, Jason Fletcher, Julie Krapf, Kyan Sawyer

READERS: 5:00p Melissa Bergholt
8:30 Mike Gibbs; 11:00 Troy Hansen
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Robert Hofmann
8:30 Steve Travers; 11:00 Carlos Lopez

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: March 24, 2024 –
Palm Sunday

First Reading *Zechariah 9:9-12*
Second Reading *Philippians 2:5-11*
Holy Gospel *John 12:12-19*

USHERS: 5:00 Karl Hofmann, Robert Hofmann, Ed Holderle, Walter Scoggins, Walt Simpson;
8:30 Gene Bockelmann, Jake Bremer, Rob Bremer, Nathan Decker, Jack Pendleton;
11:00 Paul Brock Sr., Dave Jones, Carlos Lopez, Rain Hernandez

PRAYER REQUESTS

The Church Staff prays for you during their weekly staff meetings. If you have a specific prayer request, please contact the church office.

ASCENSION MEMBERS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Alex Jones	James Keltner	Daniel Harms
Brian Kitson	Thomas Kitson	Tristan Rabun
	Jamie Federhofer	

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

03/17 Robert Hofmann
03/18 Ashley Quinn, Steve Schave, Esther Stewart
03/20 Natalie Bremer, Laxchhai Gurung
03/21 Carol Benninghoff, Kim Schave, Krista Welker
03/23 Leigh Monaghan

Please contact the church office if your birthday has been omitted in error.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

03/18 Anthony & Allison Terbrock, Geoff & Becky Welton

Please contact the church office if your anniversary has been omitted in error.

ASCENSION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SERVING AS FIRST RESPONDERS

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

ASCENSION ELDERS and the families they serve

Rich Schaefer – Agne to Broughton
Rudy Blank – Brumback to Freer
Mark Maxfield – Fryar to Hill
Jeff Stiles – Hill-Stout to Komrska
Randy Agne – Krapf to Moffat
Carlos Lopez – Monaghan to Pogue
Jack Pendleton – Preston to Simpson
Steele Shippy – Sittmann to Zaza
Paul Brock Sr. – Elder at Large
Gene Bockelmann – Elder at Large
Joe Benda – Elder at Large
Gagan Gurung – Nepali Members

LCMS CONGREGATIONS IN OUR SOUTH ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT

Ascension	Hope	St. Luke's
Concordia	Messiah	St. Trinity
Epiphany	Mt. Olive	Timothy
Holy Cross	St. Johns	Trinity
Jefferson Avenue Mission		

ASCENSION'S WOL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Doug Pfitzinger – President	Rick Anderson
Jim Fox – Treasurer	Vernon Schmidt

TOGETHER IN MISSION MISSIONARIES

Dr. Daniel & Joan Jastram - Asia
Erin Mackenzie - Dominican Republic
Rev. Matthew & Kali Wood – Indonesia

